

## MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION FOR RURAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

The Julius Rosenwald Fund is interesting itself in rural education, especially in the Southern states. Some explanation of our interests and activities in this field is given in the attached pamphlet, Rural Education.

Among the improvements needed in rural education is in the materials of instruction. The present textbooks are, for the most part, formal and ill adapted to the rural South. The texts are usually prepared in northern cities and tend to overlook the peculiar interests of the South and of the rural scene. With these formal textbooks both pupil and teacher tend to think of education as a series of unrelated "lessons" rather than as preparation for life.

There is opportunity for a resourceful person to make important contributions in devising new materials of instruction which would be much more vital and interesting than many of the existing texts and would relate subject matter to regional interests. The person should (a) know or become acquainted intimately with southern rural life, (b) acquaint himself with the technical needs and requirements of the educational system, and (c) have ability to organize and write material.

It has been suggested that an individual or two of this sort be appointed to the staff of the Rural School Council of the Julius Rosenwald Fund and lent for field service in connection with a teachers college in one of the southern states, probably in Georgia since that is the state in which we are concentrating most of our work. We should like to find two or three people, men or women, at least one Negro and one white worker. We have no fixed salary schedules in mind and would be willing to consider salary and expenses on the basis of individual cases.



Materials of Instruction

FISK UNIVERSITY  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SCIENCE  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

CHARLES S. JOHNSON  
DIRECTOR

February 27, 1937

Mr. Edwin R. Embree  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Embree:

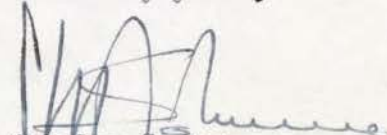
Referring to your letter of the 23rd, enclosing a memorandum regarding personnel for the preparation of materials of instruction, I want to note one person who has certainly qualified considerably in this regard. We have had an opportunity over the past two years to work carefully with and observe Miss Virginia Mae Arcrett. Born in the South, with a background in rural and urban localities, her undergraduate work was completed at the University of Minnesota. She has had some teaching experience in southern schools, and two years of graduate work in this Department. She has had a very outstanding record, but more than this she has revealed special abilities which we have engaged in the direction of the preparation of materials for elementary instruction in rural schools and utilization of immediate experience as a medium of education.

Incidentally, she is one of the persons referred to in another connection, in the Park memorandum, as having demonstrated certain extremely valuable procedures in line with our rote learning and acculturation explorations. She is as good as Arna Bontemps in simplifying scientific material to the point of making it assimilable for children and for adults of low educational levels.

In looking about for something that can help to explain her skill and intimate familiarity with rural life, I am picking out two readings prepared by her: one on "Syphilis" and one on "Foods." These are fragments of work which at least carry the point.

I think you would find her an excellent prospect, at least for consideration, as you discuss personnel. I shall have one or two other suggestions to make a little later.

Sincerely yours,

  
Charles S. Johnson

This is  
perfectly swell!

csj-p

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

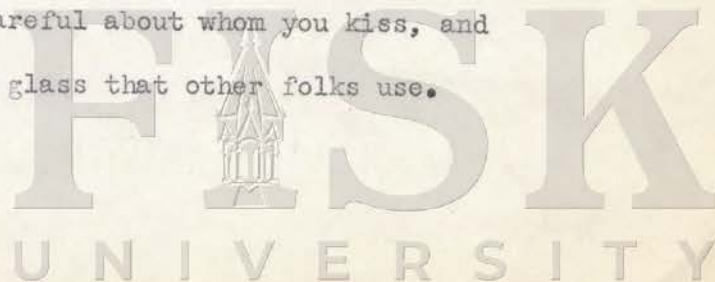


## A LITTLE CHAT ABOUT "BAD BLOOD"

All of us have seen people who had "bad blood." Some folks call it the "bad disease." Both mean the same thing. Doctors have a name for it that they call syphilis. They say that syphilis is one of the venereal diseases. Suppose we find out how they hit upon that name. There is a reason for everything, and there is a reason why they call "bad blood" a venereal disease.

The word "venereal" really came from the Italians who lived in Rome. You know who Italians are. A good many times you see them running fruit stands in towns. Most folks call them "dagoes." Romans believed in a lot of gods. They had a god over most every thing. They had a god of the sea, a sun god, and they also had a god of love. This love god was a woman and they called her Venus. Here is where our name "venereal" comes in. Most people who have had bad blood get it by making love. That is why it is sometimes called a venereal disease, or a disease of love. You don't need to worry yourself with that long name, unless you just want to learn it. Just remember that most folks who have "bad blood" or the "bad disease," or if you want to call it syphilis or a venereal disease, got it by making love with some one who already had it.

The only way you get "bad blood" is by mixing with somebody who already has it, or by letting your body touch some place they have been. That is why you ought to be careful about whom you kiss, and about using the same cup or dipper or glass that other folks use.



A lot of times you catch it by using toilets, like in the railroad stations, shows and barber shops. That is why careful people put paper on toilets before they sit down.

