

in 1813 to establish a "faculty of law," and in 1823 a regular school of instruction in law was opened. Subsequently there were added a college of dentistry, a school of pharmacy, and a school of nursing. No significant change in the organization of the University occurred until 1920, more than one hundred years after the original establishment in 1812.

The Maryland State College was chartered in 1856 under the name of the Maryland Agricultural College, the second agricultural college in the Western Hemisphere. For three years the College was under private management. In 1862 the Congress of the United States 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 where the leading object shall be, without excluding other scientific and classical studies, and including military tactics, to teach such branches of learning as are related to agriculture and the mechanic arts, in such a manner as the Legislature of the States 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, and 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 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.

In 1920, by an act of the State Legislature, the University of Maryland was merged with the Maryland State College, and the name of the latter was changed to the University of Maryland.

All the property formerly held by the old University of Maryland was turned over to the Board of Trustees of the Maryland State College, and the name was changed to the Board of Regents of the University of Maryland. Under this charter every power is granted necessary to carry on an institution of higher learning and research. It provides that the University shall receive and administer all existing grants from the Federal Government for education and research and all future grants which may come to the State from this source. The University is co-educational in all its branches.

### **Extension and Research, Agriculture and Home Economics.**

The Extension Service is that branch of the University of Maryland, established by Federal and State law, which is designed to assist the farmer and his family in promoting the prosperity and welfare of agriculture and rural life. Its work is conducted in co-operation with the United States Department of Agriculture.

The Extension Service is represented in each county of the State by a county agent and in all but a few counties by a home demonstration agent. Through these agents and its staff of specialists, the Extension Service comes into intimate contact with rural people and with the problems of the farm and home.

Practically every phase of agriculture and rural home life comes within the scope of the work undertaken by the Extension Service. Farmers are supplied with details of crop and livestock production, and with instructions for controlling disease and insect pests; they are encouraged and aided in organized effort, helped with marketing problems, and in every way possible assisted in improving economic conditions on the farm.