Later Years of the Normal School From 1899 to 1929

One of the first acts of the youthful President Clarence William Daugette was to secure a transfer of the abandoned courthouse building to the state as property of the Jacksonville Normal School. In 1900 the county seat had been moved to Anniston. The Iron Queen Hotel had been rented and was used as a dormitory for the first boarding students. This building also provided housing facilities for the president, and a daughter, Kathleen, was born at the Iron Queen. The following letter was written by Oscar Myrick at the request of Mrs. C. W. Daugette:

Jacksonville, Alabama
May 18, 1955

In September, 1898, the President of the State Normal School rode a bicycle to a teachers' institute in Etowah County to interest fathers in sending their children to S.N.S. for an education.

He got one that year. I came to Jacksonville to enter school on Monday, October 10, 1898. It being Monday, there was no school that day. I was told that the holiday was Monday so the students could prepare lessons on Monday. They would not study Sunday. They respected the Lord's Day.

Times were hard then.

My father had no money to send us off to school, but while he and Mr. Forney, the President of the school, were walking over the field, Mr. Forney saw a colt that he liked very much, so he proposed to buy this colt and let it apply on my board.

Board was cheap then. We boarded at the Iron Queen Hotel and paid the exorbitant price of $8.00 per month. Your reaction is, "How could it be done?" Other things were in proportion. Rice was 5¢ a lb., grits 2½¢ and sorghum was 25¢ a gallon. Side meat was in the same proportion. So we fared sumptuously every day.

There were seven boarding students. Boarding students were Bird and Henry Broughton, Flavins Hanna, Jenny Lou and Paul Craft, Mattie Chitwood (Mrs. Hugh Merrill) and her cousin, Hattie Chitwood, and O. B. Myrick. We were all at the Iron Queen Hotel except the Chitwood girls. They boarded with Mr. and Mrs. Charles Porter.

When school was out in May of 1899, the colt was brought over and kept in the back yard of the hotel. Mr. Daugette took the colt and named her Belle. I presume that all his children learned to ride her for she was gentle and lived to be about twenty-five years old. When Ford cars came into use, Belle was not used as the family horse any more.

Soon after I came to school there were a few things that impressed me very much.

I came the tenth of October, Kathleen Daugette was born about two weeks later and Mr. Daugette was so proud of his first child. She was a beautiful baby.

Another was a speech by Senator John T. Morgan. He spoke for two hours in the court house. He and General Forney were very impressive people.

And another was the court house election. I cast my first vote to retain the court house here. During this campaign, Hon. John Knox was speaking for the removal of the court house. He stopped at the hotel and asked the clerk, John Swann, for a cigar. John handed a box over to him to choose one. He said, "I don't want a five cent cigar." John Swann, without cracking a smile, produced another 5¢ box and said, "Here is another." He took this and John said, "That is 25¢." He went on smoking this and seemed to be pleased.

Teachers were poorly paid.

My impression is that the President of the school was paid the lucrative salary of $100.00 per month. Mr. Daugette drew $75.00. The school received $2,500.00 from the state.

The faculty of 1899-1900 consisted of the president and six other teachers. Daugette taught science and literature, as well as photography; William J. Beason, English and history; Mary C. Forney, pedagogics and metaphysics, together with physical culture and drawing; Lizzie Privett, mathematics and Latin; Clara S. Lund, preparatory department and class singing; Emily Goodlett, intermediate department; and Nona Tinsley, vocal and instrumental music.

Physical culture had begun as a private course, with students paying a small extra fee, but in the 1899-1900 bulletin it was included in the curriculum at no extra charge.

As noted in the bulletin, physical culture was "modeled on the Ling-Swedish system, which has for its chief aim the harmonious development of body and mind as a unit... exercises will be of such character as can be used in the ordinary school room"
The old courthouse at the south end of the Square became the home of the Normal School in 1899.
without any apparatus.” Photographs of the girls outside the buildings in physical culture classes and of the boys in separate groups are shown in many of the early school bulletins. Later records indicate that, following the devotional period, physical exercises involving all of the students were held during the chapel session. Sometimes the president led them in marching.

The boys and girls walked to town and elsewhere, always accompanied by a chaperone. They were not permitted to walk together from classes, and the president has been quoted as telling the girls to “walk fast” to their classes. Nevertheless, many Normal School students recount bending the rules on occasion. Sometimes the results were quite disastrous — notes slipped on strings from dormitory windows to waiting boyfriends were occasionally intercepted by the president or a teacher. One concerned gardener, seeking to prevent trysts, is said to have recommended to the president that all of the shrubbery be taken out.

