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## Panther - April 1946 - Vol. XX No. 4

Prairie View University

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DR. EDWARD BERTRAN EVANS

## DR. E. B. EVANS ELECTED PRINCIPAL OF PRAIRIE VIEW

Dr. Evans came to Prairie View immediately after receiving the D.V.M. degree from Iowa State College in 1918 and has been with the institution continuously since, with the exception of his present leave of absence to head the only Veterinary School for Negroes in the world—Tuskegee. Dr. Evans has studied at Iowa State the summers of 1924, 1928 and 1934. He has been Vice Principal of Prairie View since 1931 and was Acting Principal the summer of 1933 when Principal Banks studied at Cornell University. In his 27 years at Prairie View, Dr. Evans has served in numerous capacities. He has been Acting Principal, Acting Registrar, Coordinator of Instruction (Dean of the College), Director of Summer School, Acting Director of the Division of Agriculture, and has served as chairman of most of the more important committees since Principal Banks became the institution's head. Dr. Evans married a Texas girl—Miss Lucille Lewis, and to the union was born a daughter,

Ada Louise, now married to an aviator, Lieutenant William Melton of Tuskegee; and a son, Edward, Jr., a Senior at Prairie View. Edward, Jr., was a computer with the famous 777th Field Artillery Unit and was in the Battle of the Bulge.

Dr. Evans is considered one of the best in the field of Veterinary Medicine. Often he has been consulted by state officials regarding livestock diseases. He succeeded the late Prof. C. H. Waller as Director of Texas Extension Services and is on leave from that post now. Dr. F. D. Patterson "borrowed" Dr. Evans to work out plans for establishing the School of Veterinary Medicine at Tuskegee. He travelled across the nation studying Veterinary Schools and supervised the drawing of the plans for a \$700,000.00 plant at Tuskegee. The plant is under construction, but the school opened in September, 1945.

Dr. Evans will assume his new duties September 1, 1946.

## HISTORY OF PRAIRIE VIEW

The Fifteenth Legislature of the State of Texas met in the year 1876. One of the acts of that Legislature provided for the establishment of "an agricultural and mechanical college" for Negro citizens to be located in Waller County. In that year L. M. Minor was elected first principal of the school. He served in this capacity until 1880. In the last year of his principalship a legislative act provided for reorganization of the college and made available funds

(Continued on Page 3)

## DRAMATIC GUILD PRESENTS PLAY

The Charles Gilpin Dramatic Guild presented the outstanding play, "The Little Foxes."

### The Cast

Addie	Rosa B. Metoyer
Cal	Howard Gray
Birdie Hubbard	
	Rose Mary Bradley
Oscar Hubbard	Gus Travis Poole
Leo Hubbard	Alonzo Sargent
Regina Giddens	Mae Jewel Reed
William Marshall	Ezzie Odum
Benjamin Hubbard	Josie Chaison
Horace Giddens	Walter Chandler

(Continued on Page 4)

## DEANS AND REGISTRARS MEET AT PRAIRIE VIEW

"The College Meets Some Educational Problems of Peace" was the theme as 76 representatives of fifty-one colleges ended the three day 20th anniversary meeting of the National Association of Collegiate Deans and Registrars in Negro Schools.

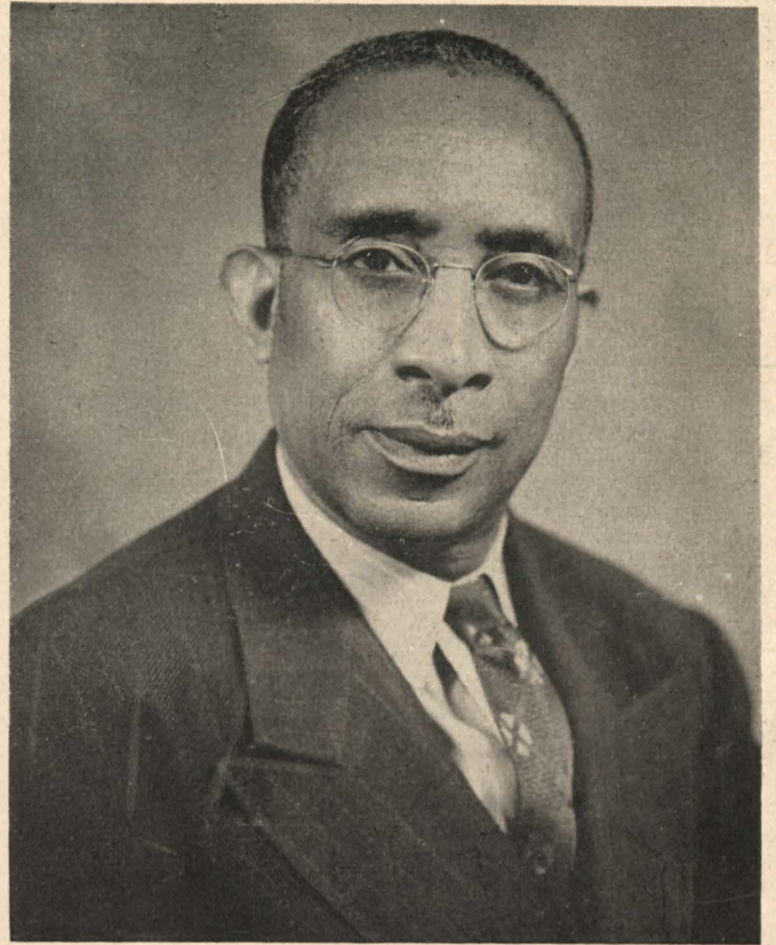
Dean George C. Grant of Morgan State College, president of the Association, presided at general and business sessions. Highlights of the general session were addresses on:

