

**Annual Report**  
of the  
**American Church Institute**  
**for Negroes.**



An Organization created by the Board of Missions of the  
Protestant Episcopal Church in behalf of  
Educational Work  
Among the Negroes of the South.



**FIRST YEAR**  
**1906-1907**

Annual Report  
of the  
American Church Institute  
for Negroes.

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First Year—1906-1907

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Office of the General Agent  
The Rev'd Samuel H. Bishop  
500 West 122d Street  
New York City

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ST. AUGUSTINE'S CHAPEL, EXTERIOR AND INTERIOR.

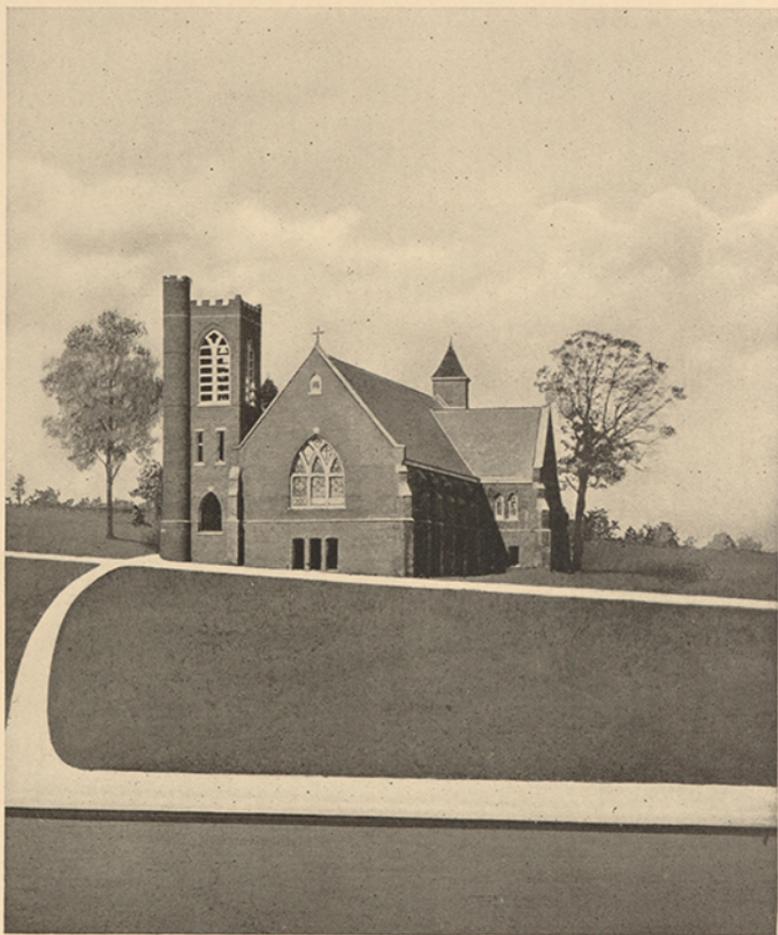
# Annual Report of Trustees

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## AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

The American Church Institute for Negroes having completed its first year of work, reports as follows:

The Institute was created by the Board of Missions and given responsibility for the educational work conducted under the auspices of the Church among the Negroes, and it began operations the 12th of February, 1906. The General Agent, the Reverend Samuel H. Bishop, had been for some months previous studying the educational system of the South as related both to the white and to the colored people, and on entering upon his duties for the Institute again made a careful study of the educational work done by our church. It has been in many respects admirable; and in view of the serious handicaps of disorganization, lack of knowledge and serious attention on the part of the Church, especially in the North, deserves the highest commendation. The purpose of the Institute was to give as far as possible a collective unity to the work and to make clear to the Church the great need of extension and of thorough organization. In order, however, to make an effective beginning, though the consciousness of need in the whole southland was clear and definite, and the desire was earnest as soon as possible to come to the relief of every southern diocese and of every school doing good



ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL.

work and giving good promise; yet it was deemed best by the trustees of the Institute, in order to create typical examples of successful correlation and development, to confine the Institute's operations for the time being to three schools, which should represent a well developed and co-ordinated system of education for the colored people. Those schools are: the St. Paul Normal and Industrial School, Lawrenceville, Virginia, the basis of the plan, that school being primarily industrial and normal; St. Augustine's School, Raleigh, North Carolina, representing academic and collegiate training; and the Bishop Payne Divinity School, Petersburg, Virginia, representing special training for moral and spiritual leadership and the education of the colored ministry of the Church.

