# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF EDUCATION

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# THE CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

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## TRANSMITTAL. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR, BUREAU OF EDUCATION, Washington, December 24, 1920. Sir: The oldest of the colleges of agriculture in the United States is little more than 50 years old. Most of them have been established since 1870. Until the agricultural experiment stations had been in operation more than a decade—that is, until well within the present century -the courses of study in these colleges were meager and indefinite. Within the last 15 years their growth has been phenomenal in extent, variety, and definiteness. There is, I believe, nothing else in the college world to equal it. Since the general purposes of all the 67 colleges of agriculture are the same, each of them can be helped by a knowledge of what the others are doing, and such a comparative account of them as is contained in this study by Mr. Carl R. Woodward, of Rutgers College, New Jersey, becomes both interesting and valuable. I am, therefore, submitting this manuscript for publication as a bulletin of the Bureau of Education. Respectfully submitted. The Secretary of the Interior. P. P. CLANTON, Commissioner.



## THE CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

#### 4. INTRODUCTION.

PURPOSE OF THE STUDY.

The last two decades have seen a rapid expansion of the State colleges of agriculture in the United States. The enrollment has increased rapidly, and this has meant a rapid development in the means for offering resident instruction. The courses of study have been passing through a process of evolution coincident with this grawth. In general, it is largely true that the present-day curriculum of the agricultural college is an outgrowth of the old academic college course, resulting from a grafting of agricultural instruction on the old stock. Whether any one of our colleges of agriculture was founded as such, or was created as a new department in an institution already existing, it must be admitted that almost without exception the present-day curriculum has not been worked out in a definite, clear-cut way on the basis of certain fundamental principles that underlied education in agriculture.

Certain marked tendencies have been evident. Old academic subjects one by one have been dropped by the wayside. More agricultural subjects have been included. Greater freedom of election has been allowed. New and highly specialized technical courses have been added. Greater opportunity for specialization has been provided. More emphasis has been placed on laboratory work. Farm practice has been made a requirement in many institutions. Two-year courses, winter short courses, summer courses, extension courses, and graduate courses have come to occupy important places in the college.

All this is evidence of development. And where there is rapid development, there is sometimes danger of getting away from what is best. Quality is often sacrificed for expediency. A study of the cutalogs of the colleges of agriculture will reveal a constant modification of the courses offered. Evidently, we have been aiming to establish the ideal course in agriculture, but have not been certain just what it is. In other words, the curriculum of the agricultural college has not passed entirely through the experimental stage.

The writer wishes to acknowledge the constructive eriticism and suggestions received during the course of the study from the following: Dr. J. G. Lipman, Dr. C. H. Elliott, Prof. A. K. Getm.o., Prof. H. O. Sampson, Prof. F. O. Helbar, and Dr. T. J. Hendlese, of the Rutgers College faculty, and Dr. C. D. Jarvis, of the U. S. Bureau of Education. This paper was completed June 1, 1919.



This paper presents a study of the four-year course in agriculture leading to the degree of buchelor of science in the land-grant college of the 48 States of the United States. The study was undertaken in the effort to determine some of the fundamental principles on which the four-year course should be based. In the course of the work a number of other facts developed that should be of value in the administration of an agricultural college curriculum. It was hoped that an intensive study would throw some light on the follow.

1. What subjects should be required of all students in the four-year course in agriculture?

2. What place should each of these occupy in the course?

- 3. What should be the proportion of time devoted to the different types of work in the course?
- 4. How much freedom of choice of subjects should be allowed?
- 5. What is the best method of providing for specialization?
- 6. What relation should farm practice have to the requirements for graduation?
- 7. What are the weakest features at present in the average four year course?

8. How may the efficiency of a course be measured?

9. How and to what extent may these principles be applied in the reorganization of a curriculum in agriculture?

No attempt was made to study any courses other than the regular four-year course leading to the bachelor's degree.

## PREVIOUS STUDIES.

The fact that few studies have been recorded in which the four year course has been considered from this standpoint was an additional incentive for the writer to take up the problem. When the work was begun, in December, 1917, preliminary papers had been published by F. B. Jenks and C. D. Jarvis in the Proceedings of the Association of American Agricultural Colleges and Experiment Stations. The committee on instruction in agriculture of this association, in their several reports, had made some valuable contributions to the subject. While this study was in progress, by far the most complete treatise yet in print was published by Dr. Jarvis as a bulletin of the United States Bureau of Education. Some of the data reported in the present paper are covered in part in that bulletin. However; Dr. Jaryis has taken up some phases of the study, such as organization and entrance requirements, which are not considered

<sup>1</sup> Jenks, F. B., 1912, Agricultural Courses in the Land-Grant Colleges. In Proc. 26th An. Conv. Assat

Flarvis, C. D., 1917, A Study of the Requirements for Graduation in Agriculture. In Proc. 31st An Conv. Assn. Amer. Agr. Coll. Exp. Sta., pp. 190-206. Jagvis, C. D., 1918, American Agricultural Colleges, U. S. Bu. Ed., Bul. 29, 1918.

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here, and the present paper covers a number of topics not discussed by Dr. Jarvis. Furthermore, where the same subjects are covered in both, they are studied from a different point of view in most instances; so there is little actual duplication. The writer has found Dr. Jarvis's work of great value in completing the study, and will refer to it occasionally in the course of this paper.

### II. PROCEDURE.

The data were compiled chiefly from two sources, the catalogs of the colleges and a questionnaire sent to the deans of the respective colleges. The catalogs used contained the announcements for the college year 1917-18,5 The courses outlined would therefore represent approximately what the colleges were offering before reorganization was effected during the present year (1918-19) to provide for the Students Army Training Corps. The questionnaire was sent out the first part of April, 1919, and hence the replies represent the very recent opinion of the men in the agricultural colleges who have been closely concerned with curriculum problems, in most instances for a number of years, and who have had the additional advantage of observing the college at work during the war period. Furthermore, they should reflect whatever effect the war-time demands have had on American agriculture, as well as need for reorganization in this reconstruction period. The summary of the questionnaire should represent a step in advance when compared with the summary of the catalog data.

The data compiled from the catalogs will be considered first, and the results compared with the summary of the questionnaires in the last part of the paper.

It should be noted here that the summarized data for the colleges were not submitted to the respective deans for their indorsement. While in many respects this would have been desirable, it was thought that in view of the difficulty of defining the method of classification in such a way that it would be accurately followed by all in checking over our figures, it might not be advisable. In calculating the distribution of time among the different types of work, for example, different individuals might place the same subject in different classes, and this would give rise to inaccuracies, and lessen the value of the data for comparative purposes. On the other hand, in the preparation of the data as here presented, a careful effort was made to follow the same standards of comparison throughout. The writer fully appreciates, however, that the absence of confirmation of the data



b There was one exception to this. When the study was begun the announcements of Clemson College, South Carolina, for 1917-18 were not available; so those for 1916-17 were used. Because of fields in publishing this study, certain of the data will be somewhat out of date by the time it appears in print. The reader should give this due consideration in interpreting the material presented.

by representatives of the colleges themselves might permit some errors to go undiscovered.

Reducing the data from the catalogs to a form suitable for comparative study involved a vast amount of tabulation. The methods followed will be described in connection with the discussion of the different topics.

III. REQUIRED WORK.

A study was first made of the subjects which are required of all students in each college, enrolled in the four-year course in agriculture, regardless of the special lines of work they may take up in the third or fourth years. First of all, what subjects are required? Second, in what year are they given? Third, how much time is devoted to each? From the answers to these questions we should be able to determine something indicating the relative importance of different subjects, as well as the sequence in which they should be offered.

To put these data in usable form, a large table was prepared showing the name of each subject required of all students in each college, the year in which it was given, the number of terms or semesters, and the number of credit hours per week. The data were recorded for 47 colleges. Utah Agricultural College was not included because it has a group elective system for all four years, making it impossible to record definitely any required subjects.

It is unnecessary to reproduce this table here, as it is very unwieldly, but the method of tabulation is illustrated by a small portion of the table, shown below. The arabic figures in each subject column represent the number of credit hours per week in the term or semester indicated in the second column. The small numeral to the right of and above each of these figures represents the year in which the subject is required.

The method of tabulating the data taken from the college catalogs is as follows:

College.	Term or semes- ter.	Eng- lish.	Speak	ganic chem-	Quali- tative chem- istry,	tive	Organic chem-	Agri- cul- turul chem- istry.	Field crops.	Fruit grow- ing.	Dairy hus- bandry.	Farm man agement, ctc.; cover ing a lotal of 74 sub- fects.
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In all, 76 subjects were included in the tabulation. On account of different terminology used in different colleges, a certain standardization was found necessary as the work proceeded, and in some instances it was necessary to group a number of closely related subjects under a single head. The subjects as given in the catalogs are here shown, with the grouping of the special subjects and those of different terminology:

- L English (literature, composition; rhetoric).
- 2 Public speaking (argumentation; public discourse).
- L Agricultural journalism (journalism):
- + Modern language (French, Spanish; German, Italian).
- 5. Psychology.
- 6. Agricultural education.
- 7. History.
- § General economics (political economy)
- 2. Rural economics (rura) economy; rural institutions).
- A Political science (law, civies, American Government).
- I. Sociology (social science).
- Pindustrial geography.
- 3 Physical training (physical education, gymnastics; gymnasium).
- it Hygiene.
- 5. Military science (drill, tactics, theory).
- Algebra.
- 17. Geometry (solid, analytical).
- 8. Trigonometry.
- 19. Agricultural mathematics.
- 20. Physics (agricultural).
- A. Geology (physiography).
- 22 Climatology
- 3. Chemistry, inorganic (general chemistry).
- 24. Chemistry, qualitative.
- 5. Chemistry, quantitătive.
- M. Chemistry, organic.
- 7. Chemistry, agricultural (soil chemistry; agricultural analysis).
- N. Biochemistry.
- 29. Riology
- 10. Breeding (genetics, plant and animal breeding; principles of breeding).
- II. Physiology (anatomy and physiology).
- 22. Zoology (vertebrate zoology, general zoology; invertebrate zoology).
- 33. Bacteriology.
- 34. Microbiology (agricultural microbiology).
- 35. Entomology (economic entomology; insecticides).
- 36. Botany, general (plant anatomy; plant histology).
- 37. Botany, agricultural.
- 38. Plant physiology.
- 39. Plant pathology.
- 10. Soils (soil technology: soil management).
- 41. Soil physics.
- 42. Fertilizers and manures.
- 43. Field crops (agronomy; cotton, seeds).
- 44. Grain crops (corn).
- 45. Forage crops (grasses, forage crops, and weeds).



### 12 CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE. 46. Fruit growing (horticulture; viticulture). 47. Pomology. 48. Olericulture (vegetable gardening; market gardening). 49. Plant propagation. 50. Forestry. 51. Landscape horticulture (landscape art; landscape gardening). 524 Animal industry (types of live stock; types and breeds, live stock; live stock judging, live-stock management). 53. Feeding and nutrition (feeds and feeding; nutrition). 54. Veterinary science (animal diseases; veterinary medicine). . 55. Dairy husbandry (dairy industry, milk; dairying, dairy production, dairy man 56. Poultry husbandry. 57. Farm management (farm management and organization). 58. Farm accounts. 59. Farm study. 60. Surveying (civil engineering). 61. Rural engineering (sewage disposal, water supplies; rural sanitation). 62. Irrigation and drainage. 63. Drawing (freehand drawing, drafting; mechanical drawing). 64. Shopwork (woodwork, mechanic arts; forge). 65. Farm mechanics (farm machinery, farm motors; field machinery). 66. Farm buildings (rural architecture). 67. Library work. 68. Extension. 69. Natural history of farm. 70. Freshmen lectures. \$1. Farm practices. 72. General agronomy. 73. General agriculture. 74. Agricultural experimentation. 75. Seminar. 76. Thesis. Subjects offered strictly as optionals also were recorded. An op-

be selected from a small group, usually of two, three, and seldom over four, subjects. Special subjects offered as a part of a departmental course in the junior or senior years are not considered as optionals, or where subjects are offered as majors or minors in which there is considerable freedom of choice. In cases where specialization begins in the second year, subjects in certain groups not required for all students are classed as optionals.

In making the first tabulation, the optionals were recorded along with the required subjects, and were designated with an asterisk (\*). When the table was completed, they were transferred to a separate table, showing optional work alone.

The purpose of including optional subjects in the study was to determine what place these have in the curriculum. Certainly optional work should not be classed with free electives. There is a degree of requirement about optionals that associates them closely



with required subjects, and the relative standing of the different subjects with respect to importance can be concluded more accurately by considering the extent to which they are offered as optionals along with the degree to which they are required. From the data recorded, Tables 1 and 2 were prepared. Table 1 shows the number of colleges requiring each subject in any given year, for either one or two semesters, for any given number of hours per week. Table 2 shows the same for optional work. The total number of colleges requiring the work in each of the four years also is shown. The summary column shows the total number of colleges requiring work in each subject any time during the course for any given number of hours per week.



