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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.

EDITOR - - - - - - BYRD PRILLERMAN
MANAGING EDITOR - - - - - - S. H. GUSS
BUSINESS MANAGER - - - - - C. E. MITCHELL
EDITORIALS

SINCE all young men physically fit and eighteen years of age and above are now subject to draft in the United States Army it is all the more important that the boys under eighteen should be kept in school. Parents, teachers, ministers and other citizens should put forth every effort to keep boys under eighteen years of age in school every day in the school year. If very great care is not exercised in this important matter the race and the nation will be greatly lacking in men prepared for the responsible duties of the future.

On account of the vast modifications that these stressful times have entailed the prompt appearance of The Monthly has been delayed. We hope to serve the same interests that were the cause of our birth; and since these interests—those surrounding activities and development of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute—have become enmeshed with those specific things, efficient knowledge of which will curtail the continuance of "The Great War" and establish firmly Democracy for all people and all lands, our columns are open for the publication of any matter, that shall add to the power and permanency of this great nation that freedom shall not perish from the earth.

Our pen shall always be trenchant for all that stands for banishment of ignorance, and the flooding of the corners of the earth with truth, love and charity.

Elsewhere in these columns notice is drawn to the detachment of S. A. T. C. established here. The one hundred or more young men enrolled therein are being trained in its requirements by competent colored officers.

It required no little effort, on the part of the school's executive to secure governmental recognition for the Institution's classification.

The vocational assignment of the S. A. T. C. required by the govern-

ment, compelled decided changes in our curriculum. When the purpose for which these were made, is considered, what ever departure from the normal exists, is deemed an added effort to help our government.

We call your attention to the letters from some of our boys Over There. They deserve careful reading, and consideration.

The last letter received from the late Lieut. N. C. Fairfax by President Prillerman will be read with sadness.

Elsewhere in these columns is a notice of his passing.

LIEUTENANT NORWOOD C. FAIRFAX DIES IN ACTION IN FRANCE

ORD WAS RECEIVED by Charles Fairfax, Frank Fairfax, Irma Fairfax and Clara Fairfax—students at this school—from Rev. L. M. Fairfax, their father in Bessemer Virginia that their brother, Lieutenant Norwood C. Fairfax, of the 368 Infantry Co. E. A. E. F., was killed in action somewhere in France, September 28, 1918.

Lieutenant Fairfax was a graduate of this school from the academic class of 1916. He enrolled the following year as a student of Howard University of Washington D. C., from which school he was selected for the first colored officers training school at Des Moines, Iowa.

He received a commission of second lieutenant there, and in due course of time was sent over seas.

He died in action. With his face to the foe, leading on his men, doing his duty, he gave his all for his country, for the oppressed of the world.

He is recalled by many students and teachers as a good student, a brilliant athlete, generous and chivalrous in his deportment, and loved generally. We accord him the glory that belongs to a hero, and enshrine him in our hearts, as one of the school's immortals who was not born to die.

He is the first so far as our knowledge extends, of the choice band that went out from this school, to pay the price.

The West Virginia Collegiate Institute feels deeply, the loss of one of her brightest jewels as the parents feel the loss of a son, but she nurses a holy reverential pride that she had such a one to offer upon the altar of her country in the time of such need.

EDUCATIONAL

Ralph W. Tyler, of Columbus, Ohio, former auditor for the Navy
Mrs. Alice Nelson, the newly-appointed field worker to mobilize the “Woman-power” of the colored people of the nation, has just concluded a successful tour of the southern states, and has formed many new organizations through which the women of the race may aid in winning the war, stimulated to a marked degree all of the units she found in existence in the cities and towns. Her itinerary covered more than 5,000 miles. She was greeted most cordially by the State Council of Defense and these organizations throughout the South evince a disposition to cooperate in every possible way with the patriotic colored women of that section.