- (a) Twenty-year Review of the Work of the National Association of Collegiate Deans and Registrars in Negro Schools, by Dr. George W. Gore, Dean, Tennessee State A and I College;
- (b) "A Footnote on Progress", Dr. Bertram W. Doyle, Dean, Louisville Municipal College;
- (c) "The background and Present Status of the Negro College Dean", Mr. Herbert S. Adams, Registrar, Johnson C. Smith University;
- (d) "Admission, Counseling, Adjustment and Achievement of Veterans", Dr. Stephen Wright, Dean, Hampton Institute;
- (e) "Co-ordination of Counseling Services in College", Dr. B. R. Brazeal, Dean, Morehouse College;
- (f) "Selected Studies of Internal Problems of Negro Colleges", Frederick Drew, Livingstone College;
- (g) "The Founding and Development of the Association", Dean T. E. McKenney, Johnson C. Smith University;
- (h) "Curriculum Plans on the College Level with Particular Reference to the Harvard Committee Report," Dr. Vattel Daniel, Dean, The State Teachers' College, Montgomery, Alabama;
- (i) "Trends in the Secondary School Curriculum," Hon. L. A. Woods, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Austin, Texas
- (j) "Looking Toward the Next Twenty Years" in: "The Junior College," M. V. Morris, Dean, San Antonio Junior College; "The Church Related College," A. A. McPheeters, Dean, Clark College, Atlanta, Georgia; "The State-Supported College," Dr. B. F. Pittinger, Dean, Texas University, Austin, Texas.

Association members nominated for officers for 1946-1947 are: President, Frederick Drew, Dean, Livingstone College; first vice president, B. R. Brazeal, Morehouse College; second vice president, Assistant secretary, T. H. Braxton, Virginia Union University; Assistant secretary, T. H. Braxton, Virginia Union University; treasurer, C. D. Batchlor, Langston University; editor, T. C. Myers, Hampton Institute.

The executive committee is as follows: George C. Grant, Morgan

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WILLETTE RUTHERFORD BANKS

## PRINCIPAL BANKS TO RETIRE ON SEPTEMBER 1, 1946

Principal W. R. Banks will go on limited services September 1, 1946, after twenty years of service at the helm of Prairie View.

Mr. Banks has been in the school business since 1909 when he graduated from Atlanta University where he was an outstanding student leader. He was one of Atlanta's greatest centers on the football team, a debater, active in dramatics and several other organizations. His first job was at Fort Valley Industrial School, Fort Valley, Georgia, where he served from 1909-1912. On June 1, 1911, he married the present Mrs. Banks (the former Miss Golovina Virginia Perry), a Normal Graduate of Atlanta University, 1904, and assistant in Oglethorpe School 1904-05 and Stone Hall—1908-11. From 1912 to 1915 he became acting Principal of the Kowalyn Training School, Benson, Ala. (The town was named for Mr. W. E. Benson, who founded the school). In 1915, Mr. Banks was elected President of Texas College, where he served through August, 1926. Since September 1, 1926, he has been Principal of Prairie View. During these years he has received gifts for the state school totaling approximately \$750,000.00. Only two of the numerous buildings erected since 1926 were paid for by the state. He has

seen his annual budgets, passed by the board, rise from \$180,000.00 to \$983,000.00. The Prairie View faculty has grown from 80 odd teachers, one with the Masters degree, and less than half with the Bachelor's degree to 8 with the Ph.D. degree, 57 with the Masters degree, and 32 with the Bachelor's degree. The hospital and the college have received "A" ratings under Mr. Banks' leadership. The practice of having the college serve the citizens through short courses, conferences and extension schools has been adopted as good school procedure. The Educational Conference at Prairie View has received world-wide recognition. Atlanta awarded him an M.A. degree in 1934 and Texas College awarded him an LL.D. degree in 1945.

Mr. Banks has found time to participate in numerous extra-activities. He is a trustee of five colleges, an area and state "Y" official and has headed as many as a dozen committees at a time. He is quite active in C.M.E. circles.

As to Principal Banks' future plans—limited retirement extends from 65 to 70—he will still be connected with the institution in a capacity where he can continue to serve the purpose of working for a greater Prairie View.

## A TRIBUTE TO PRINCIPAL W. R. BANKS FROM THE NEW FARMERS OF AMERICA

By MONROE W. LAWSON

As representative of the organization which I belong, I was to express our appreciations to Principal W. R. Banks for the keen insight and educational opportuni-

ties that he has given the organization.

The Collegiate Chapter of New Farmers of America had its first beginning at this University in

(Continued on Page 3)

## The Panther

"Voice of the Students"

Published monthly by the students of  
Prairie View University.

### OFFICIAL EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor-in-Chief..... Julia Levy  
Associate Editor..... Hortense Williams  
Secretary..... Ramona Vaughn  
Managing Editor..... C. W. Rolark

### JUNIOR EDITORIAL STAFF

Editor..... Calvin William Rolark  
Associate Editor..... Theodore Johns  
Secretary..... Louise Wickliff  
Feature Editor..... Imogene Hill  
Sports Editor..... Jafus Cavil  
Typists..... Laura Vaughn  
Nadene Crenshaw  
Juanita Watson

Circulation Managers..... James W. Anderson  
Albert Lincoln  
Walter Lee

Printed by the Printing Department of  
Prairie View University.

