

to be practically *nil*, we may hope that perhaps this difficulty is eliminated.

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GRADUATE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE.

THE Graduate School of Agriculture, the first of its kind in the United States, began a four weeks' session at Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio, July 7. About 70 students from 25 States are in attendance, of whom nearly 50 are officers of agricultural colleges and experiment stations. The faculty consists of about 30 leading teachers and investigators in agricultural science. Advanced courses are given in agronomy, breeding of plants and animals, zootechny and dairying. At the inaugural exercises held on the evening of July 7 addresses were delivered by Hon. James Wilson, Secretary of Agriculture; Hon. Wm. M. Liggett, dean of the College of Agriculture of the University of Minnesota; Dr. H. C. White, president of Georgia State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts; Dr. A. C. True, director of U. S. Office of Experiment Stations and dean of the Graduate School of Agriculture; and President W. O. Thompson, of Ohio State University. In his address explaining the objects and aims of this school the dean showed that the rapid development of agricultural education and research in this country in recent years had created a demand for well-trained teachers and investigators which the agricultural colleges as at present organized could not meet. Especially had the latest development in the direction of the division of the general subject of agriculture into specialties created a necessity for university instruction in agriculture. "One aim of this graduate school is to provide a certain measure of this advanced and special instruction and thereby to illustrate some of the lines along which our universities need to establish advanced courses of instruction in agricultural specialties." The school may also serve a useful purpose in bringing to its students up-to-date information on various agricultural subjects and in pointing out ways in which the methods of teaching and investi-

gating agricultural subjects may be improved, and the apparatus and illustrative material for instruction and research in these subjects may be increased in variety and effectiveness. The school serves to solidify and amplify the organization of agricultural education and research on the basis of agriculture itself, considered as both a science and an art. "The signs all indicate," said Dr. True, "that we are on the edge of a widespread movement to organize agricultural education in this country on a much broader basis in order that it may permeate the mass of our rural population. The people are looking to the agricultural colleges to lead in this movement. In a large way it may be said that the hoped-for leaders in this new enterprise are here assembled. Surely our councils will have been futile if they do not give an impetus and direction to the plans for popular agricultural education now being formulated. The people are already offering our higher institutions for agricultural education and research relatively large sums of money and are evidently intending to give them more. If we can find a way here to make the work of our agricultural colleges, experiment stations and Department of Agriculture in any respects more effective and satisfactory, we shall surely reap ample reward in increased material support for our instruction and researches and stronger popular confidence in our usefulness as instruments of agricultural advancement."

Considering the character of the faculty and students of this school important results may be expected from the inauguration of this new enterprise in agricultural education.

SCIENTIFIC NOTES AND NEWS.

THE Albert medal of the Society of Arts, London, has for the present year been awarded to Professor Alexander Graham Bell, for his invention of the telephone.

PRESIDENT ELIOT, of Harvard University, was elected president of the National Educational Association at the recent Minneapolis meeting.

THE eminent astronomer, Professor Giovanni Schiaparelli, has been elected an associ-