

THE ATLANTA UNIVERSITY BULLETIN

JUNE, 1934



The Atlanta University Administration Building

The PWA to Expend \$2,100,000 for Negro Housing Project in Vicinity of Atlanta University

Two million, one hundred thousand dollars has been allotted by the Public Works Administration for the construction of a model housing project for Negro families in the vicinity of Atlanta University. Several parcels of land have been acquired by purchase, and through condemnation proceeding in federal court the balance has been obtained. Plans for the project, which will cover six city blocks and accommodate 600 families, have been drawn, and work will begin during the coming weeks in razing the several hundred houses that now occupy this area.

In several respects, the project is unprecedented. It is the first housing project for Negroes to be undertaken by the federal government. It will be the first, or among the first of the PWA housing projects actually to get under way. In the purchase of the land, the government acquired the first piece of property to be obtained for federal housing purposes, and in bringing condemnation action in the Atlanta federal court the PWA established a precedent that it proposes to follow throughout its gigantic program throughout the country.

When completed, the housing group will cover the section that is bounded by Greensferry Avenue, Lawshe, Parsons, and Dora streets. The group will consist of two story apartments and series of row houses. Housing units will range from apartments of two rooms, kitchenette and bath to five rooms and bath. The buildings will be modern, fire-proof structures. Arrangements of the buildings will conform to the approved standards of group housing, and provision will be made for abundance of light and air, sufficient park and playground facilities, and conveniently placed retail stores. It is the intention of the government to keep the rents at a rate within the range of persons of moderate income.

In the formulation of plans for this project the PWA representatives have had the counsel and assistance of President Hope and members of the

University Board of Trustees. In commenting on the program to improve housing facilities for the colored people of Atlanta, Dr. Hope said that the development brought to a realization his dreams of many years, and pointed out that as a result of it hundreds of colored families would be furnished with good housing in a wholesome community at moderate cost. In the construction of the group employment will be given to skilled and unskilled Negro workmen, he stated.

Seven Schools Join for Summer Work

The Atlanta University summer school, in which all seven collegiate institutions for Negroes in Atlanta are affiliated, will open June 9 and continue six weeks, or until July 20. Only work of collegiate and graduate grade will be offered. Among the special features of the session will be a demonstration progressive education school, including a nursery school, second, third, fourth and fifth grades and a one-room rural school; a four-weeks ministers' institute, and an institute for rural teachers and other rural workers.

The teaching staff will be composed of selected members of the faculties of coöperating institutions, together with a selected number of persons of special abilities from other institutions.

Joining with Atlanta University in the conduct of the 1934 summer school are Morehouse and Spelman Colleges, Atlanta School of Social Work, Morris Brown College, Clark University, and Gammon Theological Seminary. The interdenominational ministers' institute will be held on the Gammon campus. All other work will be centered on the campuses of Atlanta University, Spelman College, and Morehouse College.

This is the second year that the colleges of Atlanta have joined in the conduct of the summer session. Last year 353 persons enrolled for regular courses, 75 participated in the ministers' institute.

Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, editor of *The Crisis*, who is now professor of sociology at Atlanta University, is completing the manuscript of his study of the part taken by Negroes in Reconstruction between 1860 and 1880. The book is to be published in the fall by Harcourt, Brace, and company.

An Open Letter from President Hope

Dear Friends of Atlanta University:

In this issue of The Atlanta University Bulletin which is being sent to each graduate, former student and active friend of the University, I wish to express the University's appreciation to all who have contributed to the University's maintenance during this year and previous years. I wish also to make quite clear that we must depend more and more on the contributions of our friends to carry on the University's work. This year it is imperative that at least \$10,000 be contributed by alumni, former students and friends to supplement the University's income from other sources, such as tuition, small grants from foundations and endowment.

Considering the scope and importance of the program of Atlanta University in the field of Negro education, this is a small amount to be asking. Because few of our graduates and friends are able to give large sums of money, we are asking that each send whatever he can before June 30, the end of the fiscal year. If each one who receives this Bulletin will do this, we will be able to close this year without a deficit.

