

3-17-1926

## Minutes, March 17, 1926

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MINUTES OF MEETING  
of the  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
of the  
CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE  
held at  
HOTEL HEUBLEIN  
Hartford, Conn.

on  
Wednesday, March 17, 1926, at 11:30 A.M.

Present: Mrs. Vinton President Beach  
Mr. Manchester Mr. Longley  
Mr. King Mr. Ellis  
Mr. Wood

1. The President reported the expenditures for the three divisions for the eight months ended February 28, 1925, as follows:

	Two-thirds Budget	Expenditures against Budget	Expended over or under Allowance
College Division	\$259,413.49	\$252,871.67	\$6,541.82 Under
Experiment Station	37,999.96	37,062.31	937.65 Under
Extension Division	91,502.60	81,760.49	9,742.11 Under

2. The President reported that the Community House, now nearing completion, is being built from funds raised by public subscription for the benefit primarily of students of the College. The Trustees of the Storrs Congregational Church would like to know what the charges will be, if any, from the College for heat, and water service and for electric current.

IT WAS VOTED: that the charges to the Storrs Congregational Church for heat and water service and for electric current in connection with the Community House be at the rate of one dollar per month.

3. Sewage Problems: Under date of March 8th, 1926, a report was received from Stanley H. Osborn, Commissioner of the State Dept. of Health:

Subject: Mansfield, Conn., Sewage Disposal  
Conditions at the Connecticut Agri-  
cultural College at Storrs.

To: Stanley H. Osborn, M.D.,  
Commissioner of Health

From: Warren J. Scott, Director  
Bureau of Sanitary Engineering

"For some time past this Department has been cognizant of the fact that the present sewage disposal plant is not satisfactorily caring for the discharge from the college sewage system at Storrs. A report under date of April 28, 1924, made by an engineer from this Bureau and forwarded to the college authorities called attention to this fact and discussed the need for improvements.

"Complaints as to the pollution of the stream receiving the effluent have been made to the county health officer by downstream residents. The odors from stagnant sewage on the beds are also disagreeable. The condition of one part of the sewage system presents a menace to the Willimantic public water supply. Such a situation in connection with a state institution reflects unfavorably upon the work the state is undertaking to improve stream conditions, and moreover, constitutes a health menace.

"The original lay-out for a sewage disposal plant in 1907, consisting of four small sand filters, has been increased considerably until the plant now consists of eight sand filter units, each 20 ft. by 60 ft. in area, with a total area of 9,600 sq. ft. These beds are now entirely inadequate and on the date of the writer's visit on March 1st, 1926, most of the beds stood flooded with water and the entire sewage flow was passing to the stream. This time of the year was very unfavorable but it is true that during much of the year the filters serve mostly as sedimentation units and the overflow passes to the stream.

"Not only is the filter area probably only about 25% large enough but the beds and underdrains undoubtedly need thorough overhauling. The superintendent of buildings at the college stated that he had occasion to observe one section of underdrains which was in very poor condition, which is not to be wondered at, owing to the age of the beds, combined with improper operating conditions. The present location of the plant in the rear of the college buildings is not very desirable owing to the probability of expansion in that direction, its proximity to a traveled road, and limitations for future development of the sewage disposal area.

"It would seem the best policy for the college to secure another area downstream from the present area about 2000 ft. and develop this area as a disposal plant, ultimately abandoning the present site. This scheme has been considered by the college authorities and information has been obtained as to land purchase.

(A) IMMEDIATE STEPS NECESSARY

"It seems to the writer that the most pressing need at this time is additional filter area and replacement of the pumping unit, as at present the pump is inadequate to care for the flow from the low area with the result that frequently sewage overflows from the storage tank onto the Willimantic watershed. This had occurred on the night previous to the writer's visit.

"It would, of course, be far preferable to subject the sewage to tank treatment in order to remove a considerable portion of the settleable solids before discharge onto sand filters. However, it is believed that for this year at least, additional sand filters would give the most immediate relief for the money expended. The present beds in the present emergency can be operated for what they are worth, although ultimately the cost of revamping them would be such that it would seem advisable to abandon them in favor of a location further removed from the College.

of  
 "Assuming a rate/filter operation at 2.5 gallons per square foot per day and a daily flow of 75,000 gallons would require an area of 30,000 sq. ft. or 20,400 sq. ft. of new filter. This would mean building a new filter substantially twice the area of the present filter at the new location."

