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Kansas State Agricultural College



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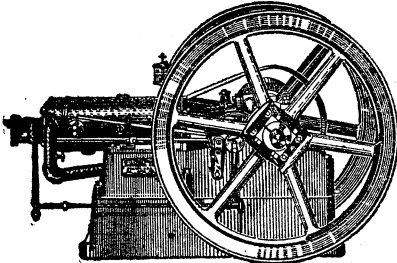
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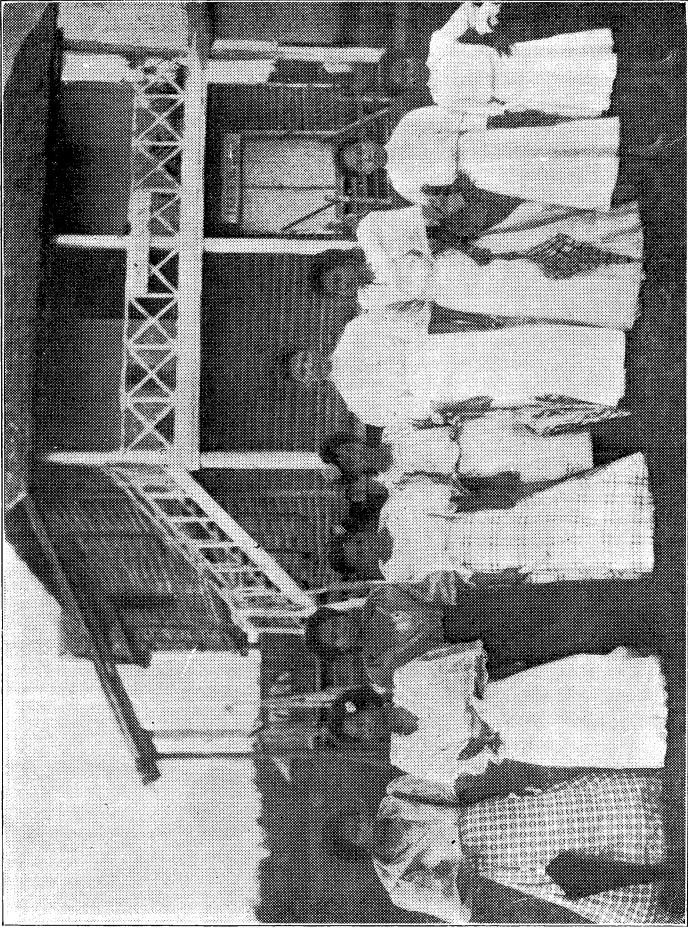
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THE ALUMNUS

VOL. VI.

MANHATTAN, KAN., JAN., 1908.

NO. 5

Education and Educators in the Philippines.*

By Harry V. Harlan, '04.

Some eight years ago the Spanish-American War unexpectedly placed an Oriental colony in the hands of the American people.



In the government of our colony we have not been orthodox. The Philippines are not bringing in the revenue of the Dutch Indies, nor are our natives subservient

like those under European rule. The policy of our government has been to educate the Filipinos until they are able to govern themselves. With this idea, along with plans of local self-government, the public school system was organized. To the American, who views with uneasiness the growing insolence of the Filipino toward us, anything regarding the progress of education, and the men who are carrying out our plans, is of interest.

It is a source of gratification to know that the school system at least receives the universal indorsement of the natives, and that it is far from being unproductive. Brief as is its history, it has met with a success almost unbelievable. Six years ago pupils were making their first blundering efforts to understand and be understood by the white foreigner from America. To-day some of these same pupils are carrying a course of six or seven studies, varying in all phases of technicality from botany and zoölogy to general history

and psychology. Americans have a right to feel gratified with such progress, and with a system that has made such progress possible.

This system is itself a growth of this period, and contains many factors entirely foreign to previous American instruction. It began six years ago, plodding and crude, as a side issue to the military occupation. To-day it embraces a force of one thousand white employees and many times that number of Filipino helpers. It consists of a head office in Manila and a sub-office in every division. The chief is the general director, and each division has a superintendent. Under the latter are from ten to forty Americans and from one hundred to four hundred Filipinos. As can be seen by the small number of Americans, there are many towns in which there are no white instructors. One American will have charge of from eight or ten to twenty-five towns and barrios with ten to forty Filipino teachers under him. His duties consist of visiting his various schools and of giving suggestions to the teachers in charge. The teachers also meet in a class which he instructs. These assistants were regular students of the upper grades who have dropped out to teach school. They have charge of all the primary and much of the intermediate instruction on the islands. The secondary pupils are all directly under Americans. These schools are always in the provincial capital, and here the American teacher has the experience of Oriental society and the most desirable position in the service.

The life of the supervisor contains the elements of greatest interest. His

*Copied from the Dayton, Ohio, *Telescope*, of July 10, 1907, by permission of the publishers.

environment has no comparable one elsewhere. He finds himself in a town miles from others of his race and, if he should be off the circuit of the constabulary, it may be months at a time that he does not set eyes on a white face; months in which he jabbers poor Spanish or listens to a still worse jabber of still poorer English. No wonder when vacation comes he is apt to spend the time in the provincial or perhaps the insular capital, even though these places at that time are sweltering under the heat of a dry season, while his post may be comparatively cool and comfortable. At his station he passes his time quite well if his college days have provided him with a wife; but if romance never came his way, he finds this second volume of life still more stubborn in its prose.

His isolation is equalled only by his housekeeping troubles. His equipment is soon settled. Of course he has a bed, some chairs, and a table; but his principal asset lies in the invaluable petroleum can. This is a five-gallon can put out by the Standard Oil Company and found throughout the Orient. Its uses are infinite. At the teacher's establishment his drinking water is brought in it. His bath is taken from it by splashing water over himself with a cup, or perhaps he has improvised a shower by punching a can full of holes and hoisting it aloft with his old trunk rope. It further serves him as an oven in which to bake bread, pies, and cakes. It is his waste-basket, his muchacho's trunk. It roofs his house, patches the holes in the walls, and even constitutes the decorations on the altar of his barrio church. In connection with this last it is with feelings indescribable that the supervisor beholds his pupils prostrating themselves in worship before such an altar. Verily, the horror of "tainted oil" has not lessened the profits of the Standard over here.

After the problem of equipment comes the question of food. With no one but a couple of native servants to care for his bodily wants, this is already settled. He is doomed to a diet of chicken—chicken every day of the week, even more, every day of the 365—chicken fried, chicken stewed, chicken baked, chicken with tomatoes, chicken with onions, chicken with peppers; chicken cooked at an open fire, carved with a club, and served with the dessert. Then, he has eggs; but it is often difficult to decide where the egg quits and the chicken begins.

