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## Panther - Jan-March 1939 - Vol. XI No. 4-6

Prairie View State Normal And Industrial College

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# PANTHER CORONATION BALL PROMISES UNPRECEDENTED GRANDEUR

Will Henry Bennett and His Prairie View Collegians—Will Play For Coronation Ball



## QUEEN TO REIGN AFTER CROWNING

By Jesse Hampton Sterling, '40

An unprecedented scene in the history of the Panther will be witnessed by those who are fortunate enough to attend the Panther's Annual Coronation Ball, Saturday Night, March 18, from 8 to 12, in the spacious Auditorium-Gymnasium, which will be beautifully decorated for the occasion.

The Ball will begin with the crowning of the reigning Queen for the present year, Miss Madalyn Freeman of Kansas City, Kansas, who was crowned Miss Prairie View at the annual football classic held in the Cotton Bowl, Dallas, Texas, October 17, 1938.

This ceremony will begin with the entrance of the procession of the Queen and her attendants. The procession will start from the front door of the Gymnasium and will proceed to the stage where the beautifully decorated throne will be constructed. The floor covering on which the procession will walk will be of purple and gold cambric. The procession will be in the following order: the lady maids, the runner-ups in the election contest, the two former queens, and Her Royal Highness the Queen.

After the procession has reached the stage the crown bearer will come forward and the Queen will be crowned by the Editor-in-Chief of the Panther, Lemmon C. McMillan.

The ceremony promises to have all of the pomp and splendor that goes with the crowning of a Queen. Those taking active part will be: the lady maids: Misses Wilhelmina Loeb, Aleice Phillips, Opal Christopher, Helen De Jean, Theola Pleasants, Ida Mae Boudreaux, Ethel McPeters, Golden Bradshaw, and Mabel Ayres; the runner ups, Misses Bernice Pruitt, Elaine Fowler, and Marguerite Howard; and the two ex-Queens, Misses Mabel Porter and Frances Ellison.

## Library Brings More Art Exhibits To Campus

Continuing a practice begun in 1937-38 the college is again sponsoring a series of art exhibits to be shown in college libraries. Seven exhibits will appear in the 1938-39 series. All the seven traveling exhibits designed for the cooperation come from New York and each exhibit will remain on the campus approximately two weeks.

This year in addition to the nine founder member colleges, there are three more race institutions which have joined this movement to bring valuable artistic and historical material within reach of their students and faculty communities.

The group, organized in 1937 and now nearly two years old, includes Atlanta University, Florida A. & M., North Carolina College for Negroes, Fisk University, A. & M. College, Prairie View State College, Talladega College, Tuskegee Institute and Hampton Institute.

The newly enrolled colleges are Dillard University, Howard University and Virginia State College for Negroes.

## VALENTINE POST OFFICE SCORES HUGE SUCCESS ON CUPID'S DAY

By Gladys E. Webster

On the 13th and 14th of February the entrance of the Old Chapel was decorated by a unique structure which served as a Post Office for the distribution of approximately 1,000 campus valentine greetings. A few yards away from the entrance a huge Panther directed persons to the Post Office.

This was something very unusual to the regular routine of issuing campus valentines. It served as a great help to the college Post Mistress who has heretofore distributed these greetings of cheer. It also served as a diversion for the student body.

Among those who served as Post Masters and Post Mistresses were: Lemmon McMillan, Editor-in chief; Miss Aldena B. Howell, Managing Editor; Jesse Sterling, Business Manager; Miss Ethel Alexander, Secretary to Staff; Herbert Coleman, Art Editor; J. W. Ainsworth, Agriculture Editor; A. E. Hollins, Society Editor; Miss Essie M. Thomas, Literary Editor; Miss Viola Whitley, Exchange Editor; Miss Doris Sampson, Music Editor; G. W. Lacy; Levi Curl; Misses Elma H. Coleman, Alice M. Jones and Gladys E. Webster, reporters.

Those persons who failed to call for their mail before the Post Office closed Tuesday evening received it from the mail carriers who carried it to the respective dormitories.

The Panther Staff and Student Body join in expressing their heart-felt sympathy to Mr. G. C. Bell and Bertha Lee Bell, whose brother recently passed away.

## TEXAS COLLEGE DEBATE MAR. 24

Friday night, March 24, the Prairie View College Debating Society will meet its first opponent, Texas College, here on the College Campus in the beautiful Auditorium-Gymnasium at 7:00 P. M.

