

First. To determine and establish the correct historical and etymological form of the place names of the state and to recommend the adoption of such forms for public use.

Second. To determine the form and propriety of new place names proposed for general use, and under the law no corporation, individual or community is permitted to introduce such new place names without the consent and approval of this board.

Third. To cooperate with the United States Board of Geographic Names and with the United States Postoffice Department in establishing a proper, correct and historically accurate form for all place names proposed as designations of new postoffices.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

BOTH houses of the Minnesota legislature have passed an appropriation bill granting practically everything asked for by the University of Minnesota. The bill carries items as follows:

Maintenance	\$966,000
Fuel	120,000
Special maintenance	462,000
Special agricultural maintenance	326,000
Buildings and equipment	639,950
Agricultural substations	276,500
Special, certificate-plan, bill	500,000
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	\$3,290,450

BUCHTEL COLLEGE, a successful institution of forty years' standing, has been offered to the city of Akron, Ohio, for use as a municipal college or university, according to information received at the United States Bureau of Education. The corporation of the college finds that the institution has trebled its attendance in the past ten years without sufficiently increasing its endowment, and proposes to transfer the entire plant and endowment, valued at \$400,000, to the city, practically without restrictions of any kind. If the offer is accepted, Akron will have an educational institution of college grade that will meet the community's needs in a distinctly modern way. It will be known as the College or University of the City of Akron, although in the event of the establishment of other schools or colleges the name Buchtel College is to be

retained for the liberal arts department, just as McMicken College is a part of the University of Cincinnati. In making their proposal the trustees point out, among other things, that as a municipal institution, and with very slight addition to the money now spent for educational purposes by Akron, the college would offer to all qualified students of the city a college education with free tuition; that the college can be made of practical use in the work of city government; and that the college will furnish an excellent basis for a greater municipal university that shall make ample provision for technical and professional training for the youth of the city.

To study the methods by which the University of Wisconsin is serving the state in various ways, a party of fifty public officials and prominent citizens of Philadelphia and other cities of Pennsylvania have arranged an inspection trip to Madison, Wis., for four days, from May 21 to May 25. The Pennsylvanians are particularly interested in the relation of the university to the state, cities and rural communities through the medium of the extension division's municipal reference library, commercial reference library, traveling package libraries, correspondence study courses, health bureau, classwork among students in extension centers in all parts of the state, vocational guidance and continuation school work. The distinctive work being done by the College of Agriculture through its own extension service, which includes demonstrational work on how to grow crops, improve the dairying industry, increase farm profits through the introduction of efficiency in farm management, etc., has also aroused the interest of the delegation from Pennsylvania. The ultimate object of the visit is to develop similar activities in connection with the University of Pennsylvania and Pennsylvania State College. The party will include, among others, Mayor Rudolph Blankenburg, of Philadelphia; Owen Wister, the novelist; representatives from the University of Pennsylvania, Pennsylvania State College and Franklin Institute; public officials from various cities; John P. Connelly, chairman of the

finance committee of the city of Philadelphia, and Morris L. Cook, director of the public works of Philadelphia.

THE trustees of Dartmouth College have voted, after the year 1914, to suspend for the present instruction in the last two or clinical years of the Medical School and to concentrate the resources of the school upon the first two years in medicine. Students thus trained will be well qualified to enter the third year of the courses offered by the best city medical schools and may there complete their clinical preparation for the degree of doctor of medicine. The reason given by the trustees for this action is that because of its location the school has found difficulty in meeting satisfactorily the steadily advancing requirements set by the medical profession for a larger supply and variety of clinical material for purposes of instruction. By the action of the trustees also provision is made to extend the work in business organization and management and in commerce. Principles of business management, heretofore a second-year course, will be given the first year. Professor Person and Henry Woods Shelton, appointed assistant professor, will offer new advanced courses in the application of principles of management in manufacturing and merchandizing, including selling, advertising and other specialized branches.

PROFESSOR ERNEST C. MOORE, head of the department of education at Yale University, has received an offer to become professor of education at Harvard University.

DR. JOEL H. HILDEBRAND, of the University of Pennsylvania, has been appointed assistant professor of chemistry in the University of California.

DR. ERNST HEDINGER, professor of pathological anatomy at Basle, has accepted a call to Königsberg in succession to Professor F. Henke.

MR. A. R. HINKS, F.R.S., chief assistant at the Cambridge University Observatory, has been appointed Gresham professor of astronomy, London, in succession to the late Mr. S. A. Saunder.

At a meeting of the electors to the Plumian professorship of astronomy in the University of Cambridge, held on April 19, Mr. A. S. Eddington, chief assistant at the Royal Observatory, Greenwich, was elected to the professorship, in succession to the late Sir George Darwin.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE NEED FOR ENDOWED AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH¹

TO THE EDITOR OF SCIENCE: There exists a widespread confusion of thought in regard to what is needed for the advancement of the science of agriculture in distinction from what is needed for the promotion of the practise of scientific farming. Actually these two things are entirely distinct, and what is of great aid, or even essential to one, is usually of relatively little value to the other, and indeed may indirectly become a hindrance to it. To advance the science of agriculture means to make new and fundamental discoveries in regard to the natural laws on which crop production and animal production depend. To promote such advance plainly demands the conducting of scientific research of the highest type in the field of agriculture and the pure sciences—physics, chemistry and biology—which are fundamental to it. On the other hand, to advance or promote the practise of scientific farming means (a) to put into the hands of the practical farmer the most complete and authentic information which exists

¹ This communication was called forth by the discussion which has been going on in the newspapers regarding the proposed plan of Mr. Vincent Astor to utilize his estate for the promotion of agricultural science. It was originally published in the *New York Times* for February 21, 1913. The editor of that paper, however, saw fit to omit considerable portions of the communication as submitted to him, including the discussion of what I believe to be the most essential point indicating the need for endowed, as supplementary to tax-supported, agricultural research. The result was what I can only regard as an unfair and inadequate presentation of my views on the subject. Since the matter is unquestionably one of real significance to the cause of American science, I venture to offer here a complete statement of my position.