The standard of civilization can be quite accurately estimated by the conception of an edible egg. The native cook looks on in wide-eyed wonder as his master throws away in disgust what is to him an irreproachable egg. Finally, concluding that the teacher does not like its antique appearance, he suggests a solution in, "Bad egg. I tink dat bery good for omelet." The newly-arrived maestro waits until his nerves are stronger before he has more eggs, only varying his chicken diet with an occasional carabao steak.

If he is fortunate enough to have a Chino in his town he can get buns to eat; bread is usually too uncertain with no stove in which to bake it. Fruits are his in unlimited supply, and of flavors such as he never knew before. Nature provides bountifully, indeed, for him here. Other than this he must resort to "canned stuff." Only one who has been in the tropics can appreciate the sinister emphasis of this expression. As a boy at home it meant a treat to have a can of California fruit. After a year here it is the last resort before starvation. Yet only here do we find what a wonderful assortment of such products there is. In America it is limited to meat, vegetables, and fruits; but here it includes our butter, cheese, crackers, cakes, candies, and a thousand others that were never dreamed of before.

With these things the supervisor must be contented.

In his official life the supervisor is a man wondrously busy. He must build schoolhouses, hire teachers, and keep forever after the municipal government to make things move. As his value is somewhat estimated and his hopes of higher pay based on

the schools of an entire province to be seriously depleted because of a rumor that the children were to be inoculated with leprosy by American doctors under the pretense of vaccination against smallpox. Only recently one of the best towns of this province lost half of its attendance because some of the ignorant parents had been to Ilo-



the attendance, he must continually be inducing students to attend his school. Incongruous sights are often seen. The younger students, learning more quickly, become teachers of much older ones. I have known of a boy of fourteen years trying to instruct a class of 170 pupils, crowded into a barn-like room without seats or books for one-third the number. These conditions have, however, largely disappeared now. But even yet the struggle for attendance goes on. A teacher works faithfully for weeks, getting his schools in good shape with plenty of promising pupils, and then the unexpected happens. What it will be is something too absurd for the wisest head to forecast. I have known of

Ilo, and, observing the railroad grade under construction, decided that it was earthworks against the Japanese. From this they argued that it was no longer worth while for their children to learn English, as they would soon have to study Japanese. Such ideas in ignorant minds are harder to dislodge than more sane ones.

Smaller things being without results are only amusing. For instance, the teacher is supposed to instill proper modesty in his pupils by inducing them to wear trousers. The native small boy objects as strenuously to wearing pantaloons as does a young American to having his ears washed. They will on state occasions dress themselves in most aristocratic gar-

ments: but they don't wear them any longer than is necessary. I have been greatly amused at a small neighbor of ours. He spends the greater part of the day unconfined by fabrics, but about four o'clock he puts on the gayest of clothes and goes out to drive in a small carriage drawn by a goat. On returning he begins to undress a block from the house, and by the time he arrives he throws his clothes to a dismayed servant and returns to his morning dress of a sunbeam and a smile. At a big school celebration here I noticed another boy pay tribute to the occasion. He did not want to hamper himself by donning unnecessary trousers. He compromised by having a servant carry them for him, so that he could use them if the occasion should grow formal enough to demand it.

In all the larger towns of most of the tribes no difficulty is experienced in carrying out the wishes of the department. But among some tribes and in the more isolated posts of all the provinces the small boy does not favor education if he has to wear trousers to get it. I once visited a remote barrio school in company with a lieutenant of the constabulary. It was a new experience to him, and I thoroughly enjoyed his efforts to suppress his startled mirth. On the front seat was a very small boy dressed in only a mosquito bar shirt. To satisfy the lieutenant's obvious desire, I asked the teacher to call on that boy to read. I knew, but the lieutenant did not, that the smallest boys are invariably the best readers, and often have much better English than does the native who teaches them. The lieutenant's amazement was something to be remembered. At the close of the paragraph he burst into such a guffaw that the pupils instinctively eyed the windows as a possible means of exit. He chuckled to himself all the way back and frequently repudiated his old idea that an orator had to wear a dress suit to gain

the greatest effect. And he christened the assuming pupil with a hundred *nom de plumes*, varying from "Cicero of the Short Shirt" to the "Breechesless Beacher of the Basque."

I am not, however, a supervising teacher, and have written thus in detail because this phase alone is different from the school work in America. We who teach in the provincial high schools have pupils very similar to those in the States. They are, on the whole, capable of more rapid absorption than American children. In the first six years they cover ground about equal to the first eight years in American schools, and this in a language that is foreign to them. Neither is there justice in the statement that they cannot learn mathematics. I have had classes in algebra that surpassed by far the average class in the high schools of the States. These facts seem to promise that in a generation or two the Filipino will be on a par with the Japanese, or even with the European. This supposition has, however, two serious fallacies.

The first of these is the fact that they are without moral standard. I have found it next to impossible in civics classes to convince the pupils that it is wrong for a public official to accept bribes. "But," they say, "how will he get back the money he paid for his election unless he does?" And these pupils are the brightest and best. In their lives they are no more moral than in their politics, nor, on the whole, is the example set by the church men such as would elevate them. This is especially true of the men from latin Europe. Exceptions there are, many and noble, but they are exceptions. With the younger children of the better families good influences may bear fruit; at least we are hoping so. The second fallacy lies in the great suspicion with which manual labor is viewed. Work is the nightmare of the Filipino. This conception has arisen partly through inherent

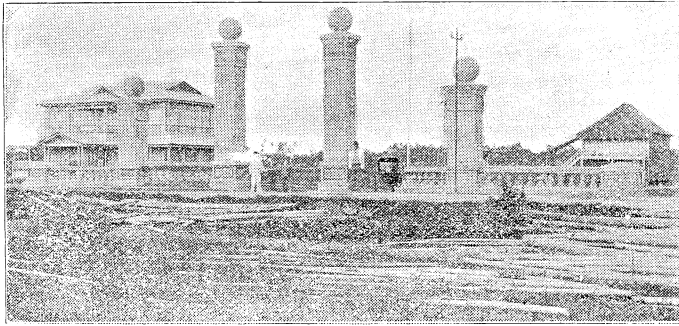
laziness, partly through the Spanish idea that a gentleman should do no work, and partly through economic conditions. In a place where nature provides clothes and food, it is not surprising that the people as a whole do not care to work six days a week when one day is sufficient to supply all bodily wants. Nor is it strange that such as have a slight income disdain to do their own work when fifteen cents per day will hire it done.