## EDITORIAL

A miraculous growth (physical and academic) has taken place at Prairie View under Principal W. R. Banks administration. One of the significant studies of the period was an exhaustive examination of the objectives and purpose of Prairie View College in 1933-34. Out of the study emerged Principal Banks most often quoted statement: "Prairie View must serve the colored citizens of Texas at the point of their greatest need."

Under Principal Banks' administration the Educational Conference has met thirteen years. Prairie View has been host to educators, ministers, business men, house wives, social workers, farmers, and men and women of all walks of life. These citizens have met together and discussed every phase of Texas life from the facilities for educating Negro citizens to a method of predicting deaths in a given locality.

In 1936 when the first of a series of buildings was erected to house the N.Y.A. residence center at Prairie View, a new chapter in Vocational Training for youth was opened. The project was originally designed to aid both boys and girls in getting work experience in some desirable field of work. The Project was enlarged and made a training center for Negro Boys in critical occupations for the support of the war effort. The boys from this project filled positions as welders and molders in shipyards, mechanics, pipe fitters, and machine tool operators all over the nation. The project terminated in July, 1943. The facilities (valued at \$140,000) are now being used for vocational and trade courses in which returning veterans are finding an ever widening opportunity.

In 1937 another page was added to Prairie View's history — the establishment of the Division of Graduate Study.

In 1945 a law was passed in the senate of Texas making Prairie View a university. Plans are now being perfected to make this a reality.

In January, 1946, Prairie View received 25 trailers and one bath house to take care of returning veterans. The courts were named in honor of Robert Brooks a former student killed in Italy. More than 200 veterans are enrolled at present. This number will be doubled in September, 1946.

One of Principal Banks dreams came true in February, 1946, when the Prairie View Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps became a Senior Unit. At present a number of students are taking the advance training under Capt. John R. Reaves, P.M.S. and T., and Lt. Tolbert Harris.

More are expected to take advantage of this training in the coming semester.

Principal Banks will go on modified retirement September, 1946, at which time Dr. E. B. Evans will take over the Principalship.

One can readily see this great educator has been fighting for the common cause and has done much for improving the educational conditions prevailing in the state of Texas and in the south. Prairie View now has one of the strongest faculties in its history. The Junior Class takes pride in dedicating this issue of the *Panther* to our own Principal W. R. Banks.—C.W.R.

## Letter to the Principal

AMERICAN RED CROSS

OFFICE OF THE FIELD DIRECTOR

HDQ. BREMEN PORT COMMAND

APO 751, New York

20 March 1946

Mr. W. R. Banks, President  
Prairie View University  
Prairie View, Texas

Dear Mr. Banks:

I have just read with interest in *Time Magazine* of March 11, how uniquely our college name was changed. So you are a University President now. (smiles) Congratulations.

I can never forget you and often think of you. I am quite sure you are more responsible for my success than any one other person. To me, there is no one greater.

I have traveled extensively since being in Europe and gained a thorough knowledge of the people. I have an excellent position and proud of what I have done in the organization toward helping it achieve its goal.

When I return to the country I am sure to visit you and the University and tell you more of my travels.

My best wishes to Mrs. Banks, the student body and all my friends there. I shall be glad to hear from you.

Very truly,

F. C. TURNER  
Field Director

## THE MUSIC DEPARTMENT AND ITS PROGRESS DURING THE ADMINISTRATION OF DR BANKS

By IMOGENE HILL

The Music Department has grown considerably since 1926 when Principal Banks first came to Prairie View. At that time, Mrs. Florence G. Chretien (B.A.) was the Director of Music, and a degree was not required in order to be an instructor.

The aim of the Music Department in 1926 was to cultivate generally a regard for the best music as well as to train those persons who displayed a natural aptitude for the art. Now, the aims of the Music Department are to offer courses and maintain facilities for instruction in music that will meet the general and professional needs of the students; to train students as creditable and efficient performers and teachers of music in the school and community; and to develop throughout the college a love and appreciation for the best in music.

In 1926, only a two-year course in Public School Music was offered, and neither was there a Bachelor of Arts degree in music offered. In 1930, music was offered as a college major with a completion of 128 semester hours credit in the prescribed curriculum of either piano, voice, or public school music, of which 40 hours in music being the minimum requirement. This was under the directorship of Mr. O. A. Fuller. In 1934, violin was added to the list, and at the present, there are included organ and stringed and brass instrumentation.

The music organizations consist of the College Chorus, Mixed Glee Club, Male Chorus, Women's Glee Club, Concert Choir, Quartettes, Orchestras, band and other vocal and instrumental ensembles. In 1935-36, the Mu Alpha Sigma Honorary Society was organized for the purpose of giving recognition for achievement in meritorious performances, scholarship, research, and original creative efforts in music. This organization is still in operation.

In 1938, the major requirements for a degree in music were changed. Of the 128 hours required to get a degree, 75 hours in music became the minimum requirement. Three degrees are now offered in music, two undergraduate and one graduate. The Bachelor of Arts degree is offered upon the completion of work normally requiring four years for its attainment. The Bachelor of Music degree, which usually follows the Bachelor of Arts, requires five years of study.

The Master of Music degree was initiated here under the Division of Graduate Study during the summer of 1943. Since that time, four persons have come and pursued study, with one of them attaining the degree at the close of the summer school, 1945.

There are four fields of concentration in this work: one in public school music, the second in piano, the third in voice, and the fourth in theory. In a short while, the Music Department will offer graduate courses in Music Education.