It will be clearly evident to the Church at large that such a co-ordinated system of education has many advantages. It subserves the purpose of economy in collection and distribution of funds, having one main agency for that purpose; and economy also in educational administration, it being the intention to correlate the educational work as far as possible, prevent duplication, and use the gifts of the Church to the best advantage. It also involves the introduction of the Church as a great engine of social and moral power into a problem which is unquestionably one of the greatest, if not the greatest, problem in American life.

The first thing necessary was to enter into relationship with the schools, and that has been done by means of contracts which have been accepted by the boards of the several institutions.

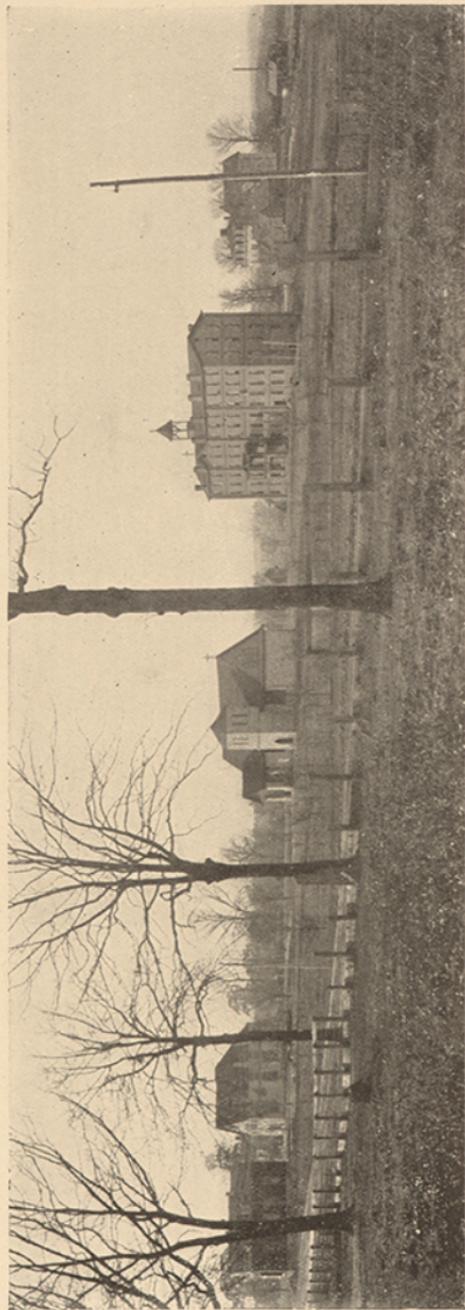
The second task was to begin the raising of money, and the Trustees appealed by letter and by personal solicitation for \$200,000. Of that amount thus far there has been received, from a few churches and individuals,



INTERIOR, ST. PAUL'S CHAPEL.

about \$50,000, a sum utterly inadequate to the needs, yet illustrating what the Church may do when she realizes the problem. The Institute was handicapped at the start by the tremendous drafts made upon philanthropic funds by the San Francisco disaster, the Chinese and Russian famines, the special effort made by the Church for the Men's Thank Offering, and later by the financial stringency which has characterized the last few months.

The third task of the Institute was to determine how such money as was available this year might best be used. The Institute found the financial situation at St. Paul's specially urgent. Through the heroic and almost unaided efforts of the Reverend James S. Russell, the principal, a great plant has been created consisting of 1,700 acres of land, 16 buildings (all of which are inadequate except the chapel—a beautiful gift made by the Woman's Auxiliary of New York in memory of Mrs. Francis S. Delafield); a faculty of about 40, and with a student body of about 600. Mr. Russell's plan for maintaining the school necessarily involved commercial exploitation of student labor, and St. Paul's has carried on the largest industrial business of any school in the United States. It has built about sixty houses and two or three business buildings; it lights the town of Lawrenceville with electricity, and furnishes ice to the railroad and to private customers. Because of student labor, though the business had the effect of creating a system of credit on which the school has been run, yet it was not really profitable; and consequently there existed a floating debt of about \$26,000, some of which was drawing exorbitant rates of interest. The Institute felt it necessary to urge upon the Board of Trustees of St. Paul's School certain changes in the financial administration rendered possible by the introduction of the



