

Fort Valley Inst



M. D. COLLINS  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS

State  
Department of Education

Atlanta, Georgia (State of)

August 3, 1938

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
507 - 121st Street  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Last week I visited Peach and Macon counties for the purpose of discussing the terms of the contract for Mrs. Catherine Duncan as supervising teacher for the 1938-39 school term. A contract has been signed by the superintendent of each county calling for a term of nine months beginning September 1 at a salary of \$140 per month, or a total of \$1,260 for nine months. The sources of the annual salary are as follows:

Peach County	.....	\$540
Macon County	.....	540
Southern Education Foundation		180

1260  
240  
1500

Peach County will list the supervisor as a teacher and Macon County will draw the state supervisory fund.

If the state takes over the institution at Fort Valley it is our plan to place Mrs. Duncan in a position of prominence in connection with the teacher training program. It is expected that experiments will be carried on in the Negro schools in Peach and Macon counties under the proposed program. This year Mrs. Duncan will have a wonderful opportunity to get acquainted with the actual situation in both counties and establish a cordial relationship with children, patrons, teachers, and school officials. It is quite evident that the salary mentioned above is inadequate for Mrs. Duncan, taking into consideration her training, experience, and the cost of travel to the numerous schools. Since your Board has manifested an interest in the proposed program at Fort Valley I am therefore requesting consideration for a grant of \$240 to be applied on the salary of Mrs. Duncan which will enable her to better cover the territory assigned and prepare reports which will be necessary in the formation of a teacher training program to be set up at the Fort Valley institution. It is suggested that should this grant be made that it be paid in three instalments of \$80 each on the first day of December, March, and June. I am confident that this small grant would be a real investment on the part of your Board in the matter of preliminary planning for a program which we expect to mean so much to the entire State of Georgia.

Sincerely yours,

Robert L. Cousins

RLC:m

FLSK  
UNIVERSITY

Confidential

October 29, 1937

Dear Lester: We have prepared a docket item for the meeting of our Board on the 13th which will make available \$50,000 to be used in the transfer of Fort Valley to the state system. I suggested this amount because I have mentioned \$40,000 to Patton, and because I believe it will be necessary to have an additional sum after the transfer is made.

I am still quite perturbed about the possibilities of the whole thing. Mr. Embree and I had a conference with Sanford when we were in Atlanta. We came away feeling not too encouraged over Sanford's enthusiasm for the project. In addition to this I recently had a telegram from Dr. Patton, a copy of which you have received. This, of course, indicated quite definitely that either Patton was hedging on the whole transaction or he had decided to do some additional trading which he thought would be advantageous to him and to his Board. If our trustees appropriate the money, however, we shall be in a position to force the issue on the whole matter and to know pretty shortly thereafter either that both the regents and the American Church Institute are willing to see the transaction consummated or to know that we might as well cease our efforts to bring about the transfer.

Our Board will meet before my return to Georgia, so when I see you on the 18th or 19th of November I will be able to report definitely.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Mr. L. M. Lester  
State Department of Education  
Atlanta, Georgia

FISK  
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# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

THE RT. REV. JAMES DEWOLF PERRY, D. D.  
PRESIDENT

MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER  
TREASURER

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THE REV. G. WARFIELD HOBBS, D. D.  
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St. Augustine's College - - - Raleigh, N. C.  
St. Paul Normal and Industrial School, Lawrenceville, Va.  
Bishop Payne Divinity School - - - Petersburg, Va.  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School, Fort Valley, Ga.  
St. Mark's Normal and Industrial School, Birmingham, Ala.  
Gailor Industrial School - - - Mason, Tenn.  
Gaudet Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
Voorhees Normal and Industrial School, Denmark, S. C.  
Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

May 16th, 1937  
Piedmont Hotel,  
Atlanta, Ga.

## TRUSTEES

THE RT. REV. JAMES DEWOLF PERRY, D. D.

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## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Avenue,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

On account of the pressure on us in the next ten days in covering our board meetings and other duties, Mr. Bentley and I decided that it would be best for your convenience as well as our own, to write the letter you requested of us at once, rather than run the risk of too much delay in case we are tied up with unavoidable duties after leaving Atlanta. We made this decision after your telephone message that you would be called to New York sooner than you had expected.

There is no public stenographer available to-day. I am therefore compelled to be my own typist, and am by no means expert. Accept my apologies in advance for any errors, erasures etc.

First of all, accept our expressions of admiration and approval of the statesman like plan for Fort Valley's place in the educational system of the State of Georgia, as outlined so clearly and vividly by the Chancellor, Doctor S. B. Sanford, and yourself, in Mr. Bentley's and my conference on Saturday, May 15th, with you gentlemen and Mr. R. E. Cousins. The purpose to make the school a four year Teacher's College, to give scientific training in agriculture, horticulture and in the related trades, with a probable appropriation for maintenance of \$35,000.00 from the beginning, together with appropriations for necessary buildings and equipment as may be necessary to carry through the program as outlined, will certainly be an important factor when our authorities face the difficult responsibility of deciding what their duty is in the question of turning the school over to the State.

After you gentlemen had frankly and clearly outlined your plan for Fort Valley in the event that our authorities consent to transfer the institution to the control of the State, you asked us to give you gentlemen an equally frank statement as to what conditions we thought our authorities would require. ~~Then~~ After explaining that the subject had never been considered by our Boards, and that we could not therefore commit them, we stated that we had discussed the subject with several of the members of the Board of the Institute and of the School, and that we believed that the following considerations fairly represent the view point of that minority of our authorities with whom we have discussed the subject. We are inclined to believe, also, that the remainder of our official group would, if and when the matter comes before them, emphasize the considerations we mentioned in our conference, the substance of which we summarize below.

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(1) We are sure that without exception our authorities will be governed in their action first of all by what shall seem their duty in the spiritual development of the Negro, and their conception of the term "spiritual" will include education. Our authorities are in the habit of thinking of education as a spiritual process, and our Institute schools, as you are fully aware, have been conducted with that premise as their basis. Since you, your associates, and the other gentlemen with whom ~~xxxxxx~~ we conferred on Saturday, hold similar views, you will be able to present to our group the reasons why you think it our duty to transfer the school, with the assurance in advance that they will understand and appreciate your view point.

(2) We stated in our conference that if it should be decided to transfer the school to the ~~the~~ authorities of the State, our authorities would retain a small tract of land, two or three acres more or less, on which a chapel, perhaps a community house and other facilities for religious services to students, and to people of the community. I have no doubt that the land reserved could be arranged in a mutually satisfactory location.

(3) Although the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School did not become formally connected with the Episcopal Church until 1917, The Rt. Rev. C. K. Nelson D.D., Bishop of Georgia, was President of the Board of Trustees of the school several years before it became connected with the Episcopal Church, and on his recommendation during that period the Institute made the school a small appropriation.

Since our official connection with the school, about twenty years ago, we have remitted to the school for maintenance in excess of \$364,000.00, and for capital investments, including buildings and equipment in excess of \$414,000.00 according to a notation recently sent me by our Secretary, ~~xxxxxx~~ a total of around \$778,000.00. It is not necessary to go over with meticulous care records running back so many years, but the above is given merely as indicative of the large investment in the school by those, who for the most part made their contributions because it was a church school. Of the total for buildings etc, the General Education Board gave us about \$151,000.00, and prior to Mr. Rosenwald's death, the Julius Rosenwald Fund gave us \$10,000.00 for the building program at Fort Valley. In addition to remittances from our central office, the two Episcopal dioceses of Georgia have sent annually varying sums direct to the school. The total from these two sources would be a large additional sum, and other contributions from individuals would make a still larger ~~xxxxxx~~ sum.

The minority of our official group with whom we have discussed the subject have expressed their conviction ~~xxxxxxxxxx~~ that since not a few of those who have given generously in response to our appeals for Fort Valley have passed into the other world, we hav'nt the right to surrender the school without recovery of a portion, at least, of the capital investment. Should the transfer be consummated, they desire to be very ~~xx~~ generous, but since other educational corporations have been given large sums for the education of Negroes under public auspices, they do not think a church corporation whose funds were given ~~for~~ the maintenance of Negro schools under private auspices, should be expected to bear the whole cost. Mr. Bentley and I, therefore, ~~expressed~~ expressed the opinion that our authorities would take the ground that they would be going as far as they conscientiously can in requiring a payment of \$150,000.00.

There is another important point in this connection, which some of our officials have expressed, namely the fear that the heirs of some of our donors might sue the Institute on the ground that the original purpose of the gifts had been diverted. The Institute should ~~xxxx~~ not only have protection against such contingencies, but since the large sums spent



on this school could have been used to strengthen the work in our other schools, our authorities feel that at least some of it should be ~~recovered~~ recovered for that purpose. In one of your excellent statements yesterday, you advocated our release of Fort Valley to the State, because of the difficulty, as compared with some years ago of securing funds for private education. It is true, but it is for that reason ~~that~~ in part that our authorities feel that, in the event that Fort Valley is transferred to the State, they should recover ~~xx~~ a part of the investment in Fort Valley in order to fortify the work of our other schools.

We mentioned another point yesterday, which, in view of your request that we embody in writing the most important points in our conversation with you, it is just as well to repeat. The authorities of the Church in Georgia were many years ago induced to join with the Institute in maintaining these schools. We formerly had one in Brunswick Ga., a very good school, but in order <sup>to</sup> strengthen Fort Valley, the Institute persuaded the Bishop of that diocese to close it, in order to concentrate all of our strength on Fort Valley. He would not have taken that course had he believed there was even a probability of consummating the proposal now under consideration. Moreover both of the dioceses of Georgia have sacrificed some of the funds which would have been used for their other work for Negroes, had they not joined with the Institute in the development of Fort Valley. We are in view of these and other factors to do at least something by way of compensation for ~~this~~ sacrifice of the part of the two dioceses, who during all of these years believed that they were partners in a permanent work, instead of a temporary one, if Fort Valley is to go to the State. bound

I think this covers the most important points which we discussed on Saturday, and which you wished sent to you in this letter.

Please, in preparing your paper for our Board, which meets on June 14th, give for their information the same clear statement of what you and others ~~xxx~~ conceive and expect to accomplish with Fort Valley as the apex of Negro education in the State of Georgia. Please, also, be prepared, if practicable, to give us an approximate estimate of when, should our Board agree, the State Board would wish to take charge. A serious injustice might be done to our Principal, Faculty, and students with all of the uncertainties involved in a change, if it were not decided well, abundantly well, in advance of the close of the school year. The Institute would also be embarrassed for the same reasons.

In view of the great importance of this matter to all concerned, will you be willing to come in person before our Board, if I can arrange it after consultation with our President. I personally would like very much to have you do so, but there may be reasons unknown to me why it would be better to have you at a later date. It distresses me deeply to contemplate the possibility of giving Fort Valley up, after so many years of association with it, but if we must in duty face it in a serious way, then I think it should go before our Board under conditions favorable to full and disinterested consideration. It seems to me that to this end, your presence will be most important.

I shall be at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans from the ~~17~~ 17th, in the evening, till late afternoon of the 18th, and at Biloxi, Miss., on the 19th and for a few days. Can you write or wire me at either place, letting me know if this is received and satisfactory, and whether you would be willing to come to our Board Meeting and present the case as you see it.

It was pleasant to both of us to see so much of you.

Apologizing again for my poor workmanship as a typist, since I have been compelled to do this on Sunday when no one else is available, I am,

Cordially yours,

Robert W. Patton

I am sending a copy of this marked "Personal" so that, if by no means, it may not be officially cognizant of it.



Fort Valley Inst

GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER 1902  
(INCORPORATED 1903)

Copy to JCD  
6/23/37 MLU

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

RAYMOND B. FOSDICK, PRESIDENT  
W. W. BRIERLEY, SECRETARY

JUN 23 ach MLU

June 21, 1937

My dear Dixon:

I very much appreciate your long letter of June 17th telling me about your meeting with the American Church Institute. I have talked with Dr. Patton over the telephone and learn from him that you made an excellent presentation of the subject.

Dr. Dillard wrote me briefly to the effect that he felt, first that Georgia needed a school of this kind under church influence and, secondly that the State of Georgia had never demonstrated its ability to develop properly the institutions that it owned already. I have just written him confidentially that I did not believe under present circumstances that the American Church Institute could do as effective a piece of work at Fort Valley as the State of Georgia could do. Furthermore, I told him that in the last two years the Georgia Board of Regents had demonstrated a desire to do far more for its Negro institutions than in the past. I may be all wrong, but with Principal Hunt's present attitude towards the American Church Institute, I doubt seriously that they can do an effective piece of work in that institution with him in charge. He appears anxious to have the State take over the school, and in my judgment he will work effectively with the institution under State control. The American Church Institute had to do some rather unpleasant things last year, as you know. Although I am sure they were right, their actions seem to have left a somewhat strained relationship between the Principal and the Institute.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Leonard Haward*

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

LMF:RDE

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Gauder Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
Voorhees Normal and Industrial School, Denmark, S. C.  
Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

June 24th, 1937.  
Lindsay, Va.

## TRUSTEES

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WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Avenue, N.W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Your letter of the 17th, expressing your appreciation of our invitation to address our Board on June 14th, and your satisfaction with the cordial reception and hearing given you, is just received at Lindsay, Va., where, for economy in my travels, I shall be, off and on, until about July 10th when I shall return to New York for a few days, from the 10th to 14th. As Mr. Bentley and I said to you next day, we felt that you did your work well in what you said to our Board, and I do not think that any one thought you were, as you express it, in the least "dogmatic or opinionated". They asked you to give them a clear and frank expression of your view point, which you did, and I am sure every one appreciated it. As I told you in my first letter, after our meeting in Atlanta, which they have accepted as the basis for considering the subject, their decision will <sup>be</sup> based primarily on the question-"What is our duty?"

Pardon resort, half way along, to single space. I am doing my own typing here in the country.

It is natural that you should contemplate this matter, as does our Board and I, with some emotion. Where serious purposes and convictions are concerned, emotion, reason, and conscience are all involved in normal human beings. Intelligent exercise of duty and reason inevitably awaken emotion in every one who has a heart. So, you have no reason for being ashamed of that confession. I experience it also in contemplating the possibility of separation from a school with which I have been connected for so many years.

Thank you for saying again what a good job you feel that the Institute and our associates have done at Fort Valley. Our people are



modestly but fully aware of it. Knowing that the Institute can do, and has done at Fort Valley and in several of our other schools, a good service, superior at least to what the State of Georgia has done thus far, is as you observed in some of the remarks and comments at the meeting you attended, one of the questions which weighs on the conscience of the members of our Board. You remember that Dr. Dillard and Dr. Milton made that point, and they are very conscientious about it, and as to whether a change in the character of Georgia's political set-up a few years from <sup>now</sup> might not nullify the present liberal tendencies towards justice to Negroes ~~in~~ in education.

As to the recovery of a part of the investment, as indicated in my letter to you (of May 17th - believe it was), the conviction is, as I think you observed, that in surrendering the work in Georgia at the request not only of the Board of Regents of the State, but of the Officers of other educational Corporations interested in and having funds for public education, why should they not prove their faith by their works ~~by~~ sharing the sacrifice with us, and thereby enable us to strengthen our schools elsewhere--schools, which are rendering a needed service in Negro education, and which the States would not, for the present at least, take over, if we closed them. One of our group said in private conversation that he wondered whether those who are advocating that we transfer the school to the State see ~~the~~ inconsistency of proposing a course to an entirely private organization which they as at least quasi public corporations had any hesitancy in following themselves, namely sharing a small part of the cost with us.

But you are already aware of these expressions. I am writing three times as much or more than I intended in acknowledging your good letter of the 17th.

I am glad you are proceeding along the lines Mr. Bentley and I suggested when you called on us, the day after you met our Board, on June 15th. This sort of thing can't be hurried. Both sides should have all the time necessary for reflection and decision. I earnestly trust and believe that the ultimate decision will be what is wise and right.

Should you have occasion to write to me before July 8th on any subject, please send a copy of your letter to me at Lindsay, Va., but the original to New York.

With warm personal regards,

Very sincerely,

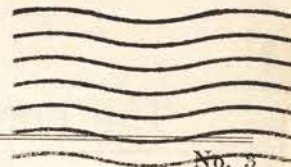
*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton.

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



Mr. Edwin R. Embree,  
925 S. Homan Ave.,  
Chicago, Ill.

# The Fort Valley Message



Vol. XI.

FORT VALLEY, GEORGIA, MARCH, 1938

No. 3



Principal H. A. Hunt

## A THIRTY-FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

Principal H. A. Hunt and his wife, Mrs. F. J. Hunt, have just completed thirty-four years of work in the service of the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School. It occurred to some of the teachers that it would be fitting to pay some attention to the completion of so long a period of service, and that it would be well to give the honored ones a reception in the new Robert W. Patton Hall, a building devoted to Home Economics. A committee was appointed and hastily a program was arranged with speeches and music, ending in a simple collation highly seasoned with admiration and love for these two great benefactors of Negro youth in Georgia. Among the speakers were not only members of the faculty but also patrons, alumni and others doing social and educational work in the community. It was most interesting to hear all of these speakers tell in a number of little ways in which both Mr. and Mrs. Hunt had helped them over difficulties which to others may have seemed small, but to the person helped, it meant sometimes giving up a school career or failure to graduate, or continued ill health or threatened discouragement and final surrender of effort in what seemed a hopeless task. There were some of the older teachers who had been long at Fort Valley who made the company visualize the progress of the School by telling how they plowed corn or picked peaches or cared for the cows and mules on certain spots where one, or more, of our good buildings now stands.

When called upon to speak, Mr. Hunt, as always, made no claim of being able to do, or of having done the things mentioned by others, without the constant advice and assistance of Mrs. Hunt and of other workers who had stood by them in every emergency and in every trial when funds and supplies were at the lowest point. Mrs. Hunt likewise told how they had tried to work together and how an earnest desire to help finally overcame suspicion of many who thought they had come to proselyte the children and not to lead both children and parents into a better way of life.

The most impressive thing in all that was said by everybody was the truth that came out again and again that the chief

support in the labors of these two people was their abiding faith that, somehow, means would come for carrying out their dreams for this School and for this community. Sometimes the grocer refused to deliver a bill of goods because of the arrearage in accounts; and sometimes commencement day approached with teachers' salaries unpaid, but in unforeseen ways, the money came to deliver the School from impending difficulties. It was not only the visible building and equipment that prompted teachers to notice this thirty-fourth anniversary but it was also those invisible qualities in Mr. and Mrs. Hunt that have materialized here and given character and distinction to the work of the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School.



Mrs. F. J. Hunt

## A NOTABLE EVENT

For a long time there has been a growing interest in the Episcopal churches of Macon for the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School. Even before one of the rectors became a trustee of the School, a warm interest was manifested through visits and gifts to the School. Sunday, March 13, brought a culmination of that interest when the young people of Christ Church invited all of the other churches to join them in an invitation to the Fort Valley Choir to give a program of songs in the Parish House of Christ Church. Our singers responded to the invitation and gave a program consisting of spirituals, except two other numbers that were given by request. The students rose to the occasion perfectly. They seemed to realize that it was an opportunity to sing their group into the hearts of the hearers in a way that no other opportunities gave a chance to do. The audience also seemed to sense an opportunity because their response was most enthusiastic and genuine. The auditorium was filled to its capacity and chairs were brought in to fill every nook. Principal Hunt spoke briefly and after the singing the crowd surged forward and overwhelmed the Principal and the singers with words of appreciation.



## The Fort Valley Message

### The Fort Valley Message

Published Quarterly by the  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School, Fort Valley, Ga.  
H. A. HUNT, Editor

G. A. TOWNS } Associate Editors  
F. J. HUNT }

Price 50c per year. Address all communications to H. A. HUNT,  
Fort Valley, Georgia.

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August 24, 1912.

"Ye shall know the truth and the truth shall make you free."

#### A DILEMMA

WHAT SHALL WE DO? "Balance your budget. Do not go into debt." These are familiar and, no doubt, wise injunctions given to school principals by the trustees of the institutions over which they have control. "Do not allow your school buildings to fall into decay from lack of paint and minor repairs."

The last statement is dictated by GOOD COMMON SENSE. In the face of the Trustees' directions, what shall we do when we see our buildings and equipment deteriorating in a way that could be prevented, but when we do not have the money with which to purchase the necessary paint and other materials to prevent the damage?

Our Mr. A. D. Watson, who has charge of repairs and school buildings when he is here at Fort Valley, and who sings bass and recites "Creation" by James Weldon Johnson, when our singers are giving entertainments in the interest of the School, has just handed me a list of urgently needed repairs amounting to \$1370.00. A large part of this sum is needed for work on Ohio Hall erected in 1928. Only minor repairs have been made since the building was completed. We are still grateful to the friends in Ohio who contributed a large share of the cost of this building and regret that we must now earnestly appeal to them for assistance in keeping it from being damaged by what might seem neglect, but which, in reality, is for lack of means to prevent it. The estimated amount needed for this building is \$865.00. We earnestly appeal to our friends in Ohio for funds with which to keep "their building" which houses 100 young men and several teachers, from being damaged more seriously. And we cordially invite them to stop over to see not only Ohio Hall but the School as a whole on their trips to and from Florida.



Ohio Hall

#### WHY WE CONDUCT SUMMER SCHOOL FOR TEACHERS

When one realizes that there are still probably more than a thousand colored teachers in Georgia on the level of the one writing the letter which follows, there can be no question about

the need for doing everything we can to help raise the level of those who have charge of Negro school children. For obvious reasons we omit the name and any reference which would serve to identify the individual; but the following is a verbatim copy of a letter which speaks for itself and emphasizes the need for doing everything we can to help remedy the condition indicated:

..... Georgia

February 8, 1938

Prof. H. A. Hunt

Dear Sir: hope you are well: and doing fine this leave me doing nicely at this time: Now Prof. Hunt I no this is a Surprise to you to hear from me but I hope my riting will be excepted Sence Education work have become so much in differents the School Commis-sions are requiring for teachers that have taken some Colledge work from some Colledge School and I am Kindly Asking you please Sir to Send me my Credit of course it ben a Long time sence I was down there and we cannot Command no Salvery with some credit from a Colledge. I know you understand it better than I. Please See after it for me a deal of the teachers have Sent for there credit from Summer Schools and some haven ben but one year, and they have got they credit I am the only teacher in ..... teaching now that ben to Fort Valley High and Industrial School: So when I went to Summer School There I takens up Col-ledge work so I am looking for you to help me out if you please

Ps Prof. Hunt Can I take Carrospounding Courses From you and get Colledge Credits: What will it cost? I want to No: Please let me hear from you at once I am inclosing a stamp I hope I made good I hope you will fixt it up. I went to school while George ..... was going there My name is....."

This teacher attended Summer School at Fort Valley many years ago when there were many others who showed a similar lack of preparation, and while, as this letter shows, there are still some of this type, it is only fair to state that the great majority give evidence of much better training.

#### GEORGIA CHAIN GANG

The Georgia Chain Gang has been publicized so widely in an unfavorable light that it is encouraging to make note of any efforts on the part of State authorities to improve conditions which our present Governor characterized as "The worst blot on the State of Georgia." According to newspaper reports a new and modern prison has been erected in the Southern part of the State and under a new State Board of Penal Administration, the public is assured that prisoners will receive more humane treatment than heretofore. Under date of February 16th newspapers quote one member of the Committee as urging the treatment of prisoners "like human beings, not like wild animals in a cage." Another encouraging note in today's dispatches on the prison situation in Georgia is a statement that members of the Commission will be expected to aid released convicts in obtaining work so that they will not drift back to prison.

While we believe that more should be done to prevent crime we are nevertheless encouraged over the thought of more humane treatment and intelligent efforts at rehabilitation of those who have transgressed the law.

#### INFORMATION AND INVITATION

"Georgia is the largest state east of the Mississippi River. Its area is 59,266 square miles. There are 159 counties, of which Burke, with an area of 956 square miles, is the largest; Clarke is the smallest, having an area of only 114 square miles. Atlanta is the largest city and the capital. It has a population of about 300,000. Savannah, the second city in size, with a population of



# The Fort Valley Message

85,000 is the oldest city in the State and the leading seaport of the entire South Atlantic Coast. Other large cities of Georgia are: Augusta, with a population of 60,342; Macon, 53,829; and Columbus, 43,131. (Federal Census 1930.)"

Besides the information above we are anxious that our friends especially those who make trips from the North and East and Midwest, should know that Fort Valley can be reached over well-paved roads from practically every direction and there is excellent train service passing through Fort Valley into Florida. We wish them to know also that we now have guest our new Home Economics Building and shall be most pleased to have any and all who are interested in the education of Negroes to visit us.

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## A PARTY TO JUANITA AND DANIEL

The teachers of the Fort Valley Training School conceived the idea that the retirement of two of our old mules from their labors would be a fitting time to teach the children a lesson in the humane treatment of dumb animals. Accordingly, a project was formed and a study was made of "Mules."

At the conclusion of the study a day was set for a party for the mules, to which they were invited and given apples and hay to eat as is shown in the picture above. There was great eagerness in the children to be chosen to serve the mules and the animals seemed to enjoy the caressing pats on their faces. They must have been overcome by the kindness, because some dared to stroke even the hind legs of the creatures, a practice that, as commonly regarded, is followed by deadly results. The conclusion must be that mules, like the children themselves, respond to kind treatment. At any rate, it was pleasant to have the children come to think of the treatment of dumb animals in that light.

—o—

## CADET TEACHING

Our classes in Teacher Training are sending students into the country schools in easy reach of Fort Valley to observe actual conditions in the schools into which many will go as teachers, and, after observing, to get a chance to teach and put into practice the methods and principles of teaching they have learned here. We have long felt the need of such cooperation with country schools, but problems of transportation and extra teaching force have been some of the obstacles in our way. Now we are attacking the problem experimentally with the hope that means will be found to establish this connection between the School and the County on a solid and permanent basis. Appreciation of country life must precede the desire to live in the country. That appreciation is based upon the chance to satisfy the fundamental desires. If Fort Valley can impart an education that will enable her graduates to discover in the country these means whereby present resources can be used and developed in a way to produce joy and satisfaction in country life, it will be doing an invaluable service to our State.

## AN ENCOURAGING PRONOUNCEMENT

Chancellor Philip Weltner of the State University System of Georgia made recently a pronouncement that cannot fail to give encouragement not only to all underprivileged groups in Georgia, but also to the genuine patriots in our State who have longed for and labored for the day when the truth should get a hearing and when the desires of noble men should be fulfilled in a democracy where every man has a fair chance and knows he has it. The following clipping is taken from the Atlanta Constitution of February 7: "The educational system of Georgia fails to fulfill the ideals of democracy visioned by the country's founders, Dr. Philip Weltner, former chancellor of the State University System, said last night. He spoke before the sixth monthly meeting of the citizens' fact-finding movement committee, a group composed of presidents of 16 state-wide civic, religious and other organizations seeking to determine and disseminate facts about the problems of Georgia. Dr. Weltner said "America was founded on a philosophy peculiar to itself and based upon the wide dissemination of knowledge to all its people. In Georgia our educational system gives lip service to that philosophy but follows the classical tradition of other countries of class education." His speech was based on a survey of Georgia education prepared by him and members of the State Department of Education for the committee. Through the central committee, the survey findings will be relayed to 5,100 local groups. He recommended that education lift from the bottom upward, bringing to the large percentage of illiterate and semi-illiterate in the State an education which would be of practical value. "We must implement the philosophy of mass education with methods and practices capable of giving it flesh and blood," he said. "We must lift at the point of least advantage, creating competence and initiative in the light of probable opportunities." "And remember we can never raise the educational standards of the people of this State unless we think in terms of the Negro population. So long as the Negro is in the ditch there will be a large percentage of whites on a similar low level," he said. "It is only when we have done these things that we shall have kept faith with the ideals of the fathers of the nations," he concluded.

