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The Institute Monthly

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FOR
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1915

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Published By The
West Virginia Collegiate Institute
Institute, West Virginia

Annual Corn Show and Industrial Fair

At The West Va. Collegiate Institute

DECEMBER 8, 9, 1915

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AT INSTITUTE, W. VIRGINIA**

The Institute Monthly

"Entered as second-class matter January 8, 1914, at the post-office at Institute, West Virginia, under the act of August 24, 1912."

Volume VIII.

OCTOBER 1915

Number I.

EDITORIALS

THE ENROLLMENT OF THE FIRST MONTH AT THE WEST VIRGINIA Collegiate Institute, for the present fall term, has been unprecedented in the history of the institution.

The enrollment October 12, the last day of the first month was, 353 bona fide students. This is 6 in excess of the highest enrollment of any previous year, exclusive of the summer school enrollment, which was authorized to be counted as a part of the enrollment in 1914. We are gratified that it shows such a substantial growth, and find that recent additions from the state grade schools, are better trained than those of earlier years.

It is not to be denied that the installation of a collegiate course has been a considerable agent in the present increase. As the school grows older, and its work becomes more widely known, the interest and support of thinking people are naturally attracted.

The impetus that has been given to the life of the West Virginia Negro, towards efficiency for public service, attributable largely to the work of this school, has been such as to make even the opponents of our system of education, stand up and take notice.

THE MONTHLY HOPES THIS YEAR, MORE THAN EVER BEFORE, TO CARRY the doctrines of the school farther, and to make its work more forcibly felt. It hopes to enlist the support of the graduates of the school, and the patrons and citizens from whom it draws its student body and moral support.

We believe that the school is now of more vital importance to the development of the people for whom it was established than it ever has hitherto been. We believe it to be the greatest agency in the

state, religion excepted, for uplift of the Negro race.

The Monthly claims some small measure of merit in keeping before its readers the purpose and activities of the school. We want to thank its friends for the loyalty with which they have and do rally to the support of the school.

Papers will be sent only to such persons as are regular subscribers.

As in previous years, we welcome literary contributions from student body, alumni and friends. We have but few restrictions as to their publication in our columns. They must be of merit, of interest to our subscribers, free from politics or dogmatic trend.

What you are doing in the field of human endeavor for uplift is always of interest to the reading public and to the officials of this paper.

GRADUATION AND CERTIFICATES

SINCE THE LAST SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE, MUCH INTEREST HAS been aroused among the graduates, patrons, and students of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute concerning the granting of certificates upon the completion of a course of study at this institution. The law authorizes the State Superintendent to issue Normal school certificates to those who finish the diploma course in this institution and the short-course certificate to those who complete the short-course in this institution. In our effort to keep faith with the state, we have so formulated the Normal course as to require two years above a first class high school course. So, after the present school year, it will require two years above our present English or Academic course to receive our Normal diploma.

According to a statement sent out by Mr. J. F. Marsh, Secretary of the State Board of Regents, the short course certificate may be secured at the end of our present English or Academic course, with some additional work done in professional subjects. For the information of those interested, we quote the law on this subject, as follows:

NORMAL SCHOOL CERTIFICATE

"THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT SHALL HAVE AUTHORITY TO ISSUE normal school certificates valid for five years to graduates in the diploma course of the state normal school and its branches, to graduates in the diploma course of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, and to

those who have completed a diploma course of study in any other school in this or other states that, in the judgement of the State Board of Education, is equivalent in all respects to the diploma course of study in the state normal school and its branches. Normal school certificates shall be valid in all the grades of the elementary schools of the state and in high schools, and in the payment of salaries and renewal shall be considered as first grade certificates."

SHORT COURSE CERTIFICATE

SECTION 88. "THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS SHALL HAVE authority, upon application in due form, to issue a short-course teacher's certificate, valid for a period of three years, to those who have completed the short-course in the state normal school and its branches, the short-course in the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, the normal training course in high schools that have been approved by the State Board of Education, and to those who have completed in other schools in the state a course of study that is in the judgement of the State Board of Education equivalent in all respects to the short-course offered in the state normal school and its branches.

"Such short-course certificates shall be valid in all the grades of the elementary schools of the state, and in the payment of salaries shall be considered as first grade certificates.

