

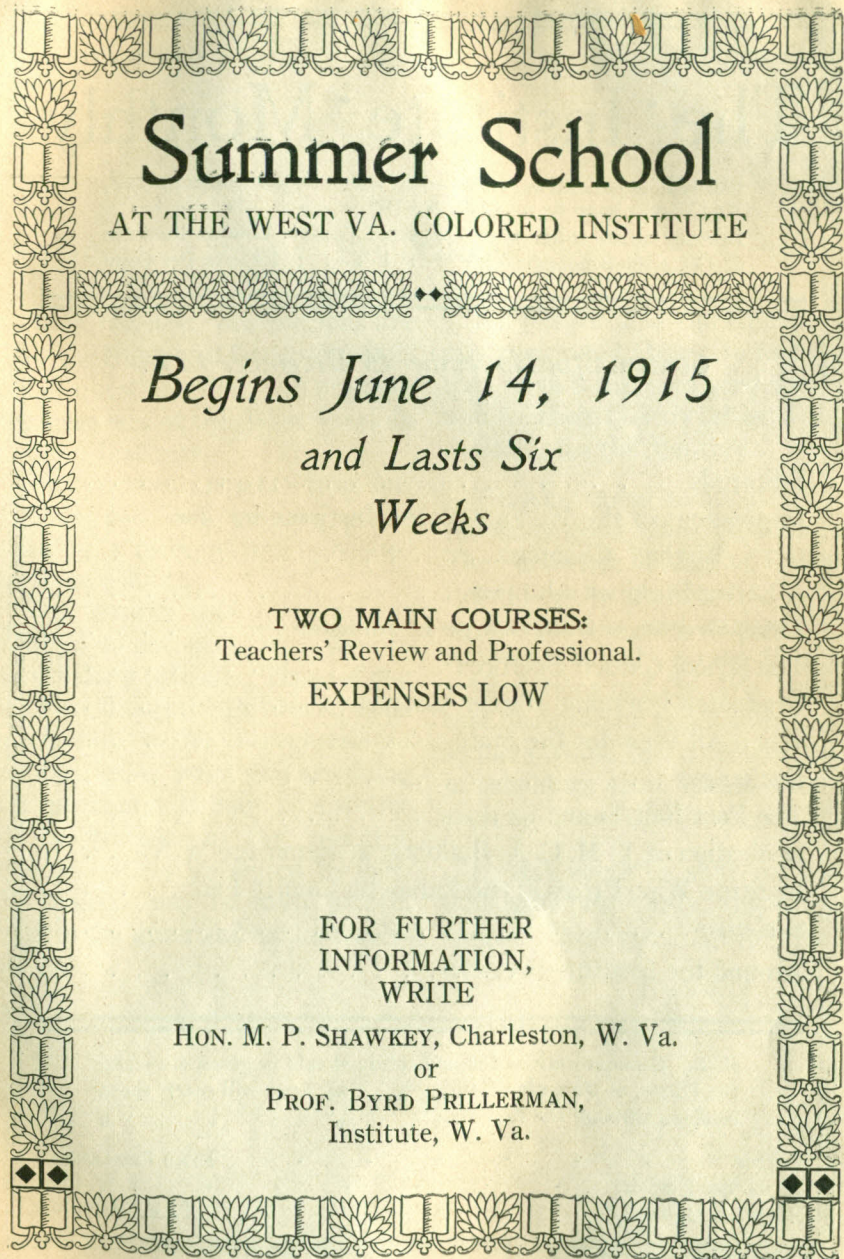
The · Institute · Monthly

FOR NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER 1914

For Chap.
Mitchell

College
Course
of Studies

PUBLISHED BY THE WEST
VA. COLORED INSTITUTE



Summer School

AT THE WEST VA. COLORED INSTITUTE

*Begins June 14, 1915
and Lasts Six
Weeks*

TWO MAIN COURSES:
Teachers' Review and Professional.
EXPENSES LOW

FOR FURTHER
INFORMATION,
WRITE

HON. M. P. SHAWKEY, Charleston, W. Va.
or
PROF. BYRD PRILLERMAN,
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. * * * * *

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

EDITORIAL

AS IN the past, our columns are open for frank and free discussions of all questions that will promote the interests of the West Virginia Colored Institute.

