

THE ALUMNÆ NEWS

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REGISTERED DEGREES.

* It is now understood that the Normal College grants but one kind of A. B. degree. This is obtained by the completion of 60 "hours" of college work, in not less than three years and preferably in four. It is registered by the State Department of Education, and, in virtue of that fact, is theoretically the equal of any A. B. degree granted by any college. If I am correctly informed, it is the only Normal College degree now recognized as a basis for post-graduate work at Columbia and New York Universities.

For some time past it has been the desire of the Faculty to perfect a plan by which alumnae who hold other kinds of degrees from the Normal College might be enabled, without too great a sacrifice, to procure this degree whose value is not likely to be questioned. Many of the graduates from the former five-year or six-year courses have pursued advanced studies in connection with their work as teachers; some of them have been notably successful in post-graduate courses to which they have been until recently admitted. It did not seem unreasonable under these circumstances to think that the College, on the basis of such work, might in some cases grant an A. B. degree which would put the holder's academic status beyond question. As is known to some of the Alumnae, considerable time and work have been expended by various members of the Faculty in the endeavor to establish a system by which this result might be legally attained. The Executive Committee of the Trustees, after careful consideration, finally authorized the plan submitted to them. But unexpected difficulties have been encountered in correspondence with the Regents' office, and as chairman of the committee lately in charge of this matter, I am compelled to announce (to my great regret) that the plan seems for the present impracticable.

It is not necessary to go into all the details of the subject to make this clear. One or two statements will suffice. For instance, the Regents' rules forbid granting a degree to a candidate who has not

been "in residence" the last year before the degree is granted. Again, no course completed elsewhere may receive a greater credit in "hours" by the Normal College than would be given by the institution where the course was taken. Thus an amount of work which might occupy an undergraduate student four or five "hours," could receive only the two or three "hours" credit which is assigned to it in a post-graduate scheme. Such a method of crediting work done would postpone the acquirement of the new degree so many years that few or none would undertake the task.

For reasons of this kind, then, it seems impossible for the College with its existing machinery to be of any assistance to the graduates from short courses in obtaining a better degree. Those who have been interested in this subject will thus understand why their applications and testimonials are returned to them from the files of the Committee, which is now dissolved.

G. M. Whicher.

AT HOME.

As the second Friday in April, the ninth, is Good Friday, it has seemed best to postpone our At Home until Friday, the twenty-third. The special feature of this At Home will be our invitation to the graduating class of the College. It is therefore, to be desired that a larger number of Alumnae be present. If we expect to induce successive classes to join the Association, we of that Association should show some interest in it. Please keep the sixteenth free for the At Home.

Owing to the fact that the March News was late, Alumnae were not informed of the fact that the portrait of Prof. Gillet would be on exhibition on the day of the March At Home. We hope to have it hung in the Music Room on the sixteenth of April.

"DR. FAUSTUS" TO BE PLAYED AT NORMAL COLLEGE.

The attention of the Alumnae is called to the first public performance of the Nor-