Texas College is considered an ancient rival of the debating team. Last year was the first time in ten years that the Prairie View College debaters were able to win a debate from Texas College. Practically the same team that met Texas last year will oppose them again this year. The one exception is that Miss Katherine Wright, who won the beautiful trophy for being the most excellent debator last year, has been replaced. Miss Wright finished last May.

A significant fact to be noted about the team that will meet Texas College this year is that it will be composed of young men only. The team has worked hard under the guidance of its sponsor, Professor J. C. Davis, and is expected to be in excellent condition when it meets Texas College.

## FRANKLIN WESLEY TO OPERATE MINIATURE STATION W5HGO

By Casey Jones

Franklin Wesley, a Junior Student of Prairie View in the Division of Mechanic Arts, is a licensed amateur radio station operator. Mr. Wesley also has a miniature station of his own, which is located in his room on second floor of Woodruff Hall.

Since he became interested in this type of work in 1934 Mr. Wesley, has conversed with station operators in four foreign countries, and all of the districts in the United States. Passing

the Radio Amateur Class B Test of the Federal Radio Communication Committee in June of 1938, he went on the air in August of the same year.

When Mr. Wesley was asked why he started in that field, he replied, "Radio operating is my chief hobby, and I spend all of my spare time at the dials of my transmitting set." He also stated that, he was enlarging his set at every opportunity. He believes there is a place in that field for Negroes, and is willing to do whatever he can to help enlarge

(Continued on page 4)

## PANTHER CORONATION BALL

7:30	Announcement
7:32	Coronation March
7:40	Crowning
7:42	Queen's Dance
INTERLUDE	
8:00	Dance











Mable Porter, "Miss Prairie View" in 1936-37, who along with Frances Ellison ("Miss Prairie View" in 1937-38), will serve in the Coronation Ceremony. Mable and Frances are Seniors.



THE PANTHER REPORTING STAFF

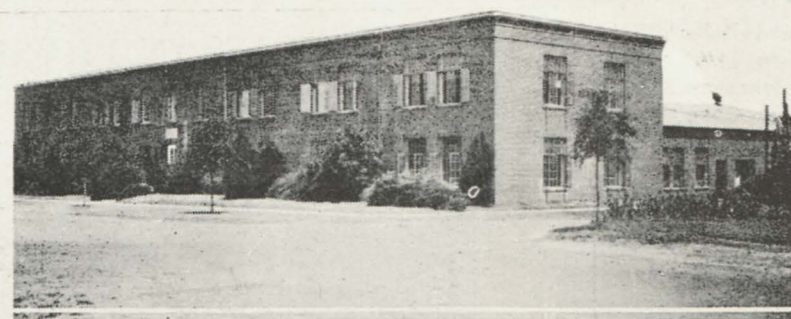
Reading from left to right: Front row—Mr. G. A. Lockett (Sponsor) English Instructor, from Houston, Texas; Mr. Willie James Carter (Senior), Division of Agriculture, from Mexia, Texas; Miss Orié Doris Palmer (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from Galveston, Texas; Miss Mildred Fletcher (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from Houston, Texas; Miss Lois Matthews (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from Houston, Texas; Mrs. Doris Hennington (Junior), Division of Arts and Sciences, from Texarkana, Texas; Mr. Fred W. Armstrong (Junior), Division of Agriculture, from Paris, Texas; Mr. Casey Jones (Senior), Division of Agriculture, from Henderson, Texas. Second row—Miss Minnette V. Long (Senior), Division of Home Economics, from Tucson, Arizona; Miss Gladys Ernestine Webster (Sophomore), Division of Home Economics, from Dallas, Texas; Miss Felecia N. Williams (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from Palestine, Texas; Miss Eudora Jefferson (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from Somerville, Texas; Miss Elma H. Coleman (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from San Antonio, Texas. Third Row—Miss Bernice Cleveland (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from Houston, Texas; Miss Melrose Palmer (Junior), Division of Home Economics, from Cleburne, Texas; Miss Earline Saunders (Sophomore), Division of Home Economics, from Yoakum, Texas. Fourth row—Mr. Festus T. Terry (Senior), Division of Agriculture, from Crockett, Texas; Mr. Alonzo Will Wedgeworth (Junior), Division of Agriculture, from Itasca, Texas; Mr. George Douglas Sutton (Junior), Division of Agriculture, from Fort Worth, Texas.