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TABLE 1.—Distribution of required subjects, showing number of colleges requiring and

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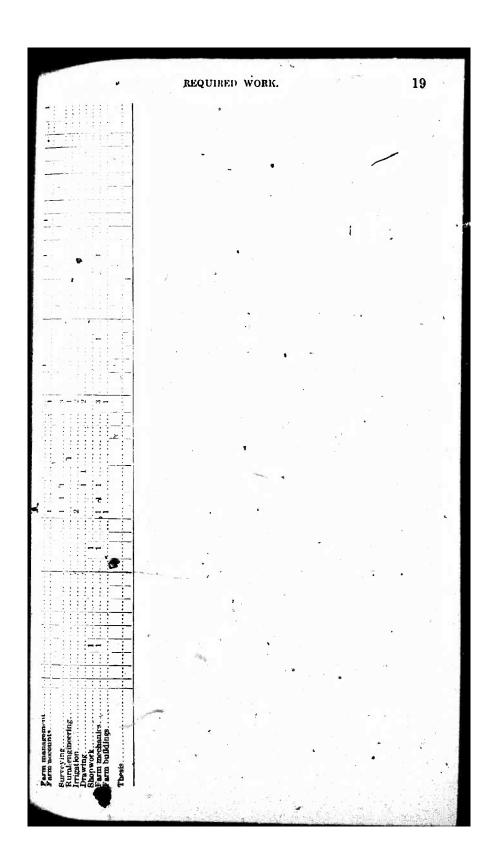


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TABLE 2.—Distribution of opt		Subjects	<u>-</u>		prototy breeding Physiology	Alphay Bacteriology Entomology	Botany (genèral) Botany (agricultural) Plant physiology	General agriculture.	manurs	Field crops Grain crops Forage crops	Fruit growing		Animal industry	Veterinary seience Pairy husbandry Foultry husbandry







## 20 CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

In preparing these tables from the first tabulation, it was necessary to convert all data to a two-semester-per-year basis. Nine of the 47 colleges divide the college year into 3 terms: one has 1 term and the balance have 2 semesters of a half year each. As it was necessary to have a common basis for comparison, the work in the 3-term colleges as originally recorded was transposed to its equivalent in round

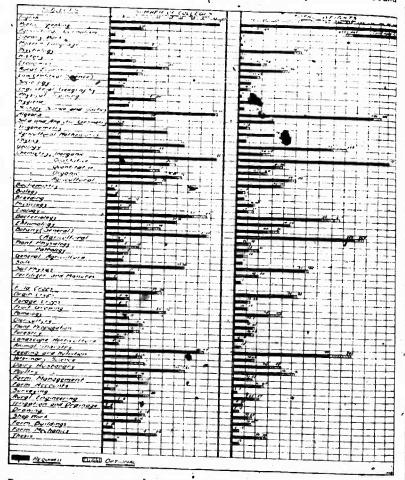


DIAGRAM 1.—Number of colleges in which the respective subjects are required and the number in which they are offered as optionals.

numbers in half-year semesters. Some approximation was necessary here, as it was thought desirable to use only whole numbers. So the number of hours per week was recorded at the nearest unit. Thus a term-hour is equivalent to two-thirds of a semester hour. If, for example, a college offered chemistry for 6 hours a week for one term, it would be entered as 4 hours a week for one semester.

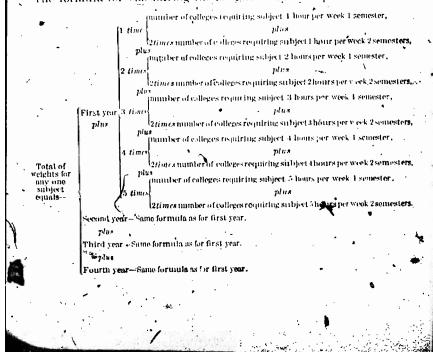
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The number of colleges requiring each subject at any time during the course was calculated and is shown in diagram 1 (left-hand column).

The number of colleges requiring a subject is indicative of its relative importance, and this can be judged from the diagram. It was felt, however, that a more accurate measure of relative standing is desirable. The number of semesters a subject is given and the number of hours a week are factors which should be considered in determining the relative importance. Accordingly, a unit of measure was devised for this purpose, which for convenience may be designated as a "weight." A single unit, or "weight," for any given subject represents one college requiring it for one hour a week for one semester. The total number of weights, then, for any required subject represents the total number of credit-hours per week it is required for the total number of semesters in all of the colleges taken together. This was calculated from Table 1. To determine the number of weights for each subject, the number of colleges requiring it for a given numher of credit-hours per week for one semester in any one year was multiplied by the number of hours a week. When given for two semesters, the product was multiplied by 2. The sum of the onesemester and the two-semester weights would give the number of weights for the year. This was done for each year and the total number of weights calculated by finding the sum of the weights for all four years.

The formula for calculating the weights may be represented thus:





The weights of the subjects, both required and optional, are given in Table 3, and shown graphically in diagram 1 (right-hand column).

By studying diagram 1, one gets a good idea of the relative standing of the different required subjects. Only two subjects were required in all 47 colleges-English and inorganic chemistry. The same could be said of military training except that it was optional with physical training in one college. Since our entry in the war, this has probably been changed. From the standpoint of the number of colleges, botany ranks next with 43, animal industry with 41, zoology with 37, physics and soils each with 33, and dairy husbandry with 32. Other subjects required in 24 or more colleges (a majority of those studied) in order are organic chemistry, bacteriology, qualitative chemistry, and trigonometry.

It is thus seen that three types of work are well represented in the majority of colleges. In the academic field we have English and trigonometry (military drill, also, may be included here for convenience, but more correctly may be considered in a class by itself). fundamental sciences are represented by inorganic chemistry, qualitative chemistry, organic chemistry, physics, botany, zoology, and bacteriology. The three agricultural subjects appearing most often

are soils, animal industry, and dairy husbandry.

It should be recognized that this diagram has certain limitations with respect to the group of agricultural subjects. Much of the work in agriculture is reserved for the last two years, and in many cases the subjects are offered as electives, optionals, or in special departmental groups. Hence they do not show up very prominently here, and this diagram is consequently not an accurate index of their place in the curriculum. Still, we are studying these data from the standpoint of required work, and the diagram does strikingly bring out one factrelatively less of the agricultural subjects are required, and the student is given considerable latitude of choice in making his selection of agricultural work.

It appears to the writer that there is a degree of weakness in the tendency here exhibited. If the student needs a good foundation in certain academic subjects, and should have a good basic knowledge of certain sciences, which are accordingly required, why does he not need at least an introductory knowledge of the important branches of agriculture as a basis for specialization along any one of these branches? As a general principle, effort should be made to require an elementary course in each of the important branches of agriculture to give the student a broad view of the whole field in order that he may choose wisely the branch of agriculture in which later he will specialize.

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It is interesting to compare the graphs representing the "weights" of each subject with the graphs of the number of colleges in which the subjects are required. First of all, the parallelism between the two sets of graphs is most noticeable. There are, however, certain striking differences. There is a greater variation between subjects in the "weight" column, emphasizing the difference in standing between the subjects listed. English stands out strikingly as the leading subject, heading the list with 462 units. Inorganic chemistry follows with 329 weights, and military training with 286. Botany follows with 249, animal industry 199, physics 195, zoology 182, and soils 150. Other subjects having over 100 weights (in order) are field crops 124, modern language 116, bacteriology 110, organic chemistry 109, and dairy husbandry 101.

It may be seen, then, that the "order of importance" of subjects is not quite the same in the two graphs. This is brought out below, where the subjects are listed according to rank:

Rank by number of colleges.

- 1 (English.
- 2 Unorganic chemistry.
- 3 Military training
- 4. Botany
- 5. Animal industry.
- 6. Zoology.
- 7. (Physica.
- S. Soila.
- 9. Dairy husbandry.
- 10. (Organic chemistry,
- 11. Bacteriology.
- 12. Qualitative chemistry.
- 13. Trigonometry

- 1. English. 2. Inorganic chemistry.
- 3. Military training.
- 4. Botany.
- Änimal industry.
- 6. Physics.
- 7. Zoology.
- 8. Soils.
- 9. Field crope.
- 10. Modern language.
- 11. Bacteriology. •
- 12. Organic chemistry,
- 13. Dairy husbandry.

The order of the first five subjects is the same in both groups; and also for the first eight, except that physics and zoology are reversed. The last five subjects in both groups include bacteriology, organic chemistry, and dairy husbandry, but qualitative chemistry and trigonometry in the first group give way to field crops and modern language in the second.

The subjects with a small number of units to their credit also are deserving of attention. Glancing down the list we see sociology, agricultural mathematics, forestry, landscape horticulture, farm buildings, and general agriculture, for instance. What is the reason for their insignificant standing? Have they been tried and found wanting and now are dying a natural death? Or are they comparatively new subjects which have been recently introduced at a few institutions and are worthy of adoption by others? The place of some of these, such as forestry, unquestionably should be determined largely by local conditions. On the other hand, a subject



like agricultural mathematics is of general application and may be worthy of consideration in any college. While this diagram shows existing tendencies, it should not for this reason be interpreted as representing what is best in the four-year course. It is important to remember that, while adoption by a majority of colleges is strong evidence in favor of a subject, it does not conclusively prove its place in all curricula. This is simply an analysis of the situation as it is.

With respect to the optional work recorded in Table 2 and shown in the graph, little is to be said. Options are most abundant in the sophomore year. Some are offered in the freshman year, but ingeneral most of the first year's work is required. Considerable optional work appears in the junior year, but this is reduced on account of the departmental group electives and the large amount of free election which begins in this year in many colleges. The optional work in the senior year is unimportant.

The relative standing of the subjects as found for required work is not greatly altered when the optional work is added.

## IN WHAT YEAR-SHALL A SUBJECT BE GIVEN?

Table 1 shows the distribution of required subjects, not only throughout the four years of the course, but also with respect to the number of hours a week and the number of semesters. The largest number of colleges requiring any given subject in any one of these places appears in heavy-face type. The largest number of colleges requiring a subject within any of the four years is given in italics. Also in the summary column for all four years at the right, the "most popular" number of hours a week, with the number of semesters, is indicated by the heavy-face type. These data are summarized in a more easily readable form in Tables 4 and 5.

Table 4 shows the "most popular year" for each subject. As would be expected, the academic subjects are found chiefly in the first year—English, modern language, and mathematics. Also, the sciences, inorganic chemistry and botany, are included here. Agricultural work is begun with field crops, animal industry, and shop work. An equal number of colleges require qualitative chemistry in the first and in the second year.

The second year sees a considerable expansion of the curriculum, and a great variation among the colleges. The outstanding subjects are physics, zoology, and chemistry (organic, qualitative, and quantitative) among the sciences, and soils, fruit growing, and dairy husbandry among agricultural subjects.



	Number of colleges	Most cor	nmon require given year.	ement for
Subjects. <sup>1</sup>	subject subject in year indicated.	Hours per	Number of semesters.	Number of colleges:
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· Bacteriology and nutrition appear to be third-year subjects The numbers for the other junior-year subjects are small, but such as are given show an equal number in the first and third year for history, and in the second, third, and fourth years for breeding. The number for sociology is too small to mean much.

The fourth year includes economics (general and rural), farm

management, and veterinary science.

Again, it should be pointed out that these data must be interpreted liberally, with due allowance for the limitations of the study. As this applies only to required work, the position of any subject is shown only for the colleges in which it is required. This is the explanation of so many subjects falling in the sophomore year, and so few in the junior and senior years. Nevertheless, the table is suggestive, and indicates clearly certain tendencies. By comparing the figures opposite each subject with the number of colleges requiring it shown in diagram 1, an idea of their value can be obtained.

## HOW MUCH TIME SHALL BE GIVEN TO A SUBJECT?

The number of credit hours a week and the number of semesters per year devoted to each subject in the largest number of colleges are shown in Table 5. The table is self-explanatory, and little comment is necessary.

Hygiene, library work, and general agriculture (as a distinct subject), are required in but few colleges, but they appear to be 1hour i-semester subjects. Public speaking, physical training, and military training occur most frequently as 1-hour 2-semester Three hours a week is the most common assignment, and of the 39 subjects falling in this class, 33 are for i semester, 5 for 2 semesters, and 1 is tied between 1 and 2 semesters. it must be remembered, is for required work only. It seems quite certain that for advanced courses, given free or group electives for specialization, a larger amount of time is awarded, on the average, than is shown here-for required work.

Three hours a week for one semester is certainly insufficient for English, modern language, physics, zoology, and botany when they are required; and this is borne out by the data assembled. Each of these subjects falls in the 3-hour 2-semester group.

Only 3 subjects fall in the 4-hour group and 2 in the 5-hour group. Of the former, soil physics is a 1-semester subject and inorganic chemistry continues for 2 semesters. The number of colleges requiring geometry is insignificant. Agricultural chemistry claims 5 hours a week for 1 semester, and physiology is tied for 1 semester in the 3-hour and the 5-hour classes, but the number is so small as to be of little significance.

TABLE 5 - Distribution of subjects by semester hours per week and number of semesters per year.

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## .. IV. BALANCING THE CURRICULUM.

It is generally accepted that the four-year course should not be confined narrowly to any one type of work, but that it should include a certain amount of the different types of subject matter in order to give the student a well-rounded training. While the aim of the course is to prepare for the profession of agriculture, it must not be limited to agricultural subjects alone. The reasons for this are obvious. Many agricultural subjects are dependent upon prerequisite courses of the fundamental type, such as chemistry or botany. The aim of a college course leading to a bachelor's degree is more than vocational; it should train for the highest type of citizenship. For this reason the liberal, or academic, studies have an important and essential place. But granted that the student should pursue some work of these different types, what is the proper proportion of each?

Another factor in balancing the curriculum is that of the proportion of work to be required. How much should be required, how much offered as prescribed electives, and how much as free electives?

A study of this phase of the problem was accordingly undertaken. For this purpose all subjects were classified in the following five groups:

1. Academic.—All liberal subjects such as English, foreign language, social science, history, and mathematics, and also physical and military training.

2. Scientific.—All subjects commonly known as the sciences, except those which are strictly applied science in the field of agriculture; for example, botany, chemistry, and zoology.

3. General agriculture.—All agricultural subjects, including strictly applied agricultural science, except the professional or specialized subjects; for example, soils, crops, dairy husbandry.

4. Special agriculture.—All agricultural subjects pursued as a specialized group for professional preparation. For instance, in a departmental group course in horticulture, such subjects as pomology, small fruits and nursery practice would be classed as special agficulture.

5. Free elective.—All electives which would not fall in any of the preceding four groups.

The outlines of the four-year courses in the catalogues were studied carefully and the number of credit hours a week devoted to subjects in each of these groups tabulated for each year and for the total course. The proportion of time falling in each of these groups was then determined on a percentage basis.

At the same time another classification was made in a similar way for the following groups:

1. Required. All work required of all four-year students.

2. Prescribed elective. Subjects which were elective to a certain degree, and yet were limited by some degree of requirement; for example, optionals and group electives.

3. Free electives. The classification in the latter two sets of groups required a great deal of painstaking study and care. In many instances it was necessary to refer to the descriptive outline of a course to determine its proper place. Occasionally certain inconsistencies were found in the catalogues, and many special cases arose calling for individual judgment. Also, the number of determinations was so great that it is not improbable that some errors have crept in. However, the figures were cross-checked in two or three different ways, and the writer has reason to believe that they are substantially accurate.

