

COMMISSION HAS FILED ITS REPORT

Majority Recommends Consolidation of University and Agricultural College.

THE MINORITY SUGGESTIONS.

Dr. A. C. Condon of Ogden in Third Report Favors a Modification—Amendment to Constitution.

The commission, appointed by Gov. Cutler under authority from the state legislature to investigate the duplication of studies in the University of Utah and the Agricultural College and to recommend some method of overcoming the same, has completed its report after several months' hard work on the matter. The report, or rather reports, were filed with the secretary of state on Saturday afternoon, just in time to comply with the act of the legislature authorizing the investigation as it required the commission to file its report by July 1. The commission is divided as to the most advisable action to be taken in regard to the duplication. The majority report recommends that the two institutions be consolidated, while one minority report, signed by the two members of the commission from Cache County, recommends that the present status of the schools be maintained without any change. A third report, signed by Dr. A. S. Condon of Ogden, favors a modified consolidation of the schools.

HOW THEY VOTED.

Following is the vote of the members of the commission in the matter: For consolidation—John M. Mills and George A. Eaton of Salt Lake; Rev. S. H. Goodwin of Provo; Reinhard Meuser of Beaver and Peter Sundwall of Sanpete county. Against consolidation—Herschel Bulger Jr. and J. C. Walters, both of Cache county. For modified consolidation—Dr. A. S. Condon of Ogden. In the final paragraph of the majority report it is recommended that the Constitution of this state be amended so as to permit of the consolidation of the two state institutions. It is probable that Gov. Cutler will make a recommendation in accordance with the report to the next legislature which will provide for submitting the matter of amending the Constitution to the people. The report contains statistics furnished by President Kingsbury of the university, and President Kerr of the Agricultural College. The latter is also quoted from at considerable length in a speech which he made in the constitutional convention favoring the consolidation of the two schools.

COST OF MAINTENANCE.

The figures show that the per capita cost per annum of maintaining the university based upon an enrollment of 576 students is \$154.20, and the cost per capita at the Agricultural College based upon an enrollment of 621 students is \$165.45. The figures for the Agricultural College are based upon the cost of the 72 students at that institution taking the college course is \$1,117.43. As to the duplication in libraries, it is estimated that it would cost \$45,308.81 to have both libraries up to the standard that they would now have if combined. The combined values of the museums and apparatus at the university is valued at \$119,450, while that at the Agricultural College is valued at \$65,085.25, making the combined valuation \$184,535.25.

Without a thorough investigation it might appear that the great sacrifice in the matter of consolidation was the cost of the buildings. It is estimated by the presidents of the two schools that the next two legislatures will be asked to appropriate \$494,334 for new buildings at the schools. Were the two consolidated the necessary buildings could be constructed for \$541,334, a saving in the matter of buildings of \$152,500, if the figures in the report are correct.

SAVING COULD BE MADE.

The report shows that a great saving could be made in the matter of salaries should the consolidation be perfected. In teachers' salaries it is estimated that the saving would be \$41,463.67 per annum. In addition to this would be the saving in the salaries of presidents, trustees, secretaries, superintendent of buildings, etc.

SUMMARY OF MAJORITY.

It is stated that the only subjects in which there is no duplication is agriculture in the Agricultural College and Greek philosophy, education and mining in the university.

Following is a summary of the majority report: "In this report consolidation is shown to be preferable for the reasons that: 1. The institution will be much stronger, commanding a greater respect at home and elsewhere. 2. Combination does not militate in any respect against the pursuit of agricultural studies. 3. It is desirable to have students in different lines associated, thus broadening their minds and creating sympathy for each other's work. 4. The state would have only one university to support, instead of two, since experience has shown that, if limited to agriculture, the agricultural college will not thrive. 5. Duplication is very expensive, and combination will eliminate duplication. 6. It destroys that very objectionable and deplorable biennial contest before the legislature—lobbying. 7. It will enable the state to encourage stronger men and such men will be willing to accept positions. 8. The trend in education is toward concentration, not only here but in other states, and it is much cheaper to combine even after the schools have been established. 9. The moral and intellectual effect on students is good. 10. The arguments for separation are answered in the spaces of the combined schools of Wisconsin, Minnesota, Illinois, Nebraska, Ohio, California, Cornell, Missouri and others. 11. Separation, except in two or three special instances in such as polytechnic states, has proved detrimental to the interests of agriculture, as well as being very expensive. 12. It is impossible in separation to prevent duplication of very expensive apparatus. 13. Combination would attract the employment of wealthy men who would make endowments. 14. The mill tax to each school on a separate site would prevent friction. 15. Combination would save the

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state for buildings alone needed now, \$122,000.

