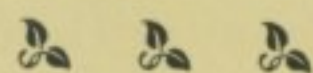


SCIENCE HALL

Reading, September 28, 1909



Except the Lord build the house, they labour in vain that build it; except the Lord keep the city, the watchman waketh but in vain.

Our help is in the name of the Lord, who made heaven and earth.

They that trust in the Lord shall be as Mount Zion, which cannot be removed, but abideth for ever.

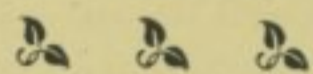
As the mountains are round about Jerusalem, so the Lord is round about his people from henceforth even for ever.

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength.

Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall:

But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

Prayer, September 28, 1909



ALMIGHTY God, we acknowledge Thee as Creator of the world, of angels and of men; as the source of life, of knowledge, of truth, and all virtues. We rejoice that Thou art also our Father, who dost love us, and we pray that in the person of the Holy Spirit Thou wilt be our constant guide, and in the person of Thy Son our constant Teacher. May Thy gracious providence compass with mercy all our lives and destinies, and may Thy ministering spirits, which are sent forth to minister to

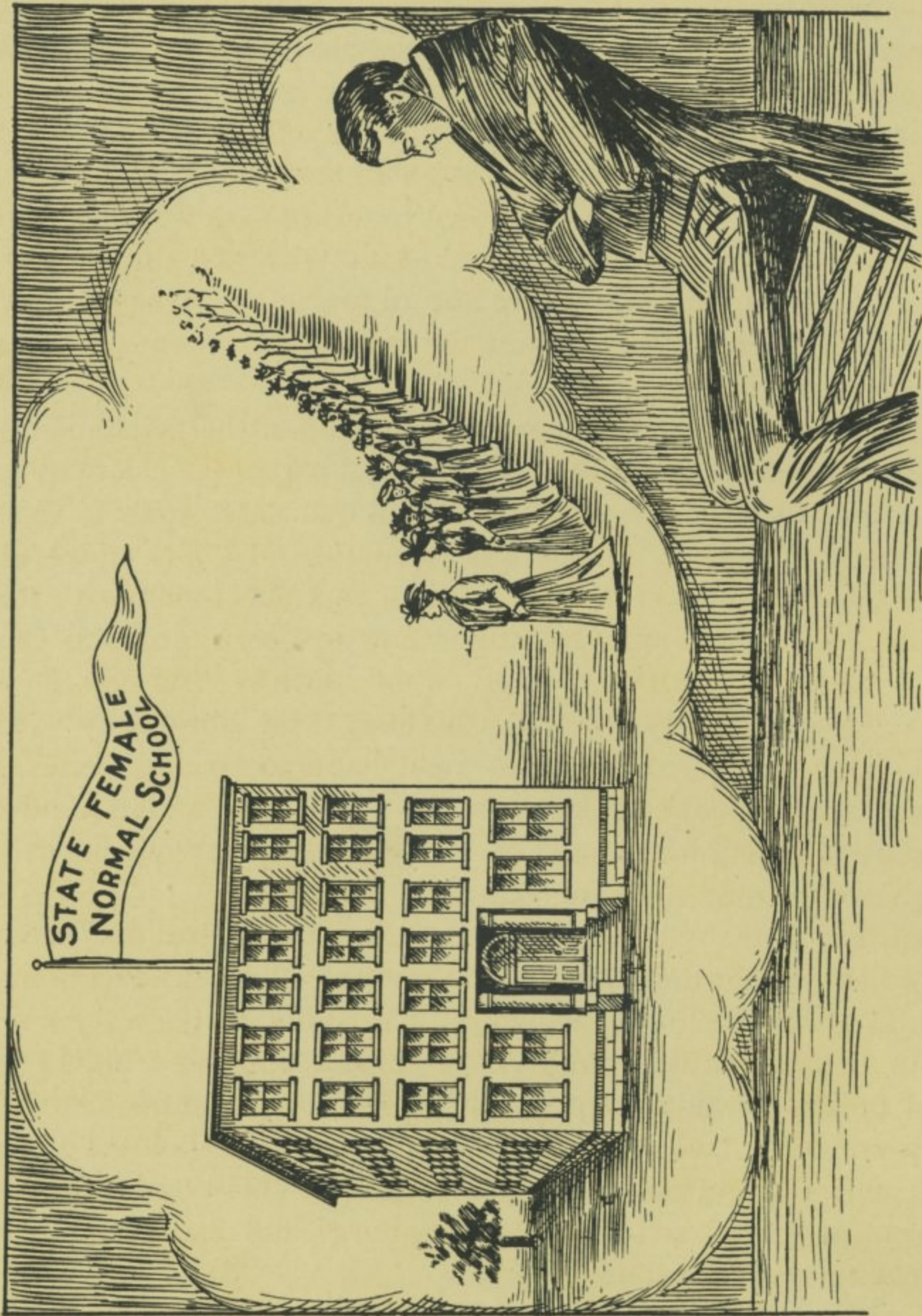
the heirs of salvation, bring to us wisdom for every decision, courage in every struggle, and hope for every day.

We come to Thee, Our Father, with a special plea. This hour for all of us gathered here is an hour of special moment, and we voice a special prayer. This hour has hovered in our visions, and has been longed for with fear and trembling, yet with a stirring fulness of hope and joy. It is an hour full of meaning to us all, and to the men and women who shall stand here and work here in the years to come. This hour is at once a goal and a beginning: a goal of toilsome progress and the beginning of a glorious work. We give Thee thanks for Thy mercies and blessings, and pray that Thy favor may continue to smile upon us, and that Thou wilt crown our labors with full success.