The cost of this project is estimated as follows:

Estimated cost of 1850 ft. of trunk line, valves and manholes .....	\$3,310
Estimated cost of 4 sand filter units 40 ft. by 100 ft. ....	12,682
Estimated cost of centrifugal pump and motor capacity 500 gallons per minute .....	500
	16,492
	Add 10% .....
	1,649
Estimated cost of land .....	600
	TOTAL
	\$18,741

(B) ULTIMATE STEPS NECESSARY

"Eventually it appears to the writer that the following steps should be undertaken: (1) disconnection of roof leaders and reconstruction or replacement of leaky sewers, (2) connection of creamery wastes and dairy barn wastes to the sewage system, (3) construction of a new, larger holding tank for sewage to be pumped, (4) construction of a settling tank ahead of sand filters, (5) construction of additional filter area, as needed, (6) abandonment of present filter area."

"The ultimate plan proposed calls for an expenditure of in the neighborhood of \$25,000 additional, plus the expense of disconnecting rain leaders and replacing or reconstructing leaky sewer lines."

4. The President reported that the State Board of Fisheries and Game had petitioned the Trustees to lease unto said Board the following described waters and property situated in the town of Mansfield, Tolland County, viz:

"Fenton river together with an easement or way of ingress and egress to and from such property and water at the following described places: 10 feet from the edge of stream - step overs to be built by the State, for the term of four years from the fifth day of March 1926."

IT WAS VOTED: that Mr. Longley be authorized to execute the lease above described with the State Board of Fisheries and Game.

5. The President reported that negotiations are under way on the part of the Town of Mansfield to purchase the Storrs Church to be remodeled and used as a grammar school.

IT WAS VOTED: that the Board authorize the President to report to the Town of Mansfield that upon request the Trustees will present to the Legislature at the next session a bill requesting authority for the transfer of an acre or more of land to the Town of Mansfield for said school proposed.

- 6. IT WAS VOTED: to authorize the President to advance the salary of Mr. Henry T. Mercer, Instructor in English, from \$2200 to \$2500 per year, beginning October 1, 1926.
- 7. IT WAS VOTED: to authorize the President to engage an instructor in agricultural mathematics at a salary not to exceed \$1200 per year, beginning July 1, 1926.
- 8. The President submitted a statement appraising the benefits and liabilities of the College to the Town of Mansfield:

"Some voters have long felt that the college is a liability and not an asset to the Town of Mansfield. They point out that the town's income has diminished by the amount of taxes formerly paid on land now owned by the state and that on the other hand town expenditures have increased on account of the cost of providing school facilities for children residing in tax exempt houses. The accompanying statement is an attempt to estimate what extra expense has been incurred in this connection and what benefits, if any, the college has been to the community.

Liabilities:

- 1. Chapter 201 of the public acts of 1923 provides for the payment by the state of \$35 per child per annum for children who attend the public schools and who reside in state property exempt from taxation.  
The extra cost of educating 7 Storrs high school students and 43 grammar grade pupils amounted last year (1925) to \$1.83 perhead over the grant by the state, a total of .....\$91.50
- 2. The College owns approximately 1506 acres of land. The estimated value at the time of purchase was \$56,357. A 25 mill rate would yield annually .....1408.92

Chapter 246 of the public acts of 1925 provides that in lieu of taxes the state shall pay a grant to towns where- in is located land owned by the state and "used as game preserve, forest reservation, etc. The college property was made a game preserve in 1923. The town will be reim- bursed, therefore, on land owned by the college at its present value at the prevailing tax rate.

