

Illustrated Story

of Beautiful

Kanawha

Valley

1923

by

Edward A. McGhee

From the collection
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West Virginia Division of Culture and History

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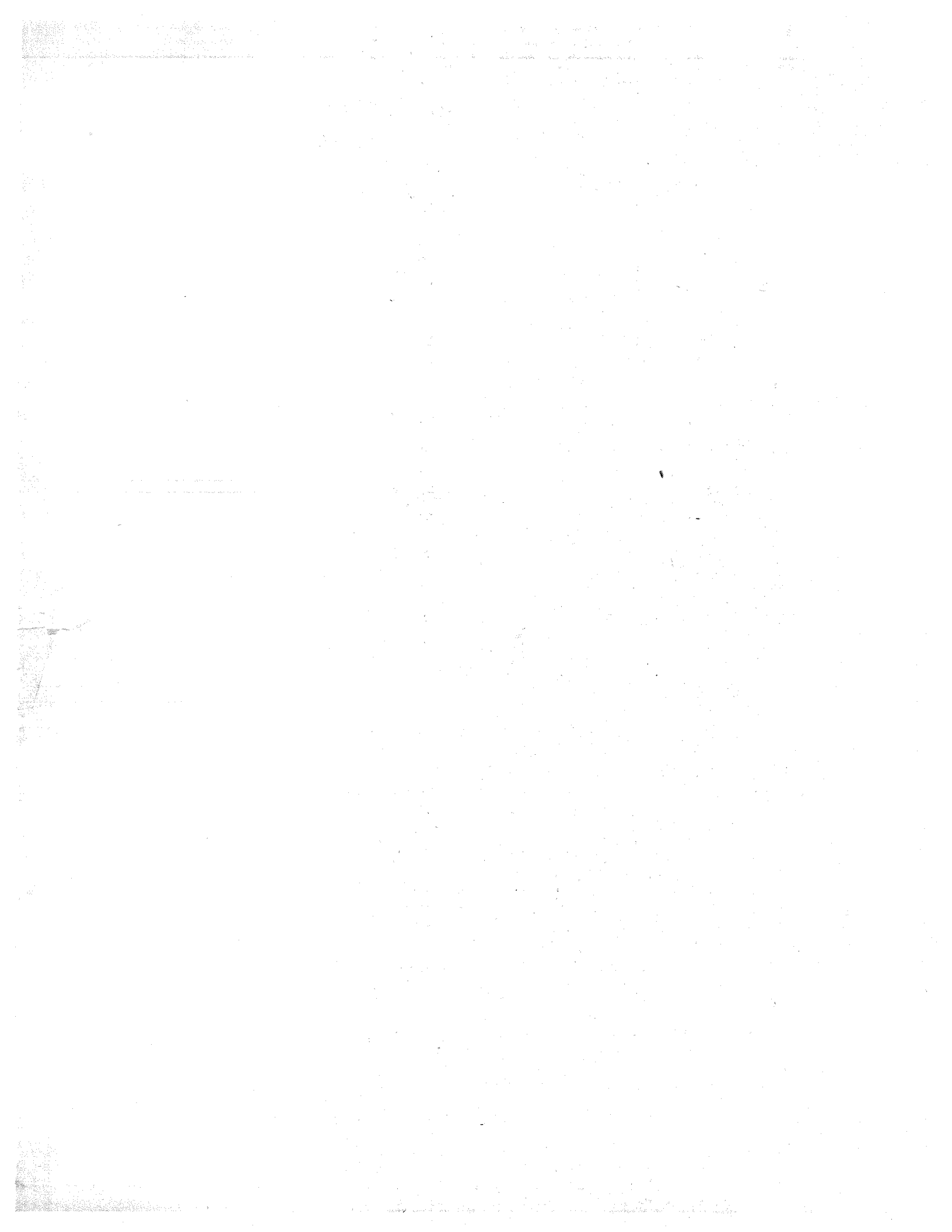
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Beautiful
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FOREWORD

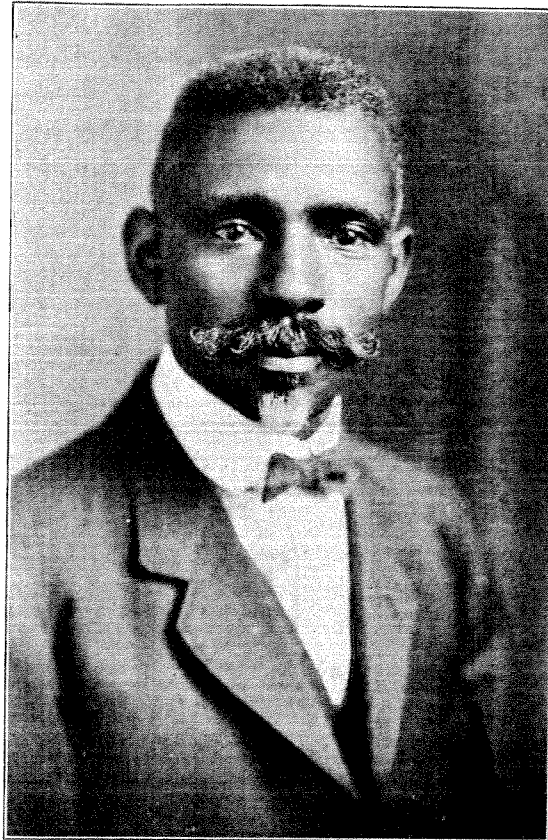
That the Negro of this valley has made most wonderful progress in the past twenty-five years, cannot be denied.

For the benefit of the many, who in their busy march, day by day, do not pause to consider things as they are, we have prepared and sent out this book, with a hope that it may be an incentive to further efforts, and create a kindly appreciation for those who have caught the larger vision.

There must be no stop to this onward movement. If we have any hope for future generations we must play our part well in this generation, that our young people may find already laid, a strong and sure foundation on which to erect the magnificent superstructure expected of them.

Trusting this book may prove an inspiration to the great number of young folk now in preparation at the various schools and colleges of our state, we are highly pleased to send it out to the public.

E. A. McGhee



Edward A. McGhee

Strict Integrity, Vigor and Enthusiasm, Attractive Personality, Keen Vision and Tireless Service, are represented in the above.

It is observed that not all men go with the crowd. There is a reason. Some men differ from others, not to be contrary, but to find and follow a better way. Success in business often consists in discovering the laws of business and following those laws, regardless of what others are doing.

HISTORY

Almost co-incidentally with the coming of white men to the Kanawha Valley in the latter part of the eighteenth century, came members of the Negro race.

Of course the members of the darker race that first came to this valley, did not come with their freedom as did the whites; but they came as slaves of the early settlers of the valley, and they and their descendants remained slaves until they were made free by the Emancipation Proclamation of President Lincoln in 1865. From these few slaves that came first, with additions in later years, from various states, has grown the population of the race at present, to many thousands.

As the first white settlers were from Virginia, and as nearly all emigration for many years was westward, no doubt most all of these first colored people who came to the valley were from Virginia.

Since then, this nucleus has been augmented by those coming from North Carolina, Kentucky and other southern states.

No doubt, nearly all the land of this fertile valley was cleared by the toil of colored people. They built the first roads. They worked in the salt works which was once a great industry in this part of the state. Later many have been employed in the coal mines.

All this was done merely for a bare living—an existence, till a better and a brighter day should dawn. As slaves, they could not own property, neither could they receive the most primitive instruction in books. Until the abolition of slavery by the federal government, it was unlawful under the laws of Virginia to instruct the slaves. Hence, when they were granted their freedom, there had to be a means of educating them, and with nothing to start with but a will and

determination to do something and to be somebody, and to do something for their posterity, they worked and improved their condition till now, numbers own their homes, have their own churches, schools, banks and other institutions.

Besides ministers, are those who are following the profession of law, of medicine, dentistry, and teaching. Many are engaged in the different pursuits of business.

Besides the many local men and women who have achieved much in the different fields of activity, one alone, once a resident of the valley when but a boy, Booker T. Washington—a man whose sane philosophy on handling the Negro problem, has won for him world-wide fame, casts enough glory upon the race to give credit to all.

God sometimes "moves in a mysterious way, His wonders to perform." It is true that the first colored inhabitants of Kanawha Valley were slaves; it is also true that they worked hard and got nothing but a living for it; were mistreated and often cruelly so; some saw their children sold and taken away from them never to see them again; yet unknowingly and unconsciously they left a legacy for their descendants hardly duplicated anywhere else.

Their descendants were to be born and grow up to have the great natural and other advantages offered by this unusually rich part of the country. The climate is fully as mild as that found in a like latitude elsewhere. The soil is fertile, and the other resources unbounded in their wealth, thus offering a great diversity of industries when developed.

The soil of the Kanawha Valley has been noted for its fertility since it was first known by the white people. The forests were covered with great trees

a source of much wealth. Next came the salt industry which was started in the early part of the last century and was continued as a leading industry till the period of the Civil War, and it is still successfully pursued. The coal mining became an industry with dimensions unbounded. Many thousands of people are now profitably employed in coal production, and are likely to be for many years to come. Those who do not work at the mines or who are not interested in their operation, are much interested in what it brings to the people of the valley.

Then the next most valuable asset the towering hills and valleys were asked to give up, was oil and gas in vast quantities, thus throwing millions of dollars into the laps of the citizens of this rich land. Not all of its natural resources by far, have as yet been developed. Among these are building stone, clay, iron ore and limestone. Nature has bountifully filled these hills with nearly every thing valuable to man, except the precious metals, gold and silver; but the Good Giver could not give all good things to one people.

With all the natural resources just mentioned and their development, labor of various kinds is employed by the thousand. But the development of these resources requires only a part of that in the great total.

Along and near the Kanawha Valley are a number of important towns which are fast developing and require many more. The building trades in such towns as Montgomery, Charleston, Kanawha City, South Charleston, Dunbar, Nitro, and Pt. Pleasant; employ thousands of workmen.

Railroads run on both sides of the Kanawha, Gauley and Elk Rivers, and follow nearly every stream of much size to develop the coal, timber, oil and gas,

furnishing employment to other thousands. A general system of improved roads being built in every direction, require the services of many more. Then there are all the shops and stores, banks and hotels, and industries in wood, wool, cotton, glass, salt, chemicals and stone employing others. Work at the great government armor plate and projectile plant, costing a hundred million dollars located at South Charleston, has been temporarily suspended on account of the action of the nations reducing their armament, but it will either start some day at the same work or will be converted into an industry of peace. The same is true of the magic city of Nitro, built by the government during the world war for the manufacture of explosives—it is fast being converted into industries of peace. It was the vast supply of coal oil and gas, and electricity furnished by the Virginian Power Plant located at Cabin Creek Junction, that caused these important plants to be located here.

It has been along the line of natural resources, and their development affording the necessary employment for thousands of workmen, that they may live and make money to support their families, that we have discussed so far. We will go next to a brief review of the social, educational, professional, business and church advantages that our people enjoy.

