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# ROLLINS COLLEGE

## BULLETIN

William Fremont Blackeman



### WINTER PARK, FLORIDA

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# President's Report.

## ANNUAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES,

FEBRUARY 25, 1908.

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Gentlemen:

As president of the college I have the honor to present to the Board of Trustees my fifth annual report. I would remind you that the report of the treasurer covers only the fiscal year ending with the thirtieth day of last September; in what I have to say I shall not observe the boundaries of time, but shall speak in a general way of the recent history and the present condition of the institution.

The most important duty which is before us to-day is formally to accept certain conditional gifts of money, and to authorize their expenditure. The first of these donations is that of Mr. Andrew Carnegie, amounting to twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000,) to be devoted, according to the terms of the gift, to the erection of a library and administration building on the campus. I have received from Mr. Carnegie's cashier a statement that he is now ready to pay this amount into the college treasury in installments, as the work of construction progresses. I recommend that the Board take suitable action at this time in recognition of Mr. Carnegie's generosity, and authorize the erection of a building on the campus to be devoted to library and administration purposes and to be named Carnegie Hall.

The second gift is a bequest from the late Loring A. Chase, one of the founders of Winter Park, amounting, accord-



ing to the statement of the administrator of his estate and the appraisement of the Investment Committee of this Board, to \$10,000, \$6,000 or thereabouts being in cash, and \$4,000 in real estate situated in Winter Park. This property was willed to the college, as I explained to you a year ago, on condition that a building costing not less than ten thousand dollars be erected on our campus to be named Chase Hall. I recommend that this bequest be added to the Endowment Fund of the college, and that a dormitory for young men be erected on the campus and named Chase Hall. I may add that monies already pledged, including the Chase bequest, will increase the Endowment Fund, reported by the treasurer in his last trial-balance as amounting to \$205,575.01, to \$222,025.01. In this connection I would call your attention to the fact that if to the list of donations to the college during the last fiscal year, which you have before you in the treasurer's report and which amounts to \$7,759.00, there be added the Carnegie gift, the Chase bequest, and other sums specifically pledged for the erection of Chase Hall but not yet paid in, the total amount of gifts paid and pledged on account of the last fiscal year, is \$44,159.00. We are entitled to congratulate ourselves on this showing, I think, especially when we recall the fact that no financial agent or assistant to the president has been in the field and that a serious money stringency has existed during most of this period, even though we reached the end of the year with a deficit in current accounts. Within the period of three years, we have gathered for endowment, debt, buildings, equipment, and current expenses, nearly \$300,000, which is a record of which we need not be ashamed.

The raising of the Endowment Fund was an important turning-point in the later history of the college, for it gave to it an element of permanency and security which was lacking before. We and those who shall come after us can never be



sufficiently grateful to our good friend, Dr. D. K. Pearsons, who initiated the movement for the Endowment, and himself gave a fourth part of it. Dr. Pearsons has spent two winters with us, the second in my own home, and has been an unfailing source of courage and inspiration to me in my work. We have now reached a second turning-point, hardly less important, namely, the providing of a more adequate equipment. I have reminded you on previous occasions—and there was hardly need that you should be reminded—how lamentably inadequate our equipment has been. We have had no library, neither building nor books; we have had no offices, all our records and accounts being kept five miles away; we have had no sufficient laboratories for scientific instruction and research; we have had no suitable quarters for the departments of music, the fine arts, and the domestic and industrial arts; and we have had no adequate chapel and assembly rooms. A beautiful campus, comfortable dormitories, a noble gymnasium, class-rooms good though too few in number, we have, indeed, had; but that the college has held its own so well in competition with sister institutions which were lavishly supplied with those facilities which were wanting here, shows what vitality it has possessed, and how capable and consecrated its trustees, its faculty, and its friends have been. But the handicap is too heavy; it is as though we were turning logs into houses with no tools but a hand-saw, a jack knife and a hammer. The process is not economical, it is too wasteful of brains, too disheartening. Tools we must have, a reasonable supply of well-made tools, if we are to get our work done. Not since 1890, until last year, had any new building been erected on our campus, though in the meantime we had acquired in one way and another the Ford Cottage, which was burned last summer, the Sparrell Cottage, and the Lyman Cottage, now known as the President's House. Last



