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Minutes, March 21, 1928 (afternoon)

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
OF THE
CONNECTICUT AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

Held at
Hotel Houblein, Hartford, Wednesday, March 21, 1928 at 12 o'clock.

Present: Mrs. Vinton Mr. Buckingham Mr. Green
Mr. Alsop Mr. Hough Mr. Platt
Mr. Hollister Mr. Manchester Dr. Wood
Pres. Beach Mr. Longley Mr. Garrigus

1. IT WAS VOTED to approve the minutes of the Executive Committee meetings held November 22, February 15, March 8, 19 and 21st.

2. The President submitted the following report for the first eight months of the fiscal year:

	2/3 Budget	Amount Expended	Over or Under Budget
College Division	294,694.36	298,069.27	3374.91 Over
Extension Division	93,948.61	92,236.23	1712.38 Under
Experiment Station	51,179.27	46,035.28	5143.99 Under

3. IT WAS VOTED to approve the following prices for lots in the faculty residential section, as valued by George M. Hollister:

1	\$100	11	\$100
2	50	12	100
3	100	13	150
4	100	14	150
5	100	15	100
6	200	16	100
7	150	17	100
8	150	18	100
9	150	19	100
10	150		

4. The President made inquiry as to the advisability of selling building lots, the location of which did not permit their being sewerred by gravity.

IT WAS VOTED that lots which cannot be sewerred by gravity shall be sold only subject to an agreement that the purchasers shall install septic tanks which shall meet with the approval of the state commissioner of health.

5. The President reported receipt of the semi-annual dividend from the Gilbert-Bennett Manufacturing Company, amounting to \$4500.00.

6. The committee appointed to negotiate with the heirs of the Edwin Gilbert estate regarding the sale or exchange of property, made a report of progress.

7. The President submitted the following communication from the secretary of the Connecticut State Grange:

"Mr. Beach-

The following resolution was passed at the session of the Connecticut State Grange, January 10-12, 1928.

RESOLVED, That the President of the Connecticut Agricultural College be requested to make provision for investigating the tax load borne by the farmers of Connecticut, their ability to pay, and the benefits received by them from taxation.

Attest, Ard Welton, Secretary. "

IT WAS VOTED to refer the request to the President with the suggestion that he report later as to the advisability of undertaking the survey regarding taxation.

8.(a) The President submitted the following report prepared by Colonel Adams on the progress of the work at the sewage disposal plant for the College:

1. Soon after the State Water Commission began to function its attention was called to an alleged nuisance created by the sewage from this institution (Connecticut Agricultural College). Investigation showed that the filter beds had been entirely outgrown with the result that untreated sewage was being discharged into the neighboring stream. The sand filters were so heavily overloaded that they had become clogged and fouled and adjacent property owners had demanded relief.

2. Efforts had been made to secure an appropriation for correcting the condition. During the year 1925 the college authorities asked the State Board of Health to investigate the situation and to advise remedial measures. The Bureau of Engineering of the Department of Health made such a study and found that not only was the disposal plant grossly overloaded but that the pumping machinery was inadequate. Moreover, because of the location of the filter beds in the immediate vicinity of the college it was recommended that a new plant be built at a more suitable distance from the college proper.

3. At the same time an estimate of the cost of the proposed plant was prepared by the engineer of the State Dept. of Health. A simple type of settling tank, nearly 3/4 acres of sand filters, a trunk line sewer and one new sewage pump with the necessary piping, valves, etc. were included in this estimate. Attention was called in the report that before long additional storage arrangements would have to be provided for the low level section. The total cost, including land, was figured at approximately \$47,000.

4. An appropriation was requested of the 1927 legislature for this amount of money and representatives of the State Water Commission appeared before the Appropriation Committee and advocated construction of the plant. The Legislature granted the request. At the request of the college authorities the State Water Commission had prepared at its expense the plans for the proposed plant. These plans were turned over to the college and Mr. William A. MacKenzie, the designing engineer, was retained by the college as consulting engineer for the construction work.

5. After consideration, the site chosen was a different one than originally proposed by the State Department of Health. When the plant site had been cleared of undergrowth and timber and excavation had been begun it was found to be very rough land with great numbers of boulders and more or less rock ledge. Then, too, during the summer of 1927 the excessive rain fall converted the site into a sea of mud and delayed the work and added very materially to the expense. In making the excavation for the tank a ledge of rock was encountered which required a great deal of blasting and likewise necessitated very materially exceeding the estimated cost.

6. At the present time the tank is practically completed. The excavation for the filter beds is nearly completed and some of the sand and gravel in place. The pumping plant and the main sewer line have not been begun. The balance in the appropriation is insufficient to advance work to the point where the plant can be put into operation.

Three possible plans for the future can be considered:

- a. That no further work be done until the Legislature meets in 1929 when funds can be requested for the unfinished work,
- b. To secure funds at once in an amount sufficient to complete the pumping station and the main sewer line to the tank, or
- c. To secure funds to do not only the work suggested in "b" but to complete filter beds to serve the present population.

7. If no funds can be secured at the present time it will mean that no part of the plant can be put into operation until the Legislature acts upon the matter. If a sum of approximately \$10,000. can be provided at once the work listed in subparagraph "b" can be completed and the tank put into operation. With additional funds amounting to a total of about \$16,000. the entire plant including the filter beds can be completed. The State Water Commission recommends the course suggested in paragraph "c".

8. As the matter stands today an excellent plant has been planned and partially constructed. The work, so far as it has gone, is first class. The plant in all its units, pumps, interceptors, tank and sand filters has been designed to handle the

sewage of double the present population. This the original estimate did not contemplate. Moreover, two pumps are provided in order that the failure of one may not cause a breakdown of the whole system. The relief pump likewise was not included in the original estimate.

9. It is our opinion that the plant would have been completed as planned and within the estimate except for the extraordinary and unforeseen difficulties encountered which have been referred to above.

- (b) The President reported further that Mr. Longley, Colonel Wadhams, Chairman of the State Water Commission, and Mr. Scott, Engineer of the State Board of Health, interviewed Mr. Hall, Superintendent of the Board of Finance and Control. Mr. Hall recommended that the balance of the appropriation be used to install the pumping station, and that the balance of the work be deferred until additional appropriations could be secured from the Legislature.

IT WAS VOTED to authorize Mr. Longley to carry out the recommendation of Mr. Hall in regard to the installation of a sewage pumping station.

The meeting was then adjourned.

Walter C. Wood, Secretary.