Of the graduates from the Field Artillery Training School for officers at Camp Taylor, Louisville, Ky., 33 were colored. It is reported that six of the honored students were colored. The school opened July 1st. and closed August 31st. Colored men, it is stated, stood second, third and fourth in rating in the total class of 2,500.

The Commanding Officer of the S. A. T. C. Camp at Howard University, Washington, D. C., reports that the following named men of the West Virginia Colle-giate Institute have qualified as instructors in the Student Army Training Corps:

Albert C. Spurlock

Carl Diton, the Negro concert pianist will appear at the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, December 14, 1918. Mr. Diton, who is generally conceded as the most prominent pianist of his race, was educated at the University of Pennsylvania and also in Europe. As a composer he is best known by his meritorious transcriptions of the plantation melodies which not only have been flatteringly reviewed by the leading musical periodicals, but have been performed by prominent musicians, throughout the country.

This is his second time to make a complete tour of the United States and he expects to give many concerts for the Red Cross, War Chest and War Community Service. A large audience is solicited to greet this distinguished musician.

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The 27th annual meeting of the West Va., Teachers' Association will convene Nov. 28 and 29th in Huntington.

This meeting is significant because it will be a joint meeting of the Northern West Va. Teachers' Association and will bring together the most progressive teachers working in the rural and city schools; also the teachers and principals of our State institutions are manifesting unusual interest in the coming meeting.

Prof. J. R. Jefferson, Prin. of the Parkersburg school and Pres. of the Northern W. Va. Association and Prof. A. W. Curtis director of Agr. at the W. Va. Collegiate Institute have arranged the program.

Among the distinguished educators who will address the teachers are Prof. Wm. Pickens dean of Morgan College and Dr. Thomas Jessie Jones of the Bureau Education Washington, D. C. Plans are being made to bring before the teachers and other Educators of prominence.

The teachers in West Va. are
among the most energetic and progressive in the country.

The State must look to them for a higher type of citizenery. In order to sustain their reputation and meet the demands made upon them they must seek to increase their efficiency to extend their vision, to magnify and dignify their profession.

Teachers above all others cannot afford to neglect the assembling for conference concerning the new duties confronting us because of the war.

**TELEGRAMS**

**Leading to the Establishment of the Students' Army Training Corps at the W. Va. Collegiate Institute**

Washington, D. C., Sept. 7, 1918.

President of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute:

We understand you have Vocational equipment to handle a Vocational unit of Student Army Training Corps. Your students could be inducted at once into this corps and thus start Army Training in school. One hundred physically fit men over eighteen and who have finished public elementary school necessary to form unit. Government expense of subsistence and instruction. Wire at once if you can qualify. If you wish to undertake the work, we will then send inspector as soon as possible to investigate and arrange contract. Letter with particulars follows.

Committee on Education and Special Training,
Dooley.

Washington, D. C., July 24, 1918.

To President W. Va. Collegiate Institute:

Supplementing announcement of the secretary of War dated May 8, providing for comprehensive system of military instruction in institutions of collegiate grade, beginning with next fall, a plan for carrying out this policy has been approved and will be mailed you shortly. Plan includes provision for forty-seven days training camps, August 1st, to September 16, for selected students and faculty members from colored institutions, who will be trained as assistant instructors to help officers who will be assigned to institution. No commissions issued but certificates of qualifications as instructors. Presidents of institutions are requested to select one student for every twenty-five in attendance last academic year and one faculty member for each one hundred students or less of last year's male enrollment of students eighteen years or over. Notify them to report to commanding officer, the Washington training Camp Howard University grounds, Washington, D. C. on August 1st. Five days leeway in reporting permitted if necessary. Select men of highest type physically and mentally and most capacity for leadership. Must be citizens and men who expect to return to college next fall.

Maximum age limit faculty forty-five. Emphasize great value of opportunity offered. Advise those selected have physical examination by reputable physician to determine physical fitness for severe training. Both students and teachers will be under temporary enlistment for forty-seven days when they will be discharged. They will receive housing, uniforms, subsistence, equipment and military instruction at government expense. Also pay of a private (thirty dollars per month) and reimbursement of transportation to and from camp at four cents per mile. Wire Commanding General, Eastern Dept. Governors Island, New York, number to attend from your institution.

