

student, upon graduation received a certificate which listed each subject completed and accredited, together with the authority to teach such subjects in the Public Schools of Pennsylvania. Hence, many high school teachers were found with but two years accredited Normal School work.

1921 Changes

1st Entrance requirements: 15 high school units and a promise to teach.

2nd Entrance requirements: Four Curricula:

- Group I Kindergarten Primary — Grades I, II, III
- Group II Intermediate — Grades IV, V, VI
- Group III Junior High School — Grades VII, VIII, IX
- Group IV Rural

The Secondary Department was continued for several years solely for students from districts not having a high school and for those not having 15 high school units to qualify for enrollment in the Normal School.

Dr. Fisher immediately arranged a comprehensive plan to establish closer relationship between the Normal School and the town schools. Arrangements were made to use three rooms in the town schools for Practice Teaching in Grades IV, V, VI, the work to be supervised by Miss Steel, head of the Training School.

Mr. Keller was directed to give half of his time to the teaching of Art in the town schools; Miss Moore, in Music; Mr. Black, Penmanship; Mr. Hall, Industrial Arts; and Miss Cruttenden, Household Arts.

In 1921, the State Department of Public Instruction established the position Dean of Instruction in each of the State Normal Schools. W. B. Sutliff was appointed to assume this position at Bloomsburg.

On May 8, 1922, Dr. Fisher announced that a decision to establish a three year course for the preparation and training of Junior High School Teachers had been decided upon for all Pennsylvania Normal Schools. A one-room Junior High School was organized upon the local campus. It is interesting to note that this was the first step taken toward the goal of a Teachers College.

The certification of teachers by the Department of Public Instruction under Dr. Finnegan, Superintendent of Public Instruction, required two years of accredited work, i.e., 64 semester hours, for all elementary teachers in Pennsylvania, and created an immediate demand for Extension Courses for teachers-in-service.

Francis V. Mason was employed to organize classes, secure the cooperation of the faculty and establish the work.

The response was immediate and gratifying. The enrollment for the first semester of 1922-23 was 1770 teachers in service, counting all classes. In his report to the Trustees, November 13, 1922, Dr. Fisher stated that, "In the extension work there are 23 instructors, fifty courses being given in 23 different centers. Two automobiles, owned by the School, were used for the transportation of members of the faculty.

On June 1, 1923, Dr. Fisher announced his resignation as Principal of the School. He left to assume the duties of President of the State Teachers College, Bellingham, Washington.

Dr. Fisher transformed the emphasis of the Bloomsburg Normal School from secondary and college preparatory work for special students, to an institution devoting full time and effort to the education and training of teachers.

He was succeeded by Dr. G. C. L. Riemer, whose election was announced June 27, 1923. Dr. Riemer continued many of the plans inaugurated by Dr. Fisher. His administration was marked by the conversion of North Hall into a men's dormitory and the construction of the present lobby in Waller Hall. The latter improvement was made possible by tearing out the two stairways leading to the floor above and occupying the space of two large rooms, one on each side of the front entrance.

One evening in May, 1927, a school party was at its height, and the old Gym was crowded with students and teachers. Dr. Riemer had been on a visit to Harrisburg. Suddenly, he appeared in the doorway, clapped his hands and called for silence. Amidst the hush, everyone listened with the feeling "What's up?"

He announced in a loud voice, "I want everybody to sing the old school song, but put the word 'College' wherever 'Normal' has been sung." And everyone sang for the first time, "Bloomsburg, Bloomsburg College, up on College Hill." That was the way the news of the birth of the title, "Bloomsburg State Teachers College" came to Bloomsburg.

On April 11, 1927, the following resolution was adopted by the Board of Trustees: "Resolved that Francis B. Haas be and hereby is elected Principal of the Bloomsburg State Normal School for a term of three years beginning July 1, 1927, etc." With the coming of Dr. Haas, a new era of scholastic and material development and expansion began. The Institution rapidly passed from a College in name, to a College in fact.

TEACHERS COLLEGE (1934-1940)

HARVEY A. ANDRUSS

At the 1934 Commencement, those receiving two year normal school certificates were considered members of the Senior Class for the last time at the Bloomsburg State Teachers College. This discontinuance of the issuance of the Normal School Certificate marks the end of the two year preparation level and the emergence of a four-year degree granting institution of higher learning — the State Teachers College.

Evidence of the importance of the education of teachers of special subjects, such as Art, Music, Physical Education, Home Economics, and more particularly Commerce, began to manifest itself at Bloomsburg early in this period. In 1934, the first class matriculating as Freshmen in the Department of Commerce in 1930 was graduated and found ready placement in the high schools of Pennsylvania and adjoining states.

The citation of a few of these factors will indicate that the period from 1927 to 1934 had been a period of transition from a two-year to a four-year basis, during which special curriculums were introduced into the various Teachers Colleges so that the present structure of the institutions can be said to be fairly well moulded during this period. The pattern provides that each of the fourteen institutions shall train elementary teachers and secondary teachers of academic subjects, while certain institutions are designated to offer curriculums for the education of teachers of so-called special subjects. Bloomsburg's business graduates

began to prove themselves to the people of Pennsylvania in 1934.

Curriculums revised in 1932 were put into effect so that the first two years consisted of general education upon which the last two years could be based to provide professional teacher education. Revised admission requirements requiring students graduating in the lower half of their secondary school classes to qualify only through examinations, served to raise the entrance requirements to a higher level. Quality point systems as graduation requirements were inaugurated to insure a level of scholarship above that of mere time-serving or the accumulation of a number of semester hours of credit.

The period from 1934 to 1940 was also marked by the growth of the colleges in plant and personnel. The General State Authority building program added from two to four new structures to every campus. At Bloomsburg, the Centennial Gymnasium, the Junior High School (later called Navy Hall), a maintenance building, and a new heating plant were welcome additions to the college on the hill overlooking the valley of the Susquehanna River.

The degree of Bachelor of Science in Education was conferred on more than 1,000 teachers in the elementary, secondary, and business fields during the ten year period ending in 1940. Of this group, 77 per cent taught, and 15 per cent were otherwise employed.