This year marks another milestone in the University's history. On June 6 we will celebrate our 65th Commencement. That day the University expects to confer the largest number of advanced degrees in its history. On the evening before Commencement the alumni will hold their reunion and banquet in the new University dining hall. It is hoped that a representative group of alumni and friends will participate in the Commencement program.

On April 1, Atlanta University completed its first five years under the affiliation plan. It was in April, 1929, that Atlanta University, Morehouse College and Spelman College through their respective boards of trustees voted to affiliate to develop a system by which all graduate and professional work would be done by Atlanta University, and work leading to the bachelor degree would be given at Morehouse College for men and Spelman College for women. Under this plan costly duplication of courses and overlapping of effort were eliminated. Through this affiliation there was established at Atlanta a true university for colored students, the only institution in the far South where Negro students may carry on graduate work in the arts and sciences.

In these first five years 188 students holding bachelor's degrees from 36 American colleges have registered at the University. Since 1931 when the University granted its first graduate degree, 23 Master of Arts or Master of Science degrees have been conferred in the departments of biology, chemistry, economics, education, English, history, mathematics and sociology. This year two additional departments will present candidates for degrees—Latin and French. I am glad to be able to say that the work required for the Master's degree from Atlanta University is on a level with that required for the leading graduate schools of the country.

A great deal has been accomplished toward achievement of our immediate goal. Our building program, involving the construction of a University library, a central administration building, adequate housing for students and faculty, and a model recreation field, has been completed. A faculty of which we may well be proud has been recruited. Enrollment has been most satisfactory, considering the difficult economic situation. The type of student that has come to Atlanta is worthy of every assistance and encouragement.

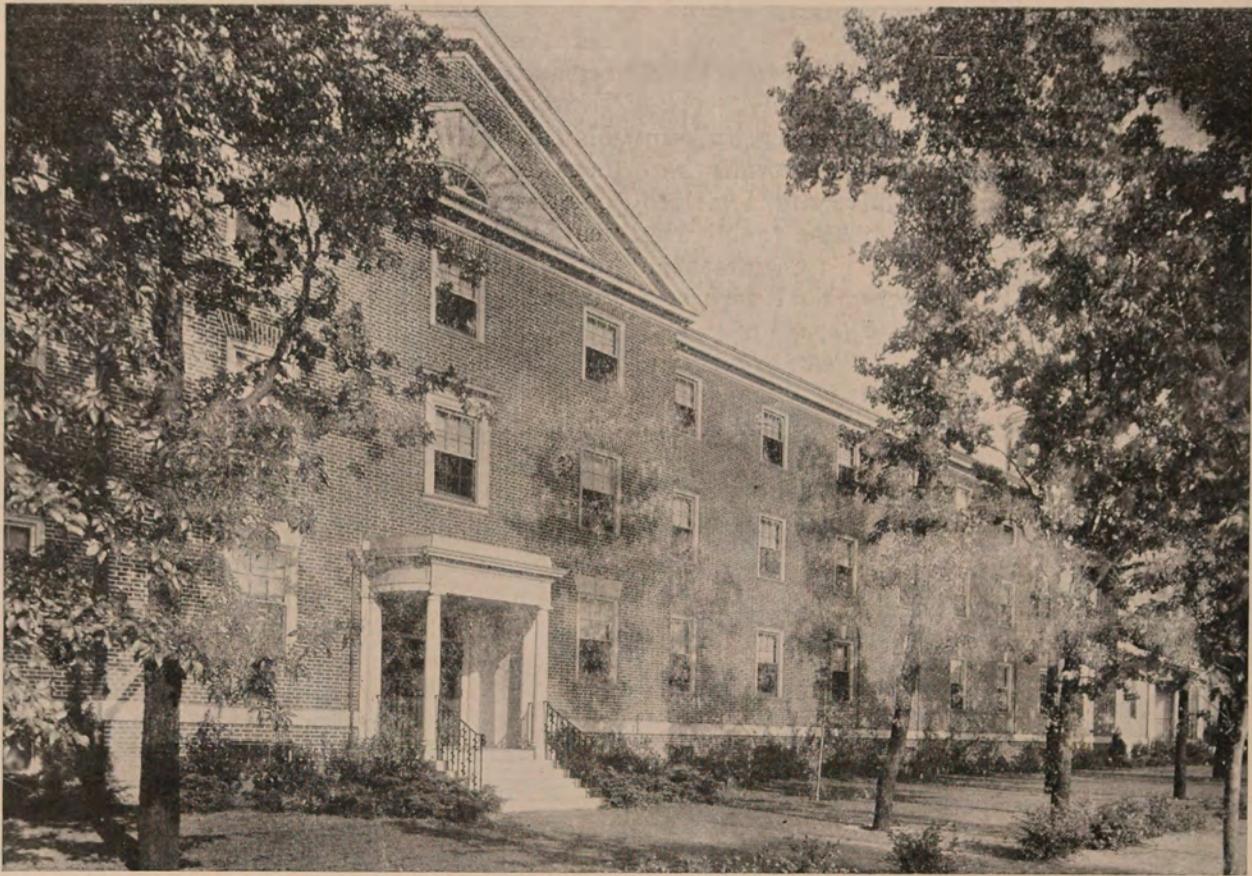
I trust that I may receive from your hands a contribution representing in some measure your belief in what is being done here at Atlanta University for the development of a sound and worthy leadership among our people.