Bless all who have labored for this school hitherto, and all who shall labor for it henceforth in any capacity. Bless the school; may it become a sacred place—a shrine, as it were, devoted to liberty and to truth. Standing upon this hilltop, under the rising sun, may it grow as a mighty oak or a cedar of ancient Lebanon, and in its shelter may health and gladness abound. Like the hills and mountains round about it, may it be strong and steadfast; like the skies that smile above it, may it be boundless in its compass and ever full of light; like the hills and plains that surround it, may it be both fruitful and beautiful; like all the works of righteousness, may it be fostered and blessed of God.

Give these, Thy servants who teach, knowledge and wisdom and power; give the Trustees of the Commonwealth, who shall direct us, foresight and wise discretion; may all labor unto Thy glory and the good of mankind.

And now, O Lord, as we end our petitions, we voice one more special prayer. Bless these young women in their lives and in their work. They hold in their hands the cure of many ills, the key to many joys; and they too are standing at this hour in the dawn of a great future. The skies are bright above them, and hope calls them forward. Give them grace and strength and wisdom, O Lord, and guide them into usefulness and all those forms of special service for which Thou hast so richly endowed them. Give them hearts of love and sympathy and sincerity, and through them bless the land—the State, the Nation, the World, for Jesus Christ's sake, Amen.



1907—AN AIR CASTLE OF THE DAILY NEWS

Our Prehistoric Age

EVERY institution that is truly great had its real beginning in somebody's visions, lived first in somebody's heart ; and no matter how massive the dark stone walls and red tiled roofs of the Harrisonburg Normal now, it was just a little while ago only a castle in the air. When, last October, the Board of Trustees met at the school and for the first time looked upon their work and found it good, the eyes of strong men were dim as they grasped hands and rejoiced together over dreams come true.

But mere dreaming could never have wrought this achievement. While enjoying the results, we are apt to forget the struggle previous to the foundation of such a school, and the strong, persistent effort required to build up an institution.

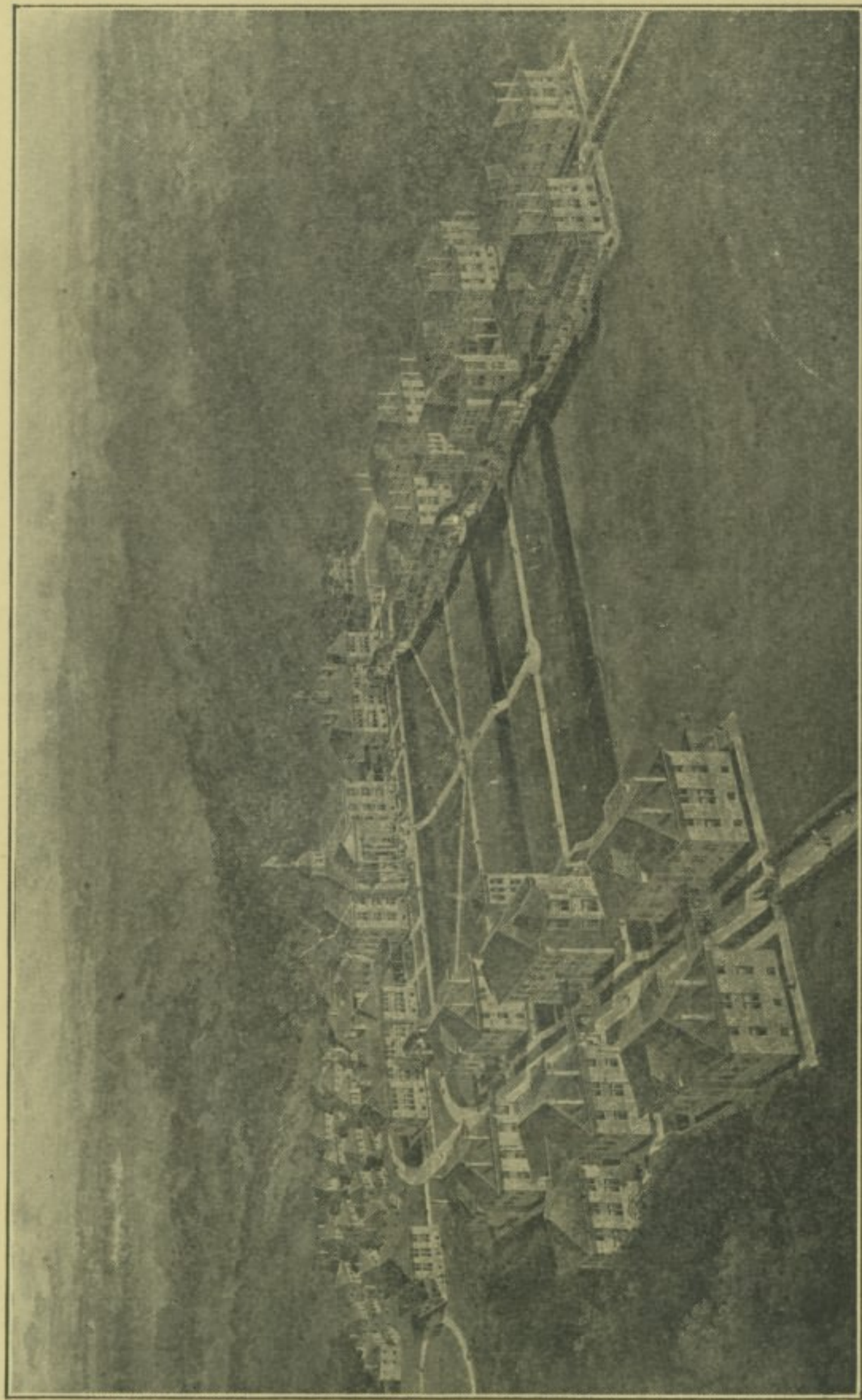
Let us, therefore, go back and, with the aid of the facts and figures so carefully filed away in "the office," review that part of the brief but intensive history of the Harrisonburg Normal School that dates *before its beginning*.