This term, Mr. von Charlton observed and supervised off-campus practice teaching of Music majors. This was done in order to make a careful check of the music that is being taught in various practice teaching centers to the end that the pupils in these schools may have the opportunity to develop according to a specific program, as well as allowing the student teacher to work toward specific objectives which are hoped to improve the music teaching situation in Texas. This will form the basis for providing a definite music program in all elementary and secondary schools.

In 1945, Mr. R. von Charlton, who is now the Head of the Department, gave piano recitals in Texarkana, Southern University, and Samuel Huston College, as well as on our immediate campus.

There are two well-known orchestras in the Music Department and a band under the directorship of Mr. Will Henry Bennett. The Co-eds toured the east coast dur-

## Doctors Don't Believe It, Why Should You?

By ALVERA E. DUNCAN

THAT—

Cancer is contagious.  
Birthmarks are caused by fright suffered by the mother.  
Fish is a brain food.  
Tobacco smoke is a disinfectant.  
It is harmful to allow food to stand in cans.  
Sleeping on the left side is harmful.  
Tuberculosis is inherited.  
Sunbathing is beneficial.  
Whiskey will cure snake bite.  
Swallowing fruit-pits will cause appendicitis.  
A drowning man will come to the surface three (3) times. (Frequently he sinks at once.)  
Green apples will cause stomach ache.  
A scratch with a rusty nail is dangerous.  
Hair oil, ointments, essences, pomades, etc., will grow hair.  
A blow on a woman's breast will cause cancer.  
Acute indigestion can cause death.

\* \* \*

The duck hawk is not a hawk and never catches ducks.

## Did You Know

By DORIS V. ANDERSON

That attorney Irvin C. Mollison of Chicago is the first Negro to be sworn in as judge of United States Customs Court.

That several of our classmates have left us to finish with the class of '46.

That an ounce of mother-wit is worth a pound of book-learning.

That the United States of America is going to send a military mission to China to "reorganize her armies."

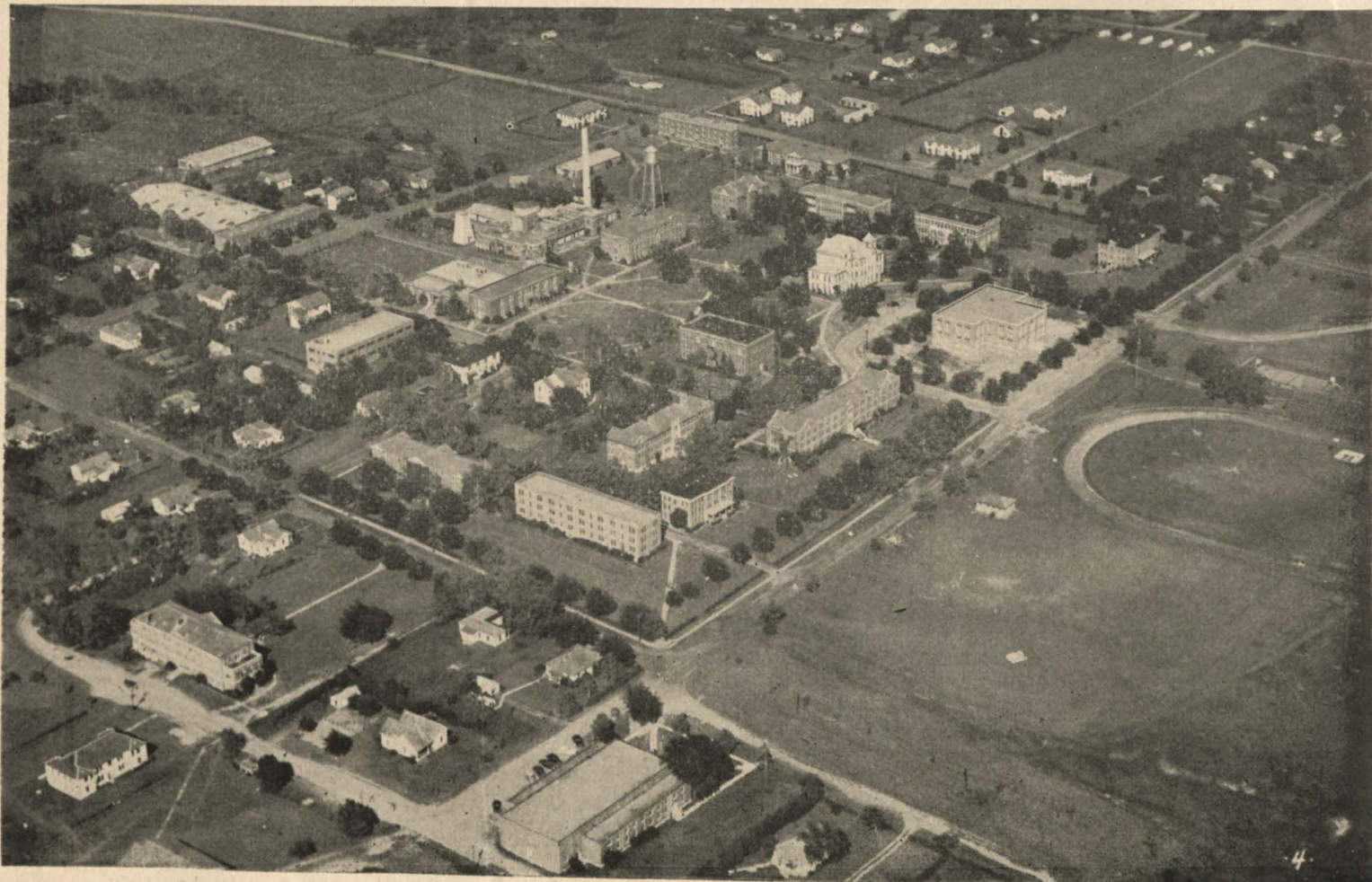
That 'Anna Lucasta' played 500 times on Broadway.

ing the summers of 1944 and 1945.

