

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA

Biennial Report of the President of
the University on behalf of the
Regents to His Excellency the
Governor of the State

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UNIV. OF
CALIFORNIA

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ploring them or debating the abstract question of their value, we had better utilize them. It is quite conceivable that they may yet come to provide the American counterpart of the English college.

Progress of
the Military
Department.

The work of the Military department under the singularly definite and orderly management of Captain Nance, the Professor of Military Science and Tactics, has steadily improved in both form and spirit, and enjoys the full respect of faculty and students. The limitation of required drill to the two lower classes has proved advantageous. The maximum number of cadets enrolled in 1906-07 was 870; in 1907-08, 973. In July 1906 the Springfield cadet rifles and black leather equipments were turned in to the Ordnance Department, and the university received the magazine rifles and russet leather equipments in exchange. A cadet gray uniform of attractive pattern has been adopted to go into effect August 1908.

Zoological
Museum.

The field work looking toward the creation of a museum of the higher vertebrate fauna of the Pacific Coast, as provided by the munificence of Miss Annie M. Alexander, has been vigorously started by Mr. Joseph Grinnell, the director of the Museum. The research work of the department of Zoology has been especially promoted by the continued development of the La Jolla Marine Station. A new boat equipped for dredging and other collection of materials and named the Alexander Agassiz has been built and is now at work. The boat, 76 feet long over all with 20 foot beam, 40 tons register, propelled by two 30-horse power gasoline engines, is well equipped with the requisite scientific apparatus. The boat and its fittings represent an expenditure of about \$16,000, which was paid out of the gift of \$50,000 made by Miss Ellen B. Scripps some two years ago. The funds available for running the station have been increased to \$6000 a year, the amount requisite above the income on invested capital being guaranteed by Mr. E. W. Scripps. The new 160-acre site at La Jolla, recently sold by the city

of San Diego to the Station at a nominal price, will soon be occupied by an ample, permanent laboratory building and residences for the staff and attaches.

The department of Physics sharing South Hall with the departments of Geology and Paleontology is much hampered for lack of room and must at an early day be allowed the use of the entire building. The revision of the entrance requirements whereby physics is no longer required of all students for admission makes it incumbent upon the university to offer elementary physics to such as have not had it in the high school and may wish to pursue the subject in the university. To leave a gap between school and college will inevitably keep some students from beginning the study. They can scarcely be expected to reënter the high school for the single subject and the result is likely to be some violent and arbitrary change of the whole plan of study and consequently of life work.

A similar difficulty appears in the case of Latin. Since 1902 the course in Social Sciences has admitted students with only two years of Latin, but as yet no provision has been made for filling the gap between the minimum admission requirement and the normal Freshman courses in the subject. This has the inevitable result of rebuffing many students who might wish to resume the study of Latin in college. The breaking up of the High School course into subject-fragments has apparently brought the college face to face with the disagreeable necessity of furnishing elementary instruction in every subject. We must choose between this and deficient articulation. If we force the students back upon the high school or upon an intermediate coaching school for the filling of the gaps, we resume the practice of forcing the high-school pupil into exact preparation for his college course, and consequently into an early choice of such course: and this we wish to avoid.

That a better established general and normal usage emerging out of the present chaos of school elections may