Where a sufficient number of colored children are located, the laws of the state require that they be furnished a school and teachers. The colored children have equal advantages with the white. There is not only a large number of graded schools, for colored children, to be found, but the state also provides several high schools in the territory considered.

There are three technical and higher schools, one of which, the West Virginia



MR. G. E. FERGUSON

The subject of this sketch was born at Edgewater near Montgomery, West Virginia, in the year 1888. His parents are Daniel F. and Elizabeth Ferguson, who with his maternal grandmother, Mrs. Eddens, reside at Institute, W. Virginia.

He received his education in the public schools, the Charleston High School, and the West Virginia Collegiate Institute. He taught school in Fayette County and also at Huntington, W. Virginia.

Mr. Ferguson has had varied experience and has been successful in all his attempts. After teaching school for several years, the World War came on and he volunteered and went to the training camp at Des Moines, where he trained Company M, 365th Infantry. He later went to France, and was the only officer of color in command of a transport ship.

The war being over, Mr. Ferguson re-

turned home and began an active career in business, engaging in the real estate business.

He organized and managed several successful corporations, the most successful being The Kanawha Home and Investment Co. and The Institute Building and Land Co.

Both of these companies have probably paid as large dividends on the amount as large dividends on the amount invested, as any corporation in the city of Charleston.

The construction and management of the big business block which bears his name, located on Washington St. near the old State Capitol site, is his masterpiece.

This work alone, is a fine monument to the genius and push of any man. This building and the numerous enterprises and activities it contains, are fully described elsewhere.

Captain Ferguson, from his business attempts which others would falter to carry out, has been designated a 'pioneer' in that line in Charleston. He possesses good business judgment and by applying it in his business transactions, he has been very successful, and what he has done is not only a credit to himself, but to his race and city.

He married, on August 27, 1914, Miss Lily A. Foster, who was also educated at Institute and was an accomplished teacher in that institution.

They have three children, Bess Louise Ashton and Grace Ferguson.

Mr. Ferguson is a member of the Baptist Church and is a Mason.

The Ferguson Enterprises were conceived from the idea that colored people, like any other people, appreciate beauty, comfort and convenience, and are willing to pay a fair price for the same. The remarkable patronage enjoyed, proves that the idea is a true one.



Ferguson Building is situated at 1004-1006-1008 Washington Street, "In the heart of the city," on a lot 83x110 feet.

It is a handsome grey pressed brick structure, three stories high, with full basement. The walls, steel and other material, were selected of a strength to

sustain five stories, or two more than at present. The plumbing and central heating plant, are of the very best, and in themselves cost more than \$17,000.00. The building is so constructed as to depreciate very slowly, and to keep repairs down to the minimum.



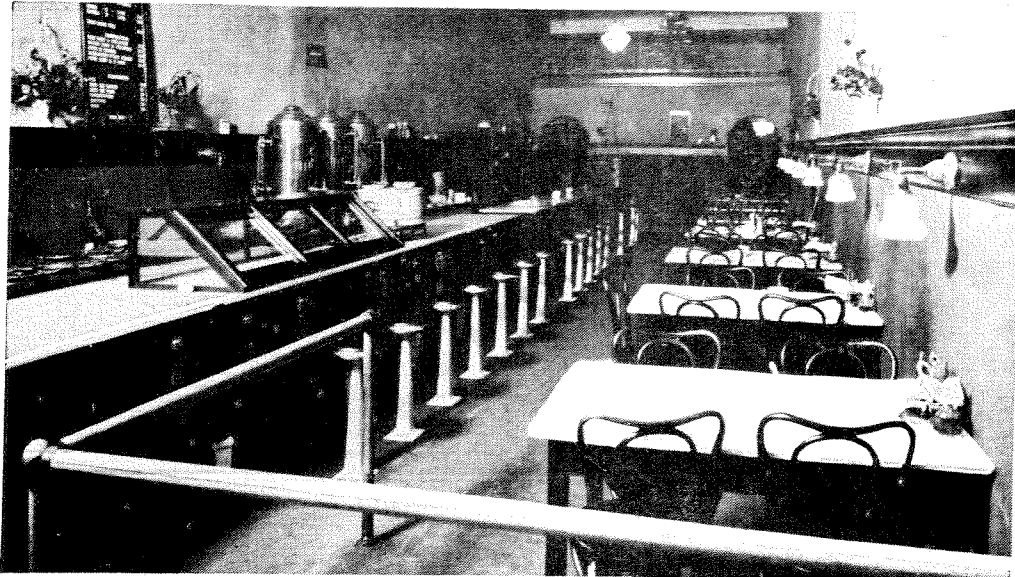
The Ferguson Enterprises consist of a Theatre, Hotel, Cafe, Barber Shop, Billiard Parlor, and Recreation Hall. These

are all housed in a building known as the FERGUSON BUILDING.

Hotel—Handsome, well furnished

lobby and offices. 34 bedrooms (some with complete private bath) on second floor, six complete convertible apartments, and twelve extra bedrooms on the

exposure; steam heat, electric light and hot and cold water. The furniture is of the best grade, regular hotel furniture.



Cafe—Seats 77 persons at one time, Burton Range Co. and Van Range Co. e-

quipped. Fixtures all modern and scientifically selected and arranged.



Recreation Hall—Will accomodate 250 people; often used for banquets or

large parties. Rented several times a week for dances.



Billiard Parlor—Located in the basement of the building is equipped with seven Brunswick Balke Callender Co. ta-

bles and mahogany finished show cases; also wall cases for selling cigars and soft drinks.



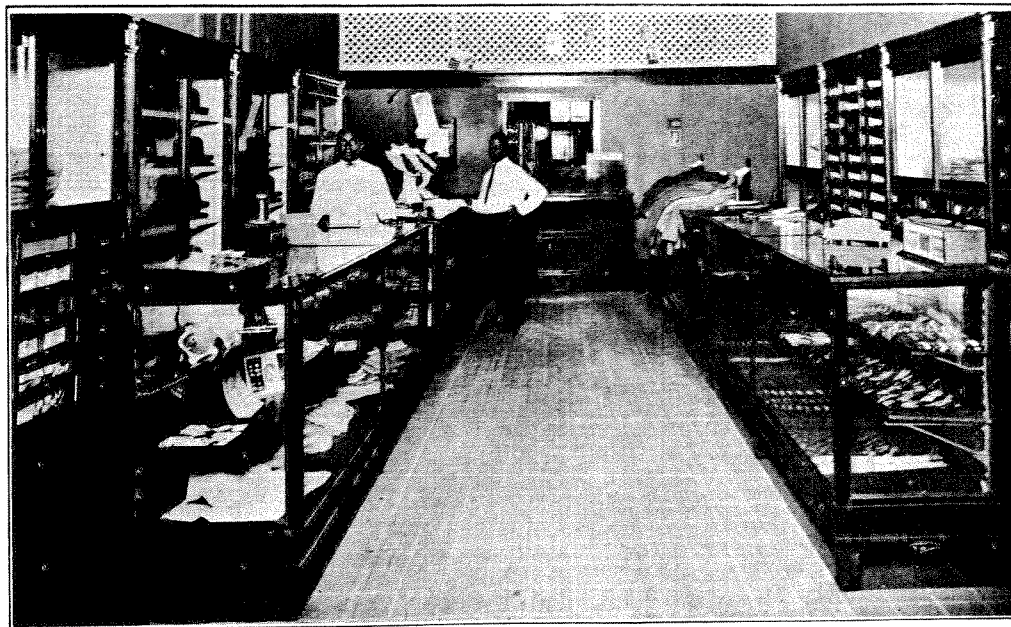
Barber Shop—Also in basement; is equipped with 3 chairs and a handsome

back fixture, white enamel, finished with French mirrors and Italian marble.



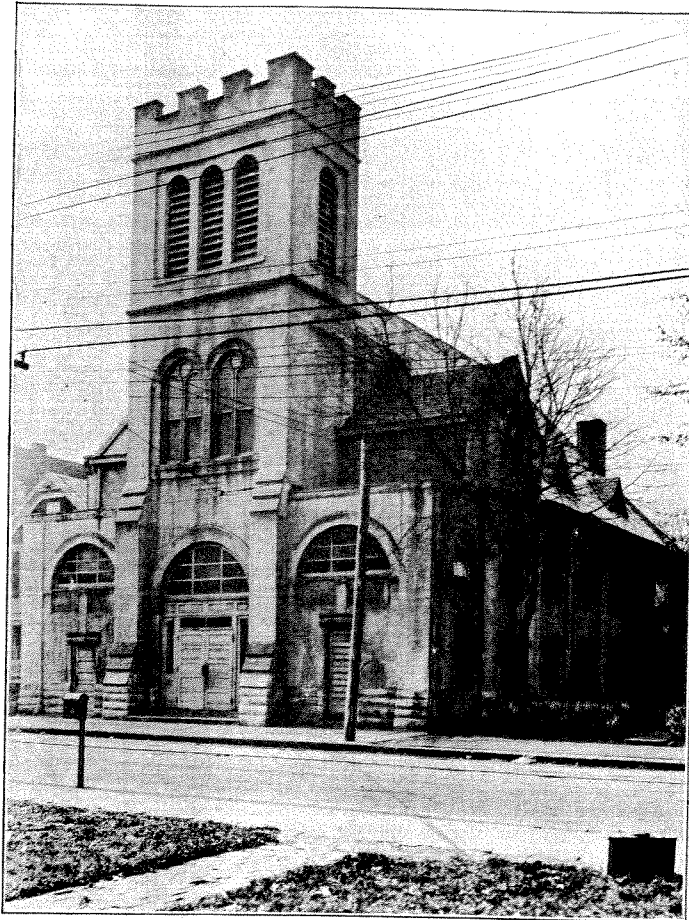
Theatre—Seats 496 people, strictly fireproof, modernly equipped with a battery of the latest type B Powers Projecting Machines, Raven Tone Screen, \$4209

Combination Organ, and the Typhoon Ventilating System, motor driven, that gives a complete change of air every four minutes.



Haberdashery—A neat and up-to-date gents' furnishing shop, known as the "Nifty Shop," is another of the Ferguson

Enterprises, though forced to operate in another building.



FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church of Charleston, the leading religious institution of West Virginia, was organized in May or June, 1876.

This church was the outgrowth of the activity of Malden and South Ruffner Church members who lived in Charleston and, like all movements, this had its pioneers and leaders. They were Francis C. James, Lewis Rice and William Davis.

At the time of the organization, Francis C. James was chairman and William Davis was the clerk. A complete list of the names of the organized church is as follows: Robert Keys, Simon Terry,

Lewis Morgan, Reuben Hill, Margaret Nixon, R. M. Mayhew, Robert Mason, Maria Snyder, Julia Henley, Ellen Farrar, Henry Tolliver, Mary Tolliver, Henry Trent and wife, Henry Payne, Harry Byrd, Sarah Bullard, Marie Bullard, Ellen Taylor, and J. N. Smith.