The president’s records reveal these regulations as to student conduct:

— Regulations —
1. Girls may receive young men once per week only, and that is on Sunday afternoon and night till ten o’clock.
2. No driving, riding or walking with young men except in parties and with chaperons approved by the President. Young men and young ladies may walk from the churches and Christian Associations together to their homes on Sundays, but nowhere else and at no other time.
3. Young ladies must not loiter at the post office, in the stores, or on the street.
4. Girls must not remain out too late; they should be in their homes before dark.
5. No going out during the week days to anything without permission of the President, except to prayer-meetings, and then only when the boarding-house keeper shall take her girls — this means they shall not go or return with young men.
6. Girls must not leave town without permission from the President, unless it be under the care of the matron.
7. Proper dignity and behavior are required upon all occasions.

Boarding-house keepers are expected to see that these rules are obeyed, and when any young lady acts in such a way as to cause concern and anxiety it should be reported to the President privately.

C. W. Daugette
President
The graduating class of 1901. Left to right: Oscar Landham, Monroe Hollingsworth, Oscar Myrick. Monroe Hollingsworth lived on South Pelham Road in a house which was located across the street from the present Winn-Dixie store. Oscar Myrick, father of Hannah Myrick Nunnally and Nancy Myrick Sutley, attended the University of Alabama after completing the two-year Jacksonville State Normal School in 1901. He taught at the Profile Mill School and in other schools in the area, and also farmed. Oscar Landham became a pharmacist and had a drugstore on West 15th Street in Anniston. His niece is Mrs. R. Eugene Jones of Jacksonville.

Courtesy of Hannah Myrick Nunnally
Under the statement on discipline found in the 1901-02 catalogue the message is clear:

It shall be the aim of the faculty to make the school work as pleasant as possible. But all students who attend are expected to come with the desire to learn. We have no time to devote to wild and vicious boys or frivolous girls. A cheerful obedience to all of the rules is enforced, but such moderation is exercised by the teachers that the pupils willingly obey whom they respect and esteem.

Diligent effort was required in more areas than student deportment in the early 1900s. Teachers also received instructions from the president:

Instructions for Faculty meeting and duties attendant upon making reports for first month:
1. The reports shall be made out between 1:30 Saturday p.m. and 4:00 p.m. Monday at the end of each month; and cards are to go to pupils on Tuesday.
2. Deportment, absence and tardy sheets are to be kept on office table from Saturday 1:30 p.m. to Saturday 7:00 p.m., during which time all teachers are to enter their reports.
3. Report cards are to be kept on the office table from Saturday 1:30 p.m. to Monday 4:00 p.m. during which time all teachers are to enter their grades.
4. Faculty meeting on Saturday night at 7:30 for discussing deportment and irregularities.
5. No cards are to be accepted from pupils after 1:30 Saturday p.m., and no one may remove cards or blanks from table during the hours set for entering grades.
6. Teachers not entering reports upon sheets and cards during the time stated above shall be counted delinquent in their duties and the cards shall go to the pupils without their grades.

C. W. Daugette, President

This first report to the State Department of Education made by Daugette is included in the Biennial Report of the Department of Education of the State of Alabama for the scholastic years ending September 30, 1899 and 1900, by John W. Abercrombie, superintendent of education.

Jacksonville Normal College
1899 - 1900

I have the honor to submit to you the following report of the Seventeenth Session of the State Normal School, ending May 26, 1900.

Faculty and Salaries
The faculty with salaries was as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Salary</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>C. W. Daugette, President</td>
<td>$1,000.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W. J. Beeson, History and</td>
<td>630.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mary C. Forney, Pedagogy</td>
<td>450.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elizabeth Privett, Math.</td>
<td>315.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florence Williamson</td>
<td>360.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Principal Training Dept.</td>
<td>316.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emily Goodlett, Primary</td>
<td>45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Music (music fees)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gussie Croft</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$3,115.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The spirit of perfect harmony, unanimity of purpose and unselfish aims which characterized the work of the teachers contributed in no small degree to the success attained by the school the past year. With their earnest, conscientious work, and low salaries, they are setting a most salutary example of placing their profession above mercenary gains.

Buildings and Grounds
The buildings are inadequate to the increasing needs of the school, and a plan is now on foot for the town to purchase other buildings which are especially suitable for school work.

The value of the present building, with the equipment of the school, and grounds, is about $18,000 — $5,500 insurance is carried.

Income
The income of the school is:
- From the State: $2,500.00
- From other sources: 1,500.00
- Total: $4,000.00

It would seem that the State would be very kind to itself by increasing the appropriation of this school to $7,500 since, besides being located at the healthiest place in the State (health officer’s report) amongst white people, in one of the richest sections of the State which pays its proportionate share of taxes, it has shown by its record of seventeen years' work, in which time it has sent out about 120 teachers into the Public Schools, that it is entitled to the confidence and support of the people.

