

The Normal Index.

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AS a result of the investigations of our course of study and requirements for graduation which have recently been made by representatives of the State University, the Normal School has been placed on the accredited list of that institution; by virtue of which our graduates may, on recommendation of the faculty, enter the course in Letters and Political Science without examination. We quote from the University Register of '91 the following, in regard to the work of the course. "The characteristic feature of the course is that it gives prominence to historical, political and economic topics. These constitute a basis of prescribed studies extending through four years, and are supplemented by prescribed mathematics and physics, and by a list of

elective studies. The minimum work per week is fifteen hours, except that in the second term of the Senior year, it is fourteen. In addition, Themes are required of all students, and male students are required to take the exercises in Military Science and Physical Culture. Besides the studies prescribed every regular student is required to take such electives as may be necessary to make up the full number of hours required per week."

A most agreeable feature of our work of the past month has been a course of lectures by Mr. Alexander Frye, a prominent Eastern educator and lecturer. The subject of the first lecture was, "The Influence of Slopes on the Distribution of Life." The speaker pointed out to us the great water-partings of the world, and explained their influence not only on the plant and animal life, but upon the distribution of races and their governments and religion.

The second and third lectures were given to the discussion of "Primary Methods of Teaching Geography." We were shown the importance of leading the child to study nature as he finds it at home, and, through his imagination, to lead him to a conception of the appearance of other lands. He would also encourage the child to memorize beautiful selections from our poets, for, to use his own words, "Poems are a means of awakening the sensibilities. Fill the child's mind with poems of nature, and nature will appeal to him in a thousand ways never before thought of."

The subject of the fourth and last lecture was, "The Relation between Geography and History." The speaker pointed out to us the physical features of the earth that have had a marked influence on the world's history, and explained how they have affected the fate of nations from the time of The Battle of Salamis to that of our own Civil War. Besides the lectures, Prof. Frye, during the week, conducted classes in sand mod-