

STATE OF NEW JERSEY MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL
PICTORIAL BULLETIN

New Jersey. Manual training and industrial
school for colored youth. Bordentown
1940

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STATE OF NEW JERSEY

MANUAL TRAINING SCHOOL

BORDENTOWN, NEW JERSEY



PICTORIAL BULLETIN



ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
Center of administrative and academic activities

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE SCHOOL

The Manual Training School was founded in 1886 by the Reverend W. A. Rice, an A. M. E. minister, in the City of Bordentown. The school had its beginning in two frame buildings, with an enrollment of 8 or 10 students. Until 1894 the school was supported entirely by private funds. During this year the State of New Jersey made a contribution of \$2000 toward maintenance of the school and continued to make this grant until 1900, when the State Board of Education assumed complete direction of the school.

In 1901 the State of New Jersey authorized the purchase of the Parnell Estate on the outskirts of the town, the site which the school now occupies. New buildings were built and the work of developing a first-class school was begun in earnest.

There have been three principals of Bordentown since the Reverend Mr. Rice: James M. Gregory, 1897-1909; 1911-1915; J. T. Carruthers, 1909-1911; and W. R. Valentine, the present principal since 1915.

THE BORDENTOWN SCHOOL TODAY

The Bordentown Manual Training School now occupies more than 400 acres of farm, woodland, and campus ground on a high bluff overlooking the Delaware River. The student body has increased to approximately 450 boys and girls while the present faculty includes more than 50 qualified academic and vocational instructors.

The plant, valued at more than \$2,000,000, now includes more than 30 brick buildings, frame residences, and farm buildings; the farms and the live stock are among the finest in the State of New Jersey. The live stock includes nearly 80 head of cattle, 17 horses, and 60 hogs. The Holstein cow, pictured on last page, was National Champion in 1935. A bull achieved the highest record in New Jersey for Holstein bulls in 1935 as a Meritorious Production Sire.

The school, which is a boarding, vocational junior and senior high school, is the only one of its type in New Jersey and in this section of the country. It has become a center of activities for Negroes. Each summer the grounds are the meeting place for various social, civic, fraternal, and professional groups which convene for annual conventions and educational programs.

AIMS AND PURPOSES

The Manual Training School, realizing the futility of attempting to train delinquent and normal boys and girls in one institution, under one administration, does not admit applicants with abnormal behavior tendencies. The school restricts its enrollment to normal boys and girls and devotes its activities to molding character in its students, giving them an appreciation of responsibility, of work, of the habits of industry which are necessary for any career, in addition to instruction in the basic trade skills. The school enjoys the advantage of having its students in residence throughout the year, under constant supervision and guidance. The work which the students contribute toward the maintenance and operation of the school plant provides for the student a practical work experience which is equal in value to the training of the classroom and shop.

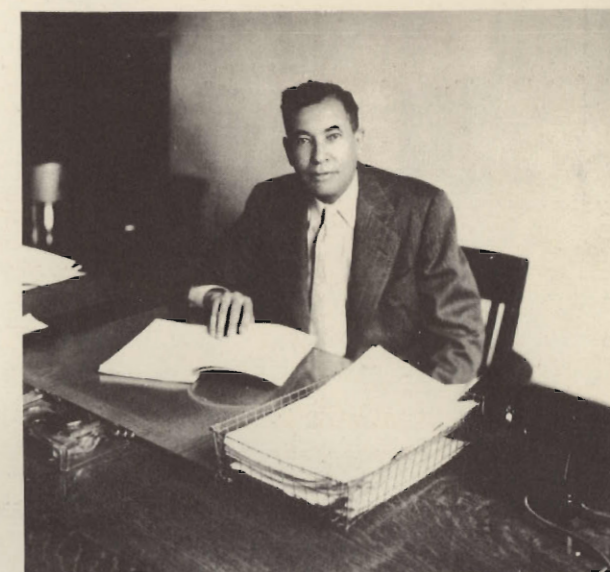
THE SCHOOL'S GRADUATES

The value of any school's training program is best illustrated in the success of its graduates. The Bordentown graduate has won the reputation of being a desirable employee, from the point of view of character, habits, ability, and willingness to work. For this reason the Bordentown graduate has found work where work has been scarce.