HOST TO LIBRARIANS CONFERENCE MARCH 9

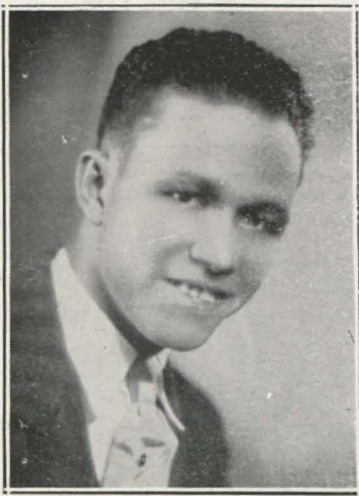


EDUCATION BUILDING

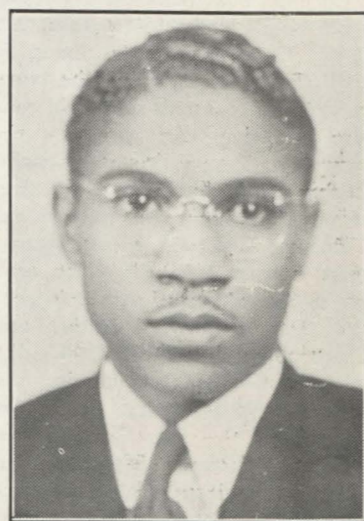
HOST TO INDUSTRIAL EDUCATION CONFERENCE MARCH 11



INDUSTRIAL ENGINEERING BUILDING



Mr. C. S. Wells, who sang at the commemorative exercises for the late James Weldon Johnson Sunday, March 12.



Alphonso Johnson, a member of the Class of '37, is now teaching at St. Phillip's Junior College in San Antonio. He recently produced a very outstanding play for the Alamo City.

CHARLES GILPIN CLUB PRESENTS SECOND MAJOR PRODUCTION

By Minnette V. Long

"It was thrilling from beginning to end." "The acting was superb, and the scenery and lighting realistic." Never have I seen such truly good acting. "I have seen some good plays, but none has equaled this one." These are some of the many comments made by students who saw the play Friday night starring Professor Arthur Clifton Lamb, actor, playwright, and instructor at Prairie View.

The opening scene displayed the bright, gay colors of the emperor's palace—the emperor himself, Brutus Jones, dressed in loud colors of red and blue. The characteristic nature of the Negro was well portrayed as the laughing, easy-going, temperamental "Emperor" talked and boasted of his supremacy to Smithers, a cocky trader, played by Ahmed Rayner who continued to tease Brutus about his past. Just in case he should be captured, Brutus tells of his self-made, silver bullet—a bullet fit for "the emperor."

In the following five scenes, Brutus is fully aware that the natives search for him. Thinking that he can well find his way through the forest to safety, the emperor decides to rest and look for food which he has hidden under marked rocks. Much to his surprise and disgust he has lost his trail. Hunger, fatigue, and anger bring to his mind many sins and wrongful actions which appear to him in forms of apparitions: The night he lost his temper and shot Jess in a "crap" game; the day at the rock-pile while serving time as a convict, he killed the prison guard and made his escape; the image of the little formless fears were all brought before him. These images appear in such realistic nature that Brutus fires his pistol, using the last two bullets by shooting the terrifying alligator. Overpowered by his state of mind, he uses the silver bullet.

In scene eight "the emperor" is no longer the robust, joyful Brutus Jones who was once so sure of his every move. Terror-stricken, horrified by his many experiences the emperor is captured and shot by the native chief, Lem, portrayed by Carl Westbrook.

AG TIT BITS

Discussions on the annual program of the N. F. A. were made during this month's meeting. The present demands for agriculture workers require practical efficiency in several fields. The organization plans to aid its members by sponsoring as many practicums as can be completed this school year.

This month's activity was a two-day visit to soil conservation projects in East Texas.

Practice trainees of the agricultural division have returned to the campus after a month's stay in selected rural school centers throughout the state. Reports on experiences in these communities were begun in agricultural seminar Wednesday, December 8, by Roscoe Lewis, J. W. Ainsworth and Elmo Lyons. These seminars were held every Wednesday evening at seven-thirty throughout the winter season.

TEXAS COMMISSION ON INTERRACIAL COOPERATION

The members of Texas Commission On Interracial Cooperation held their annual meeting in the First Christian Church located on Sixth and Throckmorton Streets, Fort Worth, Texas, December 2-3 to discuss Texas Commission on Interracial Cooperation, achievements and objectives. There were many interesting topics for discussion during the meeting, but more time and attention were given to the following three: (1) History of the Education Bill, (2) Present Status of the Educational Bill, and (3) The Negro's Economic Outlook.