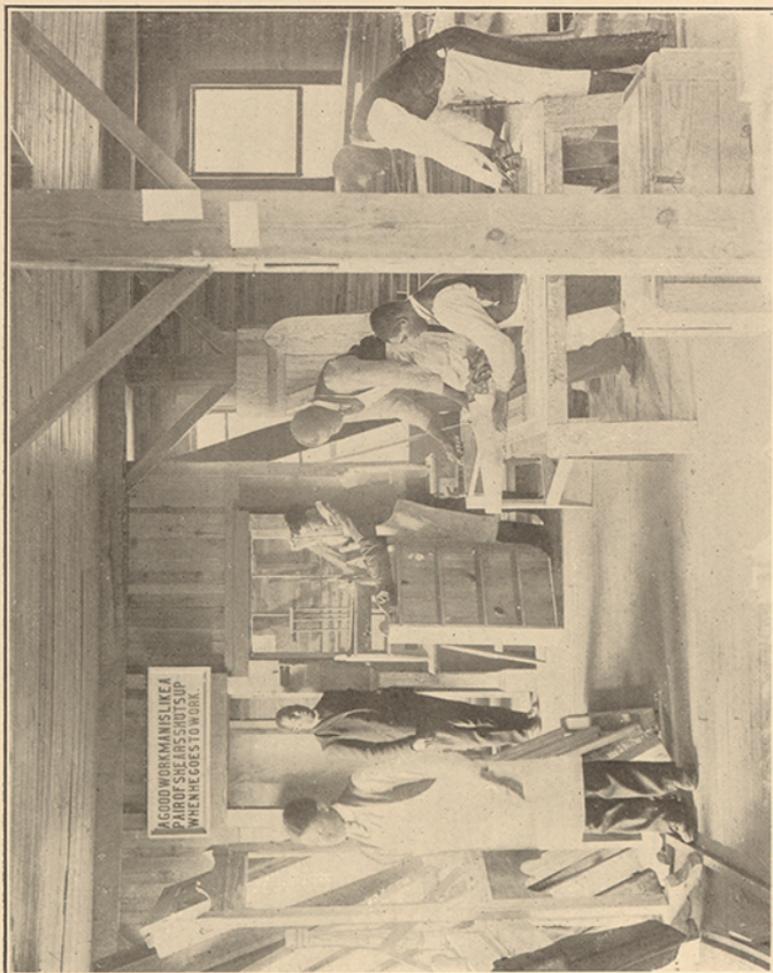
GROUNDS AND BUILDINGS AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S SCHOOL.

who'e Church into the work, but not involving any reflection upon its past management; since as has already been stated the former method had been necessary in order to keep the school going. But it was deemed advisable to cease for the future an exploitation of student labor, which was working an injury to the school; and to effect certain changes by which the board of the school is made directly responsible for its internal management, the business administration committed to an officer appointed by the board, the industrial departments economically correlated, and the floating debt funded on a proper basis. The Institute's suggestions having been accepted by the Executive Committee of



MUD HOUSES ON ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL FARM. RELICS OF SLAVERY DAYS.

