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THE INSTITUTE
MONTHLY

*Valedictory
D. Morgan*

FOR OCTOBER 1917

Published By The
West Virginia Collegiate Institute
Institute, W. Va.

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.

Vol. 10

OCTOBER 1917

Number 1

Devoted to the Interests of The West Virginia Collegiate Institute
Twenty-five Cents the Scholastic Year. Five Cents Per Copy

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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 COLLEGIATE ASSOCIATE EDITORIAL STAFF

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EDITORIAL

THE NEW year has brought about many new changes. Many new students are to be seen on the campus and in the class rooms. The enrollment is not what was to be expected, but the call of Uncle Sam, the destruction of Dawson Hall, and the new entrance requirements, easily explain the decrease in attendance. This will not affect the efficiency of the work, for the faculty has been greatly strengthened.

Let each one of us start the year right—make each day count. Let no day pass but that from your hand some worthy action is done.

In a spirit of friendly rivalry, let the other fellow know that you are in the front ranks from the start.

Do not forget your contribution to next month's paper. The box in Fleming Hall is for your convenience. Jokes, class room happenings, current news anything interesting. Just drop it in the box on or before the tenth of each month.

While it has not been the policy of the staff to solicit any favors for the press notices of the function and et cetera that have been given by the students organization, yet we do think that due courtesy should be shown to the

Staff Correspondents for the laudable comments upon said functions and et cetera, and the free space that is generously given for their advertisement.

There is no desire on the part of the Student Staff for other consideration than that of professional, and common courtesy demands that the reporter should always be given an opportunity to come in

touch with things and events first hand, especially if the student organization and other collegiate activities desire to have their doings intelligently presented to the public.

It is expected that the Monthly's reporter's cards will be an Open Sesame to all functions and et cetera, that are not esoteric in their nature.—S. H. G.

VALEDICTORY to the CLASS of 1917

By MISS DALLAS MORGAN

OUR chosen Salutorian has graphically rehearsed to you the history of the foundation of this school. ¶ She has told you, how, out of man's necessity, came God's opportunity to help a struggling race, that was trying to climb from darkness into light.

"Nothing save the fabled goddess and the created angels have sprung full fledged into life. All that we see enduring requires time for full development. This school, grand as it is, and teeming in every hall with students, with its various departments working in harmony to produce a serviceable man or woman, has passed thru its various grades from a poor feeble beginning to the dignified state of a worthy institution whose fame has

spread beyond the borders of West Virginia.

"When the school was first opened in 1892, there were only two departments, a literary department which consisted of a normal and an academic course, and an industrial department for boys, which consisted of carpentry, blacksmithing and printing. In 1895, a sewing department was added which consisted of plain sewing and dress making. In 1902 a cooking department was added which has developed into one of the most interesting and helpful of its kind in the state. Of course the whole world is dependent on the farmer, come what will or may his work must go on for the survival of the country; to encourage agriculture, to win the people from the cities back to the farm, and enable the boys of W. Va to be-

come more proficient alone that line. An agricultural department was added in 1899. The boys have taken a great interest in agriculture and realize the necessity of proficient farmers, as well as lawyers, doctors and other professional men. In 1903, a commercial department was added, and persons who have finished this course may be found at work here and there, in this and other states.

"In connection with smithing, the elements of wheelwrighting and steam fitting are taught. In the repairs that the wear and tear on the machinery of the shops render necessary, many opportunities are afforded for the boys to learn the elements of a machinist's trade and in the daily operation of the shops the boys acquire the working knowledge of practical engineering.

"By far the greatest number of teachers is found on the vocational or industrial side of the school.

"In the department of home economics, five teachers are regularly employed, all of whose time is required in the teaching of sewing and cooking.

"So large has been the number in some of the classes, that extra student teachers are sometimes employed.

"In the department of mechanical industries, where carpentry, masonry, plastering, smithing, painting, mechanical drawing, and the elements of wheelwriting and

steam fitting are taught, seven male teachers are employed.

"This makes a total of twelve teachers and one assistant in the vocational side of the school.

"This department of the school, with its industries for male and female, has increased by leaps and bounds, and is returning in service to the state, sufficient to justify the generous help that the school receives. From an insignificant department into which the students went with reluctance, it has become important and dignified, requiring no persuasion for the various classes to be filled to overflowing.