R. T. Hamilton a member of the Interracial cooperation committee discussed in detail the history of the educational bill. Mr. Hamilton opened his discussion by defining the educational bill as a bill to promote post graduate work for Negroes in Texas in Texas.

Many of the leading White members of Texas came together and discussed the idea very thoroughly before any one attempted to word the bill. Principally all of the White members were in favor of the idea, and were willing to present the bill before the legislature. When an attempt was made to get the bill worded for presentation it was found that it would take \$50.00 to do it. That amount of money was not available at that time, and the wording of the bill was delayed for a few years. To prevent further delay, the bill that Oklahoma passed to promote graduate education was copied with the exception that Texas was inserted in the place of Oklahoma. When the bill was presented, it failed to pass because there was not enough money in the treasury to build a school to carry on graduate work as it should be.

The present status of the bill is to provide money for transportation and maintenance for Negroes who would like to attend graduate school in another state.

As a result of student teacher's requests, the agricultural and Home Economics divisions have a large number of activities to be sponsored jointly this school year. The purpose of this plan is to acquaint students with some projects that are common to both divisions at the same time, promoting enthusiasm, unity and efficiency among these student groups.

George Durham Talks At Church

George Durham, member of the senior class at Prairie View College, addressed a large group of citizens and members of B. B. Tabernacle Church in Houston, December 1, 1938. In this speech Mr. Durham gave information on various social trends, including such social factors as the family, education, inventions, occupations, Negro employment, and Racial grouping.

In discussing the family, he gave the functions of the family, social and economic, and also the changes which have been made in these functions over a period of years. Verifying his statement with statistics, Mr. Durham discussed the transformation in the educational system in the United States since 1875. Better equipped schools have been established and are being maintained in large numbers. Free secondary schools and public normal schools have been organized by the states. He said that over two-thirds of the life span of the average man is devoted to employment. In any community one's contentment in life is dependent upon the character of the occupation in which most of the people are engaged.

By statistics Mr. Durham showed how the number of inventions have increased from 208,000 in 1890 to 820,000 in 1930, all patents granted. The social changes of today are connected with the inventions of the past and the inventions of today will no doubt shadow social changes of the future.

Mr. Durham concluded his speech by saying that it was impossible to imagine the trend of American development without including the contributions of people of other races and nationalities.

SOFTBALL LEAGUE

Because of the recent interest shown in softball, the cadets of the R. O. T. C. have organized a softball league.

The league is composed of seven teams. These teams are from companies A, B, C, D, the officers and the band. Other teams entered are the football boys, the N. Y. A. and the faculty.

Company A won a similar contest with four victories and no defeats. Company C finished in second place.

The winner of the league will play the faculty a three-game series and the winner of this series will play the Houston faculty a five-game series.

S W REGIONAL Y CONFAB HERE

The Southwest Regional "Y" Conference held November 20 at Prairie View College in the Education Building, had as its theme, "The Place of the Christian Minority in the Present World Conflict."

At 8:45 a. m. registration was begun by the campus "Y" Committee consisting of Miss Madelyn Freeman, a senior, Miss Annie Melba Curl, a junior, Miss Nellie Joyce Lewis, a sophomore, and Miss Aldena Howell, a junior. The following schools registered: Tillotson College, Houston College, Sam Houston State Teachers College, Rice Institute, Stephen F. Austin, San Marcos, University of Texas, A. & M. College and Prairie View College. Approximately a hundred delegates attended.

Delegates representing Prairie View were: Misses Una McGriff, president of the local Y. M. C. A., Doris Branch, a junior, Elaine Fowler, a senior, Geraldine Walker, a freshman, and Messrs. George Durham, president of the local Y. M. C. A., and Nathaniel Harden, a senior.

There was a morning session held in the library with Mr. Durham presiding. Speakers at the morning session were Miss A. L. Campbell, sponsor of the local Y. W. C. A., David Currie, student from the University of Texas and C. L. Uptegrove, professor of history here. Miss Campbell spoke on "Travels In Europe" in which she pictured vividly the problems of the Sudeten Germans, their characteristics and the sacrifices they have to make for their state. Mr. Currie gave his opinion on the subject "An American Tourist's Impression of the European Conflict." "The Munich Conference—Diagnostic and Prognostic" was discussed by Mr. Uptegrove.

Immediately after the first session, delegates went to chapel services in the Auditorium-Gymnasium at which Miss Rose Terlin, representative on World Student Christian Federation, addressed the assembly on the subject "The Position of the Christian Minority in the Face of Conflict." According to Miss Curl, Miss Terlin pointed out distinctly the necessity of being a Christian in this conflict and the part each minority group plays in the conflict.

