

# Glimpses of Palmer Memorial Institute

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

she questions. Later she learned from the principal of the school that the girl was anxious to be of service to her race, and

Henderson, North Carolina, the home of her mother and before that her grandmother. Her father, later the family name, was a slave. Charlotte received education in the best schools. Naturally, she wished most to aid the boys and girls in her own state, but further impressing her with the need was an elderly lady she met on a between-home-and-school train trip. This lady told her of the work the American Missionary Society was doing in North Carolina, and of the great need for trained teachers.

So in 1902 we find her, with high hopes, arriving at McLeansville, a mere sign post, five miles from Sedalia, and the nearest stop. Trudging part of the distance, and riding the rest in a wagon, Charlotte Hawkins arrived at her destination. The school, to which she had been sent was a ramshackled building, with half of the window panes gone, and the two teachers and a few students had to sleep in a loft overhead, and in a log

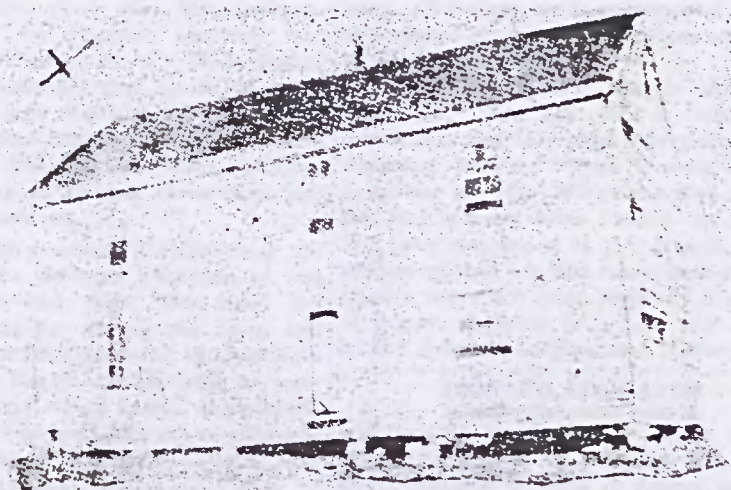


**ALICE FREEMAN PALMER BUILDING**

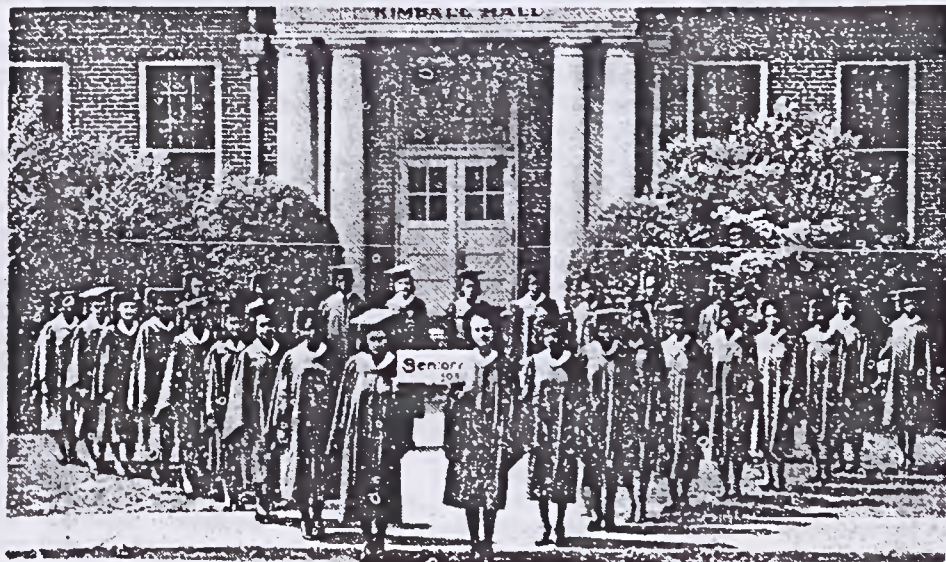
therefore wished to further her education.

Mrs. Palmer's interest made it possible for her to attend the State Normal School at Salem, Massachusetts, after finishing high school. Charlotte Hawkins was the girl so anxious to aid her race and now President of Palmer Institute. She gives two reasons why she chose North Carolina for her venture.

First on June 1, 1833, she was born in



The shanty in which Charlotte Hawkins Brown lived and taught some of her first classes in October, 1901, when she began her life's work in the backwoods of North Carolina, and out of which grew the Palmer Memorial Institute of today.



**A Graduating Class in the Triangle of Achievement**



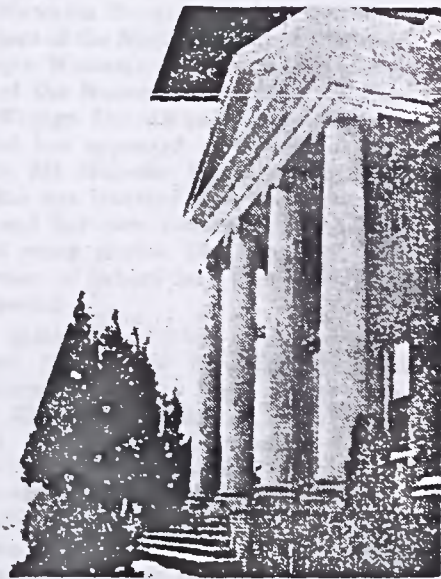
**Community Church Where School Began**

cabin on the place.

Soon the church lost interest but not this pioneer. She tells of sleepless nights, when she knelt through the long hours by her bedside and watered it with tears, praying not for money, but that she might discover enough of God in herself to be willing to trust Him to work out her plans. Today the institute is a model community, with an enrollment of 300, and is housed in buildings valued at half a million dollars, situated on 300 acres of land.

It is the aim of the school to aid Negro students mentally, morally, socially, physically, and so its program is very broad. The objectives of the institution are to give 'A' grade academic work of junior and senior high school level, combined with college preparatory training, that

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 4)



**ALICE FREEMAN PALMER BUILDING**

This is the main Administrative Building, a part of a one-half million dollar plant provided largely by Boston and Cambridge people through their interest in Charlotte Hawkins Brown, the founder and builder, in memory of her friend, Mrs. Alice Freeman Palmer, who was attracted to her as a senior in the English high school one spring day on the streets of Cambridge while she was wheeling a baby carriage and reading Virgil. She owes her further education for this task to Mrs. Palmer's continued interest.