The need of such a school was fundamental. The general public awoke to the necessity of bringing the school into touch with the life of the people. The child must be taught how to live in order to contribute and give back to society at large what society has given to him. For this, professionally trained teachers are absolutely necessary. Virginia came to realize that she must have more and better teachers every year. By actual calculation it was found that fifteen hundred new teachers are now required annually. It was clear that one normal school, however strong, could not supply this demand.

Then too, little by little, the State came to believe that she had not been quite fair to her daughters in the matter of higher education.

Realizing these things, the people of Virginia, through their representatives in the General Assembly, by an Act approved March 4, 1908, provided for the establishment of this State Normal and Industrial School at Harrisonburg. Two years earlier that body had appointed a committee to travel over the State inspecting locations. This committee had been very favorably impressed with Harrisonburg, and had recommended it, together with other possible sites.

We must not think, however, that appropriations for this school were obtained without struggle. Some men were hard to convince ; the State was torn with many pressing claims for money ; and for a while the result



THE ARCHITECT'S VISION OF THE FUTURE

of the bill was uncertain. But Senator Keezell, our tall sycamore of Rockingham, planted himself at the entrance of the Finance Department and effectually blocked the way to all extravagance in movements less vital. In fact, there was a rumor of a joke among the senators which pictured the huge form of their incorruptible Guardian of Finance as seated on the lid of the State's money-chest and refusing to let a penny go out for the pet project of any member who should not first promise to vote for appropriations to the Harrisonburg Normal.

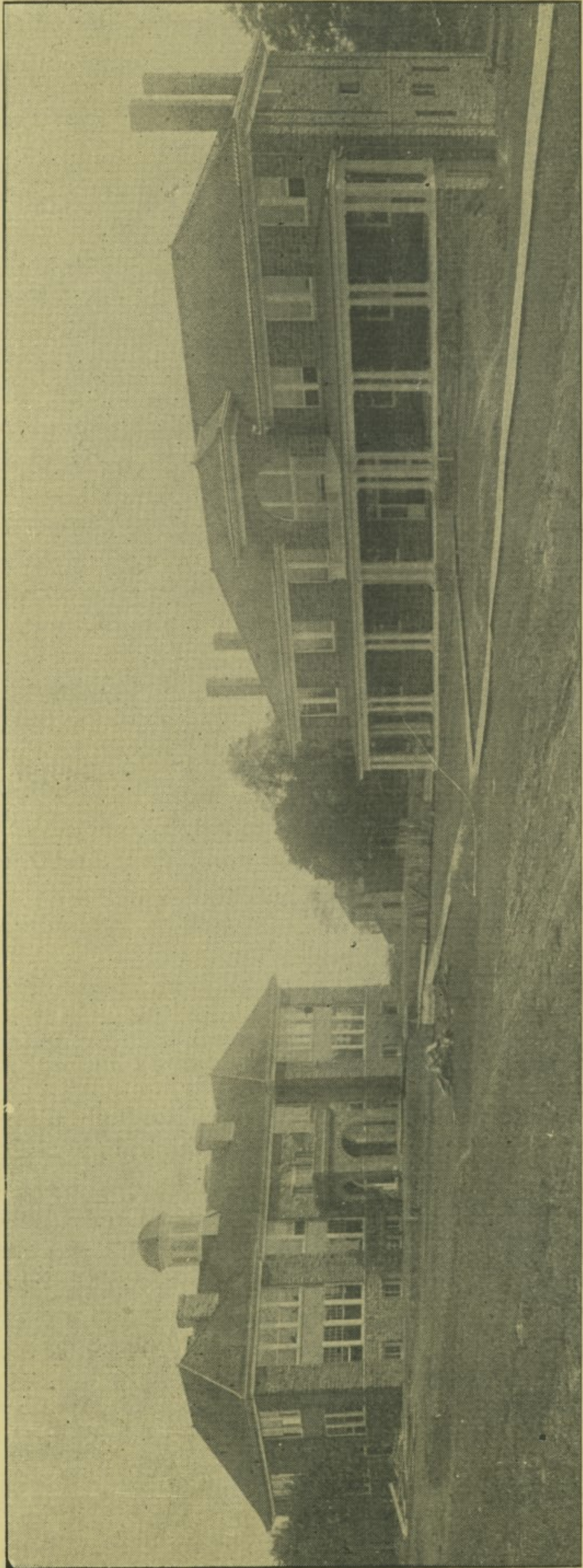
At any rate, it was passed—the bill that opened up to more than two hundred girls this year of opportunity and privilege.

In accordance with this Act, His Excellency, Governor Swanson, appointed a Board of Trustees, who met and organized in Harrisonburg, April 29, 1908. They immediately began to work on a plan which should provide for a large school, to accommodate ultimately over a thousand students. The scheme of the whole was to be complete, so that each building, as it should be added, might be a permanent part of the original plan.

Thus from its very inception the founders of this institution have unanimously favored the broadest possible policy. In this connection, Supt. J. D. Eggleston tells us that now, for the first time since Jefferson founded the University of Virginia, we have seen a great school organized on strictly definite, scientific, pedagogical principles, before a nail was driven or a class taught.

