

THE GOVERNOR MOREHEAD SCHOOL

On January 8, 1845, as the result of John Motley Morehead's efforts to educate the deaf and blind, the legislature passed an "Act to provide for the education and maintenance of the poor and destitute deaf mutes and blind persons in this State." This act provided an annual \$5,000 appropriation from the Literary Fund and for each student \$75 was to be paid by the county where he lived. This money was to be used either for hiring teachers to open schools in this state or for placing the handicapped in institutions in other states.¹ On May 1, 1845, the North Carolina Institution for the Education of the Deaf and Dumb and the Blind was established in Raleigh with William D. Cooke as its first principal.²

The small rented building proved to be inadequate and in 1847, the General Assembly passed an "Act to provide suitable buildings for the comfortable accommodation of deaf mutes and blind persons of this state", the cost of which was not to exceed \$10,000 to be administered by the president and directors of the Literary Board.³

In 1848, the General Assembly passed an "Act to establish a Board of Directors for the Deaf and Dumb Institute in this state." The corporate powers of the institution were vested in seven directors appointed by the governor. One was elected president, and the principal of the institution served as Secretary to the Board. The Directors accepted pupils within the ages of nine and nineteen and were granted permission to confer degrees. A report was required by the General Assembly from the Board every session acknowledging receipts and disbursements and including a statement concerning the condition of the institution.⁴

By the early fifties, several buildings had been built on Caswell Square in Raleigh and in 1851, blind students were admitted to the institution for the first time. Three teachers were hired for the instruction of the blind and five blind students were enrolled for the seventh session. By 1858, the number of blind students had increased to eighteen, the total enrollment being fifty-seven.⁵

1 Laws of the State of North Carolina, Passed by the General Assembly, at the Session of 1844-45, c. 37, s. 1, hereinafter cited as Laws of North Carolina, with proper date.

2 Katherine Cartright Alston Edsall in collaboration with Christopher Crittenden, A Century of Growth (n.p., n.d.), 6-7, hereinafter cited as Edsall, A Century of Growth.

3 Laws of North Carolina, 1846-47, c. XLVIII, s. 1.

4 Laws of North Carolina, 1848, c. IV, ss. 1-9; c. V.

5 Edsall, A Century of Growth, 7.

Between the years 1858 and 1863, money was appropriated to be used by the Board of Directors to purchase a press and other materials for printing books for the blind and to establish departments for teaching the trade of bookbinding and shoemaking.⁶ In 1864, the legislature authorized the Auditor of Public Accounts to credit to the account of Governor Vance \$20,500, and stated that this amount had been spent "in the purchase of machinery and materials abroad for the use of the mechanical department of the institution".⁷

The General Assembly, in 1872, appropriated \$5,000 and donated about one acre of land on the corner of Bloodworth and Lenoir Streets "for the purpose of establishing thereon buildings for the accommodation of the colored pupils of said institution".⁸ During that same year, the institution celebrated its first graduation of two blind and two deaf students.⁹

In 1891, the General Assembly passed an act to establish "The North Carolina School for the Deaf and Dumb" to be located near the town of Morganton. In addition to the amount contributed by the citizens of Morganton, \$20,000 was appropriated for this purpose. This act removed the white deaf and dumb children from the institution to the new school.¹⁰

During John E. Ray's term as principal in 1905, the name of the institution was changed to "The State School for the Blind and Deaf".¹¹ Also, the first law compelling blind children between the ages of seven and seventeen to attend either the State School or a similar school for the blind was passed in 1908.¹² Five years later, \$30,000 was appropriated for purchasing property adjoining the North Carolina Central Prison.¹³

6 Public Laws of the State of North Carolina, Passed by the General Assembly, at its Session of 1858-59, c. 1, s. 3, hereinafter cited as Public Laws with proper date; Public Laws, 1860-61, c. 1, s. 3; Public Laws, 1862-63, c. 1.