Assets:

- 1. Commercial enterprises that serve the Storrs community own property assessed at \$42,355. Fraternities, clubs, college employees, and members of the staff own property assessed at \$120,256. These two items total \$162,611. A 25 mill rate yields .....4065.27
- 2. College employees pay poll taxes estimated at ..... 400.00

Intangible Benefits:

1. Towns people benefits by 13 miles of improved highway from Willimantic to Storrs to Mansfield Depot, built by the state at least partly, if not indeed chiefly, to accommodate traffic to the College.
2. The institution at Storrs avails itself of the services of a number of Mansfield people who would other wise be obliged to seek employment elsewhere.
3. The College is a local market for wood, hay, milk, cream, sand, and other commodities.
4. There is an opportunity at Storrs for Mansfield parents to give their sons and daughters a college education at small cost.

9. WATER SUPPLY: The General Assembly of 1923 made an appropriation of \$200,000 for an additional water supply to the College and the Mansfield training School. The engineer, Caleb M. Saville, has made an exhaustive survey of available sources of water and submitted a most comprehensive report. An ample supply of potable water requiring neither filtration nor chlorination has been located 30 feet below the surface of the Reynold's Farm in the valley of the Willimantic River, a mile east of the Training School, and an equally satisfactory supply in the valley of the Fenton River, a mile east of the College.

A preliminary estimate of the cost of installing pipe line and pumping stations is as follows:

1. On the Willimantic meadows to supply the Training School only .....\$65,500
2. On the Fenton River to supply the College only ..... 67,200
3. One station on Fenton River to serve both institutions .... 127,100

In response to a letter inviting suggestions, the President of the College has written to the Secretary of the Commission, Nathan D. Prince, as follows:

"I have no very definite opinion as to whether it would be desirable to have a single plant to serve both institutions or to have a separate plant for each. The capital outlay as submitted by Mr. Saville is about the same. The cost of operation, however, it seems to me, would be more with two stations than with one.

"Neither institution at the present time has an adequate system of fire protection. The Trustees of the College have solicited the advice of the New England Insurance Exchange, and their engineer, John S. Caldwell, has prepared a plan and submitted a report which might be of interest to Mr. Saville in this connection.

"Mr. Saville has mentioned in conversation that the pump to be installed in the proposed pumping station or stations will be practically automatic, and that the pumps would be so arranged and of such capacity that additional pressure could be developed in case of fire. If the plans of your Commission contemplate providing

for fire protection for the two institutions as well as an adequate potable supply, then it seems to me that it would be desirable to install auxiliary gasoline motors to supplement the electric current from the power lines. It will be well to consider whether the standpipe at the College and the standpipes at the Training School are ample. If fire protection is to have consideration and be provided for in your plans, it will require, it seems to me, in its operation a continuous twenty-four hour service of an engineer at the pumping station. If this is the case, it would have some bearing on the question of the advantages of the installation of a single pumping station over two separate ones."

10. Chapter 240 of the public acts of 1925 provides:

"The Board of Control is authorized to allow to any county farm bureau, in addition to the amount provided for in chapter 326 of the public acts of 1919, such sum as said Board of Control shall deem necessary for the maintenance of such county farm bureau and as shall be approved by the commissioner of agriculture, provided such addition in the aggregate for all farm bureaus shall not exceed the sum of three thousand dollars in any year."

IT WAS VOTED: to certify to the Commissioner of Agriculture and recommend an allowance of \$1,000 each to New London, Litchfield, and Middlesex Counties for the year ending June 30, 1926.

11. IT WAS VOTED: to approve of the report of Mr. Longley recommending the allotment of insurance on college property to the companies as listed and the proportion indicated:

Company	Appropriation to each Company	Per Cent	Premiums Apr. 7, 1926.
North America	\$312,500	25%	\$3546.42
Hartford Fire	312,500	25%	2613.62
Aetna	250,000	20%	2542.04
Automobile	125,000	10%	260.29
Colonial Und.	125,000	10%	1367.51
Phoenix	62,500	5%	488.04
Scot. Un. & Nat'l	62,500	5%	32.54
	\$1,250,000	100%	\$10,850.46
Average rate - \$1.30144			

12. IT WAS VOTED: to require of all students annually a health report from the family physician as a requirement for admission and enrollment.

The meeting then adjourned.

Walter C. Wood - Secretary.