The county of Rockingham subscribed ten thousand dollars, and the town of Harrisonburg five thousand dollars, toward the establishment of the school. On June 18, 1908, the Board purchased forty-two acres of land from Mr. A. M. Newman as the site for the new school, and later added the Lurty lot of six acres, adjoining the Newman property. They considered themselves fortunate to secure these grounds, as they present most exceptional advantages for the purpose. Adjoining one of the best residential sections of the town, within easy reach of the railroad, affording a healthy environment in the midst of an unrivaled landscape, and enjoying a combination of sanitary comforts with a wholesome social and religious atmosphere, a more favorable site could not have been chosen.

The next and most important thing to do was to elect a president, and in this election the vigilant Board did the best piece of work that even they have ever done for the institution. On June 26, 1908, Mr. Julian A.



AS IT LOOKED ON OPENING DAY

Burruss, of Richmond, Virginia, was with hearty unanimity chosen to be the first president of this school.

Upon accepting the presidency Mr. Burruss at once left Columbia University, though the degree of Doctor of Philosophy hung tantalizingly near his grasp, and began immediately a tour through the North and West, visiting the normal schools in many States and studying their methods and equipment. His purpose was to seek ideas far and near in the hope of approximating an ideal plan which would not only meet present needs but provide amply for future growth and expansion. It was his resolve to put himself in possession, as far as possible, of whatever our country has already learned in regard to conducting normal schools, thus reducing to the minimum what must be found out by costly experiment.

On September 15, 1908, the general scheme for the complete plant was agreed upon, and not quite a month later the working plans for the erection of Science Hall and the first dormitory were also adopted. It was the hope of the founders to have these buildings ready for the opening on September 28, 1909, less than a year from the time when the ground was broken and the work of construction commenced. In this hope they were destined not to be disappointed.

The corner-stone of Science Hall was laid with impressive ceremonies April 15, 1909. A parade nearly a mile long, composed of the school children, of military and civic organizations, and carriages with county, town, and school officials, with numbers of invited guests, marched to the Normal School grounds, where the corner-stone was laid according to the masonic ritual.

It was a memorable occasion ; and amid the blast of trumpets and the cheers of the people that echo down to us from that day we had well nigh forgot the election of the faculty the preceding afternoon—an event not without weight in the making of a school !

But, to bring to a close this prehistoric history, the summer sped by in quarrying and building, in converting the Newman residence into an additional dormitory, in putting in fire-proof stairways, hot-air shafts, hygienic drinking fountains, and up-to-date equipment generally. Space fails us to tell of the quick but careful thought, the tense nerve-strain, the wonderful executive ability and mastery of details, that enabled our president to be ready on September 28, the exact date set the year before, to welcome us to such a school and such a school-home.

Registration Day

Oh, how well do I remember
One blue Tuesday in September,
 Opening day!
I was homesick, I was sad,
I was feeling very bad,
 Could not stay!

Oh, those blanks of registration!
They would rouse your indignation!
 They did ask
What your hopes, your creed, your age—
Whether simpleton or sage—
 'Twas a task!

Then, with registration through,
What was there for me to do?
 Cried awhile.
But there came to me a teacher—
Truly a most lovely creature,
 With a smile—

Introduced me to the girls—
Blue-eyed, brown-eyed, some with curls—
 I was glad.
I was homesick then no more,
School had ceased to be a bore—
 Really had!

—LUCILE McLEOD.

Beginnings

ON September the twenty-eighth was the beginning of the beginning, when the girls filed in one after another to register. And this mystery of matriculation, what was it? First, a long catechism as to your self, your parentage, and your probable future; next, the filling out of one of those magic program cards which have proved such a momentous factor in the life of our school; and then falling in line behind a row of patient (?) girls and waiting your time to enter the President's office.

And the President! With one hundred or more girls all clamoring for admittance to his sanctum, is it any wonder that he almost forgot to eat and sleep? Nevertheless, in the course of time—which in this atmosphere of "touch and go" never means more than twenty-four hours—the task was completed, and the pupils were ready to attend classes the next morning.

The first chapel service was held in the Assembly Room of Science Hall promptly at the time that had been set a year or more before. Our Dr. Wayland read a mosaic of Scripture passages and led in a prayer which we surely shall not forget; after which the President made a short address of welcome to the students and visitors. Senator Keezell and other local members of the Board of Trustees also made brief but enthusiastic talks about the rapid fruition of their labors. They spoke earnestly, too, of this as our year of beginnings, and urged each pupil to be careful as to what traditions and ideals should prevail in the school-life here.

Indeed, this spirit of building for the future has so permeated the stu-



The Lady of the Lake

dent body that at every turn this first session we have been reminded of the grave responsibility of being ourselves founders in a sense, and of the need to establish precedents that will be wholesome for the Normal girl of twenty-five years hence. For that dim and distant young lady we have lived! For her sake we have governed our movements with the utmost circumspection; to suit her probable needs we have wearily drafted constitution after constitution; we have chronicled accurate records, which she, perhaps, will never have the time or the wish to read. We have even toiled to plant trees that she may rest under their shade; but we hereby give her warning that if she does too much resting and fails to follow our energetic example, the ghosts of our departed selves will come back and haunt her until she is fully aware that the Shade of the Original Student is not to be trifled with.

However, living for 1935 has not proved a bad way to have a



The Prince and the Pauper

good time in 1910. Not all our days have been spent in toiling for posterity. We have had some fun too, and done some playing ourselves.

The first social function was a reception, on October 8, given to the Normal students by our faculty, together with that of the High School. Each timid guest had forebodings of a very formal affair; and even the friendly knots of teachers, that took the place of the conventional stiff receiving line, proved formidable and awe-inspiring enough to paralyze some lips and palsy some hands in spite of firm resolves to seem perfectly at ease.

