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HIGH SCHOOL NUMBER

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**West Virginia Collegiate Institute**

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BYRD PRILLERMAN, A. M., President,  
Institute, W. Va.

# The Institute Monthly

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N. B. Communications for publication should be given or sent to the Editor, or Managing Editor. All news will reach these columns through the Editors

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# The Institute Monthly

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Volume VIII.

DECEMBER 1915

Number III.

## EDITORIALS

WE HAVE WRITTEN LETTERS TO THE COLORED HIGH SCHOOL PRINCIPALS of the State, in which we have requested information concerning the history, development and work of each school. We have thought that such information would be an interesting acquisition to the educational history of the state; and furnish data to supply answers to the many questions that are frequently asked about the work and the character of the Negro High Schools of the state. ¶ We have inserted elsewhere in our columns, the letters from those principals who have been kind enough to reply. We rejoice to note the trend of these schools towards intellectual thoroughness, and practical efficiency. ¶ As we have formerly presaged the establishment of these schools, has increased the desire for secondary learning; and there is growing a considerable demand for their presence in every Negro community where numbers, interest, and educational progress have established a reason for their existence. ¶ It has long been the desire of The Monthly that there should be in our state a system of well regulated modern public schools, articulating in their grades from the lowest to the highest according to a plan that secures the greatest good to the greatest number. As this is a big step towards the realization of the true purpose of the public school, it has been slow in coming. Great movements, though they may be irresistible, advance not with the speed of the express train; but with the slow sureness of the glacier. ¶ We see in the existence of these high schools, a greater advance towards educational uplift, and a hastening towards the acquisition of those things that make for the state's greatest asset—a useful citizen.

ATHLETIC RELATIONS AMONG THE VARIOUS NEGRO SCHOOLS OF THE State have assumed such proportions that they can well begin to think of submitting themselves to the regulation of those rules that control amateur school athletics. ¶ In the beginning when the number of male students that attended the high schools and state secondary schools were few and of questionable athletic promise, there might have been some reasonable, if not convincing argument offered to excuse the tendency to enlist the support of persons who were non-members of the school or of temporarily allowing a special student of known prowess in football or baseball to play on the various teams. ¶ In the light of fairness, we question seriously the justness of this admission. The smaller schools merely followed the example of their larger prototypes, without stopping to reason much on the moral side of the question. ¶ The custom has grown into disrepute among the best schools. Few schools have the temerity now to stand sponsor for teams the members of whom are not bona fide students of the schools. The ethical code of school officials who tolerate the presence of others on their team except with the full consent and knowledge of opponents, is not one that the average school parent wants his child to adopt as a basic principle of his character. ¶ Why should honor be sacrificed for the certainty of victory? If athletic sports stand for anything, they stand for a fair chance and may the best ones win. Any other course leaves, an unpleasant feeling in our consciences, calls your honesty into question and lays the foundation for just condemnation. ¶ Discard ringers; play genuine school teams with genuine school teams, and try "always to be", rather than "to seem."

MCDOWELL COUNTY IS MAKING A COMMENDABLE EFFORT TO FREE ITSELF from the stigma of being the banner county of the state in the excess of illiteracy among its citizens. ¶ Professor W. W. Sanders, of the Department of Education is leading in this work, especially as regards conditions among the Negroes of that County. ¶ We have learned, with much pleasure, of the enthusiasm manifested in the great meeting of educational uplift held in Calhoun's Hall at Keystone some weeks ago. ¶ After the audience, consisting of teachers, preachers, lawyers, doctors, parents and those interested in the race had listened to a calm, bold presentation of facts from Prof. Sanders, many proffers of assistance for bettering conditions were made by the teachers and others present. ¶ These proffers were the more praiseworthy, because they

carried with them no expectation of remuneration, other than the satisfaction a race lover must derive from the general progress of a race that is forging ahead. ¶ We earnestly hope and devoutly pray for the Negro schools and churches of McDowell County to become so intensely aroused over this situation that, by their combined efforts thruout all their activities, will increase the percentage of literacy to that of the most favored class. ¶ We realize that McDowell County, with its wealth of industrial opportunities, stands as a Mecca towards which flock the flotsam and jetsam of states farther south. This renders more complex and discouraging, a condition, which under normal conditions, finds not a too ready solution. ¶ We regret that such a condition exists; for no county in the state is doing more, all things considered, for the educational uplift of its black people, than McDowell. ¶ The problem of this County is a problem that concerns each Negro and white man of the state. ¶ We believe that Professor Sanders will do all that is possible to better conditions and The Monthly asks for him and for the state, the cooperation of all.