Sincerely yours,
JOHN HOPE

Editor of Nation Will Speak at Commencement Exercises of Atlanta University June 6th

Atlanta University's sixty-fifth Commencement will be held Wednesday afternoon, June 6, at 3 o'clock when Mr. Oswald Garrison Villard, contributing editor of The Nation, an outstanding exponent of equal rights for Negroes, will deliver the address. Mr. Villard, the grandson of William Lloyd Garrison and biographer of John Brown, will discuss some aspects of the life of Wendell Phillips fifty years after his death.

Reverend Wade Hampton McKinney, pastor of the Antioch Baptist Church of Cleveland, Ohio, a graduate of Morehouse College and Rochester Theological Seminary, will preach the baccalaureate sermon for Atlanta University, Morehouse College, and Spelman College on Sunday afternoon, June 3, at 3 o'clock in Sisters Chapel, Spelman College.



Men's Dormitory, Atlanta University Housing Group

Located on the West Chestnut front of the Atlanta University campus, the new housing group occupies an entire block frontage, including three buildings which are united to form an architectural unit, the women's dormitory, the men's dormitory, and the dining room-kitchen unit. The buildings are constructed of colonial red brick with limestone

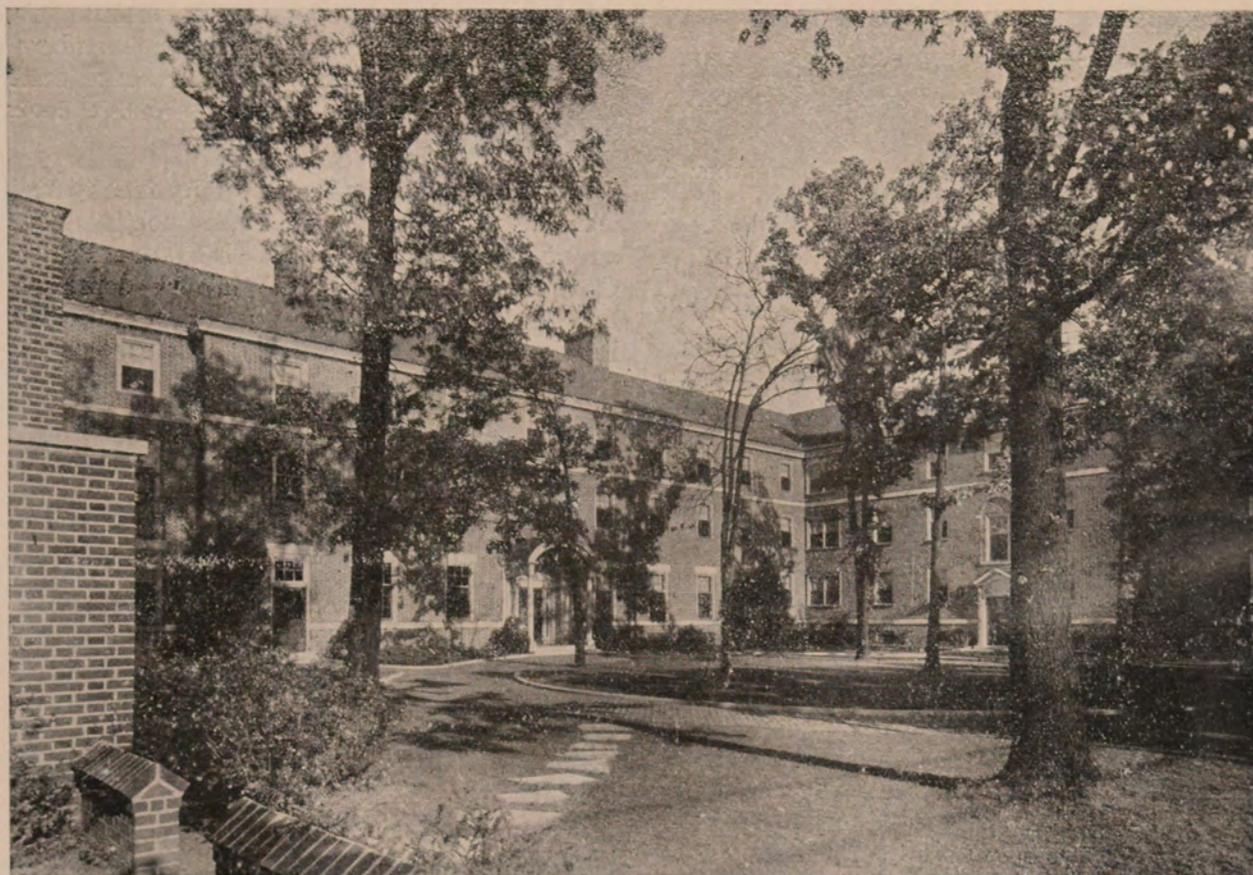
decoration, and conform to the stately traditions of Georgian style of architecture. Included in the group are approximately 200 single rooms, fifteen suites of living room, bed room and bath, two large dining rooms, a series of lounges and reception rooms for the men and for the women, and a complete and model kitchen.

"The Scroll" Wins Recognition