McCain, The Adjutant General.

**A LETTER FROM THE WAR DEPARTMENT**

To the West Virginia Collegiate Institute:

The following statement is herewith submitted in accordance with telegram of October 7.

All qualified men between the ages of 18 and 21 are likely to be called into the service by July 1, 1919. The younger will probably be called last. Students who have completed public elementary school and have passed the required physical and medical examination may be inducted at once into the army as members of the Students' Army Training Corps, Vocational section, and thus enabled to remain in school more or less of the year according to age, and needs of the service and be given a training that shall make them of more value as soldiers when they are called.

After a certain period men taking this extended vocational course will be selected according to his performance and assigned to military duty in one of the
following ways:

(A) He may be transferred to a central officers’ training camp.
(B) He may be transferred to a non-commissioned officers’ training school.
(C) He may be continued in the vocational training section of the corps for further technical training of military value.
(D) He may be transferred to a cantonment for duty with the troops as a private.

It is understood that men in the B unit of the Student Army Training Corps will have an equal opportunity with those in the college, or a unit, to demonstrate their fitness for advancement and their qualifications for officers and non-commissioned officers’ school. The members of the Students’ Army Training Corps are soldiers with private pay. The government pays the cost of subsistence and instruction according to contract made with each institution. Men are liable to be called out at any time according to the needs of the army but new men may be assigned to replace them at the discretion of the War Department.

It is our understanding that you have industrial equipment and instructors sufficient to handle the unit of this character. As stated in our telegram if you care to do so please wire us to that effect and we will send inspectors to make further investigations and settle arrangements as to contract if conditions are satisfactory.

Yours very truly,
Committee on Education and Special Training.
C. R. Dooley,
Director.

NEWS FROM “OVER THERE”

[We are publishing letters and excerpts from letters, written from “Over there” by alumni and ex-students of the West Virginia Collegiate Institute.

The one written by the late Lieutenant Fairfax was the last received from him by the school’s executive, and will be read with varied degrees of emotion, for since then, he has paid the great price.—EDITOR]

Somewhere in France.
July 9, 1918.

Dear Mr. Prillerman:

Realizing the fact that you have great interest in our welfare and success, I know you will appreciate a line from me. The ship on which we sailed reached here safely. Our voyage was more than a success. In fact, it was more pleasant than we expected. Every one was cheerful and happy. The trip was very wonderful. You know without my telling you that I can not go into details about the voyage or location, but maybe, I will have the pleasure of relating to you some day in details my experience. As I understand, our regiment is considered one of the best in the National Army. I am sure you heard of our progress before we left the States. I am sending you a copy of the little paper that was published daily on the ship on which we sailed. We

were not the only regiment on board the ship and you will see an article written by an officer who is not an officer of our regiment. Our regimental band entertained us all of the way and our friends were carried away with its music. My shoes have not been dusty for weeks, in fact I went to bed every night in my shoes and did not soil the bed clothing.

I will appreciate very much a letter from you and the rest of my friends any time you have time to write. I suppose you are able to imagine what a letter means to one this far from his friends. When you write, please tell me whether or not you have heard from Delbert and Elliott recently. I want to write them a card. I left Elliott at the camp, but I am not sure that he is there still. Patterson, Hughes, Lockett and Fairfax were there to bade me good-bye when I left. Believing you will write when you have time, I am

Sincerely yours,
Lieut. Norwood C. Fairfax,
368th Infantry.

Somewhere in France.
September 6, 1918.

Dear Mr. Prillerman:

I am writing you under such peculiar and different conditions than what I have been accustomed to that I hardly know where to begin nor what to say first. Nevertheless, let me say in the beginning, I am well, and am rapidly learning to soldier in France.

