

courses in this subject could well afford to be postponed until a later study of the science in a more elaborate way makes this theory of some value.
J. C. J.

PRACTICAL CHEMISTRY, by Black and Conant. New York: The Macmillan Company. 1920. 474 pages. (\$2.00).

A textbook prepared in the belief that a knowledge of the fundamental facts of chemistry and an ability to use them should form a part of the equipment of our American youth, without regard to the particular vocation made a special point of emphasis. The all-important consideration of interest is awakened by an appeal to the student's love of the miraculous and the dramatic and by touching his curiosity concerning the things of everyday life. The definite aim held in view, to make a text that is not merely clear but readily understandable, is admirably carried through. All needful aids to an attractive and easily grasped presentation of the subject are included. The laboratory experiments are printed in a separate volume.
J. C. J.

A FIELD AND LABORATORY GUIDE IN PHYSICAL NATURE-STUDY, by Elliot R. Downing, Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. 1920. 109 pages.

This is a loose-leaf laboratory guide to the rich field of physical science that lies so close to the child. It is particularly well adapted to serve the needs of teachers who are in turn preparing students to teach nature-study in the grades. The "Guide" includes the commonplace science that every junior high school pupil should have mastered before he enters the senior high school. The experiments are well selected and are sure to make an appeal to the child, if the child is given his right to come into contact with such study-material.
J. C. J.

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SCHOOL ACTIVITIES

The customary formal opening of the winter term took place Wednesday, January 8, when President S. P. Duke spoke on "The Teacher and the School," taking occasion to discuss some of the plans looking to the future development of the Harrisonburg Normal School. The faculty appeared on this occasion in academic costume; and the list of honor students for the first quarter was read.

President Duke stated that a normal school of about 600 students had been found

by experts to be of the size which might be operated most economically and most effectively, and indicated that his efforts will be toward the building up of such an institution at Harrisonburg. This will mean practically doubling the present plant.

Immediate needs in the way of more classrooms and more dormitory space are pressing, while the new Students-Alumnae Building will fill a present need for social rooms and for guest rooms and offices.

The holiday which ended January 4 consisted of sixteen days, and is the longest period of the year during which the State Normal School here is closed down. Intermissions occur before and after the summer quarter, but neither will be as long as the Christmas holidays.

Registration for the second quarter has frequently in the past fallen slightly below that of the first quarter, but the small number of students who failed to return after the holidays, along with the ten additional enrolments, combine to make a figure in excess of the first term's enrolment.

Honor students of the first quarter have been announced as follows: Those receiving no grade less than "A"—
Honor Postgraduate and Degree Students classes: Sallie Lewis Browne, Dorothy Elna Lacy, Vergilia Pendleton Sadler; Senior class: Estelle Howard Baldwin, Gladys May Gwynn, Margaret Lynn Lewis, Frances Meirling Sawyer, Edith Rowland Ward, Iona Mae Wimbrough.

Those receiving grades as near "A" as "B", or nearer—Postgraduate and Degree classes: Rosa Payne Heidelberg, Kathleen Huffman, Mrs. Wm. G. LeHew, Elise Augusta Loewner, Lena Maud Reed; Senior class: Coralease Virginia Bottom, Hazel Agnes Thurston Bellerby, Anna Seaton Cameron, Lucy Corinne Evans, Annie Katherine Hundley, Bernie Brown Jarratt, Anna Gladys Lee, Virginia Josephine McCartney, Gertrude Bain Smith; Junior class: Christine Frost Gladstone, Constance Elizabeth Martin, Celia Pearl Swecker.

Enthusiastic support has been given the projected plan of a new Students-Alumnae Building, as proposed at the recent alumnae dinner in Richmond, November 26. Preliminary meetings have been held by both faculty and student-body of the school, and encouraging subscriptions have been made toward the project.

About one-tenth of the proposed \$50,000 has already been subscribed, and the drive is only starting. Faculty and student subscriptions are thus an earnest that those now on the campus have faith in the undertaking, and alumnae have been much pleased by it.

The General Committee consists of Miss Reba Beard, Petersburg, president of the Harrisonburg Alumnae Association, chairman; Miss Frieda Johnson, Harrisonburg, secretary; Mrs. R. C. Dingleline (Agnes Stribling), Harrisonburg; Miss Mary Lancaster Smith, Richmond; Miss Stella Burns, Augusta county.

The president of each class has been asked to serve on this committee, and they will soon get into communication with members of their respective classes. These are:

Class of 1911, Miss Elsie Shickel, Roanoke; Class of 1912, Miss Sarah Shields, American Presbyterian Mission, Jagraon, Punjab, India; Class of 1913, Mrs. L. L. Davis (Elizabeth Kelley), Roanoke; Class of 1914, Miss Alpha Holcombe, 528 South St., Portsmouth, Virginia; Class of 1915, Mrs. D. S. Garrison (Lillian Millner), Norfolk; Class of 1916, Miss Elizabeth Greaves, Ivy Depot, Virginia; Class of 1917, Miss Elizabeth Mowbray, Salem, Virginia; Class of 1918, Miss Madge Bryan, Winston-Salem, N. C.; Class of 1919, Mrs. Clyde Payne (Frances Kemper), Lynnwood, Virginia; Class of 1920, Miss Sarah Wilson, Virginia Beach, Virginia.