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## Snow—A Big Surprise Unwelcomed

## NORTHERN LIGHTS FAR SOUTH

About seven o'clock in the evening of January 25 and about midnight of the night before we saw at this place the unusual phenomenon of the aurora borealis, or northern lights. It appeared on the first night as great spangles of light in many colors reaching to the zenith. On the second night it appeared about seven o'clock as a great rose colored glow that resembled the heavens during a huge conflagration. The strangeness of the phenomenon was that it appeared more east than north and, for that reason, most observers believed it was only the reflection of a great flame not more than ten miles distant.

UNIVERSITY



# The Fort Valley Message

## OUR VISITORS

More and more Fort Valley is attracting visitors from far and near. Our record shows the names of educators, business men, philanthropists, missionaries, farmers, artists and professional men and women, some of whom we list as follows:

Mrs. Carrington Davis, of Baltimore, Md. in company with Mr. and Mrs. Joseph H. B. Evans of Washington, D. C. The ladies enjoyed a rest at Fort Valley while Mr. Evans pursued his activities as a federal officer visiting this region.

Later in the month came Mr. Fred McCuiston, Secretary of the Southern Association of Colleges, Mr. Jackson Davis and Dr. Mann of the general Education Board who made a tour of inspection of our campus and left us apparently pleased with what they saw.

Mrs. Carrie B. Pittman and Mrs. Nellie M. Towns came from Atlanta to see their friends and the new improvements in our plant.

Mr. Willis R. Hotchkis of Kericho, Kenya Colony, British East Africa, a missionary for more than forty years in Africa, told us of his thrilling experiences and of the modern developments he has seen take place in the great continent.

Mr. H. W. Russell of the Atlanta Life Insurance Co. delivered a very helpful talk to our students upon the homely virtues of honesty and truthfulness. He was accompanied by Mr. W. C. Lee, the Divisional Manager, of Macon, Ga.

Mr. and Mrs. J. J. DeValois, missionaries from Arcot Mission, Kotpodi, S. India, spent a short time with us, inspecting our industrial work especially.

Mr. Stanley A. Harris of New York City, Mr. O. Carl Sullivan of Macon, Mr. Weaver M. Marr and Mr. Lawrence Mansfield of Atlanta came to see us, representing the Boy Scouts of America.

Dr. M. O. Bousfield of the Julius Rosenwald Fund and Mr. A. W. Dent, Superintendent of the Flint-Goodridge Hospital of Dillard University came to inspect Fort Valley in February. They were pleased with what they saw.

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## FORT VALLEY ON THE AIR

Our Choir has gained for itself considerable reputation by singing not only in local gatherings but also in other cities and towns of Georgia. A concert in Macon last year attracted the attention of the Broadcasting Station WMAZ, and, as a result, our singers have been invited to give a series of broadcasts for six Sunday afternoons. The programs have consisted almost wholly of Negro spirituals broadcast from our own auditorium. That gave opportunity for a large audience of town's people who are not patrons of the School to attend and hear the singers directly. The audience has grown with each succeeding broadcast.

Many appreciative letters came like this one to our music director, Mr. E. R. Clark saying, "It was with great satisfaction

and pleasure that we listened to the program rendered over the radio by the Fort Valley Chorus. Please accept my congratulations for what I considered a very excellent program. I hope to have the pleasure of hearing the group again soon."

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## CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

The class of boys in Agriculture took a hike recently five miles away to Powersville to take part in a demonstration of reforestation. The trees set out were "slash" pine seedlings which variety is growing more and more in demand because of the development of the paper industry in Georgia. The growth of that variety of pine is encouraged by people interested in the commercial aspects of reforestation.

Negro History Week has become an institution in Negro schools all over the country. This movement was begun in Chicago, September 9, 1915, by Dr. Carter G. Woodson, the most eminent scholar of Negro history in our country. The movement was incorporated as the Association for the Study of Negro Life and History under the laws of the District of Columbia in October 1915. The next year, it brought out the Journal of Negro History—the most authentic journal yet published that devotes itself entirely to Negro history. These studies during Negro History Week have done much to engender in our students a thorough knowledge and, in consequence, a deep respect for their antecedents and traditions.

This year the memorial exercises for Abraham Lincoln and Julius Rosenwald were united and a fitting sermon by our Chaplain, Rev. L. M. Alexander, was given together with appropriate music by the Choir. Negroes will never let the memory of these two men die. Their deeds do not need the praise of Negroes; they will shine with their own radiant light, yet it is good for Negroes themselves to remember such benefactors.

The girls' and the men's basketball teams made a good start by winning their first three games. From the teams of Gray Public School, the girls won by a score of 13 to 5; the boys, by a score of 42 to 19. From the Perry Public School our girls won 13 to 2; our boys 16 to 4.

The Parent-Teacher Association is buying, at a considerable figure, window shades for the ten rooms in our Training School. At the last meeting they sponsored a debate between two grades upon the subject: Resolved, "That it is better to own a home than to rent one."

The classes in Home Economics have opened a cafeteria in the new building and are serving a menu daily. Besides giving students and teachers, especially, opportunity to buy little extras to eat, it will afford practice to the classes without encountering loss. The room has several small tables made by students in our shop, with tops finished in natural color and well varnished. In the center of the room is a larger table that will accommodate a group of eight or ten persons. A good start has been made in the service, and we know that strangers passing through, will be tempted to patronize the cafeteria, and once they do come, a return trip to Fort Valley is assured.

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Two of our teachers this year have revolted against single blessedness. Miss Roberta Lassiter, our Social Worker and Mr. J. J. Brown were married early in the year and more recently Mr. Frank R. Davis, our teacher of biology and Miss Ava Marie Solomon, a teacher of Macon. Both brides received from the Faculty, showers of beautiful and practical gifts and both couples reside on the campus.



Fort Valley Inst

P

June 17, 1937

Dear Mr. Favrot: The meeting with the American Church Institute on Monday afternoon was an interesting experience. I had to go into this unofficially, of course, and told the Board very frankly that the only basis upon which I could validate my presence was that of a defensible interest both in the program of higher education for Negroes in Georgia and in the Fort Valley set-up.

In presenting the project to them I tried to outline the development of higher education for Negroes, beginning with the survey which resulted in the creation of the Board of Regents, and interpreting for them as thoroughly as I could the present philosophy and attitude both of the Board of Regents and of the citizens of Georgia in general. I tried to point out to them the various aspects and possibilities in the proposal to transfer Fort Valley to the state, and in proposing to them that they give the plant to the state I must concede, of course, that from a financial point of view I chose the procedure which would be of most value to the state. This I admitted to them very frankly, but tried to point out at the same time the advantages that would accrue to the Institute even in the event of an outright gift.

After stating my proposal for quite a while, I was questioned by individuals on the Board for an even longer time. As was to be expected, these questions approached the problem from various angles, and for me, at least, had various imports and implications. In general these might be classed under two heads; namely, finance and church influence.

There seemed to be no concerted opposition to the proposal. Mr. Hunter, the treasurer, and

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one or two lay members of the Board were interested in seeing that the Institute received adequate remuneration for its investment. Some of the churchmen were, of course, most interested in providing for the retention of a medium of spiritual, and I think specifically church influence. Dr. Dillard rather joined with this last group. On Tuesday I had an opportunity to talk with him again. Knowing his philosophy as I do, and as you do, I was not at all surprised when he expressed the feeling that because of the apparent absence of an ethical, not to say a religious, influence in public institutions, he felt that there was a continued need for the type of influence exercised by denominational schools, and consequently a continued reason for the existence of institutions like Fort Valley, admittedly tied up with, expressing the philosophy of, and trying to spread the influence of the church and all it stands for.

Throughout the whole conference the statement was made that the Institute was not interested in selling Fort Valley in order to get money from it. Again and again references were made to the fact that the Institute, in accepting money for Fort Valley, had entered into a trust with the donors, and that this trust continued to express itself in the obligation to provide education and ethical training concurrently. In spite of this, however, I could not help feeling - I hope wrongly so - that I had let myself in for a bit of horse-trading.

The outcome of the conference may, I think, be stated approximately as follows: (1) the Institute is willing to consider a proposal for the transfer of Fort Valley to the state provided certain conditions are met; (2) this transfer would undoubtedly have to be based on a monetary consideration; (3) the Institute would want to provide a church available to the school. To this latter point I see no objection.

I told Dr. Patton that I was going to ask you to talk with him about the whole proposition if you had time when you returned to New York. In talking with Mr. Embree this morning he felt that it might be advisable for you, for him, and for me to get together when convenient for further discussion of the matter. Though I had





hoped to see the transfer consummated in time for the state to start its program there in the fall, this now looks very doubtful. For this reason it is not so urgent as under other conditions it would have been for us to get together immediately. Perhaps we shall be able to see each other during the summer. As I have further word from Dr. Patton I will write you.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Mr. Leo M. Favrot  
General Education Board  
49 West 49th Street  
New York City

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Fort Valley N + 2  
School

2

February 24, 1937

Dear Mr. Davis: This letter is to call your attention -  
informally and unofficially - to the general  
situation in the Negro state colleges of Georgia and to the specific case of Fort Valley. I know that any official communications in the matter must be between the institutions concerned and the General Education Board. This note, therefore, is simply by way of "information and inspiration."

As you know, Curtis Dixon and a number of us at the Fund have been concentrating our interests in rural education upon the State of Georgia and, of course, in rural education the strategic approach is through the teacher-training institutions. On the white side we are very well satisfied with our approaches, which are chiefly through the South Georgia Teachers College at Statesboro and the West Georgia Teachers College at Carrollton. So far we have not been able to find any Negro teachers college with which it seemed wise to cooperate. This distresses us because we are even more interested in Negro schools than in white. It is, in fact, embarrassing for this Fund, which is known for its special Negro interests, to be so active in Georgia in white institutions and not to be doing anything at all at the teacher college level for Negroes.

On the attached sheets I have outlined briefly the situation in the state colleges as we see it. Work at any of the present three state Negro colleges seems hopeless or, at least, inordinately wasteful. The only sound solution seems to us the taking over of Fort Valley by the State and the building up of this institution to satisfactory accomplishment in the training of Negro teachers, especially the training of those who will go into rural work. All persons concerned seem to agree to this in theory. The Regents are willing to take over the institution and I understand that the Episcopal Board, as well as Dr. and Mrs. Hunt, recognize that there are not available funds to carry this institution further under church auspices. The State feels that it cannot

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properly buy an educational plant, though it is apparently quite willing to maintain this institution if the present property could be turned over to it free of charge. The Episcopal Board may be willing to do this but they probably will feel that they should receive some compensation for the heavy investments they have made at Fort Valley. If some foundation were prepared to make a payment to the Episcopal Board and then turn over the property to the State, a great advance might be made in Negro higher education in Georgia.

Very truly yours,

ERE:JW

EDWIN R. EMBREE

Mr. Jackson Davis  
General Education Board  
49 West 49th Street  
New York City

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March 1, 1937

Dear Battle: Thank you for your very nice note. You are always appreciative and I value your judgment. I am sorry that you have been suffering from the well-known disease of overwork. I hope you are back again in very fit condition.

*See Am Church  
Inst for  
Negroes  
2/25/37*

By the way, we have been having some conversations about the possibility of the ~~Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School~~ being taken over as a part of the State University System of Georgia. If arrangements can be worked out between your board and the state this would seem ideal. Every time that any of our private groups can place an institution under public support, it seems to me clear gain. This is particularly so in the case of Fort Valley which might become an important foundation stone in the program of teacher education.

Very truly yours,

EDWIN R. EMBREE

ERE:JW

Mr. Wallace A. Battle  
The American Church Institute for Negroes  
261 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

MAR 4 1937

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(a) for a large building program and (b) for the development of general college work. For various reasons, including its location at a corner of the State, this college does not seem the natural place for the training of teachers needed especially for the rural elementary schools of Georgia.

The institutions at Forsythe and Albany are unsatisfactory in almost every way. To build either of them into good institutions would require much money, including a great deal of money for buildings.

The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial Institute, located in the center of the State and in a rich farming district, is ideally placed for the important teachers college of Georgia. Its traditions are of the finest and it has an excellent physical plant. If it could be taken over by the State, it might quickly become the important institution of Georgia in the training of teachers.

The chancellor of the University System of Georgia has expressed himself (specifically to the officers of the Rosenwald Fund on February 11) as desirous of taking over into the state system the present institution at Fort Valley. He says that it is impossible for the State to buy such an institution from a private or church board, but that if the property were turned over to the State the Regents would proceed to develop this institution into an important educational center. If this were done, the chancellor states that the present institution at Forsythe would be abandoned, probably being turned over to the county for a county high school. Thus there would be no conflict in central Georgia and there would begin to evolve a division of labor among the three state colleges. The one



at Savannah would specialize in agriculture and the mechanic arts, those at Fort Valley and Albany in the training of teachers, Albany continuing as a junior college and Fort Valley as a four-year college.

February 24, 1937

Edwin R. Embree





# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

## REFERENCES

RT. REV. H. J. MIKELL, D. D.,  
108 17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY,  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

## ACCREDITED CLASS "A" JUNIOR COLLEGE

*Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools  
For The Training of Colored Youth*

POST OFFICE BOX 822

Fort Valley, Georgia

## REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS,  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

1520 R Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D.C.,  
March 9, 1937.

JCD	11	JCD 15

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Avenue,  
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I wish first to thank you for kindness shown to me and to let you know that I enjoyed my interview and visit to your home when I was in Atlanta some time ago. I trust you will find it possible to continue to make your home in Georgia even though it may be necessary for you to be out of the state much of the time.

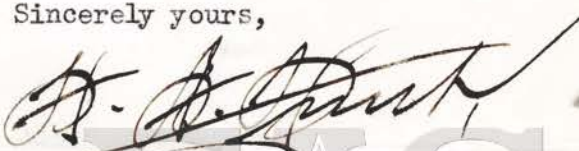
You may know about it already, but in order to make sure, I am quoting a paragraph from a letter from Mr. Cousins under date of March 3: "Mr. Lester and I had a talk yesterday with the Secretary of the Board of Regents and he promised to get something started at an early date in regard to contacting your Church Board and the General Education Board."

I suppose nobody can predict the outcome of any conference or conferences on this subject but I am writing Mr. Cousins expressing my appreciation of his interest and asking him to keep me informed of any developments, as I should like to participate in discussions bearing on this matter and certainly hope we may have your continued interest also.

For your information and any action you may think proper, I am inclosing copy of another letter which I have just mailed to Mr. Cousins.

MAR 17 1937

Sincerely yours,



H. A. Hunt, Principal.

HAH:kw

Inclosure

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AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York, N.Y.

March 12, 1937

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
Board of Education  
The State Capitol  
Atlanta, Ga.

JCD	18	JCD 23
ERb		ERb has seen

Dear Mr. Dixon:

You and I have from time to time in past years discussed in a tentative way the possibility of the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School at Fort Valley, Ga. becoming an institution of the State. The principal, Mr. H. A. Hunt and I have several times discussed the subject. Mr. Jackson Davis and I have also on several occasions recently and in former years talked together in regard to it. To all who have discussed it with me, whether in former or recent years, I have taken the position that (if and when the authorities of the State of Georgia should display a serious interest in the matter, taking practical steps to provide for the school on a basis at least equal to the provision made by the Episcopal Church, I personally would favor turning it over to the State under conditions satisfactory to both sides.) I can not of course, in the absence of any definite proposal commit the Board of the American Church Institute for Negroes, whose office is at 281 Fourth Avenue, New York, or the Board of the school, of which the Rt. Rev. H. J. Mikell, D.D., Bishop of Atlanta is President, but I am of the opinion that both of these Boards would give serious consideration to it if convinced that through control of the school by the State a better service to the cause of education can be rendered than under the school's present auspices.)

A conversation on the subject which I recently sought with Mr. Jackson Davis and a letter from Mr. Embree of the Julius Rosenwald Fund addressed to our Field Secretary, Doctor Wallace A. Battle, which the latter showed me a few days ago, are the influences which have led me to write to you at this time. I realize that our Fort Valley School is probably by far the best located institution in the State for a state school of its character and that there are several other important reasons why the State should perhaps control it. As the prime reason for the Episcopal Church's interest in Fort Valley and our large investment there during a period of twenty one years has been and still is to render a christian service to a needy people, I am disposed to believe despite not having as yet consulted my associates in an official way, that they would probably take the same view of the matter as do I.

I would be glad to learn from Chancellor Sanford to whom I am sending a copy of this letter, or from you whether serious consideration has been given or is likely to be given to the subject by the authorities of the State of Georgia, supported perhaps by cooperating educational foundations.

With kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton



# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

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HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

March 12, 1937

Dear Old Friend:

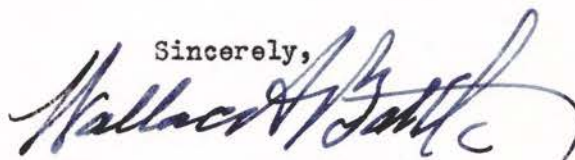
I am grateful for yours of March 1st which traced me from Birmingham to St. Augustine's College where I am today.

With reference to the second paragraph of your letter, I wish very much we could meet somewhere for a conference or as you wrote it "conversation". Just yesterday Dr. Patton was here with me and we discussed the subject of your second paragraph and he and I are in agreement as to a feasible and desirable course. Would you like to meet him or me or both of us with Mr. Bentley for "conversation" on this subject?

Your letters will always reach me more quickly through the office.

Yours as ever

Sincerely,



Wallace A. Battle

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Fort Valley n+2  
Institute

7

March 15, 1937

Dear Mr. Hunt:      The dedication of the Warm Springs  
School building is to take place either  
Thursday or Friday of this week. You can get the exact  
date by getting in touch with Mr. Cousins.

We are still working on the problem  
of getting the State interested in Fort Valley. I had  
an opportunity for two conferences with the Chancellor  
during January, and for the first time he made some  
rather definite statements which one might consider com-  
mitments. Negotiations of this type are something which  
can't be rushed too much, of course, because there are  
at least three and perhaps more organizations interested.

It is beginning to occur to me that  
perhaps too many of us are pushing these negotiations.  
I had been doing so before I left Georgia, and have con-  
tinued doing so, even since I have been with the Fund.  
Theoretically it is Mr. Cousins' job, and perhaps I had  
better drop out of the picture in any active way. I  
haven't written Cousins about this, but I expect to talk  
with him about it the next time I see him. You can  
readily see that with two proponents there is the danger  
of our approaches being enough different for some con-  
fusion to result. What is your opinion of it? Don't  
you think I had better drop out and work entirely through  
Mr. Cousins?

Very truly yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:McK

Mr. H. A. Hunt  
1520 R Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

Cc to Fort Valley

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

MAR 17 1937



Fort Valley Ht  
School

GENERAL EDUCATION BOARD

FOUNDED BY JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER 1902  
(INCORPORATED 1908)

49 WEST 49th STREET, NEW YORK

RAYMOND B. FOSDICK, PRESIDENT  
W. W. BRIERLEY, SECRETARY

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JES		JES	0
X			

March 16, 1937

My dear Embree:

Your letter of February 24th came during my absence on a long trip South, but on my return I was very glad to read it and also your memorandum on higher education in Georgia.

I had an opportunity to talk with Dr. R. W. Patton of the American Church Institute a few days ago. He expressed himself as entirely favorable to turning over the property of the Fort Valley School to the State if they could be assured that the State was genuinely interested in and would develop the institution as an agricultural school. I suggested to him that he discuss the matter with Mr. Dixon and Chancellor Sanford. I also said that I thought the best that we could hope for from the State would be a willingness to assume the obligation of support; that the State of Georgia would hardly vote an appropriation to reimburse the Episcopal Board for the property. I don't believe Dr. Patton would expect this.

Since this conference Dr. Patton has written a letter to Mr. Dixon about the matter. I am glad to see your interest in the subject and shall be glad to keep in touch with you and Dixon as to any further developments.

With all good wishes, I am

MAR 3 1 1937

Cordially yours,

*Jackson Davis*

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

JD:RDE

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley 7 + 2  
School

2

March 23, 1937

Dear Dr. Sanford: Recent correspondence with Dr. Patton, educational secretary of the American Church Institute, which organization owns and operates Fort Valley, and with other people who will have to be interested in the project, indicates the advisability and the possibility of pushing our consideration of including the Fort Valley school in the state system to an early decision. The whole project looks very favorable to me, so much so that I am going to do all I can to get to Atlanta next week to discuss it with you. I hope that during the week you and I can get an opportunity for a conference, and if at all possible I should like very much to have Mr. Smith, the Chairman of the Board of Regents and anyone else you think ought to be included join us in the conference. I will call you as soon as I get to Atlanta, or come by your office to see you.

Very truly yours,

J. C. DIXON

Dr. S. V. Sanford  
State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia

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Fort Valley n + 2  
School

P

March 23, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: It is not at all certain that I shall be able to do so, but I am planning now to leave here the last of this week to go to Georgia and to arrange a conference with Chancellor Sanford and Mr. Marion Smith, the President of the Board of Regents, regarding the whole Fort Valley situation. It will undoubtedly be necessary for you to join us in a conference at a later date. At the present time, however, I wish to push the thing along certain lines without your having to trouble with it.

Frankly, what I expect to do is this: I hope to get the Board of Regents to agree to have made a very careful study of the whole program of higher education for Negroes, and in this way to learn just exactly how Fort Valley can fit into a state situation. I think I know already, but the Board of Regents will be more definitely and thoroughly convinced if I can get this done than they would be if I simply told them what I thought ought to be done.

After this first step I have the feeling that a specific program - very likely of four years of college work - will be recommended for Fort Valley. This will take a certain amount of current annual support, and I am not in favor of the American Church Institute making any transfer agreement with the State of Georgia unless the Board of Regents will assure you that adequate support will be accorded Fort Valley for the maximum type of program it should carry on for the state. Very frankly I expect to set a very high figure for the current annual appropriation the state will have to make. It is not likely that the Regents will be willing to put into Fort Valley what I expect to ask them to put into it. They must not put into it less than the minimum amount required to operate the optimum program.

After I get to Georgia and have had an opportunity for my conference with the Chancellor I will write you again.

JCD:MLU

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

Sincerely yours,

FISK  
J. C. DIXON  
UNIVERSITY

MAR 31 1937



# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

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Gaudet Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
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Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

Richmond, Va.  
March 26, 1937

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Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
Julius Rosenwald Fund,  
4901 Ellis Ave.,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I thank you for your letter of March 23rd forwarded from New York and received at the Capitol Hotel, Richmond, Va., where I will remain for about ten days. I have carefully noted what you say in regard to your plan in connection with the possibility of the Fort Valley N. and I. School becoming a state institution, your hope to get the Board of Regents to have a careful study made of the whole program of higher education for Negroes, and in this way to learn just exactly how Fort Valley can fit into the situation.

You say also "I expect to set a very high figure for the current annual appropriation the state will have to make". It is not likely that the Regents will be willing to put into Fort Valley what I expect to ask them to put into it. They must not put into it less than the minimum amount required to operate the optimum program." You of course know the inside situation, or will know it, much better than I do, but I am wondering if it would not be good policy not to set the objective at first so high as to scare them off. Fort Valley is so well situated for state purposes that if they once got into it on a fair basis, they would probably go forward from year to year with a progressive increase in their appropriations.

You say you will undoubtedly wish me to join you (us) at a later date. If and when a date can be settled on I feel that it would be necessary for both Mr. Bentley and me to be present and perhaps if practicable for him, the President of the Fort Valley Board of Trustees, Bishop Mikell of Atlanta, unless you think that it would be best for us to confer first and report to Bishop Mikell and meet him at a later date. But these details can be worked out later. It is important for Mr. Bentley and me to learn, as soon as practicable, when you would hope to meet us. During May we will be visiting nearly all of our School Boards, including the Board Meeting of the Fort Valley School. Perhaps we might meet at that time. I imagine you would wish to confer also with Mr. Jackson Davis and Mr. Favrot of the General Education Board



#2

as well as the Julius Rosenwald Fund in the event any definite plans may seem feasible. I am sending a copy of this both to your Chicago address and to the State Board of Georgia.

Thanking you for your letter and with best wishes, I am

Very sincerely,

*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton

P.S. - I am sending a copy of this letter to the Right Rev. H. J. Mikell, D.D., Bishop's House, Atlanta, Ga. and to Mr. H. A. Hunt, Principal of the Fort Valley School at his residence, 1320 "R" St., N.W., Washington, D. C. I find I haven't enough extra copies to send you a copy of this care of the State Board, Atlanta, Ga.

RWP

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



[illegible]

~~2~~

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I note what you wrote regarding the danger of having too many individuals conducting negotiations in the matter mentioned, and while I can understand readily your point of view, and must leave any decision in the matter to your good judgment, at the same time, I certainly hope very much to have your continued interest and such counsel and advice as you think wise to give.

The last time I saw Mr. Cousins he stated that he expected Dr. Sanford and Mr. Lester would visit Fort Valley on the 8th enroute to the State Teachers' Meeting at Albany, Georgia. I wish very much that it might be possible for me to be there at that time, but just now it seems doubtful if I can. However, I feel that the persons in charge there will be able to give any necessary information. If I am not able to meet Dr. Sanford and Mr. Lester in Fort Valley on the 8th, I hope to see them in Atlanta some time during the latter part of this month or early in May.

You have no doubt had an account of the dedication of the Rosenwald school at Warm Springs on March 18. From my point of view, it was what I would call a decidedly successful occasion and all-round happy event. You may be interested to



Mr. J.C.Dixon - 4/3/1937 - Page 2.

know that the Fort Valley Glee Club made such a good impression that it was invited to sing again <sup>March 25th</sup> in the Colonnade of Georgia Hall for the President, and inmates of the Warm Springs Foundation. Fortunately, I was able to be present on this occasion also and everyone seemed to enjoy the singing greatly. At the end of the program, Mr. McIntyre, the President's secretary, beckoned me to come to the President's car for a brief interview which, naturally, I was glad to have. I had met Mr. Roosevelt at Warm Springs before he was President, and was rather surprised to ~~note~~ that he remembered and recognized me readily.

I should be glad, if possible, to keep in reasonably close touch with you with a hope of seeing you whenever it is mutually convenient.