There are six on the Department staff.

The enrollment of the Music Department has increased to 115. It is gratifying to know that we realize that music is a part of our American culture, and that it is both a science and an art.

## AERIAL VIEW OF PRAIRIE VIEW UNIVERSITY



### History of P. V.

(Continued from Page 1)

for the training of public school teachers therein. The second principal, E. H. Anderson, served from 1880 to 1884, and L. C. Anderson, the third principal, held the position for the next twelve years. The gray stone Administration Building, whose architectural design is widely admired, was erected in 1889, and the Old Agriculture Building was erected in 1890.

For the next fifteen years, E. L. Blackshear served "Prairie View Normal" as principal. During his administration, significant growth was made in the curriculum and the plant. In 1899 the name became "Prairie View State Normal and Industrial College," and the new name indicated the enlargement of the curriculum: A four-year college course was authorized by the State Legislature in session in 1901. Among additions to the plant were: two dormitories for men, Foster Hall (1909) and Luckie Hall (1909); a dormitory for women, Crawford Hall (1912); and a combination Auditorium-Gymnasium-Dining Hall Building (1911).

I. M. Terrell, the fifth principal, held the position during the war years 1915-1918. Despite the stricture of the world conflict, the school plant expanded widely to accommodate mechanic and household arts: A Household Arts Building, the Power and Ice Plant, and the Laundry were erected in 1916; and in 1918 Spence Building, for the Division of Agriculture was erected.

The sixth principal of Prairie View State College was J. G. Osborne, whose tenure lasted from 1918 to 1925. Six buildings were added to the College in 1924 and 1925; the Veterinary Hospital, the Science Building, the College Exchange, the Elementary Training School, a Home Economics Practice Cottage, and a Music Conservatory.

### Former Class Sponsor Receives Ph.D.

Dr. J. L. Brown former class sponsor received his Doctor's degree from the University of Wisconsin in the field of Economics. Dr. Brown heads the Department of Business Administration and Economics.

### The Last "Miss Prairie View" Elected Under Principal Banks



Miss Prairie View and her attendants. Left to right: Miss Constance White, and Miss Merle Frazier. Pictured center is Miss Doris Jean Peppers (Miss Prairie View for 1945-46). Miss Peppers who hails from Dallas, Texas (Little London) states that she is honored to have been elected during Principal Banks last year as administrative head of the University.

All three of the young ladies are members of the class of '46. They have completed their practice teaching and are now looking to graduation in May.

### New Farmers

(Continued from Page 1)

1937, and until this day we have the first time to recall an occasion on which we were denied the privilege of sponsoring the activities of our organization.

Because of the encouragement of Principal Banks and his worthy assistants our organization has competed victoriously in many of the college activities. They have made us proud of being tillers of the soil and our vision has expanded far beyond the limits of the college campus and counties of the state, until it has reached

the broad horizon of a new day in vocation as agriculture.

Not only has Principal Banks promoted the growth of the collegiate organization, but he extended a hearty welcome to the New Farmers of America.

We feel how weak and feeble may be any attempts of ours to express our appreciations, yet we cannot refrain from stating that his leadership has been superb and we shall forever exemplify his teachings.

Keep off the grass is our plea  
Therefore we want you to help the  
CIC.

CAMPUS IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE

### Prairie View Alumni Committee Meets

The Executive Committee of the Prairie View Alumni and Ex-Students Association met March 30 and planned for one of the biggest Alumni Days since Pearl Harbor. May 18 will be long remembered if all plans work out. They open at 9:45 a.m. with a round table on "Equal Educational Opportunities." At 2:00 p.m., Principal W. R. Banks will speak and at 2:30 p.m. the business session will open. Classes of 1906, 1916, 1926 and 1936 will hold re-unions. At 7:00 p.m. a banquet will be held for graduating seniors, graduate students, visiting Alumni and ex-students, and faculty. At 9:30, the annual Soiree will be held in the gymnasium-auditorium. On May 19, awards will be made to three outstanding former students.

Dr. Mordecai Johnson, of Howard University, will deliver the Baccalaureate address for the institution. Parents' Day is also May 19. A busy two day period is in store for the "old exes."

Officers in on the planning were: H. E. Estelle, president; Mrs. Jessie Robertson, first vice; R. W. Hilliard, secretary; Mrs. Lula White, recording secretary; D. W. Martin, sergeant-at-arms; B. H. Watson, chaplain; Oscar J. Thomas, chairman, Membership Committee; and A. W. McDonald, Parliamentarian.

### Class of '47 Plans For Prom

The Junior Class is now making plans for the first Post-War Prom. The Class states that it will be the best given here at Prairie View.

The officers of the class are:  
Mr. Calvin William Rolark

President

Miss Ramona Vaughn

Vice President

Miss Nelva Hudson... Secretary

Mr. James W. Anderson

Business Manager

Mr. Jafus Cavil... Treasurer

Miss Vivian Roy

Chairman of Programs

Miss Louise Wickliff

Dr. E. E. O'Bannion

Mr. G. R. Woolfolk... Sponsors

### Student Activity Committee Presents Miss Etta Moten

The Student Activity Committee presented Miss Etta Moten in a Variety—Concert—Show featuring The Four Knights and Mr. George Pierson, Thursday, April 9, 1946.