We have been in France nearly three months, and the French People have always treated us with due courtesy and respect. In fact no one could wish for a more hospitable treatment than has been given the American soldiers by the people of France.

When I pass through the villages of France that have been occupied by the German armies and see the wanton wastefulness, and unnecessary devastation everywhere that have been perpetuated by the re-treating Huns, and see objects against which their cruel practices have been directed, it makes me feel that our cause must be just, that Providence is on our side, and that it is a privilege for one to have a hand in the suppression of such civilization Germany holds up before the world. I cannot say just how long the struggle is going to last, but I feel sure that victory will soon come to the Allies cause, and that a new meaning and realization of the word Peace will be established among the nations of the earth.

France is a beautiful country, and it would be so much more beautiful if the people were not at war, and were following their peaceful pursuits.

I would like to tell you where we are but certainly I cannot.

I have been thinking for a few minutes whether I should mention
My dear Miss Eubank:

It was with no small degree of surprise and pleasure that I received your kind letter of September 8, after supper or mess tonight. The fact that I have laid everything aside to answer at once should be evidence that your letter was both pleasing and appreciated. The receipt of mail is the biggest thing in a soldier's life and the knowledge that I am not entirely forgotten by the friends behind is indeed gratifying.

Of the things I would and could write most about, the censor will not permit, but I suppose it is alright for me to tell you that I am having some experience it will take me a lifetime to relate. From the very minute I first landed in France, I began to open my eyes to what was going on about me and my experiences seem to grow in momentum as time goes on. It is hard for me to realize that only a few short months ago I was back in the States among friends and enjoying the peaceful pursuits and pleasure of an ordinary civilian. Roaring guns and staccato reports of machine guns, the battles of airplanes and the steady tramp of marching soldiers have taken the place of the city street-cars and the thousand and one noises common to city life. I feel that I am almost a veteran already, yet I realize that I have just begun to play my little part in this great world-war. My work with the Inspector General of the Division puts me in close touch with every phase of Army life and in and out of the trenches under all conditions. Fortunately I am able to see just what our boys are doing and how they are measuring up in this day when the very best that is in a man must be brought forth. I feel safe in saying that the boys are doing well and holding up the noble traditions of bravery and courage of our colored soldiers of other wars. They are representing the race as you would have them represent it along all lines.

As strange as it may seem, there aren't many boys from West Virginia in the 92d Division, and I don't recall that I have met any except those from Institute. Most of the West Virginia boys were put in service battalions after the first draft. It has been my pleasure to see quite frequently most of the Institute boys, James Jones, Cunningham, Wm. Ferguson, William Vaughn, Mose Lindsay, Robert Black, and many more of them. Haven't seen Delbert, Connors, Fairfax and Hughes on this side yet. Heard yesterday that Dave Deans and Jas. Washington were very close to me. I expect to run up on them at any time.

The Y. M. C. A. huts are the nearest thing we have to home over here. These in charge do every thing in their power to make us feel like we are back in the States. They furnish us with all kinds of food, music, literature, etc., aside from the main features, our spiritual welfare and a place where we can write Mother.

Of course, I accept the engagement to lecture to the girls. Let me see just what date I can make. Well from the way we have the Hun on the run, I feel safe in making it Easter Monday, 1919. Gee! Wouldn't it be great if we could be back by that time.

Wishing you health, happiness, and a successful school year. I commend you to Him who will go before as fast as I'd put it down it is wearing out. As strange as it may seem, there aren't many boys from West Virginia in the 92d Division and I don't recall that I have met any except those from Institute. Most of the West Virginia boys were put in service battalions after the first draft. It has been my pleasure to see quite frequently most of the Institute boys, James Jones, Cunningham, Wm. Ferguson, William Vaughn, Mose Lindsay, Robert Black, and many more of them. Haven't seen Delbert, Connors, Fairfax and Hughes on this side yet. Heard yesterday that Dave Deans and Jas. Washington were very close to me. I expect to run up on them at any time.