If you are not sure that you have "bad blood", the wisest thing is to go to a doctor. But here are a few signs that are almost proof that you have it. You first start by breaking out in red bumps. You might have them all over, and then they might be only on certain parts of you. They can be anywhere -- on your body, your tongue, fingers, breast, toes -- just anywhere. And then, about a month after these bumps come, you really begin to feel sick for true. You get sore throat, fever, headaches -- your eyes hurt, you ache in your joints, and you feel no 'count. Besides, your hair starts dropping out. It looks like moths have been in it. If you don't do something about it you begin to go away to skin and bone -- you look like a hant, and folks are scared of you.

It's a pretty bad thing, but you don't need to worry about it, because you can get rid of "bad blood" if you start working on it in time. But it takes a good while. Most people wait until they are too far gone before they go to a doctor. Some folks go to "root doctors." If you really want to get well, the best thing is to go to a sure enough doctor, because you don't get "bad blood" by folks throwing spells on you. It takes about two years to get well, if you take treatments every time the doctors say. Most people stop going to the doctor as soon as they feel better. Later on they get worse off than they were before. If you get "bad blood" the best thing to do is to keep going to the doctor until he tells you that you are well.

-----Virginia Mae Argrett



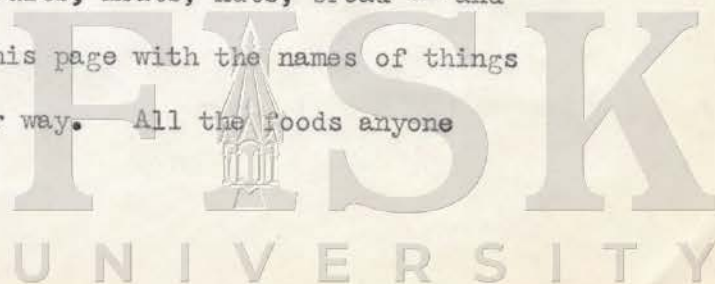
## F O O D S

All of you no doubt have seen a brick house. If we look at the house from a distance it appears to be one large mass. But when we get close to the building we see that a great many small bricks are needed to make the one house. Each person's body is like a brick house. It is one large whole which is made up of many tiny parts. We call each of these little parts a cell.

There is one other way in which our bodies are something like brick houses. Bricks are very strong, but time, rain, heat and cold wear them out, and people who live in the houses must repair them. Every day, in each of our bodies the cells are wearing down, and so in order to keep our bodies in good repair, we eat food.

There are three reasons why we need food: first, to build new cells which take the place of the worn out ones; second, to make us strong so that we can work; and third, to enable each part of the body to do its work well. Not only must we eat food to have strong healthy bodies, but we must eat the proper kinds of foods, or else we will not grow, and our bodies will be so weak that disease will come in on us.

And how is one to know what foods he should eat? To answer that question we begin by naming the kinds of foods. Of course we know that there are vegetables, fruits, meats, nuts, bread -- and so we could go on and perhaps fill this page with the names of things we eat. But there is a much shorter way. All the foods anyone



knows about can be put into six groups, or what is called the six classes of foods. These are their names: carbohydrates, proteins, fats, minerals, water, and vitamins. Now that we know the names of the six classes of food we will find out something about each one.

Perhaps the best way to remember the names is to think of them in connection with what happens on wash day. The first requirement is that we be strong to do the washing. Strength comes from proteins, which are found mainly in eggs, lean meat, nuts, cheese, dried peas and beans. No one can wash without water; neither can people get along without water. Not only is the greater part of our body weight made of water (four-fifths) but we must keep on drinking water if we live. In addition to the water we get by drinking, a great many of the foods we eat have some water in them -- apples, cabbage. (Can you name any others?) If we want our clothes nice and white, we boil them. Before boiling we need fuel with which to build the fire. The fuel for heat in our bodies comes from foods that contain fat -- fat meats, butter, nuts. Most of our parents boil clothes in an iron pot. Perhaps it may sound queer, but it is true, nevertheless, that people need iron in their bodies. Of course we cannot get the iron by swallowing a nail, or any other iron object we know of. We get our iron in very small amounts from foods that grow where the soil is rich in iron. Some foods containing iron are greens, raisins and bananas. We have said a great deal about iron, but it is only one of the many minerals needed in human bodies. Others are calcium, or lime, which builds bones and teeth, and comes from milk and table salt.





After we have washed and boiled the clothes there are always some to be starched. Like clothes, people need starch to give them pep, or energy. Starch belongs to the first group or class of foods named, - carbohydrates. Carbohydrates are divided into two groups, starch and sugar. It would not be hard for anyone to think where our sugar comes from -- desserts, candy, fruit and plain sugar. We might need to think a little harder to name starchy foods. Some of the more important ones are rice, potatoes and flour. The next time you wash rice notice the milky color of the water. That is due to starch in the rice.

The last food we will talk about is the class called vitamins. The way to remember vitamins is to keep in mind that some of them come from the sunshine, and we hang out clothes out in the sun to dry. Without vitamins our bones are soft, and a number of diseases attack us. Fresh fish, leafy vegetables and oranges are some of the other foods from which we get vitamins.