The first pastor of the church was Francis C. James; the second, J. B. Steptoe. Other pastors have served in the following order: William H. Wilson, Charles Gee, R. M. Mayhew, I. W. Smith, J. C. Taylor, I. V. Bryant, G. B. Howard, T. L. Christmas, J. E. Bullock, S. R. Bullock, B. R. Reed, and Mordecai W. Johnson.

The first place used by the Baptists for worship was on Quarrier St. From there the congregation moved to the site on Washington St. which is the present location of the church. The first building on this lot was a small brick structure with a seating capacity of approximately two hundred and fifty. This small church was paid for under the pastorate of G. B. Howard and was paid for, while J. E. Bullock was pastor.

The Reverend J. E. Bullock came to the church when there was a debt of seven thousand dollars against it. Within two years he paid this debt and installed a pipe organ which cost two thousand dollars.

Reverend J. Eulan Bullock organized the first dramatic club. This club entertained the old and kept both young and old interested in church activities. One of his outstanding monuments is the organization of clubs. He divided the congregation into a number of clubs, some of which are still active, such as: The Tribe of Judah, The Ladies' Aid, and The Baptist Benevolent Band. The one last named has an annual budget which provides for sick benefits and burial expenses among its members.

A new epoch was marked in the history of the First Baptist Church when the Reverend Mordecai W. Johnson was called to the charge. This young man, a product of several of the leading universities of this country, holds a clear and noble vision of the kind of institution a church should be. With the intelligence, energy, and experience needed to bring about his vision, the pastor soon had a firm hold on the church, and immediately it began to take on new life.

The new pastor first turned his attention to a rearrangement of the order of service. From a clamorous church ser-

vice, he gradually led his people to a quiet, dignified and thoughtful one.

He next attacked the problem of finance and instituted the pledge system. Under this system, each member makes a solemn promise to give a certain amount each week for the support of the church. This system affords a definite working basis on which to carry the business of the church.

The new administration rejuvenated the clubs already in existence and inspired the members of the church with such interest to work for the kingdom of God that many new organizations were formed to fight evil. There are now fourteen, over which there is a general federation of clubs. These effective organizations are keeping the membership in active and harmonious development.

Another outstanding achievement of the church under the leadership of Reverend Johnson is the buying of a new church site on the corner of Shrewsbury and Lewis Streets. The purchase price of this property is eighteen thousand, five hundred dollars. The payments on it have been met with little difficulty and the spiritual enthusiasm of the church has never slackened.

The leadership of the First Baptist Church is ideal,—a clean and forceful pastor, a spiritual deacon board, an alert practical and businesslike trustee board, and a number of church auxiliaries, working in full cooperation with the pastor. Through its twelve hundred members, this church is the most potent factor for good in the lives of thousand of individuals throughout the state. Its influence reaches the high and low, and has much to do with the progress in business, education, and Christian home life, which is characteristic of the great state of West Virginia.



A. H. BROWN

West Virginia's Largest Colored
Real Estate Dealer

Mr. Brown was born on a farm near Institute, W. Virginia, April 23rd, 1880. He is the son of Henry and Margaret Brown. His parents moved to West Charleston when he was about two years old and later over into the city, at about the age of ten. He attended the country school on the West Side and also the city school until he was fourteen. His father died about this time, and he left school to work to help support his mother.

with a show for several years and also

Mr. Brown is a musician, and traveled played in the Victorian Orchestra under the directorship of Clarence Cameron White, while he lived in Boston.

By trade, he is a butcher, having been engaged in the meat business here for a number of years. He has shown his

great business ability in his accumulation of property. He owns about thirty houses and business rooms in and about Charleston and over one hundred lots at West Dunbar and Institute.

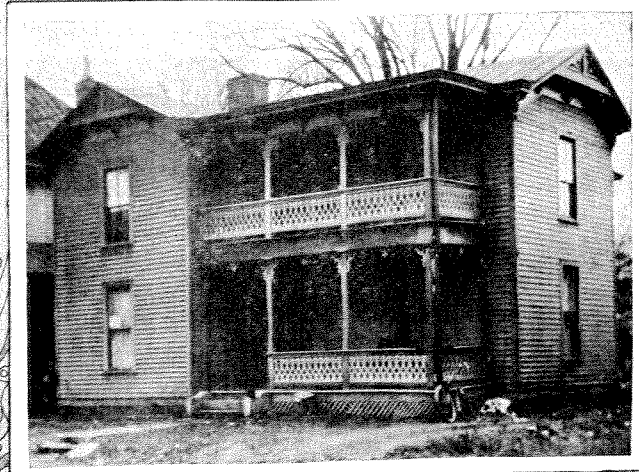
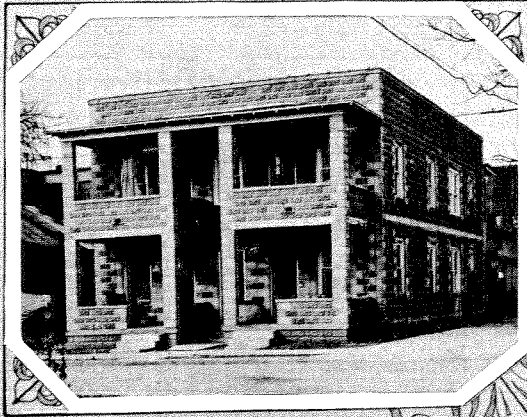
He started in real estate business at an early age, buying his first piece of real estate twenty-three years ago, which piece he still owns. He has helped more of his people to buy homes than any one else in the state. Besides his real estate business he finds time to render service to his church. He is a member of the First Baptist Church, and is one of its Trustees. He is also one of the organizers and Vice-President of the Mutual Savings and Loan Company, with a capital of \$125,000.00. He is besides Secretary-Treasurer of the "Mountain State Building and Loan Association," and one of its founders.

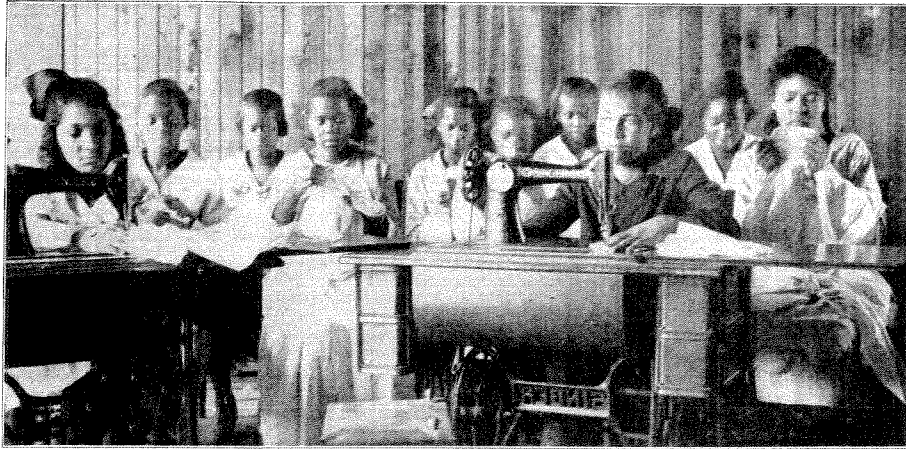
Mr. Brown is connected with a number of other enterprises in the city. In 1907, Mr. Brown moved to Boston, sending for his mother a few months later. While there, he worked at the Manhattan Market and went to school in the evenings. He returned to Charleston in July of 1910, and was united in marriage to Nellie May Lewis, a school-teacher of Montgomery, West Virginia. He returned to Boston and remained there until 1914, when he moved back to Charleston and went into the meat and grocery business and handled real estate on the side. In 1917, he sold out and now devotes all of his time to the Real Estate and Fire Insurance business.

Mr. Brown lost his first wife in March 1919, and on July 14th, 1921, was united in marriage to Miss Captolia M. Casey, a school teacher of Gallipolis, Ohio. Mr. Brown has two children, Willard Lewis Brown, twelve years old, and Della Louise Brown, twenty months old.

ILLUSTRATED STORY OF BEAUTIFUL KANAWHA VALLEY

FEW OF THE MODERN HOMES, BUSINESS ROOMS AND APARTMENTS
OWNED BY A. H. BROWN





CHARLESTON'S NEGRO SCHOOLS

The city of Charleston can boast of having one of the most advanced educational systems in the state of West Virginia. The city is also proud of six school buildings, four of which are well equipped. In the Junior High building there are six rooms, the commercial department, a standard size gymnasium, showers both for boys and for girls, an office for the school nurse, an emergency hospital, and a lunch room.

The science laboratory, manual training, domestic science and art are in the Garnett Annex. In the high school building are four class rooms, the printing department, the Principal's office, and an auditorium which has a seating capacity of five hundred. Garnett Graded building has eleven rooms, a library of 2415 volumes, and the Supervisor's offices. Washington School has eight rooms; Island School has three; and the South Hills has one.

The high school offers three courses, namely: Classical, English, and Commercial. The Classical and English are preparatory to the college entrance; the Commercial prepares for ordinary pursuits of business life. A special course in instrumental music is offered.

The present enrollment in the elementary schools is seven hundred and

seventeen; in Junior High, two hundred and seven; in Senior High, one hundred and thirty six, making a total for the city, one thousand and sixty.

This is the only Negro school in the state that employs, to any great extent, special teachers for special subjects.

The faculty numbers forty-four. A better prepared group cannot be found. Such colleges—The University of Chicago, West Virginia Collegiate Institute, Ohio State, Howard University, Ohio University, Fiske, Wilberforce, Talledega, Chicago Conservatory of Music, Oberlin, and Morgan College, are represented by the teachers. No school has a more progressive group as shown by the number that takes special work each summer. During the summer of 1923, the record shows 90% attendance in reputable colleges.

The extra-curricula activities add much interest to the school. For the past three years, the Garnett Football Team has been undefeated. Basketball has grown in popularity since the completion of the gymnasium. The production of plays is unexcelled in the state.

An outstanding feature is the annual Declamatory Contest. Charleston's public looks forward with much interest to its happening. "Skule Daze," the school

paper, is published by the J. F. J. C. Science Club. This paper stimulates and keeps alive interest among the pupils. Some other organizations of the school are; The Nature Study Club, several English Clubs, The Commercial Club, Debating Club, School Orchestra, and Glee Clubs.

The outlook for the development of the Negro schools in Charleston has never been more promising than at the present time. The Negro population has implicit confidence in the promise made by the Board of Education during the campaign for the recent bond election. They are looking forward to the fulfillment of the promise to erect a modern

equipped high school building in a desirable location, a two room building on the present South Side site, and a six room building in West Charleston.

The first school which was taught by Miss Lucy A. James had its beginning in the basement of a church on Quarrier Street. From this humble beginning, it has grown to six buildings, forty rooms, forty two teachers, a school nurse, a dental hygienist, medical inspector, and more than a thousand pupils. This wonderful growth and development is the realization of the dreams and visions of the present supervisor, Mr. C. W. Boyd and his co-worker, Principal J. F. J. Clark, who have served the schools and the public for a quarter of a century.



