

THE
State Agricultural College
OF COLORADO.

BULLETIN NO. 3.

CONCERNING THE DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY

OF THE

STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,

AND THE DISTRIBUTION OF

COLLEGE SEEDS AND PLANTS.

DECEMBER, 1887.

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CONCERNING THE DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY
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STATE BOARD OF AGRICULTURE,
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DISTRIBUTION OF SEEDS.

The Secretary of the State Board of Agriculture desires to call attention, by means of this bulletin, to some of the provisions of the statute concerning the duties of his office, and which should be of general interest to the public, and more especially to those engaged upon the farm and garden. Among the duties imposed by law upon the Secretary are the following :

* * * “He shall keep and file all reports which may be made from time to time by the different agricultural and horticultural societies, and all correspondence of the office from other persons and societies, appertaining to the general business of husbandry ; address circulars to societies and the best practical farmers in the state and elsewhere, with a view of eliciting information upon the newest and best methods of irrigation, and the culture of those products, vegetables, trees, etc., adapted to the soil and climate of this state ; also on all subjects connected with field culture, horticulture, stock raising and the dairy. He shall encourage the formation of agricultural societies throughout the state, and purchase, receive and distribute such rare and valuable seeds, plants, shrubbery and trees, as it may be in his power to procure from the general government and such other sources, as may be adapted to our climate and soils.”

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“He shall aid, as far as possible, in obtaining contributions to the museums and library of the State Agricultural College, and thus aid in the promotion of agricultural science and literature.” (*Pt. Gen'l Sec. 29, Gen'l Laws '83.*)

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“The seeds, plants, trees and shrubbery received by the Secretary, and not needed by the College, shall be, as far as possible, distributed equally throughout the State, and placed in the hands of those farmers, and others, who will agree to cultivate them properly and return to the Secretary’s office a reasonable proportion of the products thereof, with a full statement of the mode of cultivation, and such other information as may be necessary to ascertain their value for cultivation in this State.” (*Gen’l Sec. 30, Gen’l Laws ’83.*)

Since the organization of the State Agricultural College, in 1879, little has been done to carry into effect the foregoing provisions of the statute, owing to the limited means at the command of the State Board of Agriculture.

The Secretary wishes to open correspondence with the agricultural and horticultural societies of this State, with a view of securing their reports and information concerning the progress of husbandry in different parts of the State; and such parts as may be considered of general public interest will be published in the annual reports of the State Board of Agriculture to the Governor.

The State Board of Agriculture was created and organized for the purpose of not only giving its attention to the control and direction of the State Agricultural College, but that it might aid and assist in developing and giving strength to the general business of husbandry throughout the State.

This work is largely to be performed through the Secretary’s office, as will be observed from the statutory provisions, and the business of that office has been arranged and this bulletin prepared with that end in view.

With the growth of the College, the two principal departments, of agriculture and horticulture, have been engaged in the selection and improvement of seeds and vegetables in their respective departments, and considerable has been accomplished in that direction.

The College has now on hand a general assortment of farm and garden seeds, which are held for free distri-

bution. All applications for seeds should be addressed to the Secretary, and the name and post office address of applicant plainly written. All persons receiving seeds from the College are expected to comply explicitly with the conditions under which they are sent, and make the report on the form furnished by the Secretary.

The College has a large collection of different varieties of potatoes, a few pounds of each variety, which can be had upon application to the Secretary. The potatoes will not be distributed until early spring, on account of danger of being frozen in transit at this season of the year.

Applications will be received for shrubs and trees, and if the College has them to spare, they will be furnished under the same conditions as seeds.

It must be distinctly understood that this is not a bureau organized for the distribution of seeds and plants upon a charitable basis.

Considerable labor and much time and patient attention to details, will be required of those who undertake to experiment with the seeds and plants sent from the College. The keeping of the record and the faithful and honest return thereof to this office, will constitute the principal consideration for the favors extended by the College and the people of this State.

It is expected that from the correct and substantial information obtained concerning the utility and adaptability of these seeds and vegetables, throughout the different parts of the State, something will be added to the material growth of the farm and garden industries of the commonwealth.

Bulletins are being published, under the direction of the Board, of experiments conducted at the State Agricultural College, copies of which may be had on application to the Secretary.

FRANK J. ANNIS,
Secretary.

THE STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE. }
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