"Any short-course certificate shall be renewable for one period of three years; provided, that the holder thereof has taught for two years thereon or has done two years' credit work in an approved high school or standard normal school or other schools approved by the State Board of Education' within the life of said certificate."



INSTITUTE BOY IS CLASS ORATOR

HONOR FOR DANIEL L. FERGUSON, MEMBER OF SENIOR CLASS OF
OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY

President Byrd Prillerman of The West Virginia Collegiate Institute received a telegram October 8th, from O. A. Pierce, a student at the Ohio State University, stating that Daniel L. Ferguson, a member of the senior class at the Ohio State University, had just been elected class orator.

Ferguson's home is at Institute, and he graduated from the academic course at the West Virginia Collegiate Institute in 1909. He taught in the rural schools of Fayette County two or three years, and then went to the Ohio State University, where he entered the freshman class of the Agricultural course. While a student at this great university, Ferguson has won the mile record at the school and has won laurels for this great university in many of its contests with other institutions.

He also organized a glee club among the Negro students who attended the Ohio State University, and last year made quite a successful tour of West Virginia. — *The Charleston Post*.

The election of Mr. Ferguson to the honor of class orator was attended by some unusual incidents.

The elections to class positions seem to depend not so much upon old line requirements as upon general popularity.

In accordance with American democratic ideas registrations are held, at which the prospective contestants are required to enter their names and positions sought, upon the official lists. Few had the temerity to stand for this election and so popular was Ferguson that he won easily over Epstine, his nearest white competitor by a count of 184 to 123.

The result was the cause of much elation among the Negro students at this great University, and the friends of Ferguson everywhere rejoice with him at the signal victory.

No Negroes at this University heretofore have represented their class as orators at any previous observances of class day exercises; altho Negroes represented their classes as Arbor Day and Contest orators in the Junior Classes of 1890 and 1891.

We deem this a fitting climax to the creditable career of one of the

State's most talked of students and the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, where Ferguson received his preparation, shares with our "Dan" all the honors that have, and shall come to him.

President Prillerman sent the following telegram in acknowledgment of the reception of the news:

(THE TELEGRAM)

Institute, West Va.,
October 9, 1915.

Mr. D. L. Ferguson,
227 E. 18th St.,
Columbus, Ohio.

You have the congratulations of the faculty and entire student body in the honor we share with you as class orator.

(Signed) Byrd Prillerman.

THE NEW DORMITORY AND DINING HALL

The new Dormitory and Dining Hall, just completed, is one hundred and thirty-eight feet long by forty-five feet wide, three stories; with a two story wing on rear fifty-two feet by thirty-four feet.

The building is most modern and sanitary in every respect; being completely fireproofed throughout. The walls are of solid masonry, including all intermediate partitions. (There are no wood walls in the building). The floor construction is of reinforced concrete — the best fireproof floor construction known to modern thought and experience.

The ceiling above the second floor and directly under the roof is also fireproofed (reinforced concrete); which affords absolute protection in case of fire in the attic and roof, which are of wood.

Regarding sanitation, the building is most praise-worthy. The finished floors of all rooms throughout are of cement one inch thick; laid directly on the concrete construction. This cement finish is carried up on walls to a height of eight inches (forming room base) and is made one piece with the finished floors; being joined directly to the plaster of side walls, there are no crevices for dust, etc. The floors have a Kompolite finish. The wood trim of the door and window

openings is small, of plain surface and very neat in appearance. The building is steam heated and electrically lighted, both of which add to good sanitary conditions.

The Ground Floor is six inches above the grade, with a ceiling height of nine feet, which gives good access to natural light and to ventilation. On this floor are all of the General and Direct Storage rooms, being divided into separate rooms for each of the staple supplies; the Ice Plant and Cold Storage; one Office Room and the two Entrance Halls, which Entrance Halls include ample cloak room.

It is well to add here that the stairways from Entrance Halls, throughout, to the Second floor are constructed of reinforced concrete, and, being located at the extreme ends of the building, afford a perfect fire escape.

