July 12, 1954

To the Graduate Council:

I am submitting herewith a thesis written by William A. Bourne entitled "World War Two Veterans Training in Memphis Veterans Institute Operated by the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools." I recommend that it be accepted for nine quarter hours of credit in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Science, with a major in Industrial Education.

Clyde H. Wilson
Major Professor

We have read this thesis
and recommend its acceptance:

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Accepted for the Council:

E. G. Waters
Dean of the Graduate School

WORLD WAR TWO VETERANS TRAINING IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE OPERATED BY THE BOARD OF EDUCATION OF THE MEMPHIS CITY SCHOOLS

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A THESIS

Submitted to
The Graduate Council
of
The University of Tennessee
in
Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
for the degree of
Master of Science

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by

William A. Bourne

August 1954

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INTRODUCTION

The Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools established Memphis Veterans Institute in September, 1945, for the purpose of providing training facilities for World War Two veterans.[1] The Board recognized the possible problems with which the school system might be confronted should an attempt be made to enroll a large number of veterans in its regular school system.

The writer records, in this thesis, the results of a study of the training of World War Two veterans in Memphis Veterans Institute operated by the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools in Memphis, Tennessee. The study covers legislation of the Congress relative to educational aid to veterans of the Second World War, minutes of the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools, and an analysis of the personnel records of each veteran enrolled in the program with reference to length of enrollment, accomplishments and areas in which veterans were trained.

It is hoped that this study may be helpful to those of the future who may be confronted with the responsibility of formulating and conducting a training program such as school administrators had following World War Two. It should be helpful to any who may find it necessary or desirable to evaluate special training programs for special groups.

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[1]Minutes, Board of Education, Memphis City Schools, September 14, 1945, p. 1866.

CHAPTER I

BACKGROUND AND ORIGIN OF THE INSTITUTE

World War Two created or brought to light a new philosophy regarding obligations of the Federal Government toward veterans of its armed forces. The Congress of the United States recognized the fact that the education of many members of the armed forces had been interrupted by induction into the military forces. The predication of this theory of the government's responsibility must have been well founded since the Congress passed legislation to assuage a dilemma in which many veterans found themselves with reference to plans for formal education.

Aid to education of World War Two veterans was provided for in two acts passed by the Congress. The Vocational Rehabilitation Act of March 24, 1943, generally referred to as Public Law 16 of the Seventy-eighth Congress, made provision, among other things, for educational benefits to veterans suffering from service connected disabilities.[1] The Servicemen's Readjustment Act of June, 1944 (popularly known as "GI Bill of Rights"), Public Law 346, of the Seventy-eighth Congress, provided, among other things, educational benefits for all veterans not covered by Public Law 16.[2]

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[1] Handbook - Veterans Assistance Program of the Selective Service System. Appendix--Laws, Title II, p. 44.

[2] Ibid.

The Memphis Board of Education began to experience the need of training facilities for returning veterans in 1944. The Board at this time permitted veterans to attend Memphis Vocational School. The Vocational School was an institution for the training of adults and had been in operation for a number of years. The Board recognized a greater need for training of veterans as time moved deeper into the year 1944 when the Board passed the following resolution:

> It is respectfully recommended that the Board authorize the President and Secretary to enter into contracts with the Veterans Administration for training of veterans, when and if such a program becomes necessary.[3]

and

> It was moved that the President and Superintendent be authorized and empowered to arrange for the continuation of the training program for veterans in such a manner as may to them appear needful and fitting and for such a time as may be deemed necessary.[4]

Training for War Two veterans continued on a limited scale through the year 1944 and until August 1945 through the facilities of Memphis Vocational School. The following motion was passed by the Board in August 1945:

> Upon motion properly made, seconded and unanimously approved upon roll call, the Board authorized a continuation of the veterans training through September 30, 1945.[5]

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[3]Minutes, Board of Education, Memphis City Schools, March 10, 1944, p. 1754.

[4]Ibid., May 25, 1944, p. 1844.

[5]Minutes, Board of Education, Memphis City Schools, August 25, 1945, p. 1863.

A separate training program was established upon reopening of schools in September 1945 for the training of veterans. The new division of instruction was limited to enrollment of veterans. The following entry appears in the Board minutes regarding the new institution:

> The Superintendent of Schools was authorized by viva voce vote of the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools to designate the school for training of veterans as 'Memphis Veterans Institute' which is to be located in the building at 612 Adams Avenue in the city of Memphis, Tennessee.[6]

The following additional entries were noted in the Board of Education minutes:

> Authorized President to enter into private contract with Veterans Administration for such time and amounts as is necessary or until the State Department of Education and Veterans Administration enter into a formal contract.[7]

> Recommended increase in rates with the exception of General Education, same to remain as $200 per nine months instead of $225 as set forth in State Contract with Veterans Administration.[8]

Memphis Veterans Institute though not officially named until September 14, 1945, actually began its classes on September 10, 1945. The Institute operated continuously from September 10, 1945, through June 1951. The school

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[6] Ibid., September 14, 1945, p. 1866.

[7] Ibid., September 28, 1945, p. 1867.

[8] Ibid., February 22, 1946, p. 1887.

closed two weeks in August each year for vacation.[9] The following holidays were observed each year: July 4, Labor Day, Armistice Day, Thanksgiving Day, two weeks for Christmas, and January 1.[10]

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[9]Records, Memphis Veterans Institute, September 1945 through June 1951.

[10]Contracts, Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools and Veterans Administration for the Scholastic Years 1945-46 through 1950-51.

CHAPTER II

ORGANIZATION

C. O. Holley was Director of Vocational Education of the Memphis City Schools during the first thirteen months of operation of Memphis Veterans Institute. Ed. B. Hudgens was Director of Memphis Veterans Institute. The writer was a teacher-principal of the general education program from the beginning of the Institute through September 1946.[1]

C. O. Holley resigned as Director of Vocational Education September 30, 1946. Ed. B. Hudgens assumed the duties of Director of Vocational Education on October 1, 1946, and the writer became Director of Memphis Veterans Institute on the same date.[2] The duties of the Director of Vocational Education included supervision of Industrial Arts and Trade Training in the public schools of Memphis, supervision of the Adult Programs, and Administrative control of Memphis Veterans Institute.[3]

The offices of the Institute were located at 612 Adams Avenue which had been acquired by the city and used

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[1] Annual Report, Director Vocational Education to Superintendent of Schools for years 1945-46 and 1946-47.

[2] Minutes, Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools, September 13, 1946, p. 1931.

[3] Ibid.

for War Production Training Program. White veterans were trained at this location. Negro veterans were trained at the shops located at Manassas and Booker T. Washington High Schools. White veterans attended classes from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Negro classes were in session from 3:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. White and Negro classes met daily Monday through Friday.

Memphis Veterans Institute, as mentioned before, conducted classes for both white and Negro veterans. The following classes were opened for white veterans in September 1945:

General Education
Electricity
Aviation Mechanics (Engine and Airframe)
Refrigeration
Welding (Combination)
Radio Repair and Maintenance.

A class in Photography was opened in November 1945. Training in Machine Shop was opened in February 1946. Auto mechanics for whites was initiated in October 1946.[4]

The following classes for Negroes were listed at the beginning of training by the Institute:

Auto Mechanics (classes at both Booker T. Washington and Manassas High Schools)
Brickmasonry
Radio Repair and Maintenance
Welding
Woodshop.

---

[4]Files, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945 to 1951.

A class for Negroes in Shoe Repair was opened in September 1947, and Plastering was added in February 1948.[5]

The facilities at Booker T. Washington High School were utilized for training of Negro veterans in Automobile Mechanics, Brickmasonry, Plastering, Woodshop, Shoe Repair, and Radio. Automobile Mechanics and Welding were taught Negro veterans at Manassas High School shops.[6]

Teachers and other personnel were directly responsible to the Director of the school. The Director was responsible to the Director of Vocational Education relative to administrative affairs in general, and to the Superintendent of Schools regarding matters relating to accreditation and instruction. The Director of the school was directly responsible to the Business Manager of the Board of Education relative to vouchers submitted to the Veterans Administration for tuition, books, and tools issued to veterans.[7]

Other personnel responsible for special duties relative to the operation of Memphis Veterans Institute were an auditor, a bookkeeper, a psychometrist and a secretary to the Director. The auditor made an annual audit of accounts receivable and payable. The bookkeeper kept a daily record

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[5] Ibid.

[6] Ibid.

[7] Directive, Ernest C. Ball, October 1, 1946.

of receipts and disbursements. The psychometrist conducted all testing for Memphis Veterans Institute as well as for the Veterans Administration in Memphis, Tennessee. Testing conducted for the Veterans Administration was by contract.[8]

Figure 1, page 9, reveals the organization of the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools. It is noted in this figure that the organization of the Memphis School system is divided into two major departments. The Department of Education is headed by the Superintendent of Schools and the Department of Business Affairs by a Secretary-Business Manager.

