

OREGON AGRICULTURE COLLEGE OPENS MOST PROMISING YEAR OF WORK

Entrance Requirements Raised to Full Four Years High School Course. Entrance Applications Indicates Record Breaking Attendance.

The Oregon Agricultural College is beginning the most promising year, in point of attendance and service to the state, that it has yet known. An increase in enrollment of at least 12 per cent was indicated by the admission credentials on file at the Registrar's office as early as September 5, two weeks before the regular opening of college. Subsequent data, collected both at the office of the registrar and at the offices of the various deans, promise even greater advances in student enrollment. In addition to a larger student body than formerly, and in addition also to the improved personnel of the student body, due chiefly to improved standards of scholarship throughout the entire institution, the college is better prepared this year than in any previous year to carry out a symmetrical college program. Its courses of study have been definitely settled, thereby banishing the doubts and discouragements that harassed its efforts when the board of higher curriculum was debating the problem of its peculiar field. Its departments, moreover, are headed by men exceptionally trained in their specialties, and experienced in the peculiar field that they serve, while their associates and assistants are men who have not only demonstrated their competence as experts, but are adding, month by month, fresh evidences of their scholarship and their power to serve the cause of science in industry. Its extension service, pioneering a new field, like other progressive colleges of the country, is steadily approaching a more severely efficient method of getting the services of the college out to the people and at the same time reaching a wider constituency in a more intimate, practical way. The student body, finally, through its own initiative, or through improvements in college administration, is now on a splendid basis for conducting the business of student activities (amounting to thousands of dollars), for managing student discipline, and for developing ideals of community responsibility and social integrity. Not the least factor in this scheme of efficiency and service is the work of the new dean of women.

A word about some of these factors that are yearly attracting more students to the college and improving the quality of its service to the state, may be of interest just now to readers of the East Oregonian.

The Advance in Scholarship.

Beginning this year the college is on a full four-years' basis of high-school entrance requirements. This, as a matter of course, advances the standard of the degree courses throughout. Graduates of the college from now on will stand on a par with those of the best land-grant colleges of the country. Those entering the teaching profession will experience no hardship over the graduates of other colleges and universities as heretofore, when they were eligible, in the field of secondary education, to teach their specialty only.

The vocational courses also, while they are open to any student who is of mature years and qualified otherwise to profit by the instruction offered, are appealing to a class of students who usually have a severely purposeful motive and some experience with their chosen vocation before coming to the college. As a consequence, the student body that comes to the college is not only better prepared on entrance, but is capable of more rapid and complete development.

Another evidence of the advanced standard of the scholarship of the college is the demand for special work in its technical departments, particularly in the higher years of study. Thirty-four students of other colleges and universities are already enrolled as O. A. C. students this fall. Many of these come from the east, where the college is recognized as a leader in many lines of scientific instruction.

Recognition of Faculty Leadership.
Perhaps the most pointed testimony to the leadership of the faculty of O. A. C. is the wide-spread effort on the part of other colleges—many among the best in the land—to "lift" our experts. Some of these efforts have recently been successful; many have not. A great eastern university and several western universities have made surprisingly attractive offers to members of our horticultural faculty, in some instances offering to double salaries. None of the heads of departments in this division of the college have left, though one of the instructors accepted a lucrative appointment in the University of California. A land-grant college in New England offered a deanship to one of our heads of departments at a greatly augmented salary it was refused. Various offers carrying salaries a third higher than our faculty men and women are receiving at O. A. C. have come to our workers during the past six months and have been cheerfully declined. The motives are obvious: a secure faith in the future of Oregon and her leading technical college, and a confident outlook for efficient service in an institution wisely and impartially administered.

Among the faculty men and women who have accepted splendid offers from other colleges, a few instances may be mentioned to show the respect that the college commands among similar institutions throughout the country. The head of our department of botany and plant pathology goes to Purdue University, Indiana, to occupy the same kind of position at an increased salary. The head of our department of entomology goes to the University of Wisconsin, under the same conditions. The man who has been associate professor in the school of mines during the past two years goes to Arizona as dean of the college of mines and engineering. A department head in the division of ex-

ension becomes head of extension service in the University of Colorado. And so on, all testifying to the same substantial fact; namely, that President Kerr has gathered around him men and women who are recognized throughout the country as among the first in their fields.