7 Public Laws, 1864-'65, c. 2, s. 3.

8 Public Laws, 1872-'73, c. 134, s. 1.

9 Edsall, A Century of Growth, 9.

10 Public Laws, 1891, c. 399.

11 Revisal of 1905 of North Carolina Prepared under Chapter 314 of the laws of 1903 (2 volumes), I, c. XVIII, s. 4187.

12 Public Laws, Extra Session, 1908, c. 141.

13 Public Laws, 1913, c. 106, s. 2. The Western Boulevard campus is now located on this property.

Mr. G. E. Lineberry succeeded Ray as principal and during his term construction was begun on buildings on the newly acquired land. In 1917, the General Assembly appropriated \$150,000, the first amount to be provided for "the Construction and equipment of buildings on the eighty acre track of land purchased by the State for the Institution of the Blind at Raleigh".¹⁴ In 1923, \$326,000 was allotted to the institution to be used for the permanent improvement and equipment in addition to the \$130,000 annually, for the fiscal year ending in June 1924.¹⁵

In 1929, the state once again turned its attention to the Negro division of the institution. That year, the General Assembly authorized the selling of the land and buildings of the Negro division, the proceeds to be used for purchasing a new site and constructing suitable buildings for the division.¹⁶ Also, \$250,000 was appropriated from the Permanent Improvement Fund for building a complete new plant for the Negro division and 234 acres of land were bought.¹⁷

From 1930 until the present, the State concentrated its efforts on the prevention of blindness. In 1933, in order to construct a rehabilitation program, the General Assembly required the Superintendent of the institution to submit a summarized report compiled from information on the blind submitted from each county.¹⁸ In 1935, the State Commission for the Blind was established to improve the conditions of the blind and aid in the prevention of blindness.¹⁹ In 1937, the duties of the Commission were increased to include the supervision of assistance to the needy blind.²⁰

Statistics in the Registrar's Office of the Institution show there are 36 teachers at the white department and 46 at the Negro department. The white department has a total enrollment of 223 students -- 92 girls and 131 boys. Enrolled in the Negro department are 166 deaf students -- 77 girls and 89 boys -- and 184 blind students -- 76 girls and 108 boys.

In 1957, the General Assembly amended the law authorizing the Board of Directors and the Superintendent to change the name of the institution "to some other name that [would] completely eliminate the words blind and deaf from the name of said institution".²¹ On December 12, 1964, the Board of Directors changed the name to the Governor Morehead School.

14 Public Laws, 1917, c. 185, s. 1.

15 Public Laws, 1923, c. 162, ss. 6-7.

16 Public Laws, 1929, c. 307, ss. 1-2.

17 Public Laws, 1929, c. 295, s. 6. This land referred to is located five miles southeast of Raleigh on Highway 70. The Garner Road Campus is now located on this property.

18 Public Laws, 1931, c. 155.

19 Public Laws, 1935, c. 53.

20 Public Laws, 1937, c. 124.

21 Session Laws and Resolutions Passed by the General Assembly at the Extra Session . . . and the Regular Session . . . 1957, Regular Session, 1957, c. 1434, s. 1.

STATE SCHOOL FOR THE BLIND AND THE DEAF (GOV. MOREHEAD SCHOOL, RALEIGH)

GENERAL RECORDS, 1843-1945.

Accessions Information: Records in folders (1) and (2) in Box 1 have been in the archives for a number of years and never technically formed part of the records of this agency. Records in folder (16) were accessioned on 20 February 1957, but their source is unknown. All other records described below were transferred to the Archives Section from the State Records Section on 6 May 1966, and accessioned by the Archives on 30 June 1966. The decision was subsequently made to film and destroy some of the ledgers and account books covered by this accession, and, therefore, certain discrepancies between the accessions record and the description below will be noted.

Schedule references: Page 1, items 3 and 4; page 2, items 5 and 6; page 7, item 7, page 8, items 8, 9, and 10; page 12, item 3; page 18, item 8; page 19, item 11; and page 22, item 20. Discrepancies will be noted between schedule descriptions and descriptions below.

Arrangement: Topical and chronological.
Finding Aid prepared by: C. F. W. Coker.
Date: 19 January 1967.

See schedule for a brief history of this agency. (The agency is referred to as the Governor Morehead School in the schedule.)

Container Contents [Note: folder numbers are in parentheses.]

1 (Box)

MISCELLANEOUS RECORDS

- (1) Typed copies of letters of William D. Cooke to Governor John Motley Morehead, and of Governor Morehead to Rev. James Phillips, from Raleigh Register, 1843, respecting the establishment of a school for the deaf and dumb.
- (2) "Account of the Establishment of the N. C. Institution for the Instruction of the Deaf and Dumb," 1848, removed from cornerstone of the main building of State School for the Blind and the Deaf, Raleigh, on April 24, 1928.