Thanking you for your kindness, courtesy and assistance during the past year, I am, with great respect,

Clarence W. Daugette,
President of the Faculty.

The financial report signed by George P. Ide, treasurer of the Normal School, was also included in the report of the state superintendent. Total receipts amounted to $4,163.57 and expenditures, $4,106.59, with a balance of $56.98.

President Daugette spent much time convincing local citizens and members of the Legislature of the Normal School needs. Public schools were requiring more qualified teachers; teaching was becoming a profession. In 1900-01 the state appropriated $7,500 for the Normal School, and the next administration increased the appropriation to $10,000.

Although securing funds had required much time and attention, the Normal School had been playing football, possibly before 1903. The JACKSONVILLE REPUBLICAN of November 5, 1903, carried this account of a football game:

The game of football between the Birmingham high school team and the S.N.S. from this town came off on Saturday afternoon [October 31, 1903] as advertised; physicians were in attendance and hospital convenient in case of accident which fortunately were not needed, the game was without accident and enjoyed by the spectators. The game resulted in a score of 28-0 in favor of Birmingham. We were quite glad to have the Birmingham boys in our midst.
The publisher of the paper, J. H. Mellichampe, and the editor, E. W. Mellichampe, added a few editorial words in the same edition:

We hope our boys will not feel discouraged after their defeat in the football game of Saturday afternoon, defeat is frequently more valuable than success; a defeat will make them practice and become more perfect, while a victory may have caused them to feel like taking a rest. David stood his own against Goliath, though the latter was encased in armor.

On a less serious note, the JACKSONVILLE REPUBLICAN of November 26, 1903, carried an advertisement for the State Normal School:

Wanted. A pig at S.N.S. to eat up the mistakes of the student cooking department; none but one of sound digestion, which can know an absence of dyspepsia in ancestors for three generations, need apply.

In addition to football and gastronomical endeavors, there were active organizations on campus. The YMCA and YWCA and four literary societies had been formed — “The Calhoun and Morgan for gentlemen and Girls Chapter and Curry for the ladies,” the school catalogues reported. These societies were sponsored by the Normal School faculty but were directed by student officers. Annual debates, with much rivalry and festivity, continued for many years. Photographs of the 1904 Calhoun Society and the 1908 Morgan Society are the oldest available, although other copies are shown in the Normal School bulletins.

Named in honor of John C. Calhoun, former senator from South Carolina, the Calhoun Literary Society came into existence in 1884. The purpose was the training of young men in the essentials of good citizenship. By the time Daugette became president, this society had grown in enrollment and interest, and it was thought best to divide the membership into two societies. Lots were cast to determine which group would retain the name of Calhoun. The other group of members named their society for a former Alabama Senator, John T. Morgan, who raised a Confederate cavalry regiment in Calhoun County in 1862.

The Normal School was expanding and endeavoring to keep the teaching force up to the highest standard possible. Examinations met requirements of the state board. The president kept abreast of developments in the education field by attending meetings over the state. The Trustees established scholarships for each county so that the benefits of the school would be widely known. These appointments had to be made by the county superintendent of education and by the senators and representatives. Each official could present one scholarship, and the recipients had to meet full requirements for entrance to the school.

With room and board at $10 a month, total expenses for a term of three months at the Normal School could be held within the limit of $100.
Women's basketball team, 1902. The team was divided into two groups, Tumblers and Scramblers. Mrs. W. B. Merrill of Heflin, mother of Walter and Fred Merrill, is standing on the back row. The two captains are seated on the ground. Kate Caldwell and Nell Hopkins.

Students in the Normal School could sign notes for tuition. The notes had to be redeemed either by teaching or payment of tuition within two years after graduation. This provision was later changed to an agreement to teach eighteen months in the public schools or repay the loan within five years after leaving school. The appropriation from the state for maintenance was increased to $15,000 in 1907.

In 1910 the Normal School offered first-, second-, and third-grade certificate courses for teachers — the English-scientific professional, the Latin-modern language professional, the academic or college preparatory, and a manual training course. The president and seventeen teachers presided over five departments. There were 434 Normal School students. The library had 1,600 books and many public documents, and the reading table material — magazines, articles, and newspapers — had increased.

The death of L. W. Grant, one of the proponents of the State Normal School, was noted in 1911. "Mr. Grant was sixty-nine when he died, and the Normal School lost a good friend and supporter who had advocated normal education when it was very unpopular in Alabama," Daugette wrote in the school catalogue.