year, through the efforts of Miss Lainhart, director of our departments of fine and industrial arts, and through the generosity of Mrs. W. W. Cummer and other friends, the studio was erected. Carnegie Hall, which we are about to build, will give us ample office and library facilities, and Chase Hall will furnish sufficient dormitory room, no doubt, for some years to come. But we must not stop, or pause even, at this point; of three other buildings we have immediate and imperative need, a Science Hall, including on the second floor an auditorium, which later, when a separate chapel is provided, can be utilized as a museum; an Arts building, for the housing of the departments of music, the fine arts and the domestic and industrial arts, and containing rooms also for the Young Women's Christian Association, and the women's literary and social organizations—specifically a Woman's Building—and a commons with a kitchen and storerooms. The erection of a Hall of Arts would make it possible to use the present studio as an infirmary for the care of sick teachers and pupils—a thing greatly needed—and the erection of the commons would release the present dining-hall for the purposes of a steam laundry and power-house. A Science Hall adequate to our needs can be built for twenty or twenty-five thousand dollars; a suitable Hall of Arts or Woman's Building will cost about the same amount; and a commons can be built and equipped, in my judgment, for ten thousand dollars. The steam laundry which would thus be rendered possible, would, I am convinced, yield a handsome annual income, besides solving several vexing problems which now confront us, alike in the college and the town. Also, we have great need of a new water-supply, both for general purposes and for fire protection. The tank which you see standing beside Cloverleaf Cottage is far too small, and together with its supports is rotted in places, perforated by insects and woodpeckers, and in imminent



danger of collapse in a high wind. A 20,000 gallon tank, suitably located and connected with all our buildings by three inch supply pipes and by interior risers and linen hose capable of reaching into every room on every floor of every building, would give us an adequate supply of water and would considerably diminish the cost of insurance, as well as the wearing dread of fire which those of us who are in charge always feel.

When these additions to our equipment are made, we shall be in condition to compete with sister institutions on a relatively equal footing, to attract students in larger numbers, and to give them in ampler measure the advantages for an up-to-date training which they have a right to expect in a college.

Meantime, however, there are two needs which are even more pressing than these. We are to have a library building, but a library building without books would be a shell without a kernel. Before next October three thousand dollars at least should be carefully expended in books. I have already asked each of the professors to prepare a careful and critical list of the volumes most valuable and most immediately needed in his specific department; when these are turned in, I shall edit and combine them, making such additions and subtractions as seem best, and submit the final list to several dealers in books for competing bids, provided, of course, that funds are forthcoming for this purpose. It is not expected to duplicate the works in the Winter Park public library, which is accessible to our students; that is chiefly devoted to fiction, travels, and other books of entertainment; our library will be for the present strictly academic, comprising works of reference and of scientific and scholastic use and value.

Our second immediate need is that of such furniture for Chase Hall as will make it available for use at the opening of the next academic year.



I hope that I may be able to secure from personal friends of Mr. Chase, and from the general public who are interested in libraries, a sufficient amount of money to meet these two needs, without appealing to those who are constantly giving to the institution.

I foresee one other expense which we ought to provide at once. It is the judgment of the Executive Committee, and it is my own judgment, that the only proper and permanently satisfactory site for Carnegie Hall is where Cloverleaf Cottage now stands. To locate it elsewhere would be to throw into disorder all our plans for the future development of the campus. Moreover, as the institution grows, it will become more and more obvious that Cloverleaf itself, apart from all questions concerning Carnegie Hall, has a disadvantageous, an awkward, an almost impossible, site. And now that we must remove the dining-hall, in order to make room for Chase Hall, it seems to me that we should take advantage of the opportunity to place Cloverleaf on a convenient and a permanent site, some 300 feet to the south west of its present location, perhaps. I have consulted with a firm which has had large and successful experience in removing buildings, and am informed by them that Cloverleaf can be moved without difficulty while still occupied, and that the probable cost of such removal would be \$800. I assume that to provide new foundations and make subsequent repairs to the plastering would cost perhaps an equal amount. I recommend this project to your careful consideration.

