

HARRISONBURG.

On March 1st I was in Harrisonburg, and checked over the January accounts.

The following is a summary of the Treasurer's report for January.

Balance on hand January 1st.	\$200.74
School receipts	4561.79
Home "	5776.79
Total	<u>\$10539.32</u>

	Expenditures.	
School Department	\$4739.36	
Home "	5138.03	9877.39
Balance on hand Feb 1st.	<u>5138.03</u>	<u>\$661.93</u>

The treasurer's statement agrees with the books of the school, and all expenditures were supported by proper vouchers with the exception of a payment of \$26.00, representing Christmas gifts of one dollar each made to the servants on the place. The check for this money was made payable to Mrs. Brooke, and the proceeds of the check distributed by her to the various servants.

The receipts of the month were checked from the stubs of the receipt book, and found to correspond with the same.

I regret to report that the financial condition of the Harrisonburg School does not seem to me satisfactory. The items appearing on the books as expenditures for January were, to a large extent, payments of November and October, and, in some cases, September bills, which were several months past due. The balance shown on hand February 1st was \$661.93, but at that time there were bills which were unpaid, and in all cases at least one month past due, amounting to \$4189.20. In addition to this, a great many of the January bills which, theoretically, at least, ought to have been paid out of the January appropriation, had not been presented, and were, of course, unpaid. The difficulty here is explained

in a measure by the fact that the appropriation from the State is received in twelve instalments, one on the first day of each month, while the faculty is paid for the entire year in nine monthly payments, but this is equally true of the Farmville and Radford Schools, neither of which has found it necessary to let its bills go unpaid to any extent. I have talked to Mr. Burruss about this situation, and feel that the matter should be given earnest consideration in the hope that something may be done to remedy the condition indicated.

At the last meeting of the Board information was requested as to the amount of the laundry bills at the Harrisonburg School for flat work which is not done at the school laundry. The bill for the work for October and September amounted to \$81.98; for November it was \$52.19, and for December \$51.85.

I understand that all the Normal Schools will be required to hold a six weeks' term during the coming summer.

Dr. McConnell intends to operate the Summer School for an additional term of six weeks, making twelve weeks in all. The second term will not be under the control of the State Board of Education, and will receive no support from it, but Dr. McConnell thinks that the receipt for the same ought to be sufficient to cover the expenses.

Dr. Burruss is also considering a second term of six weeks for the Harrisonburg School in the event that he and Dr. McConnell do not make some arrangement by which the second term work can be held alternately at the Harrisonburg and Radford Schools.

The suggestion was made at one of the recent meetings of the Board or Executive Committee that the compensation of the students working in the dining rooms at the different schools be made more nearly uniform. Girls do this work at all the schools except Farmville. At Radford seven girls get \$10.00 a month each, and wait on about 18 girls apiece. At Fredericksburg twenty girls in the dining room get \$100.00 each for the session and wait on about 14 girls. I have no figures for the Harrisonburg School, but will supply them later. The Farmville School employs colored women in the dining room instead of giving this employment to students in the school. This arrangement is much more economical, as here one woman waits on four tables of ten girls each, for which she receives \$10.00 per month. In addition to waiting on the tables, she attends to the silver and washes the cups, saucers and glasses.

Respectfully submitted.

March 4, 1916.