The students were greatly impressed with this recital and wish more of this sort would be brought to the campus.

A reception followed the recital in which student leaders were given the opportunity to meet Miss Moten and other participants.

### Business Manager Called to Service

George Jay Mundine, business manager, answered the call of the United States Army.

We are quite sure that Mundine will make good wherever he is.

### Deans and Registrars

(Continued from Page 1)

College; A. A. McPheeters, Clark College; W. H. Bell, Sam Houston College; T. R. Solomon, Prairie View University; and, T. H. McKinney, Johnson C. Smith University.

## THE MAN W R BANKS

By G. W. BUCHANAN

Prof. W. R. Banks came to Prairie View as its seventh principal September 1, 1926. (There had been two acting principals prior to this time, Prof. N. A. Banks and Prof. P. E. Bledsoe.)

Quite a bit of improvement in any number of things had to be made at that time if the school was to take its rightful place in the field of Education as was intended by its founders. A higher rating by recognized rating agencies was necessary; higher scholastic standing for teachers; better salaries for teachers; and the improvement and rebuilding of the physical plant had to be cared for.

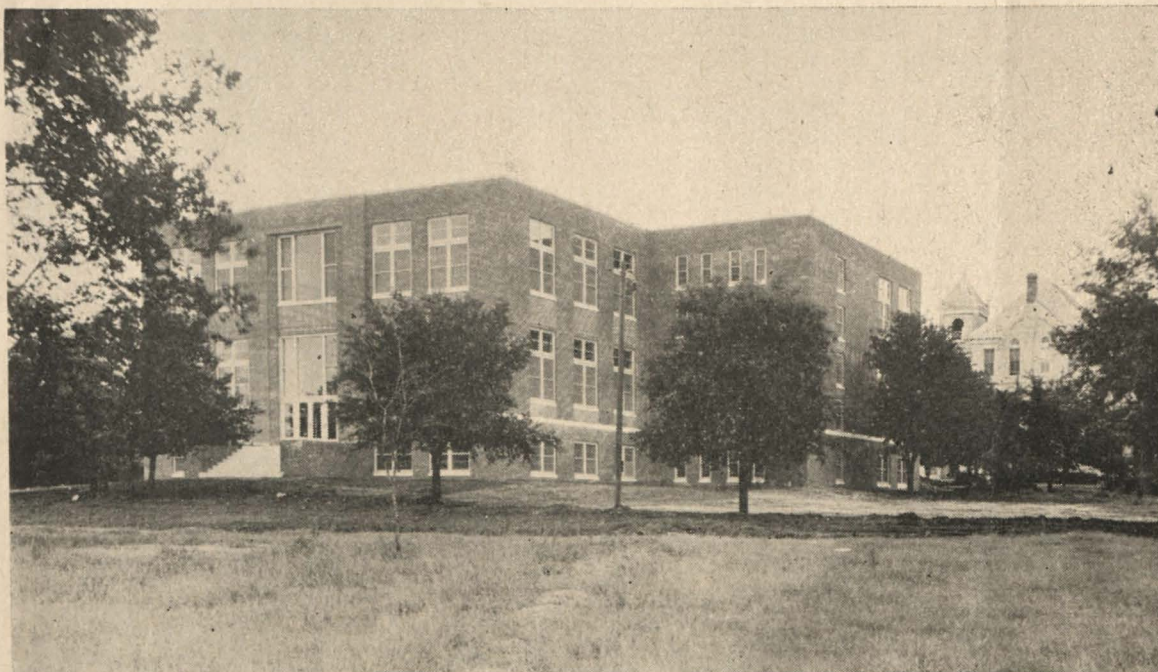
Prof. Banks realized the above facts immediately and began with a determined effort to apply the remedy which took brain power, diplomacy and hard work to the nth degree. A casual survey of the conditions now will prove beyond any reasonable doubt that nearly the impossible in the above mentioned matters has been accomplished. The improvement in the scholastic qualification of the teachers has steadily increased until at present they compare favorably with teachers of the other leading institutions of the country. The development of the physical plant has been phenomenal. The Arts and Sciences Building, the Dining Hall, Anderson Hall, the I. E. building, the Gymnasium, the Hospital and the W. R. Banks Library will stand as a lasting monument to his untiring efforts. The school now has an "A" rating. A Graduate School has been established, and approximately 100 people have received advance degrees. The name "Prairie View Normal" has been dropped and "Prairie View University" substituted. Efforts are being made to make this a reality.

The influence of Prairie View has been felt, not only in Texas, but throughout the nation. Various extra class activities have been expanded as the Y. M. C. A. and the Y. W. C. A., League Activities as well as others. Probably the most far reaching activity founded by Principal Banks is the Annual Educational Conference which meets in March each year and is primarily composed of Superintendents, Principals of Schools, Ministers and other school officials and teachers. The influence, for the good, of this activity has been felt in every community in the state.

Another far reaching attainment was the securing of the ballot for the 15th Precinct. It is manned by college employees.

In conclusion, suffice it to say that Prof. Banks has been able through honorable methods and procedures, to bring a tremendous amount of financial and moral support to the school.

### THE W. R. BANKS LIBRARY



The Library was named in honor of Principal W. R. Banks who will go on modified retirement in September of this year. It is located between Evans and Luckie Halls, just South of the Administration Building. The Library was named by the Prairie View Alumni in Principal Banks honor. It has a capacity of some 100,000 volumes and study space for some 600 students simultaneously. Its beautiful, convenient and comfortable study places include the Reserve Reading Room, Reference Service, and Graduate Study Room. Four seminar rooms are available on the basement floor for group study. Recreational reading may be done in the well appointed Popular Reading Room and the artistic tastes of students are fostered in Exposition Hall and in The Art Room.