WILLIAM W. SANDERS

William W. Sanders is a native of Henry County, Virginia, and a graduate of Lincoln University, with A. M. degree.

Mr. Sanders began his teaching career in McDowell County, W. Va., in 1910. He was appointed by Gov. Hatfield as State Librarian in 1913, which place

he resigned in 1914 to accept the position of State Supervisor of Negro Schools. Mr. Sanders has the distinction of being the first Negro State Supervisor of Schools in America.

His administration has been of very material benefit to the Negro schools of the state. The school system has been very much improved, the state educational institutions have been enlarged, and courses of study have been expanded.

As chairman of the Advisory Council to the State Board of Education, he has given much attention to teacher-training and he has a grasp upon the educational situation of the State.

Mr. Sanders has represented the state at practically every National Conference on Negro Education since 1915.

In the 1920 State-Wide Primary he was elected Alternate at Large to the Republican National Convention, which met at Chicago, Ill.

Though the subject of our sketch is constantly kept busy with school affairs, he finds time, however, to help further the religious and social affairs



MRS. A. L. SPAULDING

In 1907, largely through the efforts of Kanawha County club women, the West Virginia State Federation of Clubs was organized in the City of Charleston.

In 1911, the Federation bought three lots at Institute, W. Va., on which they erected a dwelling, and this property has now been paid for. Through the efforts of the Federation an appropriation was made by the State Legislature, to establish and furnish a house for incorrigible girls.

Much of the progress of the State Federation can be attributed to the untiring work of the following local club

leaders: Mrs. H. C. A. Washington, who was president for twelve consecutive years; Mrs. M. A. Parker, chairman of the executive board; Mrs. Rhoda Muse, member of the executive board; Mrs. Fannie Cobb Carter; Mrs. C. E. Kimbrough; Mrs. B. F. Clarke, our faithful treasurer; Mrs. J. F. J. Clarke; Mrs. Blanche Tyler and others.

The departments functioning under it are:—Education, Citizenship, Legislative, State Institutions, Child Welfare, Art and Home Economics.

Of the many welfare organizations of Kanawha Valley, none stand out more prominently or have exerted a more powerful and wholesome influence in the life of the community than the Women's Federated Clubs.

Taking as their motto, "Lifting As We Climb," they have acted as agents of mercy to the poor, sick and needy. But like most progressive clubs throughout the country, they have extended and enlarged their programme in order to prepare the women to meet the new demands and opportunities that have come to them by the nineteenth amendment.

Mrs. A. L. Spaulding, wife of one of our prominent physicians, is now president of The State Federation. She was elected in June, 1923, and comes to the head of the Federation, well prepared. She is very active in the club and civic life of Charleston, being president of the Colleagues, founder and president of the League of Women for Community Service, an organization that has established and maintains a Day Nursery and Kindergarten, Director of Citizenship in the City Federation, having organized wards in all sections of the city. She is also a member of Board of the Mattie V. Lee Home for working girls and Guardian of a group of Camp Fire Girls.

C U T S

APPEARING IN THIS MAGAZINE

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CHARLESTON, W. VA.

THE PROGRESSIVE SHOE SHOP

Montgomery, W. VA.

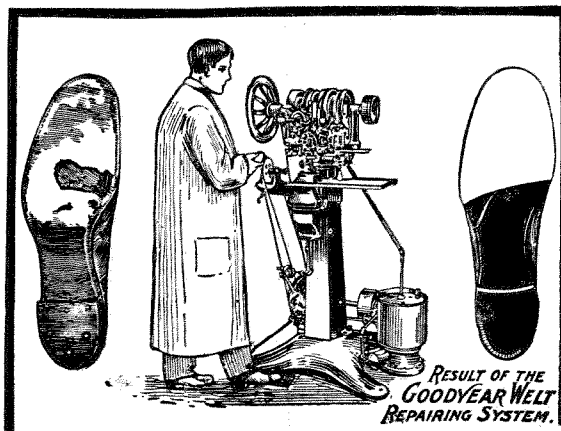
Mr. R. H. McCollum

Mr. R. H. McCollum was born in N. Carolina, on a farm, where he received his early training.

He came to Montgomery, W. Va., about eight years ago, working for eight months in the shoe shop of J. M. McClin-

ton. At the end of that time, they decided to enter into partnership, and worked as partners for a year.

Finding that he could succeed in the shoe business in Montgomery, he bought out Mr. McClinton, and at the present



time is the sole owner of "The Progressive Shoe Shop," where old shoes are repaired with the use of the latest shoe-repairing machinery, while you wait, if so desired.

He also handles a small line of new

shoes, as well as making shoes to order.

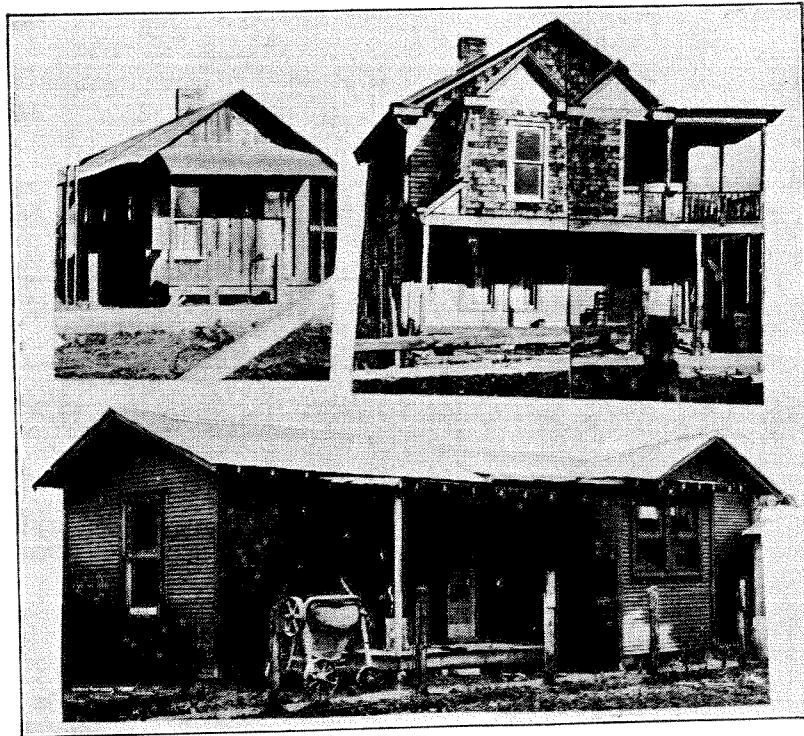
This plant has an estimated value of \$5,000.00, and is one of the best equipped shops in its line, in the county. Mr. McCollum's stern business qualities are sure to win him continued success.

Collegiate Institute, is located at Institute, eight miles west of Charleston with ample grounds, buildings and equipment, on the Kanawha River, the New York Central Railroad and accessible to the inter-urban car line. There are now nearly five hundred pupils enrolled from different parts of the state and even out of the state. The institution is under the control of the State Board of Control and the State Board of Education, with an efficient corps of teachers, including those for agriculture and the trades. No colored child need grow up in this territory without an education.

What has been said of the schools and education may also be said of the churches for there is scarcely a community but

has a church. In the larger towns there are what may be termed fine edifices, a credit to any city or town. Among the larger of these churches in the city of Charleston, is the First Baptist Church and Simpson Memorial M. E. Church.

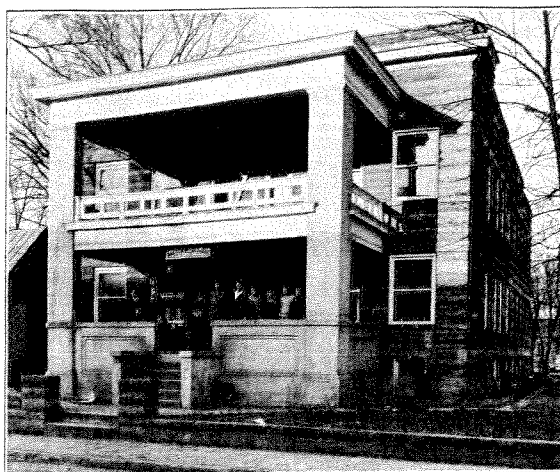
In Charleston there are seven colored members of the local bar and they enjoy a good practice. There is also a number of practicing physicians and several dentists. A bank, The Mutual Savings and Loan Co., is officered and also operated by our own people. There is a Home For Aged Colored People, in the same city, which is supported by state funds, and promises to meet a very crying need.



MR. MELVIN EDWARDS

These houses are owned by a young man with progressive ideas and quick action. Mr. Edwards is a property owner

of Cedar Grove, W. Va., and realizes the need of providing homes for the large number of people without suitable places to live. He is an ex-service man.



MATTIE V. LEE HOME

The Mattie V. Lee Industrial Home for Colored Girls was organized at the Knights of Pythias Hall, Washington and Dickinson Streets, Charleston, W. Va., in September 1915, in response to a call by Rev. Herman F. Gow, pastor of St. Paul A. M. E. Church, this city, as an agency to take care of the large number of girls coming to Charleston seeking employment. Very often these strangers would come to the city, and because of lack of proper guidance would fall into wrong environments and go astray. It was with the idea of meeting this situation as well as the servant and the housewife problems in general that the Mattie V. Lee Home came into existence.

The moving spirits in this effort including Rev. Gow, were Rev. B. R. Reed of the First Baptist Church, Rev. E. Humbles, Mrs. M. A. Parker, Miss Sarah Bullard, Miss Rebecca I. Bullard and Dr. E. A. Crichlow. Rev. Gow was made chairman of the meeting and Dr. Crichlow, secretary. The meetings of the committee were held at different homes at which

meetings, plans were made to establish the work, and the Home was finally organized at Crichlow Hospital, Morris St., by electing Rev. Gow, President, Mrs. R. A. Muse, Secretary, and Dr. Crichlow, Treasurer. Mrs. Emma Dorsey was elected Matron.

The work started with a rush and it seemed that it would have the support of a large number of clubs, thereby making success assured. But the enthusiasm soon cooled off and the work appeared doomed to an ignominious failure.

It was at this juncture that Miss Rebecca I. Bullard, who has served the Home so long as Executive-Secretary, stepped into the breach and began the herculean task that resulted in the purchase of the beautiful property now occupied by the Home on Donnally Street.

A house was first rented at 1007 Quarrier Street and Miss Bullard not only begged the furniture with which it was furnished, but the paper as well to paper the house. There were numbers of con-

tributions, among them, Moore's Book Store; T. G. Nutter, furniture for one room; Mr. W. O. Lee, one room furnished in honor of whose wife the Home was named. The "Needle and Art Club," of which Mrs. W. O. Terry was president, furnished another room, and Mr. I. M. Carper, C. C. Campbell and John Essex papered the house, free.