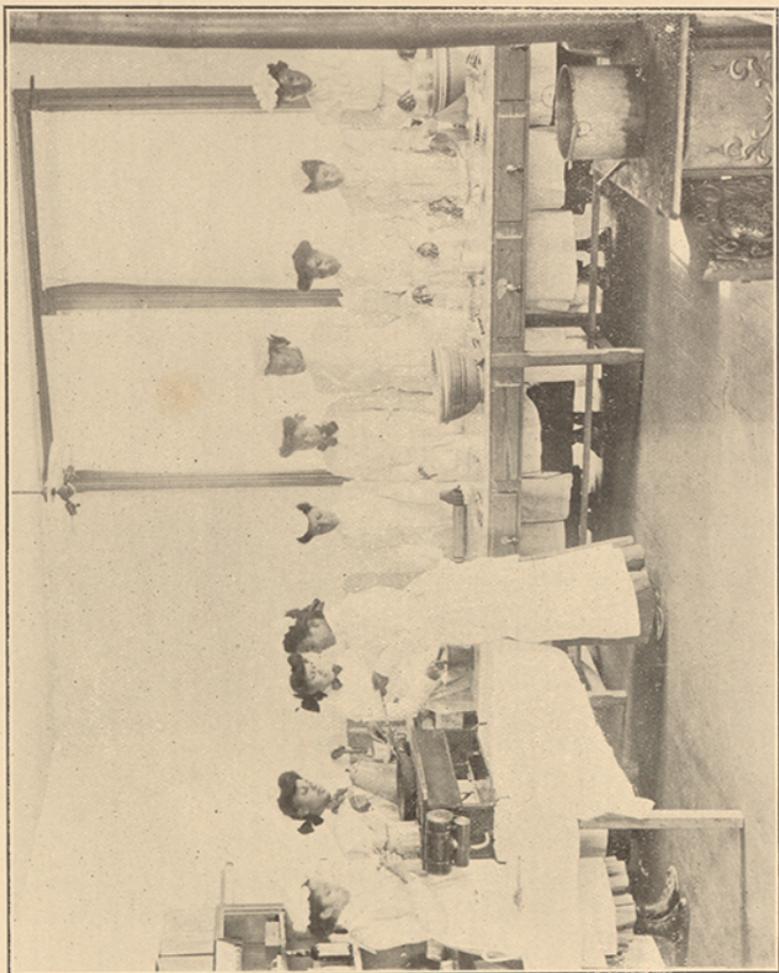
the St. Paul Board, the Institute appropriated \$10,000; a part of which was used to pay small notes involving high rates of interest, back salaries due to teachers and officers, the salary for a director of agriculture for all



CARPENTER SHOP, ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.

the schools (but whose principal work is at St. Paul's), equipment for agricultural work, equipment for the practice school, and the training of certain specially competent teachers in summer schools. The Institute looks forward with high anticipations for the work of Mr. C. C. Poindexter, the director of agriculture, and believes that under his leadership agriculture, both at St. Paul's and St. Augustine's, may become most valuable, not only to our schools, but also to the life of the colored people throughout the South. Agriculture is thought by competent students and workers to be the "way out" for the colored people; and we believe, in conjunction with all those who are best informed with reference to the social and economic situation in the South, that it should be made a primal object in the education of the colored people to induce as large a number as possible of young men and women to look forward to life on the land as offering to them the greatest and richest opportunities for economic independence and the acquiring of self respect, culture, and character.

Co-ordinately with the development of agriculture the Institute proposes to lay special stress upon normal work and upon the correlation of the training of the mind with that of the eye and the hand, and measures have been taken with the complete sympathy of the authorities of St. Paul's to develop and strengthen such education as unifies life and relates vitally the boy and girl to the work he or she is to do in the world. To send out well trained teachers and thoughtful artisans and farmers into the communities is to make the greatest religious contribution possible to the social and moral life of the South. Furthermore, special effort is to be made, as has been made, at St. Paul's and also at the other schools to train not merely competent men and women, but men and women who love and serve Jesus Christ