Sincerely yours,



H. A. Hunt, Principal,  
Fort Valley N. & I. School.

HAH:kw



Fort Valley n + 2  
School

7

April 13, 1937

Dear Mr. Hunt: On Friday, April 2, I had a conference with Dr. Sanford and Mr. Marion Smith, the Chairman of the Board of Regents. At that time they were apprized of what you and I had been discussing in regard to the Fort Valley situation. The present status is approximately as follows:

Smith and Sanford both agree and admit that the program of higher education for Negroes in Georgia as at present organized is inadequate and ineffective. I mean, of course, the state institutions. They agreed further that there are many reasons why Fort Valley would make an excellent addition to the state group. They are willing to make every effort to secure the transfer of Fort Valley to the state and to assure adequate support. I have gone so far as to project a conference which will include Dr. Patton and Mr. Bentley and Dr. Sanford and Mr. Smith. I hope to arrange this some time during May while Dr. Patton and Mr. Bentley are in Georgia.

I am trying to provide for something else which I think is important at the same time we are working out the details regarding Fort Valley. You know, of course, that the survey of higher institutions made two or three ago did not give adequate attention to the Negro public colleges. It seems to me that it would be better for Fort Valley to be incorporated into a state organization which was intelligently organized and planned rather than simply to be dropped into it as one more unit in the state system. With this idea in mind I have proposed to Dr. Sanford and he has agreed that either prior to the incorporation of Fort Valley into the state system or simultaneously with this action the state should make a survey of its higher education for Negroes and begin operating as soon as possible thereafter on an intelligently planned program of a state-wide nature.

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The whole thing looks good to me, so much so that I am beginning to wonder if we are going to strike some snags later on. If we can come to the point of getting the state to ask for the institution and the American Church Institute to transfer it to the state, I am not unreasonably confident, I hope, that I can see adequate current support as well as necessary funds for absolutely needed expansion and renovation both of plant and of personnel.

I have no desire whatsoever to drop out of the negotiations because they are related to a matter of vital interest to me. Since writing you as I did on March 15 I have talked with Cousins and he is asking me to go ahead acting, as I have in the past, as an intermediary between your board and the state. It just happens that I am in a position to do this, and that I am in connection with other organizations which must ultimately be brought into the picture. For this reason I am glad to continue doing whatever I can. I shall keep you informed of what develops from our end of the line. I hope you will do the same for me.

With personal regards I am

Very truly yours,

JCD:MLU

J. C. DIXON

Mr. H. A. Hunt  
Fort Valley N and I School  
Fort Valley, Georgia



Box 683, *School*  
Fort Valley, Ga.  
Dec. 13, 1938.

Miss Dorothy Elvidge,  
The Julius Rosenwald Fund,  
4901 Ellis Avenue,  
Chicago, Ill.

DE	Miss	DE
ms		ms

Dear Miss Elvidge,

The letter enclosing \$180.00 check was received. Please express my thanks to the officers of the Fund for such a grant. It is not only of great help to me in a financial way but it also serves to emphasize my responsibility to offer much to any situation in which I find myself because of the Fund's faith in me. I feel that I must live up to that faith. I shall certainly try to lend and develop enrichment wherever I find myself.

I hope you have an opportunity to come down and visit us here. There are some things about the situation here that I am sure would interest you.

Please give my kind regards to all of the office force I know. I wish for them all, and for you a pleasant and reviving holiday season.

Yours very truly,  
Catherine J. Amican.

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# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

ACCREDITED CLASS "A"

JUNIOR COLLEGE

Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

POST OFFICE BOX 822

FORT VALLEY, GEORGIA

## REFERENCES

Rt. Rev. H. J. Mikkell, D. D.,  
108—17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEARODY  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

## REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

1520 R Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D.C.,  
January 30, 1937.

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

My dear Dr. Embree:

I have just learned that you will probably attend a conference at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, February 8 at which Ex-Mayor Murray Seasongood of Cincinnati will speak. Mr. Seasongood has agreed if possible to visit Fort Valley on his trip South and I am writing to invite and urge you to accompany him on that visit. And if it is not possible for Mr. Seasongood to visit us, we should still be very glad indeed to have you come to Fort Valley about that time. I plan to be there at that time and wish very much that it might be possible for me to see you there or in Atlanta, if you can not make the trip to Fort Valley.

Through mistake, the application forms for fellowship aid were not inclosed in your letter of December 10. However, I desire at this time to recommend one person for assistance. This individual, I am reasonably sure, has an application blank and has possibly sent it to Dr. Paty, but I desire to bring her case to your attention in this personal way. The person to whom I refer is Miss Edna Burge, who is now employed in the Department of Sociology at Howard University. She will, I am sure, furnish complete transcript of her record of training and experience with her application.

This young woman, Miss Burge, is a niece of mine by marriage, the daughter of Mrs. Hunt's sister. That fact no doubt has its influence but I believe that with my confidence in Miss Burge's ability to do graduate work and with my knowledge of her desire and efforts to further her education, I think I should be glad to recommend her regardless of any such relationship.

Kindly address your reply to Fort Valley, Georgia.

Sincerely yours,



H. A. Hunt, Principal.

HAH:kw

Blank sent  
1/15/37



## CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

R. B. WHITE  
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NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

# WESTERN UNION

1220

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Received at

QA642 61 NL=WUX ATLANTA GA 30

1938 DEC 30 PM 5 10

EDWIN R EMBREE=

JULIUS ROSENWALD FUND 4901 ELLIS AVE CHGO=

AM JUST OUT OF A MEETING OF REGENTS AND FTVALLEY BOARD  
COMMITTEES REGENTS COMMITTEE REQUESTED FTVALLEY BOARD AND  
AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE TRANSFER SCHOOL TO STATE COMMITTEE  
OF FTVALLEY BOARD AND PATTON AGREED IT THE THING TO DO AND  
AGREED TO SO RECOMMEND TO THEIR RESPECTIVE BOARDS WHOLE  
CONFERENCE VERY SATISFACTORY BELIEVE PROPOSITION WILL NOW GO  
THROUGH FURTHER DETAILS WHEN YOU ARRIVE=

J C DIXON.



rw



# FISK

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

UNIVERSITY



Edwin R. Embree  
President  
Margaret S. Simon  
Secretary  
D.A. Elvidge  
Comptroller

## Julius Rosenwald Fund

4901 Ellis Avenue  
CHICAGO

J.C. Dixon  
Director for Rural Education  
M.O. Bousfield, M.D.  
Director for Negro Health  
Raymond Paty  
Director for Fellowships

*Let's discuss*  
*I certainly favor supplementing Mrs. Duncan's salary*  
*I am not so certain about the other practice teacher*  
*referred to in Lester's letter*

*ERE* *9* *ERE* *12*

*MS* *New York,* *FS*

*Aug. 8th, '38* *FS*

*ERE* *ERE*

Dear Mr. Embree:

I am enclosing herewith two letters — and my replies — regarding Fort Valley. In one of them, Mr. Cousins asks for \$240 from the fund to supplement Mrs. Duncan's salary as the former teacher in Peach & Macon counties. In the other Mr. Lester asks if we can supplement the salaries of the teachers in the practice school.

If we were sure of the developments at Fort Valley our answers would be pretty apparent. Even though they're not I feel that we might well afford to grant both requests — the \$240 for Mrs. Duncan (the salary is small), and the request for aid on the salaries of the practice school teachers, if the request is reasonable.

Both of these grants can be justified on the basis of our hopes for Fort Valley. If the plan materializes as we hope it will, this will

provide a big jump in the development of the whole project; if it doesn't we <sup>shall</sup> ~~it~~ have made a bad guess but even then the money will not have been wasted.

Since it may be necessary for Cousins and Lester to have decisions on both of these requests will you write them in Atlanta and have copies sent to me there. I'll get them when I return to Atlanta September 1<sup>st</sup>.

My work is developing satisfactorily. During the balance of my stay here I am spending my time in the library reading the material I need for my project and which I don't have in my personal library.

It's been a grand summer and I shall always be indebted to you for the privilege which has been mine.

Cordially yours,  
Curtis.

FSK  
UNIVERSITY



## Julius Rosenwald Fund

4901 Ellis Avenue

CHICAGO

Edwin R. Embree  
President

Margaret S. Simon  
Secretary

D.A. Elvidge  
Comptroller

J.C. Dixon  
Director for Rural Education

M. O. Bousfield, M.D.  
Director for Negro Health

Raymond Paty  
Director for Fellowships

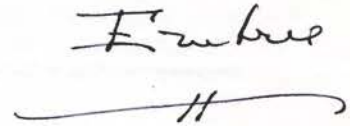
August 12, 1938

Dear Curtis:      The enclosed letters, sent in accordance with your suggestion, are self-explanatory. I am enthusiastic about keeping Mrs. Duncan, but I do not feel the same way about the general staff in the practice school. As a matter of fact, the Fort Valley campus school seems to me poor. If the State takes over Fort Valley and we help there we shall probably want drastically to reorganize the practice teaching both in the campus school and in rural centers. When the time comes I am sure we can easily find teachers at least as good as those now engaged.

Greetings to you and yours.

Very truly yours,

ERE:JW



Mr. J. C. Dixon  
507 West 121st Street  
New York City

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

7

August 12, 1938

Dear Mr. Lester: Mr. Dixon has referred to me your letter of August 6. It seems to us that we should not make any contribution to the salaries of the practice teachers now at Fort Valley. If the present negotiations of the State do not go through, of course we should have no particular interest in this situation. If the State does take over Fort Valley, it seems to us that it should make drastic reorganizations of the practice school. That being so, I can see no advantage in trying to keep the present staff.

Just

On the other hand, we do want to keep in touch with Mrs. Duncan and it seems desirable for her to take up again her connection with Fort Valley.

The case with her is quite different from that of the general staff of the practice school. Mrs. Duncan is one of the people whom we will certainly want to use in connection with our efforts in rural education and Fort Valley seems an excellent connection, at least for the coming year. I have written formally to Mr. Cousins about this since he was the one who raised the question about Mrs. Duncan.

Very truly yours,  
EDWIN R. EMEREE

ERE:JW

Mr. L. M. Lester  
State Department of Education  
Atlanta, Georgia

cc JCD

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



APPROPRIATION

Fort Valley School

August 12, 1958

Dear Mr. Cousins: Mr. Dixon has forwarded to me your letter of August 3. We heartily agree that we should keep contact with Mrs. Duncan and we are particularly interested in her beginning work at Fort Valley in view of the fact that our relations with that institution may become more intimate as time goes on. We approve the schedule which you have set up, except for the fact that since Mrs. Duncan should do a great deal of traveling we believe an allowance for those expenses should be included in the amount which she receives. It seems to us that her total salary (and expenses) for the year should be \$1800 rather than the \$1500 that you suggested. To make possible this salary, we are prepared to pay the difference between the \$1260 which is expected from Peach and Macon Counties and the Southern Education Board, namely a payment from us of \$540.

For your information, Mr. Lester has raised with us the question of some extra payment for the regular practice teachers now at Fort Valley. This, however, does not appeal to us since if the State takes over Fort Valley it would probably want to make a drastic reorganization of this practice school.

ERE:JW

Very truly yours,  
EDWIN R. EMBREE

Mr. Robert L. Cousins  
State Department of Education  
Atlanta, Georgia

cc JCD

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



M. D. COLLINS  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS

State  
Department of Education  
Atlanta, Georgia

Fort Valley

August 13, 1938

8

	JCD	15	JCD	9
	JFS		HS	
	HOSS			
			ack RW	15

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I do not have figures on the needs at the Practice School in Fort Valley. Mr. Hunt is sending you a specific request today. I consider it very important that this school shall not go into a slump before the Regents take it over and still more important that if the Regents do not want it. It shall begin under private management to do some things which have not been done heretofore in the state.

It is late to find good teachers but we are now in contact with several excellent people who would do the job at Fort Valley creditably. We can help Mr. Hunt in finding some good people. In view of the fact that the administrative staff does not include anyone especially equipped to direct teacher training, any grant for this purpose should stipulate close cooperation with the State Department of Education in the selection and supervision of the teachers in this school.

write Mrs.  
Duncan in  
connection  
with this.

I am delighted to know that you have finished your work at Columbia. Congratulations!

Sincerely yours,

*M. D. Collins*

lml/mc

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

## REFERENCES

RT. REV. H. J. MIKELL, D. D.,  
108 17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY,  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

## ACCREDITED CLASS "A" JUNIOR COLLEGE

Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

for the Training of Colored Youth

POST OFFICE BOX 822

## REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS,  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Fort Valley, Georgia

August 15, 1938

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
507 W. 121st. Street  
New York City.

My dear Mr. Dixon:

At the risk of appearing to be over-insistent, I am writing you again about the possibility of securing some assistance from the Julius Rosenwald Fund for teachers in our Elementary School. I am prompted to do this by a desire to employ a better grade of teachers than we shall probably be able to secure for the salary offered on the State schedule alone. As I wrote you before we have been accustomed to supplement the salaries of these teachers from the funds of the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School, but the lack of funds and by vote of the Finance Committee of our school, we shall not be able to do this hereafter.

In my other communications I asked if you thought it possible to secure some assistance from the Rosenwald Fund to apply on the salaries of the Training School teachers but did not make request for any definite number of teachers or any definite amount.

While our County Superintendent at this late date has not informed us just how many teachers we shall be expected to employ for our Training School, I am supposing that we shall probably have the same number, 12, whose salaries were paid by the State for seven months of the 1937-1938 school year. The Superintendent has not yet made a positive statement but has expressed to me the hope and belief that the local school authorities will pay the salaries of both the Elementary and High School teachers for two months of the 1938-1939 school year, and thus enable us to have a nine-months' term.

I wish now to make direct appeal for \$1845.00 to be used to supplement the salaries of 11 teachers at \$15.00 per month each for nine months and the salary of one teacher to serve as principal at \$40.00 per month for nine months.

I am sure you understand our great desire to do a worthwhile piece of work and you may be interested to know that we are keeping in close touch with Mr. Lester of the Division of Negro Education, and seeking his assistance in securing a corps of high-class workers for our Elementary School. If we can secure the amount requested and continue to have the close cooperation of Messrs. Lester and Cousins, and the assistance of Mrs. Catherine Duncan, who is returning as our Jeanes Supervisor, I have reason to believe we shall be able to do a better job than ever before and justify any assistance from the Rosenwald Fund or any other source.

Mr. Lester, I happen to know, is trying to keep a hold-growing more precarious every day- on a group of such teachers as he and I

both believe are able to give the type of service we desire . With this fact in mind and the time for the fall term drawing nearer, a prompt reply will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,



H.A. Hunt, Principal

HAH:W

Mr. J.C. Dixon -2nd sheet-August 15, 1938  
507 W. 121st. Street, New York City

CC to 39 Alden Avenue, Atlanta, Ga.

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley N+2  
School

7

September 7, 1938

Dear Mr. Hunt: Your letter of August 15, copies of which came to my New York address and my Atlanta address, missed me because I left New York on August 14 and have just returned from a trip to Nova Scotia. When I got to the office yesterday I talked to Mr. Embree about your request for a grant to supplement the salaries of the teachers in your practice school. He felt as I did when I wrote Mr. Lester from New York in August. If we had any way of knowing whether or not Fort Valley would enter the state system of colleges, we could have made a decision which would have been based upon both the needs in Georgia and the policies of our Board. In view of the fact that this was not known the only thing we could do was to make a decision which was as far as possible in keeping with Board policies. This made it necessary for us to turn down Mr. Lester's request.

If Dr. Cocking presents the survey to the Regents and if they act favorably upon his recommendations and the Church Institute makes possible the development we are all hoping for in Georgia, I see no reason at all why the Fund would not be quite willing to consider entering into the picture at Fort Valley just as soon as we have this assurance. I understand from Dr. Cocking that he plans to submit the survey to the Board as soon after the state primary as he can. If possible I shall see him immediately after that and I should like also to talk with you because the reaction of the Regents will tell us quite definitely whether or not there is any reason for us to continue nurturing the hopes we have sustained during the last two or three years.

I really wish it were possible to make the grant requested in your letter because I know just how hard you are struggling to keep Fort Valley at that peak of efficiency which it has been occupying under your direction for a long number of years. Mr. Embree feels the same way and it was no easy matter for us to decide that we could not make a grant at this time. The only consolation that we have is that we hope soon we may be in a position to do something even more substantial for Fort Valley.

JCD:RW

Sincerely yours,

Mr. H. A. Hunt  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School  
Fort Valley, Georgia

FIISK  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley School

7

September 8, 1938

Dear Mrs. Duncan: From your letters and from reports of those who have seen you since you have returned from New Mexico I know you must have had a delightful as well as a profitable year of study. All of us are quite happy to have you back in Georgia, particularly in the Fort Valley situation which is at the present time so full of very interesting possibilities.

In thinking of the situation there and of your qualifications it occurred to me that you not only were capable of doing so but that you might also be interested in working out a plan whereby in addition to your county supervision you could cooperate with the practice school. I think you could see the advantages that would accrue from this without my attempting to state them in detail. Behind the suggestion is the idea which you and I have that the practice schools have not in the past been nearly so close to the actual rural teaching situation as they should have been. The very details of normal school organization have, in fact, made it extremely difficult to achieve this. They have been so self-contained, so intent upon doing the job within their own walls that they have not been so much interested as they should have been in appraising the situation for which they were presuming to train teachers. This has been less true perhaps of Fort Valley than of many other institutions because you and other Jeanes teachers have lived in the institution and have therefore undoubtedly not only affected the thinking of the college staff but have secured their cooperation as well.

I don't know how feasible this is - it's merely a suggestion - but if you can devise any plan which will make it possible for you to have something to do with the practice school I am sure the normal school would profit from it.

Looking forward to the pleasure of seeing you and talking to you sometime this fall, I am

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:RW

Mrs. Catherine Duncan  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School  
Fort Valley, Georgia

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UNIVERSITY





M. D. COLLINS  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS

State  
Department of Education  
Atlanta, Georgia

September 9, 1938

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

Dear Dr. Embree:

We are extremely grateful to the Rosenwald Fund for making it possible to employ Mrs. Catherine Duncan as supervising teacher for Peach and Macon Counties this year at a salary commensurate with her ability, training and experience. The five hundred and forty dollars allocated from the Rosenwald Fund will be a great help to Mrs. Duncan. I suggest that this money be paid direct to Mrs. Duncan without passing through our office. I think it will be acceptable to pay her in three equal installments on December 1, March 1 and June 1. Mrs. Duncan will make a survey on all the Negro schools in Peach and Macon Counties and by the first of June will have a report to make to you on her work and the status of the program in these two counties.

Again permit me to thank you for this splendid cooperation.

Very cordially yours,

*Robert L. Cousins*

Robert L. Cousins, Director  
Division of Negro Education

rlc/mc

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

## REFERENCES

RT. REV. H. J. MIKELL, D. D.,  
108 17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY,  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

## ACCREDITED CLASS "A" JUNIOR COLLEGE

Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

for the Training of Colored Youth

POST OFFICE BOX 822

## REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS,  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

JCD	Fort Valley, Georgia
JFS	23
MSS	MS
	ack
	27

September 21, 1938

copy sent  
JCD 9-23

2

Your letter of the 7th was forwarded to me in Washington but this is about the first opportunity to reply.

I have been here for several days giving what assistance I can in getting the work of the new school year underway. Thus far everything seems to be going well with a good enrollment and both faculty and students taking hold of their work in a way which encourages me to believe we shall have a good year.

I am not sure if you know our Mr. Blanchet, who directed our academic work last year, is at Ann Arbor again this year studying for his doctor's degree and that early in September, our Mr. Simms, who was expected to take over much of Mr. Blanchet's work, received an offer for work in his home State, Maryland, and the advantages offered, were such that we did not feel justified in asking him to remain with us. For a time this looked rather serious but fortunately- most fortunately- I think- we were able to secure the services of Mr. Aaron Brown, whom you may remember as principal of the high school at Moultrie, Ga. and for the past few years principal of the high school and supervisor of the colored schools at Athens, Ga., to accept work with us. Personally I regard Mr. Brown as one of the best school men in this State, and I am genuinely hopeful of making some real improvements in our work.

Besides the addition of Mr. Brown and another young man, a graduate of Talladega College with a master's degree from the University of Michigan, you know that we are to have the services of Mrs. Katherine Duncan as our Jeanes Supervisor this year. We regard this as a very fortunate circumstance also and we are hoping that Mrs. Duncan will find it possible to give a little more time to our elementary school than the Jeanes Supervisors have given heretofore.

I appreciate what you wrote regarding the possibility of receiving some assistance from the Rosenwald Fund being contingent upon the action of the Board of Regents and our trustees. Now that the Primary election is over we are hoping that Dr. Cocking will make a report to the Board of Regents at a comparatively early date and that some action will be taken which will enable us to know just what to expect. In the meantime I want to assure you and other members of the Rosenwald Fund that we are always glad to welcome you and certainly trust that some of you will be visiting the School at a comparatively early date. As I have written you before and as you have perhaps noticed on some of your visits we are now prepared to

UNIVERSITY



to entertain visitors in a way that we could not before the completion  
of our Home Economics Building.

With very kind regards, I am

Sincerely yours,



H. A. Hunt, Principal  
The Fort Valley N. & I. School  
Fort Valley, Ga.

HAH:W

Mr. J. C. Dixon-2nd sheet-9-21-38

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

Fort Valley n+3  
Institute

October 25, 1938

Dear Dr. Patton: I attended Mr. Hunt's funeral in Fort Valley on the fifth. While there I learned of the automobile accident Mrs. Patton had had. Since that time I have not heard reports from anyone regarding her condition but I do hope that the accident wasn't a serious one and that she has entirely recovered by now.

From various sources you have long before now had reports regarding Mr. Hunt's funeral. Those attending (and the composition of the group), the statements made, and all other incidents of the day testified quite finely to the very great service he had rendered in the area in which he chose to work. His death was a real blow to me because I looked on him not only as a very excellent school man but as one of my seniors in the state from whom I sought and almost always secured sound advice and guidance. He was that rare Negro who was able to look at problems dispassionately and without undue influence from racial bias. His advice and counsel kept me from making many mistakes I should otherwise have made.

His death, of course, intensifies many of the problems in connection with Fort Valley and makes even more urgent the formulation of Georgia's plans for the higher education of Negroes. The Board of Regents has finally set Thursday, October 27 as a date for consideration of the Survey of Higher Education for Negroes in Georgia. I am leaving Chicago tomorrow to attend that meeting. Immediately after it I imagine you will have an official communication from the Board of Regents and I shall write you personally. The whole project has moved slowly - sometimes almost unreasonably so. But as a matter of fact I suspect that from the point of view of the long-time program it has been best. I have the feeling that when the Regents meet on Thursday of this week much of the groundwork will have been done and I hope that their decision will be to go ahead with the development of the state program as you and I have discussed it in the past.

This note is written simply to let you know that the meeting is to be held and that you may expect some report on it in the near future.

JCD:RW

Very truly yours,

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
New York City

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Steps in Fort Valley procedure

1. Meeting New York, June 14.
2. Later meeting with Mr. Hunt, Mr. Favrot and Mr. Embree.
3. Later meeting with Executive Committee of Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School
4. Further steps - tentative.  
Probably next meeting with Board of Trustees.

## FORT VALLEY

1904 - Mr. Hunt came to Fort Valley.

November 11, 1918 - American Church Institute came in.

Land had been purchased prior to November 11, 1918.

Church has not put anything into land.

Jeanes Hall given by Miss Jeanes in 1903.

Huntington Hall given by Mrs. Huntington in 1907.

Library given by Carnegie Corporation.

General Education Board	-	\$100,000	Julius Rosenwald Fund	-	\$25,000
		25,000	and		(some to
		15,000	Mr. Rosenwald		public
		12,500			school
Public School	-	3,500			
Science Laboratory	-	4,500			
		4,000			

American Church Institute	-	\$40,000	-	Ohio Diocese
		25,000	-	Woman's Auxiliary
Equipment		10,000		

Other amounts from individuals in varying amount

Total Plant Fund Assets - \$440,241.

Property actually vested in a Board of Trustees.

No indebtedness at all except about \$4,000 to \$5,000 on current 1936-37 operations.



Conference - Sanford, Patton, Bentley, Cousins, Dixon

Sanford stated historical development of University System from 1932 to date.

1. Sanford's trip to Yale with Governor Russell.  
Dick's appointment of first Board of Regents.
2. Board first balanced budget.
3. Board next had survey made  
Personnel of survey board  
Survey made little reference to Negro colleges.
4. Sanford next began consideration of Negro colleges.  
First began work on plants  
Savannah - several buildings)  
Forsyth - two buildings ) Construction  
Albany - )
5. Function of the three institutions.
6. Total appropriation to three state colleges approximately \$90,000  
State:  
Savannah - \$35,000 ) Will be increased for 1937-38  
Forsyth - 22,500 ) Total Forsyth budget \$35,500  
Albany - 25,000 )
7. Sanford talked circuitously about development of white schools
8. \$600,000 - repairs )  
\$1,000,000 - buildings ) Spent  
\$1,000,000 - available now  
\$160,000 - Savannah )  
40,000 - Albany ) Negro schools  
50,000 - Forsyth )
9. Procedure
  1. Survey
    - a. Advisory group
    - b. Work group
    - c. To consider all Negro colleges in Georgia

\$400,000 total investment at Fort Valley  
700,000 total spent at Fort Valley

Sanford thinks Regents can put into Fort Valley (if State gets it)  
about \$53,500 per annum.

Patton thinks Fort Valley needs about \$32,000 per year to carry on  
present program.

Total budget at Fort Valley about \$72,000.

Institute operations program from \$17,500 to \$22,000



Patton's questions:

1. Church should not have to foot whole bill.
2. Church should recover part of its expenditures.
3. Heirs of original donors - both out of and in state of Georgia.

Both American Church Institute and Board of Fort Valley must approve project.

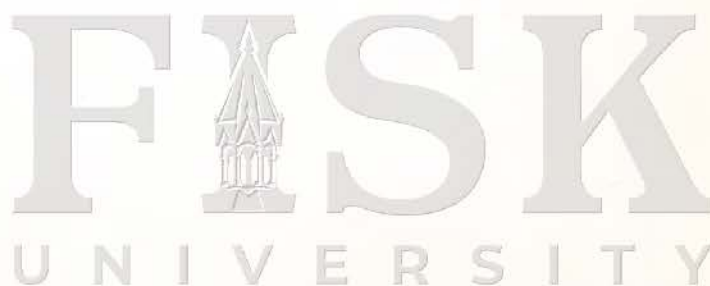
Procedure to be followed:

1. Patton suggests Sanford write him a letter picturing what State wants to do - state program.
2. Sanford suggests that JRF (or JCD) (or ERE) push negotiations for both groups.

Patton's statement:

" . . . if and when the authorities of the State of Georgia should display a serious interest in the matter, taking practical steps to provide for the school on a basis at least equal to the provision made by the Episcopal Church, I personally would favor turning it over to the state under conditions satisfactory to both sides."