The determinations were relatively easy when a single set of studies was pursued by all students for any given term or semester. However, the differentiation of work among the departmental group electives complicated matters considerably. In such cases it became necessary to make the classification for each departmental group, and take the average of the groups as the figures for the college. For instance, if a college offered a single course in the first and second years, and departmental group electives in agronomy, animal husbandry, and horticulture for the third and fourth years, it was necessary to make but one classification for the first two years, but for the third and fourth years the classification was made for each of the departmental groups, and then the average for each class (academic, scientific, etc.) taken for the college classification.

As a matter of record, the classification of the individual subjects is given. Obviously, subjects placed in the "Special agriculture" class vary with the different special groups of studies pursued. This in turn would affect the general agriculture class, and occasionally the academic and scientific classes. However, it may be understood that when a subject appears in the "Special agriculture" class for any college, it would not be included in any of the other classes for the same college.

Academic.

The classification follows:

English.
Agricultural literature.
Literature of farm life and county.
Farm literature.
Composition.
Agricultural journalism.
Agricultural publicity.
Industrial publicity.
Technical journalism.
Argumentation.

Public speaking.

Extemporaneous speaking
Foreign language.
History.
English economic history.
American economic history
History of agriculture.
History of American agriculture.
History of American horticulture.
Civil government.
National government.
State and municipal government.



#### 32 CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, Political parties. Marketing, agricultural products Typewriting. Social science. Military drill. Rural sociology, Political theory. Psychology. Irrigation law. Education. Business law. Principles of education. Economics. Teaching of agriculture. Economic science. Methods of teaching agriculture. Political economy. Extension teaching. Labor problems. Biometry. Rural economics. Mechanical drawing Agricultural economics. Hygiene. Marketing problems College and station work. Markets and marketing. Scientific. Geology. Classification of plants. Meteorology. Evolution of plants. Physics. Plant genetics. Organic chemistry. Principles of breeding. Analytical chemistry. Heradity. Quantitative analysis. Genetics Qualitative analysis. Organic evolution. Physiological chemistry. Cytology and embryology: Plant chemistry. Embryology and histology. Phytochemistry. Embryology. Technical analysis. Zoology. Agricultural biochemistry. Comparative physiology. Boteny. Physiology. Ecology, Anatomy and physiology, Plant physiology. Anatomy, Plant histology. Vertebrate anatomy: Vegetable physiology. Veterinary anatomy. Plant anatomy. Taxonomy, Plant embryogeny. Microscopical technique. Plant taxonomy and histology. Mycology. Plant physiology and pathology. Bacteriology. Plant pathology. Entomology. Principles of plant pathology. General Agriculture. Soils. Irrigation. Soil physics. Irrigation engineering. Soil fertility. Farm engineering and architecture. Fertilizers. Agricultural engineering. Fertilizers and manures. Farm mechanics and machinery. Soil technology: Surveying. Soil bacteriology. Landscape architecture. Chemistry of soils, fertilizers, etc. Landscape gardening. Soil management. Rural sanitary equipment. Soil physics and management. Farm management. Soil surveying and mapping. Farm records and accounts. Farm drainage. Farm accounts.

Plant culture.



Drainage.

BALANCING T	HE CURRICULUM.	33
a	Farm engineering.	
Crops.	•	
croals.	Farm buildings and fences.	
'ereal cropst.	Shop.	
Farm crops.	Forging and metal work.	
Field crops.	Rural architecture.	
irain and corn judging.	Animal feeding.	
train judging.	Peeding.	
forage crops.	Principles of feeding.	
orage, fiber and root crops.	Anatomy of farm animals,	
otton classing.	Animal breeding.	
feldar padísenses.	Breeding.	
replingray ement,	Animal production.	
orn brooding.	Livestock production.	
mall grain breeding.	Veterinary medicine.	
Sarage crop breedling.	Veterinary science.	
Veolegind seed testing.	Common discuses.	
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ming and orchard protection.	Soundness and shocing.	,
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praying. bgotalde gardening.	Sheep, horse, mule, beef,	
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	Pork production.	•
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	Milk production.	
outrition and feeding.	Market milk.	
Yoodwork.	Milk inspection.	
orge work.	Dairy manufactures.	
arm baildings.	Butter making.	
arm structures.	Cheese making	-and confidence
arm mechanics.	Dairy chemistry.	
arm moters.	Agricultural chemistry.	
encol electrical engineering.	Agricultural analysis.	
arm machinery and motors.	Agricultural bacteriology.	• •
oncrete construction and drainage.	Poultry.	
arm machinery.	Farm poultry.	
arm and power machinery.	1.	
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gricultural chemistry,	Organic chemistry.	
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hemistry of soils, fertilizers, etc.	Quantitative analysis.	_
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#### 34 CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE. Special Agriculture-Agricultural Education Group. Agricultural extension and demonstra- Principles of education. tion. Psychology. Administration of high-school agriculture. Research and thesis. Administration of schools. Rural education. Child development and adolescence. Rural organization. Classroom management and practice. School hygiene. Entomology for teachers. School organization and management Extension teaching. Secondary and vocational education. High-school problems. Secondary education. History of education. Teachers' college. Home and school gardening. Teaching of agriculture. Methods of teaching. Teaching process. Observation and curriculum. Thesis, Organization and materials: Training in teaching agriculture. Pedagogy of agriculture. Vocational education Practice teaching. Special Agriculture Agricultural Engineering Group. Automobiles. Irrigation. Drawing Parm buildings. Irrigation engineering. Map drawing. Farm concrete. Masonry construction. Farm machinery. Pump and power problems. Farm mechanics. Repair of farm machinery. Farm motors. Rural engineering. Farm structures. Surveying. History of irrigation. Terracing. Hydraulics. Tractors. Special Agriculture , Agronomy Group. Agricultural chemistry. Irrigation. Agrostology. Irrigation engineering. Bulletin review. Methods of investigation. Cereals. Plant breeding. Chemistry of soils, fertilizers, etc. Plant culture. Corn breeding. Plant pathology. Cotton. Potato growing. Crop breeding. Seminar. Crop improvement. Small grain breeding. Crop and garden entomology. Special crope. Diseases of field crops. Soil bacteriology. Drainage. Soil fertility. Farm crops. Soil management. Fertilizers. Soil physics. Field crops Soil technology. Field management. Soils. Forage crop breeding. Thesis. Forage crops Weeds and seed testing. Grain judging.



BALANCING	THE CURRICULUM 35
Special Agriculture-	-Animal Husbandry Group.
Animal breeding.	Hygiene and sanitation for animals.
Animal chemistry	Judging.
Animal diseases.	Live-stock economics.
Animal histology and embryology.	Live-stock judging.
Animal nutrition.	Live-stock management.
Animal parasites.	Live-stock practicums.
Animal production.	Live-stock records.
Anatomy of farm animals.	Market classes of live stock.
Beef cattle and sheep production.	Market milk.
Beef production.	Marketing:
Breeds of live stock.	Meat production.
Bulletin review.	Meats.
Butter making.	Milk production.
Common diseases.	Obstretries.
Comparative anatomy,	Pedigree work.
Comparative physiology.	Physiology of domestic animals.
Pairy cattle feeding.	Practicums.
Dairy stock judging.	Principles of animal breeding.
Dressing and curing meats.	Research.
Embryology of domestic animals. ,	Sanitary science.
Farm sanitation.	Seminar.
Feeding.	Sheep production.
Feeding and marketing horses.	Soundness and shoeing.
Feels and feeding	Swine production.
Handling and fitting live stock.	Testing milk and cream
Herd book study.	Thosis.
Horse, swine, and dairy cattle.	Veterinary hygiene and sanitation.
History of breeds.	Veterinary science.
Special Agrico	ulture- Botany Group,
Botanical drawing.	Plant histology.
Classification of plants.	Plant materials.
Cop discuses.	Plant pathology.
Forestry.	Taxonomic botany.
Plant anatomy.	- water
Special Agricultur	e-Dairy Husbandry Group,
Agriculture advertising.	Dairy engineering.
Animal breeding.	Dairy biterature.
Animal chemistry.	Dairy sanitation.
Animal nutrition.	Dairy technology
Animal parasites.	Dairy research.
Bulletin review.	Dairying.
Butter judging.	Embryology of domestic animals.
Butter making.	Factory management.
Cheese making.	Factory operation.
Chemistry of dairy products.	Farm sanitation and communicable dis-
Common diseases.	enses.
Comparative anatomy.	Feeding and management of live stock.
Comparative physiology.	Ice cream and ices.
Dairy bacteriology.	Inspection of milk products.
Dairy breeds.	Judging dairy cattle.
Dairy Chemistry.	Judging dairy products.
*	r - a-ging dan't products.
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36 CURRICULUM OF THE C	COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.
Live-stock judging.	
Live-stock maragement.	Milk testing and inspection. Obstetrics.
Management of the dairy herd.	
Management of dairy plants.	Physiology of domestic animals. Principles of breeding. Pure-bred herds. Sanitary science. Seminar.
Market classes of live stock.	
Market milk	
* Milk fermentation.	
Milk production.	Thesis.
Milk products.	
Milk technology	Veterinary science.
· Special Agriculture	Futomology Group.
Entomology,	Insecticides, fungicides.
Forest insects.	Plant pathology.
Special Agriculture F	arm Management Group.
Accounting and management of coopera-	1 Violatan at
tive enterprises.	Field work. Research.
Economical organization of agriculture.	Seminar.
Farm accounts.	Thesis.
Farm management.	thesis.
·	e de la companya de l
Architectural drawing.	Vorticulture Group.
Bulletin review.	Horticultural pathology.
Canning.	Insects and diseases of citrus cruits
Canning and handling by-products.	Landscape gardening
Citrus culture.	Market gordoning.
Commercial pomology	Markets and marketing.
Control of insect pests.	Nursery practice.
Crop diseases,	Plants
Deciduous and subtropical fruits.	Plant breeding.
Engineering drawing.	Plant-disease control.
Experimental horticulture.	Plant evolution.
Floriculture.	Plant materials.
Floral decorations.	Plant pathology.
	Practical pomology.
Forcing vegetables, Forestry.	Pruning and orchard practice.
Project of the second s	Seminar.
Fruit and vegetable judging.	Small-fruit culture.
Fruit farm management. Fruit growing.	Small fruits.
Garden flowers.	Special problems.
	Spraying.
Greenhouse construction.	Subtropical fruits.
History and economics of horticultural	Systematic pomology.
research. History of cultivated plants.	Tree repair.
Home floriculture.	Truck farming.
Horticultural entomology:	Vegetable gardening.
Horticultural literature	Vegetable literature.
Horticultural literature.	Vegetable physiology.
Special Agriculture-Pou	ltry Husbandry Group.
Animal breeding.	Commercial poultry farming.
Animal parasites.	Comparative physiology.
Breed types of poultry.	Domestic fowls.
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	BALANCING TH	E CURRICULUM.	37
Farm sanitation and cases Feeding, care, and ma flousing. Incubation and breedi Market poultry. Marketing. Marketing and judging Poultry anatomy and Poultry bacteriology. Paultry feeding.	nagement.  ing.  z poultry products. physiology	Poultry judging. Poultry literature. Poultry management. Poultry parasites, diseases and hygier Poultry research. Reproduction. Selection, breeding and housing. Seminar. Thesis. Veterinary science.	ne. ,
5.Tm #	Special Agr <b>ic</b> u	ltureSoils Croup.	
Agricultural geology.		Soil physics.	•

Agricultural geology.
Chemical analysis of soils.
Drainage.
Mechanical analysis of soils.
Mineralogy.
Soil chemistry.
Soil chemistry.
Soil fertility.
Soil surveying.
Thesis.

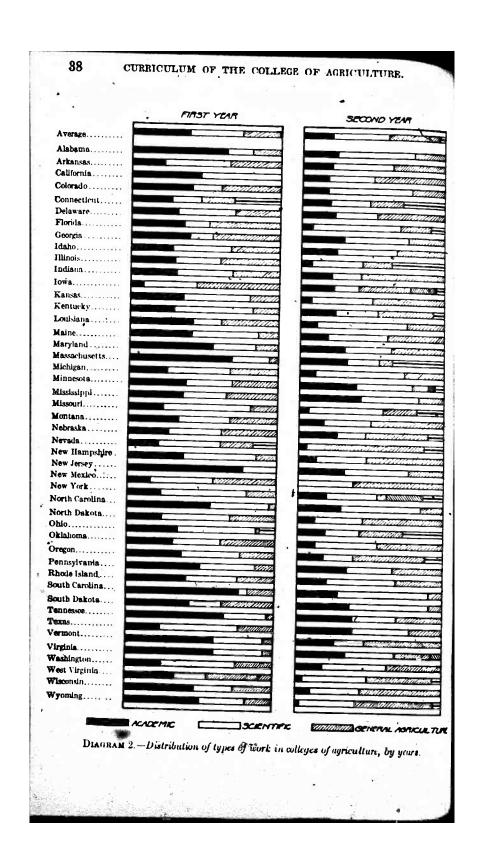
If two or more subjects were offered as optionals, and were of the same type of work, they were placed in the corresponding class. This was true of most optionals encountered. However, there were some instances when the optionals were not of the same type, and then the amount of time devoted to them was classified as "elective."

In case a college provided specialization through the offering of combinations of "majors" and "minors," the time devoted to the majors was classified as "special agriculture," while minors were classed as "electives," The systems of offering majors and minors varied so considerably in different colleges that it was necessary in some cases to approximate the proportions in the last two years, but this was done as accurately as possible after a careful study of the details of each system.

