

teachers of the Harrisonburg Normal School. This work is supervised by the instructors in the departments of the Normal School under which it comes—Miss Shaeffer, Mrs. Johnston, and Mr. Johnston—and by Miss Anthony, the director of the Training School. The music is taught in the regular classroom. The patrons have bought a victrola for the school. The physical training class is conducted in the assembly room, a large airy room, well suited to the work. The general science laboratory has been equipped with the required apparatus, laboratory tables, a reagent case, etc.

As Pleasant Hill is two miles from the Normal School the problem of transportation had to be met. The practise teachers walked the fall quarter and were not required to take physical education. As this was out of the question during the winter quarter, it was arranged to have them go on the train. But this was not satisfactory, as the train was seldom on time, and often as much as forty minutes late. The problem has finally been solved here by the practise teachers' using the school Ford.

The authorities hope to bring this school up to the requirements of a junior high school within another year. This means there must be more laboratory equipment, a larger library, more teachers, and a longer term. They expect to have a resident critic teacher, and to use this school for observation, as well as for practise teaching, on the part of the students of the Normal School.

MARGARET SEEBERT

The response that THE VIRGINIA TEACHER has received from former students and other friends of the school has been exceedingly gratifying. Its ambition is to reach eventually every person who has been in attendance at this institution. It is hoped, therefore, that a full measure of subscriptions may be had at once in order that the complete file may be secured by every subscriber. The magazine can be sent only to those who have signified their wishes to this effect.

V

MEETING OF TEACHERS OF DISTRICT "G" AT THE HARRISONBURG NORMAL SCHOOL

The meeting of the teachers of District "G" at the Harrisonburg State Normal School on March 25, 26, and 27, as arranged by Superintendent J. H. Booton, vice president of the State Teachers Association, promises to be an educational event of exceptional value. A three days program of the most important topics to teachers has been arranged, with many things of general interest to all teachers and something of special significance to every department of school work. The program will begin at 8 p. m. on March 25 and will be followed by three sessions on Friday, March 26, and one on Saturday morning, March 27. Superintendent Harris Hart will address the teachers at the evening session of March 25, while President Henry Louis Smith, of Washington and Lee University, will speak the following evening. Other prominent speakers will be present from this district.

VI

SIGNIFICANT NEWS FROM SOME OF VIRGINIA'S HIGH SCHOOLS

DINWIDDIE HIGH SCHOOL has recently added a new auditorium and exceptional laboratory facilities to provide for its new department of agriculture, since becoming the county agricultural school. The agriculture instructor works in close cooperation with the county demonstrator, to make the work of the school of the highest practical value to its students. Seven school wagons make attendance from many localities a possibility and help to account for the doubling of the enrollment this year.

THE NEW EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM OF WINCHESTER, as the local enthusiasts term it, made possible by the munificence of the late Judge John Handley, of Scranton, Pennsylvania, promises many wonderful developments under the experienced supervision of Mr. F. E. Clerk, former as-

sistant superintendent of the schools of Cleveland, Ohio. An interesting item of the plans is the purchase of a beautiful piece of property of about seventy-five acres on the edge of the city; here will be erected in the near future the most complete school building the best thought on such matters can devise. A teachers' club house and possibly the superintendent's home will also be located here. When the whole plan is carried out that is now under consideration, a standard will be set that will mean much, not only to public education in Virginia, but far beyond its borders.

ALBEMARE, too, has "a princely giver" in the person of Mr. MacIntyre. In addition to his numerous gifts to Charlottesville, he has recently given to every school in the county a victrola, that the country child may have an opportunity to hear some of the right sort of music.

THE NEWPORT NEWS HIGH SCHOOL, though it has accomplishments to its credit as it stands, hints at the possibilities which the half million dollars will put within its reach for building and equipment purposes, when the assessment which is now in progress permits the issuance of the proposed bonds for the expansion of the city school system. The friends of the school say there is little doubt that the assessed valuation will prove adequate. The plans for the new high school include every approved feature of a twentieth century school of this type.

NORFOLK, too, is making a fight for a new high school, since Maury is working under such crowded conditions. Maury is especially proud this year of its chapel programs, interesting features of which are solo, glee club, and orchestra programs and practical talks by prominent professional men of the city and elsewhere.

ROANOKE HIGH SCHOOL has reorganized its Boys' Club, which was of necessity disbanded during the war, owing to the call to colors of so many of its members. The Girls' Club is preparing to present in the near future the splendid play "Katcha-Koo," with about two hundred of the high school students represented.

VII

A BOOK PARTY

COMBINING PLEASURE WITH PROFIT

The English department needed money. For a long time we had felt our right to an English fund. A meeting was called of all teachers and assistants in the department, and we decided to give a Book Party.

Of course nearly every girl in school came and many town people too, for everybody was invited to come dressed to represent the title of a book, and who would not pay ten cents to dress up and see her friends in costume? So it was only a few minutes after eight when a motley crowd of people representing all ages and classes were seen everywhere.

Everywhere! Yes, there was variety enough to please everybody. The Circulating Library proved most popular to the "town boys." For the sum of ten cents there could be taken out any of the most popular recent fiction "to be talked to" five whole minutes. Of course if *The Veiled Lady* proved so interesting that all knowledge of time was lost sight of, then ten cents a minute for overtime served as a gentle reminder. Even then the coquetry of *Madame Butterfly* or the learning of *The Bluestockings* was enough to make any mere man oblivious of time, and it proved very profitable to the English department.

If this library did not appeal to the guest, there was the Book Shelf. The whole shelf was at one's disposal. On one long table could be found all of any book lover's favorites. Of course, if there was some difficulty in recognizing in an open calendar with a circle around the fifteenth of March, George Eliot's *Middlemarch*, it was appreciated all the more when finally it was identified as an old friend. I am afraid Thackeray himself would have had some trouble in recognizing in the picture of a fair young lady with a mirror, his *Vanity Fair*.

There was still another library. Even the most fastidious in literature could not go away unsatisfied. This was called the *Universal Library*. It was a marvel of compactness, for it contained practically the entire writings of every English and American author. Every word was bound in one volume, entitled *The Dictionary*.