Miss Bullard was successful in surrounding herself with a number of strong women who worked heroically in the early struggle of the Home. Among them was Mrs. W. W. Sanders, Mrs. Geo. W. Claire, Mrs. J. F. J. Clark, and Mrs. Matilda Parker and others.

The cause of the Home was championed by Miss Carolyn Gentry, an estimable, Christian white woman, who was successful in interesting her friends in the noble work, among them, Mrs. J. B. Houston, who organized a Bible Class.

The Home gradually grew in the confidence and esteem of the white and the colored citizens of Charleston, until in 1920, a campaign was launched to raise thirty-five thousand dollars to purchase a permanent home. This campaign was under the leadership of T. G. Nutter, surrounded by a host of loyal workers and twenty-one thousand dollars were subscribed, and through the assistance of Mr. Anderson H. Brown, a splendid piece of property was purchased on Donnally Street for eighteen thousand dollars which is now occupied by the Home.

The property was improved at a cost of twenty-five hundred dollars and there is now owing on the same about six thousand dollars.

The campaign had the active support of Rev. M. W. Johnson, pastor of First Baptist Church, Rev. I. N. Patterson, of St. Paul A. M. E. Church, Rev. C. H. Woody of Metropolitan Baptist Church, and practically the entire membership of these churches. Messrs. C. H. James and W. W. Sanders also rendered splendid service in this campaign.

Since its organization, the Home has cared for more than three thousand girls in the way of shelter and placing them in desirable homes. Hundreds of calls have come to the Home for reliable girls for service and the Home has been able to meet these demands in a great measure.

A number of activities that should be instituted in the Home, have had to wait because of the financial strain under which it has been since its existence.

However, a campaign is soon to be launched to raise \$7,000.00 which will clear the Home of all indebtedness and then it can start on its real mission.

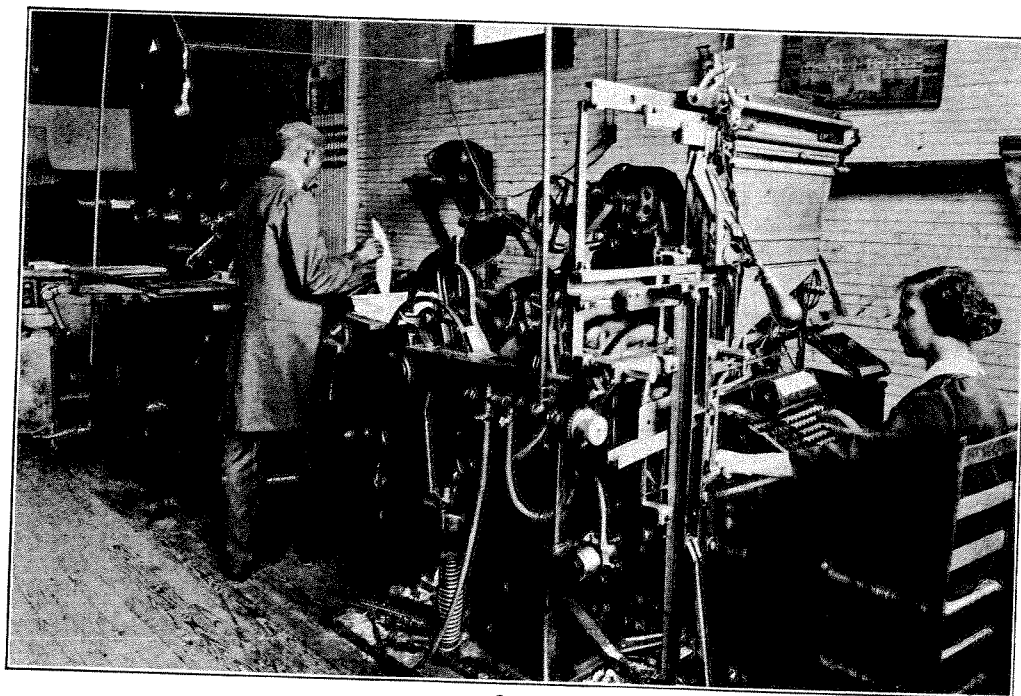
Notwithstanding the fact that several activities have been forced into the background, at the same time the Home has been the center of social activities of the community and has rendered excellent service in this respect. Quite a few of the organizations of the city have used it for their social gatherings to great advantage.

The Home is under the direction of a Board of Directors of which Mr. A. H. Brown is president. It is composed of some of the strong men and women of Charleston.

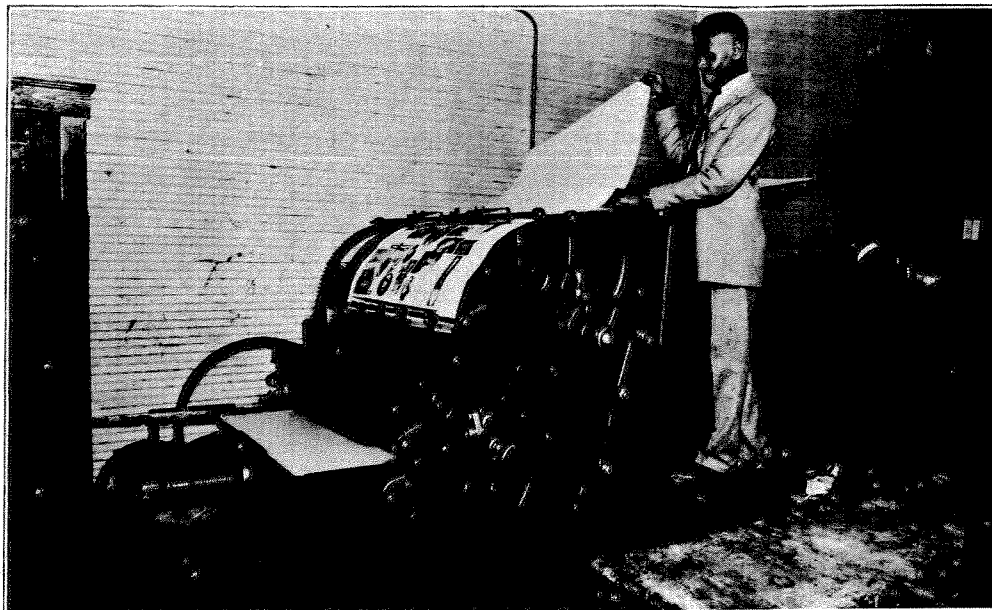
Mrs. Jannie Carter is matron, and is doing a splendid work for the Home and is greatly beloved by the girls.



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A Part of the press room

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LOAN ASSOCIATION**

Capital Stock \$125,000.00

Par Value of Stock, \$100.00 per share

1002½ Washington St.

Charleston, W. Va.

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the supervision of the Commissioner of Banking of West Virginia.

What excuse can you offer to your self-interest or to your interest in your race betterment, if you fail to place at least a part of your savings with this company?

You should at least come in or write for further information.

This Association has stock to sell on easy payment plan. It helps you to save your earnings. It helps the colored people to buy and build homes. It has experienced and well known business men in charge of its affairs. Your savings, however small, will help your people. You can get money with interest at any time you want it, after the first six months of savings. The Association operates under

Clayton E. Kimbrough, Sr. *President*
Anderson H. Brown *Secretary-Treasurer*



REV. A. HALL WHITFIELD

The subject of this sketch was born in Jamaica, B. W. I.

He was educated in the public schools there, and graduated from Calabar College, Kingston, Jamaica in 1897.

He afterward taught in the public schools for a period of ten years.

Coming to the United States in 1908, he entered Howard University, in the School of Theology.

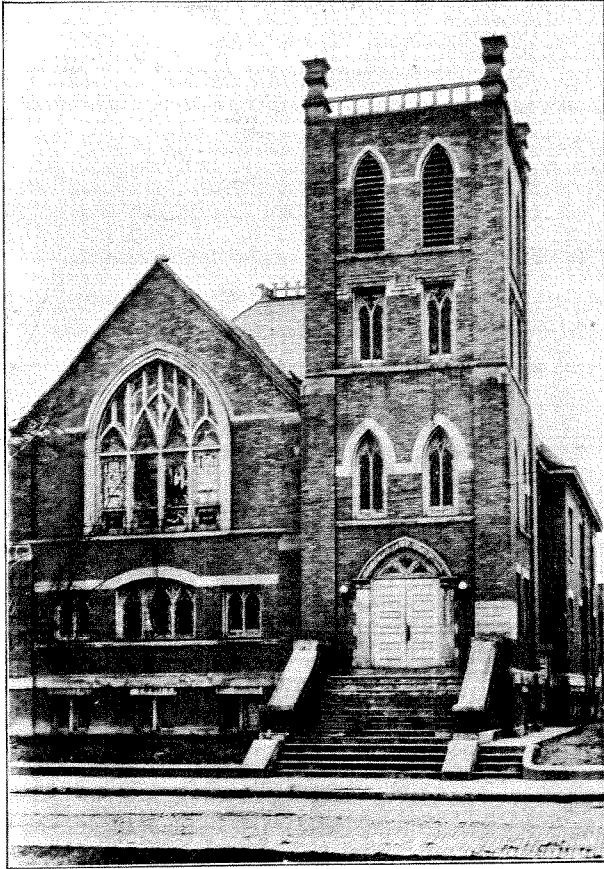
Here he pursued his theological studies until he graduated in 1911, with the

degree of Bachelor of Divinity.

In this same year, he joined the Washington Conference, and has since served the following charges:

Daisy, Maryland for one year; Point Pleasant, West Virginia for two years; Buckhannon, W. Virginia for two years; Huntington, W. Virginia for four years; Charleston, W. Virginia for four years.

Rev. Whitfield is a member of The Conference Board and Assistant Treasurer of the Conference.



SIMPSON M. E. CHURCH

In October 1864, Bishop Levi Scott organized the Washington Annual Conference, of The Methodist Episcopal Church in the old Sharp Street Church in the city of Baltimore. The organization included the colored members of the church which was pastored by white ministers in the Baltimore Conference. The West Virginia District was formed in 1867, and Rev. David P. Jones was appointed the first Presiding Elder. He traveled throughout the State and gathered together the colored membership of the church. Upon his arrival in Charleston, he found quite a few members who were worshipping in the white church.

He immediately applied to the Bishop, for a pastor and Rev. Charles Q. Fisher was sent. He organized this membership which worshipped in the old Academy Building standing on Quarrier Street, where the Morrison Building now stands.

This heroic membership procured a lot on the corner of Quarrier and Dickinson Streets, and a plain frame building was erected thereon, which was named Simpson Chapel, in honor of Bishop Matthew Simpson, who was then the Bishop orator of the Methodist Episcopal Church. He was the guiding hand of President Lincoln in the issuance of the Emancipation Proclamation.

