

Texas Soc

1899

THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO.

CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION.

THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO SUMMER QUARTER: ITS ENDS AND AIMS.

Forty-eight Texans, and twelve of them from Austin, namely, Misses Minnie and Lillian Carrington, Iula Bailey, Lilia M. Casis, Jessie Andrews, and Messrs. J. E. Pearce, Fritz Reichmann, L. S. Williams, Alex Camp, M. H. Benson, W. L. Bray, and E. P. Schoch, attended the University of Chicago Summer Quarter. The total registration for the past quarter is 1438, the highest registration in the history of the institution. Most of the students are teachers. Among them are found professors from the University of Pennsylvania, teachers and principals from the New York City public schools, several professors from Mercer College, Georgia, prominent educators from all over the country. What is the significance of this?

It is a well established fact that a good teacher must constantly refresh himself by reading, study, and travel. The long summer vacation gives the American teacher the necessary time. When this is passed in idleness or occupation foreign to his profession, the ever-moving world passes him, and in his later days he finds himself an old fossil, relegated to some out-of-the-way place. It is coming to be looked upon as a teacher's duty to avail himself of the vacation time for improvement. More than that, it is easily seen, especially by teachers, that the demands made upon the teaching profession for more extensive training, or better, advanced study are steadily increasing.

A few years ago very few teachers in secondary schools had college degrees. To-day no high school teacher can hope to hold his position for all time unless he holds a first-class baccalaureate degree, or its equivalent. It is said that President Gilman, of the Johns Hopkins, has gone so far as to declare that in a few years only holders of the Ph. D. degree can hope to hold the higher places in the secondary schools, not to speak of the colleges. Many teachers, however, are not able, for several reasons, to meet the pressure directly by going back to school. They may have families to look after, or may have pleasant work that they are not willing to give up. These have recourse to the chautauquas or the short summer schools held at some of the institutions. Yet the chautauquas, or the four-week summer school, are not adequate. The time is too short, the treatment of subjects too general, or perhaps too popular, and no definite end can be worked forward to.

With a view to meet this problem, President Harper, of the University of Chicago, has put into operation a most unique and logical division of the year. The year is divided into four distinct quarters, all alike in length of time and academic value. Each quarter has twelve weeks, and there is one week of vacation after each quarter. The winter quarter begins January 1; the spring quarter, April 1; the summer quarter, July 1, and the fall quarter, October 1. There is no summer school; the summer quarter is one of the regular four quarters. Work goes right on from the spring to the summer quarter. Professors and students can arrange to take their vacation when they please—in the middle of the winter if they like, or not at all if they do not want any. Work done in the summer quarter counts just as well as work done in any other quarter. It is true that there is somewhat more sequence in the courses from the fall through the winter to the spring term than there is connection between the spring and the summer quarters, but while it is the intention to run the school for four quarters in each year, and retain the regular students right along, an effort has also been made to meet the particular needs of the extra students during the summer quarter. Degrees can be obtained by working the required number of summer quarters just as well as by working the same required number of any other quarter.

The proof of the pudding is the eating. Four years ago one member of the faculty of the University of Texas and two students from other parts of the State were all that attended the summer quarter of 1894. In 1898, twelve from the University of Texas and forty-eight Texans altogether attended. The attendance

during the successive summers has increased until now it is larger than the attendance during the other quarters. And especially is it to be noticed that the same students return for several years, while many, who have thus had an insight into the work done there, and have recognized more clearly perhaps, through this same summer work, the necessity and advantage of advanced university training, continue their study throughout the year at the University. Of course, by far the greater number of students are teachers; but the striking fact about these is that they are nearly all advanced, progressive people, nearly all of them in higher positions. High school teachers, principals, superintendents, teachers of special subjects, undoubtedly the very pick of the land, and indeed a body representative of American advanced education. Why is it the University of Chicago can thus collect this great body of thinkers? The reason is quite obvious. Chicago stands for, first, good teaching of subject matter; second, scholarship as shown by the original work put forth. Money was used freely to bring the men farther advanced in their subject to Chicago—men who have become known through their original work. On the other hand, Chicago expects her professors, above all, to teach. Thus it is that the work first begun in this country twenty-five years ago by the founding of the Johns Hopkins University, namely, university work, as distinguished from collegiate, has attained to its highest form in the University of Chicago; and all the advantages that this brings with it are offered to the student of the Summer Quarter. These same professors do not leave. On the contrary, they make a point of staying, knowing that they have a maturer set of students than during the rest of the year.