"A literary education without some vocation is of little or no use to the Negro youth of to-day. The rural schools are over crowded each year by teachers who have graduated from the different school of the state. There are more teachers than school rooms. What is to become of those who are so unfortunate as not to secure a school? Shall they sit listless and dependent upon the parents who have struggled so hard to give them this education, until a school room is vacated for them? No, if they have attended the West Virginia Collegiate Institute they will not have to sit supinely holding their hands, waiting for a chance to use their brains, for the course here requires that each student shall take some vocation along with his literary work. There is

not a girl who has graduated from a full course, who is not able to prepare appetizing meals, or make creditable dresses, either of which is as honorable as teaching school.

"The young men who finish from the mechanical industries, can draft plans, excavate for foundations, construct houses either of brick or wood, pipe the same for water or gas, wire them for electricity, plaster them externally and internally, and paint them inside and out. They can also assist in the publishing of books and newspapers, and be of service in many other ways that demand the use of a trained mind and a skillful hand.

"What, in counting up the requisites for a useful citizen, is a greater asset towards well living than to have the ability to work well with the hands? Let me entreat the youth of West Virginia, to awake, and grasp the opportunities afforded you, before it is too late.

"The streets are crowded with bright-eyed boys and girls, capable of being developed into useful members of the race, who, by not receiving the right guidance by being placed in the proper environment, are wasting their chances.

"The proof that a thing can be done, is that it is constantly being done. Note the long list of men and women, useful with hands and brain, who have gone from this school—men and women, who are successful, because at the right time they were placed within the

environments of this school.

"The joys of life are many, its privileges great, its pleasures alluring and intense. Even thruout our happiest hours, like a flaw in a cloth of gold, runs the thot that the things we cherish most fondly, the things we enjoy most gladly, must come to an end.

"This is as certain as an immutable law, and all must before it bow. I know, classmates, that the most of us desire that our pleasant relations, founded upon years of intimate association, should continue.

We are not ready to sever, yet, the ties that bind us together. This however, is beyond our powers, and whether we would or not lies in other hands.

"This day, long anticipated, has come to us, and yet with the pleasure that we ought to feel, from the knowledge that it marks the end of one journey, and the beginning of another more serious, we are not as joyous as the occasion ought to demand.

"I have been chosen to speak the adieus, of the class of 1917, and ring down the curtain upon the little drama it has played on the stage of this Institution. I consider it a great honor, and a duty far beyond my power to properly preform.

"It will be worth while remembering that the class of 1917 graduated from this Institution at the close of its first twenty-five years

of existence, and during the most troublous years in all the history of the world. The situation that it confronts has no parallel in all recorded history. Civilization seems to have gone back to barbarism, peace has been banished by war, and the rule of love and charity, seems strangled by hate and passion; yet, above all, I voice the sentiments of this little band, God reigns and lives, and in his own way, will work for righteousness.

"Your excellency honored governor of the people of West Virginia, members of the State Board of Regents, we know we are the wards of your wise laws and generous appropriations. We are striving each year to make the present better than the past.

"We have caught the vision from

Build thee more stately mansions, O my Soul,

As the swift seasons roll.

Leave thy low vaulted past,

Let each new temple nobler than the last
Shut thee from heaven with a dome more vast

Till thou at length art free,

Leaving thine out-grown shell

By life's unresting sea.'

"We believe in your honesty, your purposes, your efforts in our behalf.

"We thank you and bid you, Good bye.

Dear President, the class which receives the stamp of approval for their school work, thanks you most heartily for all that you have done

for us during the years we have been in your care. We feel your interest in us has been personal, and has followed us within and without the class room. You have likewise been a vital inspiration. What is there left for our sad hearts to say, as we face this last scene of farewell, but thank you and God bless you, in the hope that you will not forget us, as we shall long recall you and your parental care?

To the faculty, dear, faithful teachers who have been our patient tender monitors and advisors for so long, we know that we are indebted to you more than we could ever become able to repay, were it granted us to live for ages.

You have taken a personal interest in each of us as individuals and have done for poor old "17" as a class all that was possible to make her career pleasant and profitable. You have perscribed for all our natural and mental disorders, and while the medicine has sometimes been bitter, it has always been helpful. Feeling that your intentions have been just, and knowing that we shall miss your guidance in the future, we bid you farewell.

"Schoolmates,—for by that name I may yet call you,—we are those members of a happy family, to whom it is allotted to leave the sheltering retreat of home. As fellow worshipers at the same shrine, as children of the same parents, as lovers of the same virtues,—the

beautiful, the useful, the good,—we have journeyed some for three years, some for two years, some for one year, along the pathways of knowledge, and during those journeys tender ties have been formed.