The Scroll, which is published by the pupils of Atlanta University Laboratory School, was given third place among private high school magazines entered in the 1934 Scholastic Press Association contest. In the competition, which is conducted annually by Columbia University, New York City, more than 5,000 newspapers and magazines of elementary and high schools, junior colleges, teachers colleges and normal schools are entered. The Scroll is edited by a staff of pupils of the laboratory school under the supervision of Mr. Melvin D. Kennedy, teacher of history.

Many Attend Citizenship Classes

A citizenship school, organized by the Atlanta branch of the N.A.A.C.P., to give colored citizens of Atlanta instruction in the operation of government and their part in it, has been conducted this winter by Professor R. W. Logan of the Atlanta University department of history, assisted by Miss Hattie V. Feger of the department of education. During the winter three series of six lectures have been given at different locations throughout Atlanta. Nearly 400 regularly attended these series. At the conclusion, Professor Logan was invited to go to Memphis and give a series of five lectures in that city under the auspices of the N.A.A.C.P. and the Y.M.C.A.



Entrance and Court, Women's Dormitory, Atlanta University Housing Group

Eighty Enroll For Graduate Work

Eighty students, holding bachelors degrees from 19 colleges, are enrolled in Atlanta University this year. These students, who have come to Atlanta from 12 states and the District of Columbia, are carrying work in 11 major departments. Education, English, sociology, biology, economics, and history claim the largest number. Major work is also being done this year in French, German, mathematics, chemistry and Latin.

Twenty of the students enrolled in the University this year did their undergraduate work at Morehouse College, 18 at Atlanta University and 12 at Spelman. Morris Brown and Clark University each have contributed five. Other institutions represented are Alabama State Teacher's College, Benedict, Butler, Cornell, Hunter, Jackson, Howard, Lemoyne, Lincoln, Mount Holyoke, Shaw, South Carolina State and Virginia Union.