Is it possible to get degrees by summer work? One professor in our State University has a Ph. D. from Chicago, obtained by summer work. Professor Dains, of the Northwestern University; Professor William McPherson, of the Ohio State University, and a member of the conference on physics, chemistry, and astronomy in the report of the committee on secondary schools, both, to the writer's knowledge, took Ph. D. degrees by summer work only. A number of instructors and teachers in Austin, among them Miss J. Andrews, instructor in German, and Miss Casis, instructor in romance at the University, and Mr. J. E. Pearce, of the Austin high school, have finished a large part of the work toward advanced degrees. The list might easily be extended, but this may suffice to show the practicability of the thing.

CHICAGO CLIMATE, AMUSEMENTS, ETC.

The great cry raised against Chicago is the heat. Such an objection, coming from a Texan, can not help but raise a smile. A glance at the United States Weather Bureau summaries for July, August, and September of 1898 shows the following: Maximum temperature for July, 94°, attained on July 19, for one day only, with temperature 5 to 6 degrees lower on days following and preceding. There were five days in July at 90° and above, three others above 85°, and the rest all much lower, with a total average of 73°. The temperatures for August were several degrees lower than for July, averaging 72°, and for September averaging 68°. With the exception of isolated "close" days, it can not be said to be hot. It is on these few hot days that men and animals who are acclimated to the low temperature of the north suffer from sunstroke. Furthermore, these prostrations occur in the heart of the city, where the high buildings shut out fresh air. The University, however, is situated eight miles from the center of the city, near the lake, on the Midway, right between two of the largest and prettiest parks found anywhere.

In Washington and Jackson Parks (World's Fair grounds), and the boulevards connected with them, most delightful promenades and evening walks can be taken, and the bicyclist finds a veritable paradise. Boating on Lake Michigan offers most charming diversion, especially on moonlight nights. All the advantages of a large city present themselves here, without the detraction of closely built-up streets. Around the University most of the buildings are dwelling houses and cottages, with only here and there a large building. The center of the city can be reached in ten minutes by the Illinois Central express, and here, of course, many points of interest present themselves. No one would leave Chicago without having seen the Art Museum, the Field Columbian Museum (World's Fair exhibit, near the University), the Illinois Steel Works, the packing houses, the stockyards, etc. Good summer theatre is always to be found, and a fine orchestra (practically Thomas' Chicago Orchestra) can be heard at the Palm Garden for 25 cents. A fine brass band furnishes free music in Washington Park every Thursday and Saturday. Lake steamer excursions must not be forgotten; one-day excursions to Milwaukee and St. Joe, at the remarkably reasonable rate of \$1, can be taken any day, and are very popular.

A FEW FACTS FROM EXPERIENCE.

The following members of the Texas Society of the University of Chicago have furnished the secretary a definite statement of the expenses incurred and the subjects studied during the summer of 1898. The wide range of subjects in which instruction was obtained, and the cost of living as found by actual experience by the people out of our midst, cannot help but cast aside all doubt on these questions.

Except in the case of one or two minor items, all expressed themselves as well satisfied, and recommend the Summer Quarter very highly.

Name and Address.	Expense, Exclusive of Railroad Fare.	Subjects Studied.
Mr. J. N. Weir, Georgetown.....	\$150 for 12 weeks	History and Zoology.
Mr. S. H. Moore, Georgetown.....	100 for 8 weeks	Political Economy and Philosophy.
Mrs. W. B. Slossen, Houston.....		History.
Mr. J. E. Niday, Houston.....	200* for 12 weeks	Political Economy and German.
Mr. J. L. McReynolds, Houston....	115 for 10 weeks	Mechanics, Ethics.
Mr. G. W. Smiley, Houston.....	225 for 12 weeks	Psychology, Botany.
Miss C. M. Noble, Ft. Worth.....	80 for 7 weeks	History.
Miss Lolabel House, Waco.....		Political Science, History.
Miss A. M. Kinnard, Waco.....	150 for 11 weeks	English.
Miss M. F. Canfield, Paris.....		Latin and German.
Miss E. Mitchell, Paris.....	90 for 6 weeks	Latin.
Mr. R. A. Hall, Palestine.....	300 for 12 weeks	Philosophy and English Literature.
Mr. P. H. Underwood, Galveston..	143 for 12 weeks	Calculus, Theory of Equations.
Miss M. Dowell, Baylor College....	70 for 6 weeks	Greek.
Mr. J. J. Morgan, Dallas.....	50 for 6 weeks	Hebrew.
Mr. J. D. Garner, Dallas.....		Mathematics.
Mr. G. C. F. Butte, Sulphur Springs	200 for 12 weeks	French.
Miss L. M. Casis, Austin.....	175 for 12 weeks	Romance Philology.
Miss J. Andrews, Austin.....	65 for 6 weeks	German and English.
Mr. A. Camp, Austin.....	110 for 7 weeks	Chemistry.

* With family.

UNIVERSITY ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE SUMMER QUARTER, 1899.

