

ON THIS DAY IN WEST VIRGINIA HISTORY AUGUST 25



Main Building at West Virginia Colored Institute, circa 1901

On August 25, 1891, ground was broken on construction of the first building of West Virginia Colored Institute, now West Virginia State University, in Institute.

CSO: SS.8.25

Investigate the Document: (*Acts of the Legislature, 1881*)

1. What was the original name of West Virginia State University?
2. According to the document, the board of regents from time to time shall establish departments of education in _____, _____, _____, and _____

Think Critically: Why did black and white students attend separate colleges? When did they begin attending the same colleges?

CHAPTER LXVI.

A BILL amending and re-enacting section sixty-three of chapter twenty-nine of the code of West Virginia, as amended and re-enacted by chapter twelve, section sixty-three, of the acts of 1881.

THE WEST VIRGINIA COLORED INSTITUTE.

[Ch. 65]

in the same state schools, and this state having heretofore made no provision for the separate education of colored youth in agriculture and the mechanic arts; and the enumeration of the white and colored youths of this state, of school age, being about 250,000 white and 12,000 colored, it being the duty of this state to indicate a reasonable proportion of said appropriations, to be set apart annually for the instruction of the colored youth of the state, the sum of \$3,000 is hereby indicated as an equitable portion of said appropriations, for five years from the date of the passage of this act, and after that time \$5,000, as long as such appropriation continues; and

WHEREAS, By the terms of said act of the congress of the United States, approved August thirteenth eighteen hundred and ninety, it is necessary, in order to enable this state to share in the appropriations so made, and to be made, under the provisions of said last recited act, for the legislature to accept of the provisions of said act for and on the behalf of this state, and to make proper and suitable provisions for complying with the terms of the said act upon which this state will be entitled to her distributable share of said appropriations, and to designate the institutions of learning to become the beneficiaries of said appropriations, and the officer of this state to whom the money shall be paid by the United States, for the use of said beneficiaries; therefore,

Be it enacted by the Legislature of West Virginia:

1. The legislature of the state of West Virginia hereby accepts for said state, the terms and provisions of the said act of the congress of the United States approved August thirtieth eighteen hundred and ninety, for the objects and purposes mentioned and declared therein, and designates the "West Virginia University," established in pursuance of the act of the congress of the United States, passed July second, eighteen hundred and sixty-two, and a subsequent act passed by said congress, on April nineteenth, eighteen hundred and sixty-four, at Morgan-own, in the county of Monongalia, in this state, as the beneficiary of said appropriation for the instruction of white students; and an institution to be located and provided for the purpose as hereinafter required and directed in the county of Kanawha, to be called "The West Virginia Colored Institute," for the beneficiary of said appropriation for the instruction of colored students; to be paid to each in the proportion mentioned in the preamble to this act. And the said institution, by the name of "The West Virginia Colored Institute," shall have and hold all the property, funds, rights, powers and privileges hereinafter mentioned.

CH. 65]

2. For the government and control of said institute there shall be a board of regents, consisting of five competent, intelligent and discreet persons, not more than three of whom shall belong to the same political party, appointed from time to time as occasion may require by the governor, to be called the "Regents of the West Virginia Colored Institute," and as such board they may sue and be sued, plead and be impleaded, and have a common seal. They shall have care, custody and control of the property and funds of the institute, and may accept from any person or persons gifts of money or property for the use of said institute; and all such money and property when so received by them, shall be held in trust by them for the use and benefit of the institute, and applied thereto as the donors may have directed, and if no such direction have been given, as a majority of the regents may determine.

3. The board of regents shall from time to time establish such departments of education in literature, science, art and agriculture, not inconsistent with the terms of the several acts of congress hereinbefore referred to, as they may deem expedient, and as the funds under their control will warrant; and purchase such materials, implements and apparatus as may be requisite to the proper instruction of said colored students in all said branches of learning, as to carry out the intent and purposes of said acts of congress.

4. The said board shall establish and declare such rules, regulations and by laws, not inconsistent with the laws of the United States or of this state, as they may deem necessary for the proper organization, the tuition of the students and the good government of the institute, and the protection of the property belonging thereto. All reasonable expenses, incurred by said regents in the discharge of their duties hereby imposed upon them, shall be allowed by the governor and paid out of the treasury of the state, in like manner as other charges on the treasury are paid.

5. The treasurer of this state is hereby designated as the officer to receive, from the secretary of the treasury of the United States, the said several sums of money so to be paid to this state aforesaid, for the uses and purposes aforesaid. He shall keep an exact account of the moneys so received, and shall place to the credit of each of said beneficiaries thereof its due proportion of the same. The sums so placed to the credit of West Virginia university shall be paid out by him on the orders of the