I also invite a discussion of the deficit which has accumulated during recent years. This deficit had been caused by the diverting of gifts in part to the Endowment Fund and other special causes, instead of devoting them wholly to current expenses. This was done in order to meet certain conditions attached to large donations; if it has not been done



these large gifts would have been forfeited. I trust that this policy meets your approval, even though it leaves us with a perplexing, though small, debt. Shall we make an immediate and determined effort to clear up this deficit? Or shall we, in view of the building operations and other expenditures to which we are pledged, leave the deficit standing for the present?

On the twenty-fifth day of last July, the small building known as Music Hall was struck by lightning and completely and speedily consumed, together with four pianos, all the implements of the cooking-school, and most of the furniture of the building. I at once appealed to the friends of the college directly and through the public press for funds with which to make good the loss, so far as might be. The response was immediate and generous, and was accompanied in many cases by words of sympathy which were highly gratifying. The insurance, amounting to \$1600, was promptly paid through Curtis and O'Neal, five new upright pianos were purchased of Jacob Doll & Sons, who gave us agents' prices and a further contribution of \$80, and the work of the Music School was transferred to Sparrell Cottage. The rooms in this cottage, though exceedingly pleasant, are much larger than is necessary for piano practice; and inasmuch as the cottage could be rented in the winter season for several hundred dollars, its use for musical instruction is costly. I trust that some friend of the college will before long erect for us the Hall of Arts to which I have referred, thus giving to the Music School a more suitable home and releasing Sparrell Cottage for rental.

As you will observe, an Amoor River privet hedge and several clumps of arbor vitae and kumquats have recently been set on the campus. The privet plants were the gift of the Barber-Frink Company, proprietors of the Turkey Creek Nurseries, of Macclenny; the arbor vitae, fifty in number, of



the Griffing Brothers Company, proprietors of the Pomona Nurseries, of Macclenny; and the kumquats of M. C. Gillett, proprietor of the Buckeye Nursery, of Tampa. I suggest that the definite policy be adopted of securing for the campus, as soon as we conveniently can, one or more specimens of every tree and shrub, native or imported, which can be successfully grown in this climate and which has any considerable decorative value or other interest. This will not only add to the attractiveness of the campus, already singularly beautiful, but it will make it of scientific importance as an arboretum.

Under the direction of the Executive Committee, the barn at the President's House, which was in a state of advanced decay, has been torn down and replaced by a shed at a cost of about \$260.

At the last annual meeting of the Board, I presented plans and drawings covering the future enlargement of the present campus, and these were adopted. After further reflection and on consultation with several members of the Executive Committee, I am now of the opinion that these plans should be so far modified as to provide sites for all buildings hereafter to be erected at a further remove from Lake Virginia, and on higher ground than was then proposed. I recommend that the plan adopted be modified in accordance with a sketch herewith presented.

At the annual meeting three years ago I was authorized to prepare a new seal for the college; I recommend the adoption of the seal herewith exhibited; it was drawn in accordance with my suggestions by Miss Grace L. Lainhart, director of the School of Fine Arts.

You will observe from the treasurer's report that the Ladies' Auxiliary Committee raised last year the sum of \$959.00 for the support of the department of Domestic Arts, thus maintaining the record made by them in recent years.



