

Some difficulty was encountered in securing a capable contractor to erect the new building. On November 25th, 1866, the Trustees requested Mr. Carver "to employ a competent teacher for the balance of the term, at the expense of the Institute, to enable Professor Carver to devote his full-time to the pending Subscriptions and the erection of the building."

For the dedication of the building on March 30th, 1867, a committee was appointed, "to invite the clergy of the Town and Judge Elwell to accompany the Trustees in a procession from the Academy to Institute Hall, on the following Wednesday at 1:00 P.M. A band led the procession and the new building was dedicated with appropriate ceremonies."

A faculty was selected and the class-room work of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute began in Institute Hall.

In the autumn of 1867, J. P. Wickersham, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, passed through Bloomsburg on the train. The location of a new Normal School in the 6th Congressional District was pending. He saw the new school on the hill, "ablaze with light." Dr. Wickersham returned to Bloomsburg and addressed a meeting of the citizens and expressed the opinion that the Literary Institute location would be ideal for a State Normal School.

On March 9th, 1868, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved that the Trustees of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute agree to establish in connection with the same, 'A State Normal School' and to procure grounds and to put up the necessary buildings as soon as the sum of twenty thousand dollars is subscribed by responsible persons."

When the Normal School project became public, local contributors and other citizens were aroused by the fear of losing the College Preparatory feature of the school. A compromise was reached and the new Institution became officially, "The Bloomsburg Normal School and Literary Institute." In that dual capacity, it continued to function until about 1920 when complete State ownership put an end to the College Preparatory Department.

On April 15, 1868, Professor Carver submitted plans for the new dormitory. At this meeting it was agreed to purchase additional grounds, to accept the plans submitted and "to execute a contract with Henry Carver to erect the building at his estimated cost, to wit, \$36,000."

For many years the campus was bounded by a line marking what is now Penn Street, then East by a line marking East Second Street to a point just above the old tennis courts; thence north-west to a point from which a line ran south west to Penn Street, the line passing along the south boundary of the Grove. The area of the Grove and of the plot upon which Science Hall now stands was purchased at a later date.

The laying of the corner stone of the dormitory of the Bloomsburg Normal School and Literary Institute was a notable occasion. The Governor of Pennsylvania, the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Judge Elwell, and other notables joined with the Trustees in making the event a memorable occasion. Prayer was offered by D. J. Waller, Sr. Governor John W. Geary laid the corner stone, made an appropriate address and handed the plans

to Professor Carver who accepted them and promised to complete the work as soon as possible. A bond issue of \$30,000 was authorized, 6% per annum, secured by mortgage.

On February 19, 1869, the school was formally recognized as the Bloomsburg State Normal School and Literary Institute. Students rooming and boarding in the new Dormitory were charged four dollars per week.

On September 4, 1875, the "Boarding Hall" burned down. Fortunately, it was a Saturday afternoon and no lives were lost. Insurance of \$30,000 was received.

On September 24, action was taken to rebuild. The new building was to be built in the form of a "T" with 162-foot front, and a back wing, 112 feet long.

The first State Appropriation mentioned in the minutes was in the sum of \$10,000, received about July 1, 1870.

The dual purpose of the Institution led to some interesting features in the life of the School. Having a Secondary Department, a more advanced College Department and a Curriculum for the training of prospective teachers, together with a "model School," *no scholastic requirements* were in force for the registration of students. The effect upon the athletic teams of that period was marked.

Dr. J. P. Welsh became the Principal of the Institution in the fall of 1890. Dr. Welsh had the vision and zeal of a promoter. He at once realized that with overcrowded dormitory and class rooms, the need of new buildings was imperative.

By January, 1894, a four-story dormitory connecting Waller Hall and Noetting Hall, together with a new Gymnasium was completed. The Athletic Field was graded and ready for use, the baseball diamond was laid out where Science Hall now stands. A cinder-track surrounded the field. A new epoch began in the life of the School. A. K. Aldinger, Howard Burdge, and Margaret Bogenrief were new additions to the Faculty, in the field of Physical Education.