INTERESTING ARTICLES from our friends and well wishers will be thankfully received, and published in these columns.

WE REGRET that more of our Alumni do not show an active interest along this line. Those of you who are doing things owe it, as an obligation, to let our coterie of readers know what you are doing for humanity. It may be a source of inspiration, of far reaching results. Ideas presented by your discussions may be most helpful both to the giver and to the receiver.

WE DESIRE also the students of experience and ability to feel that they have a right to give expression to their literary efforts thru the columns the Monthly.

WE ARE going to adopt one of the many good plans advanced in The Parthenon of Marshal College. It has been publishing the names of its patrons and Alumni subscribers who have payed up their subscriptions in full. We believe that our patrons and Almuni subscribers would feel a certain pride in beholding their names first in such an honor roll.

IT MAY serve to spur on those who have been tardy towards the support that your School paper deserves.



IMPRESSIONS OF THE WEST VIRGINIA COLORED INSTITUTE

By Joe Mitchel Chapple, Editor of The National Magazine

[We reprint, for the benefit of our readers who were not subscribers to the National Magazine, an article written by Joe Mitchel Chapple, its editor, after he had made a tour thru West Virginia, and afterwards published his impressions of "The Land Overlooked" in The National Magazine—Ed.]

It was an inspiration to hear the assembly of colored students sing—bringing back memories of the days of the Jubilee singers. The West Virginia Colored Institute was a revelation of what is being quietly accomplished by our Afro-American citizens in the state that dates its birth with the advent of freedom for the colored race.

The outgrowth of a Federal appropriation known as the Morrill Land Grant of 1891, providing that \$25,000 annually should be appropriated to each state and territory for the encouragement of agricultural education and the mechanic arts—this institution, receiving \$5,000 from Congress and a state grant of \$10,000 the first year, began its career May 3, 1892 with thirty acres of land, one building, two teachers twelve stu-

dents, in the fertile Kanawha Valley, six miles from Charleston, the capital of the state, and in the heart of the densest and most flourishing negro farming settlement in West Virginia. Twenty years later I found it surrounded by a beautiful domain of seventy-seven acres, with five large brick and three wooden buildings, an enrollment of three hundred and twenty-five students and a staff of thirty teachers and assistants. For the last biennial period the State appropriation was \$102,000, and the Government grant is now \$10,000 annually.

President Byrd Prillerman, himself born a slave in Franklin County, Virginia, in 1859, receives visitors with a hearty yet dignified courtesey. In 1867 he walked with his parents, two hundred and fifty

miles from Franklin County, Virginia, the heart of the slave holding section, into the free land beyond the mountains, and lived on a farm near the present site of the Institute. He attended school from his twelfth to his twentieth year, and then began teaching school. In 1883 he entered Knoxville College, graduating in 1889.

Westminister College gave him the degree of Master of Arts, and in 1892 he was appointed one of the first teachers in the Institute, over which he has presided as executive since September 23d, 1909. Under his administration the number of students has rapidly increased from 235 to 325 in 1913; and the course of study has been so modified and improved that graduates from the academic course enter leading colleges without examination.

The scholars are divided into two sections, one of which studies and recites in the forenoon and labors in the afternoon, while the other labors in the forenoon and goes to school in the afternoon.

The girls learn plain sewing, cooking, dressmaking and millinery, and the boys, beside agriculture, take carpentry, printing, smithing, painting, bricklaying and plastering. Already more than three hundred and fifty stud-

ents have gone out into the world fitted for both mental and industrial usefulness.