It would be appropriate for the Board to indicate by vote its appreciation of the work done by this Committee. And I venture to suggest whether there is not some way in which the women who are doing so much for the college may be brought into closer touch with its affairs. In several important colleges and universities there are women on the Board of Trustees; this is true, among others, of the Northwestern University at Evanston, Ill., of which the chairman of our Investment Committee is an alumnus, of Swarthmore College, of Alfred University, of the Armour Institute of Technology, of the University of California, of the University of Wisconsin, and of leading colleges for women like Wellesley, Smith and Bryn Mawr. In several other institutions women constitute Auxiliary Committees, Auxiliary Boards or Advisory Boards. As a co-educational institution would it not seem fitting that women should participate in one way or another in the management of Rollins College? And would it not be to our advantage to have in the leading towns of the State, women of influence and energy who were committed to our cause, and who could be relied on to promote our interests? I am not now prepared to make a definite recommendation covering this matter, but I suggest it for your consideration.

Several changes have taken place in the teaching force since our last meeting. Walter French Buck retired as professor of mathematics and acting dean of the faculty, and his place was taken by Winborne Scott Cannell, a graduate of Tufts College and a former successful and valued instructor in the Goddard School, Barre, Vermont, and the Cascadilla School, Ithaca, N. Y. Professor Cannell also acts as faculty representative in athletics and as foot-ball coach. Miss Florence Allen Crocker, professor of history, and dean of women, returned from a year of travel and study in Europe, and resumed her place among us. During her year's



absence, her place in Cloverleaf Cottage was taken by Mrs. Emma Meacham Davis of Newton, Massachusetts, to whom the young ladies under her care became greatly attached. The Rev. C. De W. Brower withdrew as instructor in Greek, and removed to Chicago; his place was taken by the Rev. Fred Raymond Marsh, son of the Rev. Byron F. Marsh, D.D. of Daytona, a member of this Board. Mr. Marsh graduated from Bowdoin College with Phi Beta Kappa rank in the year 1899, received the degree of M. A. at Princeton University in 1904, graduated from the Presbyterian Theological Seminary, San Francisco, in the year 1905, and came to us from a highly successful pastorate in Wray, Colorado. He taught for three years in the "School for Boys" in Washington, having among his pupils among others Ted and Kermit Roosevelt, the sons of Secretary Root, Chief Justice Fuller, General Bingham and David B. Hill, and Admiral Dewey's grandsons. Miss Julia Brown Reed, on account of illness in her family, has had leave of absence, and her place has been taken during the second semester by Professor James Madison Chapman, a well-known elocutionist, who came to us from Wilbraham Academy in Massachusetts. Miss Alice Horsford Fisher, who taught vocal music last year, gave up teaching on account of her marriage, and her place was filled by Miss Sarah Hale Douglass of Boston. Professor Peet is being assisted this year by Mrs. Florence Walker Cannell in German, and by Miss Ethel Mary Lohmeyer Kendall, teacher of Fine Arts, in French. Mrs. Cannell is a graduate of Tufts College and has taught with much success in the Goddard School, Barre, Vermont, and the High School of Cohasset, Massachusetts. Miss Kendall studied at the Crystal Palace School of Art two years, at the Goldsmith's Technical Institute two years, and had a scholarship in the Royal Academy schools five years. She has taken a silver medal for painting from life, also one for drawing



from life, and Queen's prizes for drawing from the antique, painting still life, and anatomy. She has exhibited at the Royal Academy a number of times. Miss Elizabeth Meriwether is acting as assistant in the industrial arts.

William Eubert Burrell, for many years the faithful physical director and for two years superintendent of grounds and buildings, withdrew to accept an appointment as physical director of the Santa Fe Railroad Young Men's Christian Association at Cleburne, Texas. His place as superintendent of grounds and buildings has been taken by Samuel J. Stiggins, a graduate of the college in 1906.

The college has been honored by the appointment of one of its graduates of last year, Berkeley Blackman, to a Rhodes scholarship at Oxford University, England. Mr. Blackman was the only student in a Florida college who passed the Responsions Examinations successfully last year.

The attendance of students has been about the same as last year, more young men and fewer young women having registered. Every room in both the men's dormitories has been occupied at some time during the year and a few rooms have had two occupants. We have reached the limit of growth, so far as men are concerned, until more accommodations are provided. Thus far the work of the school has gone forward even more quietly and pleasantly than usual; the student body has shown itself studious and tractable, and discipline has been easy to maintain.