Faculty Participates in Conference

Atlanta University faculty members played an important part in the National Conference on Fundamental Problems in the Education of Negroes which was held in Washington, May 8-12 at the call of the Secretary of the Interior. President Hope served as chairman of the Committee on Adult Education, and Mrs. Helen A. Whiting, teaching principal of the Atlanta University Laboratory School, as chairman of the Committee on Elementary Education.

Other faculty members served on the following committees: Citizenship, Mr. Rayford W. Logan; Recreation and Leisure Time, Mr. Hale Woodruff; Home Life, Miss Hattie V. Feger; Health, Dr. W. B. Nathan; Secondary Education, Mr. W. A. Robinson, principal, Atlanta University Laboratory School; Financial Support of Education, Mr. Jesse B. Blayton.

Many Notable Persons Visit University During the Past Year, Speak to Students and Faculty

For the first time, it is believed, a member of the President's Cabinet visited Atlanta University campus, when Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins came to the campus, and spent an informal half-hour talking with students and faculty regarding the particular labor problems of colored people.

Miss Perkins was only one of a number of distinguished persons who have taken time to visit the University, and speak to the students. Others whose visits have greatly enriched the experiences of students and faculty members were Dr. Clark H. Foreman, assistant to the Secretary of the Interior; Mr. Edward A. Filene, president of E. A. Filene and Company of Boston, Mass.; Mr. Richard B. Harrison, "De Lawd" of *The Green Pastures*; Mr. Norman Thomas, director of the League of Industrial Democracy; Dr. Alain Locke, professor of Philosophy, Howard University; Dr. John J. Coss, director of summer session, Columbia University, and member of Atlanta University board of trustees; Mr. Edwin R. Embree, president of the Julius Rosenwald Fund; Dr. Albert Bushnell Hart, professor-emeritus of history, Harvard University, and Dr. Edmund E. Day, director for social studies, Rockefeller Foundation.

Two notable authorities on Russia visited the campus this year and gave first-hand impressions of conditions in the Soviet Union. These were Mr. Maurice Hindus, author and lecturer on present day Russia, and Colonel Raymond Robins, who recently returned from Russia where in 1917-18 as American Red Cross Commissioner he witnessed the fall of Kerensky and the rise of the Bolsheviks to power.

Two New Faculty Members Added to University Staff in 1933-34

Two new faculty members, both of whom have brilliant records as scholars in their respective fields, have joined the Atlanta University staff this year. They are Rayford W. Logan, a graduate of Williams College and a Master of Arts from Harvard University, who has become professor of history, and William H. Dean, Jr., who was graduated from Bowdoin College and received his Master of Arts from Harvard, who has joined the staff of the department of economics and business administration.

The University faculty this year consists of fourteen persons. In addition, fourteen members of the faculties of Spelman and Morehouse College are teaching graduate or senior-graduate courses in Atlanta University

Three members of the University faculty are on leave this year studying for their doctor's degree at northern universities. These are Professor Clarence A. Bacote of the history department; Professor Claude B. Dansby, mathematics, and Professor B. T. Harvey, Jr., chemistry.

