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AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION

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A. & M. COLLEGE OF TEXAS,

COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS.

Bulletin No. 1.

PLAN OF ORGANIZATION.

FOR INFORMATION IN REGARD TO STATION WORK, ADDRESS
PROF. F. A. GULLEY, *Director*,
COLLEGE STATION, TEXAS.

In 1887 Congress made provision for establishing, equipping and supporting Agricultural Experiment Stations in the several States, the Stations to be placed under the supervision of the Boards of Directors of the State Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges, where such colleges have been established.

The Act of Congress appropriates \$15,000.00 per annum from the United States Treasury, to each State, to equip and

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support the stations. Owing to some technical defect in the bill as passed, additional legislation was required to make the fund available. By recent enactment the appropriation is placed at the disposal of the several States, and the stations are being organized.

OBJECT OF THE STATIONS.

The purpose for which the Agricultural Experiment Station Bill was passed is clearly set forth in Section 2 of the Act, which reads as follows :

“It shall be the object and duty of said Experiment Stations to conduct original researches or verify experiments on the physiology of plants and animals; the diseases to which they are severally subject, with the remedies for the same; the chemical composition of useful plants at their different stages of growth; the comparative advantages of rotative cropping as furnished under a varying series of crops; the capacity of new plants or trees for acclimation; the analysis of soils and water; the chemical composition of manures, natural or artificial, with experiments designed to test their comparative effect on crops of different kinds; the adaptation and value of grasses and forage plants; the composition and digestibility of the different kinds of food for domestic animals; the scientific and economic questions involved in the production of butter and cheese, and such other researches or experiments bearing directly on the agricultural industry of the United States as may in each case be deemed advisable.”

The bill further provides that reports of the progress made in experiments shall be published from time to time, one copy of which shall be sent to each newspaper published in the State where such station is located, and one to each individual actually engaged in farming who may request the same, as far as the means of the station will permit; all such reports to be carried in the mails free.

THE EXPERIMENT STATIONS

were placed under the supervision of the Boards of Directors of the Agricultural and Mechanical Colleges, not for the purpose of assisting the colleges, but because it was thought the fund would be most judiciously expended under such control, and it was believed that a portion of the equipment of said colleges, in the way of land, stock, implements, etc., might, without detriment to the work of the colleges, be used to some extent in experimental work. It was thought also that men

employed at the colleges, many of whom have become skilled in experimental work, would be able to give part of their time to the station.

EXPENDITURE OF THE STATION FUND.

The bill expressly provides that no part of the fund appropriated, shall be used for any purpose other than equipping and supporting an establishment for carrying on experimental work. While the stations may be attached to the agricultural colleges and be made departments of the same, no part of this fund may be used in support of the colleges except in experimental work.

THE TEXAS EXPERIMENT STATION.

In accordance with the Act of Congress, the Board of Directors of the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas have established this station, and have made provision for beginning the work. The station is located at the college, and is made a department of the college. Such part of the college farm, buildings, and other equipment as may be deemed necessary for experimental work will be assigned to the station department by the Board of Directors. In addition to the equipment assigned, whatever buildings, apparatus, or other materials are found necessary to carry out the provisions of the law will be provided for from the experiment station fund.

ADVANTAGE TO THE COLLEGE.

Financially, the station will not be of direct benefit to the college. To compensate the college, however, for the use of property assigned to the work of the station, such work will add largely to the ability of the college to impart more thorough instruction in scientific and practical agriculture. College students will be employed in the work of the station to as great an extent as may be found practicable, and the plant of the station, and experimental work in progress, will increase the means of illustration of the college and be of special advantage to the students in providing practice and training in agricultural work, under skilled instructors. The station will not add to the expenses of the college in any way, as such time as may be given by Professors or other employes in experimental work will be paid for from the station fund, and

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the value of the time lost to the college deducted from the salary that would be paid by the college if the entire time was given to college work, and in order not to impair the efficiency of instruction the Board has provided for additional instruction to relieve the Professors of a portion of their class work.

ORGANIZATION.

The Board of Directors of the college have placed the station department under the immediate control of the Agricultural Experiment Station Council, consisting of the Chairman of the Faculty, the Agent of the Board and the Director of the Station. The Departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Chemistry and Physics will aid in the experimental work, the heads of the departments to superintend the details in their several departments.

F. A. Gulley, Professor of Agriculture of the Agricultural College of Mississippi, has been elected Director, and he will commence work at once.

CO-OPERATION OF FARMERS WITH THE STATION.

The Board of Directors of the College desire to make the work of the station of as much value to the agricultural interests of the State as may be possible. The work will be conducted at all times with special reference to giving information of value that may be of some practical use to the farmer. To enable them to carry out this policy, all associations having the advancement of agriculture in view,—the Grange, Alliance, Stockbreeders, Fruitgrowers, and other organizations, will be invited from time to time to appoint delegates to meet with the Board of Directors and the Council, and consult and advise with them in regard to the work of the station. Suggestions will be gladly received at all times from any one who is interested in advancing the agricultural interests of the State.

The Director of the Station will issue a bulletin March 1st, giving details in regard to the work mapped out for this year.

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| LOUIS L. McINNIS, Chairman of the Faculty, | } | COUNCIL. |
| T. M. SCOTT, Agent of the Board, | | |
| F. A. GULLEY, Director of Station, | | |