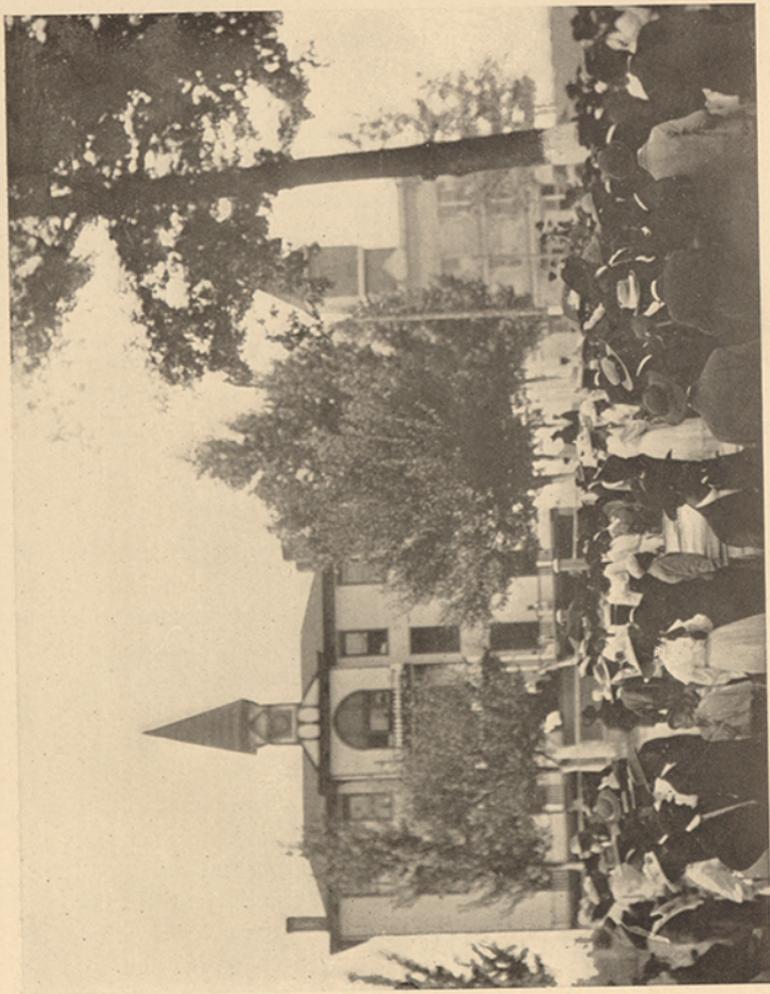


CLASS IN COOKING, ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.

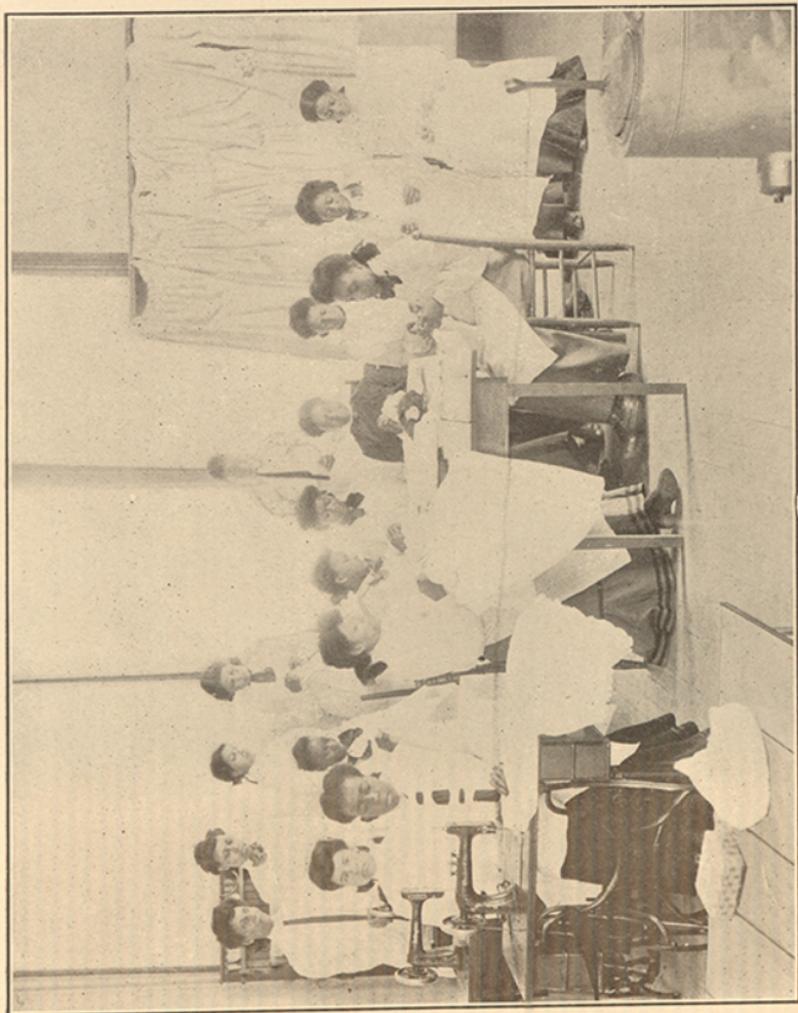
and their kind. A plan has been put into effect this summer by which a certain number of specially promising boys and girls have been sent out into the country to do social and religious work; and we hope to develop a band of catechists and lay workers, and also to increase the number of candidates for the ministry.