Act No. 483 of the Alabama Legislature, approved on April 18, 1911, created a "board of trustees for the government and control of the several State normal schools for whites, and for the making and enforcing of a course of study for the said State normal
schools and for the rural schools of the State, and for the repealing of any charter or charters in conflict with the provisions of this act."

This board consisted of eight members: the governor as ex officio chairman, the state superintendent of education, and six members chosen by the governor. These members were initially appointed for terms of one to six years. At the expiration of these first appointments, the term would be six years. The first joint board was listed in the 1911-12 bulletin: Governor Emmett O'Neal, president; Superintendent of Education Henry J. Willingham, secretary; George P. Ide, treasurer; members, W. W. Lavender, Centre; Robert B. Evins, Greensboro; John B. Weakley, Birmingham; John D. McNeel, Montgomery; C. L. Dowell, Eufaula; and Irving Craighead, Mobile.

The publications of this board concerning curriculum and other common requirements for the normal schools were included in the various school catalogues. Local information and faculty, along with organizational activities and building programs, were added to the individual school bulletins.

The Summer School of Methods had begun in 1896 with a three-week session, which was later lengthened. This course was mainly designed for those taking state examinations to teach, and offered no credit toward graduation or certification. The first record of credit being given for summer work is noted in the 1912 school bulletin. Teachers could attend school in the summer and teach in the winter. Sometimes summer school enrollment was larger than in regular session.

Prior to school newspapers and yearbooks, the Normal School publication, THE PURPLE AND WHITE, was pictorial, covering activities of the literary societies, athletics, and other events of the school.
Miss Florence Weatherly, teacher of penmanship and typewriting and secretary to President Daugette for 27 years. Miss Weatherly died in 1933, and Weatherly Hall is named in her honor.

Under Governor Emmett O'Neal's administration in 1911-14, the legislature increased the annual maintenance appropriation to $20,000 and passed a first appropriation for buildings of $60,000. A $15,000 debt for remodeling the old Calhoun College building was paid and $45,000 was used to build a new women's dormitory. In 1916, Governor Charles Henderson signed a bill increasing the maintenance appropriation to $25,000 annually.

The new women's dormitory was completed and ready for occupancy in the fall of 1916 when it caught fire and burned. The fire was generally believed to have been caused by a careless cigarette. Fire insurance held by the contractor had expired, but the school was covered. Citizens of Jacksonville and Calhoun County, the state superintendent of education, and officials all over the state rallied to support Daugette in getting the funds to rebuild the dormitory the next year. This dormitory was named Weatherly Hall for Florence Weatherly, a teacher of penmanship and typewriting and secretary to President Daugette. After twenty-seven years at the school, Florence Weatherly died in 1933. The building was later taken down and replaced by the Weatherly Hall shown on the campus map.

Although enrollment was holding up, there were more women than men in the school in 1917. These were the trying days of World War I.

The "innovations for the school" section in the 1917 catalogue mentioned the farm given to the school by Fannie Atkins in memory of her husband.
A devotional and other chapel programs ended in exercise and sometimes marching. The men sat on one side of the auditorium and the women on the other. President Daugette is shown second from the left on the rostrum.

Courtesy of Kathleen Daugette Carson
Spraying for fruit flies on the school farm as shown in the 1912-13 bulletin.

Shown as a group of "our married girls and boys" in the 1913-14 bulletin.
David to help young men get an education. The farm was furnishing fresh vegetables and milk for the school, and surplus vegetables were canned “in our own cannery” in the summer. A ten-room house was located on this 123½-acre farm about two miles south of Jacksonville. Men students could stay in the home free and work was available for a limited number.

A ram (force pump) furnished water for four buildings; a modern sanitary dairy for twenty cows was in process of construction; there were forty-four head of cattle, seventy-two hogs, forty goats, two mules and a mare, and all of the necessary farming tools. A. L. Young, teacher of agriculture and manual training, spent three days a week looking after the farm.

Agriculture was a required subject, as teachers were teaching in rural areas, and the farm was used for instruction and training. Photographs of activities on the farm are shown in the school bulletins.

Although state-wide regulations concerning normal schools contributed to conformity in operation, each school had individual advantages for students. When a student from one school would apply for admission at another school, competitive issues often arose. No school president considered his school to be inferior to another, and higher enrollment meant growth.

The first mention of school districts is found in the December 1915, bulletin:

For the purpose of preventing unseemly competition for numbers . . . . the Normal School Board divided the State into four normal school districts. Jacksonville district includes the following counties: Calhoun, St. Clair, Etowah, Cherokee,
Remodeled barracks of the S.A.T.C. used as men's dormitory.