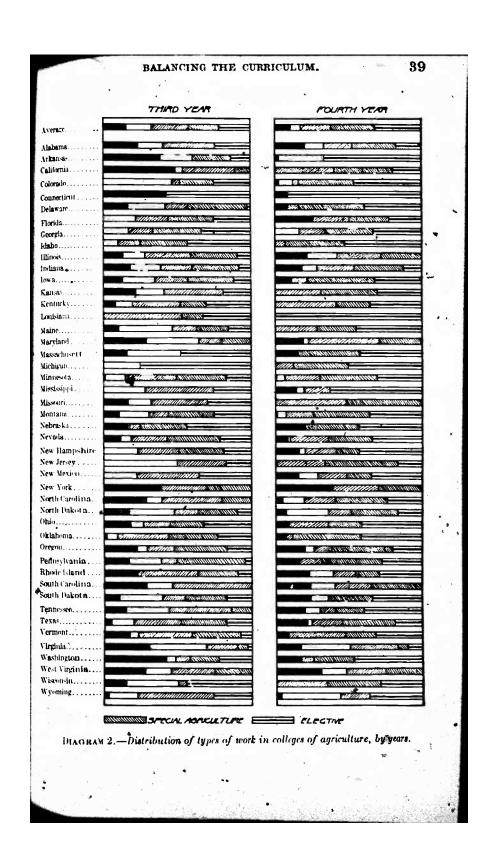
The classification of subjects in the required, prescribed elective, and free elective groups was relatively easy. The time devoted to subjects required of all students was placed in the first group. Optionals, majors and minors, and the prescribed work in the departmental group electives (with the exception of subjects required in all groups) were classed as prescribed electives. In some colleges an elective system is in effect in which there is a large degree of choice as to individual subjects, but a specified number of credits must be taken from certain listed groups of subjects. These also were considered as prescribed electives. Free electives include all electives allowing perfect freedom of choice.

The results of these two classifications are shown in Table 6 and diagrams 2, 3, 5, and 6.

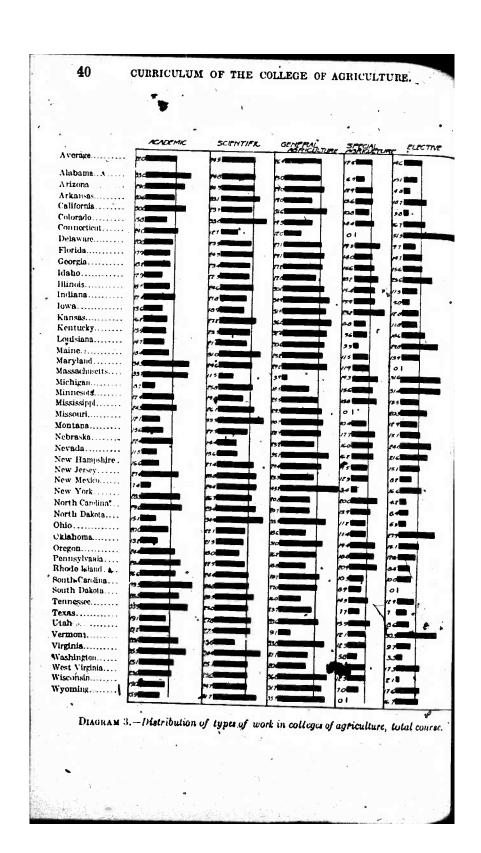














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#### BALANCING THE CURRICULUM.

#### TYPE OF WORK.

Some very interesting facts are discovered from a study of diagram 3. Considering the total four-year course, we find that the average in each of the classes for the 48 colleges is as follows:

Time given to the different class	cs of subjects.	95
		l'er cent.
Academie		22.0
Scientific		24.5
General agriculture		26.4 .
Special agriculture		12, 5
Total agriculture		38.9
Free elective		14.6
Total		100, 0

These averages represent what is probably very nearly the proper balance of the curriculum, but of course are not definite proof. The wide variation in each class is interesting, and is brought out in the following table:

\*\*Variation in each class.\*\*

Chases.	Min- Imam.	First quartile.	Median.	Third Quarille.	Max- imum,
		- m-			
	Per cent.	Par cent.	Per cent.	, Per cent.	. Per cent.
teademic		15. 9	i. 20,6	24.3	39. 3
Scientific		22, 1	24.6	27. 4	34.9
General agriculture	3. 9	20,8	27. 2	31.0	43, 2
Special agriculture		9.6	12.3	15. 9	23. 2
Total agriculture		33.7	40.9	44. 7	54.7
Elective		8, 2	12.9	17.6	

These figures bring out very strikingly the great deviation from the average among the different colleges. It appears that some institutions must offer a course extremely weak in some types of work. However, too much should not be concluded merely from the extent of the variation. Usually the colleges which require a small amount of work of any one class allow considerable time for election, in which the additional work of this type may be taken.

It is probably true that, if a study were made of the records of electives actually taken in all the colleges, it would be found that in case a small amount of work is required in the special agriculture group the electives chosen would be largely in this class. This would also probably be true for the general agriculture group to a smaller degree. The same could be said to a lesser extent of the scientific group and would apply least in the case of the academic group.

Variations are still more striking in the work of the individual years. Of the 46 colleges for which the different years' work is represented (it is not given for the colleges of Arizona and Utah, since they have the group elective system), all require some academic work in the first year, all require scientific work, all but two some work



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in general agriculture, none special agriculture, and 3 elective. The variation is as follows:

Academic		Range in per cent.
Academie	• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	8.4 to 77#8
Scientific General pericultures		5.9 to 58.8
and a grad till till to the same of the sa		Λ
Elective		0.16.20.0

The averages for the first year are, academic, 39.3; scientific, 35.1 general agriculture, 24.1; special agriculture, 0; and elective, 12. It is thus seen that the first two groups occupy approximately three fourths of the first year's work.

Passing to the second year's work we find a dropping off of the academic, but an increase in the scientific, general agriculture, and elective groups. Also, special agriculture makes a small beginning. The averages are, academic, 19.9; scientific, 37.1; general agriculture, 35.9; special agriculture, 1,2; and elective, 5.9. All colleges require work of the scientific and general agriculture types, and all but one some academic work. Specialization begins in 4 colleges, and elective work is allowed in 15 of the 46.

The variations are still wide, as shown below:

Acadomic .	← Range In per cent.
Academic Scientific	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
General agriculture.  Special agriculture.  Total agriculture.	6,2 to 68,4
Total agriculture Elective	

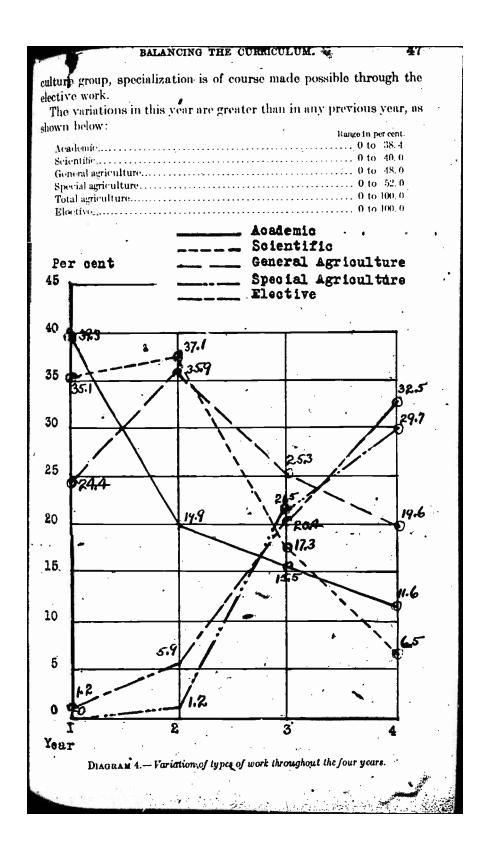
The most striking change in the third year is the beginning of specialization. This group jumps to 21.5 per cent and elective work to 20.4. General agriculture falls off to 25.3, scientific to 17.3, and academic to 15.5. Most colleges retain some academic work, however, all but 10 requiring some of this type. Some work in the scientific group is required in all but 7 colleges. General agriculture subjects are required in all but 4, and specialized work in all but 10. Electives are offered in 39 out of the 46.

The variations are still greater this year, as is shown in the following table:

Agademic	Range in per cent.
Academic	0 to 48. 6
Scientific	0 to 50.0
Concrete agric (inculty	0 4 2 4 4
opecasi agriculturo	0 . 00 0
A VIOLE DELICUITUITO	0 4' 00 -
Elective	0 to 75.0

The last year shows a shrinking of the first three groups and an increase in the last two, the averages being: Academic 11.6, scientific 6.5, general agriculture 19.6, special agriculture 29.7, and elective 32.5. All but 12 require some academic work, only 25 scientific, all but 4 general agriculture, all but 4 special agriculture, and all but 6 allow some electives. In the four instances where there is no special agri-







# 48 CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

The tendencies of these five groups are shown in diagram 4. The academic falls steadily throughout the four years. Both the scientific and the general agriculture curves rise in the second year and fall through the third and fourth. Elective work begins in the first year at a low mark and special agriculture in the second year, and both rise steadily thoughout the remaining years of the course.

## HOW MUCH FREEDOM OF ELECTION?

A study of diagram 6 gives an idea of the alegree of freedom allowed in the election of work in the different colleges. As in the case of diagram 3, there is great variation, but certain general tendencies are apparent.

Considering the total course, the average for the 48 colleges is: Required, 59.7 per cent: prescribed elective, 28.1 per cent: and free elective, 12.2 per cent. It may be noticed that the elective group in the first classification does not always correspond with either the prescribed or free elective groups here, or with their sum. This is true because the two classifications were made on a different basis, as has been explained. For instance, optionals would be classed as prescribed electives, but might fall in one of the first four groups of the first classification, thus modifying the figures for the electives so that they would not correspond in the two classifications. The variation is as follows:

			-	10000000	
		Mint-	First quartile.	Median.	Third Maxi- quartile, minn,
Required	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		18,8	Pri cent. 117, 1	Per cent. Per cent. 71, 2 84, 8 31, 2 69, 7 15, 6 51, 3

and only one not giving prescribed elective work. Eight colleges offer no free elective, limited freedom of choice being given through the prescribed elective.

In the first year most work is required, the amount of elective work being negligible. The percentages stand: Required, 96.6; prescribed elective, 2.4; and free elective, 1.0. All work is required in 37 of the 46 colleges considered. Prescribed elective work is given in 7 colleges and free elective in only 2. The variations are:

Regulired	Range in percent.
Required Prescribed elective	· · · · · 70 to 100
Prescribed elective	0 to 29
Free elective.	0 to 30



## BALANCING THE CURRICULUM,

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In the second year the amount of both prescribed and free elective work increases, the averages being: required, 87.37 prescribed elective 3.6; and free elective 4.1. The variations are as follows:

·		Range in per cent.
Required	 . <b></b>	26. 5 to 100.0 ·
Prescribed elective	 <u></u>	. 0 to 73.5
Free elective		

All of the 46 colleges include some required work, 15 offer prescribed elective, and 11 free elective.

The amount of required work drops off markedly in the third year, and prescribed electives take first place. The averages are: Required 38.7, prescribed elective 44.5, and free elective 16.8. All but 5 colleges however, include some required work; all but 4 offer some prescribed elective, and all but 16 some free elective work.

The variations are as follows:

	•	•	Range in	per cent.
Required		» • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •	 0 to	100
	·			

Passing to the fourth year, a further falling off of required work and an increase in both prescribed and free elective is noticed. The percentage of required work becomes 16.3, while that of prescribed elective becomes 55.9 and offree elective 27.8. Twenty-five colleges, however, still include some required work. All but 3 have prescribed elective, and all but 12 some free elective. The variation is somewhat similar to that of the third year:

•	1	reange in per cent.
Required.		. 0 to 56.4
Prescribed elective		
Free elective		0 to 91.4

Diagram 7, representing the tendency of these three groups through the four years, shows a consistent drop of the required curve through the four years, and a corresponding steady rise for the prescribed and free elective curves.

# INFLUENCE OF GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION ON BALANCE OF CURRICULUM.

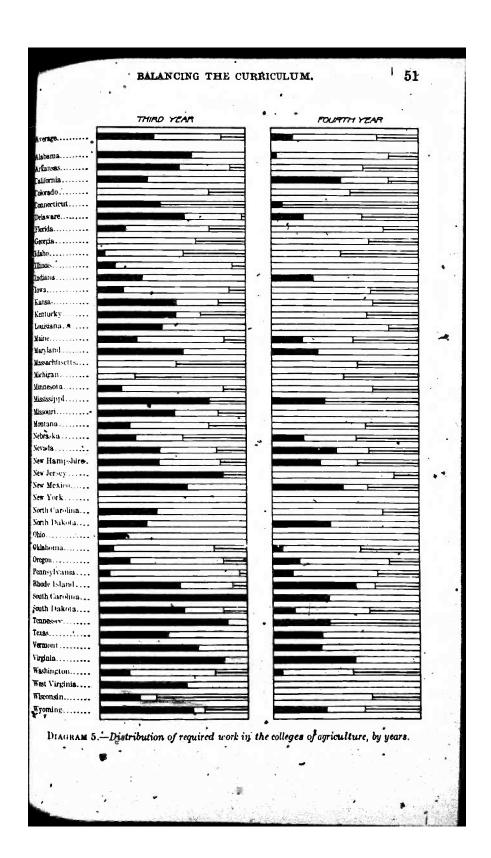
\* While the variation found in the curricula of different colleges is certainly due in large part to the personal element—the individual opinions of the administrative officers of the institution, as well as other factors difficult to measure—there are at least two factors which are open to study, namely, geographical location and size of college.