" . . . I am of the opinion that both of these Boards (the American Church Institute and the Board of the school) would give serious consideration to it if convinced that through control of the school by the State a better service to the cause of education can be rendered than under the school's present auspices."





Steps:

1. Conference with Sanford and Marion Smith.

Indicate -

Inadequacy of present state program for Negroes.  
Needs for Fort Valley in state program.  
What it could do.

What should be state's program of higher education for Negroes?  
Fort Valley's part in this?

How determine both of these?

A survey or study or proposed program.  
Would JRF cooperate with GEB in this?  
Regents furnish staff other than director?

State will probably not put anything in capital investment.  
State should agree to provide full program.

What this program should include:  
Four year college  
Teacher training  
Majors in agriculture and home economics  
Land grant college ?

If state wants Fort Valley, propose

1. Program it will carry on there  
financial support
2. Basis under which it could and would acquire plant.

Proposed that JCD go to Atlanta next week (? - 25th), see Lester and Cousins first and then Sanford and Smith.

Letter to Lester:

Recount what's happened re Fort Valley up to now.  
Ask him to be considering total state program of higher education for Negroes  
What should be program at Fort Valley?

Sanford:

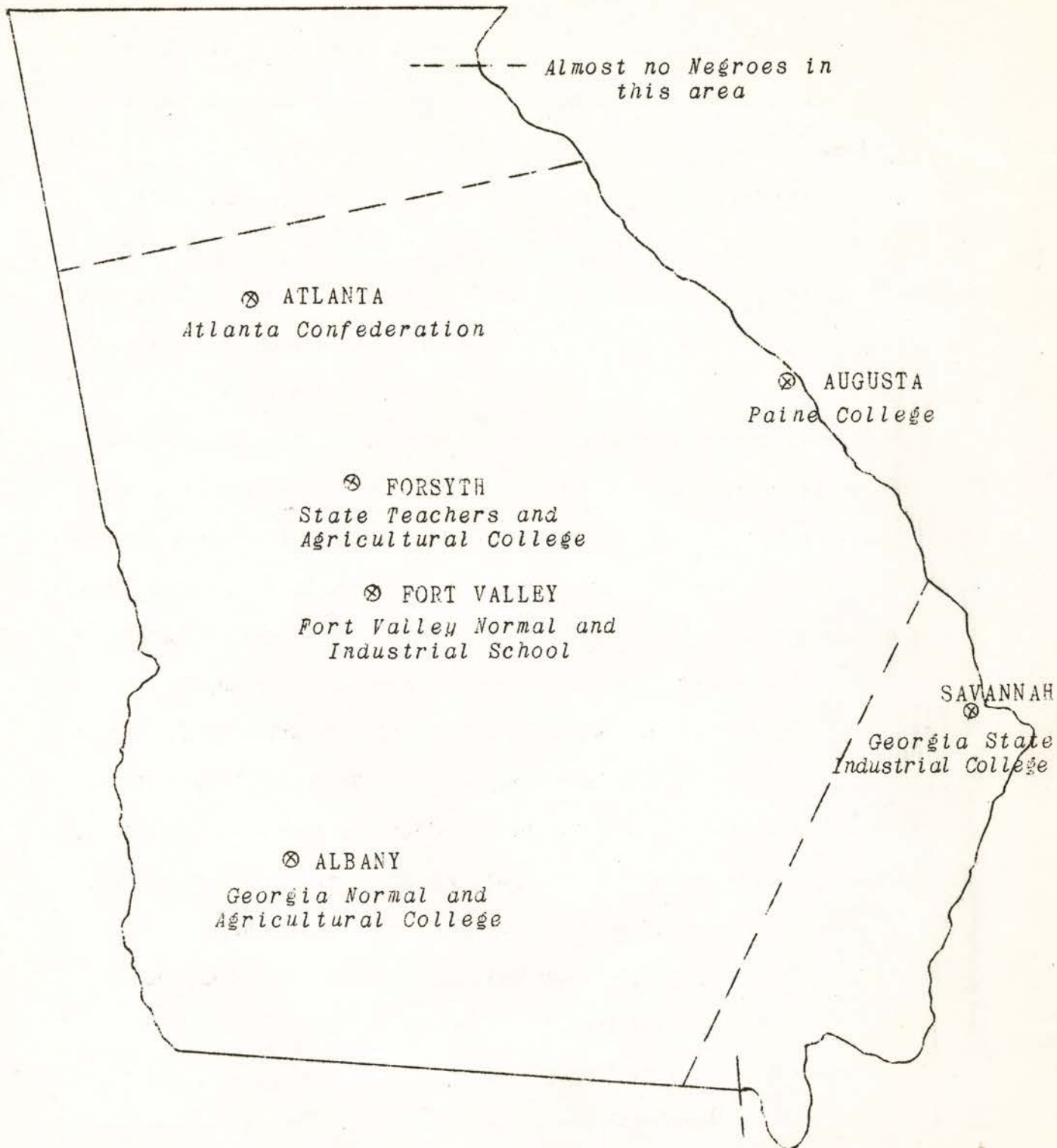
Letter from Dr. Patton  
Urgency  
Conference with Sanford and Smith.



Outline of situation at Fort Valley

1. Our interest in Georgia
  2. Need for concentration in a state
  3. Lack of balance in present program - no Negro school
  4. Reasons for no Negro college in Georgia in program
  5. Development of University System
    - a. Survey, 1932-33
    - b. Negro college section - pp. 44-6
  6. Regents only now ready to deal with Negro colleges
  7. Opportunity to
    - a. Secure careful, longtime plan for Negro education
    - b. Institute our program in a Negro college
  8. What will be required to achieve this?
- 
1. It will be remembered that considerable discussion has been had concerning cooperation at Fort Valley.
  2. Following statements indicate history of our relationship to Fort Valley
    - Historical steps beginning with survey, 1932-33.
  3. Plans for higher education for Negroes in Georgia and our part in them.





Filed 11/2/38

(geo)

P

Fort Valley High and Industrial School contributions by  
Julius Rosenwald

1913	\$ 3,000	
1914-17 (inclusive)		
(\$250 annually)	1,000	
1919	250	
1920	500	
1922	250	
1923	250	
1928	<u>10,000</u>	\$15,250

Contributions by Julius Rosenwald Fund

(For current expense)

1929-30	2,500	
1930-31	2,000	
1931-32	<u>1,500</u>	6,000

(For purchase of library books)

1929-30 (February)	500	<u>500</u>
Grand Total		\$ 21,750



P.S. I should be glad if you would send me a W. Union High letter or telegram giving the date of the dedication exercising

1520 R St. N.W.,  
Washington, D.C.,  
March 9, 1937

Mr. R. L. Cousins, Director,  
Division of Negro Education,  
State Department of Education,  
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Mr. Cousins:

This morning I received the information that President Roosevelt plans to leave Washington for Warm Springs Thursday night, the 11th, and is expecting the colored school at Warm Springs to be dedicated during the time that he is there. I am not quite sure but I think he plans to remain some ten days or two weeks.

If definite arrangements have already been made I should be glad if you would kindly let me know immediately, as I was asked to pass this information along to the person who told me of the President's proposed visit and of his expectation to be present at the dedication of the schoolhouse.

You may recall that you asked me some time ago if we -- Fort Valley -- could send over some singers so as to make sure of having some reasonably good music for this occasion, and I assured you that we should be glad to do so. The party with whom I talked over the telephone thought it would be a good thing if I could go to Warm Springs a few days before the time for the dedication and give such help as I might in working out details of the program and doing a little advertising throughout that section so as to make sure that there would be a representative group of Negroes present.

I should be glad if you would let me know your thought about this whole matter at once and outline just what you should like to have me or our singers from Fort Valley do. I need not tell you that I shall be very glad indeed to do anything I possibly can to make this occasion worth while in every way possible.

As the time is comparatively short, I would greatly appreciate a reply at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely yours,

H. C. Hunt, Principal.

ESK  
UNIVERSITY

Fort Valley N+Z  
School

7

April 13, 1937

Dear Dr. Sanford: As we agreed when I talked with you and Mr. Smith in Atlanta week before last, it is quite evident that the next step regarding the Fort Valley set-up is for you and Mr. Smith to have a conference with Dr. Patton and Mr. Bentley of the American Church Institute for Negroes. I have written Dr. Patton and am enclosing a copy of my letter to him. I wonder if you would be so kind as to write him immediately and ask if a conference can be arranged. The address is American Church Institute for Negroes, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York. It is my understanding that he and Mr. Bentley are to be in Georgia during May, and I suggest that you write him as soon as possible so he can make arrangements to meet you.

If you think it advisable for me to do so, I should like very much to be present at this conference, not that I wish to direct it in any way but that I should like very much to be kept thoroughly informed so we may know how and to what extent we may cooperate with you. In order that Dr. Patton may know what is going on, I am taking the liberty of sending him a copy of this letter.

Very truly yours,

JCD:MLU

J. C. Dixon

Chancellor S. V. Sanford  
University System of Georgia  
State Capitol  
Atlanta

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley n + g  
School

7

April 13, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: The Board of Regents of the State of Georgia is quite willing and eager to go ahead with its negotiations regarding the transfer of the school at Fort Valley to the state system. This is quite evident to me as the result of a conference I had with Chancellor Sanford and Mr. Marion Smith, the Chairman of the Board of Regents, on Friday, April 2.

It seems to me that the next step is for you and Mr. Bentley to have a conference with Chancellor Sanford and Chairman Smith. I should like very much to be present at that conference if it is possible to do so. If you think it advisable, I wonder if you would be willing to write to Chancellor S. V. Sanford, State Capitol, Atlanta, Georgia, and arrange for a conference with him. I am writing him today, suggesting the same possibility.

Very truly yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Mr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

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# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

THE RT. REV. JAMES DEWOLF PERRY, D. D.  
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THE REV. G. WARFIELD HOBBS, D. D.  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY

MR. STANISLAW J. MAKIELSKI  
ARCHITECT

St. Augustine's College - - - Raleigh, N. C.  
St. Paul Normal and Industrial School, Lawrenceville, Va.  
Bishop Payne Divinity School - - - Petersburg, Va.  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School, Fort Valley, Ga.  
St. Mark's Normal and Industrial School, Birmingham, Ala.  
Gailor Industrial School - - - Mason, Tenn.  
Gaudet Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
Voorhees Normal and Industrial School, Denmark, S. C.  
Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

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MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR.

## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

April 16, 1937

JCD	19	JCD	

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

My dear Mr. Dixon:

I thank you for your letter of April 13th saying that the Board of Regents of the State of Georgia is "quite willing and eager to go ahead with its negotiations regarding the transfer of Fort Valley to the State system" and that you have advised Chancellor Sanford that the next step is for Mr. Bentley and me to have a conference with him and Chairman Smith while we are in Georgia during the month of May. Mr. Bentley and I can arrange to meet these gentlemen, if acceptable to them, on Saturday morning, May 15th.

I note also in your letter that you would be glad to be present if acceptable to the Chancellor. It would certainly be very gratifying to Mr. Bentley and me to have you present on that occasion. We will be very glad indeed to have this conference with you gentlemen to learn in detail the proposal you have in mind.

I must leave the city today for quite a tour, but Mr. Bentley will be in the office, or not far away, and will read any communication from you and let me know whether the date suggested is acceptable to you gentlemen. I am following your suggestion by writing to Chancellor Sanford in this mail and will enclose a copy of the letter to you.

With every good wish, I am

Very sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*

Robert W. Patton

RWP:AF

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



April 16, 1937

Chancellor S. C. Sanford  
State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Chancellor Sanford:

Mr. J. C. Dixon of the Rosenwald Fund has sent me a copy of his letter to you of April 13th suggesting that you, Mr. Marion Smith, Chairman of the Board of Regents of Georgia, Mr. Bentley and I have a conference, during our approaching tour in the South, in regard to the possibility of transferring our Fort Valley School to the State system. Mr. Dixon, in his letter to you, says that he has sent you a copy of his letter to me, which explains itself.

In view of this suggestion and request from Mr. Dixon, the Rev. C. E. Bentley, Associate Director of the Institute, and I have looked over the dates of our itinerary in the South during May to attend the meetings of the Boards of our Schools, and find that we could meet you and Chairman Smith on Saturday morning, May 15th. There will be a meeting of our Fort Valley Board on Friday, May 14th, and we have other engagements in other states during the following week. Saturday morning, May 15th, therefore, will be the most acceptable date to us and I trust it will be agreeable to you, Mr. Smith and Mr. Dixon. I take it for granted, in view of what Mr. Dixon says in his letter to you, that he also will be present.

I am enclosing a copy of my letter of this date to Mr. Dixon. Will you not be good enough to write to me at this address as soon as possible letting Mr. Bentley and me know whether we can count on this date being acceptable to you and to the other gentlemen.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Robert W. Patton

# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

## REFERENCES

RT. REV. H. J. MIKELL, D. D.,  
108 17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY,  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

## ACCREDITED CLASS "A" JUNIOR COLLEGE

Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools

For The Training of Colored Youth

POST OFFICE BOX 822

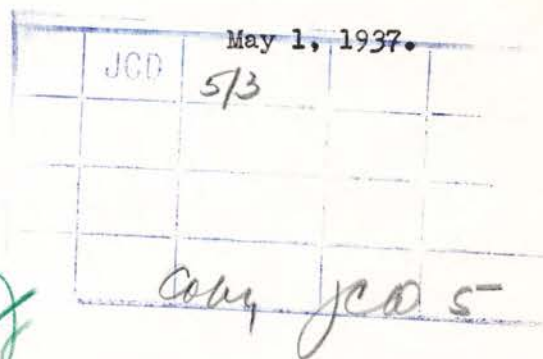
Fort Valley, Georgia

## REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS,  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Mr. J. C. Dixon, Director,  
Rural Education,  
Julius Rosenwald Fund,  
4901 Ellis Avenue,  
Chicago, Illinois.



Dear Mr. Dixon:

Your letter of April 13 was forwarded to me in New York and this is my first opportunity to reply.

I am pleased to note the progress which you seem to be making in the matter of relating our school at Fort Valley more directly to the educational system of Georgia, and I trust you will not strike any "snags later on."

As you probably know, while Dr. Patton, director of the American Church Institute, and Mr. Bentley, his assistant, should be called into any conference on the matter under consideration, as I see it the trustees will be the ones to make the final decision. Since this is true it will be necessary to have the matter passed on by the full board and in my opinion it may be wise also if certain members of the board - possibly members of our executive committee of which I am a member - should perhaps be called into some preliminary conference.

I agree most thoroughly with the idea that there should be "an intelligently planned program of state-wide nature" if we are to expect any material improvement over the present situation.

I am sure I need not say to you that my chief interest in the whole matter is an improvement ~~of~~ the educational conditions in Georgia, especially as related to Negroes.

With very kind regards,

Sincerely yours,



Fort Valley N. & D. School

JCD	10			
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*ack. 11/11*

709 Eleventh Street, Northeast  
Washington, D. C.  
May 6, 1937

My dear Mr. Dixon:

I am enclosing for your information a copy of a letter recently addressed to Bishop H. J. Mikell of Atlanta which is self-explanatory.

I have been informed that the Fort valley school contemplates entering the system of the State of Georgia. I sincerely <sup>hope</sup> this move will continue to make possible the realization of the ideals upon which the school has been built.

My work here with the National Youth Administration goes well and I am finding Mrs. Bethune to be a most inspiring person to work with. I hope that if you come to Washington any time soon you will come in to see us.

Very sincerely yours,

*F. S. Horne*  
F. S. Horne

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

C O P Y

709 Eleventh Street, Northeast  
Washington, D. C.  
April 17, 1937

Bishop H. J. Mikell  
Chairman, Board of Trustees  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School  
Fort Valley, Georgia

My dear Bishop Mikell:

In view of the fact that I was selected Acting Principal of the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School by the Board of Trustees at its last regular meeting in Fort Valley on May 12, 1936 and, that I was subsequently granted leave of absence to accept appointment by the Federal Government as Assistant Director of the Division of Negro Affairs in the National Youth Administration and, since the period of leave terminates with the date of the annual Board meeting in May, I hereby tender my formal resignation from the Acting Principalship of the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School in order to pursue without qualification my duties with the National Youth Administration.

It is my sincere belief that my present work offers even wider opportunity to serve the Negro youth of the South and of the Nation in whose interest I have already devoted over ten years of my life and, further, my withdrawal now will make the way clear for your own administrative planning for the future of the school.

I wish to express to you and to the members of the Board my sincere appreciation of your support and your cooperation during my ten years of association with the institution as teacher and as administrator. I have deemed it a privilege to be associated with you and to have had some small share in the development of an institution which, through thirty years under the guidance of Principal H.A. Hunt and his loyal coworkers, has potentialities of becoming one of the most significant educational institutions in the South.

I extend to you, to Dr. Patton, to Mr. Hunt and to the officials of the Board, of the American Church Institute and of the school my kindest personal regards and sincere best wishes for your continued devotion to the high Christian ideal of educational opportunity for Negro youth.

Most respectfully submitted,

Frank S. Horne  
Acting Principal

FSK  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley N. & S. School

Atlanta, Ga., May 17, 1937.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Avenue, N.W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I am so ashamed of having had to send you yesterday that badly messed up letter, typed by my own inexperienced fingers, that I have had the letter copied today by someone who knows how and am sending a good copy to you as a substitute for the one mailed you yesterday. So please keep the old poorly typed one in your own possession and use the enclosed in case you wish to show it to anyone else.

I have made a number of minor changes in it, all of them being in the interest of better diction and construction of sentence. There is no change in the substance of the letter. Nevertheless since it concerns a matter of such interest to all of us, you would doubtless wish to read the corrected copy.

I am taking the train for New Orleans this evening at six o'clock, after a conference with Bishop Mikell, giving him the substance of our conversation on Saturday last.

Again with best wishes,

Cordially yours,

Robert W. Patton

*Am enclosing two good  
copies in case you wish to  
show one to some one else.*  
RWP-lr  
Encl.

Address *Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans May 18<sup>th</sup>*  
" *General Delivery, or Western Union,*  
" *Biloxi, Miss. May 19<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>*

*Since writing the above I have received a telegram from our President,  
The Presiding Bishop, Rt. Rev. Doctor Perry, saying "I approve heartily asking  
Mr. Dixon to attend meeting" June 14<sup>th</sup>, 12-30 P. M. at 231 Fourth Ave. New York.*

May 16, 1937  
Piedmont Hotel,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Avenue, *n w*  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

On account of the pressure on us in the next ten days in covering our Board meetings and other duties, Mr. Bentley and I decided that it would be best for your convenience as well as our own, to write the letter you requested of us at once, rather than run the risk of too much delay in case we are tied up with unavoidable duties after leaving Atlanta. We made this decision after your telephone message that you would be called to New York sooner than you had expected.

First of all, accept our expressions of admiration and approval of the statesmanlike plan for Fort Valley's place in the educational system of the State of Georgia, as outlined so clearly and vividly by the Chancellor, Doctor S. B. Sanford, and yourself, in Mr. Bentley's and my conference on Saturday, May 15th, with you gentlemen and Mr. R. L. Cousins. The purpose to make the school a four year Teacher's College, to give scientific training in agriculture, horticulture and in the related trades, with a probable appropriation from the beginning for maintenance, of \$35,000.00, together with appropriations for buildings and equipment as may be necessary to carry through the program as outlined, will certainly be an important factor when our authorities face the difficult responsibility of deciding what their duty is in the question of turning the school over to the State.

After you gentlemen had frankly and clearly outlined your plan for Fort Valley in the event that our authorities consent to transfer the institution to the control of the State, you asked us to give you gentlemen an equally frank statement as to what conditions we thought our authorities would require. After explaining that the subject had never been considered by our Boards, and that we could not therefore commit them, we stated that we had discussed the subject with several of the members of the Board of the Institute and of the School, and that we believed that the following considerations fairly represent the viewpoint of that minority of our authorities with whom we have discussed the subject. We are inclined to believe, also, that the remainder of our official group would, if and when the matter comes before them, emphasize the considerations we mentioned in our conference, the substance of which we summarize below:

(1) We are sure that without exception our authorities will be governed in their action first of all by what shall seem their duty in the spiritual development of the Negro, and their conception of the term "spiritual" will include education. Our authorities are in the habit of thinking of education as a spiritual process, and our Institute schools, as you are fully aware, have been conducted with that premise as their basis. Since you, your associates, and the other gentlemen with whom we conferred on Saturday, hold similar views, you will





be able to present to our group the reasons why you think it our duty to transfer the school, with the assurance in advance that they will understand and appreciate your viewpoint.

(2) We stated in our conference that if it should be decided to transfer the school to the authorities of the State, our authorities would retain a small tract of land, two or three acres more or less, on which <sup>to build</sup> a chapel, perhaps a community house and other facilities for religious and social service to students, and to people of the community. I have no doubt that the land reserved could be arranged in a mutually satisfactory location.

(3) Although the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School did not become formally connected with the Episcopal Church until 1917, the Rt. Rev. C.K. Nelson, D.D., at that time Bishop of Georgia, was President of the Board of Trustees of the school several years before it became connected with the Episcopal Church, and on his recommendation during that period the Institute made the school small annual appropriations.

Since our official connection with the school, about twenty years ago, we have remitted to the school for maintenance in excess of \$364,000.00, and for capital investments, including buildings and equipment, in excess of \$414,000.00, according to a notation recently sent me by our Secretary, a total of around \$778,000.00. It is not necessary to go over with meticulous care records running back so many years, but the above is given merely as indicative of the large investment in the school by those, who for the most part made their contributions because it was a church school. Of the total for buildings, etc. the General Education Board gave us about \$151,000.00, and prior to Mr. Rosenwald's death, the Julius Rosenwald Fund gave us \$10,000.00 for the building program at Fort Valley. In addition to remittances from our central office, the two Episcopal dioceses of Georgia have sent annually varying sums direct to the school. The total from these two sources would be a large additional sum, and other contributions from individuals would make a still larger sum.

The minority of our official group with whom we have discussed the subject have expressed their conviction that since not a few of those who have given generously in response to our appeals for Fort Valley have passed into the other world, we haven't the right to surrender the school without recovery of a portion, at least, of the capital investment. Should the transfer be consummated, they desire to be very generous, but since other educational corporations have been given large sums for the education of Negroes under public auspices, they do not think a church corporation whose funds were given for the maintenance of Negro schools under private auspices, should be expected to bear the whole cost. Mr. Bentley and I, therefore, expressed the opinion that our authorities would take the ground that they would be going as far as they conscientiously can in requiring a payment of \$150,000.00.

There is another important point in this connection, which some of our officials have expressed, namely the fear that the heirs of some of our donors might sue the Institute on the ground that the original purpose of the gifts had been diverted. The Institute should not only have protection against such contingencies, but since the large sums spent on this School could have been used to strengthen the work in our other schools, our authorities feel that at least some of it should be recovered for that purpose. In one of your excellent statements yesterday, you advocated our release of Fort Valley to the State, because of the difficulty, as compared with some years ago of securing funds for private education. It is true.



#3.

but it is for that reason in part that our authorities feel that, in the event that Fort Valley is transferred to the State, they should recover a part of the investment in Fort Valley in order to fortify the work of our other Schools.

We mentioned another point yesterday, which, in view of your request that we embody in writing the most important points in our conversation with you, it is just as well to repeat. The authorities of the Church in Georgia were many years ago induced to join with the Institute in maintaining these schools. We formerly had one in Brunswick, Ga., a very good school, but in order to strengthen Fort Valley, the Institute persuaded the Bishop of that diocese to close it, in order to concentrate all of our strength on Fort Valley. He would not have taken that course had he believed there was even a probability of consummating the proposal now under consideration. Moreover both of the dioceses of Georgia have sacrificed some of the funds which would have been used for their other work for Negroes, had they not joined with the Institute in the development of Fort Valley. We are, in view of these and other factors, bound to do all we reasonably can to compensate them for these sacrifices on the part of the authorities of the two dioceses, who during all of these years believed that they were partners in a permanent work, instead of a temporary one, which will be the case if Fort Valley is to go to the State.

I think this covers the most important points which we discussed on Saturday, and explains some of the limitations which confront our authorities.

Please, in preparing your paper for our Board, which meets on June 14th, give for their information the same clear statement of what you and others conceive and expect to accomplish with Fort Valley as the apex of Negro education in the State of Georgia. Please, also, be prepared, if practicable, to give us an approximate estimate as to when the State Board would wish to take charge, in case our authorities agree to the proposal. A serious injustice might be done to our Principal, Faculty, and students with all of the uncertainties involved in a change, if it were not decided well, abundantly well, in advance of the close of the school year. The Institute would also be embarrassed for the same reasons. If this change is to be made we hope it will be settled as soon as practicable.

In view of the great importance of this matter to all concerned, will you be willing to come in person before our Board, if I can arrange it after consultation with our President? I personally would like very much to have you do so, but there may be reasons, unknown to me, why it would be better to have you at a later date. It distresses me deeply to contemplate the possibility of giving Fort Valley up, after so many years of association with it, but if we must in duty face it in a serious way, then I think it should go before our Board under conditions favorable to full and disinterested consideration. It seems to me that to this end, your presence will be most important.

I shall be at the Roosevelt Hotel, New Orleans from the 17th, in the evening, till late afternoon of the 18th, and at Biloxi, Miss. care of Western Union, from the 19th to 21st. Can you write or wire me at either place, letting me know if this is received and satisfactory, and whether you would be willing to come to our Board Meeting and present the case as you see it.

Mr. Bentley and I enjoyed our conversation with you.

With all good wishes,

Cordially yours,

*Robert W. Patton*

(ROBERT W. PATTON)



May 18, 1957

*Fort Valley State School*

Dear Dr. Patton: Since you left yesterday I have thought of your invitation to appear at your Board meeting in New York on June 14th.

My personal interest prompts me to do this - in fact, to cooperate in any possible way - but it has occurred to me that I can't overlook official procedures and implications. Therefore, I presume to state the following considerations:

(1) I am not officially connected with the Board of Regents or the State Department of Education.

Therefore, before accepting your invitation, I wish to be sure (1) that Dr. Sanford wants me to do this and (2) Mr. Embree approves and, if I do accept, it must be understood that I am acting as an individual with no official connections implied or understood.

I'll talk with Dr. Sanford and write Mr. Embree and write you in consonance with their reactions.

Very truly yours,

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
Biloxi, Miss.

JCD:m

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*Fort Valley N.Y. School*

May 18, 1937

Dear Mr. Embree: Sanford, Patton, Bentley, Cousins, and I met in Sanford's office Saturday, May 15th. The conference was only fairly satisfactory. I'll give you the details of it in New York next week. This letter is for the purpose of securing your reaction to and advice on a proposal of Patton's.

He asked me to meet with his Board in New York on June 14th to describe to its members what the State of Georgia has in mind in connection with its program of higher education for Negroes and how Fort Valley might fit into the project. Sanford or Lester should do this. Sanford, without formal action of the Board of Regents, cannot make a proposition to the American Church Institute. Patton finds himself in the same position. Both are jockeying for position, I think - Sanford to secure Fort Valley without capital outlay and Patton to realize on the transfer.