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With best regards to Prof. Prillerman, faculty, student body and friends and hoping to hear from you real soon, I remain

Yours sincerely,


E. O. Fulks writes a letter to
Miss Mary E. Eubank

My dear Miss Eubank:

I have decided to do so. It is this: The first time we were under fire or shelled by the Germans was nearly two weeks ago. The Boche tried his best to get us, but he did not succeed. It would have been most amusing for one who was in no danger whatever to have seen us turn about ha! ha! Well, it is nothing to laugh about, but one could hardly keep from laughing at the other fellow after it was over. As it goes on night and day now we are getting used to it.

Remember me to Mrs. Prillerman, faculty, and students.

All the Institute boys who came over are well.

Wishing you health, happiness, and a successful school year. I commend you to Him who will go before as fast as I'd put it down it is worn out. As strange as it may seem, there aren't many boys from West Virginia in the 92d Division and I don't recall that I have met any except those from Institute. Most of the West Virginia boys were put in service battalions after the first draft. It has been my pleasure to see quite frequently most of the Institute boys, James Jones, Cunningham, Wm. Ferguson, William Vaughn, Mose Lindsay, Robert Black, and many more of them. Haven't seen Delbert, Connors, Fairfax and Hughes on this side yet. Heard yesterday that Dave Deans and Jas. Washington were very close to me. I expect to run up on them at any time.

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Yours sincerely,


Dear Mr. Prillerman:

At this time I am sitting where this time last year I thought I would never be, but you know some how or other you can't always tell on the account of that destiny that shapes our end rough hew them as we may.

I suppose that indefinite leave of absence that you gave me has expired, at any rate I know it is worn out.

I did not enjoy the trip over, but I know the fish did for I fed them regularly for nine days, three meals each day. The food I ate must have had airplane tendencies for as fast as I'd put it down it would want to come up, and up it came.

As I am sure you will not be in rear ranks as I learn that over four hundred colleges have turned to right-about face and placed quite a bit of stress on military training, I will not ask if you are in the number.

Robert Black is at present nearer me than any of the other boys.

Some of them I have not seen since
coming over. I have caught a fleeting glimpse of Cunningham. I ran into Ballard and stayed in the same place with William Houston and Jimmy Jones. The fact of the matter is I haven't seen Black but I know we are attached to the same contingent. We write each other quite frequently, and expect to run upon him sooner or later.

No doubt by this time you have read in some of your papers that the "Germans flee;" that does not bother us, but the flea left behind certainly does. Why the cootie, as he is commonly called, would just as soon make one swear on Sunday as he would any other day of the week. They surely strike a heavy blow to be so small. I imagine unless you are fortunate to have a certain fellow, they don't bite you at all. I have been flea bitten.

I can hardly close without mentioning some one else you know, and whom I find a co-worker. "Tis strange how things will happen, but it is none other than Holley Well of whom I often heard you speak. If the end of war was as near as I have heard it imitated near as I can remember that is as girls sing soprano, and work your fingers in and out your ears. As near as I can remember that is as nearly as I have heard it imitated unless you are fortunate to have a fleeting glimpse of Cunningham. I ran across first class-private Jno. C. Calhoum of Keystone, and Sergt. Leonard Hughes lately of Institute. The French people are square and unprejudiced, and honor you as they do their own. If I could talk French, I would make my home here.

We hope to return about Xmas, and bring the bacon back.

Yours truly,

J. Wesly Gray,

First Class Private.

Somewhere in France.

Aug. 11, 1918.

My dear Mr. Prillerman:

I got your letter yesterday and am just as proud as can be to hear from you. It is actually a treat to hear from the dear ones back in the States, because we know they are interested in us and are praying for us.

Mr. Prillerman, I am very sorry you did not visit us at Camp Meade. We would have given anything to have had you and Mrs. Prillerman with us.