A recent survey revealed that approximately 82 per cent of the graduates of the Manual Training School over the last quarter century are now gainfully employed. Another 12 per cent have continued their education in colleges, universities, or technical schools upon leaving Bordentown.

INSTRUCTION

The average student of the Bordentown School divides his day between academic studies and vocational studies. A very few - specifically, those students who have



W. R. Valentine, Principal

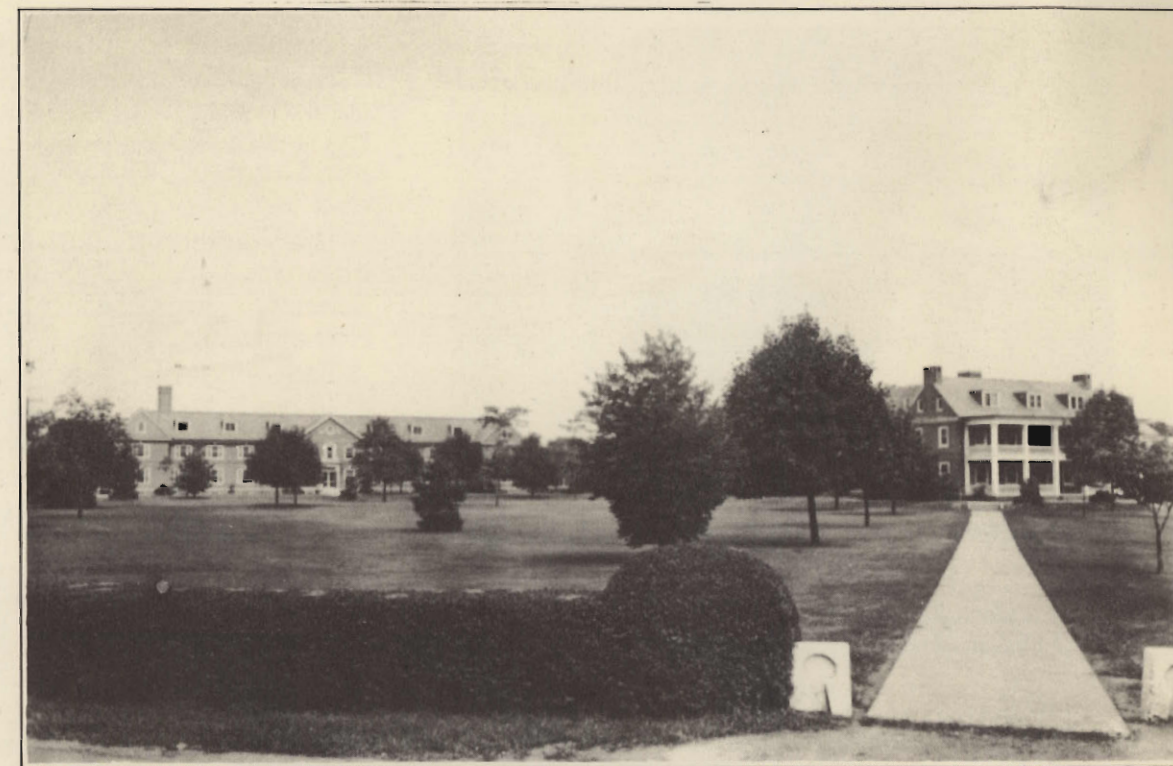
graduated from a public high school and enroll at Bordentown for a trade, or those older students who show a special aptitude for some particular trade and want to devote full time to it - are allowed to give their full time to the trade classes.

The academic department equips a student who is a candidate for the diploma for further work in technical school or in college, if the student desires and plans to utilize his diploma for eligibility for such higher training. For this purpose the school offers two courses of study: one, for the student who is preparing for college or technical school, and the other, for the student who desires a high school diploma but who will enter the industrial world.