### SUMNER HIGH SCHOOL, PARKERSBURG, W. VA.

Professor J. R. Jefferson, Principal.

Sumner High School was established in 1887. The course of study at that time was made to cover a period of three years. From 1902 to 1907 the course was reduced to two years. In 1907 a new building was erected, proper apparatus and equipment furnished, additional teachers employed and the course of study revised and extended to cover four years. In 1912 the necessary requirements having been met, the school was placed upon the First Class High School List, being the first colored High School in the State to receive that classification. The present enrollment is thirty-nine as against thirty-three last year. The Senior class contains four boys and one girl. The faculty is as follows: J. Rupert Jefferson, Principal; H. D. Hazlewood; E. P. Westmoreland; Eva S. Davis; Evelyn S. Goodsell, Music Supervisor.

The Physical and Chemical Laboratories, the Domestic Science and Arts and Manual Training Departments are all well equipped and efficiently managed. A Mechanical Drawing outfit and additional machinery is being installed in the Manual Training Department this year. A literary society, baseball, football, tennis, boys' brigade and other interesting adjuncts serve to attract and hold the boys and girls in school.

There is a fine school spirit in the community and the attendance thus far has been exceedingly fine. Summer High School led the city last month with an attendance of 99.41 per cent.

The following persons have been Principal from time to time: Witherspoon Pagues from 1887 to 1888; Timothy D. Scott from 1888 to 1892; Carter H. Barnett from 1892 to 1893; J. Rupert Jefferson from 1893 to 1902; Benjamin Jackson from 1902 to 1906; J. Rupert Jefferson from 1906 to present time.

### GARNETT HIGH SCHOOL, CHARLESTON, W. VA.

Professor C. W. Boyd, Supervisor of Colored Schools

Fifteen years ago I organized Garnett High School. For the first two years I taught all classes, after which time I called to my assistance J. F. J. Clark who, since then, has been connected with this department of the school and is now its principal.

The first graduating class had one member; today we have seventy-two young men and women who hold diplomas from Garnett. Eight-

een are teachers in the public schools of West Virginia; three are bookkeepers; two are real estate agents, and seventeen are in colleges or higher schools of learning. The most encouraging thing I can say for the school is, that all the young men and women who have finished the High School can be found in some sort of honorable employment in Charleston or the community in which they live.

The Junior and Senior High Schools number 125 pupils—24 more than were enrolled last year. Two courses are offered, either of which may be finished in four years. Four teachers are employed full time and three others give part of their time to teaching High School classes. In addition to the prescribed sixteen units for graduation, each pupil is required to do some work in music, drawing and manual training or domestic art and science. We also have an elective commercial course. Each year the classes grow larger. Two young men and four young women graduated in 1914. Three of these are in college and two are in the teachers' normal school. In the class of 1915 three young men and six young women graduated. Of this class, one is teaching school and six are in college. To me this is an indication that the High School is exerting a power for good by giving out young people an inspiration to become intelligent and useful citizens.

#### ELKRIDGE HIGH SCHOOL, NORTHFORK, WEST VIRGINIA

Professor J. W. Robinson, Principal.

We have two high school classes—First and second years. We have three pupils doing second year work and sixteen pupils doing first year high school. Of my nineteen high school pupils 75 per cent of them say that they hope to be able to take a college course. We have made application for permission to have a high school of the third class. We hope to bring it up to the first class as soon as possible. The high school enrollment was only four last year.

#### THE KIMBALL HIGH SCHOOL, KIMBALL WEST VIRGINIA

Professor N. Wiley, Principal.

