



NEWS OF THE ACADEMIES



Improvements at Wilton Academy. Growth of the University of North Carolina. News of Other Institutions.

The Wilton Academy, Wilton, Me., will open its forty-seventh year on Sept. 9. Three courses of study are offered—the classical, the scientific, and the English. The classical course prepares for college, the scientific for technical school, and the English for life in the home or on the farm. These courses are approved by the New England Certifying Board and by the State Department of Education.

A four years' course in wood working is offered. This includes mechanical and freehand drawing, carving, joinery, framing, and wood-turning. The equipment of this department, occupying a very pleasant room 46 by 24 in the basement, includes 21 benches, individual lockers, an induction motor, a band-saw, a power grindstone, a lathe, and complete sets of tools for twenty-one pupils.

It is planned to have the boys erect a forge shop on the school ground, and and to equip the same with the necessary forges and tools for iron work.

This Summer the hall on the second floor will be renovated. The plans call for an auditorium capable of seating 500 people, which can also be used for games and sports; another recitation room, and an office. All of this is made possible by the alumni fund of \$6,000, of which G. H. Bass and family have contributed \$1,500.

The Goodspeed domestic science room will be ready for occupation when school opens. This room furnishes modern equipment for the teaching of

domestic science. Provision has been made for classes of twelve girls each. The room contains three cooking tables, each accommodating four pupils; a demonstration table, a Clarion range, a modern sink, a blue flame stove, a table for cutting and fitting, a Singer rotary sewing-machine, all necessary cooking utensils, a dinner-set, and, in short, every thing needed to teach girls to cook, sew, and keep house.

It is the aim of this department to train girls to become successful housekeepers, wives and mothers.

The academy possesses two of the finest laboratories, one for physics and one for chemistry, to be found in the State. These laboratories give splendid opportunity for science work, and we have strong courses in general science, physics, chemistry and biology.

The academy building is now one of the most modern school buildings in the State. Within four years, over \$16,000 have been spent on improvements.

The Board of Trustees of the University of North Carolina, at a recent meeting, granted to President Francis Preston Venable a leave of absence for the school year 1913-4. Dean Edward Kidder Graham of the college of liberal arts and professor of English will be acting President during the absence of Dr. Venable.

During the twelve years of Dr. Venable's administration the growth of the university along all lines has been almost phenomenal. Twelve buildings, including a medical building, chemistry hall, educational building, administration building, biological laboratory, gymnasium, Y. M. C. A. building and four modern dormitories have been erected during the last twelve years at

a cost of \$800,000. The income for the past year has been more than \$280,000. There has been an increase in the students of more than 70 per cent. and in the Faculty about 150 per cent. The attendance at the university proper, including the agricultural and mechanical college at Raleigh and the State Normal at Greensboro, is in the neighborhood of 2,500 students. This great increase in the value of the university property is evidence of the untiring and effective work of Dr. Venable in bringing the university up to its present high standard.

Dean E. K. Graham, although a comparatively young man, has frequently had occasion to demonstrate his fitness for the position to which he has been elected. Since graduating from the university in 1898, except for three years' study at Columbia University, he has been closely connected with the life of the university. Since 1908 he has been professor of English and dean of the college of liberal arts. During this time Dean Graham has given himself up to furthering the interests of the university. His strong personality and pleasing address have made him one of the most popular men in the State.

The Pestalozzi Froebel Kindergarten Training School, 509 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, announces the largest registration in its history for this time of the year for the Fall term, which opens Sept. 23. Since getting its present central position there has been a steady growth. The new features are the addition of more courses by university professors, and the strengthening of the primary teachers' course. The opportunity for social work, which its close connection with the Chicago Social Settlements affords, continues to be an attractive feature of the school. Also the children's home work courses, similar to those given at Pestalozzi Froebel Haus Training School, Berlin, Germany, and Sesame House Training School, in London.

President Harry Pratt Judson of the University of Chicago, speaking at the recent graduation exercises of the university high school, referred to the recent benefactions of La Verne Noyes

and Julius Rosenwald of Chicago as providing the necessary funds for the proposed new university buildings, and said:

"It only remains now for some citizens interested in education to come forth with a donation for a new building for our high school. We are working out here a scheme whereby much of the superfluous in education may be eliminated. We are going to provide the school with the best equipment and the best Faculty obtainable."

President Judson also announced that the university Board of Trustees had decided to limit next year the enrollment of the school to 400 students, so as better to facilitate the relations of student to instruction. The graduating class was the largest in the history of the school.

The Litchfield Academy, Litchfield, Me., will open its sixty-eighth year in September.

The academy building has been all that was needed in a building, but the growth of the school and modern requirements make additions imperative, and these will be added before September. The friends of the school have been liberal in the past in providing books of reference, and the school now possesses a satisfactory set of reference books through the liberality of Dr. Smith Baker, Hon. De Alvah Alexander, Loring, Short & Harmon, and others. The school has an excellent library of over 600 volumes. A recent gift of fifty high class novels has been made by George Brown of Bowdoin. The school possesses an unusually fine collection of geological specimens not excelled by any in the State. Additions will be made to the physics, chemistry, and physical geography apparatus until it will have as good equipment as any in the State can offer.

The school has a band and orchestra. The band numbers twenty-six pieces, both boys and girls. The orchestra plays for school functions. Beginners and proficient players are encouraged to play. Regular instruction is given in the Winter term, one hour each day.

The trustees, early this year, purchased the Starbird farm and home for use in connection with the school. The house will be thoroughly overhauled and fitted for a dormitory. It

will also be the home of the principal, who will have direct supervision of pupils living in the dormitory. All pupils unless residing with parents or relatives while attending school must reside in the dormitory or such places as designated and be under the same rules as at the dormitory.

The forty-acre farm will be developed according to the latest approved farming methods, and specially selected seeds will be used. We hope later to provide a full fledged agricultural department.

The State Board of Examiners for the Indiana Normal this year was composed of R. M. McNeal of the State Department of Public Instruction, Dr. George P. Singer, Principal of the State Normal School at Lock Haven; Prof. C. E. Plasterer, Superintendent of the Cameron County schools; Prof. Victor E. P. Barkman, Superintendent of the Bedford County schools; Prof. E. M. Rapp, Superintendent of the Berks County schools; Prof. T. K. Johnston, Superintendent of McKees Rocks schools; Prof. T. Latimer Brooks, Superintendent of the Lewistown schools, and Prof. R. T. Adams, Superintendent of the Warren schools.

This board was in session three days, examining more than 400 students, and passed, without exception or condition, all whom they examined. The board was thoroughly pleased with the school in every way. This school has a fine record in the State examinations, as no student has failed since 1889.

Prof. MacGordon, who has been associate professor of mathematics at Indiana for more than twenty years, is Chairman of the Faculty State Board Committee, and much of the success of the examinations is due to his organizing ability.

On June 20, at the close of the State board examinations, the President's reception to the senior class was held at the home of Thomas Sutton, who has been President of the Board of Trustees since 1898. The Sutton home is one of the oldest and finest in Indiana County, and lends itself well to the reception and entertainment of even so large a class as Indiana had this year, 325 in number. The convenience and comfort of the guests, however, was greatly added to by the erection of a large tent on the lawn.