

BILL TRANSFERS MONT ALTO TO COLLEGE

Earle Signs Bill; State Gives School

Ferguson Points Out Advantages; Tells Of System

(Continued from page one)

Care of the grounds and buildings. The supervision of the property will now be under the direction of the College department of grounds and buildings. This procedure will insure immediate provision for repairs or changes needed at the School. Prior to this time a bill had to be passed by the State legislature in order to bring about improvements or changes.

Mont Alto Started in 1903

The Mont Alto school was originally a State institution for training foresters. The course required four years of training before a bachelor of science degree was granted. At the same time a similar plan was being used at this College to train foresters. In April of 1929, deeming the maintenance of the two schools unwise, the Commonwealth consolidated them.

The two schools were really united on June 15 of that year when freshmen and sophomore students of the two joined for summer camp work. The College was given charge of the degree instruction under the advice of the State forestry experts at Harrisburg.

The merger brought together two

of the oldest forestry schools in the United States. The one at Mont Alto was established by the State in 1903 to train forest rangers. Two years later work in the same field was begun on this campus. At the time the schools were merged, there were almost 80 students at Mont Alto and between 80 and 90 here. Last year the enrollment of students in the department of forestry here reached 470.

At the time the Schools were consolidated, Secretary Charles E. Dorworth, of the State Department of Forests and Waters, made the following statement:

"Plans for consolidation have been under consideration for ten years or more. The joining of efforts of the two State agencies in forest education work will effect substantial economies, enlarge professional and practical opportunities for the faculties and students and open the way to develop one strong, outstanding forest school in Pennsylvania instead of two schools. It is my sincere belief that out of the consolidation will be afforded opportunity for developing one of the best forest schools in America."

Sees Advantages

Professor Ferguson at the time of the consolidation was able to see many advantages in the move also. In commenting on it, he said, "Chief among the advantages of the consolidation is the opportunity students will enjoy for specialization in industries closely allied to forest management and production, opportunities that have sent many Penn State forestry graduates to the top in varied wood-using industries."

Following the consolidation of the Mont Alto School with the College, there arose a feeling among residents surrounding the Mont Alto institution that the buildings would be abandoned. This was spiked when Secretary Dorworth pointed out that abandonment of the school had never been considered. He said that the cause of public demonstrations in the Mont Alto district against several state officials was a misunderstanding of the program for the consolidation.

Since the two schools were merged, Mont Alto has become more or less of a laboratory for students taking forestry. Freshmen spend the year at the institution and are again required to return at the close of their sophomore year to study certain subjects not offered on this campus. The College lacks the nursery and State forestry that is available to students at Mont Alto, but work has started on a nursery in Stoney Valley which is expected to care for this handicap before many more years pass.

Support of Vocational Plan Urged by Instruction Deputy

Dr. Gerald D. Whitney, deputy superintendent of the department of public instruction at Harrisburg, in an address delivered before 250 Summer Session students and faculty members in Home Economics Auditorium last Tuesday night on "A Perspective on Vocational Education," urged that the public be informed of the nature and growing importance of the vocational education movement.

Dr. Whitney, representing his department at the last legislative session, was instrumental in the passing of over 100 bills in the interest of Pennsylvania education. He expressed confidence that a system of vocational education for children up to 18 years of age would ultimately replace academic education in this state.

"Education," Dr. Whitney stated, "is the experience whereby we are taught to adjust ourselves to the conditions of the times." Vocational education, he explained was the type of training suited to cope with this function.

Whitney further outlined the efforts of the Pennsylvania legislature at its last session to further the vocational movement. The Tenure Act, Dr. Whitney pointed out, applies not only to teachers but also includes vocational directors. A bill which revises vocational education in this state recognizes distributive occupation and according to the speaker opens up a "vast, new field." Another important piece of legislation passed,

