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## The Alumni News Letter, v1n1, July 1, 1917

Iowa State Teachers College

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# The Alumni News Letter

IOWA STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

Vol. I.

CEDAR FALLS, JULY 1, 1917.

No. 1.

## The Alumni News Letter

Issued Quarterly. Published by the Iowa State Teachers College. Permit to enter as second-class mail matter applied for July 1, 1917, at the post office at Cedar Falls, Iowa, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

**Mary V. Dick, B. A., 1912; M. D. in Home Economics, 1913.** Since graduation in 1913, Miss Mary V. Dick has been Head of the Department of Home Economics at the State Normal School at Peru, Nebraska. During the past year she has been resting and taking college work at Teachers College, Columbia University, New York. She graduated from there at the last Commencement and has now accepted the appointment of Extension Conductor in Women's Work in Pennsylvania, with headquarters at the Pennsylvania State College. She is spending her summer with her father and mother at Kearney, Nebraska.

**Honorary Degree.** Grinnell College confers the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws upon the President of the State Board of Education, Hon. D. D. Murphy, Elkader, Iowa, at the last Commencement. This is an honor that is well deserved as President Murphy is a notable man in his profession as an attorney at law. He has superior scholarship as a man and his success as an administrative officer in educational matters of the State of Iowa proves that his services are rare in quality and same in management. He has the esteem of his associates, the confidence of the members of the General Assembly and the support of those who are interested in the educational welfare of the whole people. The task of being President of the State Board of Education is one of much sacrifice of valuable time and it requires in addition a devotion to the cause that is inspiring and notable.

**The Yearly Enrollment.** The next catalog will show an enrollment of 4172 students. Of these 491 are men and 3681, women. The College Graduates in attendance were 28 men, 40 women; the Senior Class, 38 men, 66 women; the Junior Class, 45 men, 96 women; the Sophomore Class, 35 men, 50 women; the Freshman Class, 55 men, 140 women. In the primary, elementary and grammar grade teacher courses, as well as the rural teacher courses, the women have the great majority of the students because these schools employ women only, except in very rare instances. The two year courses are almost exclusively patronized by women, as are also the courses for two weeks of normal training.

**The Summer Term.** June 6, the Summer term opened. The enrollment was over 1800 the first week and a good many will enroll the second half. The Branch or Extension Summer Schools at Atlantic and at Sheldon are new undertakings limited to instruction in uniform county certificate subjects and to two weeks of normal training for those who wish to enter first examinations this summer. It seems that each of these schools may enroll 200 teacher students—a fine start for the first year. Professor Leslie I. Reed is Director at Atlantic and Professor J. C. McGlade, Director at Sheldon.

**Marriages.** 1. Ella Danskin-Shaw, 1901, to La Mont Abner Williams at Manassas, Virginia, June 5, 1917. At home, June 10, 1917, at 413 B Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 2. Esther Shoemaker, 1915, to Charles Kramer at Cedar Falls, Iowa, June 12, 1917. At home, Ackley, Iowa. 3. Ruth Wright, 1911, youngest daughter of Professor D. Sands Wright and Eliza Rawstern-Wright, 1880, at Cedar Falls, Iowa, to Ralph J. Swanson, June 23, 1917. At home, Des Moines, Iowa. 4. Margaret Alison Nisbet, 1914, to Harold Clare Milversted at Cedar Falls, Iowa. At home Cedar Falls, Iowa. 5. Esther Small, 1914, to Grover Little at Waterloo, Iowa, June 27, 1917. At home, New York City. 6. Helen Ruth Hallingby, 1909, 1911, of Cape Girardeau, Missouri, to Dr. H. P. Frost of Worcester, Massachusetts, at Osage, Iowa, June 26, 1917. At home for the summer at Long View, Boylston, Massachusetts, and later in Worcester, Massachusetts, where Dr. Frost will practice medicine.

**The Alumni Register.** This triennial publication is now printed. It is the most complete register of graduates that has ever been issued. It gives the living graduates in an alphabetical list, the deceased graduates in another alphabetical list and the living graduates in a geographical list by states and by post office addresses. This latter list will be extremely helpful to localities where alumni associations are formed and where such organization is desired. It is growing very popular to have annual reunions at State Teachers' Meetings and in larger cities, a custom that should be largely increased. The alumni are becoming a large body of workers in many parts of the United States and their cooperation for the benefit of public school improvement is a very desirable movement for better schools.