The Department of Education is divided into six divisions as indicated in Figure 1, each headed by a Director. The Divisions are listed as follows:

Instruction
Personnel and Research
Records and Attendance
Junior R. O. T. C.
Vocational Education
Testing and Child Adjustment

The Veteran Training Program was placed under the administration of the Vocational Education Division.[9] It is further disclosed in Figure 2 that four other organizations operate within the Division of Vocational Education. They are

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[8]Contracts, Board of Education, Memphis City Schools and Veterans Administration, 1945 to 1951.

[9]Minutes, Board of Education, Memphis City Schools, September 14, 1945.

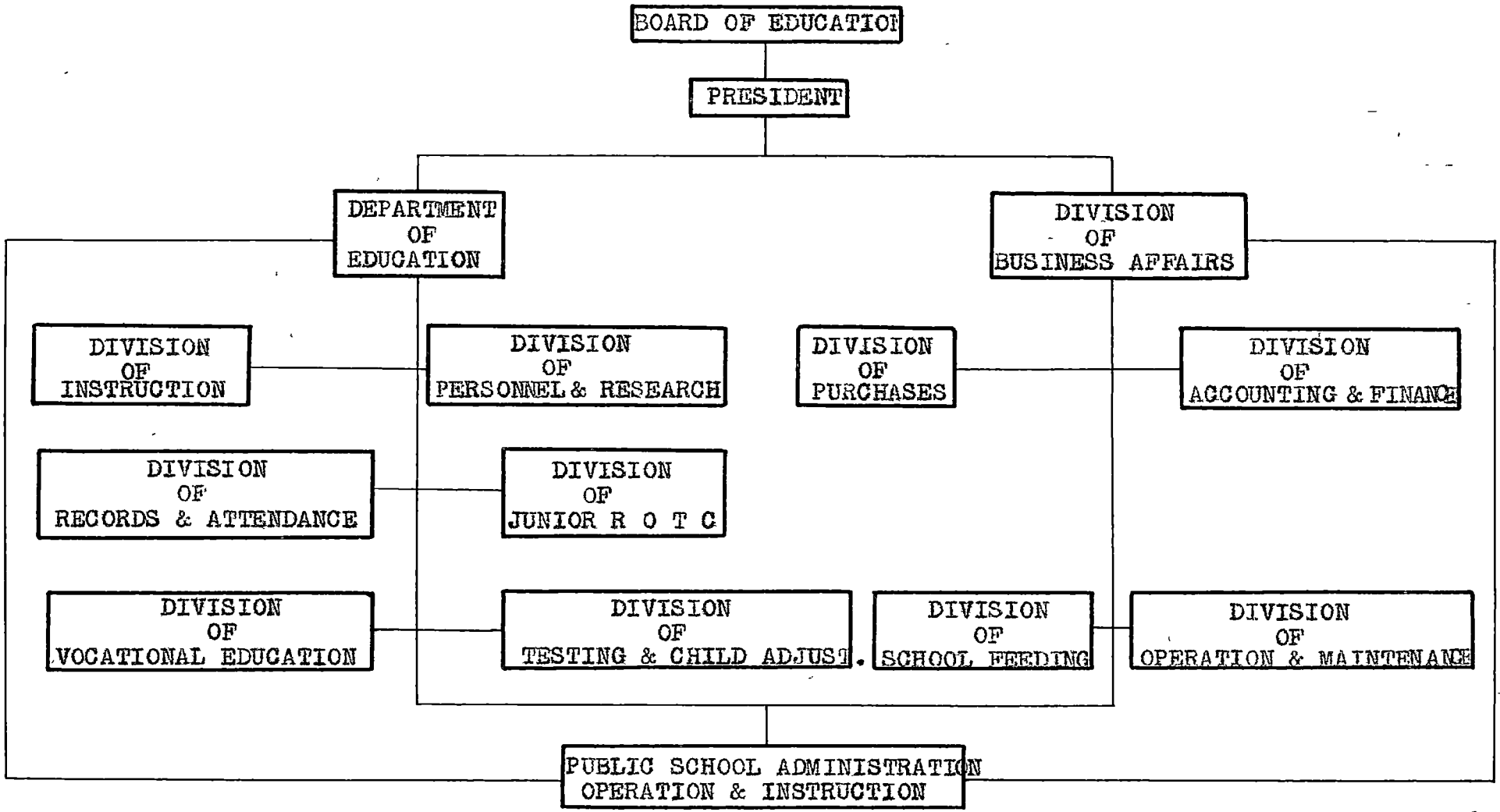


Figure 1. Organization of Memphis City School System during the operation of Memphis Veterans Institute.[a]

[a]Memphis Board of Education release.

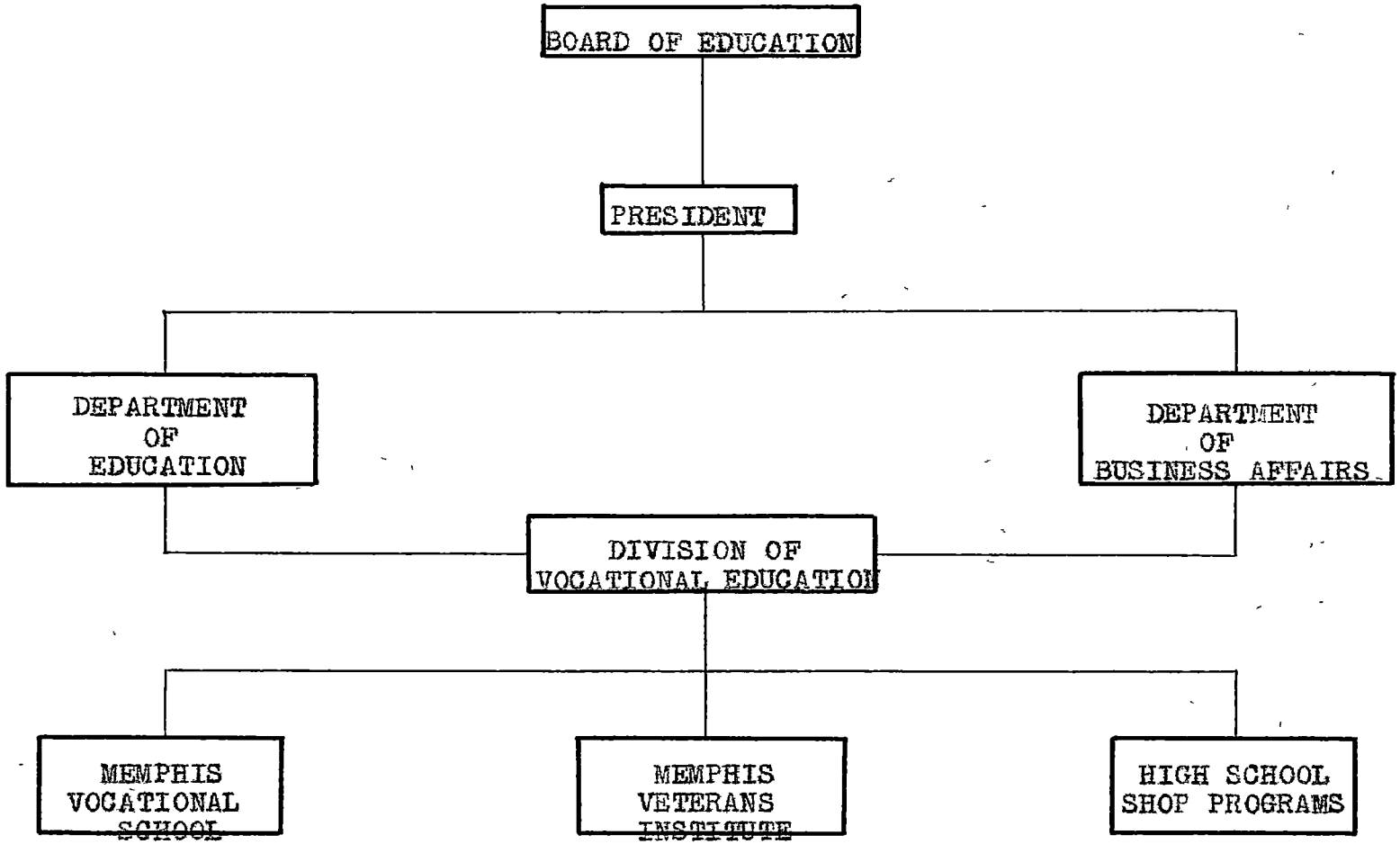


Figure 2. The Memphis Veterans Institute as a part of the Division of Vocational Education.[a]

[a]Files Memphis Veterans Institute.

namely: The Vocational School, Vocational Program for High Schools, Evening School and Part Time Continuation School.