Mr. Aldinger introduced the game of basketball to this community. The game was first played with nine men on each team. The girls played the game with the floor divided into three equal courts. Players were not allowed to leave their assigned court. No males were allowed to witness the girls at play. However, the introduction of the Annual Gymnastic Exhibition, to which the public was invited, soon put an end to this taboo.

The long spring term, ending about July 1 was ideal for baseball. Coach Aldinger developed teams which more than held their own in games which were regularly scheduled with Bucknell, Susquehanna University, Gettysburg, Dickinson, Carlisle Indians, Wyoming Seminary, State College and Villanova. Aldinger was equally successful in developing strong football teams.

Students and teachers living in the dormitory were greatly in the majority. No automobiles were in existence. The social life of students and teachers centered about the school itself. The close contact of students and teachers tended to develop that "friendly spirit which is Bloomsburg."

THE STATE TAKES OVER (STATE NORMAL SCHOOL)

W. B. SUTLIFF

Like all educational institutions, the Normal Schools of Pennsylvania were not self-supporting. The meager doles of the State could not meet the expanding needs of the schools.

For example, the Bloomsburg Literary Institute and State Normal School had held an option on a tract of land lying to the east of the campus and bounded on the east by what is now Spruce Street. The price was \$8,000.

The erection of Science Hall in 1906 destroyed the usefulness of the Athletic Field, insofar as its original purpose was concerned. To continue the athletic life of the school, a new field was necessary. Hence, in the spring of 1904, the eight and one-half acre plot was purchased. This was done without aid from the

State. The first payment of \$1,500 was met by borrowing the money. Bonds, secured by mortgage, were issued, to be redeemed in five years.

The Trustees of that day are commended in the highest terms for their unceasing efforts to carry on the life and work of the school without allowing either to deteriorate.

In view of the difficulty of the financial situation, the Act of the Assembly on May 18, 1911, made it possible for the State Board of Education to purchase the property of each Normal School. To assume the obligations, and to take full control, was followed by a resolution adopted November 12, 1912:

"Be it resolved, that we, the Trustees of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute and State Normal School, of the Sixth District of Pennsylvania, accept the provisions of the Twentieth Article of the Act of May 18, 1911, known as the School Code, and to that end signify to the State Board of Education, our willingness to sell and convey the property of this Institution to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to be by it owned and controlled."

After a visit of a special committee to Harrisburg to consult with State Authorities, "a meeting of the stockholders was advertised for April 10, 1913, to vote upon the question of the sale of the property and the dissolution of the Corporation."

On March 13, 1913, "The Special Committee for the sale of the School, by its Chairman, reported that an interview had been held with the State Board of Education in Harrisburg on Thursday, February 6, 1913, at which meeting a proposition had been made by the Board of Education to purchase the School property for the sum of \$10,000, the State to assume all indebtedness."

Upon its return, the Committee issued a call for a stockholders' meeting to be held April 10, 1913, to vote upon the proposition to sell. A full report of the legal steps taken to secure a vote of the stockholders upon the question of the sale and consequent dissolution of the Corporation was recorded.

The vote cast showed 249 votes in favor of the sale. This represented 1339 $\frac{3}{4}$ shares, par value \$26,795, the same being a majority of the paid-up capital stock of \$39,940.

Two years went by without action by the State. "The mills of the gods grind slowly."

On July 28, 1915, a committee of the State Board of Education visited the School. Dr. Becht, Executive Secretary, was present. "The Committee expressed its pleasure at the excellent condition of the School and requested a full report of the indebtedness."

On December 1, 1915, the special committee on the sale of the School reported that a visit to Harrisburg had been made. With Dr. Schaeffer, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Dr. Becht, they called at the office of the Attorney General but were met by his Deputy. He raised several objections to the consummation of the sale, the chief of which was that the sale had been authorized about two and a half years before. He recommended another meeting of the stockholders, to vote upon the proposed sale. On April 10, 1916, a resolution was adopted setting forth the proposal "to sell all real and personal property of the School, to relinquish all rights of the Corporation, to the Commonwealth of

Pennsylvania for the sum of \$10,000 and the assumption by the State of all indebtedness of the said Bloomsburg Literary Institute and State Normal School."