So, although this prejudice against labor has a more or less natural ori-

gin, it is none the less a barrier to progress. It has been a long struggle with the teachers to mitigate this evil. At first no student would carry books to school, but must have a servant to do it for him, and even now it is no rare sight to see a servant following with the books of some young lady whose people probably have not two hundred dollars, property and currency combined. This phase, however, is fast disappearing. The pupils are absorbing the fact that Americans think it is no disgrace to work. The disappearance of these ideas is due largely to two causes: First, the continual efforts of the earlier teachers; second, the establishment of trades schools. The first of these schools had a very precarious existence for a long time, but now they are heartily supported both by poor and rich. It

can teacher to see students, who five years ago would call a servant to erase their blackboard, now in their shirt-sleeves, planing boards, forging iron, or cultivating the garden. This last met with the greatest opposition. The trades school had at least the dignity of cleanliness and work under a roof, but agriculture—that was on the basis of the ordinary laborer, and not to be thought of.

I myself was engaged from the Kansas Experiment Station to start a school of agriculture at Iloilo. Upon



my arrival the school was not ready, and I taught nearly a year in the provincial high school. All that time Americans were foretelling defeat for me when I should open my school. Their prophecies, however, have been far from fulfilled. Possibly the efforts of preceding teachers had prepared the way. At least I have experienced very little difficulty, and the pupils as a whole take great pride in their work. One surprising result has been that the pupils of rich and independent parentage have thrown aside the hampering ideas first. My best pupils, many of whom are working in the field five times the required amount, are from the richest families of Negros and Panay—families who would be considered rich in America as well as here. And it is in such pupils as these that I base such hopes as I have of the future of the islands. In them

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is the only solution of this well-nigh unsolvable problem.

So much for the education. Now, who are the educators? This question is one that would be hard to answer without going into the personal history of almost every individual on the force, for they are drawn from widely divergent sources. They roughly divide themselves in half a dozen different ways into a dozen different classes. The first thing that strikes one is the fact that there are few middle-class teachers. As a rule, they are either exceptionally good or exceptionally poor as instructors. This again is due to several reasons. At first no examination was required, and many became teachers then that were deficient even in the common branches. Though this is far from being true of all the early instructors, many of the department's best are numbered among the earliest arrivals. The poorer ones among the more recent members are of two classes. First, those that, having just finished school, are fresh enough to pass the examination but have not the natural ability to be a good teacher. The others are the teachers of long standing in the States who were never able to rise above the mediocre, but who, by long association with institutes, were able to pass a creditable examination.

The best teachers are the young university graduates that come principally for the experience. Among this class we find the brightest of minds and the most original and creative of teachers. There are representatives of every university and college from Harvard to Stanford, men of letters and men of science. True, they as a body look somewhat with contempt upon teaching as a profession, regarding it as only a makeshift; yet this fact does not deter them from being the very best.

Besides these, there is a class of old plebeian teachers with years of experience, which, though containing many

good instructors, contains also many ludicrous ones. Some have failed utterly to adapt themselves to conditions. Imagine, if you can, a man who has spent many winters instructing children in a district school of Illinois now spending days of his time telling his Filipino pupils how to decline "carload" and like technical gymnastics when these same pupils cannot construct a simple English sentence correctly. Nor would they be able to tell a car from a "Gila monster" if they were placed side by side. I have known this same teacher to give his pupils some seventy rules of correct English which they had to commit word for word, and be ready at a moment's notice to give the rule when the number was mentioned; yet of their application they were as innocent as a Filipino servant is of honesty. I have had pupils come to me from such teachers who were really well founded in arithmetic. They could work with logical ease any problem between the covers, but they had no more knowledge of the value of the quantities used than did the most benighted of their kindred. One such class I asked to designate a distance of twelve inches. The answer varied from the width of a hair to the interval between this and a neighboring town.

Yet it is such teachers as these that raise their voices in protest when some live university man is raised in rank. They complain that they have had twenty years' experience while this young upstart never taught a school before he came to the Philippines. They never think that the fact that they have taught twenty years without anybody valuing them at more than a thousand a year is anything but a recommendation. It is needless to say that in some places harmony does not always exist. And many remark that it is so strange that a society so far from home should be divided into so many cliques. It would be strange indeed if

such a heterogenous body should be unified. What is there in common between a young man with the traditions and memories of his college days around him, and a fellow teacher who has been in the rut so long that he knows nothing but "shop?" Where is the common ground of a young couple in the romance of youth and an old bewhiskered maestro who has forgotten that he ever had a honeymoon and who keeps a wife principally because he may be fined if he quarrels with his servants? Or what bond of sympathy can exist with an old maid who, though really admirable in many ways, has troubles so infinite that you can never tell your own, and who will follow a young unmarried man half way around the world to tell him how glad she is that she never married a man; how many chances she has had and how she spurned them, until one wonders if her father was a woman?

This is the heterogeneous mass that is taking care of the Filipinos' future. When one considers the different viewpoints of the individuals, and the great variation of conditions among the many tribes and islands, it is small wonder that when one of the one thousand teachers puts his views in print he is immediately challenged by the other nine hundred and ninety-nine. Yet as a whole they are a competent body, averaging far better than the instructors of American boys and girls—a body from which the English and German writers select the worst individual as a magazine type for their articles on American education in the tropics.

Do the American teachers like their work? Yes, and no. Some factors are very pleasant, others decidedly disagreeable. In the first place they are disappointed in remuneration. The salaries are fair, but expenses are much higher than they expected. This naturally leads to discontent. As a whole they are sadly underpaid, draw little more, and in many cases no

more, than at home, while hardships are many and comforts are few. A much lower standard of living must be maintained, the climate is weakening, a dozen ghostly diseases hover like specters on the mental horizon. Above all is the immoral environment; the weak man falls, and the strong man countenances things that were impossible before. Place any man without amusements or companions among an inferior people and where he can leave, or thinks he can leave, the life behind him sometime, and you have placed a dangerous influence before him. Everything sanctions immorality, and nothing deters but the strength of his own character. No matter how strong he is he will absorb at least some inferior standards, and this every honest man deplures. Even the government lends its demoralizing influence. The galling red-tape in recovering expenditures is so endless that a man who has much business must many times perjure himself, as far as the letter of the law is concerned, or else bear a constant financial loss for his activities in behalf of the department. On many these things so gall that they go home very dissatisfied.