In talking of his works, President Prillerman said: "After twenty-one years of experience and observation in this institution, my opinion is that far better results can be accomplished in a secondary school by the method pursued here than in any other way. I have seen a boy in this school who wanted a trade, but did not want academic training; but as he could not take one without the other, he took both, and became a fine mechanic and a fair scholar. I have seen another boy who wanted academic training, but did not want a trade. He was required to take both. He became a brilliant scholar and an excellent printer. When it has fallen to my lot to hunt new teachers for any department for our work, it has been hard to find graduates of secondary schools more proficient than our own." The influence of the Institute is shown in the many neat two-story houses and tasteful cottages that have replaced the old quarters of the neighboring farmers during the last decade. The graduates are in great demand as teachers elsewhere, and many of them teach the trade they learned at the Institute, while others are

preachers, doctors, lawyers, bookkeepers, stenographers and business men.

It did me good to meet these hopeful, industrious, happy-faced students and to speak a few words of appreciation of their noble work. Surely this State of the free mountain valleys will for many genera-

tions find in rich harvests, industrial progress, and happy, contented families, a rich reward for its liberality to the West Virginia Colored Institute, which is so heartily appreciated by the young colored people recruiting the ranks of those who have brought honor and distinction to their race.

A LETTER FROM A GRADUATE

Just a line to let you know that I am still in the land of the living. I am getting along all right. We have a very full school this year. To date we have 14 in the High School and 190 in the grades. We have the largest enrollment that the school has ever had.

We have introduced sewing in all the grades, and the teachers are doing some nice work. The boys below the 6th grade take sewing, but those above are going to take wood-working as soon as the tools come. As a whole the children like this better than any thing else. We have introduced a social center movement that we may get in touch with the parent. On Friday evenings about once a month the Primary children give a program for their parents, after which the meeting is turned into a mothers meeting. All seem to take a great delight in the discussions. With the upper grades our method is a little different. The larger girls and boys prepare a literary program, which is rendered at night, after which the meeting is turned into a social. During this time the children are allowed to play different games, march, and at time we take up some of the Dramatic games, or in other words I allow the children to do anything that is decent and in order. After this is over the children serve refreshments to the parents and visitors. Then, after we have fed them, you know you can get all of them to talk. We can not accomodate all of the parents at the same time, so we send out invitations, and never have any stay away. We can not afford not to have the preachers with us, for it is our object to show

them that the girls and boys that are in the church do like pleasure, and if they take a thing from them, we must substitute another in its place. We hope in this way to strengthen the church and school at the same time.

I have a very good corps of teachers, and they are working hard. Miss King is getting along fine for a new teacher. I have four assistants and need another one, but we have not the room. My primary teacher has 63, Miss King has 55; so you see they have no time to play.

I am interested in our school, and I am going to request that more time be given to instruction in discipline. I have visited over fifty schools in which our graduates are teaching, since I have been out of school, and I am impressed with the idea that we could be stronger on this point. I find that the need of this is the chief source of their trouble. Do not consider me a chronic kicker, but I suggest this as a well wisher of my school.

All of the teachers that I have seen this year are making good. I have succeeded in getting a raise without asking for it. I am getting \$30 for my day work and \$12 for sixteen hours night work of a month, which makes my salary \$42. I am going to try to send two pupils to Institute next year, and I am expecting them to make the Junior class.

We are planning to have the County Institute here on Friday, and I am on the program for a paper. There are twenty six teachers that belong to it, and six are W. V. C. I. graduates.

Remember me all of the Normal Class, and tell them that they have my best wishes for success.

Your faithful pupil,
R. C. Clarkson.



Xmas Greetings

From George L. Johnson, one of the Williams' Jubilee Singers, to President Prillerman.

Tonight is Christmas, you say, Nellie,
That sounds familiar to me;
It brings back memories so tender,
When a child at my mother's knee:
When my heart was young and merry,
And life meant only a toy,
Christmas was Christmas then, Nellie,
When I was just mother's boy.

I remember the dear old homestead,
It stood on the brow of the hill,
And often I ponder and wonder
If perchance it stands there still.
I left my home real early,
When a lad not yet sixteen,
Because of a quarrel with father,
And I was to blame, I ween.

O, could I but change, Nellie,
Ends with my squandered years,
I'd try to scatter sunshine,
In their lives, instead of tears.
Bring me the pen and ink, Nellie,
Now, kiss me, and leave me alone,
While I send a Christmas greeting
To the dear old folks at home.

