

The Secretary presented the matter of the increase of the salary of Mr. Gibbons, the College plumber, which was on motion of Mr. Doherty referred to the Committee on Employees.

On motion of President Snyder, an apportionment of \$1144.73 was made for college extension work up to July 1st, 1909.

Apportionment for college extension work

On motion of President Snyder, the expense bills of the members and Secretary were allowed.

On motion adjourned.

*All Brown Sney*

=====

MEETING OF THE STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE.

HOTEL DOWNEY.

April 28th, 1909 .....2 o'clock P.M.

Present:- President Graham, Messrs. Wallace, Waterbury, Oberdorfer, and President Snyder.

The minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved.

The Committee on Employees made the following report which was on motion adopted:-

Report on Committee on Employees

That the salaried payroll remain unchanged with the following exceptions; the additions to be paid from the college fund except as otherwise indicated:-

W.B.Liverance	Dairying	increased from \$ 900 to \$1000.			
J.G.Halpin	Poultry Husbandry	"	"	1400 "	1500
L.J.Smith	Farm Mechanic	"	"	1200 "	1300
R.S.Hudson	Foreman of College farm	"	"	660 "	750 & rooms.
Otto Rahn	Instructor Bact.	"	"	1300 "	1400
Zae Northrup	" "	"	"	500 "	600 - Adams.
J.B.Dandeno	Asst. Prof.Bot.	"	"	1300 "	1400 - Hatch.
Wm.E.Lawrence	Instructor "	"	"	850 "	900
Margaret Dupee	" "	"	"	700 "	750
H.S.Reed	" Chem.	"	"	1300 "	1400
A.J.Clark	" "	"	"	1150 "	1250

Thos. W. Mason	}	Instructor in Chem.	Increased from \$	765	to \$	800	increase
Ward H. Parker		"	"	765	"	800	to go to
-----		"	"	"	765	"	800

Report of  
Committee  
on Employ-  
ees.

Chace Newman	Asst. Prof. Draw.	"	"	1200	"	1300
Elizabeth Snelgrove	Inst. Draw	"	"	600	"	650
A. E. Fish	Instructor Eng.	"	"	750	"	1000
Herman Hensel	" "	"	"	700	"	750
Helen Michaelides	" "	"	"	650	"	700
Mrs. G. A. Robson	" "	"	"	480	"	650
L. B. Brink	" "	"	"	700	"	750
R. G. Stott	" "	"	"	700	"	750
R. H. Pettit	Prof. Entomology	"	"	1800	"	1900 Adams.
M. A. Yothers	Inst. "	"	"	700	"	800
F. H. Sanford	Asst. Prof. Forestry	"	"	1000	"	1400
C. P. Halligan	" " Hort.	"	"	1200	"	1500 (\$100 H. 200 Col.)
O. I. Gregg	Inst. "	"	"	800	"	900
E. H. Ryder	Asst. Prof. Hist. & Political Economy	"	"	1300	"	1400
Shepherd Leffler	Instructor "	"	"	700	"	800
Hector McPherson	" "	"	"	700	"	800
Agnes Crumb	Asst. Librarian	"	"	500	"	550
W. B. Wendt	Inst. Civ. Engr.	"	"	900	"	1000
Walter E. Hawkes	" Math.	"	"	700	"	800
H. L. Slobin	" "	"	"	800	"	900
L. S. Fuller	" "	"	"	700	"	800
M. F. Johnson	" "	"	"	700	"	800
C. C. Wilcox	" Mech. Engr.	"	"	1200	"	1300
A. C. Mehrtens	" " "	"	"	850	"	950
Elida Yakeley	Registrar	"	"	800	"	900
W. E. Laycock	Inst. Physics	"	"	800	"	900
H. E. Marsh	" "	"	"	700	"	800
Rosamond H. Kedzie	Asst. Dom. Art	"	"	350	"	500
J. J. Meyers	" Prof. Zoology	"	"	1200	"	1300
Benj. B. Roseboom Jr.	Inst. Zool.	"	"	700	"	800
Wm. Sayer	Research Asst. Bact.	"	"	1100	"	1200 Hatch.
Ward Giltner	" " "	"	"	1200	"	1300
Chas. W. Brown	Asst. in Bact.	"	"	750	"	900
Lulu M. Smith	" " "	"	"	360	"	500 Adams
S. L. Jodidi	Research Asst. Chem.	"	"	1200	"	1300 "
Geo. D. Shafer	" " Entom.	"	"	1200	"	1300 "

On motion of President Snyder, the following recommendation of Dean Shaw was adopted, except as to the increase of Dr.Dandeno's salary, which was made \$100 instead of \$200 as shown in the report of the Committee on Employees.

East Lansing, Mich., April 22, 1909.