Courtesy of C. W. Daugette, Jr.

May Pole festivities. Kathleen Daugette Carson was a participant.
Cleburne, DeKalb, Marshall, Blount, Randolph, Clay, Talladega, Chilton, Coosa, Tallapoosa, Shelby, Chambers, and Jefferson. (Two other schools have equal rights in Jefferson.)

The district division was interpreted to mean that each normal school would advertise and recruit students only from its designated district, although students could be accepted from anywhere in the state.

The four Class-A normal school presidents during this period were Henry J. Willingham, Florence; C. W. Daugette, Jacksonville; G. W. Brock, Livingston; and E. M. Shackelford, Troy. The four presidents sought agreements among themselves on policies on operations, textbooks, and curriculums, and their approach toward securing approval for changes at higher levels. Opposition to normal school education and to placement of normal school graduates had to be dealt with on common ground. The presidents met together to work out their problems, and letters, when written, were usually addressed to all.

The following excerpts from the presidents' correspondence tell some of the story of their struggles, their high regard for each other, and their human strengths and, sometimes, foibles.

President Daugette's office in the courthouse building in the early 1900s.

... but he seems to have gone into the Presidents' and Board's meetings, to have sat back on his dictatorial haunches, and to have forgotten everything that he knew ....

—from a letter to President Daugette regarding a textbook selection, dated July 2, 1915.

November 21, 1916

Pres. E. M. Shackelford
Troy, Alabama

Dear Shackelford:

Replying to your letter to Willingham I wish to say that I feel that we should get together and talk this matter over, bring all our suggestions together and consider them; then, if we should decide it best to turn the departmental work over to the teachers we can do so. We can do that, or follow any other plan of action we may decide is best.

I can meet you at any time, and suggest Birmingham is the place more convenient to all.

Yours truly,
C. W. Daugette
President
A woodworking class around 1903. Note the formal dress, and the fact that both men and women were included.

A Jackson County group at the Big Spring. 1904-05 bulletin.
June 20, 1917

President G. W. Brock
Livingston, Alabama

Dear Brock:
The enclosed letter shows that you are feeding your people on Oleomargarine instead of butter. I am a little surprised at this and somewhat afraid to try it. What do you think about it? Please return the letter.

Yours truly,
C. W. Daugette
President

President C. W. Daugette
Jacksonville, Alabama

Dear Daugette:
I would suggest that you write to the company in St. Louis for a sample of their butter. When you put it on ice and serve it cold, you will be surprised at your doubtful attitude. I will guarantee that it is first class and better than anything that you can get.

With high regards, I am

Yours very truly,
G. W. Brock
President

The 1908 group shown above is the first available photograph of the Morgan Literary Society. When C. W. Daugette became president of the Normal School, the Calhoun Society had grown so in size that it was thought best to divide the membership into two groups. Lots were cast and one group retained the name Calhoun, while the other was named for former Senator John T. Morgan, who raised a Confederate cavalry regiment in Calhoun County in 1862.
Other correspondence mentions bad roads, poor train schedules, and money problems. The presidents traveled as economically as possible. One of them customarily made hotel reservations for "two double rooms with bath between." In 1920, the cost for such rooms in Washington, D.C. was $3.50 per day for each person.

In some years, for each session of the school, Daugette borrowed money at six percent interest to offset late arrival of appropriations. Such necessity was not envisioned by either the president or state officials when budgets were made.

In addition to normal problems and struggles, Spright Dowell, state superintendent of education, called on the normal schools to help relieve the shortage of teachers by offering emergency training. Courses offered in the December, 1917, bulletin were a regular normal course leading to graduation, special courses for professional improvement, courses for extension of certificates, and review courses for securing state certificates.

Alumni notes in this bulletin mentioned a letter received from J. Fred Gurley, serving in France — "says he thinks he's in a great game but is anxious to get back to the good old U.S.A." Other alumni were listed: Captain Charles Sisson, at Camp Gordon, Georgia; Second Lieutenant Thomas Martin, stationed in Montgomery; Second Lieutenant George Kilpatrick, now "somewhere in France" with the American Expeditionary Forces; and Percy Plylar, with the Rainbow Division. A. A. Johnson, Versie A. Smith, James R. Myrick, B. P. Livingston, and Clyde West were also in the service of their country.

President Woodrow Wilson is credited personally with the idea of using the colleges, schools, and universities as training camps for the army. The Students Army Training Corps, under the Committee on Education and Special Training, Washington, D.C., established units in some 140 technical schools over the United States in the summer of 1918. Nearly 95,000 soldiers were mobilized and trained as vocational specialists — radio, telegraph, telephone, motor mechanics — and they saw service in all branches of the army.