It only remains for me to express my appreciation of the constant—I think I may say increasing—interest in the work of Rollins College which is shown by its Board of Trustees and by the large circle of its friends, north and south. The difficulties and discouragements which beset the task of building up an institution of higher learning in this region are many and heavy; my comfort and my hope is in the steadfast company of



our friends and helpers. Some of you have been giving lavishly, of sympathy, of time, of counsel, and of money, for many years, and you do not tire of this service. I am confident that your faith and sacrifice will be rewarded, for despite the difficulties to which I have alluded, the institution is making steady progress in all directions, and faces a sure and a bright future. It has, I am persuaded, a great work to do for this commonwealth, for our common and re-united country, for the republic of Cuba and for the Kingdom of Heaven.

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#### **ACTION TAKEN BY THE BOARD.**

I. It was voted that the plan for the future enlargement of the campus be modified in accordance with the recommendations made in the President's report, so as to provide sites for all buildings hereafter to be erected further removed from Lake Virginia, and on higher ground.

II. It was voted that the bequest of the late Loring A. Chase, when it shall be paid into the treasury of the college by the administrator of his estate, be added to the Endowment Fund.

III. It was voted that the Investment Committee be instructed to remove the dining-hall to another location and to erect on its site a dormitory for young men, at a cost not to exceed \$15,000, and that this dormitory be named Chase Hall.

IV. It was voted that the Executive Committee be instructed to remove Cloverleaf Cottage to another part of the campus, if in their judgment such removal is practicable and wise, and erect on its present site a library and administration building at an expense of \$20,000, and that this building be named Carnegie Hall.



V. It was voted that the minimum sum of \$800, being four per cent on \$20,000, be appropriated annually hereafter until further action be taken, to the upkeep of Carnegie Hall, and to the purchase and care of books for the college library.

VI. It was voted that the Trustees of Rollins College, assembled in annual meeting, hereby express to Mr. Andrew Carnegie, their profound appreciation of his generous gift to the college of \$20,000 for the erection of a library and administration building. This gift meets a vital need of the institution and at a most opportune moment. In the judgment of this Board, this gift and other similar gifts will do much to bind together in sympathy and concord the north and the south, and to promote intelligence, patriotism, and righteousness throughout this region and the Republic of Cuba.

VII. It was voted that the thanks of this Board be extended to the Barber-Frink Company, the Griffing Brothers Company and Mr. M. C. Gillett, for their generous gifts of ornamental trees and shrubs for the campus.

VIII. It was voted that the design exhibited by the President of the Board be adopted as the seal of Rollins College, and be substituted for the seal hitherto in use.



## Rollins College.

WINTER PARK WAS DESIGNED by its founders to be a center of educational influence. This purpose has been kept steadily in view, and has attracted to the town, both for permanent residence and as a winter resort, intelligent and cultivated people. The college has always maintained the highest standards of scholarship. Its students—now about 200 in number—are drawn from Florida, Georgia, Cuba and the New England, Middle and Western States.

THE FACULTY embraces more than twenty instructors. The president was for many years a professor in Yale University. Other instructors formerly taught in Vassar, Smith, Wellesley and Pennsylvania State Colleges.

THE CONDITIONS OF HEALTH at Rollins College are nearly perfect. Located on the "Florida Heights" it enjoys the purest air, direct from ocean or gulf, and impregnated with the odors of the pine; its water is drawn from an artesian well more than a hundred feet deep, and is as free from impurity as any in the world; its doors and windows are open day and night the winter through; its two physical directors and the college physician give careful attention to the physical condition and needs of each student; and it furnishes an abundance of plain and wholesome food in its dining hall. Winter Park is absolutely free from malaria.

EXPENSES are very moderate, varying from \$178.00 to \$196.000 *per annum* for board, room-rent and tuition.

SEVERAL SCHOLARSHIPS, covering the cost of tuition, are available for students of superior character and ability who may need assistance.