But there is another side. The officials are not the heartless automatons that the machinery of government makes them appear to some. Personally, they are considerate, but too far removed to know the circumstances of the individual teacher in a far-away province. Then, too, the experience is well worth reducing to a money basis. The teacher discovers he is not so badly off—he will complete his service by a circuit of the globe, with lengthy visits in all the important countries. He has spent a month upon the broad Pacific gazing for days into the seething waves, days when he became acquainted with himself, days of thought and profit, in which he digests his college knowledge, sorts out the utile and the useless, and comes to an appreciation of himself that is more accurate

than any other could be—an experience which he could gain nowhere else, experience equal to years of his previous life. Further, he has met men from all over the world; he has become acquainted with every part of America and, to an extent, of Europe. He has learned of the contempt in which Europe holds America. Strongest and best of all, he has a truer view of American institutions. He has found that the best is not always in America, that other countries have some excuse for not patterning their government after ours, and that there is work for him yet as an American citizen.

The daily life in the Philippines is not without its rewards if he keeps his sense of the beautiful unclouded. Here he has an endless panorama of beauty, scenes whose artistic fervor can but impress itself upon the most prosaic, and orchids and flowers of wondrous color and fragrance. He may work and fret through a long hot day, but, when work is done and the coolness of evening steals o'er the land, and the softness of dusk soothes his spirits, he responds to a higher appreciation of the truly beautiful. Then, as he watches the wondrous colors stealing up from mountain and sea where the sun went down, creeping first in faintest tints, then weaving in and out in brighter brilliancy into that gorgeous afterglow such as only the tropics ever see—then, he is satisfied.

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**Letter from an "Old Timer."**

KANSAS CITY, KAN.

January 1, 1908.

*Dear Alumnus:*

This is my very first deed of the new year. It is just after breakfast. I have written 1908 for the first time, without error or hesitation. One presumption, therefore, is that I am reasonably sober. In compliance with your "standing request," the writer hurridly avails himself of this opportunity, for tomor-

row and every working day thereafter he takes up his white man's burden of catalogue and samples, and with more or less success swindles his unsuspecting customers.

I am in receipt of the December ALUMNUS, and you need not be so modest as to blue pencil this little tribute of commendation. The issue, "from kiver to kiver," is newsy and interesting. The harmony of color for the cover is, to my notion, excellent.

You invite suggestions for a new cover design. Now, if I may venture a word in season, it would be, let well enough alone. Exercise more of your tasty genius in color harmony, and a "fancy" design for a cover will be unnecessary. The simpler the better. This wriggling, fish-wormy, scrawling, "ideal" sort of a cover, so much used by publications of low-grade contents, is comparable to a fifty-dollar overcoat and a nine ninety-nine cotton suit beneath.

The December issue of the ALUMNUS is to me the most enjoyable of all, to date. In it I found a letter from my dear old friend Godfrey, reminiscences from my highly esteemed, old-time teachers, Professor Lee and Professor Shelton, and last, but not least, news of the boys and girls on the Pacific coast, and good old Fred Marlatt with his moonshine green-cheese theories.

What a flood of memories came back to me as I read and recognized the old-time "style" of Godfrey—the same keen satire, concealed beneath the smooth descriptive language of this French Irishman. Godfrey came up to the kindergarten along in 1874—long, lank, and green, but a dear, jolly, companionable, smiling fellow, who grew on us all in years to come, till not to admire "A. N." was a confession utterly improbable. He has been out in the mountain country so long, I judge from his enthusiastic description, that he has forgotten, almost, the classic village of Madison,

Kan., down in Greenwood county. There he could climb into a tree and, looking north, could see Emporia, and south to Eureka. What more could one wish?

When the Verdigris river overflowed his old dad's farm he could lariat catfish anywhere from Olpe to Utopia, as the river sought its normal condition.

In our "moot legislature" when this writer was the president of the senate and Godfrey the "senator from Greenwood," bless your heart, didn't he introduce a bill to convert the Verdigris river into a ship canal, connect it with the Neosho, and run a line of grain-bearing vessels from Madison to New Orleans! Imagine such a thing in the hilly country up in Oregon he has the nerve to describe to his old friends of the flat country! Why, his description of that Olympic region would lead one to believe that an active man could locate out there in any county seat, take off his coat, jump up and clap his heels together twice, turn a "hand spring," and light in the next county seat below him, passing over injunctions and every other obstacle in his merry flight.

I am almost persuaded that Harold Bell Wright in his latest book, "The Shepherd of the Hills" (Read it; it's a fine novel.), was describing Godfrey's country instead of the Ozarks when he made "Preachin' Bill" say: "Ain't nothin' to a flat country, nohow. A man jest naturally wear hisself plumb out a walkin' on a level 'thout ary down hill t' spell him. An' then look how much more there is of hit! Take forty acres o' *flat* now, an' hits jest a forty, but you take forty acres o' this here Ozark country, an' God 'lmighty only knows how much 'twould be if hit war rolled out flat. 'Taint no wonder't ail God rested when he made these here hills; he jest naturally *had t'* quit, fer he done his beatenest an' war plumb gin out."

My friend Godfrey speaks of rolling boulders down the mountain side.

Bless him! I wonder if he remembers how this writer used to roll the cordwood and the stovepipe filled with rock down the stairway of the old "Syrup Hotel," away back in the antedeluvian days of our boyhood. Dear old Captain Todd never once suspected this mild-mannered youth of being the source of his most annoying troubles. Bangety, bangety, slap, bang, bumpety, bump, boom!! down the old knot would go! and the lively stovepipe with its load of rock! Talk about boulders on a mountain side! Brothers and sisters, I am as wicked as any of you—I did it. Of the old-time teachers, only Professor Lee, if he reads this, will be shocked at this belated but honest confession of a desperate reprobate. Professor Lee used to like me—I know he did. Now when I meet him in Manhattan on my next trip I fear the result.

Professor Shelton, too, used to like (to roast) me. I guess he suspected that I was a deep-dyed rascalion. How well I recall when I would attempt to look as if I knew my "Ag." lesson he would say, "Mr. Rushmore, why is the reason— etc., etc., and Mr. R. would both corrugate and coruscate most ineffectually for good averages.

