

Mr. Collins, from a Special Committee, submitted the following

REPORT:

To the General Assembly of Maryland:

The Special Committee appointed by the joint action of the two branches of the General Assembly, to visit and examine the Maryland Agricultural College and report upon its condition and needs, having performed the duties assigned, now presents the following report:

The Committee visited the College on the 17th of February, and were accompanied by a few other members of the House of Delegates. The entire day was spent at the College, the weather was favorable and the committee had a good opportunity of inspecting the premises and visiting the various departments of instruction. All the classes were seen, engaged in regular college exercises. The offices and the system of records and accounts, were also briefly inspected.

The faculty was found to have been lately strengthened and reorganized, the students considerably increased in number over recent years, and the buildings and their equipment materially improved for purposes of instruction. One of the undersigned, who visited the institution as a member of a similar committee two years ago, notes a marked improvement in every department. The apparatus, models, reference books, supplies and general educational aids and facilities have been very greatly increased during the last eighteen months, and it is safe to say that no college in the State now has a more modern and complete equipment for its work. This applies also to the agricultural and horticultural divisions of the College farm. The farm itself, while showing steady improvement, also shows that there is ample opportunity for much more. Fencing and drainage are especially needed. But this farm improvement requires time and liberal expenditure, as well as careful management, particularly upon such naturally unproductive soil.

The buildings for the College appear to be sufficient for its present necessities, although some of the departments, notably those of chemistry,