The parting of the ways is at hand; you will remain to serve your apprenticeship; we go forth upon unchartered seas to seek ventures for better or for worse.

"We leave to you the legends and traditions of our Alma Mater, and beg of you to uphold her honor, and make manifest in you the ideals for which she stands.

"Think of us sometimes when we are gone, and feel assured that wherever we are, our thoughts of 'Dear Old Institute,' are mingled with thoughts of you. Schoolmates, good bye.

"Classmates, brothers, sisters, by years of intimate association, my heart swells when thoughts of this last sad moment come over me. I see you again, as faltering and untutored, you came to join our numbers. I live over with you again our uneventful lives as we grew more confident that a gradual change for betterment was taking place. I meet with you again in class meetings, in our societies, in our socials, in our organizations for moral and racial uplift. I share with you once more your joys, and mingled sighs and tears with your sorrows. I am cheering with you madly for the successes of our gallant boys

on the gridiron and diamond. I am hoping, trusting, praying, for our success in the larger life that is about to open before us.

"Classmates, today is ours; tomorrow is in hands of destiny. Before us stands an open door. Are we prepared to enter?

"When I think of how many human beings, better prepared by nature and acquired qualifications than we are, in more auspicious times, have started, failed, and been forgotten, I stand with dread before the gloomy outlook, but classmates, I believe that 'there is a divinity that shapes our ends, rough hew them as we may'.

"Let us not despair, for that is not the spirit that this Institution infuses into its students. In the class rooms, and from the rostrum we have been taught to believe in ourselves, to struggle against odds, and place our hope and trust in the 'Giver of every good and perfect gift'.

"Altho I came to you from the Old Dominion, your loving hearts received me among you as one born among your native hills. I have received more from my Alma Mater, and from the cordial treatment of you as individuals than I can ever hope to pay.

"As the seriousness of the responsibility of life overwhelms me, let us swear anew our covenants to serve in any honorable capacity for the glory and renown of the race, state, and nation.

"From this time on, we must largely depend upon our own resources. The admonishing and corrective influences of teachers will often be most sadly missed. The harsh criticism of the world will wound us, and often when we grasp for flowers, the thorns will prick us.

"Classmates, if I have one consoling thought to leave with you as a lasting impress, which I beseech you to treasure as a rich legacy, it is: believe that the Savior stands ready to help all those who trust him. This is old fashioned, but it is as true as it is, that night follows the day.

"Let my farewell fall upon you like the spiritual influence of a benediction, Classmates adieu."

EDUCATIONAL

On the call of Hon. P. P. Claxton, United States Commissioner of Education, a conference was held in the new Department of the Interior, Washington, D. C., August 30 and 31, 1917, to consider the whole problem of Negro education. There were in attendance between 75 and 100 men and women of both races. West Virginia was represented by Superintendent M. P. Shawkey and President Byrd Prillerman. The conference took up somewhat in detail the report on Negro education recently issued by the Bureau of

Education. This report is known as Bulletin No. 38 and 39. The Conference authorized the appointment of a Commission by Commissioner Claxton.

FROM FISK UNIVERSITY

Nashville, Tenn., October 5, 1917.

Dear President Prillerman:

I beg to call your attention to the fact that Fisk University has abandoned inter-collegiate athletics for the period of the war. I trust that any contracts made in times past may not be unjustly affected. We hope that whatever obligation Fisk holds to any institution in this matter may be fulfilled in subsequent years, if not this year.

Trusting that you may agree with the wisdom of our course so far as we ourselves are concerned, I beg to remain, with kindest regards,

Very sincerely yours,

F. A. McKenzie,
President of Fisk University.

From THE PRESIDENT'S CHAPEL TALKS

"Every person should have some positive conviction.

"Emerson said, 'That which a man can do best nobody can teach him but God'.

"It is a very serious thing to be associated with bad people. Fortunate is the young man who learns that early in life. It is a great thing to have the privilege to be associated with the right kind of people

"The disadvantages of race is a

great handicap, but people who live right, who live in the fear of God will rise above these conditions. The very fact that we are discriminated against because of our racial identity causes some other people to sympathize with us.

"There are not many people in the world giving proper advice. Most of your friends will tell you to do the wrong thing. There is hardly one person out of ten who will give you the right advice if you are mistreated. Most of them will tell you to resent insult or do something to retaliate. This Book does not say that".

