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A Brief Outline of the Work
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PURPOSE.

Supported by the taxes of all the people, the State University is under obligation to render in return service to every citizen of the State. In a large measure the University fulfils this obligation by educating young men and women and sending them back into their home communities as teachers, lawyers, doctors, farmers, publicists and business men to carry to their neighbors the professional and technical skill, the broadened sympathies, quickened minds, and inspiration to generous community service which higher education gives. The University has lately come to realize that, in addition to this invaluable indirect service, it can also render directly to the citizens of the State who can not leave home to attend its classes service of the highest value.

One acquainted with the accumulated knowledge concerning the laws of the physical and social sciences is appalled to find how very little of this useful knowledge has found its way into the minds of the people and into the varied work of the world. In the libraries, laboratories and minds of the faculties of the great universities of the world there is locked up already enough knowledge of the laws of nature, of social institutions, and of personal behavior to banish half of our human sickness and social ills, and to double our economic productivity. It is the purpose of the Extension Department to keep in touch with the social, civic, and economic movements going on in the State and to help in putting at the disposal of the masses of our people and the leaders of enterprise whatever of useful knowledge the scientific and scholarly world may have bearing upon their problems.

To accomplish this purpose the Department is organizing under the following eight divisions: Division of Correspondence Instruction, Division of Public Discussion, Division of Public Lectures, Division of Public Welfare, Division of Home Welfare, Division of Public School Improvement, Division of Child Welfare, Division of Human Conservation.

THE DIVISION OF CORRESPONDENCE INSTRUCTION.

In the Correspondence Division, instruction has been given to more than three thousand students away from the University. Most of the courses are of University grade, are given by the regular University professors, and may be counted toward a degree exactly on the same basis as residence work; but a few courses below University grade are offered for students who wish to make up entrance units. Over two hundred courses are offered in the languages, mathematics, economics, government, psychology, education, law, and some branches of engineering, including civil and mechanical engineering, and architecture and drawing. Special general courses are also offered in domestic economy, business training, bookkeeping, commercial Spanish, legal business, etc. Courses may be begun at any time of the year. No admission examination is required, but students are not allowed to take up courses for which they are not prepared.

Teachers' courses, especially arranged for those who wish to prepare for State examinations in order to raise their certificates, are offered in practically all of the subjects necessary to build to first-grade, permanent, and permanent primary certificates. In some cases these courses may also count as entrance credits to the University.

About fifty group-study courses in business training, education, economics, literature, art, government, history, etc., are offered. Clubs, societies, faculties of high schools, or groups of teachers can thus follow a special program of study under a University lecturer who will visit the club once and hold a seminary or deliver one or more lectures, at some time during the progress of the course.

Send to the Division of Correspondence Instruction for the bulletin containing full announcement of courses and all necessary information with regard to registration.

THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC DISCUSSION.

The Division of Public Discussion has for its purpose the encouragement and intelligent direction of public discussion and debate, both in schools and out of them. Bulletins have been issued giving advice regarding the organization of debating clubs, and furnishing lists of references for reading and preparation for debate on a number of topics. Loan libraries on important subjects, such as prohibition, woman suffrage, initiative and referendum, prison reform, compulsory education, the commission form of city government, municipal ownership of public utilities, the tariff, immigration, etc., have been prepared and are being loaned to such clubs and individuals as request them. For full information address, Loan Librarian, University Station, Austin.

Under the auspices of this Division the University Interscholastic League conducts county, district, and State contests in debate, declamation, essay-writing, spelling, and athletics. Through these contests the University seeks to assist the schools in training pupils for citizenship and in developing the school as a social center through which the community may become better informed. Every school in Texas should be interested in this work, and a League should be organized in each county. Upon request, the Constitution of the League, together with bulletins and other information, will be mailed.

Public school play and athletics, particularly public high school athletics, are necessary to the health of high school students and to their progress in acquiring an education. Properly organized and wisely directed athletics tends to create a cooperation and a spirit among public high school students which should be utilized in their mental and moral growth, as well as in their physical development. This Division, through its expert, will undertake to give advice and help in effecting county, district, and State organizations of high-school athletics.

THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC LECTURES.

In the Division of Public Lectures the University undertakes to provide competent and impartial speakers, chiefly from among its faculty, to present to the people the great questions of the day, including interesting phases of literature, science, and art. It is not the purpose of these lectures to be amusing; the attempt is to present, in a popular and attractive form, a definite amount of reliable instruction. A special bulletin setting forth the available lectures will be sent upon application.

DIVISION OF PUBLIC WELFARE.

The purpose of this Division is twofold: (1) To go into the field and investigate the economic and social conditions in the State, with a view to collecting such reliable data as may present a basis for intelligent efforts at improving conditions; (2) To gather, digest, and give in readable form such experience of other States and countries as may be of help to our citizens in considering plans for meeting our problems of public welfare. It is hoped that through this division the citizens of the State may have the advantage of unbiased University experts, who can advise with them whenever they wish help in planning any economic or social movement. The time of three or more persons will be devoted to the various problems of rural economy, social life, finance, co-operation, marketing, farm accounting and kindred subjects. Whenever possible and proper, the services of the Division of Public Welfare will be available to the citizens of the State through exhibits of photographs, charts, maps and diagrams, supplemented by illustrated lectures and printed bulletins. Correspondence is invited.

THE DIVISION OF HOME WELFARE.