Figure 2, page 10, shows in more detail the relationship of Memphis Veterans Institute and the two Departments of the Board of Education and with other training organizations within the Division of Vocational Education. It is noted that the Institute is on a level with other training programs within the Division of Vocational Education according to placement in Figure 2.

CHAPTER III

CURRICULUM

A study of the files of Memphis Veterans Institute reveals two major areas of instruction: General Education and Trade Training.[1] General Education training was offered for those whose objective was to meet requirements for high school graduation, refresher training or college entrance. Shop courses were provided for those who wished to learn a trade by which they might earn a livelihood. The two major fields will be discussed separately.

Courses in General Education were so organized that students pursued their subjects on an individual basis and at such speed as the ability and initiative of the individual would permit. General Educational Development Tests and/or the previous scholastic record of the student were used as a basis for classification. Those having previously earned four or more academic credits in a Memphis City School and who made an average standard score of 47 or above were granted high school diplomas from the schools in which the credits were earned.[2] This program of diploma issuance and student classification was approved by State Department of

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[1]Record Files, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945 to 1951.

[2]Directive, Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools, September 1945.

Education of the State of Tennessee. Those making a score of less than 47 on the Test of General Educational Development were classified according to the actual score made. Those making an average standard score of 35 to 39 with not less than 35 on any one of the tests were classified in ninth grade, those making scores of 40 to 42 in the tenth grade, those making 43 to 45 were placed in the eleventh grade and those making a score of 46 or above were placed in the twelfth grade. Students qualifying for the twelfth grade on the basis of the tests were required to complete four credits in the Institute. The required subjects were as follows: American History, twelfth grade English, one credit in mathematics and one elective subject. If the student had previous credit on any of the required work he was permitted to elect some other subject.[3]

Those classified in eleventh grade were required to complete eight credits: two in English, American History, one in mathematics and four electives. Those classified in tenth grade took three in English, American History, one in mathematics, one in science and six electives. Students placed in ninth grade were required to take four years of English, American History, one in mathematics, one in science, and nine electives. He must have presented in the sixteen

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[3] Ibid.

credits for graduation a three unit sequence and two sequences of two units each. The sequences may have been distributed through the areas of Social Studies, Mathematics, Natural Sciences and Commercial Studies.[4]

Students with special aptitude or need for vocational training were permitted to elect drafting or shop training as an elective subject sequence. Course descriptions of all high school subjects will be found later in this chapter.

Since the high school program was based on individual and accelerated progress, the time required for completion of courses varied according to ability and initiative of the individual. An analysis of this phase of the program will be found in a later chapter.

Trade training courses covered both actual shop experiences and related subjects. The shop experiences were intended to be those found in the trade for which the veterans were being trained. The background, interest, and ability of the student were considered in setting up his vocational training program. Those interested in repair, maintenance and installation of Electrical Appliances were not persuaded to go into the field of Industrial Electronics or to be trained as an operator of an electric transmission station or other phase not within the area of their interest or

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[4] Ibid.

ability. Machine shop students who had the ability to train as operators of machines but not the interest or ability to become tool and die makers were advised to keep within the areas where their interest and ability would permit them to succeed. The following office memorandum was found in the office files:

> Each veteran making application for training in Memphis Veterans Institute will be counseled with to the end that he may be registered for training in an area where he can profit most and be more likely to succeed.[5]

Course descriptions as found in the files of the school are listed on pages immediately following.

School records revealed that automobile mechanics, radio repair and welding was provided for both white and Negro veterans.[6] Brickmasonry, plastering, shoe repair and woodshop were taught to Negroes only.[7] Aircraft and aircraft engine mechanics, machine shop including tool and die making, electricity and photography were taught only to white veterans.[8]

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[5] Ibid.

[6] Ibid.

[7] Ibid.

[8] Ibid.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE

General Education Course Descriptions

CIVICS

A study of how the United States is peopled and governmented. Emphasis is upon national, state and local governments, and finding our place in the world.

SOCIAL STUDIES 1-2 (Ancient and Medieval History)

The steps in man's achievement to the age of steam, including a bird's-eye view of Prehistoric man, the story of the Egyptians, Greeks, Jews, Romans, Chinese, Indians, and Arabs.

SOCIAL STUDIES 3-4 (Modern European History)

A course designed to acquaint the student with developments in Europe from the age of autocracy in England to parliamentary government of today--from absolute monarchy of Louis XIV to the third Republic of France. The unification of Italy and Germany and attempts of countries of Europe and Asia to balance their power.

SOCIAL STUDIES 5-6 (American History)

From the old world to the new. American life from the early Colonial period to the present time. Social, economic and political problems at home and dealing with our world neighbors.

SOCIAL STUDIES 7-8 (Economics)

An introduction to fundamental problems which deal with man's activities in making a living, considering such problems as factors about production, consumption, natural resources, capital and labor, markets and marketing, banking, tariff, business cycles and taxes.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

General Education Course Descriptions

SOCIAL STUDIES 9-10 (Economic Geography)

A study of the products of agriculture, commerce and industry, and the conditions which affect their production, exchange and consumption.

ENGLISH 1-3-5-7 (Grammar)

An intensive study for meaning and ways of expressing meaning including word study, sentence analysis and punctuation. This course is so thorough as to prepare the student for college entrance. Tests are given to determine the starting point for the individual student.

ENGLISH 2 (Literature)

This course presents a sufficient amount of attractive material for an average student--presenting selections of narrative poems, scientific writings, stories of adventure, short stories, drama and a novel.

ENGLISH 4 (Literature)

Selections that are especially fitted for the needs of the pupil and are of permanent worth, are included in this year of study. These consist of modern short stories, narrative poems, lyric poems, stories of achievement, scientific writings, essays, a novel and a play.

ENGLISH 6 (American Literature)

It is the purpose of this course to guide you in a comprehensive study of the greatest literary works of America. You will read the historical and biographical material in American literature following closely the developments of America as a nation. You begin with

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

General Education Course Descriptions

Colonial literature (1607), and continue on into literature of the Revolution, the Civil War, and modern realistic writing covering Folk songs, Ballads, Biographies, Essays, Poetry, Short Stories and one act Plays.

ENGLISH 8 (English Literature)

In studying the beginnings of English Literature it is necessary to consider the historical background of the nation, people and old-English literature. This course takes up this study in the year 55 BC, and continues through to the 1900's, with emphasis on such periods as the Elizabethan, Puritan, Victorian, Classicism, and their contemporaries.

MATHEMATICS 1-2

Orientation, algebraic notation, fundamental operations, the equation, solving problems, deriving formulas, signed numbers, how expressions change in value, addition and subtraction, multiplication and division, equations and problems, special products and factors, equations solved by factoring, fractions, equations containing fractions, ratio and proportion, simultaneous equations, graphical representation, radicals, quadratic equations.

MATHEMATICS 3-4

The fundamental operations, special products and factoring, fractions, first degree equations-one unknown, functional relations-ratio-proportion-variation, first degree equations-two unknowns, square roots-surds-radical equations, quadratic equations-one unknown, imaginary numbers-the theory of quadratic equations, systems of quadratics having two unknowns, exponents-logarithms, series of progressions.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

General Education Course Descriptions

MATHEMATICS 5-6 (Plane Geometry)

Introduction, rectilinear figures, the circle, proportion-measurement-and similar figures, areas of polygons, regular polygons, and measurements of circles.

MATHEMATICS 7 (Solid Geometry)

Lines and planes in space, dihedral and polyhedron angles, prisms and cylinders, pyramids and cones, spheres, general polyhedrons, miscellaneous exercises, summary of principal methods of proof, supplementary topics, brief explanation of logarithms, applications of Trigonometry, tables including square roots and cube roots, mantissas, Trignometric ratios, logarithms of trigonometric ratios, weights and measures, formulas of Plane Geometry, and formulas of Solid Geometry.

MATHEMATICS 8 (Trigonometry)

Trigonometric functions of acute angles, solution of right triangles by means of natural functions, logarithms, solution of right triangles using logarithms, trigonometric functions of any angle, solution of oblique triangles; elementary trigonometric identities, variation of trigonometric functions, graphs, inverse functions and trigonometric equations, De Moivre's Theorem, exponential and hyperbolic functions, miscellaneous work on trigonometric identities, miscellaneous supplementary material, spherical trigonometry, historical sketch.

GENERAL MATHEMATICS

Scale drawing, graphs, percentage, geometry, areas-volumes-formulas, how algebra is used, indirect measurement, and interest.