"Dear father and mother, and loved ones,
I know you will understand,
For years have passed and changes
Have come with the falling sand.
I've grown in strength and wisdom,

And seen the mistakes of my youth;
The errors of boyish ambition,
Have been superceded by truth.
I was wrong, and I ask you to pardon,
And let the sins of my youth be done;
Forgive and love me freely,
God bless ye, Your wayward son."

The days went by like a shadow
O'er the head, 'til a message came
Bearing the foreign post-mark
And signed in his brother's name.
"Dear Jack, we are so glad you are living,
We love you, "come home", it read,
They told us to say, "You're forgiven"
But the Dear Old Folks are—dead"

—GEORGE L. JOHNSON.



The School Garden Enlarged

The Agricultural department of the school, has recently made an addition to the school garden.

A number of Experimental Plots containing one-twentieth of an acre have been staked out. This was done under the direction of Assistant Agriculturist, N. A. Murray.

It is intended that the students of the department, shall make practical demonstrations on these plots, of the productiveness of the various grass and truck crops adapted to the Agricultural conditions that are prevalent among Negro farmers in West Virginia's hills and valleys.

Visitors are cordially invited to visit the department at any time they may find it convenient.

Graduates Pursuing Higher Courses

In recent years, great impetus has been given to the students of The West Virginia Colored Institute for advanced study. One year has been added to the Academic course whereby students are prepared to enter the freshman class in college. There are now more than 60 students pursuing

this course. Graduates of the institution are pursuing advanced courses in other institutions as follows:—

✓W. H. Lowry, Class of '02 is a senior in the dental college at the University of Iowa, Iowa City. Lafayette Campbell, class of '14, is a freshman in the College of Arts and Sciences at the same institution.

✓Daniel L. Ferguson, Class of '09, and O. A. Pierce, class of '11, are juniors in the College of Agriculture at the Ohio State University, Columbus. Robert Sisuaasa, Class of '11, is a junior in the Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn. ✓Emmet B. Saunders, Class of '10, and John Johnson, Class of '14, are freshmen in the College of Agriculture at Ohio State University. ✓Delbert M. Prillerman, Class of '09, is a sophomore in the Michigan Agricultural College, East Lansing, Mich. Charles A. Page, Class of '07, Benjamin Deans, class of '12, John E. Hunter, class of '14, and Miss Ruth Burke, class of '14, are students at Howard University, Washington, D. C.

“Honor and shame from no condition rise,

Act well your part; there all the honor lies.

When All Were For the State

When Caesar took a westward ride and grabbed the Gauls for Rome, what was the thing that he did to make them feel at home?

Did he increase the people's loads and liberty forbid? No he dug in and built Good Roads—that's what old Caesar did. Did Caesar put the iron heel upon the foreman's breast, or did he try to make them feel the Roman rule was best? What did he do to make them glad he'd come their midst amid? He built Good Roads from hill to hill, Good Roads from vale to vale; he ran a Good Roads movement till old Rome was strong and hale. He told the folks to buy at home, built roads their hills amid, until all roads led up to Rome—that's what old Caesar did. If any town would make the town the center of the map, where folks will come and settle down and live in plenty's lap, if any town its own abodes of poverty would rid, let it get out and build Good Roads—just like old Caesar did.”—*Good Roads*.

Exchanges

Among the exchanges welcomed on our table are *The Parthenon*,

of Marshal College, *The Pharos*, of W. Va. Wesleyan, *The Aurora*, of Knoxville College, *The Southern Workman*, of Hampton Institute, *The Tuskegee Student*, of Tuskegee Institute, *Storer Record*, of Storer College, *The V. N. I. I. Gazette*, *The Picket*, of Shepherd College, *The Sodalian*, of Wilberforce University, Ohio, *The W. Va. Tablet*, of Romney, *The McDowell Times* of Keystone, W. Va.

The Monthly welcomes the above as friends and sympathizers in the field of journalism.