Now that we know what food does for the body, the classes of food, and why each is important, our job from now on is to be sure that each meal has at least one food from each of the six classes. Later on we will talk about what happens if we eat too much of one food and too little of another. Your body is the house in which you live. Don't let the bricks crumble or the house look shabby and run-down.

"My body is a temple,  
To God it does belong  
He bids me keep it for His use  
He wants it pure and strong."

--- Virginia Mae Argrett





*This is the best something candidate  
for the preparation of sample materials of instruction  
will you and your associates carry this on from this step?*

*Materials of  
Instruction*

**Fisk University**  
Nashville, Tennessee

March 8, 1937

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m.s.		0	
H.O.B.			
J.A.		0	

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
Chicago, Illinois

*7*

Dear Mr. Embree:

Writing the material on "bad blood" and foods was not done in the spirit of work; in fact, it is simply the kind of thing I enjoy doing well, and expect to continue trying for better ways to do it. I am glad that they met with your approval--the preparation of additional information would be for me a delightful experience and one which I would enjoy.

I have not had a great deal of contact with Southern rural life and education, but the fact that I was born in Jacksonville Florida and received my elementary and high school training there gives me some acquaintance with Southern life. At the University of Minnesota from which I graduate in 1933, I majored in history and minored in sociology. During my senior year I did practice teaching at the University High School, and have a High School Teachers' Certificate from that state. In college, I disliked gym very thoroughly, but enjoyed preventive medicine and public health, and social work. I took as many courses in preventive medicine as was possible without a background of physiology or anatomy. As for social work, I had theory and practice in both group and family case work. Of the two, I prefer family case work--in fact, I almost love it. I suppose that is because I dislike work that keeps one inside all the time. I like to get out in the air.

My first job was at Camden S.C. at Browning Home, a school under the auspices of the Womans Home Missionary Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. Here I had forty lively fifth and sixth boys and girls in one room all day, trying to instill the principles of everything save music and the Bible. I did not want grade school teaching, and after school closed went to Atlanta Georgia as family visitor with the local ERA. While thus employed I was given the opportunity to get one semester of additional training at the Atlanta School of Social Work. I resigned the work with the Georgia ERA to do graduate work in sociology at Fisk in 1935.

As to a hobby, or main interest, I enjoy reading and seeing other people enjoy it, especially those whose circumstances tend to keep literature like a treasure, locked up from them. I like the piano, and have had sufficient training to enable me to appreciate good music. I expect to receive a masters degree in sociology in June, and am anxious to get started on some definite program. The idea of the preparation of school materials is especially attractive, and I shall be pleased to hear more about it.

Very truly yours

*Virginia Argrett*  
Virginia Argrett





COOPERATIVE SCHOOL for STUDENT TEACHERS  
SIXTY-NINE BANK STREET  
NEW YORK CITY

BUREAU OF  
EDUCATIONAL EXPERIMENTS

CHELSEA 3-5034

Lucy Sprague Mitchell · Elizabeth Healy · Jessie Stanton · Elisabeth Irwin · Ellen Steele · Dorothy Wilmotte

*Materials of Instruction*

March 17, 1937

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ERE	ERE	ERE
CD		

My dear Mr. Embree:

This part of the year my job takes me in and out of town with such rapidity that even such interesting letters as yours appear neglected. Yours wasn't neglected. I assure you, your inquiry is intriguing indeed.

Despite my faith in Clarke Foreman's good judgment, I am sure that I am not the person to undertake the work on curriculum materials. My experience as well as interest lies deeply in teacher training and in the classroom work of nursery and elementary schools. However, I doubt if I have special flair in writing for children. And I am sure that my technical equipment to judge or devise material appropriate for various curriculum use is too sketchy for your needs. What a shame, for the possibility, even the possibility, of work in such an environment as you describe sounds like a fine professional adventure.

Marion Pascal has half promised a glimpse of you when she and you next meet here. In case that visit is fairly imminent I could wait to thank you in person. Perhaps 'tis better not to risk delay? Hence my appreciation of your interest and my hope for a talk--sometime.

Sincerely yours,

*Elizabeth Healy Ross*

Mr. Edwin R. Embree  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

MAR 23 1937

Cooperating Schools

LITTLE RED SCHOOL HOUSE, NEW YORK CITY  
WOODWARD SCHOOL, BROOKLYN, NEW YORK  
HARRIET JOHNSON NURSERY SCHOOL, NEW YORK CITY  
(Bureau of Educational Experiments)

ROSEMARY JUNIOR SCHOOL, GREENWICH, CONNECTICUT  
MOUNT KEMBLE SCHOOL, BERNARDSVILLE, NEW JERSEY  
CARSON COLLEGE FOR ORPHAN GIRLS, FLOURTOWN, PA.

These are the materials of  
instruction girl recommended  
by Brunner  
ERL

ERE	if	Box 292
ms	ms o	WHITTIER HALL
JFS	JFS o	1230 AMSTERDAM AVENUE
JCS	JCS o	NEW YORK CITY
ERL		
My dear Doctor Embree:		

March 3, 1937

Materials of  
Instruction

Please pardon my delay in replying to your recent letter; but I was called out of town and have been away for several days.