Mr. Orestes J. Baker is the Librarian with Miss Eunice Jones as assistant Librarian and eight efficient workers.



PROF. G. W. BUCHANAN

## Dramatic Guild

(Continued from Page 1)

### Synopsis of Scenes

The scene of the play was in the living-room of the Giddens House. A small town in the South.  
Act I

The Spring of 1900, evening  
Act II

A week later, early morning  
Act III

Two weeks later, late afternoon  
*Technical Staff*

Directors... Sydney W. Spalding  
Malcolm A. Davis  
Stage Manager... Calvin Rolark  
Assistant Stage Managers

Theodore Davis  
Harold Hall  
Property Crew... La Rutha Odum  
Donnie Pearl Badie  
Burton Sneed

Make-up Artists. Wilma R. Hogan  
Augustine Hollis  
Costumes... Ruthcelia Lane  
Willie Helen Carroll  
Veoria M. Hardeman

Prompters... Thelma M. Hopkins  
Mabel F. Bradley  
WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

*Gus Travis Poole* (Oscar) is a freshman Agriculture major from Cameron, Texas. He is a graduate of the O. J. Thomas High School and while at this school was a member of the Dramatic Club and acted in most of its major productions. Mr. Poole was the highest ranking student on the campus last semester with an "A" record in all subjects.

*Josie Chaison*, (Alexandra) a sophomore Home Economics major, is from Beaumont, Texas. She attended the Blessed Sacrament Catholic School and is a graduate of Charlton-Pollard High School. At the latter school she was a Drum Majorette, played leading roles in "Dottie and Daffy" and "The Birth of Christ," was secretary of the Library Club and treasurer of the class of '44. Her hobbies are designing and painting.

*Alonzo O. C. Sargent*, (Leo) a Sophomore Pre-Medical student was born in Washington, Texas but grew up in Houston, Texas. He is an honor graduate of Booker T. Washington High School, a former president of Washington's Evans Dramatic Club and appeared in "Polly of the Circus." He is president of the Prairie View-Houston Club, a captain in the ROTC, winner of the 1945 Inter-Class Oratorical Contest and a member of the Tennis Team.

*Mae Jewell Reed*, (Regina) a Junior Home Economics major is from Waco, Texas. She is a graduate of Moore High School, where she participated in many plays. Prairie View devotees of the drama will remember her in "Bonds of Matrimony" and "Mistaken Photography." She is an honor roll student and her hobbies are millinery, designing, and stenographic work.

*Rosa B. Metoyer* (Addie) is a junior and is a transfer student from Southern University. Her home is Dallas, Texas where she was an active member of the Washington High School Dramatic Club. She is a Sociology major and her hobbies are dancing, reading and socializing.

*Elizie Odum* (Mr. Marshall) is a freshman Carpentry major from Newton, Texas. He is a 1945 graduate of the Weirgate High School and was very active in its dramatic club. He appeared in the following plays, "Happy Landings," "One Minute 'til Twelve" and "Lady Windemere's Fan."

*Rosemary Bradley* (Birdie) is a freshman music major from Waco, Texas. She is a '45 graduate of the Prairie View High

School and was an active member of the Coterie Dramatic Club. She is a member of the Alpha Phi Beta Honorary Society. Her hobbies are dancing, playing "boogie woogie" and socializing.

*Wilbert Newsome* (Ben) is a sophomore biology major from Houston, Texas. He is a '44 graduate of Wheatley High School. He was a member of the Wheatley Stagecrafters and while with this group he had leading roles in three major productions. Houstonians will long remember him as Romeo in "Romeo and Juliet." Mr. Newsome is president of the Sophomore class, vice-president of the Gilpin Dramatic Guild, Chairman of the YMCA, a first lieutenant in the ROTC, and a member of the Beta Phi Chi Honorary Scientific Society.

*Howard Gray* (Cal) is a sophomore Agriculture major from Navasota, Texas. He is a graduate of the A. S. Terrell High School and was an active member of the Anderson Dramatic Club. He is a member of the YMCA and his hobbies are intra-mural sports and tennis.

*Walter Chandler* (Horace) is a freshman Chemistry major from Brownwood, Texas. He is a '45 graduate of Hardin High School where he was a member of the Dramatic Club for three years. He is a member of the YMCA Cabinet and his hobbies are singing and reading.

## The Role of Spanish In the World Today

By GLADYS A. DOW

Just as is true in colleges all over the nation, there is a growing interest in the study of Spanish at Prairie View University. This increased interest has been heightened by the recent war, and by our effort to promote a good neighbor policy with Mexico, Central America, and South America. The knowledge of the language will be useful to us in business, in cultural knowledge, and in travel. Now that travel in Europe is somewhat curtailed because of the world conflict through which we have just passed, we shall have to enjoy the beauty and culture near us—and where can one find more of this than "South of the Border." Of course, as one travels, it is always better to know something of the language, customs, and people of the land in which he travels. These are some of our main reasons for being interested in the study of Spanish.

In our classes at Prairie View, we study Castilian Spanish, taught by Miss Maxine McBrier, which is the standard pronunciation and is understood by all Spanish speaking people.

Last year, we organized a Spanish Club to promote interest in the language. In the club, we discussed and studied the culture of Spain and Mexico, expressing our-

## Did You Know

That Marian Anderson will celebrate the tenth anniversary of her return to the United States with a concert in Carnegie Hall.