“Concentration is the driving power in the world's business, honesty is the basic principle that protects its integrity, and punctuality is the first commandment of competition.”

“Drill a youth in this modern testament of business, and you have made a successful business man of him before he qualifies at the desk. Neglect it, and he slides along from one position to another, always turning out slipshod work. The need is imperative.”

—*Charleston Gazette*.

The Foot Ball Tour

The return of the foot ball squad

from its recent tour thru Ohio, was not attended with the same amount of elation that the unconquered enjoy. It was not, however, without some measure of rejoicing; for it brought with it the scalps of The Columbus Ohio, Y. M. C. A. eleven, altho we left ours dangling in the tepees of the Wilberforce braves.

Two games were played on this tour, which began October 22, and terminated October 27.

The game at Wilberforce was played the afternoon of October 23rd on the University's grounds before a large crowd of the Varsity's rooters.

It was evident from the start, that it was a vastly superior team that we had to face, to the one that was slaughtered at Charleston one year ago.

It was really a battle between opposing coaches from the same school, Gray of Howard, the once rated all southern back, and Brown of Howard, a quarter-back on the same eleven in which Gray won fame.

The thoro coaching of Gray showed itself in the excellent team work and offensive strength of the "Forcians."

The game was played under fair conditions as to grounds and weather. The scrimmages were aggressive to the limit, but devoid

of any bitterness.

Our score was made on a forward pass from Kincaid to Burke, who ran, 30 yards thru an open field in the third period. Wilberforce scored in the second and third periods. The final score was, Wilberforce 20, Institute 6.

The game with the unbeaten eleven of the Columbus Y. M. C. A. was played at Recreation Park in Columbus Monday afternoon of October 26. Every member of our team was a star; and added to the score of 26 to 2 in our favor.

The Columbus young people accorded the young men of the eleven every courtesy socially.

**Spruce River Coal Company
Dedicates a Y. M. C. A. Building
for the use of its Employees**

Prof. Byrd Prillerman, president of The West Virginia Colored Institute, spoke at the dedication of the Young Men's Christian Association building at Ramage, Boone County, West Va., October 10th, 1914, upon the invitation of Mr. C. W. Ridenour, the Secretary. Hon. H. D. Hatfield, Governor of West Virginia, and Honorable W. A. McCorkle, Ex-Governor of West Virginia, also spoke at this service Governor Hatfield making the

principal address. The association building was erected by the Spruce River Coal Company of which Mr. I. M. Taggart of Massilon, Ohio, is President, and Mr. F. F. Taggart, his son, the principal stockholder, Mr. J. F. Ramage, from whom the town takes its name, is Superintendent of the coal works.

The building is a two-story frame structure with basement containing lavatories and show-baths. The first floor is used for serving refreshments and for social games. The second floor is used for religious services. No discrimination is made between the races in the use of this building. It was very noticeable on the day of the dedication how freely the negroes and whites commingled with no sign of friction. The Board of Directors is composed of both white men and Negroes. Miss Luetta Lipscomb, a student of the West Virginia Colored Institute, was pianist for the dedicatory exercises.

In addition to the association building, the village has two good school houses and a fine athletic field, and the operators plan to erect a hospital in the near future.

The houses for the miners are sanitary, and every effort is put forth on the part of the operators to encourage them in better living.

No person is employed on the works who cannot furnish a recommendation of good moral character and temperate habits.

**The West Virginia Colored
Institute Students and Products
Win Prizes At the Successful Ses-
sion of Kanawha County Fair.**

At the Kanawha County Fair held at Luna Park in the City of Charleston October 29-31, the W. V. C. I., and its representatives were very much in evidence. The following prizes were won:

The sweepstakes prize, \$2.50 on the best dairy bull, any breed, was won by our Guernsey bull. A like prize was awarded to our Duroc Jersey boar as the best of any breed in the sweepstakes class.

Five Dollars was awarded as first prize for the best 25 lb. bundle of cowpea hay, while a bundle of alfalfa was awarded the second prize of \$3.00.

A third prize of \$3.00 was given us for an excellent farm exhibit.

