

Wonderful Progress of Brevard Institute.

Its Phenomenal Growth Means of Making Brevard an Educational Centre--Its History and Future.

INTRODUCTION:

If anyone would have told Mr. and Mrs. Fitch Taylor when they started the girls school, in the "Red House" by the railroad bridge now occupied by Miss Delia Gash, that it would grow to its present proportions they would have scarcely believed it possible. Yet here today we have a splendid school for both boys and girls on a hundred acre farm where they can have their own cows, poultry, hogs and beef, with land enough to raise a large part of their bread, vegetables and fruit. The "Red House" is still "red", but it has grown from a frame building to handsome red brick walls with stone trimmings and from a single building to ten: the Administration Building and auditor-

girls dormitory is on the left a hundred yards to the rear of the Auditorium; and facing it on the right the three storied building which houses the wood working machinery and electric lighting plant. From the Girls Dormitory the drive goes direct to the dairy barn, passing the principal's cottage on the right, poultry houses and stock pens. The dairy barn, a three storied frame building, 72x40, built by B. I. pupils, houses the dairy cattle on the first floor, the farm horses, machinery and corn crib on the second floor, while the third floor affords ample space for the storage of corn fodder and hay.

To the rear of the barn is a concrete silo, also built by the boys, which furnishes succulent food for the dairy herd and horses during the

They discussed the idea with many people who were interested in it and finally selected Brevard in Transylvania County as a most desirable place in which to found an industrial school. They consequently moved to Brevard in the fall of 1894. There was no railroad to Brevard at this time, though the Transylvania Railroad Company was laying its track in that direction from Hendersonville. Brevard is in the valley of the French Broad River surrounded by mountains on all sides. The people had had little educational opportunity, but were a sturdy intelligent and moral population. It is interesting to know that Transylvania County and a large part of all the mountain territory, was dry under local option law some ten years before this time.



ium, a noble three storied edifice at the end of the entrance drive, the girls dormitory on the campus near the auditorium, also built of brick; the splendid brick dwelling house on the farm property recently purchased which is now being enlarged and remodeled as a boy's dormitory with accommodations for the teacher in charge; the superintendent's house, the principal's residence, five cottages for teachers and pupils, a large barn, grannery and three story power equipped workshop, which also houses the electric lighting plant of the school.

As one enters the grounds from Depot Street the eye is captured by the very attractive gateway built of native cobblestones. The large flint boulders have been selected with an eye to color and arrangement and knit together into a harmonious whole that forms a very unique and appropriate entrance to a school that gathers up the mountain boys and girls and makes of them noble and useful men and women. This gateway was presented to the Institute by the W. H. and M. S. of the Baltimore Conference.

Flanking the entrance gateway on the right as one enters is the two storied eightroomed residence of Superintendent C. H. Trowbridge who has been in charge of the school for the past fourteen years and under whose efficient foresight and admirable management the school has grown from a single building with three acres of land to seventeen buildings and one hundred acres of splendid farm land.

Hudson Cottage used as a boy's dormitory flanks the entrance gateway on the left; and from thence one travels over a broad driveway bordered with sidewalks on either side and arched over with the leafy boughs of sugar maple trees. As we go along the drive we notice broad fields on both sides green with clover and garden truck, while in the distance is the fine dairy herd of cows presided over by the Holstein bull. At the end of the avenue the drive branches on either side and goes around the Administration Building built in 1914 which contains 15 classrooms, laboratory, office, library and auditorium provided with stage, gallery and motion-picture operating room. The

winter months and is filled by a silage cutter and blower operated on the second floor of the barn.

Across the mountain creek which flows thru the farm is the recently purchased eighty acre farm and the handsome two storied red brick building now being remodeled as a boy's dormitory; and near it an apple orchard, barn, farm manager's cottage and outbuildings. Fields of rye and clover are all around and here and there are areas of dark brown earth freshly ploughed and planted to corn.

The farm is under the management of Mr. J. A. Bishop, a Brevard man, who had managed the farm some years previous to its purchase by the Institute. Under Mr. Bishop's care, wet places are being drained, fields properly planted, orchards pruned and sprayed and decaying buildings repaired. Mr. Bishop will have at his disposal a force of prospective farmers, selected students from the Agricultural Classes and these will be given opportunity to put into actual practise on the farm the scientific facts about agriculture and farm management they have learned in the class. Modern methods and machinery will enable the farm, already noted for its productivity, to still further increase its yields and there is no reason why Brevard Institute, under an efficient teacher of Agriculture should not become the home of an agricultural experiment station with its model farm, model dairy and stock yards, model vegetable garden and poultry yards. Just think what an institution of this kind is going to mean to Transylvania County and the state. Boys and girls trained in Brevard Institute will be in demand as farm and dairy managers as poultry experts and truck farmers. The B. I. will furnish our future county agents and home demonstration, farmers and farmerettes.

BREVARD INSTITUTE.

Early History, Present Condition, Plans for the Future.

Mr. and Mrs. Fitch Taylor of Asheville, North Carolina were strongly impressed with the great good that was done by the Presbyterian school located there, and it was their ambition to originate a similar work farther back in the mountains.