I should be most pleased to have you consider me for the type of position which you have in mind, for it has always been my hope and ambition to return to the South some day and to have opportunity to do there some worthwhile piece of work.

A few general facts about myself will probably be sufficient at present; but, of course, I shall be glad to have you investigate me in detail, if you find that you are interested in me. I am a Virginian and was educated in both public and private schools, doing most of my undergraduate college work at the Harrisonburg State Teachers College of Virginia and at the University of Virginia. I completed both the Bachelor's and Master's degrees, however, here at Teachers College, Columbia, where I am now working to finish up my Doctorate. I began teaching in a private

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UNIVERSITY



WHITTIER HALL  
1230 AMSTERDAM AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

Episcopal school when seventeen years old and have taught in all types of schools, including summer teaching at Pennsylvania State College, Cornell University and the University of Virginia. I have been a high school principal, a rural school supervisor in the South, and am now State Supervisor of Rural Education in New York State. In this last position, I have had wide experience in developing curriculum materials in a somewhat conservative state where it has been necessary to go slowly in order to build on firm foundations. We feel, however, that worthwhile progress has been made. While working in the South, I served on numerous state committees and travelled widely through the deep South so that the section is fairly well known to me. I have acquaintances among the educational workers in various Southern States.

You can investigate me most easily, I should imagine, through Dr J Cayce Morrison of the New York State Education Department, and through Professor Mabel Carney and Dr Edmund deS Brunner of this institution. I am also known to Dr James Hardy Dillard of Charlottesville, Virginia. Detailed information will be gladly furnished, if you desire it.

*Good experience.*

Sincerely yours,

*John Day*  
FISK UNIVERSITY

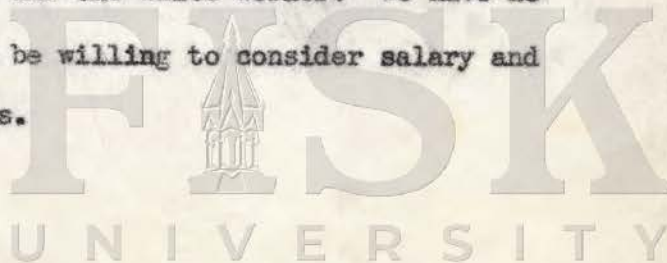
## MATERIALS OF INSTRUCTION FOR RURAL ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

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There is opportunity for a resourceful person to make important contributions in devising new materials of instruction which would be much more vital and interesting than many of the existing texts and would relate subject matter to regional interests. The person should (a) know or become acquainted intimately with Southern rural life, (b) acquaint himself with the technical needs and requirements of the educational system, and (c) have ability to organize and write material.

It has been suggested that an individual or two of this sort be appointed to the staff of the Rural School Council of the Julius Rosenwald Fund and lent for field service in connection with a teachers college in one of the Southern states, probably in Georgia since that is the state in which we are concentrating most of our work. We should like to find two or three people, men or women, at least one Negro and one white worker. We have no fixed salary schedules in mind and would be willing to consider salary and expenses on the basis of individual cases.





*There is a confident girl, says CSF, Rose  
you any suggestions?*

*Materials of  
Instruction*

229 W. 148 St., Apt. #52  
New York, N. Y.  
August 9, 1937

Mr. Edwin R. Embree, President  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Embree:

Last March while I was still doing graduate work at Fisk University you wrote asking if I would be interested in helping prepare more interesting materials of instruction for Southern rural elementary schools. I wrote to you saying that I would be happy to take a part in such a program. Since I have received no answer, I assume that nothing is to come of that plan.

I thought all along that the plan would materialize, and for that reason did not attempt to find any other position for the fall. It was not until early in June that I learned that there was some doubt as to the carrying out of this part of the work. By that time most of the positions for which I might apply had been filled. I have made numerous applications for a job in the teaching field but all of the answers say that the openings have been filled.

I am very much in need of work, and wonder if there is any possibility of your making some opening for me in the program of the Julius Rosenwald Fund. As you know I received the Master of Arts degree in sociology last June from Fisk University. My undergraduate work was taken in the College of Education of the University of Minnesota. I majored in history and am qualified to teach in either high school or college. In addition to one year's teaching experience in the elementary school of Browning Home, Camden, South Carolina, I have had training and experience in family case work. I worked from June 1934 to October 1935 as family visitor for the Georgia Emergency Relief Administration in Atlanta. In undergraduate school I took courses in the department of social work and studied one semester at the Atlanta School of Social Work on an ERA scholarship provided by the State of Georgia. While in Minnesota I worked part time as a girls group leader at Phyllis Wheatley Settlement House in Minneapolis. I read French very well, play a piano, use a typewriter and am now studying shorthand.

I shall be most grateful to Mr. Embree if you will make some place for me. I am willing to go anywhere and try anything.