**The Alpha Fortieth.** Friday, June 1, the Alpha Literary Society celebrated the fortieth anniversary by having an entertainment at the home of Mrs. Geo. Mornin, 603 Main Street, Cedar Falls. The program consisted of "Alpha in 1877" by Mrs. D. Sands Wright and "Alpha in 1917" by Jeanne Souter, the President of the fall term. Alpha songs were sung, light refreshments were served and the entire evening was delightfully maintained in the Alpha spirit of love and friendship.

**C. F. Schweiker, 1909.** After seven years in the Philippine Islands, C. F. Schweiker of 1909, has returned

to the United States and made a visit to Cedar Falls and his alma mater. He was editor of Old Gold in 1909 and made a superior record as a student. His endeavors as a business man have been up to standard to such a degree that his efforts have been highly successful.

**Elizabeth Burney, 1909.** After continuous service as a music teacher in important places, Miss Elizabeth Burney returns to Cedar Falls as Professor of Public School Music, her appointment beginning at the opening of the Summer term of 1917. Miss Burney completed her Public School Music course in 1909 and her Voice Course in 1911. Her last work has been in the public schools of the city of Des Moines.

**The Class of 1882.** The 35th anniversary of the graduates of the Class of 1882 was fittingly celebrated by the attendance for two days of George E. Winter, Mrs. Ella Hyde Winter, Edgar T. Bedell, Elmer E. Bartlett, Dr. M. J. Kenefick, Myrtis Swearingen-Randall, Edward H. Griffin, Mrs. Elsie Packard-Bullis, Mrs. Ella Mullarky-Story and Sara M. Riggs. In recognition of the large interest and success of this reunion, the President of the Alumni Association for 1918 is Edgar T. Bedell, attorney at law, Le Mars, Iowa. The class had a continuous reunion, eating their meals together all the time and renewing the experiences of school-days.

**The Class of 1892.** The 25th anniversary of the Class of 1892 was celebrated this Commencement by the attendance of the following members: Mrs. Isabella Fields-Clayton, Mrs. Clara Hearst-McAlvin, Mrs. Katie Overfelt-Annas, Dr. Thomas U. McManus, Mrs. Mary Bartlett-Burt, Edgar A. Ford, J. Edward Johnson, Mrs. Emma Sillman-Wise, Cora Spargur-Gibson, Mrs. Minnie-Speer Brown, John F. Belz, Mary F. Hearst and George Mathes. It is not necessary to state that the reunion was a success. E. Avery Cray was assigned the honor of welcoming the Class of 1917 into the Alumni Association but a very heavy rain prevented his coming from Grundy Center by auto and the task was acceptably met by J. Edward Johnson of Sioux City.

**The Alumni Banquet.** Miss Emma F. Lambert, 1896 and 1897, presided as toastmaster and introduced the speakers. Welcome to 1917 was given by J. Edward Johnson of 1892; Response by Miss Charlotte Bockenthien of 1917; Addresses by President-elect Edgar T. Bedell, 1882, by Hon. D. D. Murphy, President of the State Board of Education, by President H. H. Seerley and Professor M. F. Arey. The music was furnished by the College Symphony Orchestra.

**The Commencement.** Governor W. L. Harding gave the Commencement Address for the year of 1917, and greatly pleased the large audience. The Spring Term Class that graduated was distributed as follows: Department Certificates, 3; Critic Teacher Certificates, 2; Special Music Teacher Diplomas: Piano, 1; Clarinet, 1; Teacher of Rural Schools, 32; Primary Teacher, 59; Kindergartners, 19; Home Economics Teacher, 47; Public School Music Teacher, 11; Manual Arts Teacher, 7; Commercial Teacher, 4; Junior College Diploma, 51; Physical Education Teacher, 8; Bachelor of Arts in Education Degree, 33; Master of Didactics Degree, 3.

**Kappa Rho.** For several years the honor debaters and orators of the Teachers College have been given distinction by membership in the Delta Sigma Rho, an honor fraternity in public speaking. Not to be outdone by the men, the women of the college have founded a new honor society called Kappa Rho, the first organized in the United States. The object of this society is to increase interest among women in public speaking and bring together into a prominent society those women who distinguish themselves in debating, oratory and dramatic work.

**Jeanne Elizabeth Wier, 1893.** Since graduating at Cedar Falls Miss Wier received her Bachelor of Arts degree in 1901 at Stanford University. She has also taken graduate work at the University of California. She is the Head of the Department of History and Government at the University of Nevada and is also Secretary of the Nevada Historical Society. In this official capacity she has made a collection of much historical matter pertaining to the state. She has prepared valuable reports of the transactions of the Society, has edited, collected and published notable papers on the history of the commonwealth and has written many articles personally that are of a historical and civic character. Miss Wier's record as an educator is of notable and commendable character in all respects and she has gained distinction and credit for her public services.

