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THE PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE.

THE Society for the Promotion of Agricultural Science was founded in the year 1880, largely through the efforts of a few men, most of whom have now passed to their reward, who saw clearly the necessity for some such organization.

At that time the workers in agricultural science in the United States were few and scattered. While the oldest of the agricultural colleges had been in existence for some twenty-five years, these institutions were still comparatively feeble, with, in most cases, few students, and struggling for recognition. The first agricultural experiment station in the United States had been established but five years before and had been fully taken over by the state two years later. At the date of the foundation of this society, there existed in the United States three state experiment stations, two university stations and one private station, and few means were available for personal contact or exchange of ideas between investigators or for the publication of their results. The U. S. Department of Agriculture was a comparatively small affair, presided over by a commissioner, and its scientific work was chiefly that of its chemist, entomologist and veterinarian.

The twenty-six years which have since elapsed have witnessed a phenomenal development of agricultural education and investigation, and the young student of the present day can hardly realize the conditions which existed a generation ago. Now,

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