[Note: A roster of the General Assembly, 1846-1847, printed at the school and found in the cornerstone, has been transferred to the North Carolina Collection, U.N.C.]

RECORDS OF THE SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE

- (3) [Board of Trustees,] Executive Committee, Minutes, November, 1916-May, 1919.
- (4) Board of Trustees, Proceedings of Investigation of Charges Against Superintendent [Lineberry], May 28, 1920.
- (5) Board of Trustees, Reports of and to, 1922-1945. [Note: these are primarily of a fiscal nature.]
- (6) [Board of Trustees,] Building Committee, Minutes, March, 1929-July, 1938.

STUDENT RECORDS

- (7) Enrollment Book, Negro Deaf, 1873-1893; Negro Blind, 1869-1893. (See also Volumes 2 and 3 under STUDENT RECORDS below.)

* Attached

GENERAL RECORDS, 1843-1945 (CONT'D.)

<u>Container</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1 (Box), (Cont'd.)	<p>STUDENT RECORDS (CONT'D.)</p> <p>(8) Enrollment Book, White Blind, 1890-1907. (See also volumes 2 and 3 under STUDENT RECORDS below.)</p> <p>(9) Enrollment Book, White Deaf, 1890-1893. (See also volumes 2 and 3 under STUDENT RECORDS below.)</p> <p>(10) Public School Register, White Deaf, March-May, 1892.</p> <p>(11) Yearly Grade Reports, White Blind, 1891-1905. (See also volumes 11 and 12 under STUDENT RECORDS below.)</p> <p>(12) Yearly Grade Reports, Colored Deaf, 1898-1899.</p> <p>(13) "Railroad Book," 1890-1896. [Note: This record apparently listed students' names (not identified by race in this particular instance), hometowns, railroad terminals, parents, and, in some cases, cost of rail ticket.]</p> <p>(14) "Railroad Book," White Blind and Negro Blind and Deaf, 1896-1898.</p> <p>(15) "Railroad Book," White Blind and Negro Blind and Deaf, 1898-1899.</p> <p>BUDGET OFFICE RECORDS</p> <p>(16) Building Fund Accounts, 1923-1924.</p> <p>(17) Miscellaneous notes, memorandums, and statements, dated and n.d., found in various ledgers and account books which have been filmed and destroyed.</p> <p>STUDENT RECORDS</p>
2 (Vol.)	Enrollment Book, Blind and Deaf, 1863-1876. (See also Box 1, folder 7-9.)
3 (Vol.)	Enrollment Book, Blind and Deaf, 1877-1889. (See also Box 1, folder 7-9.)
4 (Vol.)	Register of Students, White Deaf, 1845-1894; White Blind, 1860-1893; Negro Deaf, 1868-1873; Negro Blind, [?]-1873.
5 (Vol.)	Register of Students, White Blind and Deaf, 1877-1898 (broken series); Negro Blind and Deaf, 1896-1898.
6 (Vol.)	Register of Students, Negro Deaf, Before 1878-1899.
7 (Vol.)	Register of Students, Negro Blind, Before 1878-1899.
8 (Vol.)	Register of Students, White Blind and Negro Blind and Deaf, 1896-1922.
9 (Vol.)	Quarterly Grade Reports, White Blind, 1900-1905.
10 (Vol.)	Quarterly Grade Reports, White Blind, 1905-1912.

GENERAL RECORDS, 1843-1945 (CONT'D.)Container Contents

STUDENT RECORDS (CONT'D.)

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| 11 (Vol.) | Yearly Grade Reports, White Blind, 1906-1917. (See also Box 1, folder 1h.) |
| 12 (Vol.) | Quarterly Grade Reports, White Blind, 1912-1916; Yearly Grade Reports, White Blind, 1917-1920. |
| 13 (Vol.) | Quarterly Grade Reports--Kindergarten Department, White Blind, 1912-1920. |
| 14 (Vol.) | Quarterly Grade Reports, Negro Deaf, 1901-1904. |
| 15 (Vol.) | Quarterly Grade Reports, Negro Blind, 1900-1907. |
| 16 (Vol.) | Quarterly Grade Reports, Negro Blind, 1907-1921. |

BUDGET OFFICE RECORDS

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| 17 (Vol.) | Sundry Cash Receipts, 1916-1921; Payroll Record, 1922-1926.
[Note: the cash receipts record is continued on microfilm, described on page 4.] |
| 18 (Vol.) | Payroll Record, 1926-1942. |
| 19 (Partial Vol.) | Auditor's Itemized Statement of Expenditures, [Prior to] 1878-May, 1884. (First few pages only; see microfilm reel S.17.1.) |

Note: various records relating to this agency will be found among the records of the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

FISCAL RECORDS, [Prior to] 1878-1939

Accessions Information: Transferred from State Records Section on May 6, 1966; accessioned by Archives Section on June 30, 1966. Microfilmed because of size and condition of original records, January, 1967, after which the original volumes will be destroyed.