The Kimball High School is located at Kimball. It is in its second year, with twenty-eight pupils enrolled and with two teachers. The

pupils enrolled are all regular, one-half coming from town and nearby vicinity, the rest by train from points five and eight miles distant.

The school is about centrally located in Brown's creek district, the colored population of which is about 4,000, the school enumeration about 913 with twenty-four teachers. Upward of twenty-four last year completed the grammar grades, and in the past three or four years, goodly numbers have completed their high school preparation, only a few of whom were able to go away for higher training. The people find it a part of wisdom to provide further training and development for these at home at less expense to themselves and a saving of human assets educationally to the state.

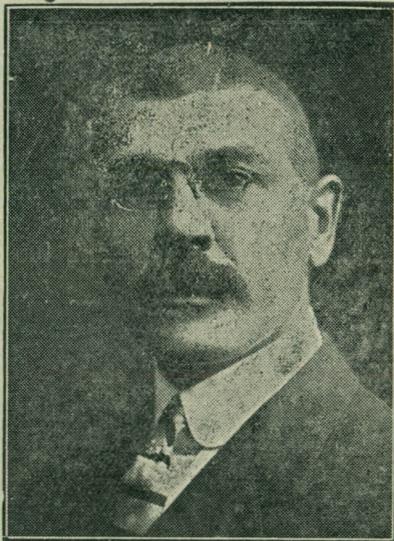
Many who have enrolled could not have attended any of the State Normal schools, some for the lack of means, some being too young. All the boys in the second year but one are fourteen and fifteen years of age. Nearly all the first year pupils, boys and girls, are thirteen and fourteen years of age. Of the number entering another year, some will just be entering the thirteenth year.

The school is classed as a second grade school. It is being equipped with apparatus, a library a shop for wood-work, a kitchen for cookery, etc.

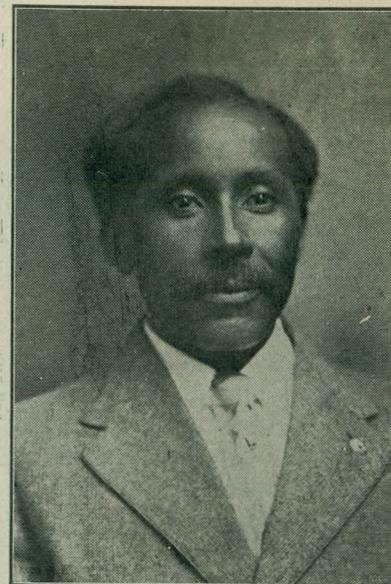
The boys are building their own cases for books, library tables and kitchen cabinets for the kitchen.

The school is a separate building to itself, and what is being done both in the way of trades and academic work is according to required standards of high schools. Thoroughness and work is our motto.

Miss Jones, the lady teacher, comes from the Ohio State University, and is thoroughly prepared. The school should be of inestimable service to the boys and girls of this section as well as to the State.



PROF. J. RUPERT JEFFERSON  
Principal of the Sumner High School  
Parkersburg, W. Va.



PROF. C. W. BOYD  
Principal of Garnett High School  
Charleston, W. Va.

MR. GEORGE RAYFORD, NORMAL CLASS OF 1915  
MAKING GOOD IN HIS CHOSEN PROFESSION

Stumptown, West Va.

To the Editor of the  
INSTITUTE MONTHLY.

Dear Sir:

We know that you always want to know what your graduates are doing in the communities in which they labor, and we are therefore glad to write to you about the work of our teacher, Mr. George Rayford.

Thanksgiving day, Mr. Rayford had a Patrons' program rendered at the School house, after which dinner, prepared by the ladies of the community, was served. After dinner, Mr. Rayford called upon the patrons to speak, and the following responded:

Mr. Catlipp, "How to improve live stock;" Mr. Ratliff, "How to make farm life happier for farm women;" Mrs. Johnson of Glenville, "How to raise children;" Mr. Rayford finally spoke on the theme of, "Why we should be loyal to West Virginia."

Mr. Catlipp, and Mrs. Ratliff respectively have two daughters each in the West Virginia Collegiate Institute.

After the speaking, Mr. Rayford held a potato race and bean bag tossing on the school grounds, and this created more interest and fun than any sport that has ever been held in our community.