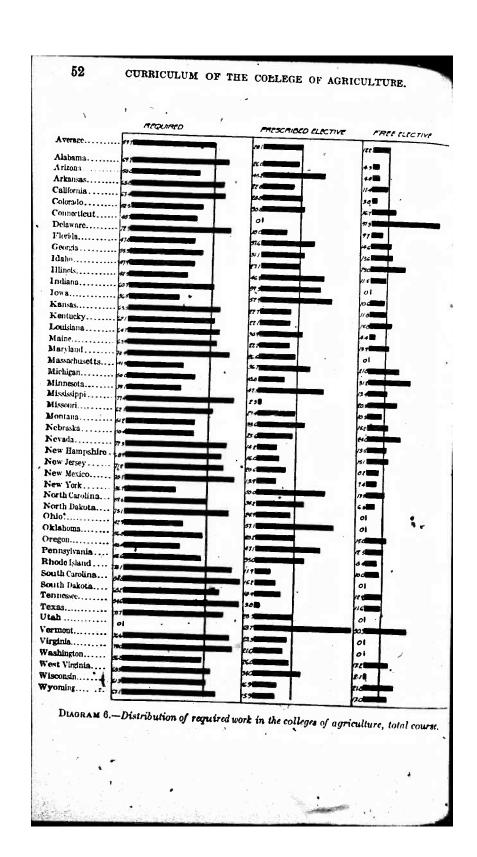


•	FIRST YEAR	SECOND YEAR .
Average		T.
Alabama		
Arkansas		
California		
Colorado		
Connecticut		
Delaware		
Georgia		
Idaho		
Illinois		
Indiana		
Iowa		
Kansas		
Kentucky		
Louisiana		
Maine		
Maryland Massachusetts		
Michigan		
Minnesota		
Mississippi		
Missourie		
Montana		
Nebraska		
Nevada		
New Hampshire.		
New Jersey:		
New Mexico		
New York		
North Dakota		
Ohio.		
Oklahoma		
Oregon		
Pennsylvania		
Rhode Island		
South Carolina		
South Dakota		
Tennessee		
TéxasVermont		
Virginia		
Washington		
West Virginia		
Wisconsin		
Wyoming	4	
/10	GUNEO MATESCRIPTO	recine mecine
DIAGRAM 5 _ Diag	ribution of me	יייים יייים אוניים אייים ייים
VRAE U,-DU	watton of required work in t	he colleges of agriculture, by years.
	70	
		1











To determine the influence of geographical location, if any, the averages for the total course in each college were grouped according to the common geographical division of States, as shown in Table 7,

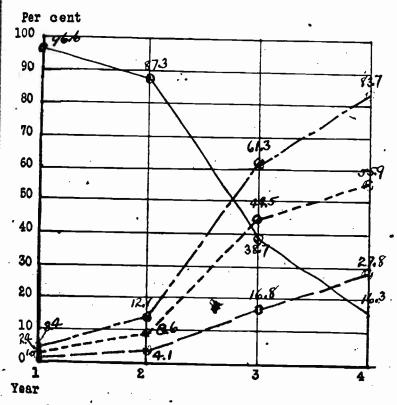


DIAGRAM 7 .- Variation in required work throughout the four years.

and the averages determined for each geographical group. Data were not determined for each year, the figures for the total course being the important consideration here. The averages for both type of work and the freedom of choice are given together. The results are shown graphically in diagram 8.

New York was included in the New England group, since its climatic and topographic conditions more closely resemble those of this group than those of the Middle Atlantic States.



## 54 CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE. Table 7.—Distribution of types of work in the curriculum according to geographic Gen-eral agri-cul-ture. Special agriscul-ture. Total agri-cul-ture. Pre-scribed elec-tive. Geographical Free elec-tive. Aca-demic. Scien-Total elec-tive Re-quired. Elecgroups. tive. Per et. 25, 2 27, 8 24, 4 17, 7 18, 6 16, 2 26, 5 Per et. 21.3 24.9 25.7 23.8 25.3 25.9 12.3 Per ct. 34, 1 40, 7 37, 7 39, 8 42, 8 39, 8 40, 0 Para (0.5) 31.6 32.4 43.6 43.1 43.1 Per et. 22.0 24.6 27.2 26.7 28.1 27.9 26.2 Per et. 19. 4 6. 6 12. 2 18. 7 14. 3 Pσ ct. 22.9 25.0 24.1 35.7 31.4 31.3 34.0 New England Middle Atlantic Southern East Central West Central Mountain Pacific Per ct. 59, 2 68, 4 67, 2 51, 4 56, 7 52, 5 54, 9 Per et. 17.9 6.6 8.7 12.9 11.9 16.2 11.1 12.1 16.1 10.5 13:1 14.7 11.9 13.8 18. 1 11. 2 Average.... 22, 021.5Ç6, 1 12.5 38.9 14.6 59,7 25.1 40.1 ACADEMIC SCIENTIFIC SENERAL TURE SERVICE ELECTIVE AVERAGE NOW ENGLAND MIDOLE SOUTHERN WEST CENTRAL REQUIRED PROPERTO PERCED SOUTHERN MEST CENTRAL DIAGRAM. 8 .- Influence of geographical location on balance of curriculum.

Some interesting tendencies are revealed here. In general, there is a falling off in academic work as we go from east to west. The only variations are a slight rise in the Middle Atlantic group over the New England group and an abrupt rise in the Pacific group. The figures for this last group, however, may not mean much, as the group contains only three colleges, not enough to furnish a fair average. The total variation in the academic class is from 16.2 to 27.8 per cent. There is remarkably little variation in the next three classes, showing that geographical location apparently has little effect on them. For the scientific class the range is only from 21.3 to 25.9 per cent, for general agriculture from 22 to 284 per cent, and special agriculture from 10.5 to 16.1. The proportion of total agriculture is remarkably constant for all except the New England group, in which it is low, being largely offset by the large proportion of elective work. Barring this group, which has a proportion of 34.1 per cent of total agriculture, the variation among the groups is only from 37.7 to 42.8 per cent. The West Central group shows the highest proportion. The remarkable correspondence of the East Central, Mountain, and Pacific groups is not eworthy, the first two being 39.8 and the third 40 per cent. In the elective class a tendency corresponding to the academic is noted. only it is the converse. Barring the New England and Pacific groups, there is a general increase in the proportion of elective work from east to west. The total variation is from 6.6 to 19.4 per cent.

With respect to freedom of choice of studies, represented in the lower part of the diagram, there appears also to be a general tendency. With slight exception the proportion of required work falls off as we move westward. Of the prescribed elective work, a relatively low proportion is found in the New England, Middle Atlantic, and Southern groups, while that in the other four groups is considerably higher and very nearly the same for all groups. There is also a general tendency toward an increase in the proportion of free elective work in the westward trend, with the exception of the first and last groups. The range of variation is as follows:

 Required
 SL 4 to 68.4

 Prescribed elective
 22.9 to 35.7

 Free elective
 6.6 to 17.9

To summarize, the most striking influence of geographical location on the curriculum seems to be a decrease in the proportion of academic work and of required work, and a corresponding increase in the freedom of choice, as the location of the college changes from the eastern toward the western part of the country. The New England and southern groups are relatively low in the proportion of total agriculture, but the proportions for the other five groups are remarkably close, all being within a few units of 40 per cent.



# INFLUENCE OF SIZE OF COLLEGE ON BALANCE OF CURRICULUM.

Contrasts are often drawn between the "small college" and the "large college," until many of us have grown to associate certain attributes with these types of institution. Are these generally accepted ideas founded on fact, or are they the result of unwarranted conclusions hastily-drawn? It was to arrive at some of the fundamental differences between large and small colleges of agriculture that this phase of the data was studied.

The 48 colleges were divided into five classes, according to enrollment during the year 1917-18. This classification was based on enrollment figures furnished by the United States Bureau of Education, and represents the total number of students pursuing the four-year course in agriculture, regardless of enrollment in other departments of the college or university, or of short or special courses in agriculture. The following classification was adopted arbitrarily as representing what was thought to be suitable for this study:

Group No.	. Students,	Confres
1	Less than 100	
3		ii
3	300-590 501-700 Over 700	8
Total		
<u>-</u>		48

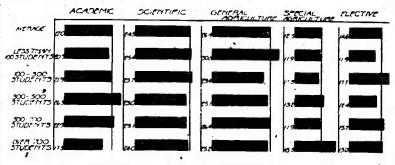
The averages for these groups were determined in the same manner as for the geographical groups, and are set forthein Table 8. The results are shown graphically in diagram 9. It so happened that the individual colleges fell into the different groups in such a way that the geographical factor became no longer effective. That is, each of the groups formed according to size includes institutions from a number of geographical groups, so that in this part of the study location is eliminated as a factor influencing the averages.

Table 8.—Distribution of types of work in the curriculum according to size of college.

Number of students.	Num- ber of col- leges.	Acade- mic.	Scien- tific.	General agricul- ture.	Special agricul- ture.	Total agricul- ture.	Elec-	Ro- quired.	Pre- scribed elec- tive.	Free elec-	Total clec- live
Less than 100 100-300 200-500 500-700 Over 700	8	P. ct. 20. 5 21. 9 20. 3 22. 9 17. 3	P. ct. 25. 4 25. 7 23. 0 23. 1 24. 0	P. ct. 30. 3 23. 4 25. 1 26. 4 25. 2	P. ct. 11. 9 11. 3 13. 2 11. 9 18. 5	P. ct. 42, 2 34, 7 38, 3 38, 3 43, 7	P. ct. 11. 9 17. 7 12. 4 15. 7 15. 0	P. ct. 67. 8 57. 5 61. 3 57. 2 41. 4		P. ct. 9. 0 15. 8 11. 1 10. 1 16. 6	P.a. 32.1 42.5 38.7 42.5 38.6
A verage		22,0	<b>24.</b> 5	- 26.4	12.5	38, 9	14.6	50, 7	28.1	12.2	40.3

A study of the data shows an increase in the proportion of academic work through groups 1 and 2 until the highest point is reached in the college of 300 to 500 students. There is then a decided dropping off

as the size of the college increases. The total variation is from 17.3 to 26.3 per cent. The proportion of scientific work is remarkably constant, varying only from 23 to 25.7 per cent. It appears to be slightly larger in the two smaller groups. General-agriculture stands highest in the smallest group, with 30,3 per cent, and lowest in the 100-300 student group, 23.4 per cent. It is very nearly the same in the other three groups, differing only 0.1 per cent in the third and fifth.



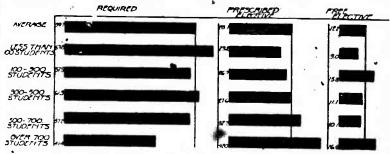


DIAGRAM 9.—Influence of size of college on balance of curriculum.

The most striking fact about the special agriculture class is the greater degree of specialization in the group of largest colleges—18.5 per cent compared with 11.3 per cent in the 100-300 student group. The latter is very close to the proportion for the first and fourth groups, which is 11.9 per cent in both cases.

It is also interesting to note that in total agriculture the largest colleges provide the most, 43.7 per cent, but that the smallest are not far behind, with 42.2 per cent. The 300-500 and the 500-700 groups offer the same proportion of total agriculture, 38.3 per cent. The 100-300 group has the lowest average, 34.7 per cent.

A very decided tendency is shown with respect to the freedom of choice: the proportion of required work decreases with an increase in size. There is only a slight break in the curve representing this fall;



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## CURRICULUM OF THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE.

the third group shows slightly more required work than the second. Conversely, the proportion of prescribed elective increases without a break directly with the size of the college. With the exception of the second group, this tendency is shown also for the total elective work. The variations are:

Required	Range in per cent.
Required.	41 4 to 67 8
riescitoed elective	92 24. 12 4
Free elective	9 0 to 16 6

Summarizing the influence of size upon balance of curriculum, the available data indicate that (1) the medium-sized college requires the largest proportion of academic work, with the largest and smallest colleges requiring the least; (2) size has little influence on the proportion of scientific, work; (3) the smallest colleges require the most general agriculture and the largest offer the greatest degree of specialization; (4) the proportion of total agriculture is highest in the largest colleges, and nearly as high in the group of smallest institutions; and (5) the proportion of required work varies inversely and elective directly with the size of the follege.

# BALANCE OF CURRICULUM IN SIX WELL-KNOWN AND REPRESENTATIVE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES.

In studying the curriculum of any one college, we often resort to a comparison with some of the well-known colleges of high repute There are, throughout the country, a number of agricultural colleges which have risen to positions of prominence as a result of able administration, adequate State support, liberal endowment, instruction of a high order, or other conditions. It was thought that a study of the balance of curricula in a small group of these well-known institutions would be interesting, and the colleges of the following States were chosen for this purpose: California, Illinois, Iowa New York (Cornell), Minnesota, and Wisconsin. These were selected not with the idea that they are unquestionably the best six colleges in the country, but rather were picked from that larger somewhat indefinitely defined group of agricultural colleges generally accepted as being of high repute. The selection was made also with due regard for size and geographical location, in order that these factors may not influence results. It should be noted that four geographical groups and three of the size groups discussed in the preceding section are represented in these six colleges. Other colleges of equally good standing might have been included, but for convenience the number was limited to six. The averages for these are shown in Table 9 and diagram 8. For the sake of comparison, the averages for all 48 colleges are shown with them.

Table 9.—Distribution of types of work in the curricula of six well-known agricultural colleges.\(^1\)

Colleges.	Aca- demic.	Scien- tific.	General agri- cu!- ture.	Special agri- cul- ture.	Total agri- cul- ture.	Elec- tive.	Re- quired.	Pre- scribed elec- tive.	Free elec- tive.	Total elec- tive.
California	Per et. 30 0	Per et. 23. 7	Per el. 31. 6	Per et. 10, 8	Per et.	Per et	Per et.	25 N	Per et. 3. 8	Per ct. 32.6 57.
linois lowa Linnesota	18. 5 13. 6 22. 4	24. 6 18. 9 19. 8	30.0 31.5 25.5	15. 4 23. 2 18. 8	45. 4 54. 7 44. 3	11.5 12.8 13.5	42.3 36.5 39.1	46 2 52. 3 47. 5	11. 5 10. 6 13. 4	63. 60.
Yes York Fi <b>sc</b> onstr	28.3 19.0	26.7 24.7	20, 8 31, 7	20 0 7.0	40. 8 38. 7	17. 6	36.7 61.3	50. 0 16. 9	13. 3 21. 8	63. 38.
Average of all 43	22.0	23.0	28.5	15.9	41.4	10. 6	47.2	40.4	12.4	52.
colleges	22, 0	24.5	26.4	12.5	38.9	14. 6	59.7	28.1	12.2	40.

1 According to announcements of courses for 1917-18.

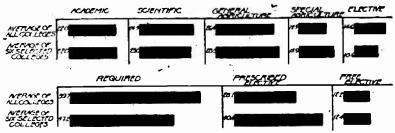


DIAGRAM 10.—Balance of curriculum in six well-known agricultural colleges.

Within this small group we find considerable variation. For instance, academic work ranges from 13.6 to 30 per cent, but the average, 22 per cent, is exactly the same as for the entire 48. Scientific work varies less, from 18.9 to 26.7, with an average of 23, about 1 per cent less than for the total number of colleges. Both general agriculture and special agriculture are higher for this group than the average for the country, making the total agriculture 44.4, as compared with 38.9 for all the 48 colleges, a very considerable difference. All but one of these colleges require over 40 per cent of total agriculture, the one falling below having the highest proportion of elective work. The proportion of elective work for the group is less than for the general average, 10.6, as compared with 14.6; and in the different colleges it varies greatly, ranging from 3.8 to 17.6 per cent.