President J.L.Snyder,  
East Lansing, Mich.  
Dear Sir:-

I hereby recommend that Dr.W.J.Beal be appointed a member of the Experiment Station Council as Botanist of the same. Also, that Dr.J.B.Dandeno be made a member of the Advisory Staff of the Station, as Assistant Botanist. At present the Station is not officially represented by botanical work in physiology, pathology or other important phases. I recommend that an addition of \$200.00 from the Adams Fund be made to the salary of Dr.Dandeno, upon whom the greater share of the work will fall. It is important that the adjustment of the positions be made to take effect May 1st., in order to permit of equipment for this work from Adams funds of the present year.

Yours truly,  
R.S.Shaw.  
Director.

Recommendation of Dean Shaw re appointment of Dr. Beal & Dr. Dandeno to the Adv. Staff of the Exp.Sta

On motion of President Snyder, the Secretary was authorized to purchase 300 feet of fire hose as recommended by Mr. L.J.Smith, in charge of the fire department.

Sec'y. authorized to purchase fire hose.

On motion of President Snyder, the following resolution was adopted:-

RESOLVED That the State Land Commissioner be requested to look after the matter of trespass upon the college forest reserve until further notice from the Board.

Resolution re trespass on forest reserve.

On motion of Mr. Wallace, the Secretary was requested to investigate the amount and location of college lands outside the forest reserve, and report their appraised value.

On motion of Mr. Oberdorffer, the bill of Dr. Blaisdell for \$1.50 in connection with the entertainment of Congressman Duncan McKinley was allowed and ordered paid out of the M.A.C. interest fund.

Bill of Dr. Blaisdell allowed.

On motion of Mr. Wallace, \$50.00 per annum was added to the rental paid by the college to the State Horticultural Society for the use of lands at the South Haven Experiment Station in lieu of the taxes which the college has hitherto paid.

\$50.00 added to rental to St.Hort.Soc.

Re filling  
vacancies in  
subordinate  
positions.

Report of  
Pres. Graham  
on matter of  
society  
houses.

On motion of President Snyder, The president of the Board and the Committee on Employees were requested to report on the matter of the employment of janitors and stenographers.

On motion of Mr. Oberdorffer, the executive officers of the college were given authority to fill vacancies occurring in the subordinate positions.

President Graham presented the following report and resolutions in reference to society houses:-

April 22, 1909.

TO THE HONORABLE STATE BOARD  
OF AGRICULTURE.

Gentlemen:-

At the meeting of our Board held at Mt. Pleasant on Feb. 24th., there was a communication received from the Hesperian Literary Society, requesting the Board to state upon what conditions it might be accorded the privilege of erecting a society building on the campus. A request similar to this was received from another society a year or more ago. Many questions have arisen recently with reference to the policy of the Board concerning the erection of society buildings as living homes for students. The Board desiring to reach an intelligent and safe conclusion, directed its President to make a full investigation of the whole matter and report to the Board at a later meeting. This report I now have the honor of presenting. The policy to be pursued by the Board concerning the erection of society houses seemed to be a question in which the alumni would feel a special interest, and whose advice might indicate a wise solution of the problem. Hence, the following letter of inquiry was mailed to all the living alumni whose addresses are known except the five last classes. Recent graduates change their addresses so frequently that it was felt inadvisable to try to reach them at this time. There were about seven hundred inquiries sent out, to which ..... replies were received. The letter mailed out was as follows:-

Grand Rapids, Mich., Mar. 8, 1909.

My dear Sir:-

You are no doubt acquainted with the rapid development in recent years of your Alma Mater, the Michigan Agricultural College. This rapid growth has brought many perplexing problems to the Board of Control. We have endeavored to provide physical equipment and competent teachers commensurate with its needs, but just now we are called upon to settle another problem in the settlement of which we are anxious to secure the assistance and advice of a few of our able alumni. We feel that their judgment should have more influence in determining our course of action; therefore, I am directed by the Board to request your opinion as to the proper course to pursue with reference to the following:-

We have, as you perhaps know, some ten literary societies for young men. They might very properly be called local fraternities. The College has nine suites of rooms in Williams and Wells Halls which are available for the use of these societies without charge. Two societies have built houses--

one on the campus, which is used for social and literary purposes only-- the other off the campus, which is used as a home for its members, providing living rooms and boarding facilities. It is in all respects a modern fraternity house.

At least three or four other societies are anxious to build houses of the latter type either on or off the campus. In their favor the claim is made that at the majority of our large universities, fraternity houses are very common, permitted and sanctioned by the Board of Control of each university; and that modern student life demands that some students draw away from the student body and form fraternal communities where they may live apart from the masses, in perhaps a freer way than the dormitory affords. It is claimed that this fraternal life is more pleasant, forms closer friendships and on the whole is commendable.

Report on  
matter of  
society  
houses.

On the other hand, it is claimed that these fraternity houses add very much to the cost of living; that only young men of considerable means can afford to live in a fraternity house; that fraternities dictate the social life of a university or college and naturally set a pace which the farmer boy or ordinary young man cannot follow; that they tend to seclusion and aristocracy, rather than to freedom and democracy.