All these symptoms had disappeared, however, before our delightful book-party some weeks later, in which every girl took the liveliest interest. The costumes were remarkably clever, and the whole was a varied and truly beautiful scene. The prize was awarded to the *Lady of the Lake* group. Among others deserving special mention were *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Madame Butterfly*, and *Aunt Dinah*.

Speaking of book-parties reminds us, incidentally, of books. Our library is the pride of the school; and we count it no small privilege to have, at the very start, fifteen hundred volumes, each chosen with the utmost care.

The first volume recorded in our accession book is the Bible, sent by the President of Hollins Institute with greetings to the Harrisonburg Normal, the youngest of Virginia's schools for girls. An old book for a new time, and shall we forget the suggestiveness of its opening words? "In the beginning, God—."

The social committee of the Y. W. C. A. has planned several delightful evenings; but it is ours to record only the fact that under its auspices



The Woman With the Hoe

was given the first "tacky" party, at least the first one called by that name. Each girl was, of course, supposed to lay aside her stylishness and look as ridiculous as possible. We succeeded admirably.

In the midst of all these festivities there must come that inevitable bugbear—the examinations. These were heralded with anything but delight in spite of the President's repeated danger signal—"Don't worry." But time is the healer of all ills, and in less than ten days after their start these dreadful, nerve-racking days were over. Then came the first home going, the getting up and eating by candle light in order to catch the earliest train possible, and finally the tally-ho of shouting girls off for the station.

For those who staid behind were long morning naps, a generous Santa Claus, glorious Christmas dinners, and evenings full of frolic.

The Lanier Literary Society gave us our first debate, while it fell to the lot of the Professional Class to present our first dramatic performance

of the year—and of the centuries—*Miss Fearless and Company*.

If the former shall prove a prototype for future debates, and if all the plays that are to come after shall be as pure in tone and as charmingly rendered as was this, the standard of such exercises will indeed be high.

On March 15, the "Royal Arts" department, subject to the King's command, went forth with stakes and strings to do the first work on that remarkable garden that some day shall be the pride of the Normal. Plots four by eighteen feet were laid off, stakes were driven at each corner, and strings were even stretched from post to post, in order to preserve every square inch to its owner and to check in



The Tiny Tots

her any possible spirit of territorial annexation. This done, the army of gardeners valiantly attacked the soil with spading forks. Paths were made and *beaten down*. The plot was carefully spaded, and every clod broken up until the ground looked like powdered chocolate. Soon came the most interesting part—the planting time.

The April weather led the fair horticulturists many a dance from tool-room to garden, and from garden to tool-room again. But not even spring rains could dampen the ardor of these nature-lovers, and every day may still be seen "The Woman with the Hoe," affectionately bending over rows of little green shoots.

But we have planted things great as well as small. Arbor Day was

inaugurated on April 7, under the leadership of Miss King, with Mr. Roller as right-hand man. Each class, commencing with the Professional,



The Professional Class Plants a Tree

planted a tree, and with it their wishes and their hopes for the future. With poetry and song we went from oak to maple, and from walnut to elm, until everybody, from the faculty to the tiny tots of the Kindergarten, had had a hand—literally an earth-stained hand—in the planting. This, like the other enterprises we have mentioned, is only the beginning; we shall not wait for Arbor Day, but shall follow the old Scotchman's advice and "Aye be sticking in a tree."

“Don't You Remember?”



- | | | |
|-------|----|---|
| Sept. | 27 | The would-be schoolma'ams arrived. |
| “ | 28 | Registration! |
| “ | 30 | First Chapel Exercises. |
| Oct. | 3 | Fried chicken and ice cream! |
| “ | 6 | The M. D. arrived upon the scene with his sounding apparatus. |
| “ | 8 | Lee and Lanier step forward to take their places in the school. |
| “ | “ | Trying to say something and can't.—Faculty reception. |
| “ | 16 | House-warming at the Normal. |
| “ | 18 | The Governor, well guarded, visits us. |
| “ | 21 | Violet and Gold. |
| “ | “ | Y. W. C. A. fully organized. |
| “ | “ | Serenade by Daily News Band. |
| “ | 30 | Trip to Ashby Monument. Three cheers for Dr. Wayland! |
| “ | “ | Spooks! Spooks!!—Faculty. |
| Nov. | 2 | Southwick in “Julius Cæsar.” |
| “ | 4 | What the future holds for us.—Teachers' Association. |
| “ | 25 | Books, old and new, strolling to and fro. |
| Dec. | 10 | James Fitz-James and Roderick Dhu torn to pieces by Laniers. |
| “ | 17 | “A Queer Affair.” |
| “ | 23 | Mrs. Newman sent us a party. |
| “ | 24 | Home Sweet Home. |
| Jan. | 3 | That “Angel Cat” takes up her abode at the Cottage. |
| “ | 4 | “Did you bring me any fruit-cake?” |
| “ | 5 | Play! Play with all your might!—Mr. Hanmer. |
| “ | 7 | Laniers shake hands with new girls. |
| “ | 14 | Lee Evening.—Dr. Graves. |
| “ | 27 | “Oh, those lovable chickens!”—Miss King. |