The following students and former students were prize winners:

Vera Taylor, first prize on canned beans; Romeo Ferguson, third prize for the ten best ears of corn, and Mrs. H. Poindexter, third

prize on a large pumpkin.

Among the Societies

Y. M. C. A.

J. L. Hill '16.....President
N. C. Fairfax '16.....Secretary

Y. W. C. A.

Catherine Chandler '15.....President
Ophelia Daniels '15.....Secretary

BIBLE CLASS

ALPHA CLASS

M. E. Eubank.....Teacher

HEBRON CLASS

M. E. Eubank.....Teacher

OMEGA CLASS

C. E. Jones.....Teacher

ST PAUL CLASS

S. H. Guss.....Teacher

BULL MOOSE LITERARY SOCIETY

Carl Burke.....President

Alexander Staple.....Secretary

PHYLLIS WHEATLEY SOCIETY

Ida Morgan.....President

Mabel Sinkford.....Secretary

DOUGLAS SOCIETY

Charles Page.....President

Cleola Grey.....Secretary

The Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A. meet each Sunday at 8.15 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. respectively. The Phyllis Wheatly, Douglas and Bull Moose societies meet each Friday afternoon, Friday night, and Saturday night, respectively

The Alpha Bible Class meets each Thursday night; the Hebron Sunday morning, and the St. Paul and Omega Classes meet Sunday Morning.

AROUND THE INSTITUTE

Messrs John Locket, Carl Burke, Russell Hardy, A. B. Cunningham were among the students who went home to vote.

Miss Rosalynde Friend of the village, a member of the Normal Class of 1904 was united in marriage to Mr. Wm. Brown of Charleston, Monday afternoon, the 2nd. inst. The marriage ceremony was solemnized by Rev. Herman Gow

of St. Pauls A. M. E. church.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown left Thursday morning of the fifth inst. for their future home in Saginaw Michigan.

The best wishes and congratulation of the Monthly attend them.

The Faculty reading circle had its first meeting of the year on Monday evening of October 26.

Pres. Prillerman was rechosen chairman of the executive committee, Miss Amanda Gamble secretary, Miss C. Ruth Campbell treasurer, and Miss Sarah McKinney and S. H. Guss assistant instructor and instructor respectively.

The Circle has chosen Negro history for its major line of work for this scholastic year.

The roof is being placed on the new dining hall. As soon as this is accomplished, the building will be rushed to completion.

Pres. Prillerman and daughter Ednora left for Washington D. C., Saturday evening the 7th inst.

The president goes to attend the annual meeting of the Agricultural Colleges which convenes in the

Capitol City for a few days of the week beginning Nov. 8th. It will be recalled by our readers, that President Prillerman is Chairman of division of the national organization that deals especially with questions touching Negro Agricultural Schools.

Mr. A. W. Curtis, director of Agriculture of the Institute, left Sunday evening to attend, the annual session of the convention of Agricultural and Mechanical schools in Washington D. C.

Mrs. Phil Waters was the guest of Mrs. F. Cobb Carter, Wednesday, the 4th inst. Mrs. Waters gave a very interesting talk to the chapel audience, which all seemed to enjoy.



The Week at Institute

THE DAILY SCHEDULE

Rising Bugle	5:30 a. m.
Breakfast	6:30
Study Period	7:00-8:05
Chapel	8:30
Recitations	8:30-12:00
Dinner	12:10
Library	12:45-1:16
Recitations	1:30-4:10
Military Drill	4:15-4:45
Supper	5:00
Evening Study Period	6:30-9:30
Lights Out	10:00

THE WEEKLY SCHEDULE

WEDNESDAY EVENING PRAYER MEETING	6:30
LITERARY SOCIETIES—FRIDAY AND SATURDAY EVENINGS...	6:30

THE SABBATH DAY

Young Men's Christian Association	8:15 A. M.
Sabbath School	9:30 " "
Young Women's Christian Association	1:30 P. M.
Song and Prayer Service.....	6:30 " "

The West Va. Colored Institute: Student Press