The First Floor of the main building is given, entirely, to Dining Rooms; with entrance halls at either end. The main Dining Hall, one hundred and two feet long and forty feet wide, will conveniently seat four hundred and fifty people at tables. Centrally located to the main Dining Hall is the rear wing which is occupied by the Kitchen, fifty by twenty feet in size, with Serving and Preparation Rooms, twenty-five long by twelve feet wide, between the Kitchen and Dining Hall; keeping the odors of Kitchen from the Dining Rooms. There is stairway from Kitchen to Direct Storage Rooms on the ground floor of the wing, also giving close access to the Cold Storage. The Kitchen is equipped with the most modern sanitary steel furniture and machinery. The private Dining room, for the State Officials, is located in the left end, with direct doorway to Stair Hall. In the right end is located the private Dining Room of the President of the Institution, also with direct connection to Stair Hall.

The Second Floor is used for sleeping rooms. The Hall, in center of building, is full length connecting with stairs at each end. All rooms have direct light and ventilation; all being outside rooms. There are two private apartments, each with private bath; and the general bath rooms which are centrally located. There is also a large porch, fifty by twelve feet on this floor; the porch connects with main hall of same floor and with the First Floor by stairway.

The roof is of slate and has wide projecting eaves which afford protection to the exterior walls below; keeping same free from weather stains.

etc.

The design is of good lines, plain and matter-of-fact; no superfluous ornaments nor unnecessary elaborations, and well befits its purpose. The arrangement in plan is well thought out, having all main rooms and halls centrally located, with all accessory rooms conveniently placed. These together with the substantial construction and finish well be-speaks the broad conservative thought of the present State Board of Control and the Architect.

[We here insert a clipping from the "Greenbrier Independent." It is an excerpt from a paper read by Professor E. A. Bolling of Lewisburg, West Virginia. We deem the excerpt worthy of a place in our little magazine; because its author has been a staunch friend of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, and has done what he could in his community to advance the interest of the school and its work. We are in accord with the sentiments of the excerpt.—Ed.]

PROFESSOR E. A. BOLLING, SENIOR

A FIRM BELIEVER IN THE FUTURE GREATNESS OF HIS RACE

We have recently had the privilege of reading, in manuscript, a paper prepared and read by E. A. Bolling, Senior, before the recent meeting of the Cumberland District Conference. Mr. Bolling is now and has been for many years, the principal of the Negro Graded School in Lewisburg and his education, character, and efficiency have always commanded for him the respect and confidence of the community. This paper, which we read with interest, is a clear, condensed, strong, and well written statement of the progress made by the Negro, since emancipation, in all the fields of industrial, educational, and religious activity in which his energies and efforts have been engaged. The paper reveals the author as a loyal, ardent friend, a safe, sensible, conservative, in no sense visionary or fanatical, leader of his race. He pays just tribute to the many good qualities of the Negro, laments his shortcomings, points the way to better things, and glories in the fame of Booker Washington and other leaders of the race whose well-directed and successful labors for the general uplift of the Negro cannot be measured in words. He acknowledges with appreciation and gratitude what the white people of the South have done for the Negro's education

and general uplift and believes that the proposed monument to the slaves of the Old South which the Southern white people will some day build in testimony of their appreciation of the faithfulness, loyalty, and devotion of the Negro during the great civil war, will cement the friendship of two races and stimulate the black race to yet greater efforts.

THE MEETING OF THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF TEACHERS

AT CINCINNATI, OHIO

The National Association of Teachers in Colored Schools which met in Cincinnati, July 28th, was attended by the following members of our faculty: President Byrd Prillerman, Miss Mary Eubank, Miss C. Ruth Campbell, Messrs. C. E. Mitchell, A. W. Curtis, N. A. Murray, and Solomon Brown. In addition to these the state of West Virginia was represented by Prof. J. Rupert Jefferson and Prof. Harry D. Hazelwood of Parkersburg; Mrs. Byrd Prillerman of Institute; Miss Hattie E. Peters of Charleston; Professor J. W. Scott, Professor J. B. Hatchett, Miss Nellie Radford and Mr. and Mrs. Earnest Hardy of Huntington; Mrs. Arminta C. Topson and Miss Bertha Rotan of Fayetteville; and Professor H. L. Dickinson of Bluefield. The West Virginia Collegiate Institute had the largest representation

of any school and the state of West Virginia had the largest attendance of any state at the Association. Professor Curtis read a paper on "Agriculture in the elementary schools." President Prillerman presided at the Conference of Negro Land Grant Colleges. The next session of the Association will be held at Nashville, Tenn., in 1916. President John Hope of Moorehouse College was elected President of the Association and Mr. G. W. Carey was re-elected Secretary.