Good old days! Those were the days when Professor Gale, recently deceased, used to set George Failyer and myself at work in the old Blumont orchard. George would dig up a tree here, I would dig a hole there; he would jab his old tree down in the little hole and we would "plant it" at ten cents per "plant." I would pick up one of the numerous stones lying in the orchard, carry it to some old sink-hole, and George Failyer would come along and take that same stone and carry it to another hole. You remember it, don't you, old chap? Well, we have been doing the same thing these long years past, only in another way.

(Concluded on page 130.)

# EDITORIAL

Someone has said that most written productions should be laid away for seven years and then offered for publication—if they still seemed worth it after that length of time. Perhaps that is what has become of some of the contributions promised the ALUMNUS. Viewing the matter in the light of personal experiences, we feel sorry for whoever is editor when the seven years is up. True, the Kansas State Agricultural College offers limited advantages for work of a literary nature and little opportunity for the development of talent in the field of letters. But in that particular our advantages have all been much alike, and we should not make it necessary for a few willing contributors to do all the work. Some are really doing more than their share, and they have done it willingly, but their good nature may wear out after a while. A lot more of you people ought to be helping with the work, either by writing yourselves or furnishing material to fill the news columns. After all, the personal news items are the most valuable part of the paper, and that department is one that everyone can help to develop. If every subscriber would become personally interested to the extent, say, of contributing one news item per month, we would have to increase the size of the paper by half to accommodate all the news—and we would do it, too. Try it, and see how much it improves the paper.

By the organization of the alumni of Wabaunsee, Kan., into a permanent association, our list of such organizations is increased to ten, five of which are products of the last year. We have only three less such associations than the University of Kansas,

and ours cover much the larger territory. In the East we are about equally represented, but the University Alumni Association has no branches west of Kansas, while we have associations in Seattle, Southern California, and Colorado. But while the nature and extent of our own associations indicates the stronger fraternal spirit, Kansas University is undoubtedly receiving more material benefit than K. S. A. C. from its alumni associations. We are having more fun; they are doing more work. Eight counties in Kansas have well-organized associations of Kansas University alumni. These people are working and are getting results. K. S. A. C. has a great many enthusiastic alumni supporters in the State whose influence should be used in some organized effort to benefit the College. Working individually and alone they can accomplish little, while their combined influence in a common cause would produce otherwise impossible results for the College. There is no limit to the things we might do if we would only work together. The report of the Wabaunsee reunion intimates that their association will probably develop into a county organization, and the ALUMNUS will do everything possible to encourage such a move, and to work for the perfecting of similar county organizations all over the State.

If the electrical engineers among the alumni will keep Professor Eyer posted on their activities, he will supply the ALUMNUS each month with material for a column or more to be devoted exclusively to news of the engineers and their interests. If the engineers desire to do so, they may

make use of the ALUMNUS not only as a medium for exchange of news concerning themselves, but as a means for communicating to one another helpful suggestions and ideas gained from their practical experience. Professor Eyer suggests such a course, and will be glad to prepare for publication any communications for this purpose that may come to him from the boys.

**K. S. A. C. Reunion at Wabauunsee.**

The alumni and former students of K. S. A. C. living in the neighborhood of Wabauunsee held their first reunion and banquet November 29, 1907. The dinner was prepared and served under the directions of Jennie Cottrell, '04, Grace Bolton, '00, and Mrs. Nellie Brown. The table was beautifully decorated in purple and white, and miniature K. S. A. C. pennants were placed as souvenirs for the guests.

As we were seated at the table we sang "Alma Mater," the appetites of our College days returned, and we greatly appreciated the delicious dinner which consisted of

|                            |                              |
|----------------------------|------------------------------|
| Consomme                   | Sippets                      |
| Roast Chicken and Dressing |                              |
| Mashed Potatoes            | Sweet Potatoes a la Southern |
| Cranberry Jelly            | Pickles                      |
| Parker House Rolls         |                              |
| Nut Salad                  | Rolled Sandwiches            |
| Vanilla Ice-cream          | Assorted Cake                |
| Coffee                     | Cheese Wafers                |
|                            | Salted Nuts                  |

With E. L. Cottrell acting as toast-master, the following program was rendered:

|                                     |                        |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| K. S. A. C. Farmers.....            | Grace Bolton           |
| K. S. A. C. Cooks.....              | Horace Smith           |
| Instrumental Music.....             | Mrs. John Prickett     |
| Days of '86.....                    | W. L. Cotton           |
| How Can We Help Our Alma Mater..... | Mrs. Emma (Smith) Burt |
| Vocal Solo.....                     | Mrs. S. L. Unger       |

The program was humorous

throughout, yet serious thought was not wanting. The music was highly entertaining and fully appreciated.

Following is a list of those present: May Bolton, H. F. Smith, Cora Grimm, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Cotton, S. B. Burt and Mrs. Emma (Smith) Burt, '03, Jennie Cottrell, '04, Grace Bolton, '00, J. C. Bolton, '99, E. L. Cottrell, '99, Arthur Noyes, '85, Mr. and Mrs. Foster Brown, Mr. and Mrs. John Prickett, Laura Smith, Mary Lane, Henry Willig, Anna Smith, Mr. and Mrs. S. L. Unger, and W. W. Bolton.

At the close of the program we organized and elected the following officers: President, E. L. Cottrell; vice-president, Emma (Smith) Burt; secretary and treasurer, W. L. Cotton.

We hope that in time our local organization will lead to a county organization. ONE OF THEM.

**Business Meeting of Washington Alumni Association.**

The Washington Alumni Association held its annual business meeting, by invitation, with the president, D. G. Fairchild, 1448 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C., Thursday evening, December 12. Those present were D. G. Fairchild, '88, Mrs. Fairchild, Prof. G. H. Failyer, '77, J. E. Paine, '87, Miss Julia Pearce, '90, L. W. Call, '83, C. L. Marlatt, '84, Mrs. Marlatt, M. A. Carleton, '87, R. S. Kellogg, '96, Mrs. Kellogg, W. L. Hall, '98, Col. Albert Todd, '72, A. E. Oman, '00, A. B. Gahan, '03, V. L. Cory, '04, H. E. Umberger, '05, W. R. Ballard, '05, and C. H. Popenoe, '05. The following officers were elected: President, Col. Albert Todd; first vice-president, A. B. Gahan; second vice-president, E. H. Webster; secretary, C. H. Popenoe; treasurer, G. H. Failyer.

Professor Failyer reported on the progress of the memorial portraits, the contract having been given for the portrait of President Fairchild. That

of President Denison is to be secured later. After making arrangements for the annual banquet to be held in January, and transacting some miscellaneous business in which a motion was passed that "the new secretary send in to the ALUMNUS not less than one column of news each month," the meeting adjourned to the dining-room, where light refreshments were served.