Very truly yours,

*Virginia Argrett*  
Virginia Argrett

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# Materials of Instruction

7

August 16, 1937

Dear Miss Argrett: I am very sorry if you have allowed the letter which I sent to you in the spring to influence your plans. I sent a number of letters to persons whose names had been given to me. A few of the persons, in one capacity or another, are being made use of in institutions with which we are cooperating. We are not appointing persons to our own staff as in all this work the important thing is to build up institutions and personnel in the South.

I have no doubt that you are in touch with Dr. Charles Johnson. He and his associates at Fisk are carrying on one section of the work in which we are interested. If further openings in the preparation of teaching materials are available, he might know of them.

Very truly yours,  
EDWIN R. EMBREE

ERE:JW

Miss Virginia Argrett  
229 West 148th Street, Apt. #52  
New York City

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



Materials of instruction

## WORKS PROGRESS ADMINISTRATION

WALKER-JOHNSON BUILDING  
1734 NEW YORK AVENUE NW.  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

HARRY L. HOPKINS  
ADMINISTRATOR

February 8, 1937

10 *WJ* 23

Mr. Edwin K. Embree  
Rosenwald Foundation  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Embree:

The name which I promised yesterday to send you is J. Thomas Askew, Dean of the Armstrong Junior College at Savannah, Georgia. He said in his letter that he taught at the University of Georgia from 1929 to 1935, and his book, "Readings in Georgia Problems", to which you referred, is to be used in the colleges in the University system and some other small colleges. *he*

In thinking over the names that I mentioned to you I rather believe that the first man mentioned, Landis, is probably too much interested in research at a higher level than you wish. My judgement is still that Edith Webb Williams would qualify first and Herman Johnson, second. If I think of any other possibility I will let you know.

We were delighted to have a little visit with you.

Very truly yours,

*T. J. Woodfer, Jr.*  
T. J. Woodfer, Jr.,  
Coordinator of  
Rural Research

MAR 2 1937

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

FEDERAL EMERGENCY ADMINISTRATION  
OF PUBLIC WORKS  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

*Materials of Instruction*

February 17, 1937

IN REPLY PLEASE REFER TO  
cf/lp

*This is the woman  
suggested by CF  
for materials of instruction*

		19	EDL
	ms	ms	

Mr. Edwin R. Embree  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear E. R. E.:

Supplementing the pamphlet which I sent  
to you through Dr. Alexander, I am enclosing herewith  
another pamphlet on the Cooperative School for Student  
Teachers of which Elizabeth Healy (Ross) is Chairman of  
the Central Staff.

Yours sincerely,

*Clark*  
Clark Foreman

MAR 1 1 1937

Enclosure

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



7

February 23, 1937

Dear Mrs. Williams: Dr. T. J. Woofter, Jr. has suggested that you might be interested in taking a part in our efforts to prepare more interesting materials of instruction for Southern rural elementary schools. The enclosed memorandum and pamphlet will give you some idea of the thing we have in mind and of the general program in rural education which we are carrying out. Dr. Woofter has thought that you have background and abilities that might qualify you excellently for the preparation of fresh types of school materials.

If you are interested, would you be good enough to let us know, possibly giving us details of your experience and interests. Our first desire is to have a person attached to the faculty of South Georgia Teachers College, Statesboro, Georgia, since it seems to us that in connection with the regular work of a normal college the materials could most successfully be prepared and tried out. Mr. Pittman, the president of this institution, is, of course, in full sympathy with this proposal and has called upon us for aid only because of the limitations of his budget and the rigidity of his schedules. It might be possible for experiments in new materials to be made through other connections than the one suggested above if for one reason or another the suggested appointment were not feasible for a given candidate.

If the idea attracts you at all, let us correspond further and possibly work toward a personal interview later.

ERE:JW

Very truly yours,

Mrs. Edith Webb Williams  
Cornell University  
Ithaca, New York

EDWIN R. EMBREE

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

MAR 2 1937

*Materials of Inst*

NEW YORK STATE COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AT CORNELL UNIVERSITY  
CORNELL UNIVERSITY AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION  
ITHACA, NEW YORK

DEPARTMENT OF  
RURAL SOCIAL ORGANIZATION

DWIGHT SANDERSON  
W. A. ANDERSON  
MARY EVA DUTHIE  
ROBERT A. POLSON  
LEONARD S. COTTRELL, JR.

C. E. LADD, DEAN

*Now this person sounds  
fitter - maybe because  
she doesn't submit a  
request - as Johnson did*

March 2, 1937 *EDG*

Mr. Edwin R. Embree  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Embree:

ERE	3	SPR	0
JFS	KS		
MS		WEL.	
JCI		JW	
SPR		ECB	

Thank you very much for your letter of February 23. I am in such complete agreement with you on the need for reform of elementary education in the South that my enthusiasm is aroused by the entrance of the Rosenwald Fund into this field.

I should very much like to have an opportunity to participate in your program. There are, however, two factors which would influence my decision if you should consider me favorably, and I feel that I ought to state them to you quite frankly. It will be necessary for me to remain here through this academic term and through most of the summer in order to complete the requirements for my doctorate. I shall have very little time before September, even to give thought to anything new. In addition, I should not like to commit myself until my husband's plans for next year are settled. Naturally, we hope that we may find satisfactory work not too far away from each other. If he is teaching in the South, the work you suggest would be a very happy arrangement for me.

