Important to the Citizenship of Bowling Green & Warren County

Western Kentucky University

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Important to the Citizenship of Bowling Green and Warren County

Every time a citizen of Warren County pays a dollar for the Western Normal and Teachers College, he takes a dollar out of one pocket and puts it into another where it produces more than it did before.

Warren County has everything to gain and nothing to lose in its efforts to advance the institution. The citizen who donates to it will receive two rewards—one in more life and one in more dollars.

For every dollar paid by the tax payers of Bowling Green and Warren County for the development and maintenance of the Western Normal and Teachers College, the tax payers of the other one hundred and nineteen counties pay $79.00.

All that is paid by Bowling Green and Warren County and all that is paid by the other one hundred and nineteen counties is spent in Bowling Green.

The Western Kentucky State Normal School and Teachers College belongs to the people of Kentucky. It was established by the Commonwealth. It is a human stock company and the people are the stockholders. It was created in the interest of moral, intellectual, physical, and industrial thrift. Its dividends go to all of the people of the Commonwealth.

It is the mission of the Teachers Training Schools to teach the teachers who will teach the children of the Commonwealth. Teachers will not transmit life unless they have life; they will not create ideals unless they have ideals; they will not light up the soul of the child and of the community unless they have light in their own souls.

College Heights Foundation is a corporation authorized by the laws of the Commonwealth, having for its only purpose aiding the cause of education as set forth in the articles of incorporation, published in the last issue of Teachers College Heights. The raising of the $300,000 for the Foundation will aid the institution in its efforts to develop the hill to have economic freedom, to use more effectively its opportunities and to give the people real service. There is not one selfish motive behind the Foundation. The whole effort is in the interest of a better citizenship. We shall greatly appreciate your moral and material support in the campaign to raise the $300,000 for the Foundation. Every dollar donated to the Foundation will be transmitted into a dollar’s worth of constructive life.
To the People of Bowling Green and Warren County:

THE Western Kentucky State Normal and Teachers College desires particularly that the people of Warren County shall come to know it better. To that end, it presents below some of the essential facts of the institution. It serves fifty-one counties, the western half of the State. Its sole business is to give training to the teachers of its district. It is local only in the sense that its buildings are erected in Bowling Green, that its students and faculty reside here, and that its teaching process is carried on here. On those points we will engage further presently.

THE School is seventeen years old. Its parent, the Southern Normal School had operated in Bowling Green more than fourteen years prior to that. Records do not exist showing, even approximately, the total enrollment of the earlier school. Surely, upward of 9,000 different students attended it during its career. The major portion of its students were of course, Kentucky boys and girls. However, large delegations represented Tennessee, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Those students were a select group. They were intensely ambitious, and indomitably vigorous. They are today among our leaders in medicine, in law, in the ministry, in pedagogy, in agriculture. One of the members of the faculty, at the recent State Fair was admiring the prize winning herd of Jersey Cattle. The ensuing conversation developed that the owner had been a student in the Southern Normal School in 1899. The students of that School have achieved unusual success in every phase of activity. They were worthy forerunners of the present student body.

TWENTY-SIX thousand eight hundred and fifty-seven different students have enrolled in the Western Kentucky State Normal and Teachers College. This number, exclusive of private students and pupils of the Training School. Of these, 90% have taught school subsequent to their work here. Most of them have alternated their courses here with teaching in the country schools of the State. The school has many graduates from its advanced intermediate and elementary certificate courses. More than 60 will complete the four year course above high school graduation and will receive their degrees at the end of the present year. The graduates have justified the School's confidence in them. A few have gone to other states, and have taken positions of leadership. The younger element of the educational leadership in Kentucky is largely made up of Western graduates—for instance, the Dean of Education in the University of Kentucky, the Dean of the Eastern Normal, the Assistant Superintendent of Louisville, the Directors of Vocational Education and Home Economics, the Inspector of High Schools, the Director of Certification and many of the leading County and City Superintendents. There are in our faculty a large number of trained educational leaders. Three of them have doctor's degrees, eight have masters' degrees and the remainder bachelors' degrees. They bring their training from the leading Universities of America. They live in Bowling Green and Warren County, and are an integral part of the Community life. They gladly contribute whatever training and culture they have to any ends that serve the Community's interest. Our staff is not a transient organization. This is their home. These 26,857 students have made this their home during their periods of residence here. Their vigor, industry, and clear-eyed candor have been indelibly impressed upon our citizenship. No student body in America is more orderly or cleaner-lived than ours. They come, in the main, from old fashioned homes, thoroughly imbued with old fashioned ideals of truth, and work, and honor. They attend our churches and Sunday Schools. At present, twenty-eight of our students are teaching in local Sunday Schools.
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OTHER point is the tremendous financial advantage which this faculty and these students bring.