This attitude of Patton's was new and unexpected to me and I couldn't help wondering if the idea of selling Fort Valley grew out of the combination of my long time interest and activity and the fact of my present connection with the Fund.

Two general procedures are possible (in so far as I am concerned). Either (1) I can accept Patton's invitation or (2) I can turn it down. (1) If I turn it down I can and should say that Sanford or someone from the Division of Negro Education in the State Department of Education - in this case, Lester - should act as the intermediary. (2) If I accept it should be with the distinct understanding that I'm serving not as an employee of the Fund but as an individual whose reasons for participation in the negotiations emanate from the facts of previous interest and effort and entail neither an expressed nor an implied obligation on the part of the Fund.

I should prefer being guided by you in this and will wait until I hear from you before accepting Patton's invitation.

Sincerely,

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

LCD:m

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Fort Valley Inst

7  
May 19, 1937

Dear Dr. Horne: Your letter of May 6th sent to me in Chicago was forwarded to me by my secretary.

Though I hate very much to see you do anything which would seem to permanently sever your connection with some kind of service in Georgia, I cannot blame you for accepting the work you are now doing in Washington on a permanent basis. I hope, however, that the time will come when you will find professional and pleasant work again in Georgia. I say this in spite of the fact that I am no longer officially connected with the State Department or any of the higher institutions.

If I should by chance get to Washington I shall be sure to look you up. If you come to Chicago please be sure to do the same thing while there. In either event let's keep in touch with each other because I should like to know what you are doing.

Sincerely yours,

Dr. Frank S. Horne  
709 Eleventh Street, Northeast  
Washington, D. C.

JCD:m

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# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

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Gailor Industrial School - - - Mason, Tenn.  
Gaudet Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
Voorhees Normal and Industrial School, Denmark, S. C.  
Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

Richmond, Va.  
May 28, 1937

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THE RT. REV. ERNEST M. STIRES, D. D.

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JAMES H. DILLARD, LL. D.

MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER

JOHN WILSON WOOD, D. C. L.

MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR.

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Avenue, N.W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I received your letter of May 24th on my arrival, after our long 5,000 mile journey to our school board meetings, in Richmond, Virginia. I am trying to catch up with an awful pile of mail received here. I am delighted to know that you can be with us at our board meeting on June 14th at 281 Fourth Avenue, New York. I think that in respect for your and Chancellor Sanford's request that this matter be kept within our official circle for the present, our President, Bishop Perry, will make that session of our board an executive session.

As previously stated our Board will meet at 2:30 o'clock Monday afternoon, June 14th. If, however, you can arrive about 3:15 it will be soon enough. There are some preliminary matters not related to the Fort Valley question which the Board will have to take care of before taking up the Fort Valley matter. I shall have to make my report to the Board on the other schools as brief as possible in order to give you ample time to explain the Fort Valley matter and to enable members of the Board to ask you such questions as they may desire to ask. I have been wondering if it would not be a good plan for you to bring with you a rough outline of the map of the state of Georgia showing the location of Fort Valley and the other units of the plan for Negro education in Georgia. Do not let this suggestion burden you. Use your own judgment. I merely thought that something of that kind might be helpful in making clear to them what you, Chancellor Sanford and others have in mind.

I am going to spend a few days at my home near Lindsay, Virginia before arriving in New York around the 8th or 9th. Please be good enough to drop me a line at the office, and send a copy to Lindsay, Virginia, letting me know that this letter has been received. I am sending a copy of this letter to the Taft Hotel in New York.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton.



9  
June 1, 1937

Dear Mr. Favrot: It is hardly necessary for me to do so, but I thought that I would write to remind you to talk to Dr. Patton about the matters you, Mr. Embree, and I discussed last week. It seems to me that it would be absolutely foolish and a waste of the time of all of us for the American Church Institute to set up a price of \$150,000 for Fort Valley. You know the arguments against this as well as I do, or even better, and if you will be sure to get in touch with Dr. Patton as soon as he gets back to New York it might help quite a bit when we get into the meeting on the 14th.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Mr. Leo Favrot  
General Education Board  
49 West 49th Street  
New York City

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

7  
June 9, 1937

My dear Dr. Patton:

From what Mr. Favrot and Mr. Dixon tell me there seems to be considerable interest on the part of officials of the University of Georgia in taking over Fort Valley and making it the state college of agriculture for Negroes. I wish I could talk with you about the situation; if you are in Richmond any time soon, please drop by. According to reports the officers of the University see a possibility of the state's taking over the property, developing and supporting it in the future, but they do not see any prospect of securing the figure mentioned, \$150,000, with which to pay for it.

In one sense it is perhaps expecting too much to ask the Church Institute to make a gift of this property to the state and yet if it were turned over the church would be relieved of the recurring item of support. This would release resources needed for the development of St. Augustine's, St. Paul's, Voorhees and other schools under your support. The development of Fort Valley, with its rural life program, is one of the fine accomplishments of the Church Institute in Negro education and whatever comes of the negotiations I am naturally pleased to see this interest on the part





Dr. Patton - 2

June 9, 1937

of responsible white officials of the state in providing more appropriately for the agricultural and industrial training of Negro youth of one of the great agricultural states of the South.

With kindest regards,

Cordially yours,

JACKSON DAVIS

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York, New York

JD:LG  
cc to Lindsay, Va.  
cc to LMF, Atlanta

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

## MEMORANDUM ON NEGRO HIGHER EDUCATION IN GEORGIA

The group of Negro private institutions in Atlanta, under the aegis of Atlanta University, are capable of carrying the high reaches of education not only for Georgia but for the whole region of the central Southeast. This group will probably receive increasing support from church boards, foundations, and private individuals and will become the leader in higher education for this region.

With the Atlanta group setting standards and carrying the higher branches, the obligation of the State of Georgia is to take care of mass education of the Negroes of Georgia and to provide professional personnel in the various fields, especially to provide teachers for the common schools. At the moment the State is maintaining three Negro institutions which are parts of the Georgia University System: the state college at Savannah and the junior colleges at Forsythe and Albany.

The state college at Savannah has never satisfactorily worked out its program or delimited its scope. It is properly the state college of agriculture and mechanic arts and should probably limit itself pretty definitely to these fields. The ambition to develop a large department of general studies (common to almost all state colleges, especially Negro state colleges) is not wise in itself and is peculiarly unnecessary in Georgia where the Atlanta group of colleges is prepared to carry liberal arts and the higher reaches of university work. Unfortunately, the chancellor of the state university system seems inclined to respond to the continued appeals of the Savannah school to pour in increasing money





Fort Valley High and Industrial School contributions

by Julius Rosenwald:

1913	\$ 3,000	
1914-17, Inclusive (\$250 annually)	1,000	
1919	250	
1920	500	
1922	250	
1923	250	
1928	10,000	
	<hr/>	
	\$15,250	\$15,250

Contributions by Julius Rosenwald Fund

(For current expense)

1929-30	\$ 2,500	
1930-31	2,000	
1931-32	1,500	
	<hr/>	
	\$ 6,000	6,000

(For purchase of library books)

1929-30 (February)	\$500	500
Grand Total		<hr/> \$21,750



20 JCD 6/11/37 Mee



ANSLEY HOTEL  
ATLANTA, GA.



ANDREW JACKSON HOTEL  
NASHVILLE, TENN.



ST. CHARLES HOTEL  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.



TUTWILER HOTEL  
BIRMINGHAM, ALA.



JEFFERSON DAVIS HOTEL  
MONTGOMERY, ALA.

*Fort Valley N + S School*



O. HENRY HOTEL  
GREENSBORO, N. C.



SAVANNAH HOTEL  
SAVANNAH, GA.

## Dinkler Hotels

CARLING DINKLER  
PRESIDENT & GEN. MGR.

WRITTEN FROM ANSLEY HOTEL  
ATLANTA, GA.

*June 12, 1937*

Dear Dixon:

Cousins and I had a brief conference with Bishop Mikkell to-day. Cousins presented the Fort Valley matter and outlined the substance of negotiations and conferences hitherto held. He then asked the bishop whether the proper authority with which to carry on negotiations was the Amer. Church Inst. or the Board of Trustees.

Bishop Mikkell stated that the ultimate authority would be the Board of Trustees since it held title to the property. He added, however, that since the A.C.S. had supported the institution for about 20 years, and since the treasurer of the A.C.S. was handling invested funds, the Board would be largely influenced by the recommendations of the A.C.S.





ANSLEY HOTEL  
ATLANTA, GA.



ANDREW JACKSON HOTEL  
NASHVILLE, TENN.



ST. CHARLES HOTEL  
NEW ORLEANS, LA.



TUTWILER HOTEL  
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O. HENRY HOTEL  
GREENSBORO, N. C.



SAVANNAH HOTEL  
SAVANNAH, GA.

## Dinkler Hotels

CARLING DINKLER  
PRESIDENT & GEN. MGR.

WRITTEN FROM ANSLEY HOTEL  
ATLANTA, GA.

*In view of this expression of confidence in the A. C. S. it appears that you will do well to hold the conference with that group Monday.*

*For your personal information I am enclosing the copy of the letter written by J. D. to Dr. Patton.*

*With all good wishes*

*Yours sincerely,*

*Leo M. Havrot.*

P

June 17, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: It was nice of you to ask me to meet with your Board in New York on Monday, and considerate of them to give me the time which they did. No matter what may be the outcome of this meeting, I feel that certain things have been definitely accomplished. We were able to get over to your Board the fact that a public authority is interested in the job the Institute is now doing, and is also now interested - as far as it is possible to do so - in relieving the Institute of much of the load of a local nature. As agreed between you, Mr. Bentley, and me in your office Tuesday, I am to continue my efforts in connection with this problem, keeping you informed of the various steps I take and ultimately notifying you whether there is any definite financial proposition the state is able to make to your Board.

I find it difficult not to get just a little bit emotional in connection with this whole problem. I feel that the possibilities involved in the proposal are so significant as to merit the very careful consideration of the state authorities and of the authorities of your organization. Your Board probably thought that I was quite dogmatic and opinionated as the result of the statements I made regarding how effectively Fort Valley could and would fit into a public program of higher education for Negroes in Georgia. My opinions, however, were not those that had grown up over night, but had developed from five or six years of increasing interest and careful thinking and study of the problem. As a result of this it seems to me that the Institute might well afford to feel that it had done a job - and a good one at that - when a public authority is willing to assume a responsibility which has up to the present been yours.

I do not know what may be the ultimate outcome. I expect to proceed along the lines you, Mr. Bentley, and I discussed so frankly until I have gone just as far as I think I can go.

Very truly yours,

JCD:MLU

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
New York City

FISK  
J. O. DIXON  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley Inst

7

June 17, 1937

Dear Mr. Hunt: The meeting with the Board of the American Church Institute in New York on the 14th was an interesting one, and with the exception of the fact that I did not get very far with my negotiations, a pleasant one. Conditions were such, of course, that I had to approach them with an initial proposal which amounted to a gift of the plant to the state. As was to be expected, I found a variety of opinion in the Board.

I should prefer relating all of my experiences to you personally the next time we are together, but will say now that the meeting of the Board left the whole proposition open, to say the least. I think there is a possibility that we may work out the transfer. From the point of view of the Board, I am afraid that this is going to be conditioned upon finding a considerable sum (whose source I do not at present see) with which to recompense the Institute.

I expect to be in Atlanta the last week of this month. If you happen to pass through call me so we can get together and I can tell you in detail what occurred.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Mr. H. A. Hunt  
1520 R Street, N. W.  
Washington, D. C.

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

Fort Valley Inst

P

June 17, 1937

Dear Dr. Coss: It looked as if I would never finish my conferences with the American Church Institute group. Monday afternoon I met with the whole group and Tuesday spent much of the day with Dr. Patton and Mr. Bentley.

The conferences were somewhat of a disappointment to me. About the only statement I can make on the project of transferring Fort Valley to the state is that the matter is still open for further negotiation. The reactions of individual members of the Institute were interesting. The business men in the group were trying to realize as much as possible; the churchmen were talking about carrying out the terms of a trust, the propagation of the gospel, and the presence of a moral and an ethical responsibility. Dr. Dillard, with the church group, feels the need for the continuance of denominational colleges which, he says, are interested in character development in a way not to be found in public colleges.

Many questions entered into the discussion. Those mentioned above and, in addition, questions relating to the integrity of state officials, the ability and willingness of the public authority to finance, whether the need of the state for Fort Valley was real or fancied, and what assurance the Institute would have that the state would do a better or even as good a job as was now being done. Some of these I could answer with some certainty; others I could answer not at all.

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Dr. Coss - page two

June 17, 1937

I asked for an outright gift of the property to the state and gave my reasons for doing so. This I do not think we shall get. If not, the next step is to make a money offer and just now I can't see where it's to be got.

If you and Mr. Favrot should get together any time soon I wish you would discuss the whole problem. Then later on, when we can get together, we can talk.

Sorry I couldn't stay over another day. I'll plan better next time.

Sincerely,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Dr. John J. Coss  
Columbia University  
New York City



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A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

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Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

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THE REV. GEORGE L. PAINE, A. M., B. D.

THE REV. WILLIAM H. MILTON, D. D.

JAMES H. DILLARD, LL. D.

MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER

JOHN WILSON WOOD, D. C. L.

MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR.

## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

June 19, 1937

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
39 Alden Avenue  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I am sending for your information a copy of the resolution of the Board of Trustees of the Institute at its meeting on Monday afternoon when you were present and made your excellent presentation of the reasons, as you see them, why the Fort Valley School should be transferred to the control of the Board of Regents of the State of Georgia. You certainly did your part admirably, but as you fully understood, our Board could not take any definite action until some authoritative proposal can be brought before them.

I had conversation over the telephone with our mutual friend, Mr. L. M. Favrot, yesterday. He had planned a meeting between himself, Jackson Davis and myself for an informal discussion of the problem. Conditions prevented our having this informal talk, but Mr. Favrot stated some of his views over the 'phone. There is one feature of the case which as far as I could judge from Mr. Favrot's conversation on the 'phone, although that subject was not mentioned by either of us, he and perhaps others have not given full consideration to. Mr. Favrot and I did not discuss the financial recovery of \$150,000.00 mentioned in my letter to you of May 16th. But although I think I mentioned it to you in one of our conversations, I would like to call your attention to it again. Our Board members feel that what I said in my letter to you is very, very generous indeed as they see it, and they are particularly moved by the consideration that if the transfer of the school by the Church to the State is not of sufficient significance and importance to other educational corporations interested in public education, to justify some sacrifices on their part, why should our group feel that it is of such importance as to justify a great sacrifice on our part.

My suggestion is that you handle the matter in whatever way you think best and without hurrying unduly, bring a proposal to our Board which is authoritative so that they will have something to make a decision on one way or the other.

Thanking you again for your fine presentation, and appreciation of our problem, I am

Very sincerely,

Robert W. Patton  
Robert E. Patton



Copy

Resolution passed at Board of Trustees meeting of American Church Institute for Negroes on Monday, June 14, 1937.

Robert W. Patton, Director

Whereas, Mr. J. C. Dixon has appeared before us and expressed the hope that the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School would be turned over to the Board of Regents of the State of Georgia to become the apex of its educational system in the State and receive a much larger financial support than in all probability the Church will be able to provide, and has stated his opinions to us, interpreting the plans of the Board of Regents, in a forceful and appealing manner, therefore be it:

RESOLVED: That the Board of Trustees of The American Church Institute for Negroes tenders its thanks to Mr. Dixon for his able presentation of this subject and will give serious consideration to any definite proposal or proposals from the Board of Regents of the State of Georgia either delivered in writing or by an authorized representative, concerning the transfer of the Fort Valley School to the Board of Regents of the State of Georgia.



*Copy for Mr. Dixon*

June 13, 1937

Mr. L. M. Favrot  
Grace American Building  
Richmond, Virginia

Dear Mr. Favrot:

I thought you and Mr. Davis might like to have a copy of the letter to Mr. J. C. Dixon after his excellent presentation of the Fort Valley matter to our Board and the resolution passed by our Board after Mr. Dixon left. I am, therefore, enclosing a copy of the letter and the resolution for you with the request that you give Mr. Davis the extra copy.

You asked me on the telephone yesterday what is the next step. I will repeat what I said to Mr. Dixon the day after our Board meeting when he called on Mr. Bentley and me in our office. I suggested that taking my letter to Mr. Dixon of May 16th, a copy of which you have doubtless seen, as a basis and his impressions at our Board meeting, together with what is said in the resolution herewith, and endeavor to have an authoritative proposal brought to our Board so that they may have something either to approve or modify, or reject. As I said to you and to Mr. Dixon, several of our Board think that the transfer should be made under proper conditions. Several are opposed, and the other six or seven are awaiting further light and a definite proposition.

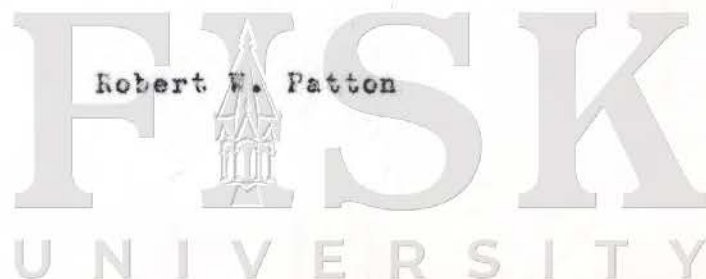
Will you be good enough to show this letter and the letter to Mr. Dixon to Mr. Davis?

With best wishes,

Cordially yours,

Robert W. Patton

RWP:AF





# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

## REFERENCES

RT. REV. H. J. MIKELL, D. D.,  
108 17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY,  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

ACCREDITED CLASS "A" JUNIOR COLLEGE

*Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools*

*For The Training of Colored Youth*

## REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS,  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

POST OFFICE BOX 822

## Fort Valley, Georgia

Mr. Raymond Paty  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Ill.

My dear Mr. Paty:

[illegible]

We desire to secure the services of some well equipped woman capable from every angle of taking charge of our work in Teacher Training. For the past few years we have been concentrating on that work on the Junior College level in an effort to meet what seems to be a real need here in Georgia. Besides directing the work in Teacher Training it seems desirable that this same person should be principal of our Elementary School-six grades- in which the students taking the Teacher Training course do their practice teaching. We should expect to have much of the teacher training class work done by other instructors in the Junior College and plan to give the teacher in charge sufficient help in the management of the Elementary School. We desire to secure some one who has not only had good academic training but with a background, personality and experience which will command the respect of her associates and the students taking courses under her. She would not of course be expected to teach any elementary school classes though it does seem desirable that she should have charge of that work so as to be free to use the pupils in the elementary classes and the student teachers as she thinks best.

Any assistance you can give us in this matter will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely yours,

HAH-W

rs,  
H. A. Hunt, Principal.

July 7, 1937

Dear Mr. Hunt: Mr. Paty is on a western trip, and in his absence I am sending you some names of people who may interest you. When he returns I shall be glad to give him your letter and if he has other suggestions he will write you.

Henrietta Berniece Trawick, 28 years, Director of Practice School at Alcorn College, Alcorn, Mississippi. Miss Trawick has an AB from Jackson College, Jackson, Mississippi, and an AM from Atlanta University. Her scholastic record is good.

Cleopatra Davenport, 25 years old, Director of the Junior College teacher training at Okolona Industrial School, Okolona, Mississippi. Miss Davenport has a BS from Alcorn and an MS from Atlanta University. Her record is good.

Ella Jane Carter, Piney Woods School, Piney Woods, Mississippi. Miss Carter is 34 years old. She has only an AB degree, but it is from Iowa State Teachers College. I do not know whether or not she would be a good possibility for the position you have open, but she is among the few Mr. Paty selected as prospective Jeanes teachers, and Mr. Dixon thought she was a rather outstanding person when he visited the school early this spring.

Miss Lillian R. Dawson, Dean of Education at the Florida A and M College, Tallahassee, and Mrs. Elizabeth P. Cannon of Spelman College are closely associated with teacher training and may be able to give you additional names. If we can be of additional service please do not hesitate to call on us again.

Very truly yours,  
MARGARET L. UTLEY

Secretary to Mr. Paty

MLU

Mr. H. A. Hunt  
Fort Valley Normal School  
Fort Valley, Georgia

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Fort Valley Inst

P

August 19, 1937

Dear Dr. Sanford: You must think that I am a terribly un-businesslike person, for I promised in May, before I went to New York to attend the meeting of the Board of the American Church Institute, that I would report to you in Atlanta after that meeting. From the meeting I came back to Chicago and returned to Atlanta about the 23rd of June, from which time until just a few days before I left there on Monday of this week I was so thoroughly involved with doctors and hospitals that I did not have an opportunity to see any one.

I did, however, drop into your office after having called you on Friday of last week, and talked with Mr. Siebert. To him I related the experiences I had with the Church Institute Board in New York, and tried to give him some idea of what I thought the possibilities were in connection with the Fort Valley proposition, and what should be the next steps of the Board of Regents (if any) and of any one who was interested in the proposition (such as myself).

As I told Mr. Siebert, The Board of the Institute seemed to be willing to relieve itself of the responsibility and the obligation of operating Fort Valley. At the same time it was quite apparent that they wanted some financial remuneration for the investment which the Institute itself had made at Fort Valley. The important thing is that they were and are willing to agree to the transfer of Fort Valley as an institution and as a plant to the State of Georgia to be operated by the state as a public educational institution for Negroes. They would not, however, want to see this done without feeling that the state, i.e., the Board of Regents, had a fairly definite concept as to the place Fort Valley was going to occupy in the whole scheme of education in Georgia, and I believe neither you nor I would fail to agree with them that this is not an unreasonable attitude. I tried to indicate to them that the state was

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willing and eager to develop an adequate program of higher education for Negroes, and in doing so I pointed out to them what you are doing at Savannah, and your oft-expressed intention of devoting the thought and consideration necessary to develop adequate and reputable programs at the other state institutions.

Some members of the Board asked me a very pointed question - the question which fortunately you and I had discussed previously. I was asked what the state would do with Fort Valley if the American Church Institute were to convey it to the state. I very carefully refrained from making any specific or definite answers to such a question, but pointed out that you have already discussed the advisability of having made a very careful analysis of public higher education for Negroes in Georgia, and that out of this analysis or survey, if you wish to call it such, the Board of Regents as a state authority would very likely develop a coherent program for Negroes on the college level. This seemed to meet with the approval of the members of the Board, and all of them were very frank to say that if they could feel that the state was going to continue to make a definite effort in this area, they would be much more inclined to favor the proposition which I made to them.

This brings us to the point of this letter. The American Church Institute is not going to convey the real estate of the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial Institute to the State of Georgia without some material remuneration. The Board of Regents is unable and would very likely be unwise to purchase this property. It can, however, be purchased for the Board by outside agencies, and as far as I can go at the present time is to say that this is barely possible. In saying this, however, I wish it distinctly understood that I am making no commitment for the organization with which I am connected or for any other philanthropic board. Before this could be done, however, and as stated above, before the American Church Institute would be agreeable to the transfer, it would not be a bad idea to be able to say to the Institute and to others that such and such is the specific definite program of higher education for Negroes in Georgia over a period of the next few years or a decade.

This gets back immediately to the discussion that you and I had relative to the advisability of your appointing a commission or committee to study the Negro colleges in Georgia, both public and private, and to recommend to the Board of Regents as a guide for future development a program specifically for the state colleges, but taking into consideration at the same time the program of the private and denominational schools.

Do you not think, then, that it would be a good idea to organize a staff for studying the Negro colleges as soon as you can get to it, and get it started on the job? The quicker this is done the quicker will we be able to have a definite statement to make to the Church Institute. This is what I wanted to talk to you about when I went to your office last week, and if you think it feasible, I would like to have Mr. Embree go to Atlanta with me some time after the 15th of September for a conference with you regarding the latter question. In view of this, however, won't you please write me both what you think ought to be done, and what you think the Board of Regents will be willing to do?

Very truly yours,

JCD:MLJ

I C. Dixon

Dr. S. V. Sanford  
Chancellor, University System of Georgia  
Atlanta, Georgia

cc J M Lester

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c o / p m

Fort Valley Inst

P

August 23, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: I had hoped to get back to New York before early fall so that I might have an opportunity to talk further with you and Mr. Bentley about the Fort Valley matter. It appears now quite unlikely that I shall be able to do this, so I am writing.

The more I go into the matter, the more am I quite certain that we are not going to find \$150,000 or anywhere near that sum to give to the State of Georgia with which to purchase Fort Valley. In fact, even if the money could be found, I do not have the feeling that it is the best thing to do.

Fort Valley is an above-average institution. You and I both know this, but I can not help wondering if it would have been such an institution had it not been for the contributions made by the General Education Board and by the Rosenwald Fund. I do not, in fact, think it unreasonable to say that it would not have been anything like the institution it is today. These two organizations were not interested particularly in the American Church Institute; they were interested in the type of service and the area of service rendered in Georgia, and specifically around the Fort Valley institution. To carry the idea even further, they were interested in the education and the improvement of the Negro of that state, and of other nearby states. At the time they made their appropriations to Fort Valley they did so largely because they recognized the very great

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inadequacy of public higher education. I doubt, in fact, whether the General Education Board or the Julius Rosenwald Fund would have appropriated the \$175,000 to \$200,000 they did to Fort Valley had these two organizations felt that the state was doing an adequate job. If you will talk with representatives of both foundations now, I think you will find that they have the feeling that the State of Georgia now realizes more than ever before the large responsibility resting upon it in connection with the Negro institutions. I think you will find further that the officers of both of these organizations believe that the Board of Regents of Georgia is now ready to develop its colleges for Negroes as they ought to be developed. To be very specific, there is a bare possibility - and it is only a possibility - that I might be able to find \$25,000 to \$40,000 with which to reimburse the American Church Institute for its investment in Fort Valley. Unfortunately I do not see any source from which funds could be secured to reimburse either one of the foundations which have together put as much into Fort Valley as has the Institute. But I feel sure that the foundations - far from feeling that it is a sacrifice to have their investments in this institution go to the state - believe that that would be the best possible use of those investments.

Now the question coming out of this is: had I better give up the idea of the transfer of Fort Valley to the State, and persuade the Chancellor to go full steam ahead with the development of Forsyth - as it must be if we do not work out the other matters - or should you, Mr. Bentley and I get together for further conference, probably with Mr. Embree and Mr. Favrot?

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLJ

Mr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

CC Mr. L. M. Lester





# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

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PRESIDENT

MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER  
TREASURER

THE REV. ROBERT W. PATTON, D. D.  
DIRECTOR

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FIELD SECRETARY

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MR. STANISLAW J. MAKIELSKI  
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## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

August 30, 1937

JCD	9/1	JCD	9/1

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Dr. Patton will soon return and answer your good letter of August 23rd and I am going to let him answer it in any way he will. But there are two statements in your letter which I think require some comment in order that we may see clearly in this Fort Valley question.