That the name of Booker T. Washington has been added to the small list of outstanding Americans honored by New York University's renowned Hall of Fame.

That Negro Labor attained new distinction when Willard S. Townsend U.T.S.E.A. president, was invited last week by President Truman to participate in the Labor Management Conference in the White House beginning April 5, the first time a Negro has been so honored.

## Planning Great Prom

The Class of '47 under the capable leadership of third time elected President Calvin W. Rolark are contemplating on having the greatest Junior and Senior Affair held at Prairie View. Say, Juniors, keep those Prom fees rolling in.

elves in speech, song, discussions, games, etc. We do not hope or expect that we all become fluent speakers of the language, but we hope that by our study, we shall learn to speak it moderately well, and that we shall profit by the cultural knowledge gained.

## Our Panther Staff for 1944-45



Pictured above is the likeness of the efficient staff during our Sophomore year. Several of our classmates are now in the army and in other colleges. Hats off to the Staff of '44-'45.

## HOME-MAKING MANUAL

By CAROL BRICE

This column is by the great Negro Contralto, Carol Brice. Miss Brice is married, is a mother, and yet she has been able to pursue an illustrious concert career.

Keeping together in a ship-shape fashion a home, a family and a husband, is to me one of the most important of a woman's duties. Of course, many women are not married but I still think it is true that most young women are looking forward to a husband, a home and a family.

Many women marry without knowing how to expertly take care of the important duties of their homes—little things like making attractive curtains, bedspreads, towels, chair-covers napkins, table-cloths and a host of other articles which if made at home would save their young husbands a tidy sum of money.

Recently, I saw the statistics of a sewing expert who said that Negro Women spend more than \$192,000,000 per year for dresses which if made at home would cost only \$48,000,000. This would be an initial saving of \$144,000,000

annually for just one necessary item. When you think in terms of the many other items now being bought ready-made which could be made at home—as well, or better than—we could probably save collectively more than \$1,000,000,000.

Negro Women have been in many instances the very backbone of our race; there is an adage somewhere which says: "No family is better than its mother—and no race is better than its women." Today we Negro Women must play a very important part in shaping the future for our people. This is especially true when we consider the employment problems facing our men. Recently, the FEPC Bill was filibustered to death by Bilbo, Rankin and others. This fact gives us no assurance of adequate employment in the future. Therefore, we must conserve our funds and resources by making everything that it is possible for us to find time to make at home.

In my column for this paper I want to include helpful hints or suggestions concerning some phase of general home-making. I hope that you find these suggestions helpful and interesting.

I should like to make several suggestions concerning the mending of clothes.

*Mending Stockings.* . . . Many things can be done to lengthen the usefulness of stockings. If you don't know how, or don't have the time to make stockings at home, buy two pairs at one time in the correct size, in a weight suitable to their use, the length in accordance with the length of leg and girdle.

*Darning a hole.* . . . With stocking right side out, insert egg un-

## USO As Civilian Aid

During the war in many of the large cities and in small towns adjoining army camps, USO's and servicemen's clubs were established to provide a haven for GI's without friends and relatives in the area.

These organizations did a grand job. They exerted every effort possible to keep the fellows comfortable and happy.

Besides being a center for service men, the buildings in smaller cities served as meeting places for civilians who before the war, had few recreational facilities. Often a movie was shown, a concert given or some other form of entertainment provided on Sunday evenings. During the week, clubs were formed and held meetings there. In other words, the USO's gradually became the "town hall" for the community and an important part of civilian life as well.

With the end of World War II came an end in funds for these projects.

These organizations must not die out. A few changes could be made in the general program of the groups to convert them into peacetime establishments as a haven for civilians who have found them to be of such great service. It would be a good thing if various city governments and the like would take over the sponsorship of these clubs when the period terminates for national government support.

Juniors, have you paid your Prom Fee? Remember our motto: keep those Prom Fees rolling in.

We the class of '47 take pride in dedicating our issue of the Panther to our beloved Principal W. R. Banks who in September will go on modified retirement.  
Calvin William Rolark  
President, Class of '47

der hole. Trim ragged edges of hole. Do not use knot and make lengthwise threads first. Leaving a short end free, take a few running stitches far enough from the hole to take in all the worn part. Turn, leaving a small loop at the end of turning. On each succeeding row increase number of stitches so that when you come to the hole, you will cover it and also strengthen the worn part.

## PRAIRIE VIEW WINS TRACK MEET

The Prairie View Track Team lead by Iron Tap Alexander Murphy, won in the annual Prairie View Relays held here April 6, and 7th.

Ten teams participated in the meet. Last year Wiley, led by Flash Carroll, won the meet, but this year Prairie View took over. The results: Prairie View University, 59 points; Wiley, 39.

Outstanding track stars for Prairie View were Iron Tap Murphy, Brisco, Reeves, V. Murphy, Aubrey Bratcher, George Blanton, Mitchell Jackson and Lyttle Taylor.

I wish to predict that Prairie View will take the Southwestern Conference meet in Southern Uni-

versity on May 17 and 18th. Only one record was broken in the meet and that was the Distance Medley. The time previous to this race was 12:27.5 set by Prairie View in 1944. But this year Texas College came in from behind and broke this time record by running the Distance Medley in 11:48.2.

The Prairie View Girls Team also won their meet. Only two teams competed in this meet. They were Tuskegee and Prairie View. Miss Berdine Reece led the team to victory by winning five first places. Other outstanding stars were: Allie Mae Hall, Doris Countee, Rosa Carraway, Gloria Bradford, Reba Sanders, and Hattie Q. Baugh.