His evening program was highly interesting, and consisted of a dialogue plantation and other songs, and recitations.

The dialogue was written by Mr. Rayford and was so well liked that it had to be repeated.

Mr. Benjamin Timpson a local citizen spoke on "The reason for being thankful."

Many young men employed in the Stave Mills layed off that day to be present at the exercises, and assist in dissecting the national bird. Chief among them was Messrs Budd Ratliff and Herbert Catlipp.

Mr Rayford is a fine teacher, and the children like him. He has secured funds for a swinging lamp for the school house, organized a social-center club, and is teaching vocal music. He is proud of his school and we are more than proud to say that he has the honor of

being the first to get all the patrons of this community together at one meeting.

A CITIZEN.

PRESIDENT PRILLERMAN  
ATTENDS DR. WASHINGTON'S  
FUNERAL

The president of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, was among the many noted personages who attended the funeral of the late Dr Booker Tallaferrio Washington. In his chapel talks, since he returned, he has depicted graphically the scenes and incidents noticeable around the bier of the noted educator.

The tributes of respect from all classes floral and oral, were worthy of the passing of the mighty.

CONSULAR C. H. PAYNE  
VISITS THE INSTITUTE

Honorable C. H. Payne, of Huntington, W. Va. and at present a United States Consular Agent at St. Thomas Danish West Indies, was the guest of President and Mrs. Prillerman, December the third, fourth, and fifth.

It will be recalled that Consular Payne was at one time a member of the board of regents of this school.

He has held his present position, under the two last United States presidents, and his continued retention is sufficient testimony of

his ability.

A large crowd of his friends gathered in the chapel Sunday night, the fifth to hear him preach, and agreed, after the sermon, that he had lost none of his old time vigor.

Honorable T. Gillis Nutter, and a few friends were guests with him at luncheon Sunday at the home of the president. Monday the sixth, Mr. C. E. Mitchell business manager entertained him, President Prillerman, W. W. Jackson, C. W. Smith, A. G. Brown, A. C. Spurlock, W. A. Spriggs, and S. H. Guss at luncheon.

The consul entertained the the student body at the Monday morning convocation of the 6th, with incidents of his official and civil life in St. Thomas.

It will be recalled by many, that a few years ago, no Negro of the state ranked higher for civic righteousness and racial uplift than our honored consul. He was among the first of the race in the state to receive recognition for his worth by appointment to honorable places of service.

He ranks high in the diplomatic service, in giving eminent satisfaction in a position that requires tact and judgement to control the tick-

lish situations that arise.

MR. N. A. MURRAY  
ASSISTANT IN AGRICULTURE,  
RECEIVES HONORABLE  
MENTION, AND A CASH  
PRIZE

We take pride in chronicling the following letter to Mr. Murray, from the Curtis Publishing Company. In an open contest conducted by "The Country Gentleman" in which prizes were offered for the best essay on School Gardens, Mr. Murray submitted one entitled "The best School Garden I have known."

Mr. Murray was among those who received creditable mention, and a minor cash prize.

Curtis Publishing Company,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

MR. N. A. MURRAY,  
Institute, W. Va.

Dear Sir:

The Judges of the Childs Garden Contest, entitled The Best School Garden I Know, has placed your paper on the list of those to receive Honorable Mention. We are therefore sending you a check for \$10. under separate cover, to cover its value. We recommend that we retain it for publication at a later date. We believe that it contains many ideas which will be helpful and stimulating to those engaged in school garden work.

Very Truly Yours,

The Editor of the Country Gentleman.

WEST VIRGINIA TEACHERS'  
ASSOCIATION

AT HARPER'S FERRY, WEST VIRGINIA

The West Virginia Teachers' Association held its twenty-third annual session at Storer College, Harper's Ferry, W. Va., Nov. 25th and 26th. The program consisted of music furnished by the students of Storer College, and papers and addresses by teachers from various portions of the state. The principal addresses at the meeting were made by Dr. Thomas Jesse Jones of the Bureau of Education, subject: "Democracy in Education", and Hon. M. P. Shawkey, State Superintendent of Free Schools for W. Va., subject: "Some New problems for the Old School". Both speakers were well received by the audience and presented their subjects in such a clear manner that all the teachers present must have been helped by the discussions. Friday afternoon, with President H. T. McDonald as guide, a party of teachers went to the battlefield at Antietam.