Extension.
The Extension Service, as already indicated, is taking on a more scientific, more immediately practical method of distributing the benefits of the college. In cooperation with the state department of public instruction, on the one hand, and with O. A. C.—2 the U. S. department of agriculture, on the other, it is carrying on a number of comprehensive projects—in the public schools, on the farms, in the orchards and forests, in the dairies and cheese factories, in the shops and in the homes—that are exerting an immediately practical influence on the industries and living conditions of the rural population.

Student-body Progress.
Student self government at the college, established four years ago, is proving not only a satisfactory means of improving student discipline, but a constructive factor in welding together all the varied interests of the college. It has joined the hands, for instance, of athletics and forensics, publications and music, supplies and entertainment. In a cooperative scheme of management and sharing of funds, it has successfully conducted a cooperative store for a year. It has organized and operated a by-enum course; run a semi-weekly newspaper, and assisted in financing a student loan fund. It has aroused a splendid spirit of responsibility among all students. It has cooperated with the faculty in establishing a body of student traditions, and a code of principles for the guidance of clubs and fraternities. It is, in an administrative asset, in short, which the institution values highly.

Dean of Women.
The work of the new Dean of Women, Mrs. Mary E. Fawcett, who formerly served as dean of women at the University of Illinois, and has had administrative experience in other leading colleges of the east, promises to be a sterling factor in the life of the college community, as well as in the efficiency of its service to the state. A woman with a wealth of humanity holding an even place with her scholarship and her professional skill, she has noble aims and definite plans for attaining them in the work of caring for the interests of all the college girls. She regards her duties as threefold—those of administration, giving direction and purpose to the work and play of the college women; those of a teacher, who stu-

