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Quarterly News Letter to Alumni, January 21, 1915

Iowa State Teachers College

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Iowa State Teachers College

CEDAR FALLS, IOWA

Quarterly News Letter to Alumni

Dear Friend:—

This quarterly news letter will be sent to you in order to keep you informed regarding the greater movements in progress at the State Teachers College with the hope that they will be of interest to you and cause you to tell us the things that should be known about the graduates of the College and the work they are doing for the state and nation.

Enrollment: The number of students on the catalog list from June 15, 1914, to the present date is 3378, over 400 more than were enrolled in the college year 1913-14. The different sections of the graduating classes of this year have now more than 400, of whom over 50 are in the Bachelor of Arts or Senior Class. The classes of students are all organized and have sponsors selected from the faculty. The summer term enrollment of 1914 was 2022—a breaking of all past records.

Summer School: The next summer school will open Wednesday, June 2, 1915, and will continue twelve weeks, if the General Assembly now in session grants the financial support that will be required. This extension of the term is made to open up larger opportunities for the teachers in service during the rest of the year. By making this plan practicable many Iowa teachers can take up a systematic course of study and graduate in a few years without discontinuing their regular work.

The Dormitory: This new building will be completed by the opening of the Fall term. It will accommodate 128 women in the first and second stories and will provide for a cafeteria for serving meals in basement. The capacity of the cafeteria will be such as to give meals at the lowest possible rates to many students who room outside of the dormitory. This first building is but a section of the proposed dormitory. If the present General Assembly grants a renewal of the millage tax as requested by the State Board of Education, a series of dormitories to house 1000 students will be erected.

The Vocational Building: Beginning with the opening of the Spring, the State Board of Education will erect the Vocational Building at a cost of \$100,000. This building will be located on the southwest corner of the quadrangle and will have the same appearance as the gymnasium on the northwest corner. This building will provide space for agriculture, botany, manual training, domestic science and drawing and will be equipt in most modern style in every respect.

The Needed Appropriations: The present General Assembly is asked to appropriate the following additional annual amounts for the support of the Teachers College: Teachers Fund, \$10,000; Contingent Fund, \$8,200; Summer Term Extension, \$25,500; Extension Service, \$20,000; Hospital Expense, \$1,000; Librarians' Salary for Summer Term extension, \$1,500. If this is granted the Study Center movement will be extended to all parts of the state and the entire support of the College for its annual budget will then amount to \$287,900. The State Board of Education requests that a millage tax of one-twentieth of a mill be granted for building to cover the next five year period. This will mean an allowance of \$45,000 a year for that time. It is to be hoped that the Alumni will cooperate in securing these additional funds for the improvement of the College.

Changes of the Year: The daily program of recitations and laboratory work now includes the hours 8 a. m. to 5:30 p. m., and the buildings are open to the students and teachers for work and meetings until 9:30 p. m. The lengthened program has given opportunity for laboratory work that has never before been possible. In most respects these changes have required many adjustments and reorganizations that have for the time being been difficult to reach, but in the end the system of work will be much improved. This year, ten rural independent school districts near Cedar Falls are under supervision of the Training Department, while social center meetings and other activities are conducted by the Faculty. Every thing indicates that this new work is meeting the greatest success. The students graduating from the rural teachers course receive their practice in teaching in these rural demonstration schools. The Extension Service now has enroll in Study Centers over 2500 teachers who report for Saturday class work at scheduled times. There are now over fifty centers where the members of the faculty go to conduct Saturday schools of instruction and training. Professor C. P. Colegrove has been elected Director of this Study Center work and is giving it his undivided and conscientious attention. He is now in charge of the best organized and best conducted work in extension to teachers that exists in the United States. In

addition the members of the faculty have been assisting in the new two days county teachers' institutes by giving lectures, instruction and demonstration work as may be desired. A new form of teachers' institutes has been developed whereby the College sends a team of organized workers to take charge of all the instruction of the two days.

The New Black Hawk Hotel: The alumni will be pleased to know that Cedar Falls citizens have provided for a new hotel called the Black Hawk, which will be opened for service within a few weeks. It is located on the old site of the Burr Hotel, but is practically a new building and will give conveniences and comforts for guests that are only found in modern city hotels. This is a much needed improvement and the patriotism of the citizens has met the requirements in a notable and successful way.

The next News Letter: Our next issue will tell you about athletics, oratory, debating, glee clubs, bands, the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., and the Newman Catholic Association, as well as give the general current news that will be of permanent interest. Let us hear from you as to the desirability of issuing this news letter quarterly and as to what you want to know about your Alma Mater and we will try and supply your want. Send us students fit to become successful teachers, boost for the Teachers College every way you can and accept our best wishes for your abundant success.

Homer H. Seerley, President.

January 21, 1915.