

STANDARDIZATION WAS ACCOMPLISHED.

At Topeka Meeting Dr. H. H. Foster's Idea For Denominational Schools Was Adopted Last Week.

At the meeting of presidents of Kansas Denominational Colleges in Topeka last week in conjunction with the Kansas State Teachers' Association, a system of standardization of colleges was adopted. Credit for the plan adopted is mostly due to Dr. Herbert H. Foster of Ottawa University, who was chairman of a committee appointed at a meeting of college presidents held at Topeka several weeks ago. The other members of the committee were Dean McEachron, of Washburn College, and President Smith of Kansas Wesleyan.

Eight points form the basis of the plan:

I. The number of class hours for the heads of departments and students shall not exceed twenty a week.

II. A faculty properly qualified shall consist of graduates of colleges who have pursued graduate work equivalent at least to that required for a Master's degree.

III. The library shall consist of at least five thousand bound volumes, selected with reference to college subjects.

"IV. The laboratory equipment shall be worth not less than \$5,000.00, and so distributed as to establish at least an efficient chemical, physical, and biological laboratory.

"V. The means of support is defined as requiring a permanent endowment of not less than \$200,000, or an assured income, exclusive of tuition, equivalent to the interest derived from at least \$200,000.00 at 5 per cent. per annum.

"VI. The average salary of the heads of departments, exclusive of the salary of the president, shall be at least \$1,000.00.

"VII. The college must maintain at least eight separate departments or chairs. The heads of these departments should be devoted to college work.

"VIII. The graduates must show the completion of a four year secondary course equivalent to fifteen entrance units and a four year college course equivalent to one hundred and twenty semester hours above the usual eight grades of the common schools, and the standing and character of the institution, the nature of its equipment and work must be such as to entitle its graduates to admission to

the graduate college of the State University of Kansas.

It is interesting to note that at present possibly none of the denominational schools of the state meet fully all eight points of the standard. However Washburn, Baker, and Ottawa, if not fully qualified, come very close to the mark. The plan makes provision for the qualification of all the colleges as soon as possible, and is not to take effect until 1911, the system of accrediting now in vogue holding until then. By September, 1911, all colleges of Kansas which desire to qualify as accredited schools, that is, wish to meet requirements entitling their graduates to State Teacher's certificates, must meet fully six of the eight points; two years later, 1913, seven of the requirements must have been met; and finally, 1915, all eight points of standardization must be fulfilled, to rank as an accredited college.

The movement for a plan of standardization is a credit to the state educational system. The plan is a modification of one now in force in Iowa. It is the consensus of opinion of educators that before the year 1915 is reached, the plan will have extended beyond the confines of state, and that a common plan of standardization will have been adopted by many of the neighboring states. In fact there is now a movement on foot among the institutions represented in the North Central Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges, of which association the leading schools of Kansas are members, to adopt a plan to be adhered to by those schools holding membership. At the meeting of the presidents of denominational colleges of Kansas at Topeka last week, Dr. Foster was appointed to investigate the feasibility of effecting organization of the colleges of Nebraska, Missouri, Kansas, and possibly Iowa, with a view of uniformity of standard and mutual cooperation.