A panel discussion subject "The Strife of Peace—What is the Way Out?" was led by A. & M. and University of Texas Students in the evening session. Miss Terlin concluded the discussion.

State Teachers Hold Annual Session In Fort Worth

By Elma H. Coleman

The State Teachers Association held its fifty-third annual convention in the I. M. Terrell High School Auditorium, Fort Worth, Texas, Thursday, November 24, and Friday, November 25, with one of the largest attendances in the long and colorful history of the organization, which was founded at Prairie View in 1885 with the lamented L. C. Anderson, former head of the state college, as the first president.

The theme of the convention was "Education for Social-Economics Goals."

President O. J. Thomas, state director of vocational agriculture with headquarters at Prairie View, who was introduced by A. W. McDonald of Galveston, delivered his address Thursday morning following the introductory remarks given by Lorenzo M. Johnson, principal of I. M. Terrell, and welcome addresses given by Mayor T. J. Harrell of Fort Worth and W. M. Green, superintendent of Fort Worth public schools.

President Thomas stressed the need of more well trained and prepared teachers and also showed the necessity for teachers who are endowed with the right spirit to serve rather than be served in educational endeavors.

Addresses were delivered Friday morning by Victor Schoffemayr, agricultural editor of the Dallas Morning News and D. B. Taylor, state supervisor of high schools for Texas Department of Education.

In his speech, "Industry as an Aid to Agriculture," Mr. Schoffemayr said that Texas must look forward and not backward and try to develop its natural resources as it will never fully recover from the collapse of the cotton industry and the huge loss of foreign trade.

Mr. Taylor said that teachers today need more courage and vision. They must use their gray matter and not confine their teaching mainly to textbooks.

Mr. J. B. Cade, director of Arts and Sciences division of Prairie View, was chairman of the panel discussion on "Education for Social-Economic Goals," Friday morning.

Mr. A. L. Turner, principal of Carthage High School, Carthage, was elected president of the association. He is rated as one of the leading educators and school executives of East Texas. He defeated his two opponents, Henry T. Wise, of Corsicana, and Henry B. Pemberton, Jr. of Dallas, 495 votes to 179 and 174, respectively.

Mr. S. O. Parrish, principal of Dunbar High School, Mexia, Texas, was elected as the first vice-president.

Mr. W. R. Banks, principal of Prairie View, was unanimously reelected to the executive committee.

Members of the association from Prairie View College were: Napoleon B. Edward, Executive Secretary, T. W. Jones, Physics Instructor, G. W. Reeves, Education Instructor, Agricultural Department, R. P. Perry, head of Natural Science Department.

HOST TO POST GRADUATE MEDICAL CONFERENCE MARCH 13, 14, 15, 16





Marguerite Howard, a member of the Senior Class and from the Alamo City, San Antonio, Texas.



Madalyn Freeman, elected Miss Prairie View in the October election, is a member of the Senior Class and is from Kansas City, Kansas.



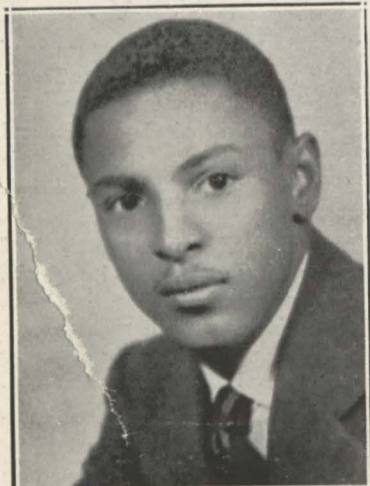
Elaine Fowler, a member of the Senior Class and from Tyler, Texas.

SCENE OF FIFTH ANNUAL PANTHER DANCE



AUDITORIUM-GYMNASIUM

Crowns "Miss P. V."



Lemmon C. McMillan, popular Editor-in-Chief of The Panther.

SOME OFFICERS IN THE PRAIRIE VIEW R. O. T. C.



Reading from left to right: In the first row are R. W. Hilliard, Personnel Director, Capt. Vernon Punch, Captains Wesley, Hardin, and Peterson. In the second row are First Lieutenant Sadberry, Captain Hodges, Second Lieutenants Jones and Williams, and First Lieutenant McMillan. Part of these officers will act as guards of honor and Lieut. McMillan, as Editor-in-Chief of the Panther, will crown Miss Prairie View.



Bernice Pruitt, from Marshall, Texas, a member of the class of '39.