NUMBER OF STUDENTS.

Of purely agricultural students we have, I believe, as large an attendance as any other college on this continent, except, perhaps, two; but we must candidly admit that we have not so large a number as we should have. The attendance during the past year has not been what we could have wished. Seven Associates of the College returned for the third year, and we have a much larger class of second year students than we ever had before; but the number of new students who entered in October last is exceptionally small. On the whole, we have an excellent class of students, and I think most, if not all, of them are well satisfied with the College, otherwise we should not have so many back for the second and third years. But why have we not a larger number of new students? One reason is because I have admitted scarcely any from the old country during the year. Within the last nine months I have sent between fifteen and twenty English applicants for admission away to seek work with farmers, simply because I thought it was better both for them and for the college that they should learn some of the realities of farming before coming to us. But why have we not a larger number from Ontario? Is it because of the hard times? because farmers think it does not pay to educate boys for the farm? because we are not doing our work properly? or because the farmers have mistaken notions of what our work really is? I confess my inability to give a satisfactory answer.

CHANGES AND PROGRESS DURING THE YEAR.

For eight or nine years the members of the staff and some of the ex-students have been discussing more or less the advisability of adding a year to our course of study, and at length the pressure from students and ex-students became so strong that we decided to add a third year and grant the degree of B.S.A., Bachelor of Science in Agriculture.

Our course of study for an Associate Diploma is one of two years, and embraces agriculture, live stock, dairying, arboriculture, horticulture, veterinary science, chemistry, geology, botany, entomology, English literature, political economy, book-keeping and elementary mathematics. During these two years we lay most stress on agriculture, live stock, veterinary science and chemistry. Those who complete this course get a diploma admitting them to the status of associates; and those associates who rank high in the theory and practice of the first two years and take not less than sixty per cent. of the aggregate number of marks in English grammar, literature and composition may now remain for a third year and take the following course for the degree of B.S.A., (Bachelor of Science in Agriculture):—

THIRD YEAR.

Fixed Work

Chemistry.—A course of advanced lectures and reading on organic and agricultural chemistry, and an extended course in laboratory practice.

Natural History.—Microscopy—Physiology of plants and study of the fungi, with special reference to those which are most injurious to fruit and grain; the grasses and economic botany continued from the second year; practical work in greenhouse, garden and orchard. Further study of insects and experiments with insecticides.

Reading of works and reports to be prescribed by the Professor of Natural History.

Mechanical Drawing.—One hour per week.

English.—(1) Grammar (Whitney). (2) Composition and Rhetoric (Bain). (3) Outlines of English Literature (Lectures with Spalding and Craik). (4) Themes. (5) Critical reading of the following selections:—

Shakespeare—Richard II.
Bacon—Essays: Of Studies, Great Place, Boldness, Goodness and Goodness of Nature, Youth and Age, Discourse, Friendship.
Milton—Lycidas and Paradise Lost, Bk. I.