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Arrangements for Alumni Banquet in Topeka.

The committee which was appointed at the January meeting of the Topeka Alumni Association to make arrangements for the annual banquet to be held Friday evening, March 6, has decided to have the banquet given at the Y. W. C. A. rooms in the masonic building. The banquet will be served at \$1.00 per cover, and tickets can be obtained from Mrs. C. M. Buck, 1006 Garfield, independent 'phone 2588 Red, or from Mrs. E. G. Gibson, 2034 Kansas Avenue, independent 'phone 6587. All alumni and former students of K. S. A. C. who can be urged to attend.

JAS. H. WHIPPLE,
Secretary and Treasurer.

Letter from an "Old Timer."

(Concluded from page 127.)

Silver hairs have come to my cranium, and with them an abiding joy in the dear old associations of the days of our youth. Our friendships have crept closer to our hearts; they have not run themselves out of breath. Some of us are to-day past the high noon of life, but the declining slope is refulgent and gorgeous. We have not vainly lived. We are now and for all time friends.

I am imposing upon your space. I cannot refrain, however, in behalf of the old guard, from saying to our old-time tutors, Professor Lee and Professor Shelton, that we hold you in high esteem. One the embodiment of scholarly dignity, refined culture;

a mild-mannered, sweet-tempered gentleman; a genuine Christian of useful and exemplary life. This writer bears him in pleasant memories. The other a bluff, hearty, sturdy engine, thoroughly imbued with an idea that agriculture was the greatest of arts and sciences; competent, of splendid teaching ability; generous to his foes; a born "scrapper;" liberal in religion, and democratic and reprehensible in his politics—"we all" liked him.

Professor Lee and Professor Shelton, in their reminiscences, speak of dear old Professor Platt. There was a consecrated man. He left his impress upon every student who ever sat in his class. A sympathetic, noble fellow, he loved us little villains—perhaps not wisely, but too well—we weren't worthy.

I was compelled to say of Professor Shelton, when I read his tribute to Professor Platt, "That's just like Shelton."

After all, what is there that so knits us to one another as real character. As I grow older, in life and ideal, I find three things enlarging my horizon: The friendships of my life are to me blessed; I believe I have a conscientious desire to be a blessing. More or less I have striven to live as a good man should. With Thoreau, I wish to enter deeply into that philosophy of life wherein one is not only good, but good for something. In a measure I have attained a fair success in life. I have no wealth beyond a fair monthly income. I have made for myself and my loved ones a happy living. But there looms up before me the larger ideal that a living and a life are in one sense as antipodal as the poles, and the life is the larger as the soul is the greater.

With these promiscuous cogitations and rambling interruptions, I am,

Merrily yours,

H. C. RUSHMORE,

Vintage of 1879.



PERSONAL



Life.

Life is an arrow—therefore you must know
What mark to aim at, how to use the bow;
Then draw it to the head, and let it go.

—Henry Van Dyke.

W. A. Hendershot, '04, is teaching school in Geneseo, Kan.

Fred Caldwell, '07, is practising veterinary science at Wamego.

W. W. McLean left January 7 to take up his new work in the Y. M. C. A. in Mexico.

S. S. Fry, '05, is now assistant in the department of soils, Iowa State College, at Ames.

On January 20, William Allen Buell was born to Tom and Marian (Allen) Buell, '04, of Roanoke, Tex.

Charles A. Scott, '01, and Mrs. Scott are the parents of a daughter, born January 5, in Halsey, Neb.

A Washington, D. C., correspondent reports that "Jimmie" Westgate, '97, is the owner of large private golf links.

A daughter was born, November 27, to Dr. and Mrs. F. C. Lockwood, of Meadville, Pa. Mrs. Lockwood was Mary Bly Pritner, '99.

E. B. Coulson, '96, and Jessie (McClurg) Coulson, second-year student in 1896, visited College recently on their way East. Mr. Coulson is a civil engineer for the Oregon Short Line Railway.

On Christmas day a number of College people gathered around a table groaning under the "fat of the land" at 220 Fourth street, S. E., Washington, D. C., the guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. H. Kyle. Those present were Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Nielsen, A. B. Gahan, H. N. Vinall, A. H. Leidigh, W. R. Ballard, Lois Failyer, and Professor Failyer. Everything was discussed from turkey to Esperanto, and the

afternoon fled all too rapidly, but it was enjoyed as only College people know how.

D. A. Logan, '05, who has been in the employment of the Rock Island R. R. since his graduation, has been transferred from the superintendent's office at Herrington to the district accountant's office at Topeka. The transfer is in the line of promotion.

Walter T. Swingle, '90, and Mrs. Swingle have gone from Washington, D. C., to California to spend the remainder of the winter, for the benefit of Mrs. Swingle's health. Mr. Swingle is physiologist in charge of plant life history investigations, in the bureau of plant industry, United States Department of Agriculture.

Martha (Nitcher) Sowers, '01, of Ames, Iowa, writes that she and Mr. Sowers had as guests, on Christmas day, J. H. Criswell, '89, and Isabelle (Frisbie) Criswell, '94, and their two daughters, and H. N. Bainer, '00, and two sons. Mrs. Criswell and Mrs. Sowers are going to give a banquet, the first Friday in March—the date chosen by a member of the local alumni organizations for this reunion and banquet—and any and all K. S. A. C. alumni in Iowa will be welcome on that occasion.

Two K. S. A. C. men took part in the program of the twenty-first annual meeting of the Peninsula Horticultural Society, held in Salisburg, Md., January 14, 15, and 16. Prof. F. A. Waugh, '91, of Amherst, Mass., gave addresses on "What Massachusetts is Doing for Horticultural Education," and "Ornamental Planting." Professor J. B. S. Norton, '96, of College Park, Md., discussed "Resistant Varieties in the Control of Plant Diseases."

A second son arrived, November 14, at the home of Mark Wheeler, '97, and Jeanette (Carpenter) Wheeler, of Fort Root, Ark.

John F. Ross, '02, who has been employed as teacher of agriculture in the Genoa, Neb., Indian school, has recently been appointed a scientific assistant in agronomy in the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and is now in Washington, D. C. Mr. Ross is employed by the Office of Grain Investigations, Bureau of Plant Industry, and will soon be assigned to the position of superintendent of the Amarillo Experimental Farm, Amarillo, Tex., to succeed A. H. Leidigh, '02, who resigns March first.