In the hope that the delay which these facts necessitate may not eliminate me from your consideration, I attach a brief statement of my training and experience. Until the last two years I have lived in North Carolina, most of the time in a small town in a rural county where my father was superintendent of county schools. Possibly I should call your attention to the fact that I have not had technical training in the field of education. If you wish a more detailed record or additional information about me, I trust that you will let me know.

Sincerely yours,

*Edith W. Williams*

**FSK**  
UNIVERSITY



Name: Edith Webb Williams  
Age: 27; Married; No children.

Academic training:

North Carolina College for Women, Greensboro, N. C.:  
A. B., 1930. Major: sociology.

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, N. C.:  
Graduate work, 1930-31, 1931-32, and 1932-33.  
A. M., 1932. Major: sociology. Minor: psychology.

New York State College of Agriculture at Cornell University,  
Ithaca, New York: Graduate work, 1935-36 and 1936-37.  
Candidate for Ph. D. in September, 1937. Major: rural  
social organization. Minor: social psychology. Second  
minor: labor and industrial relations.

Experience:

Southern regional fellowship, Social Science Research Council,  
1930-1931.

Part time research assistant, Institute for Research in Social  
Science, Chapel Hill, N. C., 1931-32 and 1932-33.

Field research worker, Tennessee Valley Study, Knoxville,  
Tennessee, July and August, 1933.

Assistant to Director, Division of Social Service, North  
Carolina Emergency Relief Administration, Raleigh, N. C.,  
October, 1933 - July 1935.

Part time instruction assistant, Department of Rural Social  
Organization, Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y.,  
1935-36 and 1936-37.

Research assistant, Rural Section, Division of Research and  
Statistics, W. P. A., Washington, D. C., August and  
September 1936.

7

February 23, 1937

Dear Miss Heyl: Dr. Edmund deS. Brunner has suggested that you might be interested in taking a part in our efforts to prepare more interesting materials of instruction for Southern rural elementary schools. The enclosed memorandum and pamphlet will give you some idea of the thing we have in mind and of the general program in rural education which we are carrying out. Dr. Brunner has thought that you have background and abilities that might qualify you excellently for the preparation of fresh types of school materials.

If you are interested, would you be good enough to let us know, possibly giving us details of your experience and interests? Our first desire is to have a person attached to the faculty of South Georgia Teachers College, Statesboro, Georgia, since it seems to us that in connection with the regular work of a normal college the materials could most successfully be prepared and tried out. Mr. Pittman, the president of this institution, is, of course, in full sympathy with this proposal and has called upon us for aid only because of the limitations of his budget and the rigidity of his schedules. It might be possible for experiments in new materials to be made through other connections than the one suggested above if, for one reason or another, the suggested appointment were not feasible for a given candidate.

If the idea attracts you at all, let us correspond further and possibly work toward a personal interview later.

ERE:JW

Very truly yours,

EDWIN R. EMBREE

Miss Helen Hay Heyl  
Teachers College, Columbia University  
New York City

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

MAR 2 1937



Materials of Instruction

7

February 23, 1937

Dear Woofter: Thank you for your letter of February 8 and for the many suggestions you gave me in Washington. It is always a delight to see you and I have never failed yet to get ideas from every meeting with you.

You may be interested in the brief outlines enclosed herewith of what we are trying to get in the way of a person for materials of instruction; also of a somewhat related project in the building up of a survey course in rural life arts. We are getting increasingly interested in the second project which seems to us a possible way to unite the various rural arts and vocational subjects into a common course and set of experiences that should be had by every potential rural teacher, possibly also by a fair number of general college students.

I have sent trial balloons to Mrs. Williams in the matter of materials of instruction and to Johnson and Askew in the matter of survey courses.

Very truly yours,

ERE:JW

EDWIN R. EMBREE

Dr. T. J. Woofter, Jr.  
Works Progress Administration  
Walker-Johnson Building  
1734 New York Avenue, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

MAR 2 1937

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UNIVERSITY

# CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT		FILE NO.
DATE 2-23-37	REMARKS Corres. with Mr. Johnson re: materials of instruction and the proposed survey course	

SEE		FILE NO.
	JOHNSON CHARLES S	

DATE	SIGNED

FILE CROSS REFERENCE RECORD UNDER NAME OR SUBJECT LISTED AT TOP OF THIS SHEET, AND IN PROPER DATE ORDER.  
THE PAPERS REFERRED TO SHOULD BE FILED UNDER NAME OR SUBJECT LISTED UNDER "SEE"

**YAWMAN AND ERBE MFG. CO.**  
ROCHESTER, N. Y.





7

March 1, 1937

Dear Mrs. Ross: Mr. Clark Foreman has suggested that you might be interested in taking a part in our efforts to prepare more interesting materials of instruction for Southern rural elementary schools. The enclosed memorandum and pamphlet will give you some idea of the thing we have in mind and of the general program in rural education which we are carrying out. Mr. Foreman has thought that you have background and abilities that might qualify you excellently for the preparation of fresh types of school materials.