The sum of \$5,000 has been appropriated to St. Augustine's School, a part of which is for the building of a laundry and other improvements to the plant and grounds. The normal work at St. Augustine's is also to be developed and strengthened, and Mr. Poindexter is to give a due proportion of his time to that school. It has a farm of about 80 acres, which offers an opportunity to all of the students, whether they are to be farmers or not, to become acquainted with the life of nature and with the problem of home making in the country, and so to render themselves familiar with the work and life which must be the work and life of the vast majority of their people.

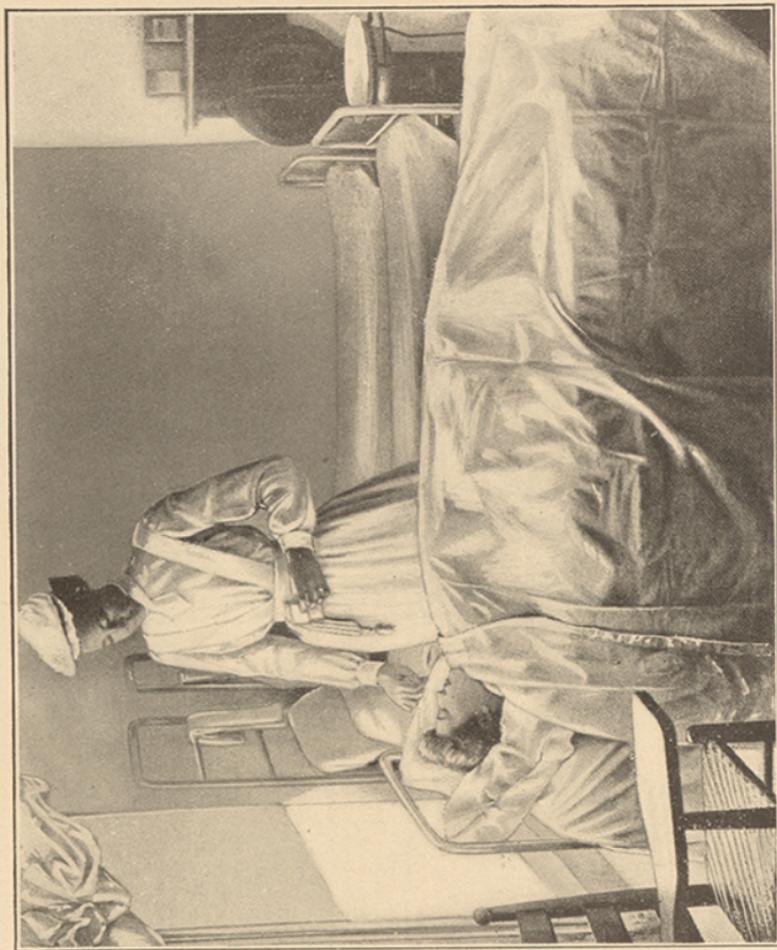
The sum of \$3,000 has been appropriated to the Bishop Payne Divinity School, part of which is for a new house for a professor, and another part of which is to be used for missionary work by the students in their home communities. The trustees of the Bishop Payne Divinity School have in accordance with the suggestion of the General Agent of the Institute, taken up the matter of appointing a professor of sociology. If such an appointment be made and the professor be of the rank of those who are already working in that institution, this will constitute a most important advance in the work of the school, and a most important development in the relation of the Church to the colored people. The Negro church serves not only as a church but as a charity-organization society, a life assurance or mutual benefit society, and a social and political reform club. It



FARMERS' CONFERENCE AT ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.



CLASS IN DRESSMAKING, ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.

