CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION TO ACCREDITED SCHOOLS; EDUCATION SERIES; VOL. 1, NO. 1

Published @ 2017 Trieste Publishing Pty Ltd

ISBN 9780649106479

Circular of information to accredited schools; Education series; Vol. 1, No. 1 by Various

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THE UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI BULLETIN

EDUCATION SERIES

VOLUME I NUMBER I

CIRCULAR OF INFORMATION NO.

ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

THE COMMITTEE ON ACCREDITED SCHOOLS

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION HUCEIVED MAR 2 6 1912

FIFTH EDITION, REVISED

UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI COLUMBIA, MISSOURI June, 1911

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INTRODUCTORY.

Organization is the order of the day. In education, as in commerce, it is indispensable to the greatest efficiency. To prevent wasted energy and discouragements which turn many young people from the pathway of their highest development, demands a closer co-operation of the educational forces of the State. This truth is now generally recognized; and, as a result, the efficiency of education in Missouri has been rapidly increasing. County supervision and articulation of elementary and high schools are phases of a general movement which includes also the affiliation of high schools and University, so that there may be a pathway direct from the primary school of any community to the highest educational opportunities offered by the State. For the same reason that high schools must take the initiative in solving the problem of articulating elementary and secondary schools, the University must take the initiative in solving the problem of affiliating high schools and University. Accordingly, in view of a growing demand for organization, the University presents a plan, modified by several years of careful, direct study of the school situation, whereby graduates of secondary schools may be admitted to the University without entrance examinations.

This plan necessarily includes a definition of conditions for accrediting. In determining these conditions, it has been the policy of the University to consider in the broadest sense the welfare of high schools. Due recognition has been made of the facts that most graduates of secondary schools do not attend institutions of higher learning, that local conditions vary, and that many schools meet with most discouraging difficulties. It is desirable that high schools have the greatest possible freedom consistent with the purpose of affiliation, and it is the intention of the University to cooperate with them rather than arbitrarily to impose conditions upon them. Accordingly, criticisms of the plan here offered are invited. The administration of this plan requires the examination of each school by an educational expert, whose advice may be taken advantage of by local authorities who wish to improve their schools. This method of affiliation has been justified by the rapid development of many Missouri schools under its influence. As mutual understanding, confidence and co-operation more widely increase, even greater progress is promised for the future.

This circular is prepared for the information of superintendents, principals, teachers and members of school boards who wish to co-