If you are interested, would you be good enough to let us know, possibly giving us details of your experience and interests? Our first desire is to have a person attached to the faculty of South Georgia Teachers College, Statesboro, Georgia, since it seems to us that in connection with the regular work of a normal college the materials could most successfully be prepared and tried out. Mr. Pittman, the president of this institution, is, of course, in full sympathy with this proposal and has called upon us for aid only because of the limitations of his budget and the rigidity of his schedules. It might be possible for experiments in new materials to be made through other connections than the one suggested above if for one reason or another the suggested appointment were not feasible for a given candidate.

If the idea attracts you at all, let us correspond further and possibly work toward a personal interview later.

ERE:JW

Very truly yours,

EDWIN R. EMBREE

Mrs. Elizabeth Healy Ross  
224 West Eleventh Street  
New York City

MAR 4 1937

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

7  
- March 3, 1937

Dear Miss Argrett: Dr. Charles Johnson has suggested that you might be interested in taking a part in our efforts to prepare more interesting materials of instruction for Southern rural elementary schools. The enclosed memorandum and pamphlet will give you some idea of the thing we have in mind and of the general program in rural education which we are carrying out. Dr. Johnson has thought that you have background and abilities that might qualify you excellently for the preparation of fresh types of school materials.

1937  
MAR 5  
If you are interested, would you be good enough to let us know, possibly giving us details of your experience and interests? Our first desire is to have a person attached to the faculty of Louisiana Negro Normal and Industrial Institute at Grambling, since it seems to us that in connection with the regular work of a normal college the materials could most successfully be prepared and tried out. Mr. Jones, the president of this institution, is, of course, in full sympathy with this proposal and has called upon us for aid only because of the limitations of his budget and the rigidity of his schedules. It might be possible for experiments in new materials to be made through other connections than the one suggested above if for one reason or another the suggested appointment were not feasible for a given candidate.

If the idea attracts you at all, let us correspond further and possibly work toward a personal interview later.

ERE:JW

Very truly yours,

Miss Virginia Mae Argrett  
c/o Dr. Charles Johnson  
Fisk University  
Nashville, Tennessee

EDWIN R. EMBREE

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



# Materials of Instruction

7

March 22, 1937

Dear Mrs. Ross: Thank you for your very nice letter of March 17. I am sorry that you do not think you are prepared to consider the post which I wrote you about some days ago. As you say, Clark Foreman is a man of boundless enthusiasms. When he believes in a person, he is convinced that that person can do anything superlatively. Sometimes he does not even take into account the inclinations and desires of the person concerned. All of this, of course, is not a criticism of Clark. He is one of the most delightful and stimulating men I know.

I am sorry that it does not seem possible to consider an association with you. I look forward to the opportunity of meeting you some time when I am in New York. To do so in association with Miss Pascal would be especially delightful.

Very truly yours,

EDWIN R. FMBREF

ERE:JW

Mrs. Elizabeth Healy Ross  
Cooperative School for Student Teachers  
69 Bank Street  
New York City

MAR 23 1937

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

8

April 1, 1937

see S for Teachers College  
3/29/37

Dear Miss Houx: Dr. Marvin S. Pittman has suggested that you might be interested in taking a part in our efforts to prepare more interesting materials of instruction for southern rural elementary schools. The enclosed memorandum and pamphlet will give you some idea of the thing we have in mind and of the general program in rural education which we are carrying out. Dr. Pittman has thought that you have background and abilities that might qualify you excellently for the preparation of fresh types of school materials.

If you are interested, would you be good enough to let us know, possibly giving us details of your experience and interests? Our first desire is to have a person attached to the faculty of South Georgia Teachers College, since it seems to us that in connection with the regular work of a normal college the materials could most successfully be prepared and tried out. It might be possible for experiments in new materials to be made through other connections if for any reason the suggested appointment were not feasible for a given candidate.

If the idea attracts you at all, let us correspond further and possibly work toward a personal interview later.

Very truly yours,

ERE:RW

Miss Kate Houx  
Eastern Oregon Normal School  
La Grande, Oregon

Enc

EDWARD R. FISK

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

7/4  
JC  
4/9



Mr. E -

Since Pittman is dealing  
with Miss H. we might, as you  
suggest, drop further negotiations.

Would you like for me  
to reply to her letter to you,  
or do you prefer doing so?

D

Mr. G. G. G. G. G.

Is Pittman planning to see  
Miss Howe at Statesboro? He  
mentioned such when he was  
here, didn't he?

J.O.A.

J.C.D. -

Yes. At least she is his  
top candidate. Since he  
is in correspondence  
with her, I think we  
need not carry over  
correspondence further

EDZ



(585)  
EASTERN OREGON NORMAL SCHOOL  
LA GRANDE, OREGON

Apr. 29, 1937

Materials of  
Instruction

2 p. 17

ack May 18

Edwin R. Embree.  
President Julius Rosenwald Fund.  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Embree,

Your letter reached me after I  
had been away on business and also after  
Spring vacation. Hence, the delayed answer.