"It is sometimes taught us as a race that we should retaliate and be resentful, but that kind of thing makes a person mean and contemptible. It takes more strength to bear an insult than it takes to resent one. If you want your soul to develop, learn how to bear things, to bear insults and mistreatment. This develops one's soul and makes one stronger."

EXCHANGES

On account of the delay in receiving our exchanges, we are compelled to go to press with a very incomplete column.

We hope, by the next issue of our paper, to have all exchanges in. For this year it is written: "This column will be the most complete. and the best column in

the paper." WATCH THIS COLUMN GROW.

ATHLETICS

The 1917 foot-ball season is here. The opening of school finds the prospects at Institute very encouraging for a winning team. Seven regulars reported for duty, when the first call for candidates was posted. Many of last year's reserves were also among the first to trot out upon the gridiron.

Coaches Smith and Gardner are rapidly whipping the men into shape. Each evening about fifty young huskies report for duty, and are working hard to reduce the superfluous weight gained during the summer. The regulars who have returned, better than ever, are: Morgan, the big center; Cunningham, the sure tackle; and Brown and Gilmore, the fast tackles. Only two of last year's regular back-field men remain—Captain Hardy at full, and Bartlett at quarter.

Owing to abnormal conditions, some difficulty has been experienced in securing a schedule. Surmounting this difficulty, as is his custom, Manager Brown has arranged the following schedule:

October 20—Institute vs Storer College at Clarksburg. Game pending.

October 27—Institute vs Howard University at Washington.

November 17—Institute vs Storer College at Clarksburg, West Virginia.

November 22—Open date.

November 29—Institute vs Wilberforce at Institute.

It has been the custom, in former years, to organize class teams and play a post season series. We hope that this custom will be followed out again this year and that every class in the school will put a team on the field. Much interest was shown in the games played last year.

HUMOR AND WIT

On my return to Institute, with a few exceptions, I found things about the same as I left them,—the birds were still in the grove calling "Bob White" and Miss V. T. still had her head out the window calling "Bob Black".

If Miss B. R. can spare the powder the war in Europe will soon be over.

W. E. L.—Say Jeff, you remember what Lincoln said about "Four score and seven years ago".

Jeff—Yes that is called his Gettysburg address.

W. E. L.—What part of the Bible is it in?

They say fish is good brain food. Why then does R. M. refuse sal-

mon?

The price of common sense is still going up. We advise Mr. D. W. D. to buy at once.

Flies wishing to skate must see Standberry Pete on fair days; he will wear his hat when it rains.

H. R. J. says: "I have five of the sweetest girls in the world, and they are all worried to death about me."

A. B. C. scientific farmer, was very successful this year; he succeeded in raising a Scotch Collie, a load of hay, and an argument with his girl.

Morg.—Say Jabbo, I have just discovered something new—how to live forever.

Jabbo—How can I live forever, Morg?

Morg.—Have Walker and Davis dye for you.

Before the price of food went up, how much candy could "McCorkle Hall"?

L. C. promises to account for at least thirty Germans. It will be rather hard for him to run with all of those men hanging to him.

This, remarked H. R. J., is my photo taken with two of our prize

hogs on the farm where I spent my summer. You recognize me, don't you?

I think so, said Miss. W. R. P. You are the one with the hat on, aren't you?

H. H. D.—I see you are reading the dictionary now. Do you find it intersetting?

W. H. D.—I find it more amusing than interesting. It spells the words so different from the way I spell them.

Miss M. I. C. wants to know if green apples are ripe. Ask A. T. B.

How do we know that J. A. K. is telling the truth when he says that he helped Noah shove the ark off the mount.

Mr. Instructor—Mr. Bartlett, what answer do most of the college students give the teacher?

Mr. Bartlett—I do not know, sir.

Instructor—Correct sir, correct.

Correct—clock problem. Teacher—The hour hand is at 7, and the minute hand is at 5. Where will the hour hand be when both hands are together?

Wm. F.—On the face of the clock, sir.

Jackson would have had a hard time standing like a stone wall had

there been a few heads like W. E. L.'s.

Mamma—I can't think of our Sewing teacher's name.

Clara Vanell—(age five with a finger in the middle forehead in an attitude of deep concentration) I know.

Mamma—What is it dear?

Clara V.—Miss Skin.

Mamma—Oh yes, I remember now, it is Miss Hyde.