These are but few of many arguments put forth on both sides. The problem is no doubt familiar to you.

The question is, shall the college foster the fraternity idea of housing students and permit the building of fraternity houses with rooming and boarding facilities, or shall it follow the traditions of bygone years and erect more dormitories and mess halls and restrict society houses to social and educational purposes, thus fostering the broader and seemingly more democratic idea. If the latter plan is thought advisable, it is not believed that we shall find it difficult to secure appropriations for the erection of dormitories, as they will pay a fair interest on the investment.

A fuller explanation of this problem can be found in the last report of President Snyder, a copy of which will be mailed you under another cover.

Will you not write me fully on this question? I can assure you that we shall appreciate your judgment in the matter. As we hope to make a final decision at our next Board meeting, may I not hear from you within a few days?

Thanking you on behalf of the Board for the reply which I hope you will kindly grant, I am

Very truly yours,

R.D.Graham.

It has not been an easy matter to tabulate these replies. While all express an intense interest in the question, some have discussed the problem in general terms and have left their decision to be inferred rather than expressing it in exact language. Such letters are not usually neutral in tone, but with an effort to be fair. Most of them have been placed in a column by themselves as neither for fostering nor prohibiting the erection of society houses for living purposes. As fair an interpretation as I have been able to make would indicate the following:-

Number of replies received	(278)
" favorable to the erection of society houses for living purposes	( 35)
" opposed to houses of this character	(218)
" who under certain conditions or restrictions might be counted on either side	( 25)
" received from alumni who have experience as teachers in this and other institutions, many of whom are members of fraternities owning their own fraternity houses.	
Number favorable as above	( 4)
" opposed	( 37)
" who might be either way under certain conditions	( 8)

These letters speak out very plainly on several important matters.

1. They almost unanimously endorse the dormitory idea. Even those who are favorable to the erection of fraternity houses do not criticise the dormitories. On the other hand, they nearly all speak favorably of them



as a good way to house students. The democracy of the dormitory and of the institution is set forth very strongly and a strong protest is made against any change which may alter the present democratic spirit. This sentiment is almost unanimous.

2. The present type of literary society in vogue at this college is strongly endorsed. A great number speak of the great good they received from the literary features of these societies as well as from the wholesome social life. There seems to be little or no desire to change to the Greek letter fraternity, although a small minority who would favor the plan of community life fostered by these fraternities.

Report on  
matter of  
society  
houses.

3. There is a strong feeling on the part of the alumni that this college while increasing rapidly in numbers should not follow the trend of the large universities in social customs and society life, but that it should rather maintain a simple wholesome social life free to all alike and within the financial means of the average student who wishes to attend this college. Great stress is laid upon the necessity of keeping the expenses for social affairs so moderate that there will not be an effort to segregate on financial lines.

4. From the testimony of the alumni who are teachers in institutions having fraternity houses and many of whom belong to such fraternities, it seems evident that the fraternity houses increase greatly the expense of the students. A very prominent alumnus states that at the university with which he is connected, he believes that the expenses of students living in fraternity houses is from six to eight hundred dollars more per year than those residing elsewhere.

5. Many testify that the moral life in many fraternity houses is not free from censure. That unless under very close surveillance the tendency in morals is downward; that this sort of life interferes with scholarship and sets up social standards which are not based on merit.

A few letters from prominent alumni were read in connection with the above report.

#### RESOLUTIONS.

In accord with the expressed sentiment of between eighty and ninety percent of the alumni heard from, be it resolved that it shall be the policy of this institution to foster the dormitory system of housing students, and that efforts will be made to increase as rapidly as possible dormitory accommodations, eating halls and quarters for social purposes. Resolved, that this Board shall not give its consent to the erection of society houses for living purposes, but it shall encourage the erection of houses by our literary societies for literary and social purposes, it being understood that such houses shall contain rooms for alumni and care takers.

Resolutions  
re building  
society houses.

The building already erected off the grounds with the consent of, and under the conditions laid down by the Board, shall not be disturbed in the enjoyment of the privileges already granted. The other societies living off the grounds in rented quarters shall be expected to occupy again rooms on the campus when such rooms are properly provided.

We conceive it to be the duty of a Board placed in charge of an institution maintained by taxation to keep such an institution as far as possible within the reach of the average student. Therefore, we adopt this policy and trust it may have the approval of the alumni and other friends of the institution to the end that the democratic spirit which has characterized the college in the past may be maintained, and that it may continue to be an institution where the sons and daughters of all citizens without distinction may secure an education which will fit them for the practical duties of life.

The above resolutions, on motion of Mr. Wallace were adopted.

On motion of President Snyder, it was directed that the above report and resolutions be published and sent to the alumni of the college.

On motion of Mr. Oberdorffer, the expense bills of the members were allowed.

The Secretary presented a resolution of the Common Council of the city of East Lansing, in reference to fire protection, upon which no action was taken.

On motion adjourned.

*Al Brown Secy*

\*\*\*\*\*