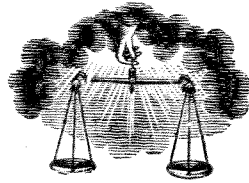
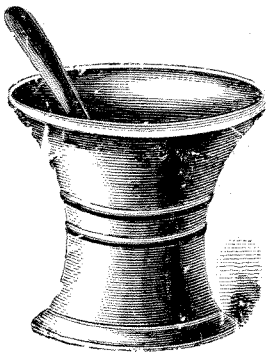
The old frame building was destroyed by fire in 1887. It was replaced on the same lot, by a splendid brick structure. The old site was sold in 1914, and a new site was secured on Shrewsbury Street, where a modern brick building was erected and dedicated by Bishop Earl Cranston, as Simpson Memorial, in November of the same year.

The first Board of Trustees was composed of Harrison Wiley, Moses Wilson, James W. Richard, Lewis Rodgers, Lewis Jones, and Wilson Harris. The present Board is A. O. Wells, G. H. Beane, W. H. Parker, Jas. D. Neale and R. T. Lewis.

There is a thriving Sunday School, which has been faithfully served by a number of splendid Christian men and women. Down to the present time, the pastors and presiding elders who have succeeded each other, with the lay membership, have contributed of their talents, in making Simpson Memorial, the second largest church in the city of Charleston.

MR. W. O. TERRY'S DRUG STORE

The Gem Pharmacy was established in 1905, at its present location, on the northwest corner of Dickinson and Washington Streets, in the Colored K. of P. Building.



Under the able management of the owner, Mr. Terry, it can be safely classed in the A rank of drug stores of the country. Fully stocked with everything one might want in that line, it stands high above most Negro drug stores in its tastiness arrangement and cleanliness.

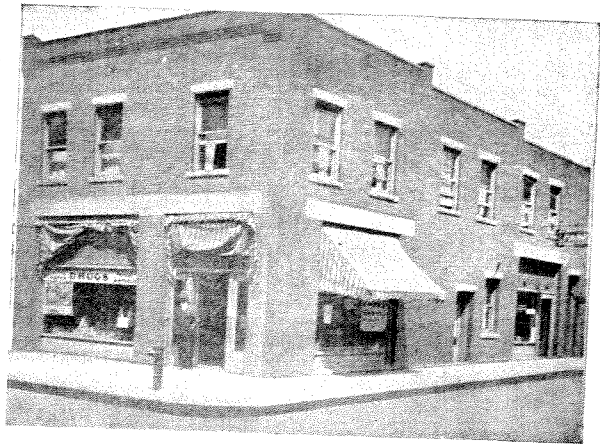
Equipment for ice cream and soda water service, is of the most modern, being sanitary in every respect.

Quick and polite attention is always obtainable.

LAWRENCE DRUG STORE

Dr. Lawrence, its owner, has practiced medicine in the town of Montgomery, W. Va., for 16 years, administering to all races, who hold him in the very highest esteem. He is a staunch church member, member of the State and National Medical Associations, prominent in fraternal organizations, being the Grand Master of Ancient, Free and Accepted Masons of the state of West Virginia.

The Lawrence Drug Store had its inception in the year 1913, as the Lawrence Drug Co., starting with a capital of \$300. in a small, dilapidated building. The business has continued to grow under the management of Dr. W. C. Lawrence, who is now sole owner of the business.



It has grown from a \$300.00 investment to a \$3000.00 investment, now located in the above handsome building with all modern fixtures and ranks as one of the best and most up-to-date drug stores to be found among the Negroes anywhere. It is located on the corner of Front and Lee Sts., one of the best localities of the town.

While the men of our race are forging to the front, many of our women are following closely behind.

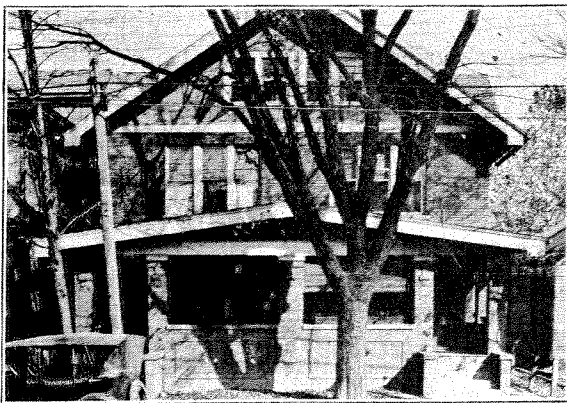
In some instances, the woman seems especially gifted along some lines, calling for the ability supposed to be possessed by men alone. The subject of the present sketch seems to be one of them.

Mrs. Foreman was born in Franklin County, Va., that county made famous as the birthplace of Dr. Booker T. Washington.

When about four years of age, her parents moved from Virginia, like so many other Virginia families, to seek better opportunities in the state of West Virginia.

Her early years were spent at Pratt, a town about 25 miles from Charleston. Later, she married and came to Charleston to live, in which city she has resided about eighteen years. Here, she was able to demonstrate her native business ability, and Hotel Brown, owned and controlled by her, is the evidence.

In nine years, besides this second to the largest hotel in the city, she has accumulated other very valuable real estate holdings, among which are four dwellings and four unimproved lots.



The business men of Charleston were not long in recognizing Mrs. Foreman's exceptional business tact, and in ready acknowledgment of the same, she was made a director of our first big Building and Loan Association, "The Mountain State."



She has also an interest in our only colored bank, "The Mutual Savings and Loan Co." Her business foresight led her to invest her money in different enterprises, using the advice of a well-known millionaire to a young man— "Son, never put all your eggs in one basket." She has stock to the amount of \$2500.00 in the Va. Rubber Co. and \$500.00 in the Oscar Michaux Motion Picture Film Co.

By thrift, Mrs. Foreman has raised to manhood and womanhood, five children, four of whom are still living. One of her daughters, Mrs. Viola Brown, is a public schoolteacher, and another daughter, is a graduate of Tuskegee Institute, and is employed as clerk in the office of the Mountain State Building and Loan Association.

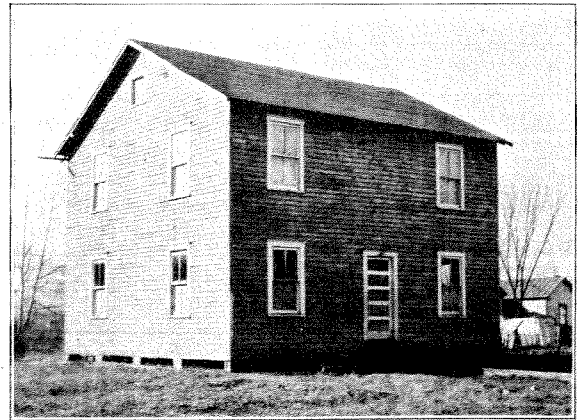
Mrs. Foreman's religious affiliation is with the First Baptist Church.



REV. N. A. GOUGH

The Ebenezer Baptist Church, West Charleston, was organized by Rev. S. R. Bullock, in the month of May, 1906. It was the first church in this section.

For twelve years, this little band of Christians, worshipped in the city school building, and when the present pastor, Rev. N. A. Gough, took the pastorate, he found four members, with church furniture consisting of five oil lamps, a twenty dollar organ, and thirty dollars worth of chairs.

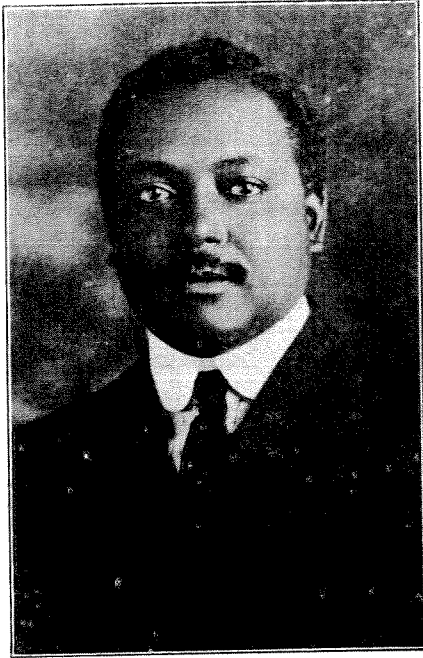


EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH

In less than five years the membership has been increased to one hundred forty, and their property holdings now amounts to twelve thousand dollars.

A proposed new church, which will be a pride to the city of Charleston, will be erected next year, under Rev. Gough's able management.

Rev. Gough is from Buckingham Co., Virginia. He, his wife and two children occupy a comfortable two story dwelling on Second Ave., which they own. His son and daughter are both students at The Collegiate Institute, West Virginia.



MR. T. EDWARD HILL

Thomas Edward Hill was born in Henry County, Va., April 23, 1883.

He finished his scholastic training in 1907, and came to West Virginia to locate. In 1910, he became partner with M. T. Whittico, in the publication of a newspaper, "The McDowell Times," of Keystone, W. Va., and still retains the management of the same.

The legislature of West Virginia,

recognizing the ever increasing important role that her Negro citizens are playing in the industrial and economic life of the State, enacted a law, providing for the creation of what was to be after known as The Bureau of Negro Welfare And Statistics.

Pursuant to this act, Governor E. F. Morgan appointed T. Edward Hill as director of this bureau.

In this position, he has done much in assembling into easily accessible form, all data pertaining to the Negro with special reference to population, migratory displacement, urban and rural distribution, and vital educational and social statistics.

The inspection of public places as to their sanitary condition, has in view the elimination of conditions that contribute to the delinquency of the Negro boy and girl, which so often leads finally to lawlessness, crime and disease.

Mr. Hill is always ready to furnish needed information to those working for the betterment of the Negro, and all women's clubs would act wisely in studying books, bulletins, reports, etc., sent out by Mr. Hill from this bureau.

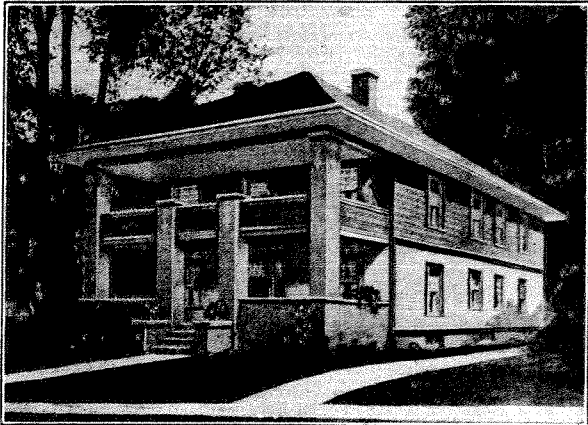
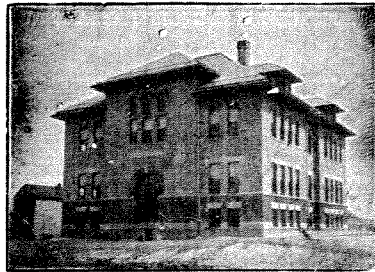
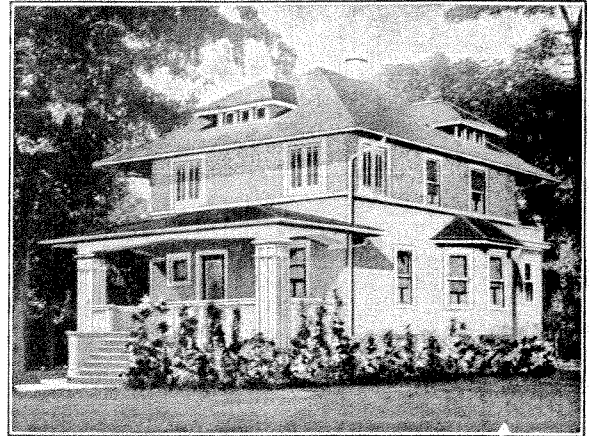
Mr. Hill has a wife and three children.