The first one occurs in your second paragraph in which you say you do not know where you can find \$150,000 or anywhere near that sum to give the State of Georgia with which to purchase the Fort Valley School. What I object to in that statement is a word that has crept into conversations with you before regarding this whole matter. The word is "purchase." I am sure you do not mean to use that word in the way it is liable to be understood for the Institute has no idea of selling any interest it may have in the Fort Valley School. If it had such an idea there is just enough trading instinct in me to insist on the price being about \$2,000,000 instead of anything like the figure of \$150,000. I am sure you understand this, but, being a trader by instinct, I can't help but bring it to your attention. The whole point in asking any restitution for the funds the Institute and the Institute's other supporters have put in Fort Valley is to discharge a trust, in so far as we may, not only to people who are living but also to those who are dead and cannot protest any change that may be brought about by the school departing from its affiliation with the Church through which, if not for which, they gave funds for the institution's material fabric as well as support. I am sure, again, that you understand it and sympathize with my trader's point of view in this matter.

Your third paragraph contains much thoughtful comment and I personally will quite agree that the General Education Board and the Rosenwald Fund have been large contributing factors in the greatness and the fine service to the Negro people which are embodied in the Fort Valley School and its program, but it behooves me to raise the question and ask if all institutions helped by the same amount of money from the G. E. B. and the Rosenwald Fund as that given to Fort Valley are as great institutions as Fort Valley? And the further question: are they great simply because of the large financial aid they have received? From the Institute's standpoint, I am sure that our only interest in Georgia

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is the education and the improvement of Negroes in that State, coupled with the thought that in order to educate and improve that race we must carry on an institution which will win the respect, cooperation and support of white people in Georgia in order that the trained Negro may have an opportunity to use and develop his ability. In this latter statement I think you will agree that the Institute has a more well rounded program of education than the average financial trust can hope to have. I think you will also agree that some of Fort Valley's greatness must be due to personalities either within or without the institution, or both, who have guided and advised its course wisely and well. Therefore I believe most thoroughly and sincerely that the Fort Valley School is great because of all these factors and we can all take credit and be proud of the share we have had in making the school one of such great value.

All I have said above is from my own viewpoint entirely. The Institute's work is to render a service in the name of the Episcopal Church and provide a channel through which members of that Church may demonstrate their christian interest in the Negro race. I, therefore, feel that our program has little or nothing to do with making Episcopalians and is just as disinterested from that point of view as are both the General Education Board and the Rosenwald Fund. Yet we have certain trusts and obligations to discharge and we are placed in a position where our income must of necessity be derived mainly from one source, which is the membership of the Episcopal Church. We are using that income for public education in spite of its limited source, so, from my point of view, secular funds and trusts for public education with their larger resources of income and influence should catch the perspective the Institute has, recognize its obligations and be willing to help, wherever they can conscientiously, a corporation like the Institute to carry on its educational work when the matter of a transfer of a school from religious to secular control arises.

As I said above, this letter comprises only my personal opinion and Dr. Patton will write you officially upon his return to the office in a few days. I hope that what I have said will clarify for you my own attitude on this whole matter to avoid misunderstanding in any further conferences we may have.

With warm personal regards and all good wishes, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Gail E. Bentley* ✓  
Secretary  
*Cyril E. Bentley*

CEB:AF

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## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

September 3, 1937

JCD	5	JCD	10

copy  
Mr. J. C. Dixon  
39 Alden Avenue  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Dixon:

In Miss Flegal's behalf, since your letter of August 26th was addressed to her, and in my own behalf, for your kind letter was really intended for me, I am writing to thank you for your letter. I appreciate your gratification that I should have had, through the kindness of a friend, five weeks of complete rest overseas. You are quite right that I was badly in need of getting away from the many problems and responsibilities which have weighed heavily upon me during the last two or three years, during which I had not had a real vacation in which I could escape from them.

I am writing this merely to express my sincere appreciation of your kind note.

I have also received since my return your letter of August 23rd in regard to the Fort Valley matter. I shall write to you in response to that letter at an early date but may be so crowded with the many things that have fallen upon me since I returned that I may not be able to write that letter immediately. I have read your letter in regard to Fort Valley with much interest. I do not hesitate to say that there is no reason as yet why we should abandon our consideration of the proposal to turn Fort Valley over to State control. There are some considerations from our viewpoint which it is evident you do not fully understand. I hope that we may clear these up in the future.

I am leaving for Lindsay, Virginia today or tomorrow to spend a few days with my family and attend to some other matters in Virginia but will be back in New York the middle of September.

With kind personal regards and best wishes, I am

Very sincerely,

Robert W. Patton.

Robert W. Patton

RWP:AF  
CC to Chicago



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## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
39 Alden Avenue  
Atlanta, Georgia

Dear Mr. Dixon:

September 5, 1937

	JCD	5	JCD	10

Your letter of August 23rd in regard to the transfer of Fort Valley to the authority of the State of Georgia was received a few days ago after my return from a vacation abroad. There are several statements in your letter, including the one Mr. Bentley took exception to in a letter to you written before my return, about which we could probably argue indefinitely without coming to agreement. But, as such a discussion would contribute nothing to the solution of the main question, let's be merely good friends trying to work out a difficult problem in the right way and in mutual confidence.

The Institute most sincerely appreciated the appropriations to Fort Valley in past years by the General Education Board and the Rosenwald Fund. Those appropriations, however, were made from funds given for education years ago by men of great wealth. The Trustees and officers of these foundations do not have to raise their appropriations by appeals to individuals. They simply spend the money they control as trustees who have full discretion. Our case is wholly different. Nearly all of our funds are contributions from individuals for specific objects. It does not seem that it ought to be difficult for any one to discern the difference in the character of the responsibility of trustees administering funds of the latter type and those administering funds of the former type.

In the concluding paragraph of your letter you ask whether you had better give up the idea of the transfer of Fort Valley to the State or whether we should get together for a further conference, I reply that I am convinced that we should have another conference at some mutually convenient time this fall, probably after the General Convention of the Episcopal Church which meets in Cincinnati from around October 6th to 20th.

Some of our Board are still absent. As Mr. Bentley and I have engagements meantime in several sections of the country, we think it would be very desirable to have the opportunity to confer

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Mr. Dixon - Page 2

with at least a majority of our Board before you, Mr. Bentley and I and perhaps, as you suggest, Mr. Embree and Mr. Favrot, confer again. If you think it important to meet at an earlier date it might be possible to arrange it.

With warm personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*

Robert W. Patton

RWP:AF

*Am leaving New York to-night or tomorrow. Will be back around the 16<sup>th</sup> or 17<sup>th</sup>.*

Fort Valley Inst

P

September 7, 1937

Dear Mr. Bentley: Probably both of us are traders.

At least one would think so from the type of letter we have been exchanging. As a matter of fact, I feel, however, that that is true of neither of us because we both want to do what in our reasoned judgment is the best thing for the education of the Negro youth of Georgia. The difficulty we are facing, of course, and will continue to face, will be in arriving at a common understanding of what that best thing is, and in arriving at some method of consummating what may be agreed upon as the best procedure.

Perhaps I express myself poorly, particularly when I try to put my thoughts on paper. For this reason I think I would rather have a conference with you and Dr. Patton than to try to write further. Will either or both of you be in your office in New York during the last weeks in September or the first week or so of October? If so, I may find it possible to get there for a conference.

Very truly yours,

JCD:MLU

J. C. DIXON

Mr. Cyril Bentley  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



P

September 7, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: I am afraid that we will not get very far in our negotiations on Fort Valley *just* if we limit them entirely to correspondence. For that reason I am going to make an effort to see you and Mr. Bentley some time within the next month or two. I have a feeling that if you, Mr. Bentley, one or two other people and I could get together for a brief conference we might draw our deliberations down to such a definite point as to make it possible for us to talk in concise terms.

I have already written Mr. Bentley to this effect and have suggested that it might be better for us to have another conference before very long. If you find that you are going to be in New York during the Autumn and will let me know the approximate dates of your presence there, I will try to arrange to see you some time when I am in the city.

Very truly yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLJ

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

@ Mr. Lester

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# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

THE RT. REV. JAMES DEWOLF PERRY, D. D.  
PRESIDENT

MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER  
TREASURER

THE REV. ROBERT W. PATTON, D. D.  
DIRECTOR

THE REV. CYRIL E. BENTLEY, B. D.  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

MISS ALMA FLEGAL  
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MR. STANISLAW J. MAKIELSKI  
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Okolona Industrial School . . . Okolona, Miss.

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MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR.

## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Please consider this letter as supplementary and a part of my letter of about a week ago, the one acknowledging your letter of previous date relative to the proposal to transfer Fort Valley to the authority of the State of Georgia. I think I should have said the following in my former letter, but my brain, never even under most favorable conditions being anything to boast of, was when I wrote to you at an exceptionally low register, due to suffering at the time from a vicious malady contracted on board ship.

The point is that if we are to bring this matter to a decision by our Board, Mr. Bentley and I must have a definite proposal to present to them. As I recall your letter, while recovering here in the country from the malady referred to, you said something about as follows-- "There is a possibility of securing from \$25,000 to \$40,000 to compensate the Institute in part," ie in the event of the Transfer of the school to the State. While either of these sums is rather far below what our authorities hoped for, in order to fulfill the Institute's responsibility to our Church authorities in the State of Georgia and others, something of which we have explained to you in conversation, I express the personal opinion that if you will make a definite proposal of \$40,000 there is a chance of getting favorable action. I have no authority to say this, but I believe I am justified in saying it. I am presuming to say it simply because I know that in the last analysis the decisive factor with our Board will be what is their duty in the best interest of Negroes in Georgia, consistent with the Institute's obligations to our associates.

But as we have explained to you in Mr. Bentley's and my conversations with you, the Institute is not entirely free in this case. There are certain obligations to other interested parties which we are bound to recognize. I hope therefore that you may be able in the near future to send us a definite proposal. Meantime, in a quiet way, we are taking up with those who have given the largest sums for the development of Fort Valley, whether they will consent that their investment given for a church school may be transferred to the State, if our authorities decide that it should be done.

September 11, 1937

JCD	15		
ERB		ERB	

ask me 15-  
Copy to JCD Chap. 9/15/37 Me

UNIVERSITY



Mr. Dixon - Page 2

When we have something definite from you we can call a meeting and ask for action by our Board.

You understand, as has been several times emphasized, that in any case we must retain a limited tract not exceeding two or three acres for religious activities.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*  
u. f.

Robert W. Patton

CC to Atlanta, Ga.

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Fort Valley Institute

# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

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MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR.

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

September 14, 1937

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Many thanks for your letter of September 7th  
and I am glad that you agree that we are both traders.

Dr. Patton and I will both start off <sup>soon</sup> speaking engagements but it is possible that we will be back here the last week in September if you desire to confer with us at that time. We have our General Convention in Cincinnati beginning on October 6th and that will keep us out there ~~for~~ from probably the 3rd or 4th of October to around the middle of the month. I suggest, therefore, that if you can see us the last week in September you let us hear from you soon. Dr. Patton is due back in the office tomorrow and will be here a day or so before he leaves so an immediate reply to this letter regarding a conference here the last week in September will catch him and we can agree on it at once.

Looking forward to seeing you, and with every good wish, I am

Sincerely yours,

*Gril E. Bentley*  
Associate Director

CEB:AF

FISK  
UNIVERSITY



C O P Y

4.95  
Fort Valley Inst

SEPTEMBER 18 1937

ROBERT W PATTON  
AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE  
281 FOURTH AVENUE  
NEW YORK CITY

YOUR LETTER ELEVENTH SATISFACTORY SHALL PROCEED ON BASIS OF  
SECOND PARAGRAPH CAN MAKE YOUR BOARD A DEFINITE PROPOSAL IN  
NOVEMBER PROCEED ON BASIS OF FORTY THOUSAND WONT COME TO  
NEW YORK IN VIEW OF YOUR LETTER UNLESS YOU THINK NECESSARY

J C DIXON

INSTITUTE FOR RESEARCH IN SOCIAL SCIENCE  
HWO

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

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# WESTERN UNION (44)

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

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NM = Night Message  
NL = Night Letter  
LC = Deferred Cable  
NLT = Cable Night Letter  
Ship Radiogram

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## Received at

RG93 96 DL =XQ NEWYORK NY 25 1102A

J C DIXON =

REPLYING WIRE SEPTEMBER TWENTY FOURTH WIRED YOU CHICAGO FROM NORTHERN PENNSYLVANIA AGREEING CONFERENCE TWENTY EIGHTH UNNECESSARY HAVING MADE OTHER ENGAGEMENTS SORRY WE CANT NOW ARRANGE MEET YOU NEAR FUTURE IF YOU DESIRE WRITE ADDRESS LETTER LINDSAY VIRGINIA WILL GET IT SOME TIME BETWEEN NOW AND OCTOBER FIRST MUST THEN GO TO OUR GENERAL CONVENTION CINCINNATI FOR TWO WEEKS ADVISE YOU PROCEED ON BASIS LETTER OF ELEVENTH I CANNOT PROMISE HOPE OF SUCCESS ON ANY OTHER BASIS SINCE EVEN THAT BASIS WILL REQUIRE INSTITUTE MAKE DRIVE FOR FUNDS IN ORDER ENABLE US FULFILL OBLIGATIONS TO OTHER PARTIES =

ROBERT W PATTON.

FISK



Fort Valley School

P

October 20, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: At the time you and I exchanged telegrams about my going to New York I was at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, participating in a conference of state agents and education officials from Africa. I received your letter of September 11 about that time. In it you expressed the personal opinion (without making it an official action, of course) that your board would probably be willing to listen to a definite proposal of the amount stipulated in a recent letter of mine, and that you would be willing to submit this proposal regarding the transfer of Fort Valley to the State of Georgia to your board.

The main reason that I wanted to go to New York for a conference with you and Mr. Bentley was to get our deliberations pointed to a specific amount of money which would have to change hands in the transfer of Fort Valley to the state, and since your letter of the 11th gave me this information, I had the feeling that it was not necessary for me to make the trip.

Since the exchange of telegrams with you I have had an opportunity for further conference with the Chancellor of the University System of Georgia, and I hope and believe that shortly after the middle of November the Chancellor will submit to you and your board - either personally or through someone else - a definite proposal. I may not see you until the latter part of November unless you should feel it necessary that we have a further conference.

Very truly yours,

JCD:MLU

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

J. C. DIXON  
FISK  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley School

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Gaudet Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
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Lindsay, Va.

October 22nd, 1937.

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WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
Julius Rosenwald Fund,  
4901 Ellis Avenue,  
Chicago, Ill.

P JCD K 25  
ERE — ERE

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I learned only a few days ago that you have had the inconvenience and perhaps the suffering from a minor operation. Please accept my sincere sympathy and the hope that you are already completely recovered. I am sure Mr. Bentley would join with me in this expression if he knew of it and that I am writing to you.

Bearing in mind your wire suggesting a meeting between Mr. Bentley, myself, and you, and perhaps also with Mr. Embree, and Mr. Favrot, and our inability to conform owing to the early approach of our General Convention, I am suggesting some possible dates for your consideration:--

1. Mr. Bentley and I could meet you, or you and the other gentlemen referred to, in New York on November 7th or 8th. We could if necessary remain till the 9th.

2. I could meet you, and I hope Mr. Bentley also, at Columbia Hotel, Columbia, S. C., on November 15th or 17th. We have an engagement in that vicinity on the 16th.

3. We could meet you at Chisca Hotel, Memphis, some day ~~xxxx~~ between Monday inclusive, Nov. 29th and December 4th inclusive, and could fix the day agreeable to you soon after hearing from you.

If none of these suggestions are practicable for you, we may be able to arrange to meet at some other place in the East or South in between the dates mentioned provided ~~xxxx~~ your suggestions allow ample time for us to make the trip by auto from the ~~xxxx~~ dates above noted. Or, if none of the above is practicable, you may be able to suggest some date and place between December 8th and 18th.

A wire will catch me at Lindsay, Va., until October 28th; care of the Rev. Frederic B. Atkinson 226 West State Street, Sharon, Pa., Nov. ~~xxx~~ 1st; and care of Rev. Don H. Copeland, Cleveland Heights, Cleveland, Ohio, November 5th. After that at 281 Fourth Avenue, New York. Of course, if this catches you in time, a letter will reach me also at the above addresses.

I am my own typist on a rickety machine here in the country. Pardon the looks of this letter. I am sending a copy to your Atlanta address.

Trusting you are completely restored and with all good wishes,

Very sincerely,

Robert W. Patton.



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R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
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Received at 5238 Blackstone Ave., Chicago, Ill. Midway 4321

1937 OCT 23 AM 10 23

CAV74 53/52 DL=LINDSEY VIR 23 1015A

G C DIXON=

JULIUS ROSENWALD FRIEND 4901 ELLIS AVE=

*Fort Valley  
School*

YOURS TWENTIETH RECEIVED LINDSAY VA FORWARDED FROM NEWYORK  
AFTER MINE OF YESTERDAY MAILED TO YOU ALRIGHT AS TO YOUR  
LETTER EXCEPT PLEASE REMEMBER AND TELL CHANCELLOR I HAD NO  
AUTHORITY TO SUGGEST YOUR SUGGESTION OF FORTY THOUSAND AND  
SOME ARE SAYING THAT FIGURE TOO LOW IN VIEW OF OBLIGATIONS  
TO GEORGIA ASSOCIATES=

R W PATTON.

*E.R.E.*  
FISK

Fort Valley School

EPB

October 25, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: Your telegram came Saturday and your letter this morning. I understood, of course, that the figures which you and I had been mentioning to each other were not official and that you were reacting personally, just as I was reacting personally. I knew that you would want to submit to your Board and probably to the Fort Valley trustees any definite proposal which might be made to you by the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia or by anyone else. You understand, of course, that the negotiations had reached such a point that it was necessary for us to begin having some definite amount of money in mind, and that I had set this figure arbitrarily because I had the feeling of this need and because I did not see any chance to secure a sum in excess of it.

The meeting of our Board is to be held on the 13th of November. On the 16th, 17th, and 18th Mr. Embree and I must be in Nashville, so I can not see you until after that time. I note from your letter that you will be in New York after November 5. I should prefer seeing you there, so unless something comes up to force an earlier engagement, I think we might plan to meet in New York some time after the 20th of November. If you do not object I shall postpone making a definite engagement until after the middle of the month.

I appreciate your expression of interest in my physical condition. My siege with the doctors during the summer was not at all a serious one. The inactivity involved was the most troublesome aspect of it, and I am now, I think, fully recovered.

With personal regards to you and to Mr. Bentley,

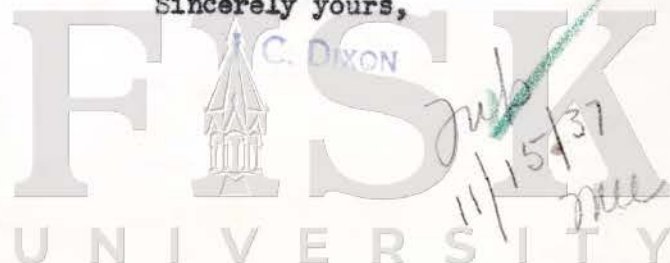
I am

JCD:MLU

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
Care Reverend Frederic B. Atkinson  
226 West State Street  
Sharon, Pennsylvania

Sincerely yours,

C. DIXON



Sharon, Va.  
C. H. Hester



October 31, 1937

D

Dear Mr. Dixon: Referring to your recent letter saying you would probably meet Mr. Bentley and me in New York around November 20, please refer to my former letter in which I gave you our dates, and saying we would be in New York only from November 6 to 8, inclusive, or possibly the 9th.

Glad to see you in New York or on any of the other dates and places mentioned in my former letter.

Am sending the substance of this both to Atlanta and Chicago. Hope each day brings you nearer to perfect health.

Sincerely,

Robert D. Patton.

Hope this matter can be brought to a decision one way or the other in the near future.

CHESAPEAKE and OHIO

ORIGINAL PREDECESSOR



COMPANY FOUNDED BY GEORGE WASHINGTON IN 1785

Oct 31 1937

JCD

11/2

JCD

Enroute

Hope this matter can be brought to a decision and  
other the present future  
way as the

Dear Mr. Dixon,  
Referring to your  
recent letter, saying you  
would probably meet Mr.  
Bentley and me in New  
York around Nov. 20<sup>th</sup>.  
Please refer to my former  
letter in which I gave you  
our dates, and saying we  
would be in New York only  
from Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> in-  
clusive or possibly 9<sup>th</sup>.

Glad to see you in  
New York as ~~at~~ any of the  
other dates and places men-  
tioned in my former letter.  
am sending the substance  
of this both to Atlanta and  
Chicago. Hope each day  
brings you nearer to perfect  
health. Sincerely



Robert B. Patton

LEEF LIKE A LITTEN



# CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

<b>FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT</b>	FORT VALLEY N & I INSTITUTE	<b>FILE NO.</b>
<b>DATE</b> 11/5/37	<b>REMARKS</b>	
	Corres. re: the position of the State of Georgia concerning the Fort Valley proposition.	

<b>SEE</b>	GEORGIA STATE OF	<b>FILE NO.</b>

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SIGNED</b>

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"

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Fort Valley School

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MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR.

## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

November 8, 1937

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

P

JCD	9	JCA	0
ERE		ERE	0

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Your letter of November 2nd has been received saying you will write to me after November 20th in the hope of making arrangements to see us in New York or in some place which may be convenient.

I am sure you know that Mr. Bentley and I are always glad to see you at any and all times, but we are wondering whether outside of the personal satisfaction of conversing together there is any good reason for another meeting to discuss the Fort Valley matter. Unless the purpose of the meeting you suggest is of great importance, Mr. Bentley and I have so many engagements before Christmas that it would be difficult to arrange a date without cancelling some of our engagements. Of course, if it is very important we would do this. But as there is nothing that we can add to what we have previously said on the subject I am wondering if the meeting you suggest is necessary.

We had hoped that ere this we would of had a definite proposal so that we could ask our Board to consider it. We are quite anxious to have this matter settled one way or the other before the end of the year. Indeed, the usual time for our Board meeting is between the 10th and 15th of December. We are hoping, therefore, that we will have a definite proposal to submit to our Board when it meets. I was talking to Dr. Dillard a few days ago. He said that he thought the matter should be settled one way or the other at the earliest possible date. Can't you, therefore, succeed in having a proposal sent us so that we can present it at a December Board meeting for consideration.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Robert W. Patton

RWP:AF  
Ccto Atlanta, Ga.

Robert W. Patton

ESK  
UNIVERSITY



Fort Valley Inst

P

November 15, 1937

Dear Bishop Mikell: Since I have not had the pleasure of meeting you I am going to introduce myself before revealing the import of this letter.

For eight years I was a member of the staff of the State Department of Education in Georgia and during the last five of these years I was supervisor of Negro education. In this capacity I worked with private and denominational, as well as with public institutions of higher education for Negroes, and was often thrown in contact with Mr. Hunt and with the Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School.

In 1932 the Board of Regents promoted a very full and careful study of higher education in Georgia. This report was rightfully quite critical of the public program for Negroes and made several very sweeping recommendations, one of which was either that the state develop a strong institution for Negroes in the center of the state (at Forsyth, for example) or, that it acquire, if possible, the Fort Valley plant.

This recommendation was only a recommendation for about four years. In that time the Board of Regents managed to achieve many of the improvements suggested for white colleges by the survey commission. Similarly during these four years - when I was in the State Department of Education - I strove to secure on the part of the Board of Regents and people generally, a recognition of the need of improving all higher education for Negroes in Georgia. Mr. Hunt, of Fort Valley, was one of my most active co-workers in this. Together we talked and worked until we felt that we not only could suggest needed changes but could also indicate possible procedures.

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Beginning about 1935 those of us who were interested thought we began to see the development of an interest in the education of Negroes on the college level - a development evidenced by the Regents and a part of the public-at-large. We nurtured and stimulated this, urging our Negro friends to point to the need for it and stating that fact to the Regents and to the Chancellor whenever and wherever possible. About this time Mr. Marion Smith came onto the Board of Regents and provided a stimulus which had been much needed.

In January, 1937, I joined the staff of the Julius Rosenwald Fund. This change of official position has in no way lessened my interest in Georgia or in Fort Valley. If there has been any change it has been an increase in interest, but I do find that my activity in behalf of Fort Valley and the state must be of a different type.

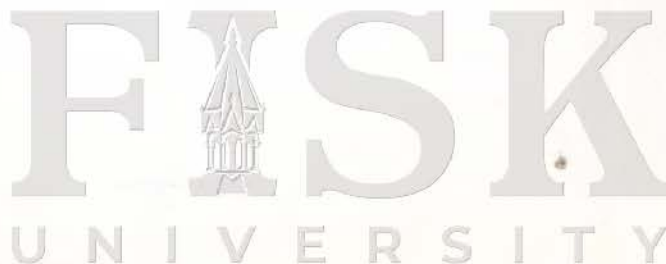
You and I are both interested in the program of higher education for Negroes in Georgia, and in the part Fort Valley may play in this program. I should, therefore, appreciate the privilege of a conference with you. I shall be in Atlanta (which is still my home) from November 19 to about December 1, and shall take the liberty of telephoning you for an engagement when I arrive.

Very truly yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Bishop H. J. Mikell  
108 East 17th Street  
Atlanta, Georgia





# CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

<b>FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT</b>	FORT VALLEY N & I SCHOOL	<b>FILE NO.</b>
<b>DATE</b> 12-15-37	<b>REMARKS</b> Comments by Mr. Simms, Registrar, on Mr. Embree's article, "Little Red Schoolhouse"	

<b>SEE</b>	<b>SEE</b>	<b>ARTICLES</b>	<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>FILE NO.</b>

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SIGNED</b>

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"

Fort Valley Institute

# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

THE RT. REV. JAMES DEWOLF PERRY, D. D.  
PRESIDENT

MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER  
TREASURER

THE REV. ROBERT W. PATTON, D. D.  
DIRECTOR

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## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

December 16, 1937

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Dixon:

On November 10th, making a brief acknowledgment of my letter of November 8th in which I suggested that you make a definite proposal in the Fort Valley matter so that we might bring it to the attention of our Board of Trustees at its meeting in December, you said, "I agree with you that sometime in the very near future something definite should be done about the whole proposal which you and I have had in mind, and I expect to be able to write you in a fairly specific way prior to the 10th of December."

I have just returned to my office, to remain only a day or two, after a long tour of four or five weeks in the South. I had hoped that on arriving here I would have found your promised proposal. Indeed I asked our Secretary, Miss Alma Flegal, to keep me posted while I was in the South. But there is nothing from you. That being the case, our President, Bishop Perry, has postponed the December meeting of our Board to a later date in the new year as there is nothing else on our docket which cannot wait.

I sincerely trust that you have not again been the victim of any physical disorder but if you have been, accept my sympathy and my hope that you will soon have recovered.

With best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton

RWP:AF  
CC to Atlanta





Fort Valley  
Institute

7

December 17, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: Your letter came in this afternoon.  
I had already written you this  
morning.

So far as I can see, the Regents  
will go through with their negotiations regarding  
Fort Valley about as we have planned. We are ready  
to cooperate fully just as soon as we feel that they  
have a state plan of higher education for Negroes.