Schedule References: Page 22, item 20; page 19, item 11; page 18, item 8.

Arrangement: Various; see description below and schedule descriptions.

Finding Aid prepared by: C. F. W. Coker.

Date: January 11, 1967.

<u>Reel No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
S.17.1	Auditor's Itemized Statement of Expenditures, [Prior to] 1878-May, 1884. [Note: The first few pages of this volume are almost illegible. These pages will be retained and filed with other original records of this agency on deposit in the Archives.] [Auditor's Itemized Statement of Expenditures, May, 1884-November, 1891, is apparently missing.]
S.17.1	Auditor's Itemized Statement of Expenditures, November, 1891-April, 1897.
S.17.2	Auditor's Itemized Statement of Expenditures, May, 1897-November, 1906.
S.17.3	Auditor's Itemized Statement of Expenditures, December, 1906-March, 1911.
S.17.3	Auditor's Itemized Statement of Expenditures, January, 1911-November, 1921.
S.17.3	Voucher Register, December, 1921-August, 1924.
S.17.4	Voucher Register and Cash Receipts Register, July, 1924-July, 1927. [Note: In reverse chronological order.]
S.17.4	Sundry Cash Receipts Ledger, 1921-1939. [Sundry Cash Receipts Ledger, 1916-1921, is included as first half of a volume of payroll records, the original of which is retained in the Archives with other records of the Personnel Office of this agency.]

CORRESPONDENCE OF PRINCIPAL, 1897-1921

Accession information: Transferred from the State Records Center on
February 27, 1973, 1973; accessioned March 26, 1973.

Schedule reference: Page 4, item 12; page 20, item 15; page 26, item 1.

Arrangement: Chronological.

Finding Aid prepared by: Shirlyn C. Ratcliff, a student in the Archives Class.

Date: March 21, 1977.

Revised by: C. Edward Morris.

Date: August 2, 1977.

The correspondence of the principal of The Governor Morehead School includes all incoming and outgoing business and personal correspondence, parent's letters to students, and correspondence of the State Purchasing Agent W. S. Cox, 1917-1921.

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
1	CORRESPONDENCE: PRINCIPAL John E. Ray July - December 1898 January - June 1898 July - December 1897 January - June 1897 February 1894 - December 1896 Miscellaneous/Undated Letters
2	CORRESPONDENCE: PRINCIPAL (Cont'd) John E. Ray May - December 1902 January - April 1902 August - December 1901 January - July 1901 January - December 1900 January - May 1899
3	CORRESPONDENCE: PRINCIPAL (Cont'd) John E. Ray July - September 1904 January - June 1904 July - December 1903 January - June 1903 January - June 1903
4	CORRESPONDENCE: PRINCIPAL (Cont'd) G. E. Lineberry June - August 1917 July - November 1919 January - June 1919 September - December 1918 Miscellaneous/Undated Letters

THE GOVERNOR MOREHEAD SCHOOL
Principal's Office

CORRESPONDENCE OF PRINCIPAL, 1897-1921 (Cont'd)

<u>Box No.</u>	<u>Contents</u>
4 (Cont'd)	CORRESPONDENCE: PRINCIPAL (Cont'd) J. T. Alderman May - August 1918 September - April 1918 Miscellaneous/Undated Letters
5	CORRESPONDENCE: STATE PURCHASING AGENT W. S. Cox January 1920 - March 1921 December 1917 - December 1919 Miscellaneous/Undated Letter
	MISCELLANEOUS Committee of Board of Directors Letter to Governor Aycock, April 12, 1901 Corner Stone Laying Address, April 14, 1848 Pictures Power Line Right of Way Agreement School By-Laws, 1905 1916
	BUDGET DIVISION Monthly Reports of Expenditure, 1925-1932