MR. A. J. RODGERS

"OWN YOUR OWN HOME"—Are you within the law? There is a law which governs all living creatures—some more, some, less. It is called Nature's first law. It is the law of self-preservation and is obeyed by all, from the smallest insect to the kings of the earth.

It is this law that caused the lower animals to put away food and prepare homes for the approaching hard season.

Are you obeying that law as regards your use of the present? Old age is creeping on—you can't stop it, but you can



safeguard yourself and those dependent upon you, against some of its most disagreeable features. You can start now, gaining that independence which careful investing of your money will bring you.

I have property at the West Virginia Collegiate Institute, Cherry Grove, Michigan, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, or anywhere in the Northern States.

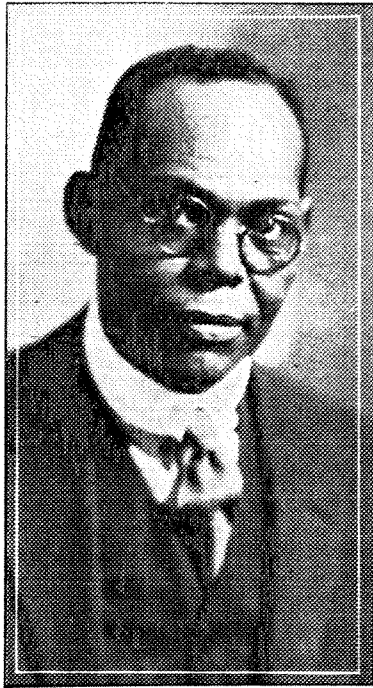
Tell Me Your Wants.

A. J. RODGERS REALTY CO.

604 Kanawha St. Charleston, W. Va.
Branch Office—Huntington, W. Va.



PENN'S PLACE



MR. W. A. CARTER

Mr. W. A. Carter is one of the citizens of Charleston among the number

MR. R. S. PENN

At the above named business place, you will meet a modest yet genial gentleman, who is operating one of the oldest tailoring shops in the city.

In fact, he was born and raised on the same spot he now occupies, which he owns and where he conducts his tailor business. He will furnish you with a fine tailor-made suit if you need one, or if you prefer he will try to suit you with one already made.

Then when it needs cleaning, send it back to him and he will do all that is required to be done.

that makes up its business world.

Born in Richmond, Virginia, while young, he went to Boston, in which city he was practically reared. There he served his apprenticeship in the plumbing business, and is now a recognized master plumber.

He holds membership in the Master Plumbers' National Association, the only colored plumber in the state having this honor.

His business has grown with the ten years he has been in Charleston, and his work is such, that satisfaction is guaranteed. His success has enabled him to acquire some valuable real estate, which shows his progressive spirit.

Mr. Carter affiliates with the Metropolitan Baptist Church, and he is actively engaged in the Sunday School work of that church, holding the office of superintendent. Fraternally, he is associated with the Masons.

HISTORY

The Mattie V. Lee Home, is for girls who feel the need of a real home while earning their living by domestic service.

Our group feels acutely the need of a Colored Hospital.

Stores operating different businesses are comparatively few, likely due to a lack of racial co-operation. This spirit however, is growing.

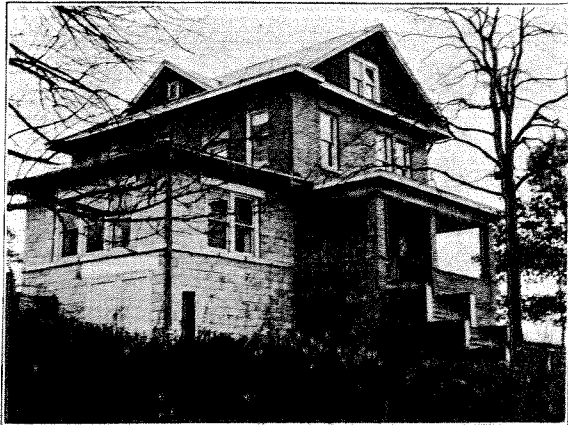
There are a few good groceries, meat markets, shoe repairing and cleaning establishments, a printing plant, several hotels and restaurants.

But it is perhaps the political advantages of this territory and indeed, of all of West Virginia, of which Negroes may

well be proud. There is probably no other state where he has more political privileges than here. He has, and exercises the same political rights that the white man does. It rests with him as to whether he votes with intelligence or not.

Several colored men from Kanawha, Fayette and other counties of the State, have served very creditably in the state Legislature.

While the constitution of the United States guarantees all her citizens equal rights, yet they are much abridged in many of the Southern States, where a small percentage of the Negroes are permitted to vote under the state laws.



HOME OF LAWYER E. R. CARTER

Lawyer Carter, who has practiced at the bar of Charleston longer than any other colored lawyer of the city, is a man of the most quiet and unassuming type. His years of practice has won him the highest respect of the bar of W. Virginia, and of his townsmen at large.

He is one of those worth-while individuals, who, born and reared on a farm in the Tidewater section of Virginia, has by strong determination and close appli-



CARTER APARTMENTS

cation, made for himself a way through school and college, and won for himself an enviable place in the state of his adoption.

Coming to Charleston with the magnificent sum of \$3.16, he now is the owner of this beautiful home on South Hills, besides valuable real estate holdings in several other sections of the city.



JULIUS H. LOVE

Mr. Julius Love is a native of the sister state of Maryland, having been born at Waterbury in that state on May 10th, 1885. His father was a minister and as he was in the itinerancy, young Love became a sort of peripatetic student so far as his public school training is concerned.

He went to Morgan College, Baltimore, for his preparatory and college work. The preparatory course he finished in 1904, and afterward spent three

years in the college proper. In 1907, he matriculated at Howard University, in Washington, D.C., winning his A. B. degree in 1910. He then took the law course, graduating with the LL.B. degree in 1912.

Like so many of the successful men of the race he found it necessary to make his own way in school and college. Fortunately he had the advantages which go with a Christian home with parents ambitious for him. The way, however, was by no means easy, but he refused to be discouraged and won by close application and hard work.

In 1914 he was admitted to the bar and began the practice of law at Williamson, where he remained for two years. He then moved to Montgomery, where he has since resided and where he is steadily building up an excellent practice.

On November 9th, 1918, he was married to Miss Marion Higgs of Raleigh, North Carolina.

In politics Mr. Love is a Republican, and has been active in the councils of his party. He belongs to the Masons and is a member of the Colored Bar Association of West Virginia. He is a staunch believer in industrial development for the Negro.



THOMAS GILLIS NUTTER

Thomas Gillis Nutter, attorney at law, legislator and business man, belongs to that constructive type of citizenship which is the best asset of any community. The record of American business and professional life is replete with the story of men struggling up from places of poverty and obscurity to places of large usefulness and service, and fortunately no race nor section has a monopoly here in the realm of individual struggle and achievement. So, the reader will not be surprised to learn that Mr. Nutter has made his way from the ground up.

He entered the law department of Howard University for his law course, winning the L. L. B. degree in 1899. He taught for two years after the completion of his law course and was principal of the graded school at Fairmont, Maryland, his native state. He was admitted to the Indianapolis, Ind. bar in 1901, and in 1903, to the West Virginia bar. He enjoys a lucrative practice in Charleston.

He was for six years Assistant Land



Clerk in the office of State Auditor of West Virginia. He served two terms in the House of Delegates of West Virginia, representing Kanawha County and was assigned to the Judiciary Committee of that body both terms.

He was author of a number of important measures of a general nature as well as several bills affecting the race, among which might be named an Insane Asylum, Industrial School for Colored Boys and an Industrial Home for Colored Girls.

He was the moving spirit of the organization of the Mutual Savings and Loan Company of Charleston, with a capital stock of \$125,000.00 and is secretary-treasurer of same. This is the only bank owned and operated by colored people in West Virginia. He is president of the Pythian Mutual Investment Association with assets over \$300,000.00, and is now serving his sixth term as Grand Chancellor of The Knights of Pythias of W. Virginia. He served three years as Grand Exalted Ruler of the Elks. He is also president of the Charleston Branch of the N. A. A. C. P.



HENRY FLOYD GAMBLE

Biographies of men are really never written.

Sketches of the lives of men and women are written by their friends, and sometimes their autobiographies appear by themselves. But in any case it is mostly that the subject was born at a certain place, at a certain time, married some one at a certain time, performed certain work during his time, and died at a certain time. Such constitutes the biographies of all characters, only some fill a larger chapter than others, or the deeds require more chapters.

Hundreds of biographies of Abraham Lincoln have been written, and writers never seem tired of writing about him and readers never seem tired of reading about him. After he has been gone for a

half century, every little thing that has been learned that is new about him is read most eagerly. Why were all these things not known and read during his life time? Because his importance grows with the years, and people are eager to know not only of his struggles, his public life time? Because his importance grows want to know what there was down deep covered up, that the possessor did not parade. People are now reading everything they can find about Henry Ford, for the reason that he made a great success, which they never will know.

The subject of this sketch is one of this kind, that has made a success and stands out above most of his associates, and it is of this class that the young want to know about, to find out the secret of their success. It is not the one that is born a king, or that inherits royalty, that the people want to know about. Even if these do anything worthy, they have had every opportunity to do something. It is the biography of the one who came up through poverty; who had to bear the prejudices of another race; who had to face fate with two hard double fists and succeed; that is the one whom the people want to know about, commend and imitate.

Dr. Gamble was born at North Garden, Virginia, January 16, 1862, when Grant's armies were struggling for the overthrow of the Confederacy, and one year before Lincoln pronounced his proclamation that made his race forever free in America. His father, Henry Gamble, was an intelligent man, a foreman of his master's estate. Caucasian, Negro and Indian blood are said to flow in his veins, and evidently he inherited some of the best of all.

Having a very strong ambition to obtain an education, he had many struggles between helping the family at home and

earning his own way in school, before he succeeded. But he succeeded of course. He was made of that kind of stuff. He worked about the University of Virginia when a boy, and received his first instruction from the son of one of the professors who gave him private lessons. He later earned a little money and attended Lincoln University from which institution he graduated in 1888. From there he attended Yale University, obtaining the degree of M. D. in 1891. In that year he began the practice of his profession at Charlottesville, but the next year he moved to the city of Charleston, West Va. where he has since enjoyed a practice equal to that of any other physician of

the state. He has for several years made a specialty of surgery.