BUSINESS MATHEMATICS:

See COMMERCIAL COURSE OUTLINES

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

General Education Course Descriptions

SCIENCE 1-2 (General Science)

How the earth is related to other bodies in the universe; how the earth came to be as it is today; what conditions determine our weather and climate; how man supplies food supply; how homes are provided with adequate water supply; how to keep in good physical condition; protection from infectious diseases; selection and care of clothing; securing and controlling the energy of fuels; control of heat for human consumption; construction of buildings; how natural forces are controlled by simple mechanical devices; how the energy of air, water, steam and exploding gas is put to work; how electric currents are obtained and used; how light energy is made to serve man; how energy is used for communications; provision for transportation; references and guide for additional study.

SCIENCE 3-4 (Biology)

Introduction; how living things obtain food; how living things use food; how living things grow; how living things are related to their physical surroundings; how plants and animals live together; how living things are fitted to their surroundings; why living things behave as they do; how living things are classified; how man provides favorable conditions and necessary materials for living things; how are living things improved; how is human life conserved.

SCIENCE 5-6 (Chemistry)

Matter and its changes; Oxygen; Hydrogen, Water, Atoms; Formulas; atmosphere, equations; the mathematics of Chemistry; Chlorine and the Halogen family; Electrons, Protons, and Neutrons; moder alchemy; acids; bases; solutions; ions; ammonia and reversible equations,

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

General Education Course Descriptions

Nitric Acid and other compounds of Nitrogen; the molecule and Avogodro's Hypothesis; Sulfur and Hydrogen Sulfide; Sulfuric Acid; Allotropic Carbon; Carbon Dioxide of Life and decay; Carbon Monoxide and other gaseous fuels; Metals and their relative chemical activity; Aluminum; Iron and Steel; Copper, other Metals and their usage; some fertilizers and salts of Sodium; some common compounds of Calcium; some special compounds of Iron; the chemistry of glass and other silicates; Petroleum and other hydrocarbons; some common organic compounds; foods, vitamins, hormones, and chemotherapy; textiles, paper and dyeing; the colloidal state of matter; some chemical effects of light.

SCIENCE 7-8 (Physics)

Mechanics, heat, light, magnetism and electricity, sound and modern Physics.

TYPEWRITING

Manuscripts, tabulation, letter writing, rough drafts, speed drills, telegrams, payroll work, stencil cutting, mimeographing, billing.

SHORTHAND

Beginners will be taught THOMAS NATURAL SHORTHAND, twelve weeks course for completion of theory. To be taught to students who have not previously studied or used shorthand.

Refresher course gives a review of GREGG MANUAL and then takes up the GREGG SPEED BUILDER.

Dictation class is for students who can take dictation at the rate of 80 or 90 words a minute, and who do not need a theory review. No text used.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

General Education Course Descriptions

BUSINESS ENGLISH

The course is planned to review the fundamentals of English Grammar and to apply these principles to their uses in the business world. Business Placement Tests used on new students to determine whether or not this course is needed.

LETTER WRITING

Emphasis, unity and coherence, effective letter layout, basic letter, job hunting by mail, application letters, data sheets, reports and memorandums. Must have basic training in English Grammar.

SPELLING

Testing. Given in conjunction with English and Letter Writing Course. Purpose to gain accuracy in spelling and enrichment in vocabulary.

OFFICE MACHINES

Calculators, including Comptometers, Monroes, Burroughs, and Marchants; Bookkeeping Machines, including Sundstrand, Burroughs, National and Elliott-Fisher Machines; Transcribing Machines, Billing Machines, Mimeograph Machines, and Adding Machines. A knowledge of the fundamentals of Arithmetic is necessary for the study of the calculating machines. Refresher course in Arithmetic will be given if needed.

BOOKKEEPING AND ACCOUNTING COURSES

Payroll record keeping, business control, filing, executive accounting and the use of office machines.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

General Education Course Descriptions

FILING

Card indexing, alphabetic filing, numerical filing, subject filing, geographic filing, Dewey Decimal filing, triple check automatic filing, Soundex filing.

BUSINESS MATHEMATICS

Fundamental operations, common fractions and billing, decimal fractions and percentage, denominate numbers and practical measurements, interest, bank discounts, insurance, stock and bonds, trade and cash discount, profit and loss, partial payments, installment buying, consignment sales, transportation, overhead and partnership profits, government budgets, pay roll and cash make-up, social security.

Vocational Course Descriptions

AUTOMOBILE MECHANICS

Automobile mechanic training is planned to guide the student in his learning processes, both mental and manipulative, in such a manner and to such an extent that he may successfully enter the trade and succeed after having completed the course. The student is guided through: Safety Instruction, conditioning of hand tools; use of special tools and machines; use of charts, diagrams, manuals and parts books; Shop Practice including: General maintenance work; chasis, engine, and electrical work; accessory installation and maintenance; and review and oral quiz. This course requires 2100 hours to complete. Open to Negro and white veterans.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

Vocational Course Descriptions

AIRCRAFT ENGINE MECHANICS

The training in Aircraft Engine Mechanics is closely inspected by the Civil Aeronautics Administration. Engine mechanics, lubrication, Fuel system, carburation, ignition, batteries, superchargers, propellers, related mathematics, mechanical drawing, Civil Air Regulations, engine checks; weight and balance; and instruments. The student completes 114 hours training before he is permitted to take examination for Engine License. Open only to white veterans.

AIRCRAFT MECHANICS

The following phases are included in this course: Basic aircraft mechanics, related mathematics, wing rib profile, wing rib jig, wing rib splice, aircraft glues, spar splice, wood bending, wing bow jig, plywood patch, fabric work repair, spray painting, suction pressure, lettering, metal work, welding, soldering, sweating, tinning, rigging assembly; weight and balance; hydraulics and hydraulic systems; brakes, instruments, specifications, inspections, Civil Air Regulations. Student must complete 1105 hours of training before he is admitted to examination for Aircraft License. Open only to white veterans.

BRICKMASONRY

Instructions in Brickmasonry covers orientation, related mathematics, preparation of mortar, spreading mortar, placing bricks, the 4" lead, the 4" corner, the 8" lead, the 8" corner, the 4" and 8" wall in line, piers, foundations, staking out, excavation, footing, scaffolding, tile walls, door openings, window openings, arches; chimneys and flues, manholes, barsetting, cesspool and cistern. This course covers a period of 1400 hours and is open only to Negro veterans.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

Vocational Course Descriptions

ELECTRICITY

Students of Electricity begin with fundamentals of electricity and then proceed with one or more of the following: Residential wiring, including farm wiring and appliance servicing; code, practices and coordination; industrial electricity, including lighting systems, power systems, heating systems, station wiring, transmission, distribution, operation of transmission station, motors, generators, switch gear, industrial electronics; and layouts, estimates and contracts. The combined phases of electricity requires 4200 hours to complete. Open only to white veterans.

MACHINE SHOP

Basic machine shop course includes: measuring instruments, bench tools, blueprints, working drawings, the lathe, milling machine, shaper, surface grinder; tool and cutter grinder; miscellaneous work including; the planer, drill press, contour saw, filing machine, heat treating, bench work. Related subjects include: shop safety, measuring instruments; charts, references and files; machine fundamentals and project layout. It requires 1400 hours to complete this course. Open only to white veterans.

TOOL AND DIE MAKING

Basic machine training is prerequisite to Tool and Die making. The following phases of instruction must be included before completing this course: System of Production; dimensioning and gauging; milling machine figs and fixture; turret lathe tooling, automatic cycle lathe tooling, automatic cycle lathe profile tooling, chucking fixture for turning machines, making carbide tools, welding, grinding fixtures, piercing dies, forming dies, blanking dies, sub-press construction, drawing dies, compound dies, progressive dies; broaching

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

Vocational Course Descriptions

and swaging dies; and related mathematics and science. Time required to complete, 2800 hours. White veterans only admitted.

PLASTERING

The student will become familiar with the nomenclature peculiar to his trade. Lectures will be made on the metal and wood lath and on wall board. Lectures will cover plaster materials as listed hereafter: lime, calcimined plaster, sand, hair, sawdust, brick dust, coloring materials and plaster mixtures. The training will include the plastering of walls, ceilings, angles, columns, stove brick and concrete. Theory and manipulative skills will require 700 hours. Class open only to Negro veterans.

RADIO REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE

The shop phase of this course covers soldering, construction of basic projects, use of test equipment; servicing receivers, public address systems, interphone systems and phonographs. The theory phase of the course includes Ohm's Law, production of current, inductance, capacitance, alternating current circuits, resonance, coils, condensers, the vacuum tube, the tube as an amplifier, radio frequency amplifiers, detection, receiving systems, rectifiers, power supply apparatus, review and testing. Open to both white and Negro veterans with 1900 hours allotted for white veterans and 2250 hours allotted for Negro veterans to complete the course.

REFRIGERATION

This course includes theory and actual shop work with refrigerants, compression systems, refrigerant controls, motors, motor controls, servicing of domestic and commercial systems, evaporators, condensers and electrical systems. Open to white veterans only with 2100 hours required for completion.