As has been mentioned before, the Summer Quarter is not a summer school run by instructors and assistants to teach the elementary courses only, but regular university instruction of the highest type. The faculty numbers fifty-nine professors and sixty-one instructors and assistants. Extra lecturers of world-wide reputation, prominent among them Noah K. Davis, A. M., Ph. D., LL. D., Professor of Philosophy in the University of Virginia, and George Adam Smith, Professor of Hebrew and Old Testament Exegesis in the Free Church College, Glasgow, Scotland, will be present. Courses are offered in the following schools:

Philosophy and Pedagogy,	Literature (in English),
Political Economy,	Mathematics,
Political Science,	Astronomy,
History,	Physics,
Sociology and Anthropology,	Chemistry,
Comparative Religion,	Geology,
Semitic,	Zoology,
Biblical and Patristic Greek,	Anatomy and Histology,
Sanskrit,	Physiology,
Greek,	Neurology,
Latin,	Botany,
Romance,	Public Speaking,
Germanic,	Physical Culture,
English,	Library Economy and Bibliography.

In addition to the regular courses of instruction a series of open lectures of general interest has been arranged. These public lectures have proven themselves to be quite popular. During last summer Dr. Harris, commissioner of education, delivered a series of lectures. Prominent among this summer's lectures are Professor Breasted, *The Literature of the Egyptians*; Professor Jordan, *The Germ Theory of Disease*; Professor Judson, *Some Topics of Larger Politics*; Professor Tolman, *Shakspere, Three Readings*, etc.

Detailed information regarding the summer quarter will be found in the *Quarterly Announcement for the Summer Quarter, 1899*. Address *The University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.*

WHAT TO DO IF YOU CONTEMPLATE GOING.

(1.) Send for *Announcement of the Summer Quarter 1899*; address The University of Chicago, Chicago, Ill.

(2.) The Texas Society is trying to secure rates for all who intend to go to the university this summer. It is too early as yet to have a definite answer from the roads. However, rates will probably be obtained, and to be able to notify all parties who wish to avail themselves of them, it is asked that parties wishing to be notified drop a postal to E. P. Schoch, Austin, Texas, giving address, and the time at which they probably wish to leave.

(3.) If no arrangement for rates can be made, buy a regular summer tourists' tickets to Lake Geneva, or to Milwaukee, via Chicago, leave the train at Chicago, having arranged with the baggage man on the train to have your baggage thrown off at the proper place. The tourists' tickets are usually sold at 4 cents per mile, and are good to return until October 31. *It is not necessary to go to Lake Geneva or Milwaukee to have the tickets executed for the return trip*; they can be signed at the office of the road on which you leave Chicago.

(4.) In selecting your routes choose one that enters Chicago through the southern part of the town, so that you may leave the train at either Englewood Station or Hyde Park Station. The reason for this is that you are near the University; may reach it easily, and then can have your baggage hauled wherever you wish it upon short notice. The down town depots are nearly ten miles away, hence a delay of two or three days is often experienced before baggage can be hauled out near the University.

Parties, especially ladies, wishing any assistance to find suitable quarters on reaching Chicago are asked to communicate with the president of the Texas Society, Prof. L. S. Williams, of the Armour Institute of Technology, Chicago, or the Chicago secretary, Mr. F. Reichmann, Ryerson Physical Laboratory, The University of Chicago. These gentlemen will render whatever assistance may be asked, meet ladies at the depots, and escort them to suitable quarters, etc.

(5.) Figure on reaching Chicago during the day unless you have arranged otherwise. On reaching Chicago leave your baggage at the depot, go direct to the Y. M. C. A. rooms at the Haskell Museum, University, where information about boarding houses and lodgings may be obtained. Do not send for your baggage until you have secured permanent lodgings. The baggage transfer office is found right at the University.

This pamphlet of information is sent out by the Texas Society of the University of Chicago, an organization formed during last summer at the University for the purpose of furnishing necessary information to Texas teachers and others who may wish to avail themselves of the Summer Quarter.

It is not intended as an advertisement; if through it the problem of advanced study for our many hard-striving colleagues in the teaching profession is made easy, the pamphlet has fulfilled its proper functions.

E. P. SCHOCH, Texas Secretary, Austin, Texas.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Since drawing up the foregoing, one of the main railroads has indicated its willingness to make the following arrangement: To collect all excursionists at a common point on the way to Chicago on a certain day near July 1, and then carry them by special cars direct to Chicago, sleepers or reclining chair cars to be furnished as desired. This could be done at a considerable reduction in fare. Parties to return whenever they wished. I would ask that all intending to go to Chicago would be certain to notify me as soon as possible of their intention, so that I may know how many to figure on, and can notify everybody definitely when the arrangements have been closed.

E. P. SCHOCH.