"16. There is no suitable building for agriculture, and President Kerr says that a building at a cost of \$100,000 or \$125,000 would have to be built, therefore an agricultural building would not be an extra expense of combination. The only extra expense would be \$40,000 for barns, coops, etc.

"17. There is no real expense in combination. The buildings needed can be put up and the moving done asked for by the university for separate maintenance, plus the Agricultural College appropriation from the state, and on a basis of what the college in 1905, which President Kerr says will be increased next time, \$152,400 can be saved in the very next appropriation. On a basis of what was actually granted, \$40,000 can be saved. After the schools are once together the entire Logan appropriation from the state can be saved—\$282,000.

"18. It has been demonstrated by a private school nearer the center of population in which the people believe in agricultural education. In one year's time this school (Brigham Young University, Provo) has enrolled more than a double the number of students reared by the Agricultural College at Logan.

"19. Combination will release some of the money unnecessarily spent, and this may be used, or a portion of it, for the benefit of the public schools of the state.

"20. It costs the state almost double the amount to maintain these institutions separately to what it would cost to maintain them combined.

"21. If all the government appropriation and the interest on the land fund were reserved for instruction in the technical lines of agriculture and manual training and the experimental work these lines would be better provided for than ever before.

"22. The testimony of President Kerr, President Kingsbury and Prof. Wilder before the commission in January, 1906, is to the effect that the efficiency would be greater and the expense smaller if the institutions were on one site.

"23. The Agricultural College land is worthless for experiments, and has been abandoned long ago so far as this work is concerned. The state is now renting five acres in Greenville, north of Logan, and has had to buy six acres more.

COST IS TOO HIGH.

"24. In maintaining these two schools separately, the cost per capita is too high for the state to afford. The rate for college students at the University of Utah is \$274.69, and at the Agricultural College \$117.43.

"25. It will be better for the normal school if students can get a course in agriculture to help work out the national idea in the convention of normal workers in Louisville in January, 1906.

"26. It would be better for agriculture to have the teachers of the state prepared to disseminate this line of work among the masses.

"27. Some of the greatest men in agriculture, as well as in other lines, urge combination.

"28. It is shown by the state school of mines that consolidation is cheaper. It costs \$25,000 to run that school with the university, while to run it separately it would cost \$40,000. With the present efficiency it would cost \$49,000, besides \$250,000 in buildings.

"29. It is shown by the state normal school that consolidation is cheaper. To conduct this school combined with the university costs the state \$25,000, separate maintenance with present efficiency would cost \$45,000, besides expense of buildings.

"30. In 15 years the state will save more than \$1,000,000, and the work will be better done.

"31. In collecting libraries, museums and apparatus it is cheaper to furnish one school than two.

"32. In closing, the commission, in accordance with the law creating it, has found:

"1. That there is duplication in the Agricultural College and the University of Utah, much of which is unnecessary; in (a) course and subjects; (b) apparatus and equipment; (c) instructional service; (d) scope and purpose.

"2. That this duplication is expensive, involving needless cost, running into many thousands of dollars, as specified in this report.

"3. We recommend to the electors of this state the desirability and, considering the future, the necessity of amending the constitution of the state (section 4, article 10), so that there is now provided for the separate maintenance of the university and the Agricultural College, it shall provide for their maintenance on one site."

Appendix to the report are letters favoring consolidation, from many educators throughout the country who were asked to express opinions concerning consolidation.

MINORITY SUGGESTIONS.

The minority report, signed by Messrs. Bulger and Walters, does not agree with the figures given by President Kingsbury as to the saving by consolidation. It also challenges the statement that there would be a great saving in equipment as both institutions now have sufficient equipment to last for several years. It is contended

that the abandonment of the present buildings at Logan would mean a loss of \$550,000 to the state and further that it would cost \$125,000 to build new buildings at the university for present and immediate needs should the consolidation be perfected. The report further holds that consolidation in other states has proven very unsatisfactory. Instead of consolidation the minority report makes the following recommendations: "First, prescribe the field to be occupied by each institution, limiting the distinctive work of each institution to certain departments so as to prevent duplication as much as possible. "Second, determine the proportion of state revenues that can consistently be devoted to higher education. "Third, make a statutory levy permanently appropriating in the form of a mill tax to cover appropriation for maintenance, buildings and all purposes whatsoever. "Further, we favor the elimination of the preparatory work of the university of Utah in order that the university may be placed on a purely college basis."