The vote was duly taken and tabulated on April 10, 1916. One hundred and ninety-seven votes, representing 1135 shares, par value, \$22,700, were in favor of the sale, no dissenting votes being cast.

The mortgage of \$50,000 on Science Hall was due March 1, 1916. The State approved the issuing of a new mortgage to secure refunding bonds, aggregating \$50,000 at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, payable March 1, 1936. The bonds were duly issued and sold.

At this stage, the Trustees were called to Harrisburg and told that some arrangements must be made at once for the payment or refunding of the note due, aggregating \$24,000.

On March 27, 1916, the Trustees resolved that, "It being lawful and expedient," 24 bonds would be issued each of \$1,000, payable April 1, 1926, secured by a mortgage. On the same date the Trustees received the deed for the "Buckalew Place," now the residence of the President of the College. Bonds in the sum of \$4,000, secured by mortgage, were issued in payment.

Shortly after this transaction, the State Board of Education requested the Trustees "not to enter into any unusual contracts increasing extraordinary expenses."

A copy of the agreement of the sale of the School to the State was given to the Trustees. Secretary Becht stated that it would be placed before the Trustees. Secretary Becht stated that it would be placed before the Governor for Approval. On May 29, 1916, a "Deed of Conveyance" was duly submitted to the State.

Arrangements were made for the distribution by the courts of the \$10,000 purchase price, to the owners of the 1135 shares, and for the dissolution of the Corporation.

State Executive Secretary, J. George Becht, announced the new Board as follows:

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|----------------|----------------|-------------------|
| A. T. Schoch | M. C. Youngman | Verar Auten |
| James C. Brown | L. E. McGinnis | Benjamin Apple |
| John M. Clark | | Charles W. Miller |

Dr. Becht met with the Board on August 1, 1916. The Board was duly organized and the Institution became the Bloomsburg State Normal School, fully owned and under the control of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

FROM NORMAL SCHOOL TO TEACHERS COLLEGE

W. B. SUTLIFF

The Bloomsburg Literary Institute and Normal School became, in name, "The Bloomsburg State Normal School" in 1916. However, College Preparatory, Medical Preparatory, and Secondary departments continued to hold a prominent place in the life of the School until 1920. Catalogs of 1917-18-19, contained the description of courses in French, German, Spanish, Latin, and Greek. Astronomy, Geology, Logic, Ethics, General Biology and Anatomy, Greek and Roman History, Trigonometry and Surveying each had a place in the work offered.

Compare these courses with the curricula of the early 20's and you will understand the exclamation of an old Professor in reviewing the changes — "Then came the Revolution."

It may be of interest to note the manner in which the "Summer Schools" came into being. The regular school year called for 40 weeks work. Inquiries began to be made by former students and teachers in service concerning the possibility of summer work. The Principal decided to have nothing to do with the project but co-operated by securing permission from the Trustees to turn the school plant over to the Faculty and allow the teachers to assume the responsibility. Heads of departments met and decided to try the plan. They selected W. B. Sutliff to advertise and organize a summer school of 6 weeks, to be held in 1919. The Trustees assumed no financial responsibility. The teachers took "pot-luck," agreeing to divide the enrollment and tuition fees in accordance

with the number of hours taught, modified by the number of students enrolled in each class.

Miss Mary Good was appointed "preceptress" in charge of the women living in the dormitory. The Steward ran the Dormitory, supplying room, board and laundry at \$5 per week. The registration and tuition fees amounted to \$12 per student; 352 students being enrolled.

County Superintendents of the 6th District held examinations at the close of the session for the certification of teachers. The Department of Public Instruction agreed to accept all credits earned, toward graduation.

The same plan was in force in the summer of 1920, the State agreeing to pay the \$12 tuition. In 1921, under the principalship of Dr. Fisher, the 9 weeks summer school became a regular feature of the Normal School year.

On January 12, 1920, Dr. D. J. Waller handed in his resignation as Principal of the School. On July 7, 1920, Dr. Charles E. Fisher was elected Principal.

A new era began. Dr. Finnegan, Superintendent of Public Instruction, decreed that the Normal Schools were created solely for the preparation of teachers for the public schools of Pennsylvania.

It should be noted that while the Arts Colleges claimed the honor of providing high school teachers, each Normal School