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## Newsletter - January 1940

Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College

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Mr. O. J. Baker

PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE - PRAIRIE VIEW, TEXAS

VOLUME IX

JANUARY - 1940

NUMBER 1

A GREETINGS - 1940

I wish for each of you, my colleagues, PEACE and PROSPERITY in abundance for 1940.

B CALENDAR -

1 Holiday - January 1, 1940

2 Prairie View State College-Xavier University Football Game,  
Campus Stadium, 2:30 P. M., Monday, January 3, at 2:30 P. M.

VOLUME IX

NEWS LETTER

NUMBER 5

(a) The Problems that Confront our Beginning Teachers  
in our Modern Educational Program -  
Department of Education - January 4

(b) The Advantage of Socialized Medicine as it Affects  
the Negro -  
Division of Socialized Medicine - January 5

JANUARY - 1940

4 Unit Short Course for Farmers - January 2-12

C DR J. I. HORACE OF CHICAGO -

Dr Horace has come to campus for five days on the campus beginning the first purpose of lecturing, holding conferences and preaching at the 11 o'clock hour, January 7. Dr Horace has a national reputation as a scholar and pulpiteer, and, he will therefore bring to us, out of his wealth

PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE  
Prairie View, Texas

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

The Faculty Entertainment Committee, Dr. A. E. Smith, Chairman, has gone forward with elaborate plans for the Faculty Dinner in the College Dining Hall on Wednesday evening, January 19, at 8 o'clock. It is the hope that every member of our staff will suspend his or her duties at this time and join heartily and loyally in the spirit of the occasion. We want to see all of our housewives present. See Mr Buchanan about the business side of the entertainment.

E THE COLLEGE ANNUAL -

We appreciate the very fine way the members of the staff have responded in the matter of having their pictures made for the college annual. This will be the most ATTRACTIVE and VALUABLE booklet that Prairie View College has published in its history. It is going to make us all feel proud. Those who desire to subscribe for the Annual and find their funds low, Mr Hilliard has arranged for subscription by transfer, and you will not have to pay until February. See or call Mr Hilliard for arrangements.

## A GREETINGS! - 1940

I wish for each of you, my colleagues, PEACE and PROSPERITY in abundance for 1940.

## B CALENDAR -

- 1 Holiday - January 1, 1940
- 2 Prairie View State College-Xavier University Football Game, Houston, Texas, Buffalo Stadium - Monday January 1, at 2:30 P M
- 3 Negro History Discussions
  - (a) The Problems that Confront our Beginning Teachers in our Modern Educational Program -  
Department of Education - January 4
  - (b) The Advantage of Socialized Medicine as it Affects the Negro -  
Division of Health - January 5
- 4 Unit Short Course for Farmers - January 2-12

## C DR J L HORACE OF CHICAGO -

Dr Horace has consented to spend four or five days on the campus beginning the first week in January for the purpose of lecturing, holding conferences with individuals and preaching at the 11 o'clock hour, January 7. Dr Horace has a national reputation as a scholar and pulpiteer, and, he will therefore bring to us, out of his wealth of experiences, inspiring and helpful messages.

## D FACULTY ENTERTAINMENT -

The Faculty Entertainment Committee, Dr A K Smith, Chairman, has gone forward with elaborate plans for the Faculty Dinner in the College Dining Hall on Wednesday evening, January 10, at 8 o'clock. It is the hope that every member of our staff will suspend his or her duties at this time and join heartily and loyally in the spirit of the occasion. We want to see all of our housewives present. See Mr Buchanan about the business side of the entertainment.

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F POLL TAX --

In line with the desire of the administration to have every one at the college to hold a Poll Tax receipt, we find the most of our employees have consistently paid their Poll Tax. I want to urge that we follow this wholesome practice for 1940. At some future time an investigation is going to be made of all tax-supported institutions to see who is paying any form of tax and it might prove embarrassing for those who make a living from taxes and do not pay any kind of tax.

G FACULTY DEBATE --

The Annual Faculty Debate will take place Sunday evening, January 28, in the College Auditorium. The subject is --

Resolved: "That the United States Should Follow a Policy of Neutrality Towards all Nations Engaged in Armed International or Civil Conflict."

Participants

Affirmative

Negative

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 S E Warren                   | 1 F G Davis                 |
| 2 T R Solomon                  | 2 W M Booker                |
| 3 Miss A L Campbell            | 3 Miss J L Terry            |
| 4 Miss C M Bradley - Librarian | 4 Miss V L Cunningham - Lib |

Dr R P Perry - General Chairman

H DR W E B DUBOIS --

It is a pleasure to announce that Prairie View State College will have for its guest again, the eminent scholar, the prolific and lucid writer, Dr W E B DUBOIS - January 21, 22 and 23, 1940.