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

Vocational Course Descriptions

SHOE REPAIR

This course is designed to train not only in the repair of shoes but also to instruct the students in methods of establishing and operating a shoe repair business. The student is taught both hand and machine operations. Graduate students are not only able to repair but have been taught to construct new shoes especially for those with foot deformities. Open to Negroes only. 2100 hours required for completion.

ELECTRIC WELDING

This course covers theory and safety as well as actual practice in the following: striking and holding an arc, flat beads, padding, flat position, vertical position, horizontal position, overhead position and review of all positions. Open to Negro and white veterans. Electric welding requires 1400 hours to complete.

ACETYLENE WELDING

Theory as well as actual practice is stressed in this course. Care and operation of equipment is emphasized. The student will be well practiced in the following: starting and maintaining a puddle; perfecting the uniform beads; flat, vertical, horizontal, and overhead positions; contraction and expansion; brazing or bronze welding, pipe welding and welding of alloys. Classes open to both Negro and white students. This subject requires 1400 hours for completion.

WOODMILL

Use of both hand tools and power machines are

TABLE I

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS - MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
(CONTINUED)

Vocational Course Descriptions
stressed in the woodworking course. The following phases are covered: Freehand sketching and blueprint reading; job planning and procedures; estimating and measurement; sharpening and care of hand tools, joinery; furniture design and construction; wood-finishing, upholstering, repetitive practices and related subjects.

CHAPTER IV

CONTRACTS AND TUITION

Reference has been made in an earlier chapter regarding the training of World War Two veterans by Memphis Vocational School. The Board of Education received no tuition for the school year 1944-45 for the training provided such veterans. The enrollment of veterans continued to increase to such an extent that the Board recognized a financial responsibility which was too great to be placed upon the taxpayers of the City of Memphis and the State of Tennessee.

The State Department of Education had been unable to consummate a contract with the Veterans Administration regulating the training and tuition costs of a state-wide veterans training program. The Memphis Board of Education was interested in providing adequate facilities for the training of veterans. The Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools authorized the Superintendent to propose a contract directly between the Board and the Veterans Administration. Superintendent Ernest C. Ball, as a result of this authority, wrote the Veterans Administration located at Murfreesboro, Tennessee as follows:

> Since we have been advised that the proposed veterans training contract between the State Department of Education and the Veterans Administration was not approved, our situation is such that we must find some help to meet the financial responsibility which

the training of the veterans in Memphis is costing. To that end we are asking for a contract with the Veterans Administration to run from September 1, 1945 through January 31, 1946. The charges which we are proposing represent our best thinking at the present time. Only experience can enable us to correct any mistakes in estimating costs.

We are proposing, therefore, for the first contract courses and cost:

Course	Cost Instruction Expendable Supplies	Tools	Books
General Education	$150.00		
Machine Shop	250.00	$100.00	$20.00
Electricity	324.00	100.00	20.00
Aviation	250.00	100.00	20.00
Refrigeration	270.00	100.00	20.00
Welding	375.00	50.00	20.00
Automobile Mechanics	325.00	100.00	20.00
Radio	275.00	100.00	20.00
Woodmill	300.00	100.00	20.00
Brickmasonry	300.00	75.00	20.00
Photography	350.00	125.00	20.00

The charges set up above are for a regular school year of nine months. The instruction time contemplated is six hours per day, five days per week.

Contract VA20R-vr-120 was approved for the period September 1, 1945 through January 31, 1946 authorizing the tuition, tools and books as set forth above.[1]

Periodic agreements or contracts were entered into between the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools

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[1]Record Files, Memphis Veterans Institute. Contracts between Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools and Veterans Administration, 1945 to 1951.

and the Veterans Administration for the remaining years of operations of Memphis Veterans Institute. Listed in Tables II to VII, inclusive, are the various periods and applicable rates from February 1, 1946 through June 30, 1951.[2]

Contract VA20R-vr-319 which was approved for the fiscal year 1947-48 was renewed for the year 1948-49 with tuition being figured on a monthly basis instead of yearly basis.[3] It will be noted that the only difference in amount of charges when change was made from annual to monthly basis was that of Refrigeration and General Education. Refrigeration was increased by $14.00 per month whereas General Education was reduced by $2.00 per month.

The contract for the period July 1, 1949 to June 30, 1950 was terminated by the Veterans Administration on February 28, 1950 with a request that it would be necessary to figure the actual cost of operating the school for the last six months in 1949. Tuitions beginning March 1, 1950 were to be based on results of the study of actual costs. A study of costs was made by the Director of Vocational Education and the Director of Memphis Veterans Institute. From the results of this study monthly tuitions were established for the period March 1, 1950 to February 28, 1951. Tuition was figured on a monthly basis.[4]

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[2] Ibid.

[3] Ibid.

[4] Ibid.

TABLE II

CHARGES PER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT BY CONTRACT WITH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION FEBRUARY 1, 1946 TO JUNE 30, 1946[a]

Course	Cost Instruction Expendable Supplies	Tools	Books
General Education	$200.00		
Machine Shop	324.00	$100.00	$20.00
Electricity	324.00	100.00	20.00
Aviation	378.00	100.00	20.00
Refrigeration	270.00	100.00	20.00
Welding	378.00	50.00	20.00
Automobile Mechanics	378.00	100.00	20.00
Radio	324.00	100.00	20.00
Woodshop	324.00	100.00	20.00
Brickmasonry	306.00	75.00	20.00
Photography	423.00	125.00	20.00

[a]Contract VA2OR-vr-167.

TABLE III

CHARGES PER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT BY CONTRACT WITH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION JULY 1, 1946 TO JUNE 30, 1947

Course	Cost Instruction Expendable Supplies	Tools	Books
General Education	$198.00		$20.00
Aviation			
1. Engines	378.00	$100.00	20.00
2. Airframe	378.00	100.00	20.00
Electricity	324.00	100.00	20.00
Photography	423.00	125.00	20.00
Radio			
1. Communications	324.00	100.00	20.00
2. Repair and maintenance	324.00	100.00	20.00
Machine Shop	324.00	100.00	20.00
Tool and Die Making	324.00	100.00	20.00
Refrigeration	378.00	100.00	20.00
Welding	378.00	50.00	20.00
Automobile Mechanics	378.00	100.00	20.00
Brickmasonry	306.00	75.00	20.00
Woodshop	324.00	100.00	20.00

[a]Contract VA2OR-vr-241.

TABLE IV

CHARGES PER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT BY CONTRACT WITH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION JULY 1, 1947 TO JUNE 30, 1948[a]

Course	Cost Instruction Expendable Supplies	Tools	Books
General Education	$200.00		$20.00
Machine Shop	324.00	$100.00	20.00
Electricity	324.00	100.00	20.00
Aviation			
1. Engines	378.00	100.00	20.00
2. Airframe	378.00	100.00	20.00
Refrigeration	270.00	100.00	20.00
Welding	378.00	50.00	20.00
Automobile Mechanics	378.00	100.00	20.00
Radio	324.00	100.00	20.00
Woodshop	324.00	100.00	20.00
Brickmasonry	306.00	100.00	20.00
Photography	423.00	100.00	20.00

[a]Contract VA20R-vr-319.

TABLE V

CHARGES PER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT BY CONTRACT WITH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION JULY 1, 1949 TO JUNE 30, 1950[a]

Course	Cost Instruction Expendable Supplies (Monthly)	Tools	Books
Automobile Mechanics	$42.00	$100.00	$20.00
Aviation	42.00	100.00	20.00
Brickmasonry	34.00	75.00	20.00
Electricity	36.00	100.00	20.00
Machine Shop	36.00	100.00	20.00
Refrigeration	42.00	100.00	20.00
Radio and Television	36.00	100.00	20.00
Welding	42.00	100.00	20.00
Woodshop	36.00	100.00	20.00
Plastering	45.78	50.00	20.00
Shoe Repair	42.00	50.00	20.00
General Education	22.00		20.00

[a]Contract V3020V-741.

TABLE VI

CHARGES PER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT BY CONTRACT WITH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MARCH 1, 1950 TO FEBRUARY 28, 1951[a]

Course	Cost Instruction Expendable Supplies	Tools	Books
Automobile	$42.00	$50.00	$20.00
Aviation	36.23	50.00	20.00
Brickmasonry	34.00	25.00	20.00
Electricity	36.00	50.00	20.00
Machine Shop	36.00	50.00	20.00
Refrigeration	41.33	50.00	20.00
Radio and Television	36.00	35.00	20.00
Welding	42.00	50.00	20.00
Woodshop	36.00	50.00	20.00
Plastering	45.78	25.00	20.00
Shoe Repair	37.50	20.00	20.00
General Education	20.00		20.00

[a]Contract V3020V-641.