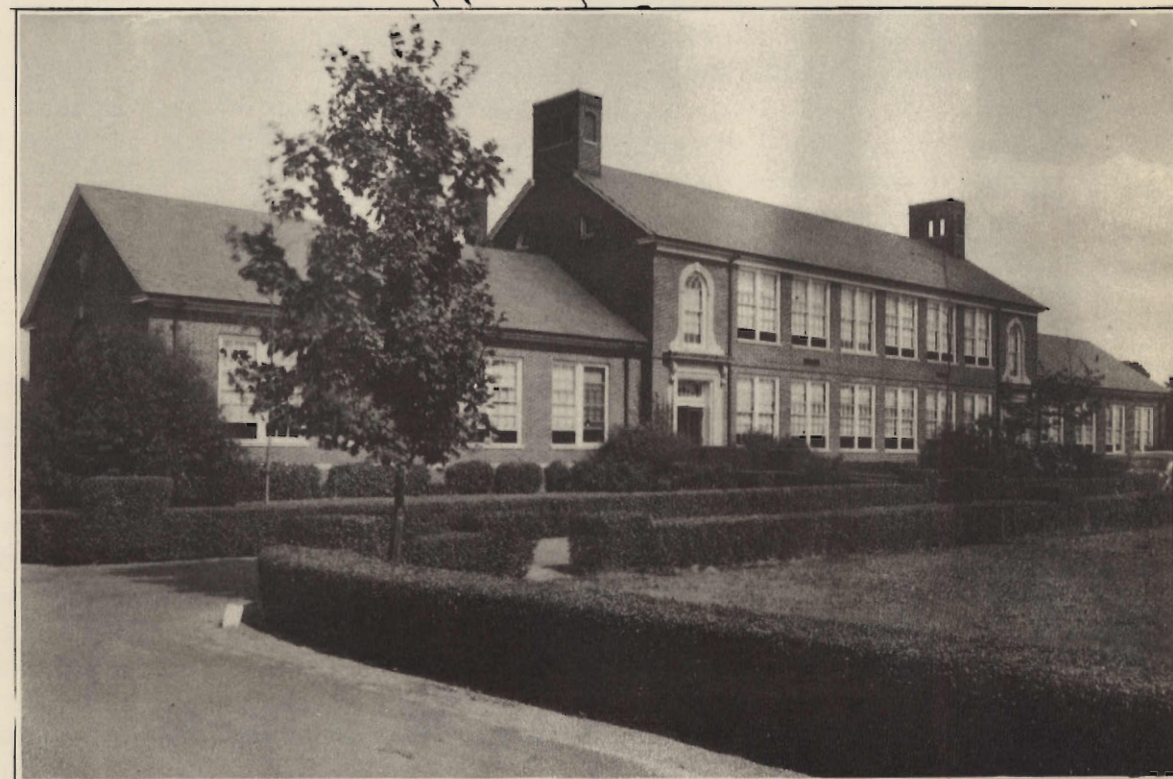
The diploma offered at Bordentown is, then, the equivalent of the diploma offered by any high school in New Jersey except that it includes certification of the completion of a trade. The academic and trade credits are accredited by the New Jersey State Department of Public Instruction and will admit the holder of the diploma to graduate and technical schools if that student has planned his work and meets the individual requirements of the particular institution which he wishes to enter.



ASSEMBLY
BUILDING
*The heart of student
life, housing the din-
ing rooms, auditor-
ium, and gymnasium*



BOYS'
DORMITORIES
*From a corner of
the campus across
the spacious lawns
adjoining the two
buildings*



BOYS'
TRADE
BUILDING
*With complete facil-
ities for vocational
instruction in the
seven boys' trade
courses which it ac-
commodates*



A
GIRLS'
DORMITORY
*View of the main
entrance to the
building housing
the older girls.*

-AND IN MANUAL SKILLS



A Campus Residence

Vocational courses offered for boys are: Agriculture, Auto Mechanics, Vocational Band Music, General Mechanics, Institutional Maintenance, Painting, Printing, Steam Boiler Operation, and Woodworking.

