

# COLLEGE DEPARTMENTS

## AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT.

Few people understand what is meant by an agricultural education. This form of education is new and is the product of latter day competitive conditions.

All intellectual people want a well educated physician or teacher in the community, but the trained and educated farmer is not so generally appreciated. Our people have noticed that the Greek and Latin languages did not increase the efficiency of the farmer; that usually he was made impractical and unfitted for farm work, but this is equally true of other forms of business.

As the educated physician understands the physiology and composition of the human body, the nature of drugs and the reagents in his pill case, so the educated stockman or farmer should understand the relations of feeds to live stock, of fertilizers to soils and crops, and know how to combine these for best economic or business results.

The agricultural college is a logical successor to the medical college, the normal, and the law schools.

The agricultural department of the college teaches the application of the sciences and business principles to the growth of field crops and forage plants, the breeding and feeding of stock, and the manufacture of butter and cheese. Besides these subjects the student receives a fair knowledge of mathematics, English, history, chemistry, veterinary medicine and surgery, botany and entomology. There are various other subjects, but as they may not be of interest

to the reader they will not be mentioned. Agricultural colleges were established and are maintained for the purpose of educating men in agriculture from a scientific standpoint, but from the above mentioned facts it can be clearly seen that, should a graduate from the agricultural course choose not to take up agricultural pursuits, he is well prepared to enter upon the study of several of the professions, among which may be mentioned the study of medicine and pharmacy, he having had a fair education in inorganic, organic, industrial and agricultural chemistry, and geology, besides the practical work in the chemical laboratory.

The department has been hindered somewhat on account of insufficient accommodations due to the small space now occupied, but this will soon be remedied, as the agricultural building is nearing completion—to the joy of the students and professors of the agricultural department. The building will be equipped with all modern facilities, and agriculture will be taught along a broader line.

For the last three summers a farmers' congress was held at this place for the purpose of discussing practical questions of agriculture. Men from all parts of the State attended, and the congress has no doubt done much for the advancement of agriculture and live stock interests of our State. The proceedings of the last meeting, held in July, are now off the press and ready for distribution. These