TABLE VII

CHARGES PER INDIVIDUAL STUDENT BY CONTRACT WITH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MARCH 1, 1951 TO JUNE 30, 1951

Course	Cost Instruction Expendable Supplies	Tools	Books
Automobile Mechanics	$42.00	$50.00	$20.00
Aviation	36.23	50.00	20.00
Brickmasonry	34.00	25.00	20.00
Electricity	36.00	50.00	20.00
Machine Shop	36.00	50.00	20.00
Refrigeration	41.33	50.00	20.00
Radio and Television	36.00	35.00	20.00
Welding	42.00	50.00	20.00
Woodshop	36.00	50.00	20.00
Plastering	45.78	25.00	20.00
Shoe Repair	37.50	20.00	20.00
General Education	20.00		20.00

[a]Contract V3020V-641.

It may be noted in Table VII that the charges per student by contract for the period March 1, 1951 to June 30, 1951 are no different to those charges for the preceding period as shown in Table VI.

CHAPTER V

ENROLLMENT AND ATTENDANCE

Important facts are noted in the study of the enrollment in Memphis Veterans Institute.[1] First it is revealed that the peak of white veteran enrollment was reached early in May 1946. The number at that time was 391 white veterans. The enrollment of Negro veterans at that time was 135, making a total enrollment of 526 white and Negro veterans. This was the peak of the total enrollment. The largest number of Negro veterans was reached in February 1949. There were 201 Negro veterans at that time. There were 202 white veterans enrolled at time of peak of Negro enrollment. The total enrollment in February 1949 was 403.

The largest single group was enrolled in General Education. The peak in General Education enrollment was reached in June 1946 when 201 veterans were enrolled. Table VIII, page 40, entitled "Enrollment by Classes in Memphis Veterans Institute for the Scholastic Year 1945-1946," reveals that 526 was the peak of the total enrollment and that this peak was reached in May 1946. It also discloses that General Education was the largest single group and that its peak of 201 was attained in June 1946. Table XI, page 47, entitled

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[1]Record Files, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945-1951.

TABLE VIII

ENROLLMENT BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

Classes	Sept. 1945	Oct. 1945	Nov. 1945	Dec. 1945	Jan. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946	Apr. 1946	May 1946	June 1946	July 1946	Aug. 1946
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	9	12	3	4	5	14	15	35	34	25	25	25
Electricity	12	23	20	20	29	39	40	42	52	48	52	53
General Education	17	41	50	58	104	157	172	193	189	201	191	142
Machine Shop						13	17	12	9	13	14	12
Photography			1	1	4	18	17	19	18	13	14	13
Radio	21	34	20	25	37	42	38	48	52	42	53	43
Refrigeration	25	26	23	24	27	30	30	28	26	22	24	19
Welding	6	6	3	3	5	12	14	10	11	12	14	10
Sub Total	90	142	120	135	211	325	343	387	391	376	387	317
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	22	28	30	30	31	51	50	49	48	46	49	49
Brickmasonry	5	6	8	14	19	18	13	11	14	12	12	10
Radio	23	24	26	23	36	29	28	29	32	30	30	28
Welding	11	10	9	10	18	23	22	19	20	19	18	21
Woodshop	5	5	8	13	23	25	22	22	21	23	22	23
Sub Total	66	73	81	90	127	146	135	130	135	130	131	131
Grand Total	156	215	201	225	338	471	478	517	526	506	518	448

"Enrollment by Classes in Memphis Veterans Institute for the Year 1948-1949" verifies the statement that the largest enrollment of Negro veterans, 201, was reached in February 1949. Table XI also reveals that the largest number of Negro veterans training in any one field was reached in April 1949 when 66 veterans were enrolled in Automobile Mechanics. This was the largest enrollment of any section, either white or Negro, with the exception of General Education. A study of each veteran's individual record revealed that 36 states, Alaska and Cuba were represented in the student body.[2] Memphis Veterans Institute conducted no paid advertising as did many private institutions. The question may arise as to how the veterans of the various states had knowledge of Memphis Veterans Institute as a training center for veterans. The personnel records of the students revealed little information on this subject. Correspondence was found in the files of the Institute from various state sub-regional offices of the Veterans Administration requesting lists of subjects included in the school's curriculum.[3] Copies of letters in reply from the school indicated that the information had been provided. Some veterans had been referred to Memphis Veterans Institute as a result of this correspondence. Letters from individuals

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[2]Student Personnel Records, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945-1951.

[3]Correspondence Files, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945-1951.

had been received requesting information relative to specific courses.[4] Copies of letters were found indicating compliance with these requests. Many veterans making such inquiry later entered for training.

Some veterans indicated that former students of the school had advised them of opportunities for training at Memphis Veterans Institute.[5] One student from Alaska had enrolled as a result of information furnished by relatives who were residents of Memphis. Two students from Cuba had come to Memphis as a result of private school advertising and correspondence. They, after investigating training facilities in Memphis, enrolled in Memphis Veterans Institute.[6]

Figure 3, page 43, entitled "Total Average Monthly Enrollment by Years in Memphis Veterans Institute" indicates a sharp increase in enrollment of white veterans during the first two years of the school's operation. There was a sharp decline in white veteran enrollment during the year 1947 to 1948. The decline according to Figure 3, was somewhat retarded from 1948 to 1950 when the decline was again accelerated until the close of the school in 1951. It is further noted in Figure 3, that the number of white veterans was greater than

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[4] Ibid.

[5] Ibid.

[6] Ibid.

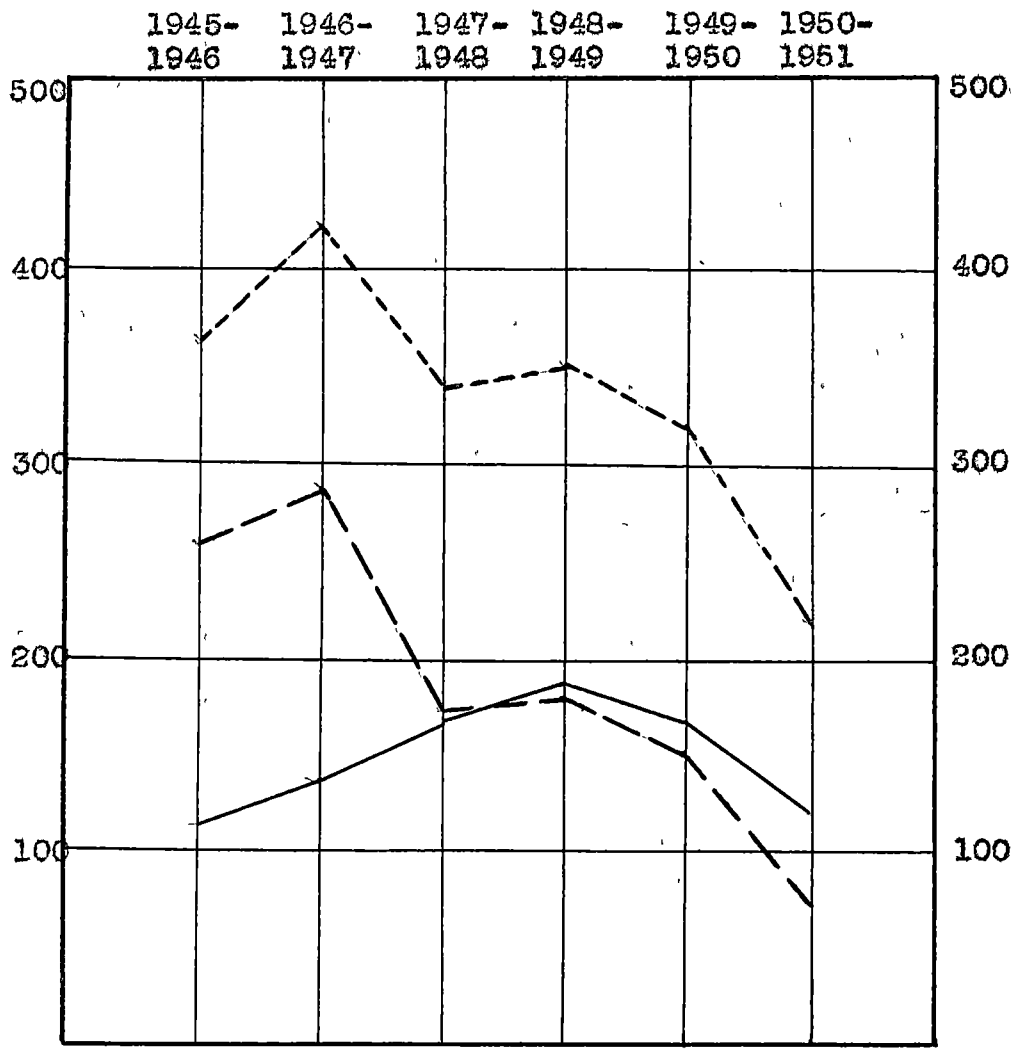


Figure 3. Total average monthly enrollment by years in Memphis Veterans Institute.

that of Negro veterans for the period 1945 through 1947 at which time the decline in number of white students began.

