

college in the Western Hemisphere. For three years the college was under private management. In 1862 the Congress of the United States, recognizing the practical value and increasing need of such colleges, passed the Land Grant Act. This Act granted each State and Territory that should claim its benefits a proportionate amount of unclaimed Western lands, in place of scrip, the proceeds from the sale of which should apply under certain conditions to the "endowment, support and maintenance of at least one college of which the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to each such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such manner as the Legislatures of the State may respectively prescribe, in order to promote the liberal and practical education of the industrial classes in the several pursuits and professions of life." This grant was accepted by the General Assembly of Maryland. The Maryland Agricultural College was named as the beneficiary of the grant. Thus the College became, at least in part, a State institution. In the fall of 1914 its control was taken over entirely by the State. In 1916 the General Assembly granted a new charter to the College and made it the Maryland State College.

Under the new charter, which made the State College a university, the institution is co-educational. Every power is granted necessary to develop an institution of higher learning and research. This is in full accord with the Morrill Act of the National Congress and the subsequent acts above referred to. The charter provides that it shall receive and administer all grants from the national government.

Extension and Research.

Agriculture and Home Economics.

The agricultural and home economics extension service of the University, in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture, carries to the people of the State through practical demonstrations conducted by specialists of the College of Agriculture and county agents, the results of investigations in the fields of Agriculture and Home Economics. The organization consists of the administrative forces, including the director, assistant director, specialists and clerical forces, including county agricultural demonstration agents, and the home demonstration agents in each county and in the chief cities of the State. The county agents and the specialists jointly carry on practical demonstrations under the several projects in the production of crops or in home-making, with the view of putting into practice on the farms of the State improved methods of Agriculture and Home Economics that have stood the test of investigation, experimentation, and experience. Movable schools are held in the several counties. At such schools the specialists discuss phases of Agriculture and Home Economics in which the people of the respective counties are specially interested.

The work of the Boys' Agricultural Clubs is of special importance from an educational point of view. The specialists in charge of these projects, in co-operation with the county agricultural agents and the county school officers and teachers, organize the boys of the several communities of the county into agricultural clubs for the purpose of teaching them by actual practice the principles underlying agriculture.

The Home Economics specialists and agents organize the girls into clubs for the purpose of instructing them in the principles underlying canning, drying, preserving of fruits and vegetables, cooking, dress-making and other forms of Home Economics work.