I am very much interested in the  
possibilities in the type of work you  
suggested. It seems to me there is fine  
opportunity to record and organize  
much in environmental materials  
for use in elementary schools.

You asked concerning my experience  
and interests so I think I shall make

EASTERN OREGON NORMAL SCHOOL  
LA GRANDE, OREGON

my answer somewhat detailed to give as complete a picture as possible. I was born in the South, coming to Oregon in time to begin school in the West. I had elementary school, high school and normal school education in small rural towns. Also, my first teaching experiences were in the same type environment. Later, I taught in a city system and have had years of experience in Oregon and Michigan as training teacher in normal school and teachers college work. The last eight years, I have spent organizing and directing the training school here which also brings me into contact with all the town schools as well as following



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LA GRANDE, OREGON

up the work of our students in rural schools as far as a full schedule will permit.

Field work, institute, curriculum committees, community activities naturally are included in my general program of work in addition to the obvious academic responsibilities. I have always had some normal school classes here. At present, I have one in education.

The major portion of school work for me has been in normal schools or teachers colleges. I was first in Monmouth, Oregon; then Ypsilanti, Michigan, then here. Bachelor's and Master's degrees have been earned in Teachers College, Columbia.

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University, N. Y. C., with majors in Elementary Education and Normal School-Teachers College work, respectively. I have also had a summer school beyond the Master's degree, at Teachers College. Earlier summer school experiences include Colorado State Teachers College at Greeley, Colo. and The University of Chicago.

In the work here, we have endeavored to record all of our worthwhile units developed and are trying to work toward a "materials bureau".

My interests include literature and reading for both adults and children. I have included various courses from outstanding authorities when I have been going to school as well as carrying on my own independent program when teaching.



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I have also had a special interest in geography and geography materials. In music, I have no preparation whatever. I enjoy it and have tried to hear many of the great operas and great artists but I have no technical back-ground at all.

Outdoor sports (when there is time) include horse-back riding, swimming and hiking.

All of my educational experiences have included dealing with elementary school children and their materials.

I am not sure I could do the work well which you have in mind but it is the thing in which I am interested and in which a fine contribution can be made. If, after investigation of my credentials and references, you feel I am the type of applicant acceptable, I should be glad to be considered for the position.

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LA GRANDE, OREGON

The following persons can give you definite information about me if you wish it:

Dr. E. S. Evenden, Teachers College, Columbia University  
Dr. Jean Betzner, Teachers College, Columbia University  
Miss Emily De Vore, Professor of Education, San Jose  
Teachers College, San Jose, California.

Also, my present superior officer, President  
H. E. Inlow, Eastern Oregon Normal School, La Grande,  
Oregon, can tell you in detail the type and  
quality of work I have done in the eight  
years here.

I have given all these details in the  
beginning so that you may know whether or  
not you are interested in investigating my  
credentials.

The enclosed pictures may give an idea of





EASTERN OREGON NORMAL SCHOOL  
LA GRANDE, OREGON

part of our work here.

I believe all of my credentials are on file in the Placement Bureau at Teachers College if you wish to see the detailed classes and also comments of various instructors.

Thank you for your consideration

Very truly yours

(Miss) Kate Hunt

Materials of  
Instruction

7

June 17, 1937

Dear Miss Houx:        Since Mr. Embree wrote you  
                             Dr. Pittman has notified us  
that he was corresponding with you relative to  
your working with him at Statesboro next year.

                             This is the same interest  
Mr. Embree had at the time he wrote you and since  
you and Dr. Pittman are now in direct touch with  
each other the purpose of Mr. Embree's letter is  
largely served. He asks me to thank you for your  
full reply to his letter, to return the pictures  
you were kind enough to send him, and to express  
his hope that negotiations between you and  
Dr. Pittman may terminate satisfactorily to both  
of you.

Very truly yours,  
J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Miss Kate Houx  
Eastern Oregon Normal School  
Le Grande, Oregon

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



# Materials of Instruction

Materials of Instruction person

	JCI			o

## Remarks:

I wonder if you would send Ruddle  
these from this point on?  
I'll be glad to consult - but  
I think it is your responsibility -  
EDE

I wrote initial letters in your  
absence just to get a plan started  
of the lot, then Eggett (or something similar)  
recommended by CSJ seems to me best  
Mrs. Edith Webb Williams as promising  
Miss Hegel also interesting  
Theresa Johnson seems to me to write herself out  
Miss Ruddle to course in a line shot for the Rural Arts

Bauford's -

Two-year program for  
popularizing education in  
Ga. - a paid secretary for  
this.



## *Materials of Instruction*

The attached, together with a letter inviting them to give details of their interests and experience, went to:

Miss Helen Hay Heyl, Teachers College, New York City  
Mrs. Edith Webb Williams, Cornell University

*Elizabeth Healy Ross, NY City  
Virginia Mae Argrett (c/o Chas Johnson) (Negro.)*