A gradual increase in enrollment of Negroes for the period 1945 to 1949 is indicated in Figure 3. A gradual decline is noted from this point to the close of the school in June 1951. Tables VIII, XIX, X, XI, XII, and XIII, pages 40, and 45 to 49, as well as Figure 3, page 43, reveal that more white veterans were on roll during the years 1945 to 1948 but that more Negro veterans were enrolled from 1948 to June 1951, when the Institute was closed. It is further indicated that there is a contrast in nature of enrollment of Negro and white veterans. Figure 3 shows a sharp increase and decline in number of white students during the first three years and a sharp decline in the last two years of the school's history. The same figure shows a gradual increase of Negro veterans during the first four years and a gradual decline in enrollment during the last two years in which the school operated.

The total number of individual veterans registered was 2619 of which 1543 were white and 1076 were Negro. Six of the 1543 white veterans were female. They were enrolled in General Education. Females were in such a minority that no breakdown has been made in the tables.

Tables XIV through XIX, pages 50 through 55, and Figure 4, page 56, show the average monthly attendance by classes in Memphis Veterans Institute. According to the tables

TABLE IX

ENROLLMENT BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1946-47

Classes	Sept. 1946	Oct. 1946	Nov. 1946	Dec. 1946	Jan. 1947	Feb. 1947	Mar. 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1947	June 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1947
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	28	27	30	24	23	27	22	17	13	10	9	8
Automobile Mechanics	-	3	15	15	14	14	13	13	13	14	13	13
Electricity	55	57	60	59	56	53	53	54	52	48	47	45
General Education	155	170	164	141	138	135	126	117	87	92	79	73
Machine Shop	13	12	11	15	11	16	17	18	19	18	15	13
Photography	16	15	19	19	18	17	16	16	10	10	8	8
Radio	48	47	43	37	41	51	52	53	45	38	31	29
Refrigeration	18	15	18	18	17	20	18	13	17	18	21	21
Welding	10	12	7	8	12	11	11	11	11	11	13	10
Sub Total	341	358	367	336	330	344	328	312	267	259	236	220
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	49	47	49	53	52	48	47	47	58	58	59	61
Brickmasonry	7	7	8	15	18	19	18	17	22	26	25	25
Radio	27	28	27	26	26	20	20	20	36	31	33	32
Welding	19	19	16	16	12	20	19	17	18	14	21	25
Woodshop	22	23	25	23	26	26	25	24	24	22	23	23
Sub Total	124	124	125	133	134	133	129	125	158	151	161	166
Grand Total	465	482	492	469	464	477	457	437	425	410	397	386

TABLE X

ENROLLMENT BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1947-48

Classes	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1947	Dec. 1947	Jan. 1948	Feb. 1948	Mar. 1948	Apr. 1948	May 1948	June 1948	July 1948	Aug. 1948
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	11	14	17	17	16	13	9	9	10	9	10	5
Automobile Mechanics	12	13	13	14	13	16	14	14	14	12	9	11
Electricity	43	39	35	36	34	35	36	38	40	40	41	40
General Education	74	69	78	77	82	79	71	66	61	56	53	46
Machine Shop	15	15	13	9	8	11	8	8	10	11	9	12
Photography	6	4	6	4	7	8	4	5	5	5	5	5
Radio	28	34	34	31	32	35	32	33	33	35	37	38
Refrigeration	17	18	21	23	24	23	23	19	16	18	16	18
Welding	12	10	10	10	11	11	11	12	12	9	13	8
Sub Total	218	216	227	221	227	231	208	204	199	195	193	183
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	61	53	51	53	55	58	59	64	53	51	52	57
Brickmasonry	24	23	23	22	22	18	20	25	18	15	18	20
Radio	32	32	31	30	30	34	35	37	37	30	30	21
Shoe Repair	16	16	20	17	19	21	20	18	18	22	23	22
Plastering						10	15	15	14	16	16	10
Welding	27	24	24	22	19	16	18	18	19	18	16	16
Woodshop	26	23	22	22	23	21	22	22	23	20	23	23
Sub Total	186	171	173	166	168	178	189	199	182	172	177	169
Grand Total	404	387	400	387	395	409	397	403	381	367	370	352

TABLE XI

ENROLLMENT BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1948-49

Classes	Sept. 1948	Oct. 1948	Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948	Jan. 1949	Feb. 1949	Mar. 1949	Apr. 1949	May 1949	June 1949	July 1949	Aug. 1949
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	11	2	8	9	8	8	8	7	7	5	10	12
Automobile Mechanics	10	10	13	14	16	14	16	14	14	12	14	15
Electricity	40	39	40	40	40	40	39	34	36	32	35	35
General Education	36	35	40	38	39	40	42	37	35	38	28	25
Machine Shop	10	11	14	13	14	15	12	10	8	8	7	7
Photography	5	5	5	4	4	Class closed 1/9/49						
Radio	30	30	32	27	36	46	44	46	47	42	45	42
Refrigeration	16	16	17	14	16	23	23	22	19	19	22	18
Welding	17	11	18	17	17	16	19	13	11	15	10	11
Sub Total	175	159	187	176	190	202	203	183	177	171	171	165
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	64	65	65	57	64	61	60	66	60	49	58	56
Brickmasonry	23	24	23	23	25	26	27	19	20	16	20	14
Radio	25	26	25	17	20	27	27	33	34	24	25	25
Shoe Repair	21	22	21	20	21	20	20	23	21	20	23	21
Plastering	12	16	18	17	17	17	16	13	14	6	3	5
Welding	16	15	16	22	23	28	18	19	17	18	17	15
Woodshop	26	25	22	23	23	22	20	27	26	23	25	24
Sub Total	187	193	190	179	193	201	188	200	192	156	171	160
Grand Total	362	352	377	355	383	403	391	383	369	327	342	325

TABLE XII

ENROLLMENT BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1949-50

Classes	Sept. 1949	Oct. 1949	Nov. 1949	Dec. 1949	Jan. 1950	Feb. 1950	Mar. 1950	Apr. 1950	May 1950	June 1950	July 1950	Aug. 1950
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	15	15	12	15	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3
Automobile Mechanics	17	17	15	16	15	13	13	11	11	10	11	8
Electricity	35	37	35	47	45	45	45	44	44	44	44	44
General Education	25	30	25	29	26	25	25	18	18	18	18	17
Machine Shop	9	8	7	8	9	9	9	9	10	14	14	14
Radio	39	37	42	38	40	42	42	42	35	33	31	30
Refrigeration	18	18	18	18	16	16	15	14	13	11	8	8
Welding	12	11	11	12	12	13	13	13	13	13	12	12
Sub Total	170	173	165	183	167	167	166	155	148	147	138	136
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	54	53	56	55	51	51	51	51	50	49	46	44
Brickmasonry	26	25	24	25	25	24	23	24	24	25	20	20
Radio	33	35	25	34	35	35	28	26	22	20	20	18
Shoe Repair	24	22	21	19	20	20	19	18	18	19	15	13
Plastering	9	6	5	9	14	14	14	18	21	23	24	17
Welding	15	15	15	14	16	16	16	16	17	17	17	17
Woodshop	26	26	24	26	24	24	24	17	20	23	22	24
Sub Total	187	182	170	182	185	184	175	170	172	176	164	153
Grand Total	357	355	335	365	352	351	341	325	320	323	302	289

TABLE XIII

ENROLLMENT BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1950-51

Classes	Sept. 1950	Oct. 1950	Nov. 1950	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1951	Feb. 1951	Mar. 1951	Apr. 1951	May 1951	June 1951
WHITE VETERANS										
Aviation	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3
Automobile Mechanics	9	9	7	7	6	6	5	5	5	4
Electricity	39	39	35	34	20	20	19	19	19	19
General Education	14	11	9	9	9	7	6	6	6	6
Machine Shop	14	14	14	14	14	10	10	9	9	8
Radio	30	25	21	21	19	15	15	15	14	14
Refrigeration	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3
Welding	11	12	12	12	12	7	6	6	6	6
Sub Total	125	118	106	105	88	73	69	67	65	63
NEGRO VETERANS										
Automobile Mechanics	44	43	40	39	21	18	18	18	17	17
Brickmasonry	20	21	26	23	21	19	19	18	17	16
Radio	28	31	25	20	17	16	15	15	14	13
Shoe Repair	23	23	23	23	18	17	15	15	14	13
Plastering	18	17	17	16	8	8	8	7	6	6
Welding	18	18	18	18	13	11	11	11	10	10
Woodshop	23	23	24	23	24	22	20	20	19	16
Sub Total	174	176	173	162	122	111	106	104	97	91
Grand Total	299	294	279	267	210	184	175	171	162	154

