

MOREHEAD'S GROWTH IS SHOWN BY INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT, AS WELL AS FACULTY AND BUILDINGS

College Enlarges In Ten Years From Nine Teachers And Less Than One Hundred Students To Forty-Eight Teachers And Over Five Hundred Students

Ten years ago a group of legislators sat in the General Assembly room of the State Capitol at Frankfort, Kentucky and passed an act which has possibly had more to do with the educational development of the mountains of Eastern Kentucky than any laws that have been enacted since a band of determined Virginia citizens declared that those same mountains should be the boundary line forming an entirely new state.

This act passed by the General Assembly of 1922, provided for the opening of two normal schools, one to be located in Eastern Kentucky and one in Western Kentucky, for the purpose of training white elementary teachers.

A commission for the purpose of choosing a site for these schools picked Murray, Ky., for the location of the school in Western Kentucky and for the Eastern Kentucky school chose Morehead, a town of 1,500 population, where since 1887, the United Christian Missionary Society of St. Louis, Mo., had sponsored an academy. Not much is known about this early school except that on the day it opened under the direction of Mrs. Phoebe Button and Dr. F. C. Button, only one student attended. However, through the liberality of Gen. William T. Withers, of Lexington; Hon. T. F. Hargis, of Louisville and Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hodson, of Oquawka, Ill., the school soon grew until in the year 1921 it had 75 acres of land upon which four beautiful frame buildings had been erected and was graduating quite a number of students each year. The faculty of this year was composed of W. O. Lappin, principal; Miss Inez F. Humphrey, teacher of English and Science; W. C. Lappin, mathematics, a teacher of history and Latin; Miss Carolyn Whitenack, eighth grade; Miss Cora A. Lappin, seventh grade; Miss Eva M. Lester, music and Miss Bernice Miller, Dean of Young Women. Mr. and Mrs. Battson had charge of the boarding hall which was located in the girls' dormitory. A charge of \$3.50 per week was made to the students.

Three interesting rules which were in effect during this year are:

Any pupil who is a party to a secret correspondence is liable to be expelled.

All clothing should be marked with owner's name. Wearing of jewels is especially discouraged, as it is out of harmony with school life.

All students must attend chapel daily and Sunday School and Church Services on Sunday morning unless excused by his or her advising officer.

In 1921 there were four buildings, all named in honor of the founders of the school. Hargis Hall, the recitation hall, was a beautiful frame building of six rooms. It was located on what is now the boulevard directly in front of the present Fields

Hall. The men's dormitory, Withers Hall, named after General Withers, stood on the present site of Fields Hall. Where our beautiful, new stone library now stands was formerly located Burgess Hall, in which was the auditorium, recreation rooms and library. Rooms in the basement of this building were used for industrial purposes. On the campus in front of Allie Young Hall and about half way between this building and the

and boulevard was the the girls' dormitory and dining room, Hodson Hall. When the institution became a state school in 1922-23 these same buildings were used, but as the school grew, and more and more students were clamoring for admission, appropriations were granted for building purposes. Today instead of these old structures, eight new up-to-date buildings house the college. The Administration Building was completed early in 1926 and provides offices for the President, Dean, Registrar, Director of Extension, Business Agent, and other members of the administrative staff, as well as modern, well-equipped standard class rooms and laboratories.

Not long after the completion of the Administration Building, Allie Young Hall and Fields Hall, both dormitories for women, were finished. These two halls will easily accommodate 310 women. Both are equipped with all modern conveniences and the rooms are attractive and comfortable. Tastefully furnished recreation rooms and parlors help to make them home-like and livable. Taking the place of Withers Hall is our modern men's dormitory, Thompson Hall, designed to accommodate 165 men. To tell best of this Hall is to repeat the quotation of a noted Southern educator when he said, as he visited the building, "I have visited fifty or sixty schools and have rarely seen such elegant recreation rooms and such evidence of culture in boys' dormitories."

Our newest buildings, completed in the last three years, are the auditorium-gymnasium, the Johnn Camden Library and the Robert J. Breckinridge Training School. The auditorium-gymnasium is one of the most complete and modern buildings of its kind in the country. The library occupies the site of the old Burgess Hall, which was the last of the historic group of four buildings of the old "Morehead Normal" to be razed. The Breckinridge Training School will accommodate 520 students from the kindergarten through the senior high school.

On September 24, 1923, under the leadership of Dr. F. C. Button, who had served for twenty-five years as head of the old "normal", the Morehead State Normal School opened its doors as a state institution with a faculty of nine and a student body of less than 100. Before the close of the year the faculty had increased to thirteen and the student body to 250, and at the close of the second year, there were 24 teachers, five administrative offices, and nearly 500 students. Every year the enrollment has increased, and the school has added enough members to the faculty to care for the increased enrollment until today there are 27 administrative officers, 48 faculty members and at the close of the year here promises to be approximately 1300 students in attendance.

From 1921 to 1926 the school was merely a normal school, but in 1926 an act of the General Assembly of that year changed the name from Morehead State Normal School to the Morehead State Normal School and Teachers College. In 1930 the normal school department affiliated with the training school as the senior high school, and the name of the college was changed to the Morehead State Teachers College. In 1929, President Button retired, and John Howard Payne was inaugurated as president of the institution, and under the new leadership, the school has developed along many lines.

The following year, Morehead became a member of the American Association of Teachers Colleges, and in December of the same year was admitted to the Association of Colleges and secondary schools of the Southern States. This was a great step forward in bringing the school prestige. Now a degree earned at Morehead gives its possessor rank with graduates of other important institutions throughout the United States. Morehead graduates are filling more responsible positions.

The future of the college seems bright, based as it will be on these very solid achievements of the recent past.