The Citizenship Series of lectures before students at assembly has now gotten well under way. Senator John Paul spoke on "Woman's New Obligation" early in November; former Senator George N. Conrad discussed "The Senate of Virginia"

Citizenship Lectures Highly Successful

November 22; Hon. J. A. Garber, of Rockingham, spoke on "The House of Delegates" December 10; and President S. P. Duke spoke on "The State Board of Education" January 7.

The next speaker in the series will be Colonel Leroy T. Hodges, secretary to Governor Westmoreland Davis, who is announced to speak sometime during January on "The Duties of the Governor of Virginia—From Within."

The series is eliciting much interest among students and faculty. Each speaker is one who has a practical knowledge of the workings of that branch of the government which he has discussed, and is thus able to present most effectively interesting sidelights which always aid so much in the illumination of any subject.

Plans looking forward to the summer quarter of 1921 have been made in large part, and announcement has been made of a schedule which will be followed by the four normal schools of Virginia.

The summer quarter, as heretofore, will be divided into two terms, the first running six weeks of five days each, the second running five weeks of six days each. The dates of the first term are June 20 to July 29, of the second term, August 1 to September 2.

Both during the first and second terms of the summer quarter courses will be offered leading to the first and second grade certificates, and it is believed that this will result in a larger attendance during the second term. Many teachers who find it inconvenient to spend part of June and all of July in summer school will thus be able to take the necessary work and examinations between August 1 and September 2.

Interscholastic basketball has been initiated at Harrisonburg this year, and Edith Ward, secretary of the Athletic Council, has arranged the following schedule of games with the teams of other Virginia normal schools:

Feb. 18.—Farmville at Harrisonburg
Feb. 25.—Harrisonburg at Fredericksburg.
Mar. 4.—Radford at Harrisonburg

Interscholastic Basketball

Mar. 11—Harrisonburg at Farmville
 Mar. 25—Fredericksburg at Harrisonburg
 Apr. 1—Harrisonburg at Radford

Effort is being made to accept a challenge from the girls' team at William and Mary College, provided the schedule can be accommodated to these additional games.

In order to form a league with the other normal schools it was necessary to adopt girls' rules, altho Harrisonburg Normal girls have been playing the game by boys' rules since 1913.

"The Christ Child," by Hawley, was sung in the auditorium Sunday afternoon, December 12, as the annual Christmas cantata. The Glee Club was assisted by Messrs. A. K. Fletcher, H. D. Newman, Sheff Devier, P. H. Baugher, and Dr. T. C. Firebaugh.

Arrangements for the interscholastic games have made it necessary to move forward the dates for the interclass games which have usually been played through February and March. There are but three teams formed this year, Junior, Senior, and Postgraduate. The last named, the "P. G.'s", will be made up of members of the Postgraduate, Degree, and Special classes.

These games have been scheduled as follows: January 8—Senior vs. P. G.; January 15; Junior vs. P. G.; January 22, Junior vs. Senior.

The thirty girls of the French classes have various projects besides their regular recitations. Each has a correspondent in France—some French schoolgirl to whom she writes regularly, exchanging kodak views and other souvenirs. They have formed a French Circle and for purposes of further conversation have grouped themselves at three tables in the dining room. At one of these Ruth Moon and Iona Wimbrough are in charge. Mildred Garter and Corinne Evans are at the head of a second table, and the instructor, Miss Cleveland, has the third. At dinner and supper all conversation is to be in French. No one is to have any food which

she can not ask for in that language. At breakfast English may be spoken, as the French spirit does not stir so early and the young ladies are apt to be breathless from their morning race to the dining room.

"Junior-Senior Week", one of the high spots in the events of the winter quarter, will this year occupy the attention of students—not entirely, it is hoped!—from January 19 to January 22.

The surprise which the Juniors gave their antagonists at Thanksgiving when they tied the Seniors in the annual hockey game has added interest to the accustomed rivalry developed during "Junior-Senior Week."

At its recent meeting in Harrisonburg the Virginia Corn Growers Association elected Geo. W. Chappellear, Mr. Chappellear instructor in biology and agriculture, vice-president of the association. Mr. Chappellear showed that he practiced what he preaches by winning several prizes for superior corn which he had raised on his farm in Fauquier county.

Resolutions were adopted unanimously by the Mathematics section of the Educational Conference in Richmond, favoring the adoption of the metric system in the United States, not only for scientific but for general purposes as well. The superiority of the metric system of weights and measures was the subject of a talk made before this group by Dr. Henry A. Converse, Registrar and instructor in mathematics.

The French senate has passed a bill making gymnasium work obligatory in girls' schools and providing for public gymnasiums for the benefit of women of all classes.

"I am come as a teacher in order that you might have life and have it more abundantly."