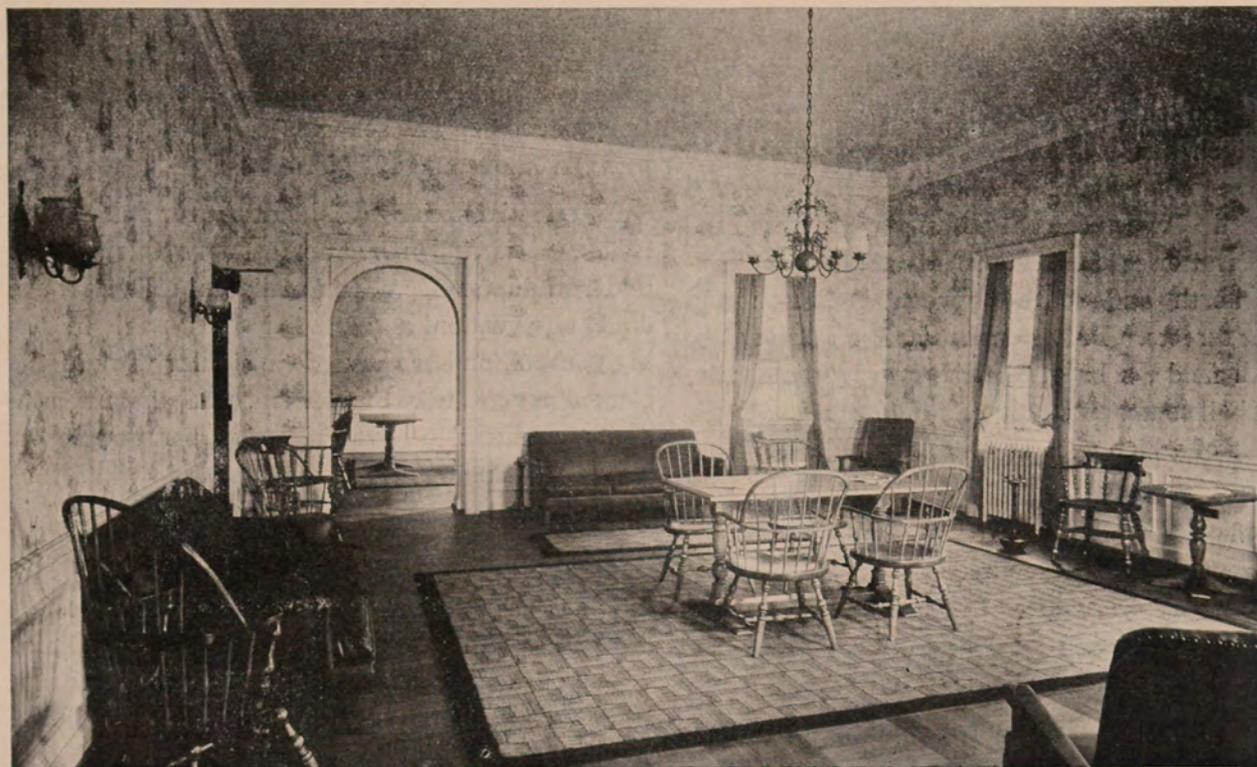
Most Graduates are Employed

Of the 23 who have received advanced degrees from Atlanta University since the reorganization of the university, fourteen are engaged in teaching or school administration, two are in graduate schools working for their doctor's degree, two are in business, one is in social work, and one is married and living at home. One is dead (Charles Albert Proctor '32) and two are not employed so far as the University records show.

Two men who are working for their doctorates are Joseph A. Bailey '31, the first person to receive the degree of Master of Arts in course from Atlanta University, who is at University of Chicago, and Howard W. McElrath '32, who has completed his work for his doctorate at the University of Toronto.

Edmund Allen, senior in the Atlanta University Laboratory High School, was one of two members of Scout Troop 90 to be admitted to the rank of eagle scout, the first colored boys in the state of Georgia to be so honored. The insignia was conferred by E. Stanley Harris, of New York City, Boy Scout Commissioner, at public exercises in the First Congregational Church on May 13.

The alumni of Atlanta University will hold a reunion dinner at the University dormitory, Tuesday evening, June 5, commencing at 7 o'clock. Dinner will be served at 8 o'clock sharp. The classes of '84, '94, '04, '14, and '24 will hold reunions, and be represented on the program. The business session of the alumni association will be held at the Atlanta University Library Monday afternoon, June 4.



Men's Lounge, Atlanta University Dormitory

Many Students of Negro Life Pay Visit to Atlanta University

This year, more than ever before, Atlanta University has been visited by students and observers from virtually every country in which the education of Negroes is a social or governmental problem. Outstanding among these were the members of the seminar on culture contacts and race relations of Yale University, which was headed by Dr. Charles T. Loran, formerly of Natal, South Africa, now Sterling Professor of Education in Yale University. The eight members of the seminar were graduate students who registered from such diverse localities as Kimberly, South Africa, Auckland, New Zealand, Petersburg, Transvaal, Givelo, South Rhodesia, Honolulu, Hawaii, and Hampton Institute, Virginia.