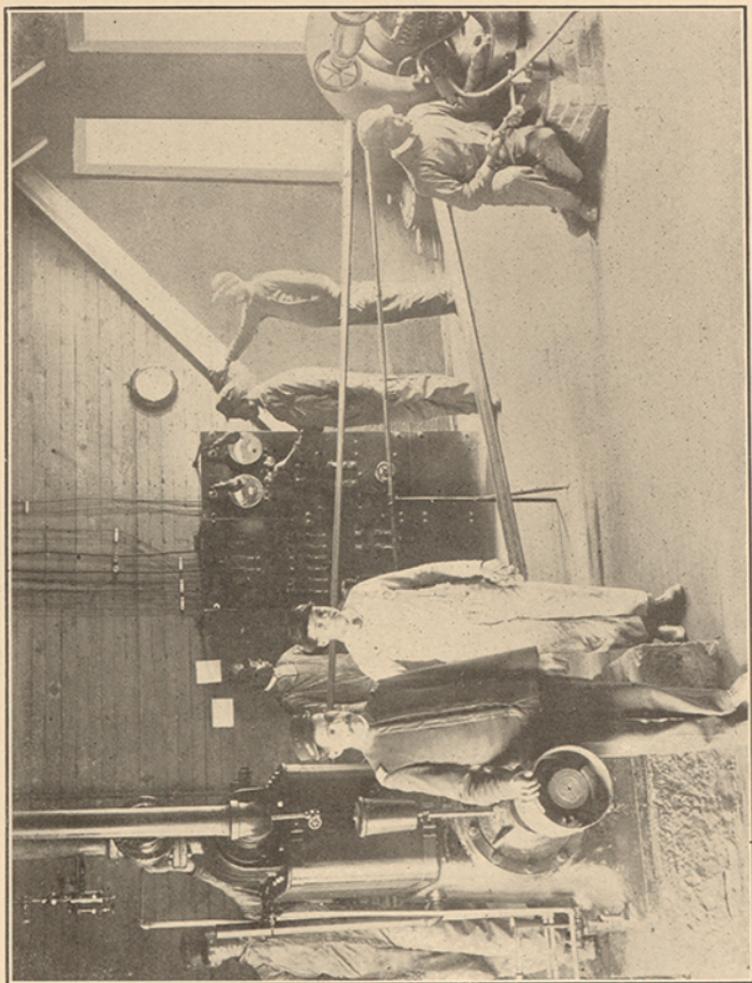


TRAINED NURSE, ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.



DR. HAYDEN AND HER NURSES. ST. AUGUSTINE'S.

is consequently of special importance that the colored ministry shall have careful training in social science. Our church has a peculiar function in the South which she can more easily fulfill than any other Christian body. Her large sanity, her catholic thought and liturgy, her historic tradition, and her peculiar representation of the whole national life in the problem of Negro education, are attributes which she shares with no other ecclesiastical body. The great dangers of religious life among the Negroes are excessive emotionalism and segregation. Our church offers a safe channel for the guidance of that emotionalism, and by means of her national and not merely sectional organization she can relate the religious



CLASS IN ELECTRIC ENGINEERING, ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.

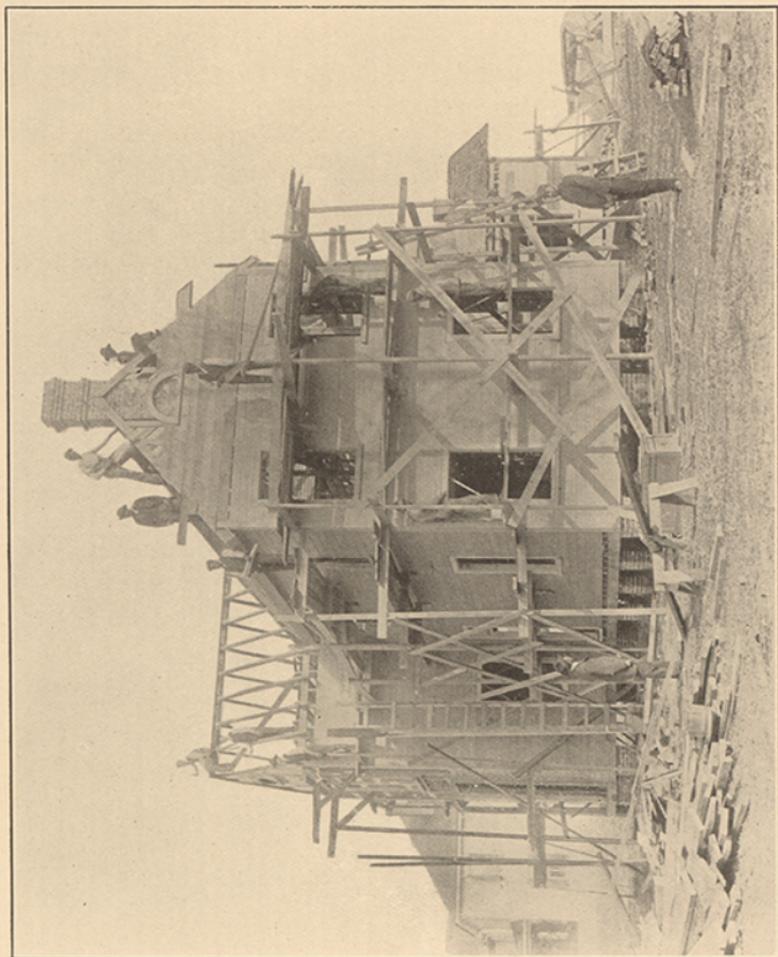
life of the Negro people to the life of the nation at large as can no other communion.