The amount of required work varies from 36.5 to 67.4, averaging 47.2, which is more than 12 per cent lower than the average for the country. This difference is made up in the amount of prescribed elective work, which is 40.4 per cent, as compared with 28.1 per cent for all 48 colleges. The free elective work is practically the same in both cases, being 12.4 per cent for the six colleges considered and 12.2 for all colleges.



Thus a comparison of the averages for these six colleges with those of all 48 colleges brings out the following significant points:

- (1) This group corresponds closely to the average for all 48 colleges in the proportion of academic and scientific work, and in the proportion of free elective.
- (2) It is much below the average in the proportion of required work.
- (3) It is considerably above the average in the proportion of both general and special agriculture, and hence of total agriculture.

What is the significance of these differences? Accepting for the moment the premises that these six colleges represent a step in advance over the average for the country; and that they more nearly approach the ideal than the average ege, then we at once conclude that the average college records about the proper amount of academic and scientific work, but that it should give more of both general and special agriculture. Also, it allows about the right amount of free elective work, but should give more prescribed elective and less required work. Of course we have no right to make these conclusions, for we can not be certain that the premises are correct. However, evidence in the form of opinion generally accepted by the public would substantiate these premises, and consequently the conclusions are worthy of consideration.

## , V. SPECIALIZATION.

In addition to the proportion of time that should be allowed for specialization, studied above as the "Special agriculture" type of work, there are other important phases of specialization. When should specialization begin? What is the best method of providing for it? To get some light on these questions the several curricula were studied from this viewpoint and Table 10 was prepared.

A glance at the first four columns of the table is convincing. Thirty-seven colleges, or over three-fourths, begin specialization in the third year, while 5 of the remainder start it in the second year and 6 in the fourth.

It seems generally accepted that the junior year is the proper time for specialization to begin, and in view of this weight of opinion, for average conditions we'are probably safe in drawing this conclusion.

Passing to the method of offering specialization, we find a greater diversity of opinion. For the purposes of this study, specialized work was classified in three groups: (1) The departmental group elective, (2) the major option, and (3) free elective.

in making this classification, merely the offering of elective work was not considered a beginning of specialization. However, if the offering of electives was clearly intended as a provision for beginning specialization, then specialization was considered as starting at this point.

scribed as making suitable combinations with given majors, and the student elects the combination. In other cases considerable freedom is allowed in the choice of minors, but usually the combination of

subjects is made with the advice and approval of the head of the department in which the major option is chosen.

In the free elective class we have placed the curricula in which still greater freedom of choice is allowed, no definite combinations being offered. It is true in practically all colleges, however, that elective subjects are chosen with the recommendation and approval of respective heads of departments or the dean. In many instances, also, there are certain limitations to the choice of electives; that is, it may be prescribed that a certain number of credits shall be taken from one or more of the different types of subjects, in order to preserve the balance of the curriculum.

There is such a variation within each of these methods in the different colleges that the three merge into each other. Thus, as the elective work increases in a departmental group elective, it becomes practically a major option. Likewise, as the restrictions applied to a major option are removed, we have the free elective.

On this basis the 48 colleges were classified as shown in the second section of Table 10. The departmental group is the most popular, being found in one-half of the colleges. The major option and free elective have about an equal standing, with 13 and 11 colleges to their credit, respectively.

The number of colleges offering a departmental group elective in each of the more important collegiate departments was determined in this connection. The following summary shows the departments in the 24 colleges offering this type of specialization in order from the greatest number to the smallest: Animal husbandry 23, agronomy 22, horticulture 20, dairy husbandry 15, agricultural education 11, general agriculture 6, poultry husbandry 6, agricultural chemistry 5, farm management 4, agricultural engineering 4, biology 4, entomology 3, soils 3, forestry 2, botany 2, and several others 1 each.

A number of other groups were recorded for one college each. In most instances they differ from those mentioned above chiefly in name and represent in general the lines of work covered in the list given. Animal husbandry, agronomy, horticulture, and dairy husbandry stand out as the mere important groups, and would appear to have a place in most colleges. Agricultural education as shown here is of no special significance at this time, as the administration of teacher training in the colleges under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act has gone into effect since these curricula were



<sup>\*</sup> There is a somewhat definite type of specialization half way between the major option and the free elective. This has been termed the "optional group," but since it occurs in only a few instances, it was not considered of sufficient importance for a separate classification. We have placed such curricula in either the second or the third class, according as the case under consideration was more classly related to see or the other. This is the type of specialization in which the individual subjects are arranged in groups and the student allowed to elect some credits, not less than a certain minimum, from each group. We may include here also such free electives as are rather narrowly limited to given types of work: for example, a certain number of credits from such types as agriculture, monagriculture, science, etc.

\*\*Four of the latter are of the "optional group" class.

published and has modified the whole aspect of the college course in agricultural education.

At this point it may be of interest to note the large number of subjects that are included in the respective departmental groups, as shown in the lists on pages 31-57.

An examination of these lists indicates some significant facts:
(1) Many highly specialized courses are being offered; (2) there is a great diversity of subjects, due probably to local conditions; (3) the course in agriculture apparently is being spread out to cover a wide field; (4) there is a lack of uniform terminology as applied to the aspective courses.

#### INFLUENCE OF GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION ON SPECIALIZATION.

In order to determine whether the factor of geographical location has any definite relation to the time specialization is begun or the method pursued, the colleges were classified by geographical groups and Table 11 prepared.

Table 11 .- Specialization as affected by geographical location.

· •								er I	1	
	Geographical group	• •	.`	Year w	hen spe on begin	۷.	Depart- mental	minor	Free	
•				Second	Third.	Fourth.	group.	option	tive.	
Middle Atlantic	·				6 3 9	i	3 2 7	1 2 3	3	
East Central West Central Mountain				2	. 5	2 2	2 4 5	2 2 1	1 1 2	
				5	37	6	21	13	11	

It appears that no sharp tendencies are shown. In three groups, East Central, Mountain, and Pacific, specialization begins in all colleges in the third year. The majority of colleges in all other groups begin specialization in this year, except in the West Central Group, where the time is distributed almost evenly among the second, third, and fourth years.

As to method of offering specialization, geographical location has no apparent influence.

## INFLUENCE OF SIZE OF COLLEGE ON SPECIALIZATION.

What effect might the size of the college have on specialization? To throw some light on this aspect of the problem, Table 12 was prepared.

The tendency to begin specialization in the Ahird year is carried out quite uniformly throughout these groups. The 100-300 group shows some considerable specialization in the sophomore year and the 500-700 group in the senior year.



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The smallest three groups of colleges show a decided tendency toward the departmental group elective, while the 500-700 group. favors the major option. The largest college group is equally divided between the departmental group and the free elective methods. Some free election occurs in all but the 300-500 group.

Table 12.—Specialization as affected by size of college,

•	Number of students,	•	Year when specialization begins.  Depart- Maje mental min	r Fre
• •	<i>:</i>		Second Third, Fourth, group, option	
300-500 500-700			5 2 5	23 3 5
Total				;

These may be merely chance variations, and therefore have no special significance. However, there is probably a fundamental principle behind the variation with size. Apparently, the departmental group option is most satisfactory for the college having less than 500 students, while the major option system is most suitable for the college of from 500 to 700 students or probably larger.  $\cdot$  We should not be warranted in drawing conclusions from the "over 700" group, since it is too small to give fair averages.

## SPECIALIZATION IN SIX WELL-KNOWN AND REPRESENTATIVE AGRI-CULTURAL COLLEGES.

Following out the idea taken up previously, the curricula of the six well-known colleges selected were studied with respect to these problems, as shown in Table 13. About the only definite thing to be concluded from the table is that the third year appears to be the most suitable time to begin specialization, four of the colleges begin ning here to two in the second year. There is an equal/division among the departmental group, major option, and free elective systems of specialization.

Table 13.—Specialization as found in six well-known agricultural colleges.

Colleges;	Year	when sp ion begin	eciafiza- us.	Depart-	Major- minor	Free
	Second.	Third.	Fourth.	group.	option.	tive
California Illinois. Iowa		×		······································	×	×
New York		× × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × × ×		Ŷ	×	×
Total	2	. 4	0	2		



## VL REQUIREMENTS IN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

Perhaps the most generally recognized weakness of the average four-year course in agriculture is its failure to associate closely and accurately the college work with actual practice. It is the old problem of putting theory into practice. Agriculture is primarily an art, and it is impossible to master it fully without some practical experience. That this is true has been shown over and over in the man graduated from the agricultural course who has never had any practical work outside the laboratory. Such men can not expect to succeed in agricultural endeavor until they have acquired some experience. This has constituted a real problem for agricultural colleges, and in an effort to meet it, the generally accepted plan of farm-practice requirements has grown up. Some interesting data as to how the colleges are meeting this problem are shown in Table 14. The data were gleaned from the college catalogs and tabulated as accurately as possible, but they may be somewhat incomplete. First -of all, a majority of the 48 colleges require some farm practice. No requirement in practice was found for 23 colleges, but by the present time more colleges may be requiring it.

There is some variation as to the amount required. Twelve colleges require 6 months, six require 3 months, three 1 year, and two 6 weeks. In one of these instances a full year is advised, while only 6 months are required. Of the two remaining colleges, in one the amount required is determined by the head of the department in which the student majors; in the other the student must show a sufficient degree of familiarity with ordinary farm practices.

The "when" of the farm practice is another important question. Three colleges advise that the requirement be met before matriculation. The greatest number, 11, require it any time before graduation. In six colleges it must be completed before the beginning of the senior year. The reason is obvious—a familiarity with practical methods is prerequisite to the best work of a special type, such as is usually pursued in the last year. In four colleges it is required before the junior year, and in two at any time during the four years of the course.

Only 3 of the 25 require that the work be taken under the direct supervision of the college. Nine of these, however, require that the work be do on an approved or accredited farm. In one or two instances this may be on the university farm, or under the direct supervision of the college.

Most of the colleges allow no academic credit for this practice work. Four colleges allow credit, two of them only for satisfactory work done in excess of the minimum requirement.

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# INFLUENCE OF GEOGRAPHICAL LOCATION ON REQUIREMENTS IN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

An effort was made to determine the relations of geographical location and size of college to the requirements in farm practice, and accordingly Tables 15 and 16 were prepared.

Table 15.- Farm practice requirements as affected by geographical location.

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Geographical groups.	tice qui	red.				i	Sevenal venes.	hird and	lor yeur.	lor year.	during 3	Pefore lon.	visio coll	on of ege.	Or CTUC (at	lited	giv	dit
X .	Yes.	No.	6 weeks.	3 months.	6 months.	1 year.	Between and third	Between the	Before junto	Before senior	Any time	Any timo	Yes.	No.	Yes.	o'N'	Yes.	No.
New England Middle Atlantic Southern East Central West Central Mountain Pacific	6 3 4 2 4 4 2	1 1 10 3 3 4 1	1 	· 1 2 2	3 1 2 1 3 2	1	i	2	] ] ]	1 1 2 1	1	5  2 1 2 1	1 1	6 2 3 2 4 4	1 1 3 2	6 2 3 1 1 2 1	- - 1 	
Total	25	23	2	6	12	3	1	2	4	6	2	11	3	22	-9	16	4	2

Some significant facts are brought out here. The New England and Middle Atlantic States lead in the farm practice requirements; there is a decided tendency to omit the requirement in the Southern States, while in all other groups about as many omit the requirement as include it. Apparently this is due to conditions peculiar to the different sections. In the New England and Middle Atlantic States a larger proportion of city-bred boys are enrolled in the collèges of agriculture, who have had no practical farm experience previous to matriculation. In the Central and Western States a much larger proportion of the students come from farms, and familiarity with farm practices is more general. In the Southern States the prevalence of Negro labor affects the situation.

The data do not show any special influence on the amount of practice required or the time when required. The only other variation worthy of note is that the tendency to require work on approved or accredited farms seems strongest in the West Central group.

# INFLUENCE OF SIZE OF COLLEGE ON REQUIREMENTS IN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE.

The relation of size to practice requirements is shown in Table 16. Again, one or two facts are outstanding. A larger proportion of small colleges require farm practice than of the larger ones, the most marked tendency being in the 'less than 100" group. With 100 to 500 students only about two-fifths of the colleges make this requirement. Above this number practice is required by just one-half of the colleges.



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This is difficult to explain. It is not due to geographical location, at there is no correlation between it and size. It may be merely a chance effect.

TABLE 16 .- Farm practice requirements as affected by size of college.

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•		TBC-	ļ	.Am	ount	1.			Ti	me.				ider	On	ap-	10
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	 	No.	6 weel	3 mont	6 1300	1 year	Betw	Set we	Before	Before	Any	, Luy	Yes.	8%	٠ <u>.</u>	8	8 5
Less than 100, 100-300, 300-500,	10	8		3	7 2		1	1	<u>i</u> -	8	1	5	_	10	2	8	1
Over 700	4 2	4	1		 1	2			2			2	1	3	3	3	1 1
Total	25	23	2	6	12	3	1	2	4	6	2	11	3	22	9	16	4 21

The rest of the data in the tables are so scattering as to be practically meaningless, except that apparently the size factor has no influence on the points considered. A possible exception is that the practice work required in all colleges of the 300-500 group must be on approved or accredited farms, but the number is too small to have much meaning.

# REQUIREMENTS IN PRACTICAL EXPERIENCE IN SIX WELL-KNOWN COLLEGES.

What of the farm practice in the six well-known colleges under consideration? Table 17 shows that farm practice is required in five out of the six, a very significant fact. The time requirement is six months for three of them. In two of the number it must be completed before the beginning of the junior year, in one before the senior year, and in two at any time before graduation. The work is ander the supervision of the college in only one instance, but is on accredited or approved farms in four. Credit is given in two instances.

TABLE 17 .- Farm practice requirements in six well-known agricultural colleges.

