

## FRIENDS ARE GIVING NEGROES INSTRUCTION DESPITE HANDICAPS

"When teachers themselves have had but eight years of schooling and very often have gone to school to teachers that had finished but eight grades, education is in a precarious state," Wilbur Kamp, Earlham graduate of 1921, who for the last year has been teaching at Southland, the Friends' school for negroes in Arkansas, said Friday.

"But that is just the condition in Arkansas, where the negroes when they do get a chance to go to school have to go to teachers that are teaching everything they know."

Mr. Kamp, who was formerly a resident of Richmond, is in town for the Earlham Jubilee, and is attending several local committee meetings. "Southland is doing a wonderful work," he said. "With more money and backing it could be another Tuskegee, as there is not another school for negroes within the state of that description. The need of such a school is so great that every year the attendance has to be restricted. This year we had students from Arkansas, Mississippi, Louisiana, Georgia, Tennessee and Oklahoma, besides one from the Island of Jamaica.

"What education can do for the negro is illustrated by the effect on the graduates of Southland. Most of them have bought their own farms, are taking up diversified farming, and have real homes.

**Advancing Race**  
"The sons and daughters of former students are taking another step in education by becoming doctors, lawyers, teachers and dentists. They have the interest of their race at heart, and are doing what they can to help its advance.

"But Southland is only a drop in the bucket. Because of poor transportation conditions, the influence of the school is not as widespread as could be desired. Most of the farmers own runty stock, or at best only poor grades, and are expending all of their energies on cotton, instead of on a diversified crop. Even the school, for all the good that it has done, is sadly handicapped by its inability to instruct more than a limited number of students, or to demonstrate first-class methods of farming with some good stock.

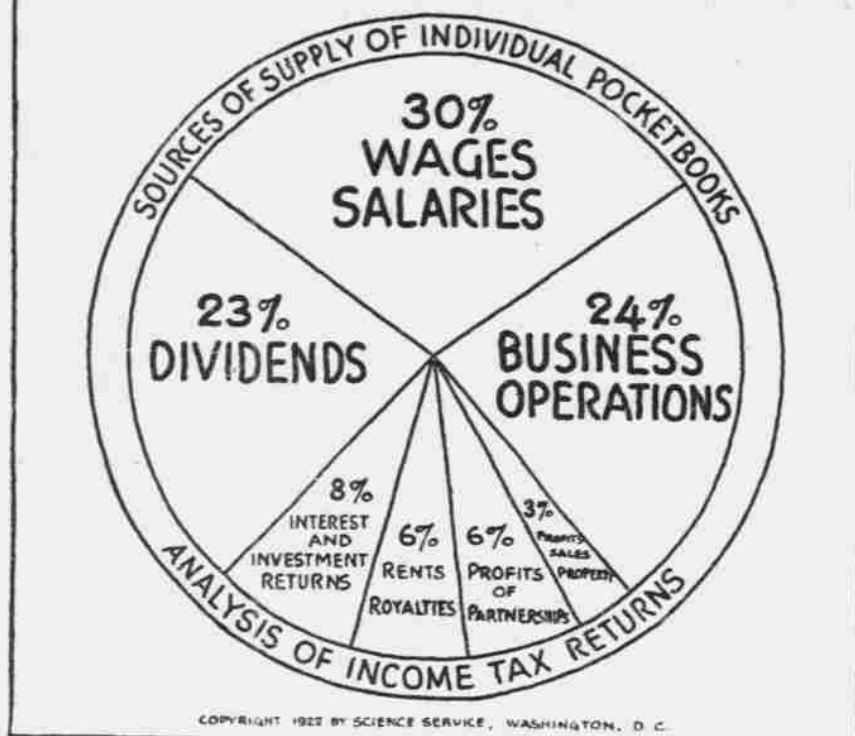
"The last year which I spent there has been one of real satisfaction, however, and Mrs. Kamp and I both enjoyed it immensely."

Southland was originally operated under the jurisdiction of the Indiana Yearly Meeting of Friends, but is now under the direction of the Board of Home Missions of the Five Years' Meeting.

The school was established by Indiana Friends just after the Civil war as a refuge school for liberated negroes.

**THE INFALLIBLE**  
Patient: "What shall I do for insomnia, Doctor?"  
Physician: "Every evening keep repeating to yourself: 'I am a night watchman, I am a night watchman, I am a night watchman.'"—American Legion Weekly.

## HOW U.S. EARNS ANNUAL INCOME



### Uncle Sam Saves Rent

By FREDERIC J. HASKIN

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 2.—In the vigorous hunt for more ways of saving a dollar, Congress is keeping an eagle eye on the Government's housing bill. The Government clerk may work in a granite masterpiece of Greek architecture that suggests a large and lavish scale of administration, but the classic edifice is run on a strictly modern, save-the-pennies basis.