We may note here for the benefit of those who have given and those who may give to the cause, that of the appropriations thus far made to the schools about \$7,000 is to be put into the plants of the schools; and all of the Institute's appropriations are to be made with an eye to permanent results.

With this record of work the Institute appeals for gifts, both small and large. It could use as effectively as the General Education Board can use its great bequest millions of money within the next few years. Aside from the needs of the institutions with which we are already



THE DOCTOR WITH A PATIENT FROM THE CHILDREN'S WARD.  
ST. AUGUSTINE'S.



STUDENTS ERECTING A HOUSE. ST. PAUL'S SCHOOL.

dealing, there are schools in other dioceses which are in crying need for help. There are sixteen dioceses with devoted bishops and clergy, struggling against ignorance and irreligion. They need, and can wisely utilize, schools for the training of teachers, leaders, and ministers, and for the inspiration in the body of the colored people of sane and ethical religion. We want to make the schools with which we are now directly related, great typical examples of the best education and of the divine influence of the Church; and when we have done that we want to extend our work as rapidly as possible to those other schools and dioceses which stand in such urgent need, Hampton and Tuskegee each have buildings costing over \$500,000.00; and while we do not plan for such extensive development, we could use with fullest advantage within two years, buildings such as barns, library, dormitories, gymnasiums, school and industrial buildings, and halls for religious work, costing on a simple basis at least \$200,000.00. To do what ought to be done at once we need:

1. \$10,000 (\$5,000 each at St. Paul's and St. Augustine's) for new practice-school buildings. At St. Paul's the present building is so crowded that it is almost unsanitary, and there is not room for pupil teachers. At St. Augustine's there is no building for the practice school.

2. \$20,000 for farm buildings (\$13,000 at St. Paul's, \$7,000 at St. Augustine's).

3. \$5,000 each for agricultural buildings, to include the office of the director, laboratories for agricultural and physical chemistry, creamery, etc.

4. \$10,000 for agricultural equipment at both schools—stocks, tools, etc., and for salaries of helpers.

5. \$6,500 for houses for married teachers at St. Paul's. To retain the best teachers it will be necessary



THE ONLY BUILDING AVAILABLE FOR PRACTICE SCHOOL AT ST. PAUL'S.  
THERE IS NO BUILDING AT ST. AUGUSTINE'S.

to provide houses; and five or six houses may be built for the above named amount.

6. \$30,000 to pay the debt and provide maintenance for a library at St. Paul's. If this amount can be raised, Mr. Carnegie will give \$10,000 for a building. This is an imperative need. For the 600 pupils there are only a few second-hand books which are kept in a small room, and are practically useless.

7. \$10,000 for an industrial building at St. Paul's. The present industrial buildings are frame structures, small, inadequate, and with utterly insufficient equipment, machinery, etc.

8. \$5,000 for a sewer system at St. Paul's.

Contributions should be sent to the treasurer, George Foster Peabody, No. 2 Rector St., New York City.

Signed,

DAVID H. GREER,

President.

SAMUEL H. BISHOP,

General Agent.

## FORM OF BEQUEST

I give and bequeath to the American Church Institute for Negroes, a corporation existing under the laws of the State of Virginia, its successors and assignees, the sum of \$.....



"I ALLUS TOT DEM 'PISCOPALS CARRIED DEIR 'LIGION ON DEIR BACKS.  
NOW I KNOWS DEY CARRIES IT IN DEIR HEARTS."