Sewing class. The 1913-14 bulletin and the PURPLE AND WHITE include this photograph. The bulletin names the teacher of household economy as Marion McMelan, who came to the Normal School to teach in 1911. She also taught cooking to both men and women. Her qualifications were listed as "Grad. Oswega Normal Training School, 1900; Special work Woods Hall, Mass., 1903; University of North Dakota, 1903-04; Cornell University, 1904; Domestic Science, University of Chicago, 1909-10; Public school work ten years; Science University of South Dakota and Kendall College, Oklahoma, 10 years."
Hames Hall. (See Normal School campus map.) The original building housed the Male Academy and the Calhoun College before becoming the home of the Normal School. Remodeled and enlarged with help from the town in 1908, the building was named for Capt. William M. Hames, president of the board of trustees of the Normal School for eighteen years. Pods of the present elementary school are located around this site.

Twenty-five members of the senior class of 1910 in front of Hames Hall. Six of the classmates were missing.
The construction of new barracks and a unit with the maximum strength of 200 men were authorized for the Jacksonville Normal School.

The army officer from Fort Sheridan assigned to this unit took the Spanish influenza and was late in reaching Jacksonville. Although the epidemic had afflicted a large number before reaching this area, it had become a milder form of the flu; however, the same elements of discomfort, pain, and weakness sent many students home. Nevertheless, the school did not close. The situation became more acute when the temporary relief officer from Nashville, Tennessee, took the flu soon after his arrival. After calls to Washington, D.C., President Daugette requested the Commanding Officer at Camp McClellan, just five and a half miles south of Jacksonville, to come to the aid of the unit.

An army officer was detailed to come to the school each afternoon to give military drill to the candidates of the S.A.T.C. Dr. John F. Rowan, who was already looking after Normal School students, was appointed by the Surgeon General of the Army for duty with the Jacksonville unit. Finally, Lieutenant Kenton M. Snyder, Infantry, U.S. Army, arrived from East Texas State Normal School to take over this unit. The unit had just gotten under way when news of the signing of the Armistice on November 11, 1918, was flashed over the world, and with it came the end of the S.A.T.C. The Secretary of War issued the order demobilizing the corps on November 26, 1918.

The army left the barracks for the school, and one of the buildings was later remodeled into a dormitory for men. Many of the former members of the S.A.T.C. came back to school and seemed more interested in their class work than ever before.

This first army training program for students at Jacksonville was no doubt the foundation for the Alabama National Guard unit and later the Reserve Officer Training Corps. The last available statement on the S.A.T.C. indicated 300 of the original 516 participating institutions had applied for Reserve Officer Training Corps. Jacksonville Normal did not apply for ROTC but planned to do so that fall.

Soon after the war, E. J. Landers became the first captain of the Alabama National Guard unit located in Jacksonville. C. W. Daugette, Jr., who at fifteen had received military training in the S.A.T.C., was

Horse and buggy days in Jacksonville. James A. Davis is standing. An outstanding football player in 1912, he completed his college degree at the University of Alabama, including a master’s in education. He became principal of Bessemer High School, and died in 1951.

Courtesy of James A. Davis, Jr., M.D., Birmingham, Alabama
Miss Ada Curtiss, a graduate of the Columbia School of Music in Chicago, joined the State Normal School faculty in 1919. She retired from the Jacksonville State Teachers College in 1948 and lived in Jacksonville until her death in 1974. Curtiss Hall, a women's dormitory, is named for her.

Ada Curtiss, a teacher well known to many Normal School graduates, came to Jacksonville in 1919 as critic and public school music teacher. A graduate of the Columbia School of Music in Chicago, she retired from the State Teachers College in 1948 and lived in Jacksonville until her death in 1974. Curtiss Hall, a women's dormitory, is named for her.

She was a demanding teacher, according to some of her non-musically-inclined students. Ernest Stone, who would become president of Jacksonville State University in 1971, recalls using the well-known "buttering-up" technique. He wrote in a paper for her class that Chicago was the melting pot and her alma mater the bull's-eye of the universe to have produced such wonderful musicians as his teacher.

Julian W. Stephenson, a Normal School graduate of 1910, B.S., University of Alabama, became athletic director of the Normal School in 1919. Football was played in championship competition, basketball for both men and women was offered, and
Dean Claude Rodolphus Wood, an Alabama Polytechnic Institute graduate of 1912, who later earned his Ph.D. from Peabody, joined the faculty of the State Normal School in 1920 as a teacher of mathematics and the first director of extension. Dr. Wood became the first academic dean of the Jacksonville State Teachers College in 1931, a position he held until his retirement in 1955.