**Florence Freer, Instructor, 1912-16.** One year ago in May, Miss Florence Freer resigned her work on the staff of the Home Economics Department of the Teachers College to accept an appointment as County Director of Women's Work of the New York State Farm Bureau for Otsego County. Her work in this field for the past year has been so notably successful that she has now been given the appointment of Director of the State, with office at Albany.

**Julia L. Hurd, 1912.** After graduating from the B. A. course in 1912, Miss Hurd remained another year and received her M. D. degree in Home Economics. She then taught as an Instructor for over two years in the Department of Home Economics. She then spent a year taking advanced studies in the Teachers College of Columbia University and received her degree in

June, 1917. She has been appointed State Manager for Vermont in Women's Work and will have her headquarters at Burlington, the seat of the University of Vermont, under which institution the work is conducted for that commonwealth.

**Eleanor Gray, 1915.** After two years' work in the Training Department at Bellingham, Washington, Miss Gray reports that she has received the compliment of \$200.00 advance in salary as a member of the Faculty of the State Normal School of that city. Her work the past year has been that of supervision of student teaching in the city system and the success has been so marked that the whole plan has received the heartiest endorsement. Even Everett, Washington, sixty miles south of Bellingham, has undertaken the training of ten students each quarter, each student taking charge of a room for that time. Everett pays \$25.00 a month to each student teacher and in addition pays the supervisor in charge.

**"The Only Elm."** Monday, June 5, after the annual alumni banquet, the alumni met on the campus near the Library Building and dedicated to the memory of Professor M. F. Arey, a majestic elm tree. The dedicatory address was given by Miss Allison Aitchison of 1903. The song was conducted by Mr. C. A. Fullerton of 1889 and 1890. Professor Arey made an admirable extemporaneous response as the whole transaction was a surprise to him. A temporary tablet was inscribed "Affectionately dedicated to Melvin Franklin Arey by the Alumni."

**Musical Festival.** The Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra was the company engaged for the annual music festival, Wednesday, May 9, afternoon and evening. Besides the instrumental soloists taken from the orchestra the following vocalists appeared: Marie Kaiser, Soprano; Jean Vincent Cooper, Contralto; Charles Harrison, Tenor; and Royal Dardus, Baritone. Emil Oberhofer, Conductor, was supported this year by fifty members of the orchestra and the programs were received with great interest and enthusiasm.

**Ida May Wilson, 1900.** Vocational Guidance has one of its most active representatives in the United States in Miss Ida May Wilson of the North Central High School, Spokane, Washington. Miss Wilson has made a national reputation as Vocational Director, being active in looking after the individual interests of the pupils and in writing for the press and giving addresses before educational meetings. Her success in helping pupils to know themselves and their best interests and in helping parents to the benefits of such work is of exceptional character. When the vocational motif is established in a pupil and it is understood how important are the best training and the best personality, then the future conduct and application of the individual to succeed in getting good preparation is easily assured.

**George D. Thompson, 1890.** Governor William L. Harding has appointed George D. Thompson, attorney at law at Webster City, Iowa, a district judge of the Eleventh District. Since graduating from the State Normal School, Mr. Thompson studied law. He has made a notable success of the profession, as this later recognition is absolute evidence.

**The Bureau of Recommendations.** The report of the Bureau of Recommendations and Election of Teachers for the year ending March 1, 1917, gives the following information concerning the amount of business transacted. Written requests for superintendents and teachers were as follows: For Superintendents and Principals, 189; For Critics for Normal Schools, 15; For High School Teachers, regular academic subjects, 274; For High School Teachers for special subjects, 289; Total High Grade Requests, 767. For Kindergartners, 19; For Primary Teachers, 251; For Grades four to eight, 577; For Rural Teachers, 419; Total Elementary Requests, 1266. During the same time, 200 requests were made by telephone and from March 24 to May 27, School Boards and School Superintendents were in the office every week day meeting candidates. At times from four to six School Boards came the same days. The records show that 1500 persons secured places thru the support of the Bureau. The salaries received were from \$50.00 to \$55.00 for rural teachers to \$1500.00 per year for Superintendents. Several young men without experience in actual teaching except in the Training School received appointments at \$1000.00 a year to \$1200.00. The aggregate salaries of those assisted were more than \$1,000,000.00. Had these been appointed thru agencies the commissions would have been \$50,000.00.

