

time. An annual bulletin is printed, which contains the lectures given at what is termed a central institute, one of which is held each year. The institute law also makes it the duty of those conducting institutes to encourage and assist the organization of local agricultural societies. There is no State department of agriculture.

VERMONT.

1891. At this time there was an annual appropriation of \$2,500 for institutes. Every other year a report was printed by the board of agriculture at a cost of \$1,500.

1899. At present institutes are held in Vermont under the auspices of the State board of agriculture, a body of six men, all gubernatorial appointments. The number ranges from 25 to 40 a year. The law required the board to hold at least one meeting in every county each year. The meetings are placed more particularly in accordance with local request, once the terms of the law are fulfilled; thus some counties have but a single meeting, others, it may be, four. Five thousand dollars annually is appropriated for this purpose. At no time has this amount been spent. There is no State department of agriculture, as such, in the State. The State board of agriculture is the central agricultural bureau.

VIRGINIA.

1891. At this date there was no appropriation for farmers' institutes, although the State board of agriculture used \$250 of the general funds for this purpose.

1899. In Virginia there is no regular institute bureau, nor any person charged with the conduct of the institutes. The State board of agriculture used to hold some half dozen or so institutes during the course of a year, paying the expenses of the same out of its own funds, but recently this has been dropped. There are, however, a number of excellent farmers' clubs in the State which carry on the institute work from year to year at their own expense, if they can not secure assistance from the State board of agriculture, or from the Polytechnic Institute (Agricultural College). It is the custom of the institute always to aid them by furnishing at least one speaker. The number varies not more than a half dozen in one year; but of lesser meetings not strictly institutes, a considerable number are held over the State. There is a State department of agriculture, which is charged with the fertilizer control work, and has at its head a commissioner of agriculture and employs chemists. By recent amendment of the State fertilizer law, it is expected that the income of the department will be materially increased, and the holding of institutes is to be made a feature of the work of the department.