- Feb. 2 Ground-Hog saw his shadow.
- " 6 Nest of the Cottage hen found. Nineteen eggs!
- " 8 Miss King caught an owl.
- " 9 What I look for in a teacher—Mr. Keister.
- " 12 Hearts and Darts!
- " 18 George and Martha Washington with a whole retinue of
Colonial Dames and Old Virginia Gentlemen.
- " 22 Turvy Land.—Arcadians.
- Mar. 1 SCHOOLMA'AM provided with a staff.
- " 3 "Uriah H-E-E-P."—Mr. Walter B. Tripp.
- " 5 Lee and Lanier publicly debate the subject of limited
membership.
- " 12 "Miss Fearless and Co."
- " 15 Rural Arts class begins gardening.
- " 17 "Faith, Patrick, and it's a foine avening we do be havin'."
- " 19 Spading up the garden plots.
- " 21 To Mr. Rickard's model farm with Dr. Wayland.
- " 24 Easter holidays begin.
- " 28, 29 So many new girls!
- April 1 Pranks!
- " 4 The Household Arts.—"Stamp Act."
- " 7 "What do we plant when we plant a tree?"
- " 8 The Five Formal Steps," as given in the *Educative
Process*.—Lee Society.
- " 9 Y. W. C. A. "Social" to new girls.
- " 13 Mocking-bird gives his first spring serenade.
- May 2 Ground broken for new dormitory.
- " 9 Orchard Party becomes a House Party.—Kindergarten
Class.
- " 18-19 Coburn Players in "As You Like It" and "Merchant of
Venice."
- June 12-14 Commencement.
- " 15 "Tears, idle tears."

Apple-Blossoms

Cups for dewdrops, sheen and fair,
'Neath last evening star,
Tiny shallops of the air,
Speed they now afar.

"Stay, O dainty blossoms, stay!
Cease, O vandal wind:
Youth and beauty plead to-day,
Be not thus unkind."