I PRESIDENTS OF COLLEGES --

It is significant to note that four members of the staff at Prairie View State College have been selected as Presidents of Colleges within the last thirteen years. The record runs like this:

- 1 R B Atwood, President -- State College for Negroes - Frankfort, Ky
- 2 D R Glass, President - Texas College - Tyler, Texas
- 3 J W Yancy II, President - Paul Quinn College - Waco, Texas
- 4 G L Harrison, President - Langston University - Langston, Oklahoma

J AND FINALLY --

Let us adopt these two Great Rules --

"Never believe anything bad about anybody unless you positively know it to be true;  
Never tell even that unless you feel it is absolutely necessary and that God is listening while you tell it." -- Selected

Yours truly,

*W R Banks*  
W R Banks  
Principal

## UNETHICAL PRACTICES OF TEACHERS

The Committee on Ethics of the Profession of the National Education Association recently sent out a questionnaire to three thousand teachers, representing every type of educational service, requesting them to list the six common and serious unethical practices in which members of the profession engaged. Slightly more than one-half of the questionnaires were returned. The returns mentioned 327 different unethical practices. The 45 unethical practices mentioned most frequently, together with the number of times mentioned are as follows:

<u>Name of Practice</u>	<u>Frequency Total</u>
Gossiping about and criticizing the other teachers .....	439
Slurring the profession .....	274
Breaking contracts .....	207
Exaggerating qualifications, and failure to give all pertinent facts when writing recommendations .....	175
Cultivating friendship among Board members and their families in an attempt to exercise a "pull" .....	165
Failure to be a progressive student of education .....	164
Going over the heads of administrative superiors .....	133
Discussing pupils in such a way as would embarrass them or their parents .....	127
Permitting selfish reasons to influence one's actions toward pupils .....	99
Possessing bad personal habits .....	98
Failure to participate in activities for community betterment	96
Using the profession as a stepping-stone to another vocation	94
Failure to defend other members of the profession when they are unjustly attacked .....	93
Violating official correspondence or conversation .....	85
Failure of school officials to recommend their teachers for better positions in other communities because of disinclination to lose them .....	49
Teaching one's religious, political, or other private beliefs to pupils .....	39
School officials being influenced by "pull" and "politics"	38
School officials unjustly taking the side of pupils against teachers .....	25
Conspiring to undermine one's administrative superiors and co-workers .....	25
School officials changing marks which teachers have given to pupils .....	24
Failure to support teachers' associations .....	23
Professional jealousy .....	21
Acting as agent for, or receiving a reward from the purchase of school books, equipment, or supplies over which one has jurisdiction .....	21
Unwarranted solicitation of sample textbooks .....	21
Interfering between another teacher and one of her pupils	20
Teaching for salary only .....	18
Permitting and encouraging pupils to make slurring remarks about other teachers .....	15

WHY NEW STUDENTS CAME TO PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE  
1939-1940

The information tabulated below was taken from the admission applications of 320 new students who entered Prairie View for the first time this year. Two hundred and eighty-five of this number were entering freshmen, 15 were junior college graduate transfers, and 20 were transfer students from senior colleges. These students gave 22 different factors as having been influential in bringing them to college. Table I lists the details.

TABLE I

Influence	Only	First	Second	Third	Fourth	Influence not Stated
Parents	109	57				16
Teachers	11	1	19	9		
Other Relatives	4	4	22	1		
Visits of School Representatives	7	3	9		1	
Advertisements	8		5	4		
Friends	1		3	2	1	
Self	61		3	1	1	
To Advance Education	16	1	2	1		
Experience Here as NYA Student	1					
Desire to with Friends	4		2	1		
Nature Curricula (wanted to be Dr)	1		1			
To Choose Life Vocation	3					
Desire to make Independent Living	3					
Desire to Become Educationally Fit	1					
Desire for Knowledge	1					
Interest in Education	1					
Personal Observation on Value of Education	1					
Interscholastic League Meets	1					
Desire to Become worthwhile Negro Woman	1					
Reflection on Life	1					
Husband	1					
Reputation of School	1					