The Division deals specifically with all problems relating to the home, and exists primarily for the benefit of the home-maker and with a view of placing the home on the same intelligent and prosperous basis which characterizes other progressive institutions. Lectures and demonstrators attend fairs, county educational rallies, and make a limited number of engagements through the medium of women's organizations, schools, and agricultural societies to give specific instruction on subjects of vital interest to the home in one week's schools held in various parts of the State. Some of the questions considered are: the planning and building of the home, its sanitation, decoration and furnishing; labor-saving devices in the home and what they mean to the home-maker; the proper selection, preparation and preservation of foods; the planning of the family menu with a view of adapting it to the specific needs of the different members of the group; care and feeding of infants and children, and diet in diseases. A study of clothing includes a study of textiles and tests for their adulteration, the adaptation of clothing to the individual and practical instruction in the cutting, fitting and making of garments. The economic, hygienic, and aesthetic aspects of the different phases of home activities are all considered.

Correspondence courses are given through the Correspondence Division, through women's clubs and through the papers. Numerous bulletins have been issued and are distributed free. New bulletins are constantly added. Answers are given by correspondence to thousands of questions on matters relating to home welfare.

A bureau of investigation and information on all questions pertaining to the home is maintained at the School of Domestic Economy at the University in connection with this Division. Original research and experiments are being made in the Department's laboratories by special research workers on Texas food products with the view of determining their place in the dietary and of encouraging their wider and more practical use.

Invaluable data has been collected by the school upon economic methods of buying and factors influencing the cost of foods in the different parts of the State. Many interesting family dietaries of balanced rations, taking into consideration the income and occupation of the various members of the family group, and some special dietaries for children and invalids have been prepared.

Tests have been made on various textile fabrics to determine their wearing qualities, adulterations, permanency of color, and the like, with the view of determining their real value.

Labor-saving devices and fuels have been tested for efficiency from the standpoint of economy of time, labor, and money. Many tests are constantly being made on interior finishings for walls, floors, etc., and on

efficient methods of lighting and heating. Special consideration is given to the problems of the rural home where city conveniences are not available.

This information has been carefully compiled and is available through the bureau to anyone desiring help from it. This bureau is designed to serve as a clearing-house for all household problems for the Texas homemakers. Inquiries and suggestions for extending its field of usefulness are solicited. When practicable, programs for Home Economics Clubs, Mothers' Meetings, Civic Clubs, and kindred organizations will be arranged on application.

THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT.

The aim of the Division is to render service to the public schools, and to this end correspondence with communities that desire its co-operation is invited. The Division, during each year, attempts to make investigations of a few problems that concern the public schools, and to publish the result of these investigations in bulletin form for free distribution. In this work, special consideration is given to the solution of urgent rural school problems.

The Division has in charge the various educational exhibits sent out by the University to call to the attention of the people certain needs of Texas and to point out the most intelligent method of meeting these needs. These exhibits cover such vital subjects as school buildings and school hygiene, play and play grounds, consolidation of rural schools, improvement of farm homes, public health and sanitation, care of the feeble minded, care and feeding of children, pure milk supply, and many other phases of home economics.

Well prepared lectures, accompanied by lantern and stereopticon slides are sent out to responsible persons who are attempting local improvement. These slides relate to such subjects as painting, sculpture, plant creations, insects and diseases, health and ventilation, schoolhouse construction, school consolidation, conservation of bird life, construction of farm homes, and other important questions of the day.

This Division also attempts to give helpful information in the organization and maintenance of schoolhouse meetings. From time to time, bulletins, programs, and other helpful material are prepared and sent out for use in such civic organizations.

Whenever practical, representatives of the Division visit and confer with teachers and friends of education in county teachers' institutes, summer normals, and educational meetings of various kinds. Assistance is also rendered in conducting campaigns for local taxes, schoolhouse bonds, and better-country-life campaigns. The Division also attempts, upon request, to answer or to have answered any reasonable inquiry which demands expert knowledge, and in this way to put the wide knowledge of the specialists in the faculty to the immediate service of the people in the State.

THE DIVISION OF CHILD WELFARE.

The Division of Child Welfare investigates local conditions affecting children, and assists in plans for bettering the conditions affecting childhood. The hygienic and sanitary conditions of schools have been given much study, and through bulletins, letters, and lectures help is given to school boards in planning new schoolhouses and in remodeling old ones to make them more hygienic. The feeble-minded and delinquents have been studied and assistance given in drafting laws to care better for them. Scientific mental and physical measurements of the inmates of the State Reformatory and the Virginia Johnson Home for delinquent girls have been made. Numerous other studies will be taken up as rapidly as funds are made available. A psychological clinic has been established at the University to which abnormal, or atypical, children may be brought for diagnosis. The Division also gives free advice by mail on any matter pertaining to child welfare.

DIVISION OF HUMAN CONSERVATION.

The purpose of the Division of Human Conservation is to assist in promoting all movements that look to the betterment of the race through applications of the principles of mental and physical hygiene. This Division has no executive authority and attempts no executive work, which is the peculiar field of the State Public Health Department, but it co-operates cordially with the Health Department in the various phases of educational work. The purpose of this Division is, however, much wider than the prevention of sickness. It aims to disseminate information about all those factors which have been proven to be involved in the betterment of the race—mental hygiene, social and moral hygiene and prophylaxis, principles of heredity, etc. At the request of the State Health Department, a three weeks' summer school and a regular University course for health officers has been established. Health and hygiene exhibits are sent to fairs and other meetings, better baby campaigns and health surveys are made, bulletins and newspaper articles on health and hygiene are sent out, and help given by correspondence and by personal visitation and lectures upon request. Correspondence is solicited.