Dr. Gamble is well informed on all subjects, is interested in all things that are for the betterment of his race, his city and his state. He was president of the National Medical Association, 1911-12, and founded the State Medical Association. He has been thrifty, and acquired considerable fine property. He has been twice married, first to Miss Elizabeth Gilmer of Virginia, and to them two children were born, Katherine and Floyd. In 1917, he married for his second wife, Miss Nina Hortense Clinton. Howard Clinton and Ann Lucile are children from this union.



MR. and MRS. G. L. GODLEY

This couple is a splendid example of what two young people working together with a definite aim, can accomplish.

Mr. Godley was born on a farm in N.

Carolina, in which state he received his early education. He also went to St. Paul Va., finishing up in tailoring. In 1913, he operated a creditable establishment in Rocky Mount, N. C. August 19, 1914, he was united in marriage to Miss Bessie Smith, daughter of Capt. and Mrs. Smith, of Durham who has been a true helpmate assisting him and entering into all his plans with a true wifely enthusiasm.

With his plans upset by the war, he came to Charleston.

He made no mistake in his choice, for success has been his ever since coming to the city.

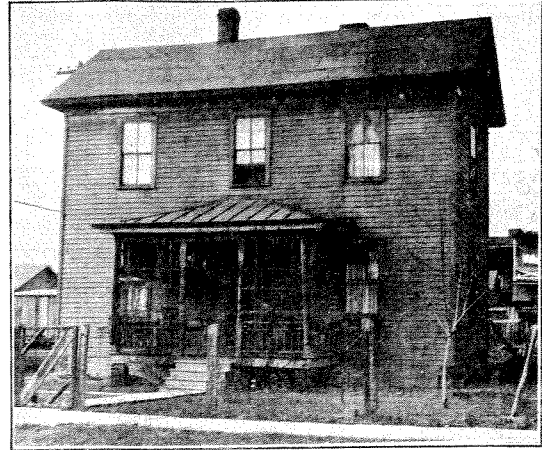
Mr. Godley's real estate holdings tell of his success. Besides real estate in Rocky Mount, he has a whole corner in Charleston, upon which are three fine cottages, and in New York a sixty room apartment, housing ten families, with all modern conveniences.

With all his success, Mr. Godley remains the quiet, unassuming gentleman, he is.



MRS. MATILDA PARKER

Mrs. Parker whose influence has meant much to Charleston, especially the community in which she resides, was



born in Talledega, Ala., and came to the city of Charleston, W. Va. with her husband and two children in 1874.

Mrs. Parker is recognized as a first-class maternity nurse, and her leisure time is very limited. She is constantly called on by some of the best families of Charleston. Her success in life is easily traced to the faithful discharge of her religious duties. She is a consistent member of the First Baptist Church. She is a week day Christian as well as Sunday.

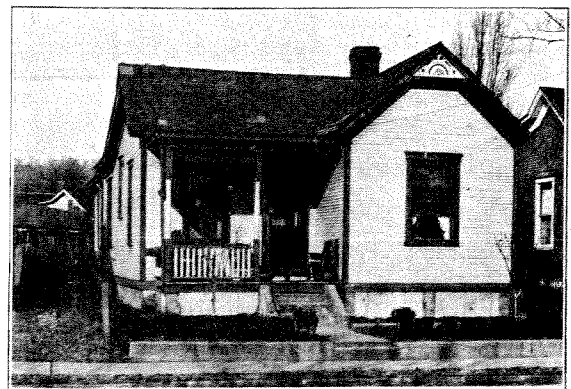
She is also a member of the Baptist State Convention Board, and chairman of the Women's State Federation Board.



MRS. LULA BROWN

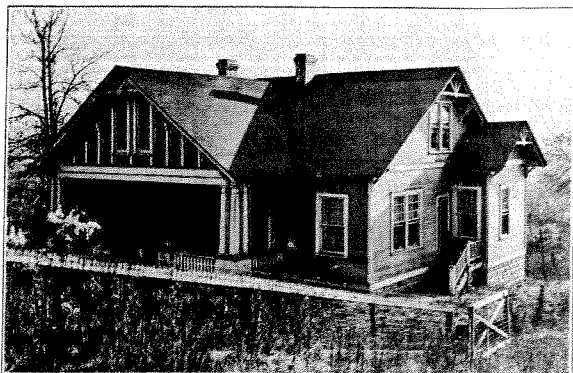
The owner of this house is the widow of Mr. John Brown. It is finished in hard wood, and has all modern conveniences.

The grounds surrounding the house, are unusually spacious for Charleston.



MR. ESTER CYRUS

This cozy cottage owned by Mr. and Mrs. E. Cyrus, shows the taste of these two people and is a fine demonstration of what can be done with a moderate home.



JOHN H. HILL

This home is one of late modern style, combining beauty with convenience.

Mr. John H. Hill of Institute, W. Va., was the second Principal of West Virginia Collegiate Institute.

He spent most of his life in military service, as his proud military bearing so forcibly suggests.



F. H. MARSHALL

The owner of this beautiful bungalow is a member of the faculty of West Virginia Collegiate Institute.

Mr. Marshall lost his wife recently but the wonderfully neat appearance of the home, gives no indication of the fact.



MRS. TAYLOR BROWN

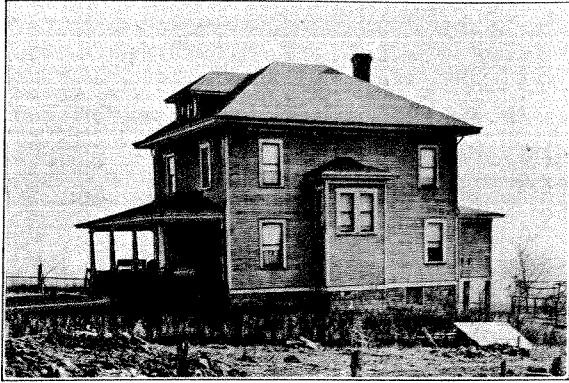
The cozy residence, in a beautiful grove, is one of the land marks of Kanawha Valley and the home of Mr. and Mrs.

Taylor Brown, at Institute, West Virginia.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown are the oldest pioneer settlers of Institute, Mrs. Brown having lived here 17 years. Mr. Brown was born near Institute, and he and his wife have been married 53 years.

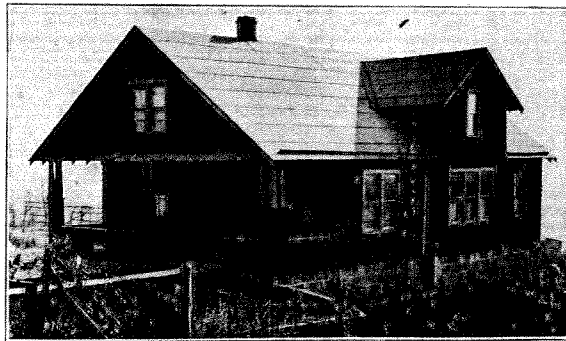
God has been gracious to this highly esteemed family. They have reared a large family, and have six living children, all of whom are graduates of the West Va. Collegiate Institute.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown are in easy circumstances. Several years ago, they sold 30 acres of land for \$30,000.00, and still own 175 acres at Institute.

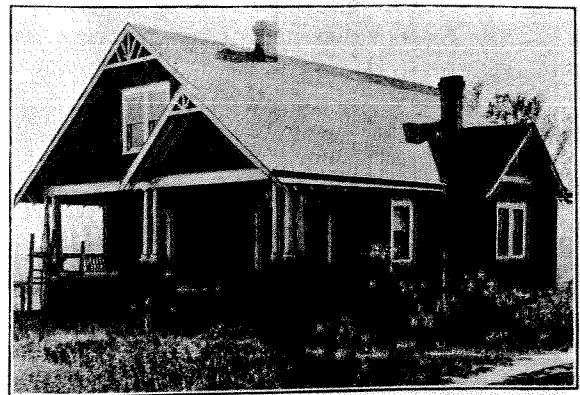


HOME OF

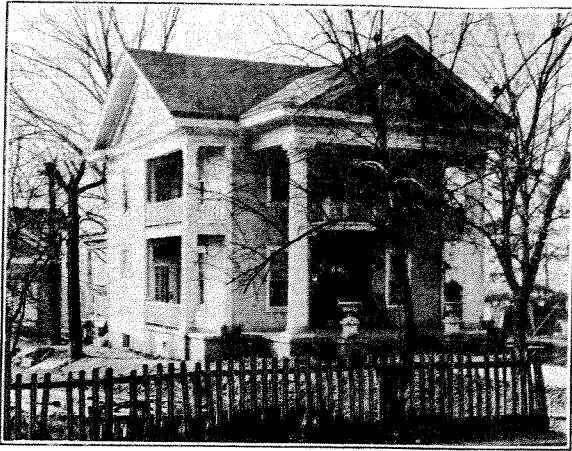
Mr. and Mrs. Dewitt Meadows
Mr. Meadows is one of the progressive
real estate dealerr of Institute.



PROPERTY OF MR. DEWITT MEADOWS



PROPERTY OF MR. DEWITT MEADOWS



MR. J. M. CANTY

"THE MAGNOLIA," the residence of Mr. and Mrs. James M. Canty, at Institute, West Virginia, is one of the attractive homes owned by colored people of the Kanawha Valley.



MR. R. H. LOWREY

Mr. Lowrey is engaged in contracting and building and represents the big business done by our people in this country today.

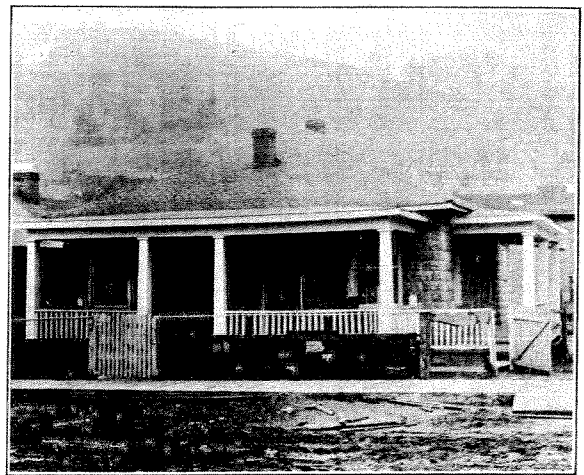
Many pretty homes at Institute are to his credit.



MR. R. L. BROWN

Mr. R. L. Brown is an ont-standing character of Institute, W. Va. He is the owner of considerable real estate, both at Institute and in Charleston. A splendid two story building in which he lives, also houses the village Post Office, over which Mrs. Brown, his estimable wife, presides as postmistress. A grocery is also a feature of this building.

They enjoy the conveniences of a city as to water and light, having installed the "Delco System."



MR. JOHN LEE

This is the home of another far-seeing young man of Cedar Grove, W. Va., who occupies this pleasant looking home with his hospitable wife and family.