ORGANIZATIONS

The College Literary Society—The Prima Lux— will be headed by Mr. William Vaughn, ably assisted by Mr. Lewis Allen, as vice president, Miss Allystine Washington, secretary, and Mr. Harry Jefferson, treasurer. Last year the society met with but mediocre success, but judging from the start made at the beginning of the year this promises to be a record breaking year. The new students seem to have put new life into the society. However, let us not shout until we are happy. The president Mr. Vaughn, is a normal graduate, class of '14.

The Booker T. Washington Literary Society is composed of all the male students of the third and fourth year classes. The object of this society is to enable the members to become efficient in

public speaking, and to become well versed in parliamentary laws and usages.

Last year, this society met every Saturday evening and usually had two programs each month, one meeting night was devoted to the discussion of practical questions and current topics—serving as an excellent drill in extemporaneous speaking. The last meeting of the month was given over to business.

During the year 1916-17, the society had the largest enrollment in its history—a membership of ninety-three, and an average attendance of seventy. The officers for this year are: Raymond Jackson, president; Elliot Fairfax, vice-president; William Jones, secretary; C. I. Morgan, treasurer; William Colbert, critic.

The Hexagon Club has organized and planned its work for the year. At the second regular meeting it was decided to pursue a course of study in Negro history, with the "Story of the Negro" by Dr. DuBois, as a text.

Two honorary members have returned to the school and will be actively connected with the club—Professor D. L. Ferguson, who is teaching the sciences in the college department, and Mr. A. C. Ellis, who returned from Mississippi to take up his former duties as secretary to President Prillerman.

Mr. Raymond Jackson, '18, the President, expressed himself as

being well pleased by the interest, already manifested by the members. All indications point to a successful year. The slogan of this club is: "Men of High Culture".

The officers elected to guide the destinies of the fourth year class are: J. A. Kinney, president; Levi Gilmore, vice-president; Miss Julia Green, secretary; Miss Bettie Estes treasurer.

This is a very promising class of young men and women. We hope to hear much of them in the future as real race leaders. Leaders who have the interests of the race at heart, not selfish men who look for nothing only personal gain.

As we go to press, we have been unable to secure news from the other classes. In our next issue, however, we hope to arrange to denote a column to each class. In this way each class will know what the other is doing.

LOCALS AND PERSONALS

The West Virginia Teachers' Association will meet at Montgomery, West Va., November 29th and 30th, 1917.

Dawson Hall, our building for Home Economics, was completely destroyed by fire July 20th. The fire was discovered on the third floor about 3 o'clock in the morning. The cause of the fire is unknown. The debris of the old

building is being cleared away and the Board of Control purposes to rebuild the structure at the earliest date possible. The building was covered by insurance and the Board has received \$25,000 damages from this source.

Miss Florence D. Coffey, who was a teacher of plain sewing at this institution last year, resigned her position to become the bride of Mr. Merrill Willis of New York City. Notwithstanding Miss Coffey was with us only one year, she made a most favorable impression at the institution as a woman of strong character and scholarly attainments. She has the best wishes of the faculty and student body for a prosperous and happy life.

The following graduates of this institution have enlisted in the Officers' Training Camp at Fort Des Moines, Iowa: Delbert M. Prillerman, Class 1909; G. E. Ferguson, Class 1912; Lafayette Campbell, Class 1914; N. C. Fairfax, Class 1916; Robert Edwards, Class 1917.

Delbert M. Prillerman, class of 1909, graduated with the degree of bachelor of science from the Michigan Agricultural College on June 1st.

D. L. Ferguson, who graduated from this institution in the same class, took his master of science degree at the Ohio State University in June, 1917.

Join the Y. M. and the Y. W.

C. A. to-day; tomorrow may be too late.

Many of last year's graduates have returned to school this year, which shows that "there is no place like home".

The annual reception for the new students was held in McCorkle Hall, Friday, September 27, under the auspices of the Young Men's and the Young Women's Christian Associations. The primary object of this annual reception is to get the new students acquainted with the above organizations.

Rev. G. M. P. King, D. D., formerly Principal of the Wayland Seminary, District of Columbia, and late Professor of English in the Union University, Richmond, Va. died at his post in the early part of October, 1917.

James Claytor, one of our former students, was instantly killed by a motor truck Saturday, October 13.

Our President, Professor Byrd Prillerman, has been appointed as a delegate, by Governor Cornwell, to attend the North Atlantic Tuberculosis conference to be held at Baltimore, Md., October 17 and 18.

Among the early October visitors were the Mesdames M. L. and T. B. Fairfax, Miss C. E. Fairfax, a graduate of this school and Miss E. M. Davis.