\. ·	P	rac-	<u> </u>	Am	ount				T	me.			v	Under super- vision of college.		On ap-		Ara-	
Colleges.	qu	ired.			   		pecond	d sod	Junior year.	senior year.	arrag.	tion.	AU Viai			nvid nc- dited m.	trd cmd		
	Yes.	No.	g weeks.	3 months.	6 months.	l year.	Between	fourth ve	Before Junic	1 2	Any time d	Any time	Yes.	, o,	Yes	ó	Yes.	8	
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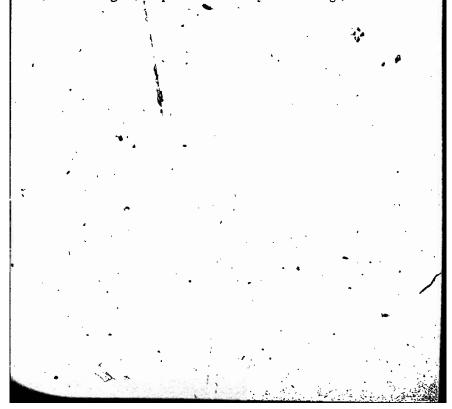
## VII. MIDDLE COURSES IN AGRICULTURE.

It is not the purpose of this study to consider the curriculum of any but the four-year course in agriculture. Closely related with the four-year curriculum, however, is the problem of providing an agricultural training for persons who are unable to meet the entrance requirements for the four-year course, or for other reasons can not take such a course. The colleges are meeting this need by providing "short" and "middle" courses in agriculture for this class of applicants. The winter short course is not very closely related to the four-year course, but the "middle" course has much in common.

We find that 30 of the 48 colleges give these special or middle courses. The usual course of this type is a two-year course, 19 of the number being of this length. However, 5 are one-year courses, and 6 run for three years, each year's work consisting of a comparatively short period of about five months.

#### VIII. THE QUESTIONNAIRE STUDY. '

In order to have the benefit of the best available opinion on the curriculum of the agricultural college, to supplement the study recorded above, the questionnaire following was sent to the deans of all the State colleges (except the New Jersey State College).





# THE FOUR-YEAR COURSE IN THE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE. WHAT SHOULD THE COURSE COMPREHEND?

		1				
	m ou	1		-		1
	The College of Agric	ulture of	the State	e of		-8
	Reported by .				1	Dean.
	,	4		6.		Jean,
di Ti					April -	- 1910
	I. In your opinion, what proportion of hours, should be devoted to such	of the credit	of the four man		V.	
	hours, should be devoted to each	of the follow	ring groups of	course in agr	iculture, bas	ed on semesta
	(a) Academic (including lang	uage, history	Social science	o mothamat		
	(b) Scientific (all scientific top) (c) General agriculture (all a	ics except st	rictly applied a	uriculturale	ana (composition	
	and the state of t	gricultural i	opics except	Specialized	lines covere	ent,
				- perintiace	mes coreier	1 111 (a)), De
	(d) Special agriculture (profess	sional), per c	ent,			
	(r) Free elective, per cent,					
	Total, per cent, 100.					
11	. What proportion of the work should	ld be:				
160	(a) Required work, per cent,	. 2 (2		N. C.		
	(h) Prescribed elective, per cent,	.,		di di		*
	(c) Free elective, per cent,					3
TTT	Total, per cent, 100.					
441	Which of the following subjects do and in what year?	you believe	should be requi	ired in a four-	Year course	n agriculture
	and in what year?					
		-		4		
				Should it	If so, in	If so, how
				be required	? Which year	? many
	Subjects,			(Write "yes" or	(Write 1, 2, 3, 4	term-hours per week
1				"no" op-	for 1st, 2d	should be
				posite each.)	3d, or 4th	given
			_,	dacii.)	years.)	/ toit?
1.	English			1		-
2.	Public speaking					
3.	Foreign language					
5,	Solid reometry					
es.	Tiponometry					1
8,	Physical training Military training History					
9.	History. General economics.					
IU.	teneral economics			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
12.	Kural sociology					A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH
13	tonera kohamiat e-					
15. (	Juantifotive chemister-					
16.	Organic chemistry Botany (general, agricultural)			··········		
14.	MOUNTY (Peneral agricultural)					
40	Entomology					
50. I	Bacteriology			· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
21. 1	Physics loils and soil management				5	
23. 8	Boils and soil-management /					
24. 1	reld crops					
25. I	eeds and feeding ypes and breeds of farm animals					
27. I	ive-stock management	*******				
28. I	Pairy production					
29. I	Pairy manufactures		************			• • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • • •
31. V	egetable enrelening.				**********	
32. F	nuit growing		***********	**********		
34. F	orestry					***********
35. F	arm shopwork					
36, F	arm machinery					
11. L	rainageesearch thesis	,.,		.,		
68, H						

	ild specialization begin? Check	
		ar, 3. Fourth year,
B. What is the the follow	. •	r specialization in advanced courses? Check one of
1. Selec	ction of departmental group of p	prescribed subjects
	ce of combination of "majors's	
	election of specialized subjects	
	election of specialized Subjects	•
V. Farm Practice:		and the sendentian 2. Yes, No. 16 or what
		e required for graduation? Yes, No. If so, what,
should be	e the minimum?	
1. 3 mc	onths; 2. 6 months	; 3. 1 year; 4. More than 1 year
	e under the supervision of the o	college? Yes, No.
	ild it be required? (Check):	•
	ntering college;	4. Between 3d and 4th years;
	1 1st and 2d years	5. Any time before graduation;
	n 2d and 3d years;	6. Any time during college course
I. What should be	expected of the college graduat	e? /
		raduate of the four-year course in agriculture should
	ted to do successfully:	
1. Sup	erintend a large farming 📥 terp	rise, without other training or experience than that
, re	quired for graduation	
		enant without other training or experience, etc
3. Act	as a county agricultural agent,	without other training or experience, etc.,
4. Act	as extension specialist in his	special field, without other training or experience
et	c	
5. Hav	e sole charge of some branch of	a farming enterprise, such as an orchard, dairy herd,
	oultry flock, etc.	
		duate more than the following without further train-
	g and experience? (Check):	
8	(a) Assistant farm superinter	ndent
	(b) Assistant county agent .	
* *	(c) Assistant extension speci	
	(d) Commercial work related	
	(c) Other types of work	
B. In what re		ne average agricultural college has failed in its effort
to turn	out trained men: in other wor	ds, what have been the weak spots in the average
	's training? (Check):	
	iciency in academic training	
	ciency in training in fundamen	
		al agricultural topics
	lure to master any special branc	
	k of adequate farm experience .	
6. Fai	lure to develop high moral sen	se of responsibility to the service in which he is en-
	iged	
13	er-points	
C. Should the	graduate of the four-year cours	e in agriculture be expected to qualify for agricultural
		nd responsibility, without further training or expe-
	Yes, No.	
		the questions asked in VI. What, in your opinion,
		ricultural college? In what respects has the college
		? What changes would you suggest for improving
	ow given? Also, additional co	mment on any of the above questions would be wel-
- comed.		
The question	nnaires were sent th	e first part of April, 1919, and 35
epnes were r	eceived. The deans	of three colleges replied without
		ly, not caring to give their opinions
the towns	ntimad Mact of th	a athar 37 answared all auestians.
i me ioum o	utified. Most of th	e other 32 answered all questions;

Whenever the summary of a point is represented by an average figure, only the actual number of answers is considered, not the total number of questionnaires returned. A comparison of the summary of the questionnaire with the data obtained from a study of the existing curricula is interesting.

results were summarized and are given on the pages following.

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## BALANCE OF CURRICULUM.

Table 18 shows the balance of curriculum as expressed in the replies to the questionnaire compared with the averages compiled from the catalogues which have been discussed.

Table 18.—Distribution of types of work -Existing corricular compared with questionnaire replies.

Types of work.	Average of 29 ques- tionnaire replies.	Average of 48 colleges.	Difference.
Academie Scientific Generalagriculture Specialagriculture Totalagriculture Elective	25, 4 16, 7	22. 0 24. 5 26. 4 12. 5 28. 9 14. 6	-43 +27 6 +41 +36 -20
Required Prescribed elective. Prese elective.	64, 4 23, 6 42, 9	59, 7 28, 1 12, 2	+5.7 -4.5 2

There is considerable difference between the existing curricula and the combined opinion of the deans. The latter shows over 4 per cent less academic work, 2.7 per cent more scientific, 0.6 per cent less general agriculture, over 4 per cent more special agriculture, and 2 per cent less elective. Also, an increase of nearly 6 per cent in the required work is indicated, with 4.5 per cent less prescribed elective. The proportion of free elective is practically the same in each case. Summarizing, it appears that the consensus of opinion is in favor of less academic work, and more scientific and agricultural, and less freedom of choice of subjects.

## SPECIALIZATION.

The opinion concerning specialization, compared with existing conditions, is shown in Table 19.

Table 19.—Specialization—Existing curricula compared with questionnaire replies.

Time and method.	Recom- mended in 32 replies to the question- naire.	As found In 48 colleges.
Time to begin:  Second year.  Third year.  Fourth year.  Method:	27	\$ 87 6
Departmental group Major-minor option Pres elective	1 20 8 9	24 13 11

in total in this column equals more than 32, because more than one method was recommended in some mestionnaires.



The tendencies shown here correspond closely. While the number of colleges represented in the first column is only two-thirds the number in the second column, the distribution among the different groups is practically the same. The third year is decidedly the most favored for beginning specialization, and the departmental group is the most popular method. The free elective system and the major-minor system appear to be about equally popular.

#### FARM PRACTICE.

A decided opinion that farm practice should be required for graduation is expressed in the replies to the questionnaire. Of the 32 replies, only one was not in favor of requiring farm practice. This would indicate that there is a greater desire for farm practice than the colleges have been able to put into effect, as it is found to be required in only slightly over half of the colleges. The comparative figures are shown in Table 20.

Table 20. -Farm practice-Existing corridula compared with questionnaire replies.

	Recom- mended in 23 re- plies to the ques- tionnaire.	As found in 48, colleges.
Required	31	27' 25
Six weeks. Three months. Six months. Une year. More than one year.	4 13 12	2 6 12 3
Under supervision of college: Yes No Time— Before entering	19 12	3 22
Between first and second years. Between seepnd and third years. Between third and fourth years. Before junior year.	4	i 2
Before scriior year Any time during college Any time before graduation		11

Six months is the most general requirement in both cases, but there is a stronger tendency to make it one year in the questionnaires.

There is a striking difference in the matter of college supervision of practice work. While in effect in few colleges, the majority of the answers are in favor of it.

As to the time the work should be required, there is general agreement, any time before graduation being most generally designated. The other items in this part of the table do not allow an accurate comparison, because of a difference in the method of tabulation and of wording the questionnaire. One point, however, is worthy of



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note. In six colleges it is required that the practice work be completed before the beginning of the fourth year, and in four college it comes before the third year. In five replies to the questionnaire the period between the second and third years is designated, and in seven replies, before entering college. It seems certain that the earlier the work can be completed, the better it is for the student Without question it should be completed before the beginning of the fourth year, in order to be of benefit in the advanced work of the last year. Where practicable, it should probably be acquired before the third year.

# WHAT SUBJECTS SHOULD BE REQUIRED AND WHEN?

The opinion of the deans with respect to what subjects should be required, and when, is shown in Table 21. In some instances the year in which a subject should be required was not indicated, and accordingly only those indicating the place in the curriculum are included in the columns.

A comparison of this table with Table 4 shows a remarkable similarity with respect to position of subjects in the curriculum. With few exceptions, the subjects fall in the same year in both tables. Public speaking and general economics, appearing here in the third year, are second and fourth year subjects, respectively, in Table 4; but there is little other difference. The terminology used in the questionnaire does not correspond in all cases with that in Table 4; also many subjects are not listed, but the important ones are given, and the tables are comparable in essential respects. It may be noted that the total figure in the first column is often less than the sum of the yearly figures. This is due to the method of tabulation. In the replies to the questionnaire, more than one year was often given as suitable for a subject, and in such cases the subject was listed under both or all years given.

Some subjects have received unanimous indorsement in all replies to the questionnaires; most of those listed are included by the majority. Subjects indorsed in less than half of the questionnaires appear at the foot of the list for each year. In the first year, the less popular subjects are foreign language, algebra, and solid geometry; in the second year, forestry; third, history, live-stock management, dairy manufactures, and drainage; and fourth, research thesis. The evidence is against these subjects as requirements in the curriculum, but of course it is not proof that they should not be included more generally, or at least where local conditions would make it desirable. There seems to be a decided feeling that foreign language should not be required, much stronger than is evidenced by the curricula themselves.



## THE QUESTIONNAIRE STUDY. 75 What subjects should be required and when should they be given! [Figures represent number recommending each subject.] Second year. Third Fourth Total. Year. FIRST YEAR. 30 15 21 27 30 30 28 19 3 11 6 Engibb Trigonometry Physical training Military training General chemistry Botany Types and breeds. Farm shop Foreign language 19 27 29 28 20 14 3 6 Qualitative chemistry Quantitative chemistry Organic chemistry Zoology Entomology 21 16 22 25 20 16 27 28 29 21 21 6 +2 2 113 2 2 3 13 10 7 7 10 Souls and soil manage threat Pield crops Pairy production Poultry husbandry. Vegetable gardening Pruit growing Farm machinery Forestry. 15 16 12 9 THERD YEAR. 6 10 5 10 Bacteriousky Soil Fertility Feeds and leeding Live stock management Drainage Dairy manufactures History ..... FOURTH YEAR. Rural economics. Rural sociology. Farm munagement Research thesis. 1 Equal numbers place these subjects in first and second years. WHAT TO EXPECT OF THE COLLEGE GRADUATE. It was desired to learn the opinion of leaders in agricultural education as to what line of work the graduate of the agricultural college may be expected to pursue successfully, without other training or experience than that required for graduation. Accordingly, such a question was included in the questionnaire. A summary of the replies follows: 1. Superintendent of large farming enterprise, 2. 2. Operator of farm, 17. 3. County agricultural agent, 4. 4. Extension specialist, 3. 5. Have sole charge of some special branch of larming, 18. 6. Assistant farm superintendent, 23. 7. Assistant county agent, 25. 8. Assistant extension specialist, 22. 9. Commercial work related to agriculture, 23.



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It is difficult to give definite answers to these questions, for so much depends on the personality of the individual and his previous experience. Young men of ability above the average, who were farm-reared, might be able to perform the first, third, and fourth types of work successfully on leaving college, but they are exceptions. A young man of moderate ability should succeed with the second enterprise, provided he has had ample farm experience. A city-bred man who had simply completed the minimum requirements in practice stipulated in most colleges would not be likely to succeed from the beginning in the operation of a farm unless he had unusual ability.