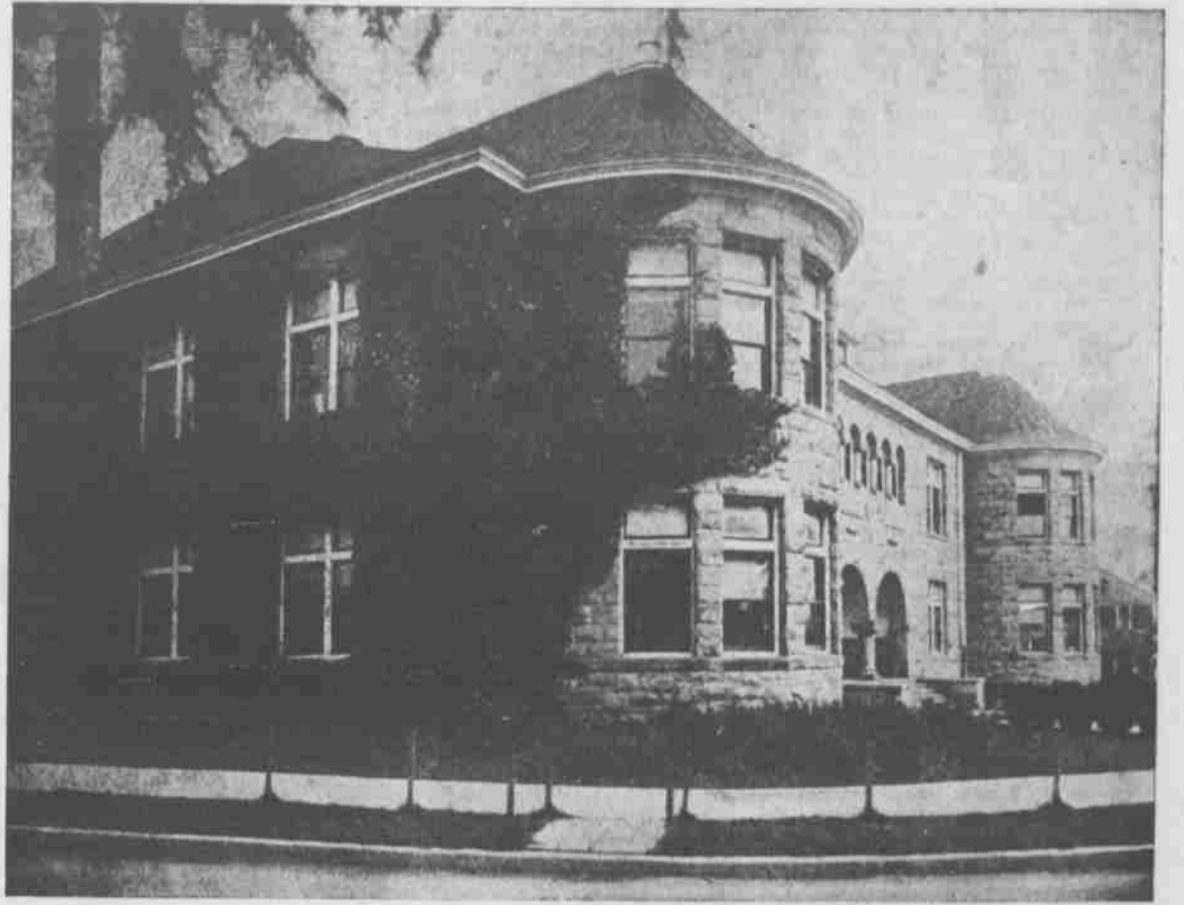
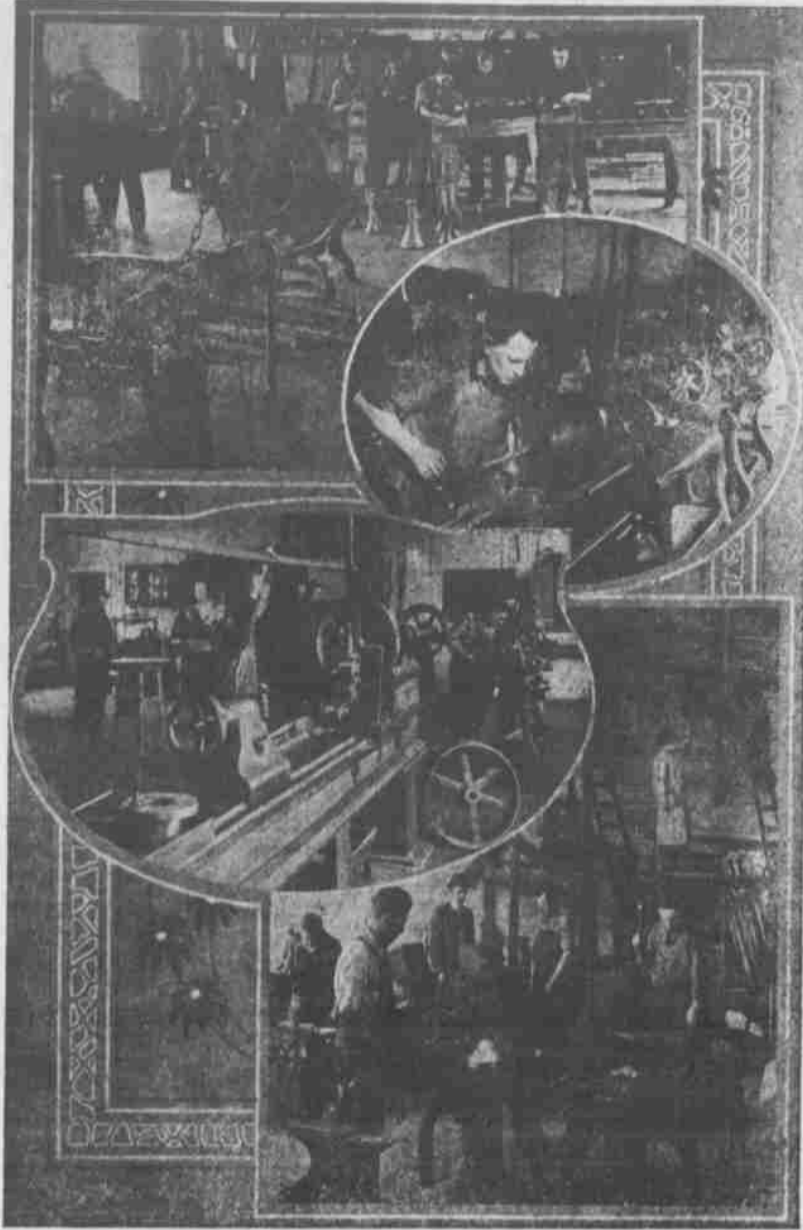
dies her pupils with a view to knowing what they can do, how they can do it, and how best she, as their preceptor, can stimulate them to do it; and those of a social leader, who seeks, on the one hand, to avoid all possible dissipation or disaster in the exercise of the social resources of youth, and, on the other, to beauty and idealize those resources into a wholesome community helpfulness—happy yet sane, innocent but purposeful.

