

Minutes of Board Meeting

Dec. 8, 1919.

A special meeting of the joint Board of Regents of Eastern and Western Kentucky State Normal Schools and State University was held at Richmond, December 8th, at which were present in addition to State Superintendent of Education, v. O. Gilbert, Regents J. Whit Petter, J. A. Dean, Jr., and Judge J. P. Haswell, and President H. H. Cherry of the Western Normal; Judge Jerre Sullivan, Judge J. W. Cammack, Regents of the Eastern Normal, and President T. J. Coates of that institution; and President McVey and Mr. R. C. Stell, Trustees of State University, and President G. T. Russell of State Normal for colored persons, Frankfort; Superintendent Gilbert acted as Chairman of the meeting, and Judge Cammack was elected Secretary.

We give below a copy of the minutes of the joint meeting furnished by the Secretary, Judge Cammack:

Superintendent v. O. Gilbert, notified the Presidents of the four state institutions of learning and members of the board of Regents and Trustees of said institutions, to assemble at Richmond, Kentucky, on December 8, 1919, for the purpose of discussing the needs and necessities of said institutions, and to devise plans by which they could better serve the educational interests of the people of Kentucky.

In pursuance to said notice, there appeared in Richmond, Kentucky, President McVey of the University of Kentucky and Mr. R. C. Stell, one of the Trustees of the University; President H. H. Cherry, Western Kentucky State Normal School, J. Whit Petter, John P. Haswell, John A. Dean, Regents; President T. J. Coates of the Eastern Kentucky State Normal School, and Regents J. A. Sullivan and J. W. Cammack, and Secretary F. C. Gentry; and President G. T. Russell, State Normal for Colored Persons, Frankfort, Kentucky; and State Superintendent v. O. Gilbert, member of board of Trustees of each school by virtue of his office as State Superintendent.

The above named persons assembled themselves together in the room of Judge J. A. Sullivan, at Richmond, Ky., in pursuance to the call, and Supt. v. O. Gilbert presided.

Upon motion of T. J. Coates, and seconded by Pres. H. H. Cherry, which motion was put and carried, J. W. Cammack was elected Secretary of the meeting. Supt. v. O. Gilbert stated the purposes of the meeting to be that he knows the state institutions of learning to be in great need of dormitories and other housing facilities for students and that on account of the high cost of living, students are unable to pay the high prices demanded for rooms and board, and that on account of this condition, the State is not receiving the benefits from its schools as it should receive, if the housing facilities and other necessities of the schools were sufficiently provided for. He stated that the coming Legislature would soon assemble in Frankfort, Ky., and that the only immediate relief could be had by the said institutions applying to the Legislature in a conservative and earnest way for appropriations, for the purpose of providing dormitories and other needed buildings and equipment.

He stated that there would be greater advantages in the various Presidents and members of the board of Regents and Trustees of the various schools, co-operating together and submitting their necessities to the Legislature in one bill. He asked that each of the Presidents make a statement of the necessities and financial conditions of his institution and called upon President McVey to make the first statement. Pres. McVey stated that the University would need within the next ten years, more than two millions of dollars (\$2,000,000.00) for erecting new dormitories and to provide other buildings and equipment; he stated that there were 1100 students at the University at present, and that more than one hundred girls were turned away from the institution this year because of the lack of housing facilities for them. He urged that the appropriation should cover a period of from five to ten years, so that each institution would know how to expend the money furnished it.

President M. H. Cherry stated that the Western Kentucky State Normal needed \$500,000.00 immediately to build dormitories for girls, power, heat and light plant and other necessary buildings; he stated that on account of the oil developments near Bowling Green, that it was almost impossible now to get board and room for students in the city; he stated that Bowling Green up to the last few months, had been very generous in supplying the student body with housing and boarding facilities, but that during the present year, he has been unable to accommodate the students with rooms. He stated that improvised rooms had been provided for, to relieve the situation at present. He stated that unless some immediate relief was had, the institution would be greatly hampered in providing instruction to those who tried to attend the same.

President G. T. Russell, of the State Normal for Colored Persons, stated that housing facilities for students were not ample and that a great many students were turned away this year for that reason. He stated that they needed a dormitory for girls, which would cost about \$80,000.00 and that other buildings needed repairing, which would cost \$15,000.00; and that the annual income for the maintenance for the school was not adequate, and it should be increased to \$34,000.00, that the farm had been a great source of income to the school, and that it needed more land; that the farm was conducted by the labor of the students and that many students paid their board and school expenses by laboring on the farm.

President T. J. Coates of the Eastern Kentucky State Normal School, stated that the institution was in great need of a girls' Dormitory and enlargement of the boys' Dormitory. He estimated the cost of the two to be \$150,000.00; that housing and boarding facilities in Richmond were giving him serious trouble and that when the winter term begins in 1920, he does not know what he can do to provide rooming facilities. He stated that there had been an effort made to secure temporary quarters for students in the city, but that no quarters had been secured as yet; that he did not believe any could be secured because all the buildings suitable for that purpose were already occupied.

Judge Haswell suggested that a committee be appointed to meet at the University in Lexington, Ky., which committee should consist of the President of each of the four State institutions, and as many as two members of the Board of Trustees and Board of Regents of said institutions, together with the State Superintendent v. O. Gilbert, for the purpose of providing a method of procedure before the coming Legislature, to secure the necessary appropriation for the State institutions. On motion of Judge Haswell, seconded by Judge J. W. Cammack, which motion was put and carried, Superintendent v. O. Gilbert appointed a committee composed of the President of each institution and the President of each institution to select two or more trustees or regents of his institution to be present at Lexington on the occasion suggested by Judge Haswell.

It was suggested by Dr. McVey that Superintendent v. O. Gilbert be a member of that committee, to meet at the University of Kentucky and be Chairman of the same.

There being no further business before the body, on motion of J. A. Sullivan and seconded by J.P.Haswell, the meeting adjourned.

J. W. Cammack
Secretary

V. O. Gilbert
Chairman

Minutes of Board Meeting at Lexington, Dec. 14, 1919.
as reported.

Following the instruction of the joint conference held at Lexington, Superintendent-elect, Geo L. Colvin, saw Governor Morrow and arranged for a joint meeting of the four State educational institutions to be held in Lexington on December 14th.

At this meeting the Western Kentucky State Normal School was represented by the local Regent, Mr. J. Whit Potter, Judge J. P. Haswell, and President Cherry; while the Eastern State Normal School was represented by President Coates and the State University by Dr. Frank L. McVey, President, and Mr. R. C. Stoll, Trustee, and the State Normal School for colored persons by President G.T. Russell.

General discussions of interest to the four schools were held and the meeting then adjourned to meet at the call of the newly elected State Superintendent, George L. Colvin, at such time as Governor Morrow could be present.

Mattie H. Nolan
Secretary

V. O. Gilbert
Chairman.