Influencing factors cited had a combined frequency of 392 occurrences. Parents were the outstanding single factor cited, having a frequency of 166. Self influence, as revealed in a dozen different answers, was second in frequency with 106 occurrences. The remaining 120 frequencies were distributed rather evenly among such factors as teachers (40), other relatives (31), visits of school representatives (20), and advertisements (17). The leading factor has been parents for each of the three previous studies made on entering students. The figures below show the three leading factors for the studies just referred to, with the percentage representation of each factor:

1936-37	Pct	1937-38	Pct	1938-39	Pct	1939-40	Pct
1 Parents	53.7	Parents	37.8	Parents	49.1	Parents	42.3
2 Self	21.2	Self	36.0	Self	27.5	Self	27.1
3 Teachers	3.1	Teachers	12.9	Teachers	3.7	Teachers	10.2
School Representative	3.1			Advertisements	3.7		

It is readily observable that the first three have remained practically the same throughout, both in identity and rank. In 1936-37 school representatives shared third place with teachers while advertisements repeated this in 1938-39. It is quite significant that advertisements ranked as high as third in 1938-39. Previously that factor had been reported in only a negligible number of instances.

Even in cases of advanced students, the parental factor was much in evidence, taking first place with a total frequency of 21 which exceeded by 15 points the next highest frequency total. A combination of parents and relatives accounted for 61.3 per cent of the grand total of frequencies. As an only cause parents were three points ahead of self influence with other relatives, teachers and school representatives being mentioned once each. Fourteen junior college transfers cited only one factor as having influenced them to come to college. Parents were cited in seven of these instances, and

only advertisements received more than one citation aside from parents. Ten senior college transfers reported only one factor, with five cases being listed under parents and five under self. Only one junior college transfer cited more than one influence in contrast to nine senior college transfers citing two influencing factors.

Influencing Factors as Reported by New Students Other Than Entering Freshmen, 1939-1940

	Only	First	Second	Total Frequency
Parents	12	9	-	21
Teachers	1	-	3	4
Other Relatives	1	-	5	6
Visits of School Representatives	1	1	1	3
Advertisements	2	-	-	2
To Get Education	4	-	-	4
Self	3	-	-	3
Not Stated	-	-	-	1
	24	10	9	44

From the data presented in this report, it would seem that parental influence is the key to the selection of Prairie View College by students. Just why the parents favored Prairie View over other colleges constitutes a problem worth investigating as fully as possible.

The high entrance rates plus travel cost and the increased cost of living at these schools, make it impossible for a large group of the Texas Negro teachers to avail themselves of instruction in these institutions.

There is considerable discussion of democracy and the preservation of the democratic process in this country. Most Americans



CONFERENCE ON GRADUATE WORK  
PRAIRIE VIEW STATE COLLEGE  
Prairie View, Texas

PURPOSE OF CONFERENCE

By

Professor D B Taylor  
State Department of Education  
Austin, Texas

1 Introduction

Texas has a Negro population of nearly 1,000,000, approximately 15% of the entire State population. There are a quarter of a million Negro scholastics in the State, taught by 6,200 teachers in 2,200 public schools.

Graduate work for the white group in Texas is available in several of the denominational schools of the State, State Teachers Colleges, and other such institutions as the University of Texas, A & M College, and Lubbock Tech. Texas has provided \$30,000 per annum for the next two years for graduate and professional work for Texas Negroes in institutions outside of Texas. \$10,000 per annum for the next two years has been provided for graduate work for Negroes at Prairie View. It is perfectly obvious that a graduate program designed to develop adequate leadership for the Negroes of the State cannot be developed with funds now available.

Salaries of Negro teachers in Texas are low. It is from 1200 to 1500 miles to the nearest northern and western institutions where Negro graduate students will be accepted. The high entrance rates plus travel cost and the increased cost of living at these schools, make it impossible for a large group of the Texas Negro teachers to avail themselves of instruction in these institutions.

There is considerable discussion of democracy and the preservation of the democratic process in this country. Most Americans

would subscribe to the belief that democracy in its best sense cannot grow and thrive unless undergirded with an intelligent citizenship and a broadly trained leadership. So far as the Negroes in Texas are concerned, this truth needs to be implemented by providing an adequate graduate program at Prairie View College.

2 Purpose of Conference:

- 1 To present the present status of graduate work for Negroes
- 2 To show the possible areas for expansion and development of graduate work at Prairie View College
- 3 To provide a common meeting ground where lay and professional leaders may see the acute need for improved professional leadership of Negroes in this region.
- 4 To provide an open forum where the essential problems of graduate work for Negroes in Texas may be discussed.
- 5 To present an opportunity for promoting an effective plan by which a graduate program at Prairie View may become a reality.