THERE were 2382 different students, not counting the Training School, the Junior High, and the 868 students taking work by Correspondence, in attendance at the Western Normal and Teachers College during the last year. There were on an average 1322 students in daily attendance at the institution for a period of twelve scholastic months. On the basis of ten scholastic months there were on an average of 1586 students in daily attendance. It is most conservative to say that the expense for each student for board, rooms, incidental fees, special tuition, laboratory fees, clothing and other necessities of life is not less than $35.00 per month. This would make the student expenditure $46,270 per month or $575,240 for the twelve months. There were 225 Veteran Trainees in school at the expense of the Federal Government. The average salary paid these Vocational students by the Government is $125.00 per month or $1500 per year per person. According to these figures the annual income of all of the Veteran Trainees amounts to $360,000 per year, most of which is spent in Bowling Green. The above estimate is conservative, notwithstanding it shows that the student-body that attends school on College Heights spends almost, if not, a million dollars annually. It is the opinion of the writer that the expenditure will exceed these figures.

THERE were 134 people employed by the Western Normal and Teachers College last year. This number does not include the special talent employed during the Summer School. It, however, includes quite a large number of persons who worked only part of the year during the season when the attendance was large. Some of them did only part teaching work and received a salary for the number of hours they worked. The total payroll of faculty and office force and others of the institution is $14,660.50 per month or about $176,034.00 per year. Statisticians estimate that wage earners spend on an average of 90% of their income. From these figures it may be seen that the employees of the institution spend something like $158,430. No one will minimize the spiritual and economic values that come from having in our midst this large number of men and women who contribute to the spiritual and economic support of everything that advances a community.

THE General Assembly of Kentucky has, since the establishment of Normal Schools in Kentucky, made special appropriations to the amount of $550,000 for buildings, grounds, walks and other things of a permanent nature. This is the total amount appropriated for these purposes during the life of the State Normal. All of this money has been used for permanent improvement. In addition to this, the $35,000 received from the sale of the building now occupied by the Business University and from the sale of lots on Normal Heights has been invested in the same way. The taxpayers of Bowling Green and Warren County paid $6875 of the $550,000 appropriated by the General Assembly. The balance was paid by the taxpayers of the other 119 counties. In other words, every time the people of Bowling Green and Warren County put up a dollar the people who live outside of Warren County put up $79.00. There are counties in Kentucky that pay a much larger support for the development of College Heights than our own county. Jefferson County pays approximately $20.00 for its development and maintenance for every dollar paid by the people of Warren County. All that is paid by Warren County is spent on College Heights as well as all that is paid by the other 119 counties. As this not another reason why every citizen in Warren County should be a booster for the Hill, aiding in turning into reality a vision that will make it one of the outstanding educational plants in the South, a show spot of Bowling Green and a professional West Point for the training of the teachers who will instruct the children of the Commonwealth, saying nothing of the material value of the institution, its mission and place in the development of a Greater Kentucky largely justifies a most earnest and loyal support.
THE total annual receipts for the current expenses of the institution is approximately $235,143.66. This includes the annual appropriation made by the State for current expenses, the tuition paid by the Federal Government for the Veteran Trainees, special tuition paid by the students for special subjects, tuition of the Extension Department and Training School, incidental fees, laboratory fees, room rent and other things. This entire amount is spent annually in Bowling Green and Warren County.

THE expense for nine grades of the public school system of Bowling Green is paid by the State of Kentucky. The City would have to provide for the training of these nine grades, if the Training School and Junior High of the Teachers College were not conducted. The per capita paid by the Commonwealth for each pupil goes to the City of Bowling Green. College Heights does not receive any of the public school funds allowed the city. It would cost Bowling Green fully $12,000 to do the work that is now being done by the Training School.

THERE were 292 students from Warren County in attendance at the Western Normal and Teachers College during the last scholastic year. All of these students attended the institution on free scholarships paid for by the taxpayers of Kentucky, except twelve students who took only music. This leaves 280 students who were granted free tuition by the Commonwealth. If these students had been charged a rate of tuition ordinarily charged by prominent private institutions for the actual time they were in attendance, it would have cost them fully $17,500. Warren County paid in taxes for the support of the institution only $1700 during the period her boys and girls used $17,500 in free tuition.

WARREN County can well afford to be most liberal in the matter of contributing to every effort designed to advance the work on the Hill. The citizen who donates to it will receive two rewards, one in more life, and one in more dollars.

WE feel that the students of the institution are most favored in the location of the school. It places them in a city of beautiful homes, and cultured and cordial people. We have attempted to show that this institution, these teachers and these students bring in calculable good to Bowling Green and Warren County.