It is my guess that the survey,  
which Dr. Cocking will direct, can be completed by  
March 1 or 15. Immediately thereafter we - and the  
Regents, I hope - will be ready to move.

Sincerely yours,

JCD:MLU

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York

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P

December 17, 1937

Dear Dr. Patton: Shortly after our Board meeting in November I returned to Georgia where I expected to have rather extended conferences with Dr. Sanford. Unfortunately, however he was ill, and I did not get this opportunity until last Saturday. Even this was a very brief conference, though it resulted in some definite arrangements in connection with the program of Negro education in Georgia.

You will please consider this a personal note, not an official one, because it is written simply to keep you informed of the developments in those things I have been interested in.

Our Board, at its November meeting, took action which makes it possible for Dr. Sanford and the Board of Regents to make your Board a definite proposition. As I told you and Mr. Bentley, however, we are not going to make it possible for them to do that unless I can be assured that the State of Georgia is prepared and willing to begin the development of an adequate program of higher education for Negroes. On Monday, December 20, Dr. Sanford, the Chancellor, Mr. Lester from the Division of Negro Education in Georgia, Dr. Cocking, the new Dean of the School of Education at the University, and I have an engagement to meet in Athens, and at that time we will lay general plans for the state-wide study of Negro colleges in Georgia. The study will be directed by Dr. Cocking and the School of Education.

It has taken quite a while to get this actually going, but I am confident now that it will



be done and done properly. It is my hope that this study may progress at such a rate as to put Dr. Sanford in a position to make your Board a definite offer within two or three months from now.

The first opportunity I have to see you or Mr. Bentley I shall go into much greater detail than I have in this letter.

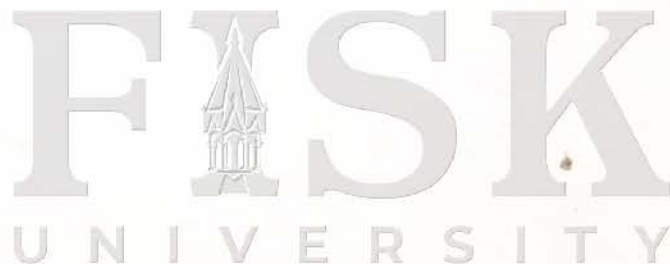
May I wish both of you a most happy Christmas. I hope that you may continue long and effectively to render the great service that you have been giving in the past.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Dr. Robert E. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City



Atlanta, Ga.  
December 21, 1937

Dear Mr. Favrot:

Recent correspondence with Dr. Patton regarding Fort Valley is quite interesting. I am enclosing in this letter a copy of a letter I received from him this morning and a copy of my reply.

On Monday, December 20th, I met in Athens with Dr. Sanford, Cocking, Lester, and Cousins-- with Pres. Caldwell, of the University, and Mr Nix, a member of the Board of Regents, present for a while. At this time Dr. Sanford officially designated and Caldwell approved Cocking as the director of the study of higher education for Negroes in Georgia. Sanford and Caldwell agreed to furnish any and all assistance Cocking might ask for from the University System.

All of us realize the possibilities of such a study. (We have only to look at the one made of the white colleges to see some of them.) This being the case we should not miss any bets.

It seems to me that you, Cocking, Mr. Embree, and I ( possibly the three of you might suggest others) should take the time, while we are in Washington, to discuss the possibilities of the study pretty thoroughly. I don't mean that we should even think of telling Cocking what he should recommend. He wouldn't do it, anyhow.

I think we shall be at the Hay-Adams House if you care to stay there. In a note to Mr. Embree tonight I asked what he thought about a conference of the four of us. He may write you. If he doesn't one of us will see you soon after arriving in Washington.

Blanche and I wish you and Mrs Favrot a most happy Christmas.

Sincerely,





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Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

Capitol Hotel,  
Richmond, Va.,  
December 21, 1937.

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## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
Alden Avenue, N. W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Your letter of December 17, forwarded from New York is just received in Richmond, Va. I am sorry to hear of Doctor Sanford's illness. Kindly express to him my sympathy, and the hope that he is already completely restored.

I note that on account of his illness and consequent delay in the projected study of Negro Education and collateral plans, a definite proposal to the Institute in the Fort Valley matter will be delayed two or three months. While appreciating the conditions which have caused the delay, our Board feels that the matter should be brought to their attention as soon as possible so that it may be decided one way or the other, as too prolonged indecision is calculated to do more or less harm to the school. I think also that in the event the two Boards should decide to let the State have the school, the decision should be made as long as possible before the conclusion of the present school year in order <sup>that</sup> the transfer might take place before the beginning of another school year. If our Board should decide that it cannot relinquish the school, it is important for many reasons that decision should be made as early in the New Year as possible.

Do you think there is any likelihood of your proposal or that of the Board of Reasons being received by February 7th so that it may be considered by individual members of the Board before the annual meeting on February 14th. Of course, if this is impracticable we can, if necessary, call a special meeting after the regular annual meeting. At your leisure, be good enough to answer this question at Capitol Hotel, Richmond, Va., where I shall be off and on for several weeks.

Mr. Bentley and I reciprocate most heartily your kind wishes for a Happy Christmas. I thank you from my heart for your kind wish that I may continue long and effectively in rendering what you <sup>are</sup> generous enough to call the "great service" that I have been giving in the past. With every good wish from both of us,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton.



Fort Valley

Atlanta, Georgia  
December 23, 1937

7

Dr. Robert W. Patton,  
Capitol Hotel,  
Richmond, Va.

Dear Dr. Patton:

Doctor Sanford has, I think, actually begun the study of higher education for Negroes in Georgia. On December 20th I met, upon invitation of the Chancellor, with him, Dr. Cocking, the new dean of the school of education of the University of Georgia, and Messrs. Cousins and Lester of the State Department of Education. At this time Dr. Sanford officially started the study which is to be directed by Dr. Cocking. Mr. Caldwell, the president of the University, and Mr. Nix, a member of the Regents were with us a part of the time and concurred in the decisions.

Dr. Cocking hopes to complete the study in the shortest time feasible. To this end Dr. Sanford and Mr. Caldwell agreed to supply personnel from the University System as Cocking calls for it. With all of this help available the study would be complete within a reasonable time. What this is, however, I should prefer for Dr. Cocking to say. He is away on vacation just now and I shall not see him again until about January 2nd. On that date I may be in Washington.

May I therefore refrain from answering your letter until I have had opportunity for further talk with Dr. Cocking. Shortly after the 2nd I shall write you or see you personally.

Sincerely yours,

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This is a full-rate Telegram or Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol above or preceding the address.

# WESTERN UNION (12)

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

## SYMBOLS

DL = Day Letter

NM = Night Message

NL = Night Letter

LC = Deferred Cable

NLT = Cable Night Letter

Ship Radiogram

The filing time shown in the date line on telegrams and day letters is STANDARD TIME at point of origin. Time of receipt is STANDARD TIME at point of destination.

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1938 JAN 26 PM 4 17

QA327 44 4 EXTRA DL DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM=

DY RICHMOND VIR 26 245P

J C DIXON=

39 ALDEN AVE NORTHWEST=

MOST HELPFUL IN ARRANGING FUTURE BOARD MEETINGS AND OTHER  
IMPORTANT ENGAGEMENTS IF YOU WILL WIRE CAPITOL HOTEL RICHMOND  
VIRGINIA MAY WE COUNT ON DEFINITE PROPOSAL FORTVALLEY MATTER  
BY THE END OF MARCH OR SOONER MUCH EMBARRASSED BY UNCERTAINTY  
AND DELAY=

ROBERT W PATTON.

FISK

## CLASS OF SERVICE

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# WESTERN UNION (07)

R. B. WHITE  
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON  
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER  
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Received at Atlanta, Georgia ALWAYS OPEN

1938 JAN 27 PM 2 09

QA202 71 DL 4 EXTRA DUPLICATE OF TELEPHONED TELEGRAM=

DY RICHMOND VIR 27 1028A

G C DIXON=

139 ALDEN AVE NORTHWEST=

*Fort Valley Inst*

THANK YOU FOR TELEGRAM GLAD ALL CONCERNED FEEL SURVEY SO VALUABLE BUT THINK I SHOULD ADVISE YOU THAT THAT PART OF OUR GROUP MOST FAVORABLE TO TRANSFER UNDER THE CONDITIONS PREVIOUSLY STATED FEEL STRONGLY THAT IF TRANSFER IS TO BE MADE IT SHOULD BE DONE IN TIME TO ALLOW BOARD OF REGENTS TO TAKE CHARGE BEFORE OPENING OF SCHOOL NEXT FALL. PLEASE WRITE FULLY CAPITOL HOTEL RICHMOND=

ROBERT W PATTON.



Fort Valley Institute

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Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

Capitol Hotel,  
Richmond, Va.,  
February 3, 1938.

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## HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL. D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Ave., N. W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Since your communications a few days ago, saying that the Board of Regents will not be in a position for several months to come to make our Board any definite proposal in the Fort Valley matter, Mr. Bentley and I have been going over the situation in a general way. From your standpoint and that of the Board of Regents, the following comment or speculation may seem entirely beside the mark. But, I am wondering why, if the State is going to make a real investment in Negro education under a well ordered and consistent plan, it cannot be substantially as well done by completely reorganizing Forsythe, weeding out everything that is unsatisfactory and objectionable there, and building on that foundation. It is in the same general territory as Fort Valley and one would think that a large expenditure such as you propose for Fort Valley would enable the Board of Regents to accomplish their purpose about as well at Forsythe as at Fort Valley. If that can be done, perhaps Negro education in Georgia might be as well, or better served by ~~proving~~<sup>preserving</sup> Forsythe and letting us go <sup>on</sup> with Fort Valley, as there is room enough for both without any improper competition.

With best wishes,

Very sincerely yours,

Perhaps you may think this suggestion devoid of merit.

Robert W. Patton  
Robert W. Patton.



Fort Valley Inst

February 7, 1938

Dear Dr. Patton: The members of the American Church Institute are reasonable people and I am sure will understand, appreciate, and agree to the delay in the Fort Valley negotiations when you explain to them the reasons for the delay and what it is hoped and believed may accrue to the Negro group as a result of it.

As an official in the State Department of Education for several years and during this past year in my present position, I have been vitally concerned over the lack of a thorough program of higher education for Negroes in Georgia. During recent years I have had (and still have) one main interest in this field, to which all others are secondary. This interest has been to propose, to popularize, and to push the development of a complete, inclusive, and well-balanced program in this educational area in Georgia. Until the latter part of 1937 it appeared that all I could do in this was to persuade the state to develop at least one adequate institution of higher education for Negroes, and Fort Valley seemed to be the only logical place for this development.

Late in 1937, however, several things happened to push my thinking into larger proportions and to cause me to seem to "mark time" on the negotiations you and I had been having. About this time - after repeated efforts which apparently were failures - the Chancellor began to develop an interest in Georgia's Negro colleges. As evidence of this he made it possible for me to meet several of the most influential and able members of the Board of Regents. The Chancellor and the Regents - just before the end of 1937 - decided that (1) the state's program of higher education for Negroes was entirely inadequate; (2) the state should, as quickly as possible, revamp

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and improve this program; (3) to this end should provide for a very careful analysis of all higher education - public and private - for Negroes, and (4) should have this analysis (or survey) suggest a reasonably long projection of this program into the future. By many and extended conferences with the Chancellor and with members of his board I assured myself that they were sincere in their expressed desires to have sound recommendations presented to them and to begin promoting an adequate program as soon as possible.

Following sharp on the heels of this decision by the Chancellor came the appointment of Dr. Walter D. Cocking as dean of the School of Education at the University of Georgia. Everything pointed to him as the logical person to direct this survey. The Regents asked him to study the state colleges, and the private and denominational colleges asked to be included. Cocking has planned this survey very carefully. He has the complete backing and cooperation of the University System, the State Department of Education, the colleges, and outside agencies, including the foundations. This, I believe, assures the presentation to the Regents of as sound a program as can be devised.

This, I know you will agree, transcends almost any other consideration. We know from experience with the study of the white colleges of Georgia what force and power such a survey will have and how it will speed development.

I take it that you and your board are primarily interested in the development of people rather than an institution and that the development of Fort Valley is only a means to an end. I assume further that you and your board are more interested in the complete program for the welfare of the Negro than in a single aspect or unit of it. This I say even though I realize your very great interest in Fort Valley and though I think I can appreciate your feeling that, as a creation of your own hands, it is your main charge and responsibility. This feeling of loyalty to and responsibility for an institution I would not minimize. Rather would I magnify it at the same time I was urging the necessity for the full state program, for only as the State, you, we, and others who are interested work together may we expect to see appreciable development.

The essential question now, it seems to me, is between (1) the development of the complete program along the lines indicated by the very best information and judgment obtainable, and (2) the development of a segment of the whole without due consideration for the whole. You are in the embarrassing

position of having presented to your board something which now seems to hang fire. I, too, am in an uncomfortable position for I am now forced to be noncommittal - until the study is made - on a proposal of which I have been the main protagonist. But, if I can see develop from this delay an adequate state program for Negroes, I am more than willing to be embarrassed - even many times. You feel the same way, I am sure, and so also, I believe, will your board.

You must believe me when I say that the delay in our negotiations - for which I accept full responsibility - has, in no way, been intended to embarrass anyone; nor has it been deliberately developed in order to strengthen a trading position. It has one general purpose - a purpose to which you, I, and the Institute are committed and to which Georgia must become committed - namely, to render the most effective service we can to an underprivileged group in our society.

Now to procedures: Cocking has already organized his staff, the Chancellor has made the necessary appointments and they are already at work. I can only guess as to future developments, but I feel that the survey staff will present preliminary recommendations to the Regents in the early summer and that, when this is done, our negotiations can continue.

I hope that neither you nor the members of the Institute will become impatient. There is too much at stake. Even though the going may seem slow, I believe great progress is being made toward the very objectives to which your Board and ours are devoted.

Very sincerely yours,

JCD:MLU

J. C. DIXON

P. S. If you think I could be of further assistance I could go to New York for your next board meeting. I might be able to act as a shock absorber!

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
Capitol Hotel  
Richmond, Virginia

CC New York Office  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue

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Fort Valley Institute

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HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENTS

GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY, LL.D.

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M.D.

February 10, 1938

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
Julius Rosenwald Fund  
4901 Ellis Avenue  
Chicago, Illinois

Dear Mr. Dixon:

P  
copy JCD 2/12/38

It was very good indeed of you to write me in your letter of February 7th such a full and good statement of the reasons justifying the long delay in the Fort Valley matter. I appreciate the trouble you have taken to keep me informed. While some of the members of our Board have expressed disappointment over the long delay, I am sure that when they learn the reasons for it they will appreciate the difficulties from your end of the line and from that of the Board of Regents of Georgia. The problem is a difficult one from both sides and we must all agree to be patient with one another. My recent communications to you were merely to apprise you of the situation from this end.

I am in no better position than I was when Mr. Bentley and I last talked to you as to what the final decision of the Board of the Institute and of the Board of Trustees of the Fort Valley School will be after the receipt of a definite proposal from the Board of Regents. I have not asked our Board, or even its individual members, to make any decision until the proposal, which you now say will probably not be forthcoming until the early part of the summer, is before them. I do trust that it will not be later than the very early part of the summer for at mid-summer it is almost impossible to secure a meeting of our Board. I shall, however, at the next meeting of our Board on February 21st give them the essential facts as I have gathered them from you.

Again thanking you for your full letter, and with every good wish to you personally, I am

Very sincerely,

Robert W. Patton

Robert W. Patton

RWP:AF

FSK  
UNIVERSITY

THE REV. ROBERT W. PATTON, D.D.  
DIRECTOR

THE REV. CYRIL E. BENTLEY  
ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR

MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER  
TREASURER

THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES  
281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK, N. Y.

Richmond, Va.,  
February 19, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden, N. W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Although I acknowledged your letter of February 7th about ten days ago, there was something I had intended to ask you to do, but which I forgot. In fact I have been intending to do it ever since this matter about the possible transfer of Fort Valley first came up.

No decision on the subject would be made by the Institute Board of Trustees until after learning the official attitude of the Board of Trustees of the school, of which Bishop Mikell of Atlanta is President, and Bishop Barnwell of Savannah is a member. The thing I have had in mind from the beginning <sup>to ask</sup> you to have done at the proper time is to address any proposal from the Board of Regents to the Rt. Rev. H. J. Mikell, D. D., whose address is Bishop's House, Atlanta, Ga., as President of Fort Valley Board and to me at my New York address in my capacity as Director of the American Church Institute for Negroes. It will be best to address the communication to both of us and to send a copy, two copies, if possible, to each. Will you not be good enough to bear this carefully in mind?

Also, please remember if and when any proposal is drawn to include in it in the event the transfer of the property to the State is made, specific exemption of a tract of ~~xxx~~ about three acres to be used by the authorities of the Episcopal Church for a chapel and other accessories as may be hereafter determined by the Church.

Trusting that you are very well, and with best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

Robert W. Patton  
Robert W. Patton.

I imagine that ~~the~~ a suitable place for locating chapel etc. would be ~~the~~ the land across the road from the school grounds, and nearest to the town of Fort Valley.



Fort Valley  
Inst

7  
February 25, 1938

Dear Dr. Patton: We have understood all along, I think, that the Board of Trustees and specifically Bishop Mikell of Atlanta would have some voice in whatever disposition might be made of the negotiations relative to Fort Valley. I have tried two or three times to get in touch with Bishop Mikell while I was in Atlanta, but so far he has been absent from the city. At my very first opportunity, which will be some time after the first of April, I will make another effort to see and talk with him.

I am not particularly perturbed by the fact that I have not seen him because others in the state who are interested in the same thing in which you and I are interested, and who have some official connection with higher education for Negroes in Georgia, have already talked with the Bishop. This seems to me a better procedure than for me to have talked with him, but I should like to do this later on simply to let him know that we are interested, and that we would like to be in position to cooperate if it seems feasible for us to do it.

I am sure you would have no trouble working out with the Board of Regents the plans you have in mind for locating a chapel somewhere near the Fort Valley plant.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:MLU

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

# CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

**FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT** FORT VALLEY NORMAL AND INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL **FILE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE** 6/15/38 **REMARKS** Letter to JCD from H. A. Hunt of Fort Valley re:

Conferences held by Dr. Cocking of the U. of Ga.

**SEE** GEORGIA (STUDY OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR NEGROES) **FILE NO.** \_\_\_\_\_

**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 FRBE MFG. CO.**

ROCHESTER, N. Y.



FORM NO. 099CR



# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

## REFERENCES

RT. REV. H. J. MIKELL, D. D.,  
108 17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY,  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

## ACCREDITED CLASS "A" JUNIOR COLLEGE

*Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools*

*For The Training of Colored Youth*

POST OFFICE BOX 822

**Fort Valley, Georgia**

## REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS,  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

1520 R Street, N.W.,  
Washington, D. C.,  
June 22, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
Director of Rural Education,  
39 Alden Avenue,  
Atlanta, Georgia.


Dear Mr. Dixon:

Your letter of the 17th has been received and I appreciate the evidence of your interest in the whole question of the education of Negroes in Georgia, especially in the work being done at Fort Valley.

If you are willing to venture an opinion, I should like to know whether or not the Rosenwald Fund would probably be willing to supplement the salaries paid by the State of teachers for elementary grades. The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School has been doing this as you probably know, but the financial outlook at present indicates that we shall not be able to continue this practice.

As I am planning to leave here tomorrow for a trip taking me through the Carolinas, Georgia and points South - speaking to summer school teachers - I should be glad if you would kindly address your reply to me at Fort Valley.

Very truly yours,

  
H. A. Hunt, Principal.

HAH:kw

Fort Valley n+2  
School

7  
507 West 121st. Street  
New York City.

6/25/38

Dear Mr. Hunt:

If either you or I were prophet enough to say what would result from the proposed reorganization of higher education for Negroes in Georgia your letter of June 22nd would be much easier to answer. In other words, if Fort Valley is to be incorporated into the state system it would be a very logical for us to consider the matter of building up the practice school even at the present stage of negotiations.

I can easily understand that Fort Valley cannot continue to supplement the salaries of the teachers in the practice school. It has been both a good investment and an admirable thing for you to do it as long as you have and it will be too bad, of course, to have to employ less able people than you have been using. Mr. Cousing mentioned the matter to me when I was in Atlanta last. At that time I asked him and Mr. Lester to submit a proposal to me but told him very frankly that, until the state's reorganization of higher education for Negroes developed further, there was little chance of our being able to help.

The survey is moving along, I think. On June 27th Dr Cocking presented it to Messrs Mann and Favrot of the G.E.B., Dr. Sanford, and Mr. Embree. This was to secure individual professional reactions only and bore no implications of securing foundation support. It was a satisfactory meeting and I'll tell you about it in more detail when I see you.

I shall be here until the latter part of August so, if you come to New York, get in touch with me.

Cordially yours,

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# CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

<b>FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT</b>	FORT VALLEY N & I INSTITUTE	<b>FILE NO.</b>
<b>DATE</b> 7-15-38	<b>REMARKS</b>	
	Corres. with Miss Shimer of Commonwealth Fund	
	fe: advisability of giving aid to Fort Valley	

<b>SEE</b>	COMMONWEALTH FUND	<b>FILE NO.</b>

<b>DATE</b>	<b>SIGNED</b>
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**YAWMAN AND FRBE MFG. CO.**  
ROCHESTER, N. Y.

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FORM NO. 099CR



M. D. COLLINS  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT  
OF SCHOOLS

State  
Department of Education  
Atlanta, Georgia

August 2, 1938

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
507-121st Street  
New York, New York

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Just before you left we talked about the need for securing some good people for the Practice School at Fort Valley. It is premature, of course, to place people who may later not be wanted by the authorities of the institution. Certainly this would be true with reference to the college faculty. On the other hand, the Practice School teachers are employees of the state and county and we should expect competent people to be retained whatever the outcome of the committee's recommendations to the Regents. About half of the Practice School teachers have been released by Mr. Hunt while the other half have been told that he could guarantee only the state salary schedule for seven months. You can see that it will be impossible for him to fill these vacancies or even to retain the good teachers he has with such a salary arrangement. Mr. Lambert has agreed to recommend to his board that they assume responsibility for the other two months. They failed by a considerable amount to do this in 1937-38.

This is just a restatement of the condition which Mr. Hunt wrote you about and I should like to know whether you, after thinking it over, found it possible to allow him for 1938-39 an amount sufficient to supplement each teacher as much as ten or fifteen dollars. There will be twelve or more teachers.

Will it be necessary for us to write the Rosenwald Board a request for continuing their cooperation with us at Red Oak on the same basis as last year?

I hope that you, Mrs. Dixon and Johnny are having a pleasant summer and that you will be able to finish your work as you hoped.

Sincerely yours,

*Lambert*

lml/mc

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# The Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

INCORPORATED

REFERENCES

RT. REV. H. J. MIKELL, D. D.,  
108 17TH ST., N. E., ATLANTA, GA.

MR. GEORGE FOSTER PEABODY,  
SARATOGA SPRINGS, N. Y.

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REFERENCES

MR. A. J. EVANS,  
FORT VALLEY, GA.

MR. THEODORE J. LEWIS,  
1500 WALNUT ST., PHILADELPHIA, PA.

POST OFFICE BOX 822

**Fort Valley, Georgia**

August 6, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
501 West 121nd Street,  
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

Upon my return to Washington, after an absence of more than a month, I found your letter replying to one which I had written you June 22.

While the uncertainty involved in the situation at Fort Valley at this time is more or less disconcerting, we are nevertheless going ahead making our plans for another year's work. I know nothing whatever about what Dr. Cocking proposes to recommend to the Board of Regents of the University of Georgia, and I suppose there would be no possible way of knowing what action that Board would take even if one knew what he proposed or has already recommended. Both of us are perhaps painfully aware of the possible outcome of the political campaign in Georgia.

With the political campaign in mind, I feel reasonably sure that neither the Governor nor the Board of Regents will probably do anything in this matter before the Primary election in September. In spite of the uncertainty, I shall be pleased to keep in touch with you, and if I am in New York any time before you leave I shall be glad if possible to see you.

No matter what happens, I hope that Fort Valley will continue to do such work as to merit your good will and cooperation in any way possible.

Very truly yours,

  
H. A. Hunt, Principal.

HAH:kw

FSK  
UNIVERSITY

Fort Valley Inst

P

August 6, 1938

Mr. Robert Cousins  
State Department of Education  
State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Mr. Cousins:

From your letter of August 3 I understand that you are asking us for \$240, to supplement the salary of Mrs. Duncan in her work as Jeanes teacher in Peach and Macon counties, for 1938-39. While this is somewhat outside of our regular program, our present relationship to the State of Georgia and our hopes for the development of the Fort Valley situation make me inclined to grant this request for aid.

*Proper policy regarding our cooperation in*  
Mrs. Duncan's salary does seem to be a little *difficult to determine* insufficient in view of the fact that I was not able to write Mr. Lester definitely that we would make a grant with which to supplement the salaries of the teachers in the Practice School. It is my impression that I have discussed this matter relating to Mrs. Duncan with Mr. Embree, and that he agreed it would be a worthwhile grant. I have no written record of that, however, and since I am unwilling to depend upon my recollection of it, I hope you will take this letter as an indication only of our interests, until you hear further from me or from Mr. Embree. This, I hope, will be next week.

Good fortune attended me on my final examinations, and the write-up of my project is the only thing that I have ahead of me.

Sincerely yours,

JCD/LB

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UNIVERSITY



✓  
7  
August 6, 1938

Mr. L. M. Lester  
State Department of Education  
State Capitol  
Atlanta, Georgia.

Dear Mr. Lester:

While I quite agree with you as to the need for securing some good people for the Practice School at Fort Valley, it is a little difficult for me to decide whether or not it would be valid for the Rosenwald Fund to make an appropriation for this purpose. If we were assured of the consummation of the Fort Valley project, there would be absolutely no reason for us not making an appropriation to the strengthening of the Practice School.

So far as I can remember, Mr. Hunt never sent me any estimate as to the amount of money which will be needed for the operation of the Practice School. If you have these figures, I suggest that you send them to me immediately, in Chicago. After you have done this, Mr. Embree or I will write you whether or not we are able to make a grant.

It will not be necessary for you to write a specific request for a continuation for the Fund's grant to the Red Oak School for 1938-39. Mr. Embree and I have already discussed this. The appropriation has been made, and will be available under the terms you and I discussed when we were last together. I suggest, however, that you handle this as a terminal grant, because I have no assurance whatsoever that it will be renewed after the next school year.

You will be interested to know that I had my final oral and written examinations last week, and was successful in them all.

With personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

JCD/LB



Fort Valley School

# THE AMERICAN CHURCH INSTITUTE FOR NEGROES

A Corporation of the Protestant Episcopal Church Responsible to the National Council and to General Convention

281 FOURTH AVENUE, NEW YORK

Telephone, GRAMERCY 5-3012

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DIRECTOR OF PUBLICITY

MR. STANISLAW J. MAKIELSKI  
ARCHITECT

St. Augustine's College - - - Raleigh, N. C.  
St. Paul Normal and Industrial School, Lawrenceville, Va.  
Bishop Payne Divinity School - - - Petersburg, Va.  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School, Fort Valley, Ga.  
St. Mark's Normal and Industrial School, Birmingham, Ala.  
Gailor Industrial School - - - Mason, Tenn.  
Gaudet Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
Voorhees Normal and Industrial School, Denmark, S. C.  
Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

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JAMES H. DILLARD, LL. D.

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JOHN WILSON WOOD, D. C. L.

MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT  
WILLIAM C. RIVES, M. D.

November 9, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
Julius Rosenwald Fund,  
4901 Ellis Avenue,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I thank you for your kind letter of November 3rd expressing again your kind interest in Mrs. Patton's improvement after her severe fall last August. I am glad to say she is steadily improving and in time will recover completely.

I note also the information in the remainder of your letter concerning the meeting of the Education Committee of the Regents and of the Board of Regents itself on October 27th and 28th. Since receipt of your letter I have received a copy of the Survey but have been on such a run in the last few days that I have not had time to read more than a small portion of it. I note also that the Board adopted the Survey report and appointed a committee of three, namely, Chancellor Sanford, Mr. Nix and Dr. Cocking, with full power to act for the Board. I note also that Dr. Cocking expects to write to me some time within the next month or six weeks. I am on a tour in the South at the present time and if I can do so, I shall endeavor either within the next few days or later, to call on Dr. Cocking at Athens. In talking with Mr. Alva Tabor of Fort Valley recently, he said that Dr. Cocking had expressed the hope that I would stop by Athens if practicable, to see him.

Meantime I have no decided opinion as to what attitude the Board of the Fort Valley School will take as to any proposal made to them concerning transferring the School to the State. Nor do I know what the attitude of our Central Board in New York would be. I had the feeling about a year ago that if a vote had been taken at that time the Board in New York would have been favorable to the transfer. But so much time has elapsed since then during which they have heard nothing on the subject that my feeling is that there has been a drift in the other direction. This however, is pure guess work and more a hunch than anything else since there has been no serious discussion of the matter since shortly after your talk to our Board in New York.

UNIVERSITY



For a reason which I think I communicated to you confidentially in one of our talks, namely, the fact that I do not expect to remain at the head of the Institute longer than the Fall of 1940, as I shall then be nearly 72 years of age, I shall not be aggressive in this matter one way or the other. I do not think that course would be fair to those who will inherit my responsibility hereafter, especially in a matter as important as this is not only to the State, but to the Church. Perhaps also, I suffer too much under the handicap of seeing the reasons on both sides very vividly and heartily sympathize with the viewpoint of those who favor, and those who do not.

However, I feel so deeply the importance of this decision that I am very anxious indeed that if and when any proposal comes from the Board of Regents, every member of the Fort Valley Board and every member of the Board of the Institute shall have a complete picture of the case on both sides. I am writing this to you now because I doubt if you gentlemen who have taken so much time and trouble in connection with this survey realize that for the most part the members of these two Boards have only a vague idea of the merits of the case as you gentlemen see them. If that deficiency is to be corrected, it seems to me that Dr. Cocking or some one else with a gift for putting things clearly, should ask Bishop Mikell (H.J., namely the Rt. Rev. H.J. Mikell, D.D., whose address is 108 East 17th St. Atlanta, Ga.) to afford an opportunity for presentation of the case to the Board of the Ft. Valley School. That Board is to meet on November 29th. It is possible that Bishop Mikell may not find it practicable to have a representative of the Board of Regents at that meeting, but I am sure he would be glad to provide an opportunity at some later date if the Committee of the Board of Regents desires it. It may be that Bishop Mikell will be glad to have a representative at the meeting on November 29th, but I cannot speak for him. My opinion also is, that if you gentlemen wish the Board of the Institute to understand the question clearly, a similar request should be made of the Institute. I am giving this opinion solely in the interest of being absolutely fair to all concerned in a matter of such great importance to both interests.

Thanking you for your letter and with warm regards,

Very sincerely,

*Robert W. Patton*

I am taking the liberty of sending a copy of this letter to Bishop Mikell.



*Answered 11/18/38*

# CAPITOL HOTEL

EIGHTH & GRACE STREETS

RICHMOND, VA. November 16, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,

Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

During our conversation at the Piedmont Hotel in Atlanta last week, I informed you that there would be a meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Fort Valley School at the school, beginning at 11:00 o'clock, Eastern Standard Time, November 29th, in case you or Dr. Cocking or both of you might wish to ask Rt. Rev. H. J. Mikell, D. D., 108 E. Seventeenth St., Atlanta, Ga., for the opportunity of presenting the case of the Board of Regents to that body.

The next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Institute will be held in the Church Missions House, 281 Fourth Ave., New York, beginning 2:30 o'clock, Monday afternoon, December 12th. I told you that I would be glad to guarantee you and Dr. Cocking a chance to present the proposal of the Board of Regents at the meeting of the Institute Board, if you so desire. When I talked with you in Atlanta I did not know when the next meeting of our Board in New York would be held. I am, therefore, writing to you now to give the above information. The next meeting of our Board in New York will not be held until somewhere around the 10th of February. Please write to me at Capitol Hotel, Richmond, Va., letting me know your wishes.

With warm personal regards,

Very sincerely,

*Robert W. Patton.*  
R. W. Patton.



*Expect to be here  
until Nov. 26<sup>th</sup>.*

UNIVERSITY



*File*

*Fort Valley  
School*

**CAPITOL  
HOTEL**  
EIGHTH & GRACE STREETS

RICHMOND, VA. November 21, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
39 Alden Ave., N. W.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I have received your hand-written letter of November 18th, saying that Bishop Mikell had invited you, Doctor Sanford, Doctor Cocking, Mr. Marion Smith, and Mr. Abit Nix to be present at the Fort Valley Board Meeting on November 29th. Bishop Mikell had already written me that he had done this. I was glad to hear it, because, as I told you in our conversation in Atlanta around the 8th or 9th of October, that I am especially anxious that both the Fort Valley Board and our Central Board in New York understand clearly and fully all of the implications involved on both sides before they are called upon to vote on the question of whether the Fort Valley school should be transferred to the State.

After the meeting at Fort Valley, as you say, we can decide together whether it will be best to have you gentlemen present the case to the Board of the Institute at its meeting on December 12th, or at the meeting next February.

I thank you for your invitation to drive Mr. Bentley and me back to Atlanta the evening after the Board meeting in the afternoon of the 29th. This is kind of you and I accept with pleasure unless Mr. Bentley comes to the meeting in our car.

Thanking you for your letter, and with best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton.



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Gailor Industrial School - - - Mason, Tenn.  
Gaudet Normal and Industrial School, New Orleans, La.  
Voorhees Normal and Industrial School, Denmark, S. C.  
Okolona Industrial School - - - Okolona, Miss.

Capitol Hotel, Richmond, Va.  
November 25, 1938.

## TRUSTEES

THE RT. REV. HENRY ST. GEORGE TUCKER, D.D.

THE RT. REV. ERNEST M. STIRES, D.D.

THE REV. LUKE M. WHITE, D.D.

THE REV. ROELIF H. BROOKS, D.D.

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MR. LOUIS J. HUNTER

JOHN WILSON WOOD, D.C.L.

MR. LANGBOURNE M. WILLIAMS, JR

HONORARY VICE-PRESIDENT

WILLIAM C. RIVES, M.D.

personal

Dear Mr. Dixon:

I am sending this letter, special delivery, because I am sure you should have its contents before you go to the Fort Valley Board meeting on the 29th. I will be at the Piedmont Hotel Monday morning and will take a room for as long as I am there that day. I will not be in my room the whole morning, as I must have a conference with Bishop Mikell at his residence up town, unless he decides, as he sometimes does, to confer with me at the hotel. My present plan is to go to Macon Monday afternoon, spend the night at Dempsey Hotel, Macon, and go to Fort Valley the next morning. I am giving the above in case you should wish to get in touch with me by telephone. Should you telephone, and I am out, please have the hotel put your call and number in my box. I leave Richmond Sunday afternoon at 4:38, arriving in Atlanta about eight o'clock Monday morning.

I am writing this letter for your encouragement, as well as in keeping with my practice ever since you and I first talked on this matter concerning Fort Valley. I have thought it just and right to keep you posted as to any developments within our group. I have felt that if and when any official report should come from the Georgia authorities, our group should have sufficient information to enable them to decide intelligently and conscientiously, all of them voting their own convictions after having all the facts before them. I have felt the same way as to your side of the question and have, therefore, reported to you consistently the facts and the attitude of our group in the two Boards. This letter is written in conformity with my previous practice in the light of some information I have just received from two of the most influential of our group, probably the two most influential.

I was quite surprised the day before yesterday and again today on receiving communications from the two persons referred to, both of them heretofore positively opposed to transferring the school to the State. They did not say that they are in favor of it now, but they did say both of them, substantially, as follows - "I see that we will be taking on a tremendous responsibility in refusing to give up the school if the forthcoming proposal makes it possible, in view of our ~~state~~

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commitments, to do so". The factor which has caused these two gentlemen to reopen a question which they had previously decided in their own minds, was the careful survey made by the Board of Regents at considerable expense, and the conclusion of men whom they respect, that the State's whole program for Negro education may fall down unless they make the sacrifice. Please do not understand from this that these two gentlemen are anywhere near ready to cast their vote in favor of the proposal, but they are very conscientious men, accustomed to act in all important matters on principle. I thought I had better communicate this to you at once, because I had thought that both of these gentlemen had finally settled the matter in their own minds.

But, it would not be fair to you to communicate the above without letting you know what these gentlemen consider the point beyond which they cannot go. In the several conversations you, Mr. Bentley and I had, about eighteen months ago, both before and after your address to the Institute Board in New York, I said to you that our people had contributed between \$600,000.00 and \$700,000.00, about forty per cent of it for new buildings at Fort Valley, given by people who made their gifts because it was a Church school, and not because it was merely an educational institution. A good many of those people are now dead and the Institute and their Associates in Atlanta feel that a sacred responsibility is involved. They do not expect non-church people, or people who are not members of the Episcopal Church, to feel this responsibility to the same extent as do our own people. At the same time, that does not change their sense of responsibility. But, in addition to those that are dead, there are many still living who contributed who would not have contributed had they thought that at any future time the school would be transferred to the State.

But, from the time this question first came before our authorities, who are Trustees of the contributors, a good many have felt that if and when a proposal should be made, backed by reasons which compel serious consideration by intelligent and conscientious men, a way out might be found in reasonable justice to all if sufficient funds could be secured to establish a Church plant at Fort Valley, not only in the form of a chapel and a Rector, but of definite religious education and christian social service. I told you when we first talked on the subject, and I think Mr. Bentley said substantially the same thing, that I felt strongly that our group would consider this as a sine qua non in any final disposition of the question. You said, for reasons which you advanced, that the maximum that could be secured towards helping the Church to build a satisfactory plant at Fort Valley, was from \$25,000.00 to \$40,000.00. I said that while I was satisfied, without having consulted them, that our group would consider \$40,000.00 entirely too little, you should, in order to bring the matter to a point where discussion could take place, ~~to~~ suggest to your associates that they make a proposal on the basis, among other things, of \$40,000.00, as I thought that that was the minimum that would be considered. That would be perhaps half of the amount necessary to put an adequate Church plant there, that under present conditions, there will be no chance of raising that amount of money among Church people, who in the past have



Mr. J. C. Dixon. #3.

given so liberally to the <sup>institution</sup>~~institution~~, etc., etc. I told you that I was satisfied the Church could raise some money for the purpose, but that it would be necessary to have a substantial sum as a condition of the transfer to enable the Church to raise the remainder, especially as its appeal would have to be to those who are interested in Fort Valley, namely those who have given in the past so liberally, and who would be disgruntled over losing their former contributions.

Now, the two gentlemen, above referred to, say that in none of the recent communications from the other side has a single word been said as to a proposal containing any assistance towards the Church plant at Fort Valley in consideration of the Church's turning over to the State a half million or more dollars worth of buildings, for the most part, new buildings.

I need not prolong this letter. I have recalled the substance of our correspondence and conversations merely for clarification of your memory. I thought I should get this letter off to you so that you may do whatever you think desirable before the meeting at Fort Valley on the 29th. Except for a recent letter from Doctor Cocking, expressing surprise that neither the Fort Valley school Board nor the Institute had received any report of "frequent conversations" between Mr. Hunt and the Georgia authorities, I have had no information from anyone but you. Our side has been completely in the dark as to what was going on, and what was the upshot of it all. My Board recently asked me if I had heard anything. I replied, "No", and that I was inclined to think the whole matter had fallen through.

In other words, Mr. Dixon, as I see it, our authorities believe that they are bound on every count to perpetuate at Fort Valley a Church plant for spiritual activities, religious education, etc. Several of the Board of Regents have told me within the last two weeks that they are almost as anxious as we are that the Church ~~xxx~~ perpetuate such a spiritual influence at the school. In view of the disposition of the two very influential persons referred to to reconsider their position in the matter, I think you ought to know what I have said above before the meeting at Fort Valley on the 29th. You may communicate a copy of what I have said, or a summary of it, to anyone, provided you withhold my name. You remember the reasons for this, which I gave you when we had a talk in Atlanta.

Hoping I shall have a chance to talk with you before the Board meeting, and as, always, with best wishes,

Your friend, sincerely,

*Robert W. Patton*  
Robert W. Patton.

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# CROSS REFERENCE RECORD

FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT	FILE NO.
FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT	FIRM NAME OR SUBJECT
DATE 11-30-38	REMARKS
	Corres. with Catherine Duncan re: write-ups on Red Oak for the proposed rural school booklet

SEE	FILE NO.
SEE	RURAL SCHOOL PROGRAM (RURAL EDUCATION BOOKLET)

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.

**FISK**  
UNIVERSITY  
FORM NO. 099CR



9

December 2, 1938

Dear Mrs. Duncan:      Enclosed you will find our check  
for \$180 representing the first  
payment on our grant of \$540 toward your salary and travel  
expenses during the 1938-39 school term. Payments for a  
like amount will be sent to you on March 1 and June 1.

Season's greetings from the various  
members of the staff.

Very truly yours,

DOROTHY A. ELVIDGE

DE:AM

Mrs. Catherine J. Duncan  
Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School  
Fort Valley, Georgia

cc: Mr. Robert L. Cousins

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

# Julius Rosenwald Fund

4901 Ellis Avenue

CHICAGO

To

Mrs. Catherine Duncan

Fort Valley Normal and Industrial School

Fort Valley, Georgia

Payment Voucher No. 7447

Date December 2, 1938

First payment on allocation of \$540 toward salary and travel expenses

during the 1938-39 school term, Peach and Macon Counties to pay

an additional \$1,260 - - - - - \$180.00

Ok. #20478

Accounts		Appropriation No.	Debit	Credit
Rural School Program - Field Services		37-6	\$180.00	
Prepared by AM	Checked by	Posted by	Comptroller	



Fort Valley n+ School

9

December 9, 1938

Dear Bishop Mikell: When Dr. Cocking and I met with your Board at Fort Valley recently we did, I fear, a very poor job of presenting our thinking in the whole matter. In fact, I was quite disappointed about it because I did not feel that we had gotten over to the individual members of your Board the possibilities of the proposals which we made. So much is this so that I do not feel that it is fair to your Board or to the State to leave the matter in its present condition, and I should like very much, if you think it permissible for me to do so, to have an opportunity to talk with you and with other members of your Board when I return to Georgia. I want to do this not because I have something to sell or because I want to convince a group of people against their own better judgment but because as I have already said I would like for the members of your Board to see the problem in its entirety.

We did not convey in the least the real significance and importance of this proposal of the whole program for higher education for Negroes in Georgia, and until this is done it is inevitable that some of your Board members who are less familiar with it than are you will see certain sections rather than the whole picture.

Dr. Cocking and I are both indebted to you for the privilege of appearing before your Board, and I shall be grateful for further opportunity for talk with you.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. DIXON

JCD:RW

Bishop H. J. Mikell  
108 East 17th Street  
Atlanta, Georgia

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

December 9, 1933

Dear Mr. Tabor: I was both surprised and a bit disappointed in our meeting with the Board of Fort Valley. I was surprised to find the opposition from certain board members and disappointed that it should exist, and at that time I could not understand how it had developed and had become so pronounced. After leaving Fort Valley that day I began to check on the whole proposition and found, I think, how and why this opposition had emerged. You know the source of this as well as I do.

Unless something very effective is done in the near future I am frankly afraid that the whole proposal for transfer of Fort Valley to the State, and therefore the whole proposal for the development of an increasingly effective state program, is going to fall by the wayside. The crux of the whole matter is the transfer of Fort Valley to the State. I want to come to Fort Valley just as soon as I can get back to Georgia and have a long talk with you and Mrs. Hunt so that I can again check with the two of you my thinking on the matter. After that, if we are agreed that the best thing for the State and for Fort Valley is to go ahead with the project in which we have been interested, I want to make a personal visit to all of the members of the Fort Valley Board. At that time I want to talk with them frankly and candidly and present our whole thinking in the matter in a way in which neither Dr. Cocking nor I presented it at the meeting.

I will get back to Atlanta the latter part of next week and I will appreciate it if you will be so kind as to send to my home address in Atlanta, 39 Alden Avenue, N.W., a list of the names of the members of the Fort Valley Board and their residence addresses. After I get this and have a chance to talk with you and Mrs. Hunt I want to see and talk with each member individually.

Cordially yours,

JCD:RW

Mr. Alva Tabor  
Fort Valley N. and I. School  
Fort Valley, Georgia





JCD	15	PW	
JFS		JH	0
MSS		W	



BISHOP'S HOUSE  
ATLANTA, GA.

Fort Valley School

December 13th. 1938

Mr. J. C. Dixon,  
Chicago, Ill.

My Dear Mr. Dixon;

Thank you for your letter.

I am sure that the Board will be very glad to have you present the matter before them again before we arrive at a decision. But I fear that we cannot get a meeting very soon. You will remember that a Committee was appointed to confer with the Committee of the Regents and report back to our Board. I am trying now with Dr. Cocking to arrange for such a meeting, and I think that that would be your chance to present your views again, as our Trustees are likely to be guided by the report of our Committee. If you will let me say so, I think the trouble at the meeting of the Trustees was that you and Dr. Cocking could not overcome the impression in our minds that the Regents of Georgia were really not very serious in their interest in the School. We felt that the mere passing by the Regents of Dr. Cockings report in a general way did not constitute an assurance that the Fort Valley School would be secure for the future. I certainly will be very willing to talk over the situation with you.

Yours faithfully,

H. J. Lukens

FISK  
UNIVERSITY

sent copy JCD 12-16

7

X

December 14, 1938

Dear Dr. Patton:      You know without my saying so that  
I am always appreciative of the  
privileges you have extended me both in lengthy discussions  
with you and in the opportunity to meet with the Church  
Institute. The meeting in New York Monday was to say the  
least encouraging because I had the feeling while I  
watched Bishop Tucker that he, like you, was asking him-  
self two questions; namely, what is the best thing for the  
Negro boy and girl in Georgia? and, what is our duty as a  
church group? Furthermore, I felt as I watched him that he  
was the type of man who would inevitably arrive at the  
correct answer to those questions and, though it may be the  
expression of a hope more than an opinion, I cannot help  
feeling that the correct answer is involved in the pro-  
posals which have been made.

You are always so considerate of  
others and so generous in your granting of privileges that  
I find myself thanking you, but this in no way minimizes  
the sincerity of my appreciation.

Sincerely yours,

J. C. Dixon

JCD:RW

Dr. Robert W. Patton  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City



X

December 14, 1938

My dear Bishop Tucker: This is just a brief note to thank you for the privilege of meeting with the American Church Institute on Monday, and to tell you how much I appreciate the privilege which has been mine in being permitted to work with you, Dr. Patton, and the Institute.


It was nice of you to offer me an opportunity in your meeting to have something to say about the plans for higher education for Negroes in Georgia, particularly as they involve Fort Valley. Dr. Cocking, however, had I thought so effectively presented the whole picture that it was hardly necessary for me to take up additional time in further discussion, and even if I had done this I doubt if I could have conveyed to your Board how important I think this whole proposal is to the State of Georgia, to the Negro peoples in Georgia, and to the Church Institute. Sometimes in fact I wonder if I can react logically to the matter since it has gotten so close to me and has become such an important matter in my thinking about the education of the Negro in Georgia.

It has been my pleasure to talk with Dr. Patton quite at length and I am sure he understands what and how I feel. He knows that I have been studying this problem for several years as honestly and yet as dispassionately as I possibly could study it and that even though I may be wrong in my opinions I am at least honest in thinking that it is a most important problem which faces those people in Georgia who are charged with the responsibility for promoting education for its people. It happens that I talked with Mr. Davis and Mr. Favrot of the General Education Board while I was in New York and I was happy to learn that both of them felt almost as I do in the matter. It was also encouraging to have Dr. Jones take approximately the same position, for this not only gave me support in a professional opinion but also encouraged me to feel that

I had not formed too biased an opinion because of my nearness to the whole project.

No one knows of course what may be the outcome of this proposal which is being presented to the Fort Valley Board and to your Board but whatever this may be I wish you to know that I am both personally and officially appreciative of the consideration you and Dr. Patton and the members of the Institute have shown me.

Sincerely yours,

 M. C. DIXON

JCD:RW

Bishop Henry St.G. Tucker  
American Church Institute for Negroes  
281 Fourth Avenue  
New York City

  
FISK  
UNIVERSITY



# Fort Valley Institute

	ERE		ED	D

Fort Valley

## Remarks:

Patten is using Horne in connection with Fort Valley. Depends on him, in fact, for much advice. Therefore, this telegram from Labor to Horne.

JCD

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

NO.	CASH OR CHG.
CHECK	
TIME FILED	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

Aiken, S.C. 12-25-1938  
 To Dr. F. S. Harnes to Brooklyn Thoracic Hospital  
 Street and No. 240 Kingston Ave.  
 Place Brooklyn, N.Y.

my conference and later telephone conversation with Mr. Nixon have disclosed that the Rosenwald Foundation has placed fifty at his disposal to consummate deal. He has little hope to raise this figure if sent back to the Foundation for more. I sincerely ~~hope~~ feel that any apparent quibbling over a figure at the Georgia meeting will certainly bring disastrous results.

SENDER'S ADDRESS  
FOR REFERENCE

SENDER'S TELEPHONE  
NUMBER



CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED	
DOMESTIC	CABLE
TELEGRAM	FULL RATE
DAY LETTER	DEFERRED
NIGHT MESSAGE	CABLE LETTER
NIGHT LETTER	WEEK END LETTER

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

# WESTERN UNION

NEWCOMB CARLTON, PRESIDENT

J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

NO.	CASH OR CHG.
CHECK	
TIME FILED	

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

19

To *Dr. Horne (continued)*

Street and No.

Place

*It is in recognition of the profound interest Dr. Patton and you have in the welfare of our group, the Church and the State I pray you will not let the proposition fall through and fail to open the door of greatest opportunity that we can hope for in some years to come and will agree to close at the stated figure.*  
*Alva Tabor*

SENDER'S ADDRESS  
FOR REFERENCE

SENDER'S TELEPHONE  
NUMBER

*932 - Fairfield St., Asheville, S.C.*



A. H. GORDON  
Chairman

Division of  
Research and Publication

Georgia State College  
Industrial College, Ga.

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Exofficio

Project No. 1  
THE GEORGIA NEGRO  
A History

SPONSORS  
R. P. Pinckney  
Sol C. Johnson  
W. A. Harris  
A. H. Gordon  
Mrs. Geo. S. Williams

December 27, 1938.

Mr. J. C. Dixon  
27 Alden Avenue  
Atlanta, Georgia

JCD Ans.  
1-2-1

Dear Mr. Dixon:

For sometime I have planned to write you to thank you for the efforts you are making, according to my information, to get the Rosenwald Fund to do something worthwhile for Negro education in Georgia. This matter is of great importance in reference to higher education for Negroes in Georgia for a statement you made some years ago which I have quoted in my book on The Georgia Negro (p 185) that "Behind any philosophy or theory of education inevitably looms the problem of financing the program" is certainly well illustrated in connection with the institutions we have.

I think that if you can succeed in getting the Episcopal church to turn the plant at Fort Valley over to the state and the State agrees to support the institution after it is received, you will have done a great service for Negro education in this state.

I think that in trying to find a person to take charge of the School at Fort Valley, if it is taken into the system you would be glad to use your influence in favor of a Georgia Negro if one can be found who has a record of faithful and efficient service in the state along with formal training for the work he is doing and can do. I think that, other things being equal, a person now working in the University system would be best on account of his understanding of the matter and his willingness and ability to cooperate.

I am in complete accord with the main findings and recommendations incorporated in the report of Professor Cocking, especially after much of this has been explained or interpreted as not designed to injure any one of the institutions we have.

Very truly yours,

*A. H. Gordon*  
A. H. Gordon.

FSK  
UNIVERSITY



Mr. J. C. Dixon - Gordon.

P. S.

Dear Mr. Dixon:

While all that I have written you in this communication is from my point of view somewhat confidential I wish that you would consider these "P.S." additions as especially so.

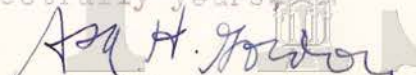
I had a somewhat confidential talk with Mr. Cousins in his office in Atlanta recently but I think he would have no objection to my saying that I am completely in accord with his idea that none of the state institutions for Negroes in Georgia have so far done satisfactory work in teacher training for the advancing program of Georgia and I am in accord with his desire to have some plan of teacher training similar to that for rural teachers now attempted at Forsyth to be put in operation at Fort Valley if it is taken into the system. Certainly if I should have opportunity to serve there I would make that a part of the program. I understand that the Rosenwald fund has had some part in this work in the past and would perhaps like to have it promoted in a more efficient way at Fort Valley or elsewhere in the system.

Another point I wish to mention to you confidentially is that in all my years of service in the University System of Georgia I have never been given a free hand or received the wholehearted support I needed from the administration to carry through a program that would have been more satisfactory to you, the General Education Board and, indeed, I think, the Board of Regents. This is not said in any spirit of disloyalty to my executive superior but merely as a statement of fact which I hope may be clarifying in case I am considered for any promotion in the arrangements and changes in personnel which must come out of the new set-up.

By way of explaining my position that some one of us now serving the University system, provided our services have been satisfactory over a period of years, should be promoted to take charge of Fort Valley if it becomes a state institution, I may say that I personally was considered seriously for the presidency of one of the state schools in West Virginia until it was brought forward that a West Virginia Negro or one who had worked there a long time should have the preference. He got it. If other states are doing this kind of thing Georgia must "take care of her own" or they will certainly be left "out in the cold". Of course, all this is predicated on the assumption that some of us can do the job as well as any one that can be found elsewhere and I believe that this is true.

Thanking you for considering these matters, I am

Respectfully yours,

  
Asa H. Gordon.

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