It appears to be quite generally accepted that the college graduate should begin in a subordinate place, for example, as an assistant in some agricultural endeavor, and here gain the necessary experience which would enable him shortly to assume a more responsible position. As expressed by the dean of one of the northeastern colleges, the graduate needs a year's experience for "hardening off."

To the question whether the graduate should be expected to qualify for agricultural research work calling for initiative and responsibility, 29 replies were "No" and only 1 "Yes."

# WHAT ARE THE WEAKEST SPOTS IN A COLLEGE MAN'S TRAINING?

It is only natural that the agricultural college, in its rapid growth of recent years and in its effort to meet new conditions that have arisen, should not succeed in all cases to furnish a training of high grade in all respects. The replies to the set of questions concerning the "weakest spots" in a college man's training are significant. The summary follows:

- le Deficient in academic training, 18.
- 2. Deficient in scientific training, 16.
- 3. Incomplete training in general agriculture, 7.
- 4. Failure to allow sufficient specialization, 9.
- 5. Inadequate requirements in experience, 18.
- 6. Failure to develop sense of moral responsibility to profession, M.
- 7. Faulty instruction, 3.

Inadequate academic and scientific training, lack of experience, and failure to develop a feeling of moral responsibility to the profession appear to be the chief points of weakness. The last mentioned has been so keenly felt in one institution that a course in agricultural relationships has been introduced to meet the need. All of these factors do not correspond with the replies to another part of the questionnaire. For example, in Table 18 we find that a reduction in the proportion of academic work is recommended, but here a weakness in this department is acknowledged. This may be due to a failure to appreciate the amount of time necessary for this work, or perhaps it is believed that this need should be met by better in-

struction in academic subjects rather than by devoting a greater amount of time to them. The need for an increase in scientific training and in farm practice is confirmed in both parts of the questionnaire.

There would probably have been more to designate faulty teaching as one of the chief reasons if this had been included in the check list in the questionnaire, as this was brought out many times in the general comment on the questions. In fact, this point of weakness is probably more generally recognized than any other. Various reasons were given: Inadequate training of instructors, insufficient time available to the instructor for preparing work and for study in keeping abreast with agricultural development, use of old and outof-date textbooks, poor methods, inefficient use of time, especially in laboratory work. It was brought out that the sciences should be taught from the agricultural viewpoint, not by instructors who know nothing of and have no sympathy with agriculture. Another condition emphasized was the failure to apply the technical training, to tie up theory with practice, to bring classroom and field together. This undoubtedly is the chief reason for the almost unanimous recommendation that farm practice be required.

## IX. BASIS FOR REORGANIZATION OF THE CURRICULUM.

From the present-day tendencies and that portion of the foremost opinion on the agricultural college curriculum presented above, we should be able to determine some of the fundamental principles upon which a curriculum should be based.

The aim of the agricultural course should be the first consideration. Even at this point of beginning there is some difference of opinion, but we are probably safe in assuming that the generally accepted aim is twofold, cultural and vocational. The college degree should stand for more than mere efficiency in one profession; it should mean a certain knowledge of the affairs of the world, an appreciation of the intricate relationships existing in the present stages of civilization, some insight in social and economic problems, and a broadened point of view which is essential to intelligent and useful citizenship. For this reason, the cultural aim must be kept in view. Along with this goes the vocational aim; the training for a profession, a means of livelihood. Sufficient attention should be given to this aim to develop an efficient worker, to give the student a foundation knowledge in his chosen field essential to successful endeavor.

Another factor which must be considered in the organization of any college curriculum is the previous preparation of the student, or, in other words, the college entrance requirements. The entrance requirements of the colleges were not taken up in this study, but



the data should be interpreted with due allowance for this factor A summary of entrance requirements of the agricultural colleges is

given by Jarvis.

Certain factor other than the curriculum are necessary to the successful administration of an agricultural course, such as (1) efficient instruction, (2) adequate equipment (field and laboratory) (3) adequate preparation of the student for college, (4) the intelligence and application of the student. However, as this paper is limited to a study of the ourriculum per se, these will not be discussed in detail.

There is a great variation among the different colleges in the

total number of semester hours required for graduation.

This was not taken up in the present study, for it has been summarized by Jarvis.11 The total ranges from 124 to 228 hours, and the median requirement is 157 hours, somewhat less than 40 a year or 20 a semester. Variation in the method of equating laboratory hours in terms of credit hours is largely responsible for this difference The most generally accepted method is to equate 2 laboratory hours as 1 credit hour. On this basis, 20 credit hours a semester, or 160 credit hours for graduation, probably represents a fair requirement.

The other fundamental factors may be summarized briefly. When · Sboth existing curriculand the opinions of the deans of the agricultural colleges are considered, the data indicate that the following represent the principles underlying the curriculum of the agricultural college. This summary does not represent an exact "average" of the catalog data and questionnaire answers, but due consideration in each instance is given to both.

1. The distribution of types of work should bo-about as follows: Academic, 21 per cent; scientific, 27 per cent; general agriculture. 26 per cent; special agriculture, 14 per cent: total agriculture, 40 per cent; elective, 12 per cent; total, 100 per cent.

2. The proportion of required work should be about as follows: Required, 62 per cent; prescribed elective, 26 per cent; free elective, 12 per cent. 1.1

3. The work of the first year should be predominantly of the academic and scientific types, forming a foundation for the advanced work in agriculture to follow.

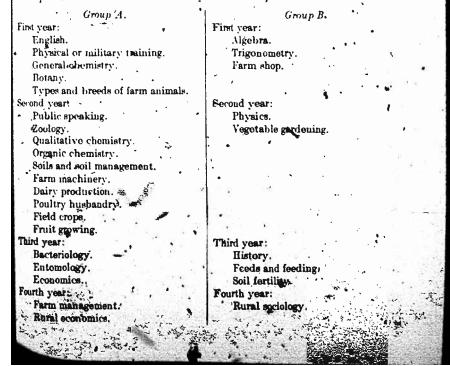
4. Some academic work should be given each year in order to fulfill the cultural aim, and in order to develop a broad point of view within the student as he progresses toward the completion of

5. Some work in agriculture should be given in the first year, in order to give the student the agricultural viewpoint as soon as

H Jarvis, C. D. U. S. Dept. Int., Bur. Educ., Bul., 1918, No. 29, pp. 19-33.

possible, and should follow in increasing proportions throughout the four years.

- 6. All work in the first year should be required. Some election may be allowed in the second year, but most election should be left until the third and sourth years.
- 7. During the first and second years, courses covering the fundamental principles of agricultural science should be required, in order to form a basis for the technical training to follow.
- 8. Elementary courses in the main branches of agriculture should be required in the first two years in order to form a foundation for specialized study and to give the student a wide outlook on the field of agriculture and an unprejudiced view of its different phases, so that he may make his choice of special work intelligently.
- 9. Specialization should commence at the beginning of third year.
- 10. The best method of offering specialization is the "Departmental group," in which a student elects his special work by choosing a definitely outlined course of studies arranged to fit for the field in question with an allowance for a small amount of free elections
- 11. A minimum of six months of farm practice, completed before the fourth year, preferably before the third year, and better still before matriculation, should be required.
- 12. Certain subjects should be required in all curricula; others are desirable and in most cases should be included, but because of local conditions may be left out. These are indicated, respectively, as Groups A and B.





13. Foreign language should be required only of students w have not had at least two years in preparatory school and of the who are preparing for teaching or research.

14. The curriculum should be shaped to meet local conditions the State and at the college.

This summary is given as epitomizing the data surveyed, and should be interpreted as such. It is fully appreciated that local conditions are usually the determining factor in formulating a curriculum and that the differences of conditions governing different institution make it impossible to apply any one hard and fast rule to all college alike. These principles, therefore, should be interpreted liberally and should be ensidered as being of broad rather than specification.

Neither should they be accepted as unqualifiedly constituting the "best" curriculum. Individuals will take exception to some of the points. They do not represent in all instances what the writer would favor. For example, he believes that the proportion of academic work should be somewhat increased and the elective reduced by corresponding degree. In most other points, however, he is a virtual agreement.

## X. HOW MEASURE THE EFFICIENCY OF A CURRICULUM?

The ultimate test of the efficiency of any curriculum is the quality of the product, the ability of the student graduated. Even this not a fair test, however, for the personality of the student is an alimportant factor; and other factors mentioned, such as the quality of instruction, equipment, etc., would influence the results. It is obviously desirable to have some other means of judging the efficiency of any given curriculum, most desirable before it is put into operation and "tried out" on an unfortunate group of students. The need for some method of measuring the efficiency of a curriculum became more apparent to the writer as he studied the curricula of different colleges; and discovered the great lack of uniformity among different institutions, and as it became apparent that the different college had evidently been shap their curricula around different guiding principles.

The measure of efficiency heretofore applied has been the concept of the ideal curriculum in the mind of the individual as compared with the actual-curriculum in question. This means that there have been as many different measures as there were individuals considering the problem, and so we have failed to reach any generally accepted standards.

In the effort to find a means of measuring the efficiency of a curricular lum it seemed to the writer that the use of any definite unit of men ure is impracticable. The curriculum of any given college must be



so adapted to local conditions that the "best" curriculum would probably not be the same for any two colleges. Granting, then, that a certain variation in the curricula of different State colleges is necessary in order to meet local conditions, the problem resolves itself into (1) singling out the factors which should be considered in making the adaptation, and (2) the provisions that shall be made in shaping the curriculum to meet them.

Some of the factors to which the cufriculum of any one State college should be adapted are given here, being listed, in the opinion of the writer, in the order of their importance.

- 1. The agricultural practices of the State.—This is self-evident and needs no elaboration.
- 2. The agricultural needs of the State.—This factor should be considered in its broadest sense. It involves, first, a recognition of any weak features of the State's agriculture, as well as the agricultural resources and latent possibilities of the State and the lines of development that should be followed; and second, a recognition that professional leadership is necessary in carrying out any program of development. The college should aim to train its students for this leadership.
- 3. The ational system of the State. -- Articulation with the secondary schools, of course, is necessary. Another point of contact is in the training of teachers and extension workers.
- 4. The nature of the student clientage.—The needs of the student, as determined by his previous training, farm experience, capacity, and aims, are garying factors, and certain tendencies predominate in particular States. These are of sufficient importance to be a determining factor informulating a curriculum.
- 5. The resources and facilities available for instruction purposes, including such items as funds, faculty, and materials and equipment in field and in laboratory. The curriculum is often limited by a shortage or lack of any one of these.
- 6. The organization of the college, especially in relation to other divisions of higher education. For instance, the curriculum problem in the small college differs from that of the large university, where such questions as the offering of courses in other colleges (e.g., the college of liberal arts) must be considered.
- While recognizing the need for variation, however, it should be possible to form a general judgment of the efficiency of any curriculum by comparing it with the standards which it has been the purpose of this study to discover. Assuming, then, that the courses are well taught, that the facilities of teaching are adequate, and that the student shows both ability and application, one may expect successful results if the curriculum measures up to the following table of standards. The so-called "normal" factors of items 2 to 5 represent



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the most generally accepted practices throughout the agricultural colleges of the country, modified by the epitomized opinion of the deans of these colleges. Item I is based on the study by Jarvis. The factor of variation is covered by item 6.

This table of standards should not be regarded as permanent. It will necessarily change with the development of agricultural education. The growth of agricultural instruction in secondary schools is one of the movements which will have an important influence on the agricultural college, and it is generally predicted that with the universal establishment of vocational secondary agriculture; under the provisions of the Smith-Hughes Act, the chief aim of the agricultural college will gradually change from the training of farmers to the training of rural leaders and scientific experts. This, of course, will necessitate modifications in the curriculum, and any standard that may now be fixed would be subject to change.

STANDARDS OF THE CURRICULUM OF THE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE.

- Number of semester hours required for graduation—normal, 140 to US, depending upon credit equivalents for laboratory work.
- 2. Balance of curriculum:
  - A. Normal -Academic, 21 per cent; scientific, 27 per cent; ceneral agriculture, 26 per cent; special agriculture, 14 per cent; elective, 12 perfecut;
  - B. Normal -Required, 62 percent; prescribed elective, 26 per cent; tree detive, 42 per cent.
- 3. Farm practice required for graduation: Normal, 6 months.
- Specialization: Normal—Departmental group elective system commencing at beginning of third year.
- 5. Required courses:
  - Normal—First-named subjects for each year required of all statemrs in the year indicated.—Those in parenthese selectable. \*.
    - First year, --English, physical or military training, general chemistry, botany, animal husbandry---basic course (algebra, triconometry, form shop)
    - Second year, Public speaking, zoology, qualitative elemistry, soils and set management, form machinery, dairy production, poultry husbandry, felt crops, fruit growing, (physics, vegetable gardening).
    - Third year.—Bacteriology, entomology, economics, (soil fertility, history, feels and feeding).
    - Fourth year. Farm management, rural economics crural sociology
- 6. Adaptability to local conditions: Normal -The curriculum should be shaped with consideration for:
  - In The agricultural practices of the State.
  - 2. The agricultural needs of the State.
  - 3. The educational system of Lig State.
  - 4. The nature of the student clientage.
  - 5. The resources and facilities available for instruction purposes.
  - The organization of the college.
  - S. Dept. Int., Bur. Educ., Bul. 29, 1918.



#### ADDENDA.

Shortly before this bulletin went to press there appeared a report of progress of the subcommittee on college instruction in agriculture, appointed in 1919 by the Commissioner of Education.<sup>13</sup> Several of the topics treated above are touclied upon in this report. Closely in accord with the recommendations here set forth, the committee reports a growing opinion in favor of basic courses of agricultural subject matter early in the curriculum, departmental group electives beginning in the junior year, and an adjustment of the curriculum to the broader aspects of the agricultural problem rather than to meet special needs. The desirability of certain additional features is pointed out, including, among others, an advanced general course required in the senior year, which would present the production, economic and social problems of agriculture as a connected whole; and special training for the teachers of agriculture in the Smith-Hughes and other secondary schools, for extension workers and for agricultural journalists, providing a relatively large proportion of basic agricultural work in the course.