NECROLOGY

Misses Eva and Lucile Eddens, who were students of the institution, died at their homes this summer of tuberculosis.

Alice Meadows, who had suffered from nervous trouble since last Christmas, died at her home here September 20th.

INSTITUTE NOTES

John T. Johnson, class of 1914, stopped by Institute enroute to Columbus, where he is a sophomore in the Agricultural Department of the Ohio State University.

Delbert M. Prillerman, the elder son of President Prillerman left September 20th for Lansing, Michigan where he is a junior in the Michigan Agricultural College.

Miss Ethel Spriggs left September 20th to take charge the music in the South Carolina State College at Orangeburg. Miss Lewellyn Spriggs left September 21 for Fisk University, where she is a member of the senior class in Domestic Science and Arts.

Miss Claudine Washington was called to her home at Barboursville September 27th by a serious accident to her father.

Mr. Marcellus C. Guss of Columbus, Ohio, was the guest of professor S. Hamlin Guss, his brother, several days in September. He visited the school on Sunday evening, September 18th, and spoke acceptably to the students. Mr. Guss is an expert electrician.

Miss Clara Mays of Indianapolis, Ind., gave a dramatic and musical recital in the chapel Friday evening, September 24th.

The college class numbers 16;

Males 7, Females 9. The new teacher in this department is professor W. W. Jackson, a graduate of Brown University.

Among the many repairs and improvements around the school are the cement walks, the new dining hall, new floors in Fleming Hall, and the remodeling of the old dining hall into a dormitory for girls.

The library will be removed from the A. B. White Trades Building to the basement of Fleming Hall.

The institution has been visited this year by the following teachers from the Charleston schools: Mr. John F. J. Clark, Miss Beatrice Calhoun, Mr. W. T. C. Cheek, Misses Cecil Miller, Fannie L. Gasaway, Rhoda Wilson, Annie E. Simpson, Amelia Wilcher, and Hattie Peters. The names of other visitors who have come since school opened are Miss Carrie Fairfax, Class 1908; the Reverend F. Herman Gow of Charleston, and the Reverend M. Jackson of Millersburg, Kentucky.

Miss Otelia Morgan, class of 1911 who has been teaching in Oklahoma since her graduation, was married on the 12th day of last July to Mr. Wright, a prosperous farmer of Calhoun Oklahoma. They took a bridal trip to San Francisco California, where they visited the Exposition. They have the good wishes of the teacher

and students of The West Virginia Collegiate Institute.

The Reverend M. J. Gregory of Pittsburg, Pennsylvania, spent Thursday, October 7th, at the institution. He gave an excellent talk at the chapel services in the morning, and gave a lecture to the Bible classes in the evening on "The Second Coming of Christ". He has spent several years at the Nyack Missionary Institute, Nyack, New York, in preparation for work in Africa, where he plans to go as soon as opportunity will permit him.

Mr Gregory brings good reports of the evangelistic work being done in Pittsburg by Mr. E. M. Burgess, who was formerly teacher of printing at this institution.

Mr. William Banner of Boomer, West Virginia, visited the school on Friday morning, October 8th. He attended the chapel exercises, and was introduced to the school, and spoke very interestingly to the students. For several years, Mr. Banner had a daughter in attendance at this institution.

The West Virginia Teacher's Association will meet at Storer College, Harper's Ferry, November 25th and 26th. Efforts are being put forth by the President J. W. Moss to make this the best session in the history of the Association. Many distinguished persons have been invited to speak

The registration for the first week of the fall term is 335 as against 331 for the whole of last year. Of these, 88 are in the first year class. There are 102 new students.

Honorable H. H. Railey, class of 1896, has been appointed by governor Hatfield as Field Agent for the Colored Orphan Home at Huntington. Mr. Railey will have his headquarters at Montgomery, but he will travel over the state and seek such orphan children as should be placed in the home at Huntington and seek suitable homes in families for such children at the orphanage as may be eligible to leave.