Ramona Middleton Wood, wife of Dean Wood, became librarian for the State Normal School in 1921. For thirty-two years she served thousands of students and faculty members, doing what she could to supply materials and provide a physical environment conducive to reading, study, and reflection. She died on August 30, 1953.

tennis and volleyball courts and indoor baseball for women were provided.

The State Board of Education took over the operation of the four Class-A normal schools in 1920, and the joint regulation continued. The school bulletin of 1920-21 lists this state board: Governor Thomas E. Kilby, State Superintendent John W. Abercrombie, and members Mrs. T. G. Bush, Birmingham; A. H. Carmichael, Tuscumbia; Dr. A. T. McCall, Mobile; L. B. Musgrove, Jasper; A. L. Tyler, Anniston; and Dr. R. H. McCaslin, Montgomery.

Enrollment increased phenomenally in the 1920s, and extension courses were established in practically every community in the district. Claude Rodolphus Wood, an Alabama Polytechnic Institute graduate of 1912 (later receiving a Ph.D. from Peabody), joined the faculty in 1920 as a teacher of mathematics and the first director of extension.

Activities of the extension department included extension study classes at convenient places for teachers who found it difficult or impossible to attend the Normal School during the fall and winter terms. Credit was given toward graduation for this work. The extension department also assisted county superintendents in planning work for teachers, held teachers' institutes, and did follow-up service for former Normal School students, and the director made numerous commencement and civic addresses.

Dr. Wood became the first academic dean of the school in 1931. Ramona Middleton Wood, the wife of Dean Wood, became librarian in 1921 and served in that capacity for thirty-two years. The Ramona Wood Library, now Wood Education Building, was named for her. She died on August 30, 1953. Dr. Wood retired as dean of the college in 1955 and was succeeded by Theron E. Montgomery, Jr.

Dean Wood died on January 19, 1981, just one month before his eighty-ninth birthday. At the time of Dean Wood's death, Houston Cole said, "Over a
Group of the State Normal School faculty.

Courtesy of Kathleen Daugette Carson
period of thirty-six years, his life was devoted to the training of teachers in how best to teach youth, not only in ways of making a living, but in ways to make a life.” Another memorial said, “Dr. Wood loved young people and dedicated himself to their development. As an educator both in the classroom teaching mathematics, where his sharp mind sparkled, and in the office of academic dean, where he directed the energies of both faculty and students, he gave of himself freely.”

Frankie Battle Wood, who married Dean Wood on October 11, 1969, now lives in Anniston, and has contributed many of her husband’s papers to the university.

During Governor Thomas E. Kilby’s administration, the Legislature appropriated $40,000 for maintenance and $30,000 for a training school building at Jacksonville. Kilby Hall was built in 1921-22. This much-added-to and remodeled building is now the modern Kitty Stone Elementary School. The Stevenson house and lot adjoining the school grounds and several other acres were added about this time.

The twenties ushered in a number of new chapters in the life of the Normal School. Glee Club performances and musical recitals were held every year in the early days, and from 1921, the school had band instruments. Since participants were enrolled for only a short time, it was difficult to keep a band organized. Two years was the maximum, but often students were not able to spend the two years in consecutive span.

The Normal School became a member of the Association of Alabama Colleges in 1926 and of the American Association of Teachers Colleges in 1928. Lance Hendrix, head of the English department, organized the Dramatics Club in 1927, and one play was customarily held each year. Interest in drama has prevailed ever since, notwithstanding many shoestring budgets and limited facilities. Today the Ernest Stone Performing Arts Center is imposing, and the equipment no doubt beyond the dreams of the students and faculty of the 1920s.
More popular than any classroom was the first swimming pool. This pool was at Kilby Hall.

The first band, 1923-24, at Kilby Hall. Among those shown are Miss Ada Curtiss, Rankin Daugette, Clarence Daugette, Jr., Winnie Little, Charles Parrish, Mr. Honea, Rutledge Daugette, Flora Mercer, Fred Burnham, and Roy Buttram.

Courtesy of C. W. Daugette, Jr.
In 1927 Forney Hall, a dormitory for men, was built without state-appropriated money. This building cost $75,000 and had seventy-six rooms and several small apartments with private baths. Forney Hall is now an apartment building.

In 1924 Allen Clifton Shelton was recruited by President Daugette. Shelton had an M.A. degree from Peabody and had taught mathematics and coached basketball in Georgia before coming to the State Normal. At the Normal School he handled extension, taught mathematics, and coached basketball.

No doubt the most important event of Shelton's career happened during his extension work. A young lady who had graduated from Woman's College of Alabama met him at Peabody when they were both doing graduate work, and soon thereafter became an English teacher at Boaz.

