

❖ THE O. A. C. REVIEW. ❖

The dignity of a calling is its utility.

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Editorial.

TIME rolls on. Again another session of our College has begun; and with it comes many changes. The student body presents many strange faces; the Faculty are not all as of old; and even the Review staff has not escaped the touch of time, for, in fact, but one experienced head remains to the present from that of the year previous.

With this number of the Review the new staff greet the Students, Officers, and ex-Students of the O.A.C. Considering the inexperience with which we take hold of the work, we do not expect to be wholly free from error; we beg that our readers will bear this in mind and deal leniently with us, until we have gained that knowledge which we lack. It has been the sad misfortune of older heads than ours to make mistakes; but our intentions are good, and if promises amount to anything, the readers of this journal need not fear. We purpose doing our very best to make the Review this year all it has been in the past—an organ to keep our fellow students in harmony with their temporary surroundings, and our ex-students in touch with their Alma Mater, and at the same time if possible, to make such changes as will, in our humble judgment, render our paper more pleasing to all.

For a number of years it has been the custom of the editors of this periodical to offer a general criticism upon the course laid out for students in attendance at our College. This year, it appears, we are to be denied the pleasure of suggesting changes. That a change was needed was apparent; that it would come so soon was unexpected.

Many students who made good progress in the study of those sciences, a knowledge of which

is so successful to agriculture, found it necessary to return home in April without completing their first year. In October they were not qualified to take up the work of the second—did not wish to take first year work again, and so remained at home. These men are, by their neighbors, considered to be representatives of the College output, and are criticised as scientific agriculturists, while, in fact, they possess little more than a knowledge of the rudiments of the sciences. With the granting of a diploma upon passing an examination on the work of two semesters, the reputation of the College should be less endangered and the attractiveness of the short course enhanced.

Our Professors will now have six months of each year to devote to original investigation, a work of the greatest importance to agricultural science. Three months, the time formerly at their disposal, was not sufficient to allow of any extensive experiments, so it was impossible for them to do justice to this branch of their work. But with more time to use for this purpose, they will be able to take that high place among the popular writers along agricultural lines, for which their abilities fit them.

The four year course may not be completed by so many men, but these will have more time for a detailed study of their special branches than was possible when only one year was the time taken for degree work after securing a diploma. Just here the new course will have an advantage over such a long course as is laid out in most of the American Colleges. Our long course and short course men will take exactly the same work for the first two years, and any who wish may then continue their studies and go on for the degree. In the American Colleges, the two courses are different from the commencement, and, in consequence, a graduate of the short