**William C. Schluter, 1915.** Graduating in May, 1915, Mr. Schluter decided to continue his graduate college studies at Columbia University. Recently he received the appointment of a Special Fellowship with an annual valuation of \$650.00, founded by Jacob H. Schiff. This appointment is made by the University Council upon the recommendation of the Faculty of Political Science. Such consideration indicates that the recipient has made a notable record as a man and as a student. Mr. Schluter's Teachers College friends expected just such reports from his University studies.

**Mrs. Ella Danskin-Shaw, 1901.** The Ivakota Industrial Farm Training School and Home for Girls and Children is under the direction of the National Florence Crittenton Mission and is located in Fairfax County, Virginia. This work of mending broken lives has been made possible by the generous donation of two hundred and sixty acres of land by

Mrs. Ella Danskin-Shaw of the Class of 1901. The name, Ivakota, was coined from a combination of the abbreviations of the three states, Iowa, Virginia and North Dakota, and has been adopted, because it carries with it no suggestion of charity or of institution life. The work is being developed on the cottage plan and already two cottages are in operation. The location is near the city of Washington and government experts will assist in solving many of the difficulties involved in the new project.

**An Inside Survey.** The Iowa State Teachers College has had a number of "Outside Surveys" of its business and work during the past ten years, the last one having been undertaken by the Commissioner of the United States Bureau of Education thru a committee of scholars and experts who were completely outside of any experience with teacher training schools. Since these surveys were so one-sided and incomplete and in many respects opinions rather than facts, the Faculty has undertaken an "Inside Survey," basing the same on fundamental problems that were adopted by the National Council of State Normal School Presidents and Principals of the United States. This includes the vital questions pertaining to teacher education and teacher training, financial, professional and economical, and will lead to a comparison between states on a similar basis. The Faculty will not issue this report for distribution at the present until it is approved and accepted by the Board of Education. It will be of special benefit to the working forces of the college as it will settle approximately what expenditures are effectively made, what constitutes a reasonable load for a teacher and for a student and what differences are essentially required in instructing in all the Departments.

**Agnes Russell, 1889, 1891.** How the time flies is readily recognized when the children of the graduates are married and settled for themselves. Agnes Russell entered the State Normal School as a student in 1887, soon after her coming from Australia to make her home with her Uncle, Dr. Russell, of Monticello, Iowa. She was married after graduation to Hon. Robert C. Stirton, attorney at law of Monticello. The family now announces the marriage of a daughter, Miss Agnes, to Mr. Lester Lee Gerhart, June 20, 1917. The home of the young people will be at Hopkinton, Iowa.

**Military Instruction.** Physical Education for men has been changed for the coming year and Military Instruction has taken its place in the Course of Study. This plan will be a permanent plan in order to give the young men an opportunity to be trained and made ready to enter the military service of the United States should it become necessary, without loss of time or assignment to the regular camps for the required training. This change sent Professor R. F. Seymour, Head of the Department of Physical Education, to the Ft. Snelling Officers' Camp early in May, in order to enter into the United States Service his qualifications. Major Holland from the Iowa State College and Dr. F. N. Mead of the National Guard have had charge of the men students in Military Instruction.

**J. E. Cundy.** After a notably successful career as an educator and as a Superintendent of County and Consolidated Schools, Mr. J. E. Cundy, a former student of the Teachers College, has purchased an interest in the J. S. Latta Company, Incorporated, at Cedar Falls, Iowa, and will try to make his judgment and his professional service more useful to the public schools than ever by furnishing the teachers the supplies and the helps that are so decidedly needed. Any business referred to Mr. Cundy by the alumni will receive conscientious and efficient attention.

**Fred D. Cram, 1909.** As County Superintendent of Cerro Gordo County, Iowa, Superintendent Cram has made a superior record as a rural school educator. He has published "The Annual School Bulletin," covering the school affairs and the school progress of the year 1916-17, a pamphlet of thirty pages that is a suggestive report indicating the service that is possible and desirable on the part of all concerned in the public schools. Members of the alumni who are interested in the actual things being done in rural and consolidated schools should write Mr. Cram for a copy, at Mason City, Iowa.

**A. L. Vincent, 1902.** Since leaving Cedar Falls, Superintendent Vincent has been one year at South English, Iowa; two years at Moorhead, Iowa; six years at Fullerton, California; and six years at Ventura, California. He has been appointed for the seventh year at Ventura, California at a special increase of \$300.00 to his salary. Success and appreciation of his services have followed in every year's service to the public. He married Grace Churchill of 1901.

