

## How It Started---How It Ended

### HOW IT STARTED

#### Insinger Offers Criticism

"The State College at Pullman has not taken the leadership in agricultural matters that other states have taken," said Mr. Insinger. "Since Professor Spillman left the college there has been no experimental farm in the Big Bend country, except about ten acres in a coulee near Ritzville. The experiments at the college itself are of great value to the students, but not to the farmers in the Big Bend country.

"I asked a friend of President Bryan what the college had done for the arid lands of Eastern Washington and he couldn't tell me. This failure has been criticized by one of the trustees of this body, and President Bryan's personal attack on him is a piece of pure impudence."

#### PRESIDENT BRYAN REPLIES

##### Denies Truth of Charges and Invites Investigations

Pullman, Wash., Dec. 30.—In reply to the attack made on the Washington State College and the state experiment station by Robert Insinger at a meeting of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce today President Enoch A. Bryan said tonight:

"Personally I shall be glad to appear before the trustees of the Chamber of Commerce or any other tribunal at any time or any place to discuss the experimental work of the State College in the dry land district. I have no doubt that the board of regents will be pleased to have the trustees or any others interested meet with them at a suitable time and place for a full discussion of the problems involved.

##### Invites the Proofs

"It is impossible for me to answer Mr. Insinger's charges against the college or against me personally without having before me the text of what was said. So far as I understand them from a reading over the telephone, I would deny most of them and invite Mr. Insinger to submit proofs as to their truth.

"For example, he said that the Ritzville station was located in a coulee, which he implied was an unsuitable place. It is not in a coulee, but on a typical portion of Senator Scott's farm. He said that no vital experiments on the dry land work are being conducted by this station; let him prove it. I assert that some of the most vital and fundamental experiments in the problem undertaken anywhere are in progress at this station and I will leave it to Assistant Secretary Galloway of the United States Department of Agriculture, one of the oldest and strongest men in the service.

##### Says Small Tracts Better

"Mr. Insinger scoffs at the ten-acre experiment tract at Ritzville. I assert that in the determination of all the vital and fundamental problems involved ten acres are better than a thousand. The United States Department of Agriculture always objects to the large tracts as so do all investigators.

"He says that all the dry land work was done by Professor Spillman before he left this state. Only a small fraction of it was done then or by him. Since he left dry land investigations have been conducted at Ritzville, Sunnyside, Quincy, Connell and again at Ritzville, covering nearly every phase of the dry land problem.

The experiment station is only one part of the college. Within it, also, there are many departments, each with pressing problems. Only the other day an important member of the Chamber of Commerce said that all the money of the station ought to be thrown into the solution of the smut problem. But we have now sixty-two approved projects all seemingly to those interested most important.

##### Asked More Money

The Adams fund dry land project, approved by the Department of Agriculture in 1909, followed other important projects of a similar character. The money put into moisture and dry land investigations since that time has been approximately \$5000 a year and has been greater

than that devoted to any other project. Even the much-talked-of blowing of the soil problem has been constantly studied since 1910.

The college realized the importance of more money for this purpose than it had and the board in 1909 and 1911 made strenuous efforts to secure special and larger appropriations, but failed.

Certain parties, whose interests have been presumably affected of late, did not wake up to the importance of this problem until it was too late and it is absurd, indeed, to try to throw the blame of monetary loss from dust storms and lack of rainfall upon the experiment station.

Settlement of the dry land verge'd too far, as it always will, until nature calls a halt. Mr. Insinger's attack is most unjust and untrue and he will be unable to substantiate his assertions.

At the invitation of J. C. Cunningham fifteen or twenty representative business men, including Charles Heberd of the Chamber of Commerce and several members of the board of trustees, met yesterday at the Spokane club and listened to an exhaustive explanation of the origin, fundamental purposes and work of the State College by President E. A. Bryan. Mr. Cunningham is a member of the board of regents and the meeting was a result of the resolution proposed by Robert Insinger at the Tuesday luncheon of the Chamber of Commerce.

"The State College," said President Bryan, "is a sort of dual institution. It is part of the great national system and also a part of the state. What one man might consider proper as a State College might be impossible in view of the law under which the college was instituted. It can not, for example, be wholly an agricultural college, as it is required by law to be a college of technical arts and applied science.

##### Based on Possibilities

"In the same way the college, in its formative period, was based very largely on what it might grow into. The departments were made as few as possible, but so arranged as to be