The Indian War of 1855-6, Told By a Survivor of the Struggle

(Continued from page two.)

charged. After our discharge the thirty-fourth congress ordered the secretary of war to appoint a commission of three to examine into and report the expenses incurred for the pay and maintenance of the volunteer forces of 1855 and 1856. Such commission was appointed and carefully examined into the matter, and reported. Then the thirty-sixth congress ordered the third auditor of the treasury to examine and audit the claims of the volunteers, there was a difference of about one half between the amounts due in commissions reported and that of the third auditor and since that time the Indian war veterans have been striving to get what is justly due them but unsuccessfully this far.

We have had many promises—none doing the justice of our claims but congress is slow—too much red tape. Forty years have passed, and but little over 1,000 of the 7,000 or over who went into service to save the state are now living. Few of them are in easy circumstances. They were not of a generation of money savers, a few more years and the grand old government of the United States, so proud of its record in the treatment of those who fought its battles shall have lost the opportunity of paying a debt it doubly owes to those who conquered its wilderness and its savages. A few more years and the aged Oregon volunteer of 1855 will no longer be here to envy Uncle Sam's Indian wards—the care and protection given them for their skillful manner in which their ancestors killed and scalped the pioneers of this great northwest.

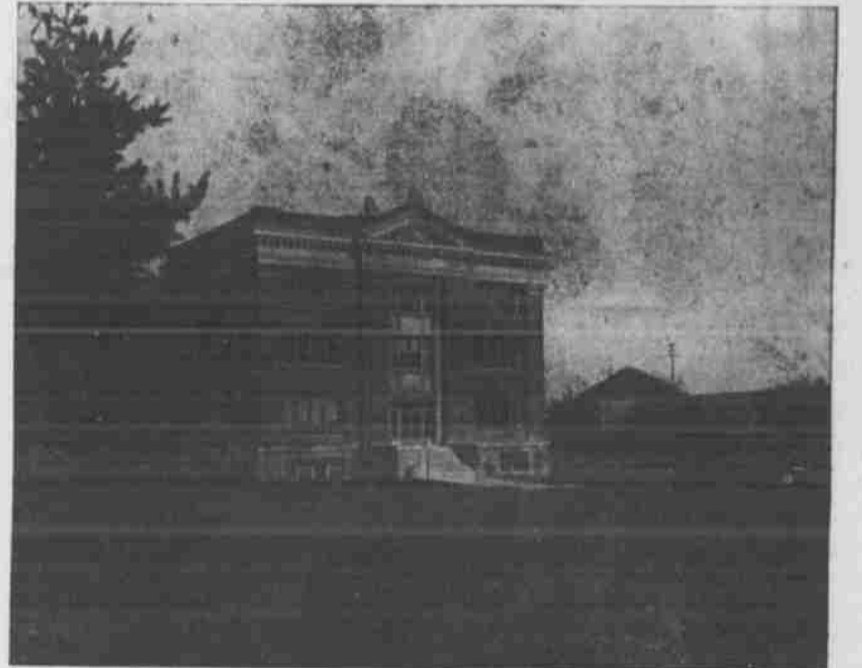


Top picture, left, Vocational Students in Machine Shops, O. A. C.

Top at right, Mechanical Hall, Oregon Agricultural College.

Lower on right, School of Mines, O. A. C.

BOTTOM PICTURE RIGHT, MEN'S GYMNASIUM INCOMPLETE.



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