The Vocational courses available for girls are: Beauty Culture, Domestic Science, Dressmaking, Sewing, and Homemaking.

The students pay approximately \$175 each year.

The important parts which the various vocational departments play in the operation and maintenance of the school make possible a practical application of trade skills and instruction which is invaluable in the training of the students.

STUDENT LIFE AND ACTIVITIES

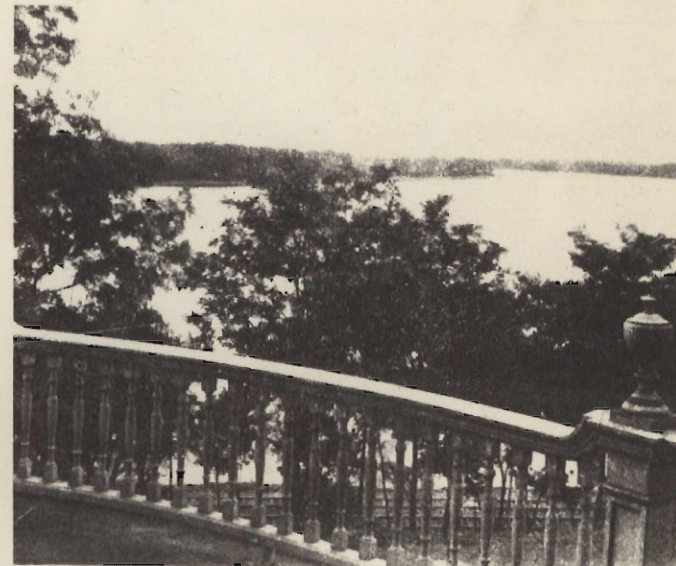
The Bordentown students wear uniforms - bought through the school by the students themselves. The boys wear a khaki uniform on the order of that of the U. S. Army. The military drill required provides a means of physical exercise as well as training in discipline and order. The boys are organized into cadet corps with cadet officers selected from the ranks and promoted according to individual merit. The cadet officers' corps provides an additional medium of student government, participation, and responsibility.

The girls wear white shirtwaists and blue skirts, lending a uniformity in dress throughout the campus, as well as saving on the cost to each student of civilian clothing. The girls have their elective student governing body to which each girl is eligible who maintains a good record in conduct, attendance, and performance of duty.

There are numerous student social, civic, literary, and musical organiza-

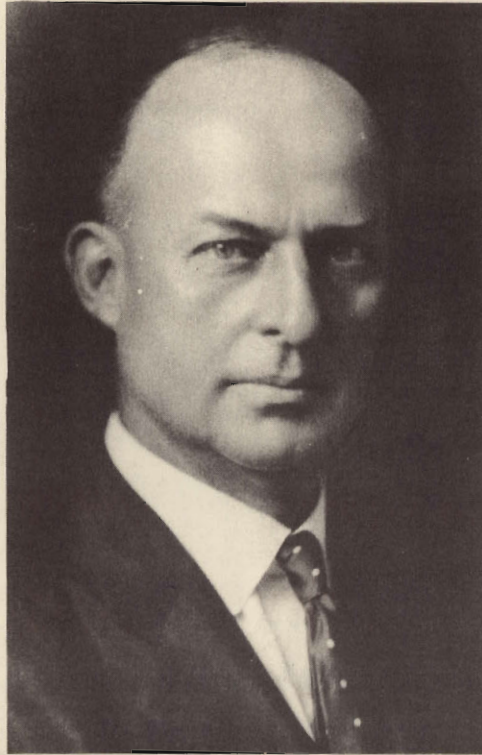
tions in which membership is based upon the student's general record. Membership on the various athletic teams is competitive and also conditioned by the student's general record.

These activities provide a medium of training and experience in sportsmanship, self-government, and social discipline in addition to creating an incentive in the student for general self-improvement.



View of Delaware River from the Administration Building





Honorable D. Stewart Craven, President of the State Board of Education, actively associated with the school in its development over the past twenty-nine years

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