Mr. Railey will be missed from the teaching ranks, as the students who have come from his school to The West Virginia Collegiate Institute the last few years show that they were among the best trained of those coming from the public schools.

EDUCATORS GIVEN LIFE CERTIFICATES

President Byrd Prillerman, the Prominent Educator of the State is Honored.

Announcement has been made by the state department of school that at the meeting of the state

board of education recently held at Morgantown, that four life certificates were awarded prominent West Virginia educators because of brilliant service in promoting the development of educational institutions.

The life certificates were awarded to H. C. Robertson, of Charleston, principal of the Tiskelwah graded school; Mrs. Hadel Henshaw Gardiner, of Shepherdstown normal; Orio McConkey, principal of the Clarksburg high school, and to Byrd Prillerman, president of the collegiate institute. Mr. Prillerman is rated as the foremost colored educator of the state.

In attendance at the meeting of the board were Superintendent M. P. Shawkey, of Charleston; J. D. Garrison, of Middlebourne; J. N. Deahl, of Morgantown; C. R. Murray, of Bluefield and F. L. Burdette, of Clarksburg.

NEGROES BECOMING FARMERS OF THE NATION

At the Boston meeting of the National Negro Business League it developed in the discussion that the general trend of farm development of the South, shows that Negroes are becoming the farmers of the nation. In the last statistics covering this point it was shown

that the percentage of increase in Negro farm ownership in the last ten years has exceeded that of the whites in all except two States. This is encouraging to that increasing group who believe that economic development is one of the certain roads to racial prosperity and independence.

In bringing about this remarkable economic advancement no factor has been more important than the rural school. Negro rural school work has made notable progress during the past ten years through the aid and co-operation of the General Education Board and the Jeanes, Slater and Rosenwald Funds. The rural communities have been thoroughly aroused to the value and importance of soil cultivation as an asset to prosperity and better living.

In more recent years, there has developed a tendency to place at least one agricultural school near the large cities where the overflow of boys and girls may be relieved while giving them an opportunity for practical training in the fundamentals of living. The few of these schools which have been established have more than justified their existence by the number of boys and girls they have saved from hospitals and prisons. The Memphis (Tennessee) Appeal says: A great industrial and agricultural

school for the training of Negro boys as scientific farmers and Negro girls to be educated along the same lines, is to be established this week in Crittenden County, Ark.

The race leaders of Eastern Arkansas propose to found and maintain a training school which, in the course of years, they hope to be as great an efficiency farm and industrial training institution as Booker Washington's Tuskegee Institute.

A large tract of land two miles north of Earle already has been obtained for the school by the Colored Baptist Association, which will be in session at Earle during the present week, and will mature the final plans for erecting modern buildings and shaping the lands for the work. Hundreds of successful Negro farmers and leaders of Eastern Arkansas will co-operate in raising the funds needed.

G. B. Washington, the largest Negro farmer of Crittenden County, who owns 1,000 acres of rich land, will preside as moderator. Amos Woods, another successful Negro, is the secretary.

Negro boys will be trained to do modern farming and the latest discoveries in diversification, soil science, stock and grain management will be taught. Women will be trained to do all sorts of household, culinary and kindred work,

such as canning, preserving and everything that relates to farm life.

No other Negro training community than Mound Bayou, Miss., is closer to Memphis than Tuskegee, Ala., and the establishment of the Crittenden County school on model lines shows how the Negroes are closely following the lead of the white man in developing the Memphis district to its highest farm efficiency. The race leaders are adapting themselves to the new conditions arising in the South and propose to establish themselves on a firmer basis.

The Negroes of Crittenden and the Eastern Arkansas Counties are working out their own salvation. Many are land owners and give generously and freely to educational uplift. The whites of Crittenden County have long provided them with good public schools.

A representative of the United States Department of Agriculture soon will come to Crittenden County to deliver lectures to the Negro farmers, teachers and children. Their agriculture is no longer haphazard. For the most part they have clung to cotton and corn as the leading crops, but of late in Crittenden they aggressively joined the diversification campaign, raising much live stock. As a class they are thrifty and accumulate.—*Tuskegee Student.*

FOOT BALL

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 5th, 1915

W. V. C. I.

West Virginia Collegiate Institute

VS

WILBERFORCE

Wilberforce University

At Lakin Field

AT INSTITUTE, WEST VA.