The officers for the ensuing year are, Prof. J. W. Moss of Kimball, President; Mr. Fred R. Raymer of Martinburg, First Vice President; Mr. O. T. Wilkerson of Bluefield, Second Vice President; Miss Etta Hall of Montgomery, Recording Sec.; Miss Mary William of Elkhorn, Cor. Sec.; Mr. Nathaniel

Wiley of Kimball, Treas. The next meeting will be held at Institute, Thanksgiving and the day following, 1916.

WISE SAYINGS

If you can't be pure, you can at least be sanitary.

Women fall: men merely stub their toes.

The hen is the only animal in Nature that can lay around and make money.

Every creed should be dated and stamped, "Good for this day and date only."

Quit work, and Nature takes your word for it and out you go!

A Bastile brain is one which you can neither get an idea into or out of.

Books are for people who cannot think.

Peace: A monotonous interval between fights.—THE PHILISTINE.

When you feel in need of a little stimulant, don't run for the coffee pot, the coke syringe or the brewery. Just open the switch-board and treat yourself to a nice little electric shock.

Or if your heart is weak, sidle up to the business end of a bee and push.

The secret is, if you've got nerve enough to do that, you can do almost anything.

—WRITIN'S FROM MAC.

"If the world does not recognize your talents, don't get discouraged; get mad. An angry man sometimes accomplishes something; a discouraged one never does."—*The Telephone Engineer.*

AROUND THE INSTITUTE

Mr. R.L. Brown of the engineering department of the school, made

a flying visit to Cincinnati Tuesday before Thanksgiving, to consult a specialist, under whom he has been taking a course of treatment.

Miss Maude Robinson, normal 1910 and at present a grade teacher in the Huntington schools spent the Thanksgiving vacation at Institute, with her parents.

Professor Westmoreland, manager of athletics in the Sumner High School, in company with his School football squad, visited the Collegiate Institute November, 20. Four young men from the squad express their intention to attend the Collegiate Institute next fall.

The village school house has been completed, and the session of school begun December eight under favorable auspices. The enrollment is very large. The male citizens of the community have constructed saw dust side walks in the most needed places.

Mr. H. Clay Meadows, of Class 1911, who has since graduated as a post trade student from Tuskegee, has matriculated as a Normal student at his Alma Mater. Mr. Meadows spent several years as a journey-man workman in masonry in the south.

Mrs. Alpha Brooks Jones class of 1896, wife of a prominent physician of Washington, D. C., spent a few weeks of early December here with relatives and friends of her former home. Mrs. Jones was at-

tended by her little daughter.

W. Augustus Brown, Assistant in the Commercial Department spent his Thanksgiving vacation with friends at Louisville, Kentucky. Mr. Brown returned very cheerful.

Mr. Roscoe Clarkson late principal of Bramwell Colored Schools, where he made an enviable reputation as a progressive school man, visited his Alma mater and friends the last week of November.

Mr. James MCHenry Jones Junior, teacher of the Marsh school and an alumnus, visited home and friends here, the latter part of November.

Mr. R. H. Lowry, erected a new steel corn crib of 900 bushels capacity for the School in early November. The agricultural department is now preparing to care for a bumper corn crop.

The printing office has been increased in efficiency by the addition of another job press.

The new press takes the place of a large antiquated cylinder press that was unsuited for local requirements.

Maceo Simpson, of the Senior English Class, received a severe accidental cut across his right wrist near the palm. He bled profusely, but the injury was not serious.

The first musical of the term will be given by the musical department under the guidance of the teacher, Mrs. M. E. Mitchell the night of December 17.

The debate on female suffrage between Miss Mary E. Eubank, and Prof. W. W. Jackson the night of December the third, was a forensic treat. Miss Eubank ably defended the affirmative side of the question, against the spirited opposition of Mr. Jackson.

The judges decided that Professor Jackson had won by a small margin.

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