**Training Facilities in Teaching.** For some years most of the training in teaching has been secured in the campus Training School under the supervision of the Director, Supervisors and Supervising Critics. The growth of the numbers of the graduating classes has compelled an expansion of the opportunities for practice in teaching so that arrangements for work have been made in the city district of Cedar Falls and also of East Waterloo. For rural teacher training, the civil townships of Union, Cedar Falls and Waterloo, the consolidated schools of Hudson, Orange and Jesup, and the township school system of Bennington and Lincoln townships. These arrange-

ments give the most effective opportunities that are enjoyed by any state teacher institution in the United States and relieve the criticism that a Training Department does not keep pace with the development of the attendance.

**The Extension Service.** Director Irving H. Hart will soon publish a report on the Extension Service of the Teachers College during 1916-17. It has been possible to make considerable progress in this new field of educational activity and helpfulness. Over 15,000 of the Iowa teachers received instruction to a greater or less degree during the past year. By authority of the General Assembly, the appropriation was increased for 1917-18, so that credit study centers can now be organized in cities and towns where the work will be given in the same grade and quality as that given at the college. By this system a large number of credit extension courses are provided and the benefits of the work of the institution is carried by the Faculty to many localities away from Cedar Falls.

**Cap. E. Miller, 1901, 1913.** At the Annual Commencement of the Iowa State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts, Cap. E. Miller, M. D., 1901, B. A., 1913, received the Master of Science degree for having completed work with a major in Economic Science. He has had experience in supervision of schools in Keokuk County, Sigourney and Fairfield and is now prepared to do special work in State Normal Schools and Colleges where Agricultural education and rural school improvement are important requirements. He has been appointed Professor of Rural Education at the State Normal School at Milwaukee, Wisconsin, at a salary of \$2300.00, with additional salary for any Summer Session assignment. He was also elected to the Professorship of Marketing and Farm Management at the Agricultural College of North Dakota at an equivalent salary. He is continuing his college studies at the Iowa State College during this summer but will move his family to Milwaukee in September.

**Mrs. R. B. Howeth, 1911.** Since leaving Cedar Falls, Mrs. Howeth has made her home in Los Angeles, California. She recently graduated from the Los Angeles Normal School and received the general certificate now required in that city of all regular teachers. This is Mrs. Howeth's fourth diploma. When she graduated at Cedar Falls her name was Mary C. Jones. She has held a place in the Public School Music Faculty in Los Angeles for four years.

**Charles F. Johnson, 1890, 1897.** Since leaving Cedar Falls and college studies, Mr. Johnson was in Y. M. C. A. work at Des Moines, Iowa, and Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania, to married Myrtle A. Boardman, June 6, 1900, of the Class of 1897. In January, 1912, Mr. Johnson became Superintendent of the Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, Industrial School for Boys. The Board named the school and Farm Kis-Lyn after Elliott P. Kinsner and John Lynch by their first three letters of their surnames, thus honoring them for their efforts in founding such a benevolent and protective institution. The cottage plan of residence is used, twenty-five boys to a cottage. The school work is similar to the public schools excepting it is more industrial. Its discipline and management are protective and reformatory since its membership is composed of either dependent boys or else those committed by the Juvenile Court for correction and improvement. Some of the buildings have been erected by the boys and maintenance is assisted by farm work, fruit growing and stock-raising. Military tactics is given by two companies and a parole system is employed that builds up a disposition to become self-reliant and independent. The number in average enrollment is approximately 150, the year's report covers 259, of whom 83 were paroled and only 3 escaped. Most of the boys paroled are a credit to their training. An appropriation of \$75,000.00 a year was made in 1916, and since Mr. Johnson became in charge the amount thus expended in five years has been \$442,445.43, of which \$210,112.44 has been in buildings.

**J. L. McLaughlin, 1892.** As Representative of the Philippine Agency of the American Bible Society, 503 Rezel Avenue, Manila, Mr. McLaughlin travels and works for the Society in all these Islands. Since January he has disposed of 100,000 copies of the Scriptures and has managed four conventions, one of which had 5,000 in attendance. He is greatly interested in the schools as they are the most interesting part of American life in the Islands. He does not know when he will return to the States but he desires to be remembered as a fellow worker of the Class of twenty-five years ago who is still trying to do his part for the uplift of mankind.

**May E. Polley, 1892.** As Supervisor of Teachers and Critic Teacher of Normal Schools in the Philippines, Miss Polley has spent sixteen busy years. The coming year she will do class work in special methods and in psychology at Manila. She reports that the results of the American educational work have been so valuable and so effective that the Filipino teachers will soon be able to take entire charge of all phases of the work of the public school education in the Islands and that the year 1918 will see many of the American teachers returning to the homeland because their service in the Philippines has been completed. She says that she has great affection for the people and will regret to leave them, even to have the privilege to live in the United States.