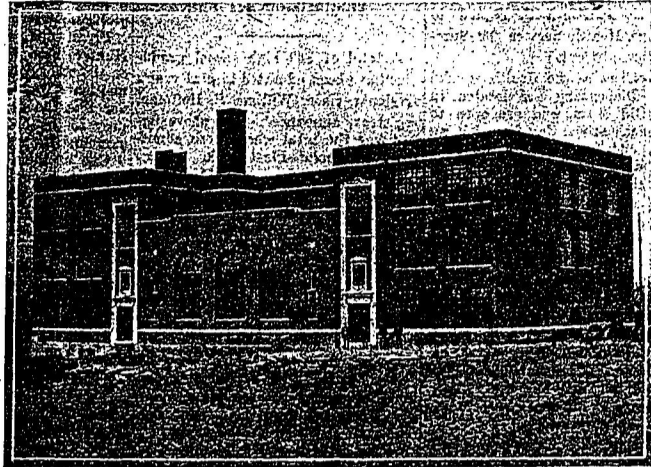
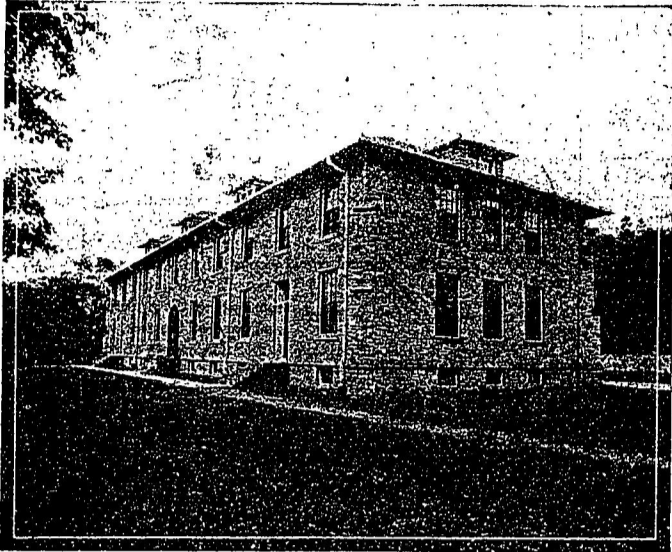
Dr. Whitney explained, was the bill which provides for county boards of school directors to be constituted as a board of vocational education, thus making possible county vocational schools and consequently equalizing the opportunity of young men and women in various parts of the state.

The Attendance Act, passed by the legislature after proposal by Senator Edward J. Thompson of Centre County, provides for compulsory school attendance of unemployed children up to 18 years of age. This, Dr. Whitney explained, would bring forth another problem in the field of juvenile education. The Ruth-Brownfield Bill was termed a "very forward-looking step" by the speaker. It provides for the merging of all districts under the county superintendent into a county board of school directors, and hence makes possible a county board of vocational education.

In conclusion Dr. Whitney warned that "the government will not be in the emergency relief field forever. We who regard vocational education as an absolute and necessary institution have a big job ahead of us."

Dr. Marion Trabue, new dean of the school of education, who was present at the meeting, expressed deep interest in the vocational movement. Arthur S. Hurrell, head of education extension of the College, acted as chairman.

Penn State's Forestry School at Mont Alto



The Main Dormitory (left) and the Hall of Science (above) at the College's Forestry School at Mont Alto. The building pictured above contains class rooms, laboratories, and the offices of faculty members. The dormitory houses 70 students.

Carl Sandburg To Appear Here

"America's Truly Native Poet" To Lecture Thursday Night At 8 in Auditorium

Carl Sandburg, well-known American poet, will appear in Schwab Auditorium at 8 o'clock next Thursday night. He takes the place of S. Miles Bouton, journalist, who was scheduled to speak at that time but will not appear until Thursday night, July 22.

Sandburg will lecture on "An Evening with Carl Sandburg." Having gained the reputation of "America's most truly native poet," he has been travelling about the country for many years, reading his poems, singing folk songs, and collecting ballads.

Graduated from Lombard

Born of Swedish parents in Galesburg, Illinois, in 1878, Sandburg received little schooling as a child. He worked at various trades and at the age of seventeen started to travel west. At the outbreak of the Spanish-American War he enlisted and was sent to Porto Rico where he remained for eight months. He later returned to Lombard College in his home town where he was captain of the basketball team and editor of the college monthly magazine and annual.

Following graduation, Sandburg spent much of his time writing poetry and in 1916 published his first volume, "Chicago Poems." His alma mater awarded him an honorary doctor of literature degree in 1923 and in 1928 he was Phi Beta Kappa poet at Harvard University.

In 1926 Sandburg completed his first biographical work, "Abraham Lincoln-The Prairie Years." It is the first of a three-volume comprehensive study of Lincoln. The book is the product of long, patient, and persistent research on the part of the author.

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Division of Dramatics Gives Play Tomorrow

"Playboy of the Western World," an Irish drama in three acts, by J. M. Synge, will be given at the Little Theatre tomorrow night at 8 o'clock. The play is directed by Prof. Dairrell Larsen, who claims that parts of it "from a dramatic angle equal those of the immortal Shakespeare. The leads are played by Scotty MacDougall and Shirley Ragh. Supporting the cast are Roy Morgan, Katherine Herz, William Hewes, Roy Merchant, Mason Whitmore, Molly Barker, Helen Jenkins and Maude Jameson.

This year, a great deal of stress is being laid on modern scenery and mob scenes. The departments of the division of dramatics are cooperating on the stage sets and various sound effects. Professor Larson is particularly enthusiastic over this play, claiming the sets will be "the slickest sets of the year."

The play will be introduced with a brief address by Mrs. Lucille Zoller of the department of English Literature. Due to the limited seating capacity of the Little Theatre, admission is obtained only by tickets for dramatic students.

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