Teachers' institutes were being conducted by the Normal School in Boaz and Albertville. She and some other teachers had decided to attend the institute in Boaz, but since Shelton turned out to be the teacher of the institute in Albertville, Mary Pullen and her friends changed their plans in favor of the Albertville institute, where she sat on the front row. And Mary Pullen Shelton has said, "That's how I hooked the renowned woman hater, Allen Clifton Shelton."

One of Shelton's major duties at the Normal School was the handling of basketball tournaments. He organized the first one in the district and forty-two teams came to Jacksonville. He secured housing for the visitors and gave free passes, which left very little room for the paying customers, but he has said it proved to be a financial success.

The tournaments continued for years, and Shelton would stay in the gymnasium day in and day out. His son, Tom, once cooperated with him in a major way. Shelton had left a tournament and gone home before the 6 p.m. games were to start, and Tom, being an agreeable little fellow, was born while his father was at home during the recess.

Both the Sheltons have contributed much time and service to the town and state in addition to their service at the Normal School.
Mr. and Mrs. A. C. Shelton, Jacksonville, Alabama, 1982.

Courtesy of Mr. and Mrs. Shelton

educational activities. Shelton has written a daily column for the ANNISTON STAR, served on the City Council, and been president of the Jacksonville Chamber of Commerce. In 1965 he became an Alabama Senator and is the only senator who has served three consecutive terms.

Mary Pullen Shelton has pulled her weight many times over in the civic and social life of Jacksonville and the state. One of her remarkable efforts was the establishment of the city library. Because of her dedication and voluntary service over the years, the Mildred Johnston Library is now a valuable addition to Jacksonville.

Longevity of service has not been limited to administrators and professors at this institution. In 1918 Conrad Wilson came to do janitorial work and in 1924 became a cook for the Normal School in Weatherly Hall, where Edna Neighbors Hendrix was the dietitian. His wife worked with him for many years. Jacksonville State University’s head cook, a great friend of the thousands who have enjoyed his food from the Normal School days, retired in 1967. The college newspaper CHANTICLEER of June 13, 1967, saluted Chef Connie for his forty-three years of service when he retired “to do a little fishing.”

The high school section of the 1927 TEACOLA was dedicated to Henry Clifton Pannell, principal of the high school. A 1918 graduate of the State Normal School, with a degree from the University of Alabama and with an M.A. from Columbia University, Pannell came to the school in 1925. Later he received a Ph.D. from Columbia, and was superintendent-elect of the State Department of Education when he died just before taking office. Pannell Hall, a two-story men’s dormitory built in 1946-47, was named in his honor.

Ross Liston Crow, a member of the pioneer Crow family of Jacksonville and a graduate of the Normal School, began working in the business office in 1927. After thirty-five years, he retired as treasurer in 1962. Crow Hall, a dormitory for men, was dedicated in his honor on August 25, 1965. The JACKSONVILLE NEWS reported, “He acquired the reputation of never allowing any waste or misappropriation of even the smallest amount that came under his watchful eye.” His death came on May 21, 1969. Liston Crow, a quiet man, was an historian and stamp collector, and he also served as an elder in the First Presbyterian Church of Jacksonville. His memory lingers with all who knew him.

The State Normal School alumni and teachers renewed friendships and even contemplated new romances for many years under the delightful direction of Louise Douthit Tredaway, a 1916 graduate. Every year, from the early 1950s until 1978, she managed to get the alumni group together at homecoming. Her home and heart were open to the classmates and friends of the State Normal School, and the town and university lost a great friend when Mrs. Tredaway died on May 26, 1980.

Both Mrs. Tredaway and Crow had a pleasing sense of humor. At the reunion of the 1916 and 1917 classes of the State Normal School in 1960, Crow said of his sister and friend, “Martha Dean Wright and Louise Tredaway were shy, quiet girls in school, but they are now the talkingest women in town.” Perhaps this typifies the charm, spirit, and humor of the State Normal School.
Mrs. Felix Tredaway (Louise Douthit, class of 1916) is shown at the Crystal Springs highway sign leading into Jacksonville. She was responsible for getting signs leading to Jacksonville placed on Alabama highways 21, 431, and 204.

Courtesy of Floyd P. Tredaway
The women's basketball champions in 1920.

The little horse Belle was quartered behind the Iron Queen, and all the Daugette children learned to ride. Here are Palmer, Kathleen, and Clarence Daugette and Belle.

Courtesy of C. W. Daugette, Jr.
STATE NORMAL SCHOOL
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Dr. and Mrs. Reuben Self