"Finely, article 10, section 4, of the constitution of the state of Utah provides the location and establishing by existing laws of the university of Utah and the Agricultural College, are hereby confirmed, in part at our high school, franchises and endowments heretofore granted or conferred are hereby perpetuated into said university and Agricultural College respectively."

In conclusion the report says: "In our opinion, taking into consideration that the two institutions are here and that the question is not one of first impressions and that conditions are not the same as though the question could be considered as the union of two proposed schools, so much emergency exists at this time as would demand the extraordinary remedy proposed by the majority in the determination of this question."

THE THIRD REPORT.

The third report on the matter is signed by Dr. A. S. Condon of Ogden who dissents in part from the other reports. His report follows in part: "First—To dismantle the Agricultural College at Logan and bring it to Salt Lake City would compel a change of the state constitution. This will require more than two years of time, which alone is an important factor in a question that demands immediate action, but this may be forestalled by the governor convening the legislature at once. In either case several thousand dollars will be expended, in fact, wasted, because it will go for undoing something instead of building up something. In any event the vote to amend the constitution may not carry at all, and we will find ourselves no better off than we are now, and moreover, the campaign that will ensue will not end at the polls. There is not a child living today that may even hope to see the end and effect of it."

"Second—The United States in the enabling act granted 30,000 acres of land and \$40,000 cash annually to establish and maintain the Agricultural College of Utah. Now, if it's identity as an agricultural college is in the least disturbed, if the land is devoted to its specific purpose and it becomes an appendix to another institution of whatever character, it follows that the land and the annuity may be forfeited, but not to the benefit of the government that donated and ordained them for a given purpose.

SEES ONLY ONE WAY.

"Third—it is not practicable to procure adequate and suitable acreage for experimental and other purposes in close proximity to the state university which is practically in the heart of a large city; the land in sufficient quantities to be secured in any body of land out being more or less remote from the student's college home and the scene of his studies, and this alone would be a serious handicap to all connected with the institution."

"As to the report of the minority, I have to say that I have not been asked to share the confidence of the gentlemen who will prepare it, but I suppose that they will maintain that it remains where it now is, with some modifications of the curriculum and possibly of some other matters of minor importance. But this will not cure the conditions. It will only act as a placebo for the present emergency, and year after year there will be a periodical recrudescence of the trouble, which is now well intolerable.

"As for me, I can see but one way out of the complex situation, and there must be found a way because the Agricultural College and the university should cease to be what they now are, namely, rival institutions, injuring each other to the detriment of both, a break on the part of educational progress, a scandal to the state and a humiliation to the friends and patrons of the respective colleges.

"Both of these should be united in one corporate body with one president and one board of regents, in short, both should be under one management.

"The Agricultural College should remain where it is, at Logan, as fixed by the state constitution, and the University of Utah at Salt Lake City where it was also fixed by the state constitution.

"There should be a distinct corps of professors for each institution, and they should be selected and employed and their salaries established by the board of regents.

"Whenever there shall arise any question as to what particular subject or branch of learning should be taught in the one or the other institution, the board of regents shall settle the question as to where the same shall be taught, and their decision should be final.

"The board of regents should consist of a member from each of the judicial districts except the Salt Lake district which, because of its importance, when compared to others, should have two.

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AMUSEMENTS.

Theater—The special two weeks' engagement of the Herschel Mayall company begins tonight with a production of the famous play of "The Wife."

Saltair—The widely known Royal Hawaiian band opens a special engagement of 14 concerts at Saltair this afternoon and evening. The program will be as printed in the Saturday "News."

Orpheum—"The Moon Queen" cantata will be given at this house tonight under the direction of Miss Nora Gleason. Most of the boxes have been sold in advance and a crush is looked for.

Grand—The Ethel Tucker Stock company presents "Jesse James" to night. This will be the last week of Miss Tucker's company.

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