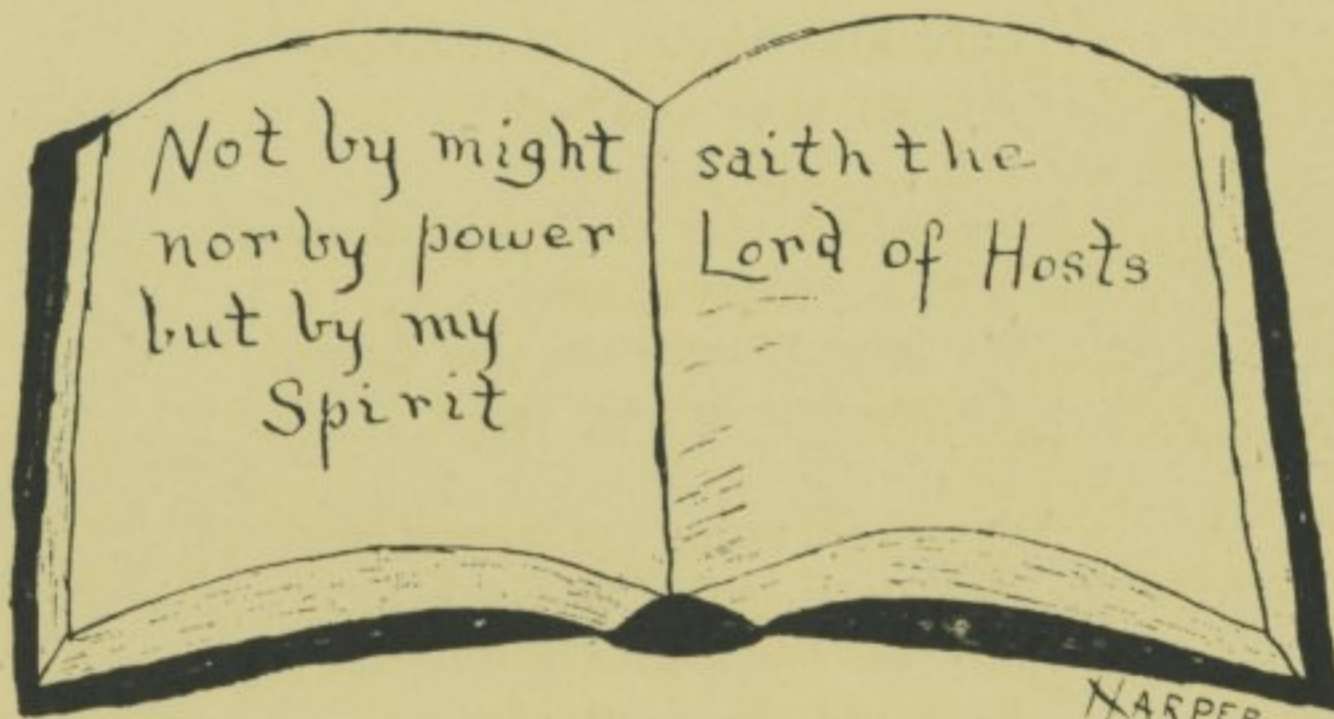
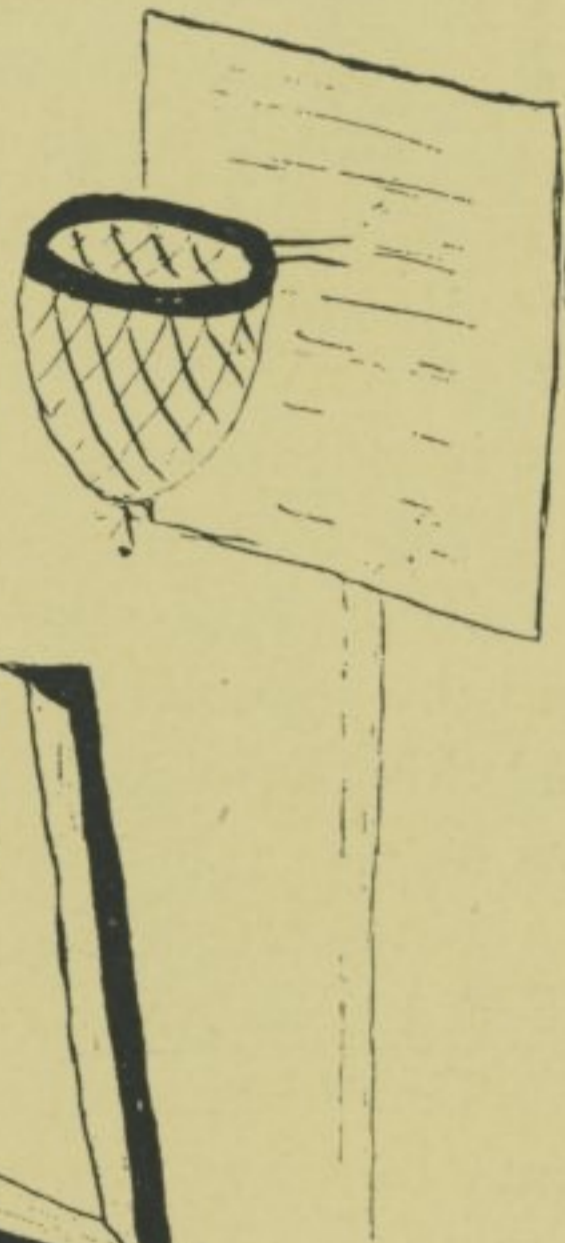
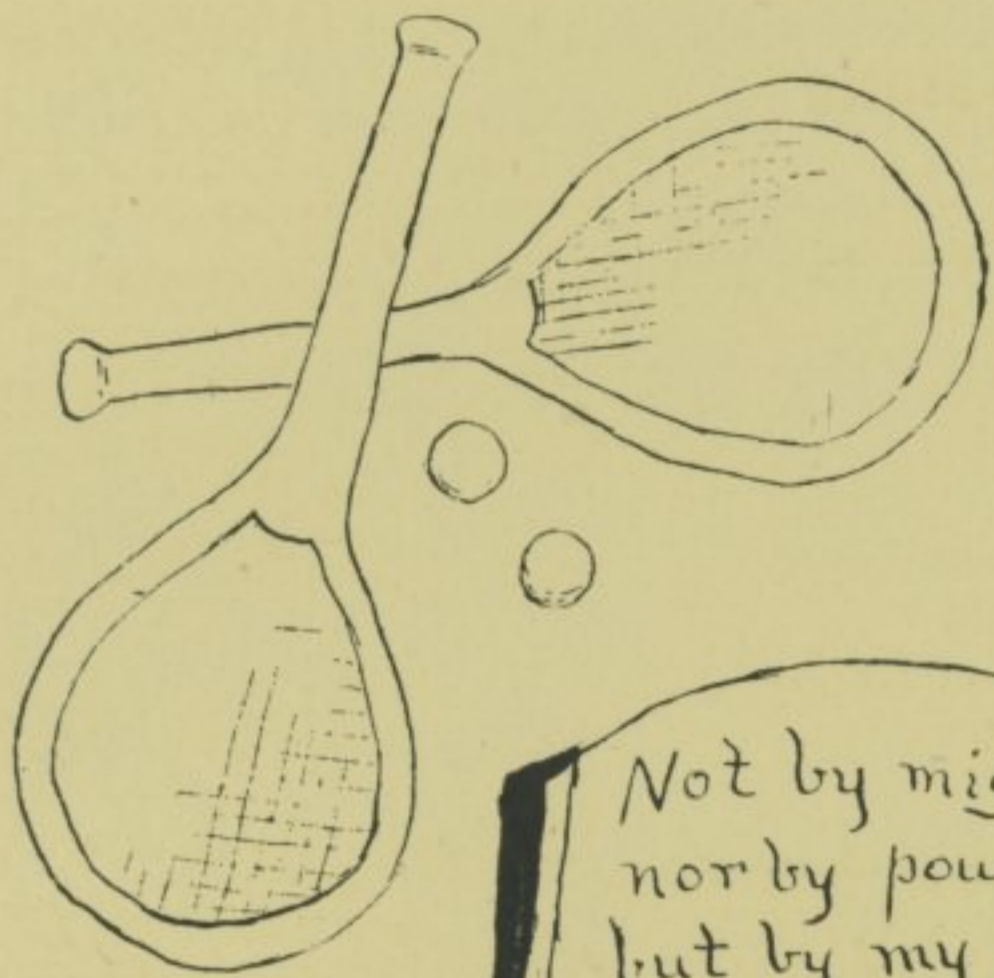
Whispering o'er the verdant lawn,
Soft a voice replies:
"We bear incense to the Dawn,
Throned in orient skies.

"She doth paint our rosy tint,
She doth make us fair;
Unto her our petals glint,
Through the perfumed air.

"Unto her we hasten now,
Swift upon the wind,
Whirled in wreaths to deck her brow—
Fate is not unkind.