Among other visitors were Dr. A. T. Schofield, principal of Mengo Medical School, Kampala, Uganda, East Africa; Dr. Manilal C. Parekh, Raykot, India, a friend of Mahatma Gandhi; Mr. M. A. Easter, director of education, Jamaica, West Indies;

Mr. Herbert Best, former chief civil officer, Northern Nigeria; Erick Berry (Mrs. Best), well-known painter of African types; Professor and Mrs. Hugh-Jones of Oxford University; Mr. W. Eric Hodges, vice-principal of Wesley College, Ibandana, Nigeria, and Mr. Robert Rothschild of the University of Brussels, who is studying elementary methods with the view of undertaking reorganization of the schools in the Belgian Congo.

University Library Grows

The Atlanta University Library which represents the combined book collections of the University, the affiliated colleges, and the Atlanta School of Social Work has at present nearly 45,000 volumes and additions are being made steadily with a view of building up the basic collection. To administer the library a staff of eight full-time librarians and twelve student assistants is employed. As an innovation this year the periodical reading room with its valuable collection of newspapers and magazines is open on Sunday from 11 a. m. to 1 p. m. and from 4 p. m. to 6 p. m.

New Athletic Field Offers

Opportunity for All to Play

Work on the new Atlanta University athletic field which has been under way since last fall will soon be completed and available for use. The field is located between the old University tract and the new dormitories on West Chestnut street and extends north and south between Beckwith and Hunter streets. Provision has been made for two football fields, a baseball field, two tennis courts, a handball court, and a quarter mile running track, one side of which with an extension provides for a straight-of-way 220 yard track.

The field is not planned for intercollegiate exhibitions, but is intended as a playing field where all students may have an opportunity for healthy, competitive play, and where an effective intramural sports program may be developed.

With the completion of the athletic field and landscaping of the campus, the immediate building program of the University is completed. In this program which has continued for nearly three years more than 500,000 man-hours of labor has been expended. In every one of the projects Negro labor, both skilled and unskilled, has been used.

Laboratory School Has 301 Pupils,

Staff of 22 Full-Time Teachers

Three hundred and one pupils are enrolled this year in the Atlanta University Laboratory School, which includes all grades from the kindergarten through the senior high school. The school occupies two buildings—the six lower grades occupying the Oglethorpe School on the Atlanta University campus, and the 6th to 12th grades Giles Hall on Spelman College campus.

In addition to Mr. W. A. Robinson (Atlanta University '13) who is serving his third year as prin-

cipal, and Mrs. Helen A. Whiting, the teaching principal of the elementary school, the Laboratory School faculty number 20 full-time and two part-time teachers. The school is co-educational, there being 110 boys and 191 girls.

Its effectiveness as a laboratory for students in Education is shown by the fact that this year 30 undergraduates from the affiliated colleges have done observation and participation work in the high school, and five have done similar work in the elementary grades. In addition, two graduate students in education have used the laboratory school in their work.

Many Art Exhibitions Are Held

Almost continually during the college year there have been exhibitions of works of art on display in the commodious exhibition hall of the Atlanta University Library. In this series have been shown paintings, etchings, drawings, sculpture or photographic reproductions, representing the work of virtually every Negro artist of note. During Negro History Week the work of 10 outstanding colored artists, was on display. Later 130 photographs of painting and sculpture by 54 Negro artists, all of whom had exhibited in the Harmon Foundation exhibitions, were shown through the courtesy of that foundation.

One-man shows by Allan Freelon, of Philadelphia, Erick Berry, well-known delineator of West African types, and by Hale Woodruff of the Atlanta University faculty were held. Early in the year an exhibition of the paintings of Mrs. A. Farnsworth Drew, of Atlanta, which had been shown at the High Museum of Art, was loaned for display. During Commencement Week a show of the work of the students in the University Laboratory School and the affiliated colleges will be held.