The Government is the largest property owner in the United States. Besides the great department buildings in Washington, each costing several million dollars, it owns offices all over the country. These include 1,250 post offices, ranging in value from the small town building worth only a few thousand dollars to the Chicago post office which cost more than five million.

Economy is now the watchword in the management of all this property. Take the stucco buildings which sprang up to house the army of war stenographers and filing clerks in the

Capital. About 40,000 war workers have departed and whole blocks of the tempos, as the war buildings were called, have been struck like circus tents. But some are needed because Washington still has twice as many clerks as in pre-war days.

The tempos near Potomac Park stand on leased land and the lease is about to expire. Furthermore, the owners want a higher rate of rent, and if the Government turns the property back to the owners, it must tear down its stucco buildings and even pay for the structures that stood on the land when it took possession.

In this dilemma the Government finds one satisfactory way out. It can buy the land for \$1,500,000, about what three years' rent would cost. Congress is considering this obviously economical measure and approval is said to be certain. The temporary buildings are regarded as good for several years, and after that the Gov-

ernment will still have the land as a site for permanent structures.

Across the street from some of these temporary offices is another Government problem. Here are two buildings, joined by passageways, which together make the largest office building in the world. They are the Navy and Munitions Buildings. They contain 1,700,000 square feet of space, and some of the corridors are 1,500 feet long.

These record-breaking office buildings are a bone of contention because they were put up as temporary war structures. They stand firmly enough on Government owned ground, but the land is a part of Potomac Park, and the city planning scheme calls for the removal of the prosaic buildings to develop the park.

The buildings are modern in every respect and are extremely solid for temporary construction. If they had been built across the street on the leased ground which the Government is now buying they would have stood unchallenged and serviceable for at least 15 years to come. They may stand for years as it is. The two buildings together cost more than \$7,000,000. They house several thousand workers who would have to be provided for somewhere if the biggest Government office unit were scrapped.

Economy and the city beautiful idea are contending over this situation, and economy has the advantage now. Its cause is being advanced for the Government by a Public Buildings Commission at the Capitol. This Commission has for its ultimate aim the removal of every Government office in Washington from rented building space. The Department of Agriculture, which is housed in 26 different buildings, about half of which are rented, is an example of the problems which confront the Commission.

The Public Buildings Commission is out to save the Government money, and it points proudly to the fact that its economy begins at home. It has no crew of stenographers, clerks and messengers. Three years ago when it started it was given an initial appropriation of \$10,000 by Congress, and it

still has \$1,000 to its credit in the bank.

In three years it has saved the Government more than half a million dollars in rents by moving bureaus out of rented buildings into Government owned offices. Thus the Commission notes that the Veterans' Bureau personnel is shrinking daily and it finds that there is room in the War Risk Building for the entire force of the Alien Property Custodian. This official and his staff have been occupying a six story apartment house at a cost to the Government of \$30,000 a year rent. The Commission arranged with the Bureau to move and credits itself with saving the country \$30,000.

Unless there is a sharp reaction from the present tendency toward efficiency and economy there will be no more elaborate monumental effects in department buildings. Sixteen foot ceilings, fireplaces, thick walls, and laboriously carved room decorations such as are seen about the State War and Navy Building, and other early Government edifices, are conspicuously absent from recent Government construction.

### Time Was No Object

An example of the old style ponderousness which characterized the first Federal buildings is found in the granite pillars on the Treasury facade. These huge pillars were quarried in Maine and shipped to Washington on sailing vessels. It took 18 oxen and eight horses to carry each one of them to the building. Time was no obstacle in those days. Seventeen years were spent in constructing the

State, War and Navy Building. The new Navy and Munitions Buildings were run up in five and a half months.

The State War and Navy Building cost \$10,000,000 at a time when labor was cheap. The new buildings averaged about \$2,000,000. They have Ionic and Doric columns and they are shiningly white, but they are distinctly businesslike in appearance. They suggest, rather than imitate, Athens and Old Europe.

It is probable that the day of the beautiful, be-columned marble post office is past. Since 1913 there has been no public buildings bill to provide at one time several hundred post office buildings for the country. These bills had very little to do with economy. It was not uncommon for a town of a few thousand souls, which was represented by a live Congressman, to win a \$40,000 post office. Each Congressman voted for the appropriation bill because it contained some item in which he was interested and to disapprove of any clause was to ditch the whole measure.

Congress was criticized for this sort of pork legislation. The most successful post office getters retorted that a Federal building of beauty and dignity was an inspiration to the cit-

izens of a town, and that from that point of view it was a worth while investment. The European War put a stop to such argument and to the marble front post offices.

A few post offices are still being constructed from the provision of the 1913 bill, but no construction work for the Government is being done in Washington. Nor is there much prospect of any new Government buildings for a year or more. The important Archives Building waits only for the word of Congress. Two recent fires in the Treasury have shown that the old buildings are not invulnerable, and that documents of great value stored in them are far from safe.

But economy is rampant and it will doubtless be many months before Congress can be persuaded to spend money for a building program, even to insure the safety of the national records.

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