Among the Christmas-time visitors in Manhattan were, Laura Day, '93, and Edith McDowell, '93, of Menomonie, Wis., Kate Robertson, '05, of Cincinnati, Ohio, Ivy Harner, '93, of Lee's Summit, Neb., Leon White, '03, of Chillicothe, Ill., R. D. Scott, '04, of Denver, Colo., Flora Hull, '07, of Topeka, Harold Blachly, '00, of Kansas City, Wilma (Cross) Rhodes, '04, and daughter, of Topeka, Earl Cooley, '06, of Chicago, Minnie Diebler, '05, of Barnes, Kan., and A. F. Cassell, '07, of Beverly, Kan.

A number of alumni were represented in the recent institute meetings at the College. E. G. Schafer, '07, presented a paper on "Some Recent Results in Corn Breeding" before the Corn Breeders' Association; L. V. Sanford, '04, Oneida, Kan., won fifth prize on white corn; A. D. Colliver, '05, gave some accounts of the corn breeding work at the Hays Experiment Station; J. G. Haney, '99, Oswego, Kan., won third prize on his Hildreth's Yellow Dent corn, and presented a paper before the Corn Breeders' Association on "Breeding, Selling and Shipping Seed-corn;" H. W. Avery, '91, as president of the Draft Horse Breeders' Association, delivered an address at

their meeting; F. A. Kiene, '06, attended the meetings and was in charge of a delegation of boys from Shawnee county, five of whom won prizes in the boys' corn contest.

In a recent letter to the ALUMNUS, J. A. Conover, '98, of the dairy division, U. S. Department of Agriculture, writes that his official station has been changed from Raleigh, N. C., to Washington, D. C. Mr. Conover's letter was written from Tuskegee Institute, Ala., where he had been sent to help in a two-weeks' farmers' short course. He says: "I think this is a splendid movement to help the colored farmer of the South. Starting three years ago with eleven students, the attendance has increased to two hundred fifty this year, and I believe it will reach three hundred before the close. I have met G. W. Owens, '99, and Miss Poston, '07, both of whom are rendering valuable service in this institution." Mr. Conover is preparing an article about Tuskegee for the ALUMNUS.

Charles A. Scott, '01, has resigned his position as forest supervisor, in the United States forest service, and accepted the professorship of forestry in the Iowa State College, at Ames. The new position carries with it a salary of \$2000 per year and is desirable on account of the fact that nine months instead of twelve constitute the working year. Mr. Scott's headquarters, for some time, have been in Halsey, Neb., and he has had the supervision of a number of forest reserves in that section of the Central West. Of his appointment to the chair of forestry at Ames, the *Custer County (Neb.) Chief* says: "There is probably no person in the West better equipped to fill this chair than is Mr. Scott. It is with considerable reluctance that the Department of Forestry releases him, and they will no doubt ask him to devote his vacation months to government work."

F. A. Waugh, '91, has been elected master of the Amherst (Mass.) Grange, for 1908.

Julia Spohr, '06, is taking special work in domestic science at College this term.

G. O. Kramer, '05, has gone to the Philippines, in the United States government service.

C. E. Pincomb, '96, and Mrs. Marian (Jones) Pincomb, '96, are the parents of a son, born December 15.

R. B. Mullen, '02, is attending Washington University in Seattle, taking special work in electrical engineering.

W. S. Sargent, '01, is at his father's home in Manhattan, convalescing after a severe illness. Mr. Sargent is an employee in the United States Geological Survey.

Prof. and Mrs. C. M. Brink celebrated their twenty-fifth wedding anniversary, January 10, by entertaining about fifty of their friends, principally Faculty people.

Dr. and Mrs. C. L. Barnes and Professor and Mrs. Freeman are rejoicing in the arrival of a daughter in each of their homes, and twin girls have been added to the happy Ten-Eyck family.

A. D. Holloway, '07, who until recently has been filling the position of assistant in horticulture in the New Mexico Agricultural College, began work, January first, as office secretary of the Y. M. C. A. of Omaha, Neb.

"The Chestnut in Ohio" is the subject of an address given by Professor Edmund Secrest, '02, of the Ohio Experiment Station, at the fourth annual meeting of the Ohio State Forestry Society held in Columbus, Ohio, January 15.

We are in receipt of a copy of *The Plain Speaker*, a paper published by the Pastors' Union of Hollister, Cal. The paper contains several articles by Rev. W. C. Howard, '77, upholding

the temperance cause and commenting favorably upon the results he observed, on a recent visit to Kansas, of the temperance movement in a number of towns in this State.

Henrietta Hofer, '02, and her mother have gone to New York City for the winter, where Miss Hofer is singing in the choir of Doctor McArthur's church, one of the finest churches of the city.

L. M. Peairs, '05, has been elected to an assistantship in the entomological department of the Maryland Agricultural College, at College Park, Md. Mr. Peairs makes the fifth K. S. A. C. man in that institution.

The veterinary graduates of the 1907 class, including J. H. Cheney, C. A. Pyle, A. F. Cassell, F. W. Caldwell, H. R. Groome, E. W. McCrone, and C. E. Bassler, were all present at the meeting of the State Veterinary Association.

Bert W. Green, a student in 1893, visited the College during the holidays. Mr. Green is practicing medicine in the state of Pueblo, Mexico, where he is one of the physicians for a mining company employing about 2500 men.

Dr. Mac F. Hulett, '93, Columbus, Ohio, gave an address before the Ohio Osteopathic Society at its tenth annual meeting, December 28. At the same meeting he was elected president of the society and a member of the State Osteopathic Examining Board.

Professor W. A. Kellerman, of Ohio State University, formerly professor of botany of this College, sailed for Central America on December 8. He was accompanied by a number of special students in botany, who intend to spend the winter studying biology in that field. Professor Kellerman has been in Central America for several seasons, and is considered the best authority on the fungi of that country.

Doris Train, '06, is assisting in the Mathematics Department this term.

Prof. and Mrs. G. C. Wheeler have moved into their new home in Park Lane.

E. B. Coulson, '96, of Cherokee, Okla., was a recent visitor at the College.

Rev. Joseph Bayles, '89, of Onaga, Kan., was in Manhattan, January 18, to attend his brother's wedding.

Laura Lyman, '06, has returned to her work in Bethel Mission, Kansas City, Kan., after a ten-days' visit with her parents in Manhattan.

Judge Rollin R. Rees, '85, of the district court at Minneapolis, Kan.; is a candidate for the nomination of congressman from the Fifth district.