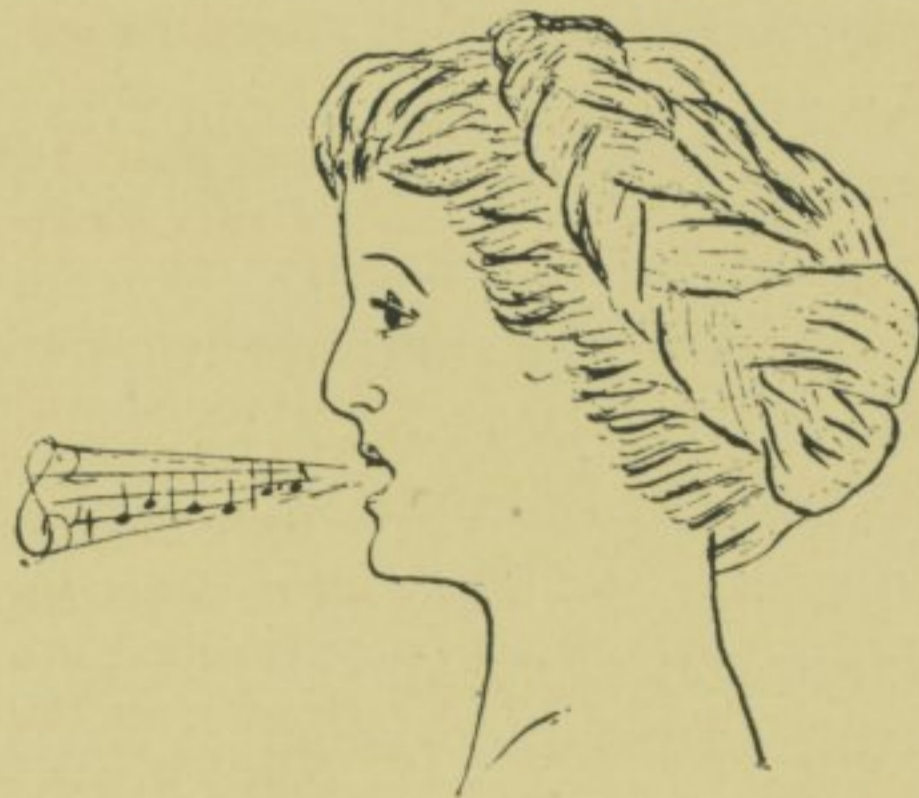
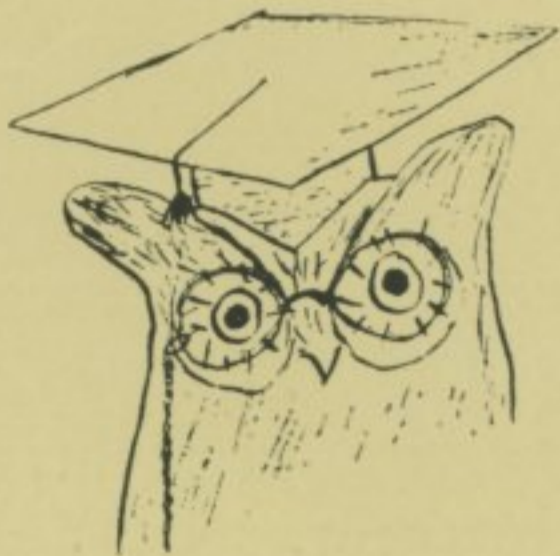
"Keep us but in memory,
Sweet and fair alway;
Then shall beauty smile on thee
Every dawn and day."

Cups for dewdrops, sheen and fair,
Jeweled with each star,
Tiny shallops of the air,
Speeding now afar,
Bear sweet incense to the Dawn,
Throned in orient skies;
Beauty on the perfumed lawn
Unto youth replies.

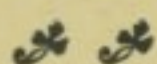


HARPER

ORGANIZATIONS



Y. W. C. A.



THOUGH this is the first year of its existence, the Young Women's Christian Association of our school has made a brave start and has great reason to be glad and thankful.

With the pupils generally this stands pre eminent among our organizations, not only because it aims directly at what is highest for life and for eternity, but because it has been given usually our best work and strongest interest. If any organization had to be given up we should all say, "Let this be the last."

In the latter part of October, Miss Oolooah Burner, student secretary, paid the school a delightful visit and, aided by our Miss Lancaster, organized this association with a membership of seventy-two. The first session was held in the Assembly Hall, October 28.

Since our organization twenty-eight additional members have been secured, making our total membership at the present one hundred.

The social committee has done much to brighten the lives of the students by way of informal entertainments. Many pleasant evenings have been spent in this manner.

The programs for the weekly meetings have been thoughtfully arranged by the devotional committee; their work has been good and has brought forth real fruit.

Seven Bible-study classes have been organized in the school with a large per cent of the students enrolled, also a Mission Study class with eighteen members.

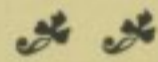
An event which has been of much interest and benefit to the Association was the Territorial Conference of the Young Women's Christian Association, held in Richmond in November. Miss Katherine Royce was sent as our delegate, and her report was indeed inspiring to all who heard. She had the privilege of listening to many fine addresses from prominent Y. W. C. A. workers of this state and also of North and South Carolina.

Our new officers were elected March 3, and entered upon their respective duties at the beginning of the spring quarter. Miss Louise Lancaster was made president, Miss Fannie Scates vice-president, Miss Eva Massey secretary, and Miss Bertha Nuckolls treasurer.

Our swelling school and fine equipments have developed so rapidly, dreams have so quickly become realities, that we, too, are dreaming that some day we may have a snug little Y. W. C. A. hall of our own.



Y. M. C. A.



MOTTO: "Not by might, nor by power, but by my Spirit, saith the Lord of Hosts."

MEMBERS OF THE CABINET

OFFICERS

NANNIE MORRISON	. . . . .	President
ORRA OTLEY	. . . . .	Vice-President
MAUDE WESCOTT	. . . . .	Secretary
KATHLEEN HARNSBERGER	. . . . .	Treasurer

CHAIRMEN OF COMMITTEES

FANNIE SCATES	. . . . .	Devotional
LOUISE LANCASTER	. . . . .	Bible Study
GRACE JACKSON	. . . . .	Mission Study
KATHLEEN HARNSBERGER	. . . . .	Finance
MAUDE WESCOTT	. . . . .	Intercollegiate
AMELIA BROOKE	. . . . .	Social
ORRA OTLEY	. . . . .	Membership