I saw Delbert several days ago; he is well and getting along nicely. All of the boys are happy and in the best of spirit, with one great determination—that is to get the Kaiser.

I am very proud that you met my Dad at the Association. I have been writing him every week since I left.

Now Mr. Prillerman I am going to write you more often, because I feel that you are just as proud to hear from us as we are to hear from you. I must confess I have never realized before how great such a small thing as a letter is, and what it means to one who is away from the dear ones.

All of us boys who were together at Camp Meade are still together. All wish to be remembered to all the folks. With best wishes for a pleasant vacation I am,

Sgt. L. S. Hughes,

Btry. C. 351 Field Artillery,

A. E. F.

Dear Evie:

I have received a number of letters from you. I have seen a lot of Institute and Manassas people since I have been here. I see Mr. Prillerman's son quite often. Remember me to the president, his family, teachers and students. I have seen a great deal of this country, and we have been well treated by the natives. It is very interesting to observe their customs, and their way of doing things. The language is hard to learn.
The Y. M. C. A. is doing splendid work for the soldiers. Since the first of Aug., we have been steadily advancing.

Your cousin,
Russel H. Carpenter.

Somewhere in France. Sept. 1, 1918.

Dear Mr. Prillerman:

This leaves me well, and very busy. This is indeed a beautiful country. The houses in the villages I have passed thru, are all stone. The churches are all beautiful.

I have not caught up with my company yet, and hence do not feel at home with the company I am in.

I saw the French President the other day, and one of the principal Generals, and heard the latter lecture on the war. I would like to tell you about the lecture, but of course, I am forbidden.

With best wishes for you and family, I am,
Yours very truly,
F. Hurt Marshal,
Acting Corp. Co. D. 317 Engineers A. E. F.

Somewhere in France. July 5, 1918.

Dear Mr. Prillerman:

My lieutenant has given me the chance to write to you. It will give you pleasure to learn that I am one among the following Institute Collegians: Corporals William P. Ferguson, and Robt. E. Black, Private William H. Houston, James McHenry Jones, M. Ballard, Wilbert Peters, Lewis Allen, Moses Lindsay, William Vaughan, Ivory J. Reid, Charles Vaughan of Co. D, 317 Engineers A. E. F.

Sergeant Major Edward Fulks, and Corporal Holley R. Wells, and private Houston M. Jeckson are stationed near me. This is a most beautiful country.

This hospitality that the French show the colored boys in olive drab has never been shown them before. If we are permitted to return to the U. S. A. we shall bring back the fondest feeling for the friendly spirit they have shown to us. If we do not return, and if the rest of the boys feel as I do, we will count it glorious to have paid the price for such a people.

Yours truly,
Arthur B. Cunningham,
Co. D. 317 Engineers A. E. F.

Somewhere in France. Aug. 12, 1918.

My dear President:

I have had a very pleasant summer in France, and have seen many wonders, but amidst it all, I feel that none are more wonderful than those of U. S. A.

I think that the war will end before many months, and victory will perch upon our banners. I see Delbert nearly every day. He is well and getting along fine. Give my best regards to all the teachers.

Yours sincerely,
Lyman A. Connors,
351 F. A. Battery E. A. E. F.

LOCALS AND PERSONALS

Vocational Unit of the Student Army Training Corps has been organized at the West Virginia Col-
Ohio State University, English, and Mr. Walter Douglass Johnson, A. B. Ohio University, College English.

Upon the application of President Byrd Prillerman, the War Department has established a Students’ Army Training Corps at the West Virginia Collegiate Institute. On October 12, Lieutenant Robert M. Hendrick was detailed here as commanding officer and Lieutenant Walter R. St. Clair as Quartermaster. They organized a unit of one hundred men and have others waiting induction.

The War Department has sent here to confer with President Prillerman, Prof. W. T. B. Williams of Hampton Institute and Major Ralph J. Mitchell.

Dr. M. T. Sinclair the school physician has been appointed surgeon to the students’ Army Training Corps.