H. A. Ireland, '07, has taken a position as government inspector in the Philippines, and sailed from San Francisco for Manila on the twenty-third of January.

J. L. Pelham, '07, until recently assistant in horticulture at the Hays Branch Experiment Station has accepted a position as instructor in horticulture in the Hays Normal School.

L. E. Hazen, '06, scientific assistant in agronomy, United States Department of Agriculture, who spent a few weeks in Professor TenEyck's office, has gone to Washington, D. C., to spend the winter in research work.

The alumni Io's met Monday evening, January 13, with Eva (Burtner) Potter, '05, and renewed their childhood in a "kindergarten party." The next meeting will be held February 10, and the society will be the guests of Mary (Davis) Ahearn, '04.

On the evening of January 16, a number of ex-Kansans were entertained at the home of Prof. Septimus Sisson and Mrs. Kate (Oldham) Sisson, '92, of Columbus, Ohio. Those present were Prof. O. E. Olin and Miss Blanche Olin, of Akron, Ohio, Ed-

mund Secrest, '02, and W. H. Goodwin, '05, of Wooster, Ohio, and Professor and Mrs. White.

A number of the alumni have written to Professor Eyer expressing their approval and most hearty cooperation in the work of organizing a student branch of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers at the College. Professor Eyer reports the following items about the engineers:

Wren Thurston, '06, has entered into a contract with the Western Electric Company, of Chicago, to remain in their employ for four years at a guaranteed salary. This speaks well for the work and ability of Mr. Thurston. The company retains only the best men on such contracts.

A. D. Stoddard, '06, has been connected with the Kansas City Metropolitan Electric Light and Power Company for some months, and has lately been placed in the office of the chief engineer. Mr. Stoddard spent a few days about College recently and is much pleased with his position.

R. A. Cassell, '07, Highland, Kan., is assisting L. B. Bender, '04, in installing the telephone and power equipment for Highland and Troy, Kan.

W. D. Davis, '04, spent a day at College two weeks ago. He is assistant to Chief Gazin of the A. T. & S. Fe railroad, headquarters in Topeka. Mr. Davis has shown his ability as an electrical engineer and has been recognized by the Santa Fe in substantial promotions.

H. Hubbard, '07, who was given the position of chief electrical engineer of "The Denver Road" last fall, finds more than enough to occupy his time, installing the electrical equipment for the new road. His address is Childress, Tex.

Henry Thomas, '04, is employed by the construction company of the Alles Chalmers Company, and is in Auburn, N. Y., installing electrical machinery.

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Men's \$4.00 Shoes.....	\$3.50												
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Men's 2.00 Shoes.....	1.75												

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Dear Editor: After the gentle hint dropped in the last number of the ALUMNUS, I hereby proceed to report some news of the alumni in and about Kansas City:

Mrs. Florence (Vail) Butterfield, '01, of Pittsburg, Kan., spent a few hours with Mrs. Anna (Smith) Kinsley, '01, of Kansas City, while enroute to Manhattan to spend the holidays.

T. W. Morse, '95, of Kansas City, Prof. D. H. Otis, '92, and Mrs. Mary (Lyman) Otis, '94, of Madison, Wis., Prof. G. C. Wheeler, '95, of Manhattan, and John and Hortensia (Harman) Patten, '95, of Chicago, had a pleasant visit and dined together while in attendance at the Royal Stock Show.

M. E. Chandler, former student, had a booth at the recent Fine Stock Show in Kansas City and demonstrated landscape gardening.

Dr. F. E. Johnson, '99, stopped off in Kansas City long enough to greet friends while enroute from Lincoln,

Neb., where he is in charge of the shipment of diseased stock, under the direction of the Bureau of Animal Industry. He was going to the gulf to see the sights.

Frank Yeoman, '98, is still making people think he knows law, and has a remunerative practice. Call and see him, he says.

Dr. Geo. Smith, '93, president of the Kansas City Alumni of K. S. A. C., is busy as usual in his various duties as dean of the Hahnemann Medical College, practitioner, etc.

Dr. Melva Avery, '99, was a recent caller on the Kansas City alumni. She is practising medicine at Clay Center, Kan.

Willis T. Pope, '98, who since 1902 has been head of the science department, and much of that time vice-president of the Honolulu Normal School, has been chosen temporary dean of the Honolulu College of



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Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, to succeed Dean Roadhouse, whose recent sudden death made vacant the position. The *Pacific Commercial Advertiser*, Honolulu, H. T., of December 7, gives a sketch of Mr. Pope's life, and speaks in high terms of praise of his work thus far in that territory. In the same paper Mr. Pope says of his plans of work:

"I have no definite plans as yet, for I have had no conferences with the regents further than the most general ones as to whether I was willing to take up the work, which I have consented to do. In a general way, I suppose my alma mater, Kansas Agricultural College, will be the model that will consciously or unconsciously present itself to my mind. But, aside from that, the plans which the board of regents have formulated, such as Dean Roadhouse may have prepared, my experience elsewhere, and my five years' residence and experience and

observation in Hawaii, will have their influence. It seems to me that the opportunity is unique for the establishment here of a school of agriculture in which tropical agriculture in all its branches and in all its bearings shall be dealt with educationally from every standpoint, theoretical and practical, in a manner and thorough completeness surpassing that of any other institution of the kind anywhere. If that idea meets the approval of the regents, as I believe it will, it will be one of the prime objects of effort on my part. In other words, the effort will be made to create an institution which shall be worthy of the name it bears and in line with the objects of such institutions, and which shall be the best place in the world for students of tropical agriculture to come. I do not think there is another place anywhere that offers the same possibility in this direction that Hawaii does."

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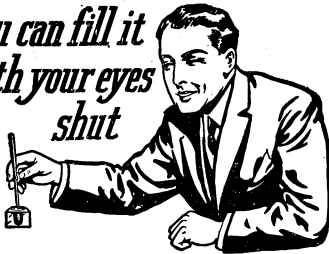
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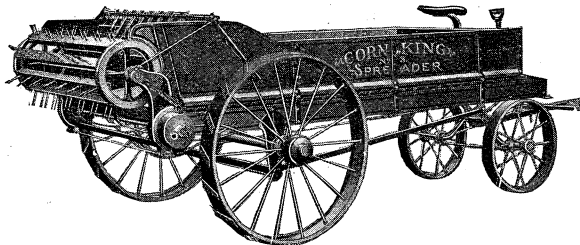
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