The school was opened in January, 1895, in a small dwelling house which still stands on Main Street just east of the Southern Railway cut. The people were suspicious at first, and there is a large element of truth in the statement that it was necessary to pay the first boarding girl to enroll in the school. The one literary teacher was paid by the "Woman's Parsonage and Home Mission Society." Only two other pupils were secured for the dormitory that spring. In the scholastic year 1895-96 five boarding girls were enrolled. This number grew to seven the next year, which was as many as the little cottage would hold. In the fall of 1897 the "Red House" was rented. It was considerably larger and more convenient. The boarding enrollment this fourth year was nineteen girls. The school remained in the red house until 1901 when that building had been outgrown, though it was not given up until the smokehouse and every available corner had been used.

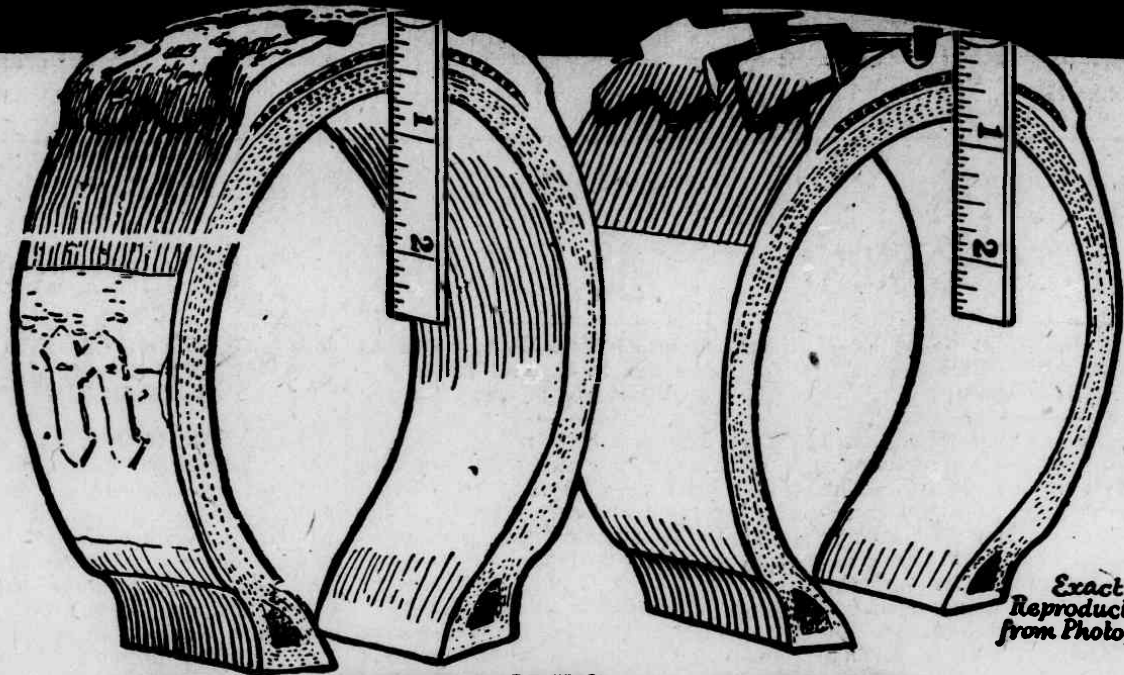
In that year an attempt to buy land and erect a combined school and dormitory building was begun. The Sunday Schools and Epworth Leagues of the Western North Carolina Conference were interested and men like Dr. Dan Atkins, Rev. G. G. Harley, Rev. E. Myers and other pastors and members of the Conference were busy collecting funds to house the school in its own building.

Efforts had been made to interest the "Woman's Home Mission Society" of the Southern Methodist Church in the institution. Mrs. M. J. Branner of Waynesville, mother of Mrs. James Atkins and Mrs. T. F. Marr were particularly interested in this effort and in 1903 the property with the skeleton building was deeded by the Western North Carolina Conference to the Woman's Home Mission Society. Mr. E. E. Bishop, a civil engineer, who had done much work in the construction of railroads in the West and who had later pioneered a school in the Cumberland Mountains for the conference was appointed principal of the new school.

Reaching Brevard early in September 1903 to open school, the new principal was surprised to find the building but little more than half complete.

(Continued on Page Seven.)

20,994 MILES AND TREAD ONLY 1/3 WORN



MOST MILES per DOLLAR

Firestone CORD TIRES

The tire section above at the left shows the condition of a Firestone 33x4 1/2 Cord Tire after 20,994 miles on a Yellow Cab in Chicago.

The section at the right was cut from a new Cord of the same size. Careful measurements show that only 1/3 of the tread of the tire on the Yellow Cab has been worn away after this long, gruelling test. The carcass is intact after more than 11,000,000 revolutions.

and heavy in the center where the wear comes, tapered at the edges to make steering easy and to protect the carcass against destructive hinging action of high tread edges. The carcass is air bag expanded to insure uniform tension and paralleling of every individual cord. It is double "gum dipped" to make sure that each cord is thoroughly insulated with rubber.

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