TABLE XIV

ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

Classes	Sept. 1945	Oct. 1945	Nov. 1945	Dec. 1945	Jan. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946	Apr. 1946	May 1946	June 1946	July 1946	Aug. 1946
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	8	11	3	4	4	12	15	33	33	25	24	22
Electricity	10	15	20	20	27	34	41	38	45	46	50	52
General Education	16	39	49	55	95	142	155	181	171	184	175	136
Machine Shop						12	15	10	8	12	13	11
Photography				1	1	4	17	18	16	13	14	12
Radio	21	29	20	24	36	39	37	46	47	39	45	39
Refrigeration	22	24	22	22	26	28	29	27	24	20	23	18
Welding	5	4	3	3	5	12	12	9	10	12	12	10
Sub Total	82	122	117	129	194	283	321	362	354	351	356	300
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	21	25	28	26	28	48	46	47	43	44	37	44
Brickmasonry	5	5	6	10	14	13	11	11	13	12	11	8
Radio	20	20	22	28	29	23	21	24	27	28	25	26
Welding	10	9	9	8	18	21	18	21	19	17	19	19
Woodshop	5	5	6	10	18	13	19	19	21	21	21	22
Sub Total	51	64	71	82	107	118	115	122	123	122	113	119
Grand Total	133	186	188	211	301	401	436	484	477	473	469	419

TABLE XV

ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1946-47

Classes	Sept. 1946	Oct. 1946	Nov. 1946	Dec. 1946	Jan. 1947	Feb. 1947	Mar. 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1947	June 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1947
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	25	24	28	23	22	25	21	16	13	10	8	8
Automobile Mechanics		3	15	14	14	13	12	12	13	13	12	12
Electricity	51	51	53	52	52	51	50	50	49	46	46	44
General Education	149	163	162	135	124	121	115	110	80	83	74	69
Machine Shop	13	11	10	14	11	15	16	16	17	17	14	12
Photography	15	14	18	19	17	16	15	16	9	10	8	7
Radio	47	43	42	36	39	48	51	51	43	35	29	26
Refrigeration	16	14	17	16	16	19	17	12	16	16	20	20
Welding	9	11	6	8	11	10	10	9	10	10	12	10
Sub Total	325	334	351	317	306	318	307	292	250	240	223	208
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	48	43	44	47	47	45	42	46	53	55	54	56
Brickmasonry	6	6	7	13	17	17	16	16	20	23	22	21
Radio	24	25	24	23	25	16	17	17	33	28	27	28
Welding	18	17	14	13	11	19	16	16	16	12	20	23
Woodshop	22	23	24	23	24	23	24	23	23	21	22	22
Sub Total	118	114	113	119	124	120	115	118	145	139	145	150
Grand Total	443	448	464	436	430	438	422	410	395	379	368	358

TABLE XVI

ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1947-48

Classes	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1947	Dec. 1947	Jan. 1948	Feb. 1948	Mar. 1948	Apr. 1948	May 1948	June 1948	July 1948	Aug. 1948
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	11	13	16	16	14	12	8	8	8	8	8	4
Automobile Mechanics	11	12	12	13	12	15	13	13	13	11	8	10
Electricity	41	36	33	34	32	34	35	36	38	39	38	38
General Education	77	66	69	72	76	73	65	61	54	50	51	41
Machine Shop	14	15	12	8	8	10	7	7	9	10	9	12
Photography	5	4	6	4	6	8	4	5	5	5	5	5
Radio	27	33	33	29	31	33	29	31	29	33	34	35
Refrigeration	15	17	20	22	23	21	22	18	15	17	15	17
Welding	11	10	9	9	10	10	10	11	11	9	12	7
Sub Total	206	206	210	207	212	216	193	190	182	182	180	169
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	59	49	47	49	50	56	54	61	50	49	51	55
Brickmasonry	19	19	18	18	16	15	17	17	14	13	13	15
Radio	29	28	28	26	27	31	32	33	33	27	27	19
Shoe Repair	15	12	17	16	17	18	18	17	17	21	20	21
Plastering						9	13	12	10	20	20	19
Welding	25	23	22	21	16	15	17	17	18	17	14	15
Woodshop	24	21	20	19	20	20	21	22	22	18	21	22
Sub Total	171	152	152	149	146	164	172	179	164	165	166	166
Grand Total	377	358	362	356	358	380	365	369	346	347	346	335

TABLE XVII

ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1948-49

Classes	Sept. 1948	Oct. 1948	Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948	Jan. 1949	Feb. 1949	Mar. 1949	Apr. 1949	May 1949	June 1949	July 1949	Aug. 1949
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	10	2	7	7	7	7	7	6	7	4	8	12
Automobile Mechanics	9	9	13	13	15	13	15	13	13	11	13	14
Electricity	37	36	37	37	37	36	37	33	34	29	33	33
General Education	33	32	35	35	35	36	39	35	33	36	27	23
Machine Shop	8	10	13	12	13	14	11	9	8	7	8	7
Photography	5	5	5	4	4	Closed						
Radio	28	28	31	25	33	41	42	43	44	40	43	39
Refrigeration	15	15	16	14	15	22	21	21	18	18	21	17
Welding	16	10	17	16	16	15	18	12	10	14	9	11
Sub Total	161	147	174	163	175	184	190	172	167	159	162	156
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	61	62	60	52	60	57	56	61	54	46	52	54
Brickmasonry	18	20	20	20	21	22	22	14	16	12	18	13
Radio	22	24	22	12	18	22	24	30	27	22	22	25
Plastering	19	20	19	19	18	15	17	19	17	18	23	19
Welding	15	14	15	21	20	26	17	18	16	16	15	14
Woodshop	25	25	21	22	21	20	19	25	24	22	23	22
Shoe Repair	19	21	20	19	20	18	19	22	20	19	22	21
Sub Total	179	186	197	165	178	180	174	189	174	155	175	168
Grand Total	340	333	351	328	353	364	364	364	361	314	337	324

TABLE XVIII

ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1949-50

Classes	Sept. 1949	Oct. 1949	Nov. 1949	Dec. 1949	Jan. 1950	Feb. 1950	Mar. 1950	Apr. 1950	May 1950	June 1950	July 1950	Aug. 1950
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	15	14	11	14	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3
Automobile Mechanics	16	16	14	15	14	13	12	10	11	8	10	7
Electricity	34	35	34	44	41	42	42	40	40	41	42	40
General Education	24	29	24	27	24	23	23	16	17	17	17	15
Machine Shop	9	8	7	7	8	8	8	8	10	13	13	13
Radio	35	36	41	37	38	40	39	40	33	31	29	28
Refrigeration	18	17	17	17	15	15	14	13	12	9	7	7
Welding	11	10	10	11	9	12	12	12	12	12	11	11
Sub Total	162	165	158	172	153	158	154	143	139	134	132	124
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	50	49	52	50	48	47	46	48	47	46	44	41
Brickmasonry	24	24	23	24	22	21	21	22	22	22	19	18
Radio	30	31	24	31	34	32	25	24	20	18	16	16
Shoe Repair	23	21	19	17	19	18	17	17	17	17	14	12
Plastering	8	6	5	9	13	13	13	16	19	21	22	16
Welding	14	14	14	13	15	14	15	15	16	16	16	16
Woodshop	24	24	23	25	22	23	23	16	19	21	20	23
Sub Total	173	169	160	169	173	168	160	158	160	161	151	142
Grand Total	335	334	318	341	326	326	314	301	299	295	283	266

TABLE XIX

ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE
FOR THE YEAR 1950-51

Classes	Sept. 1950	Oct. 1950	Nov. 1950	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1951	Feb. 1951	Mar. 1951	Apr. 1951	May 1951	June 1951
WHITE VETERANS										
Aviation	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3	3	3
Automobile Mechanics	9	9	7	7	6	6	5	5	5	4
Electricity	37	35	33	32	19	19	19	19	19	19
General Education	13	11	9	9	9	6	6	6	6	6
Machine Shop	14	13	13	13	13	9	9	9	9	7
Radio	29	23	20	20	19	15	14	15	13	14
Refrigeration	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	3	3
Welding	10	12	12	12	11	7	6	6	6	6
Sub Total	120	111	102	101	85	70	66	67	64	62
NEGRO VETERANS										
Automobile Mechanics	42	42	38	36	20	17	17	17	16	16
Brickmasonry	19	20	25	22	18	18	17	17	14	16
Plastering	16	16	15	16	8	8	7	7	6	6
Radio	33	28	24	18	16	15	13	15	14	12
Shoe Repair	22	22	22	22	18	16	15	15	14	13
Welding	17	17	16	17	12	10	10	11	10	10
Woodshop	22	21	22	21	23	22	19	19	18	14
Sub Total	171	166	162	152	115	106	98	101	92	87
Grand Total	291	277	264	253	200	176	164	168	156	149

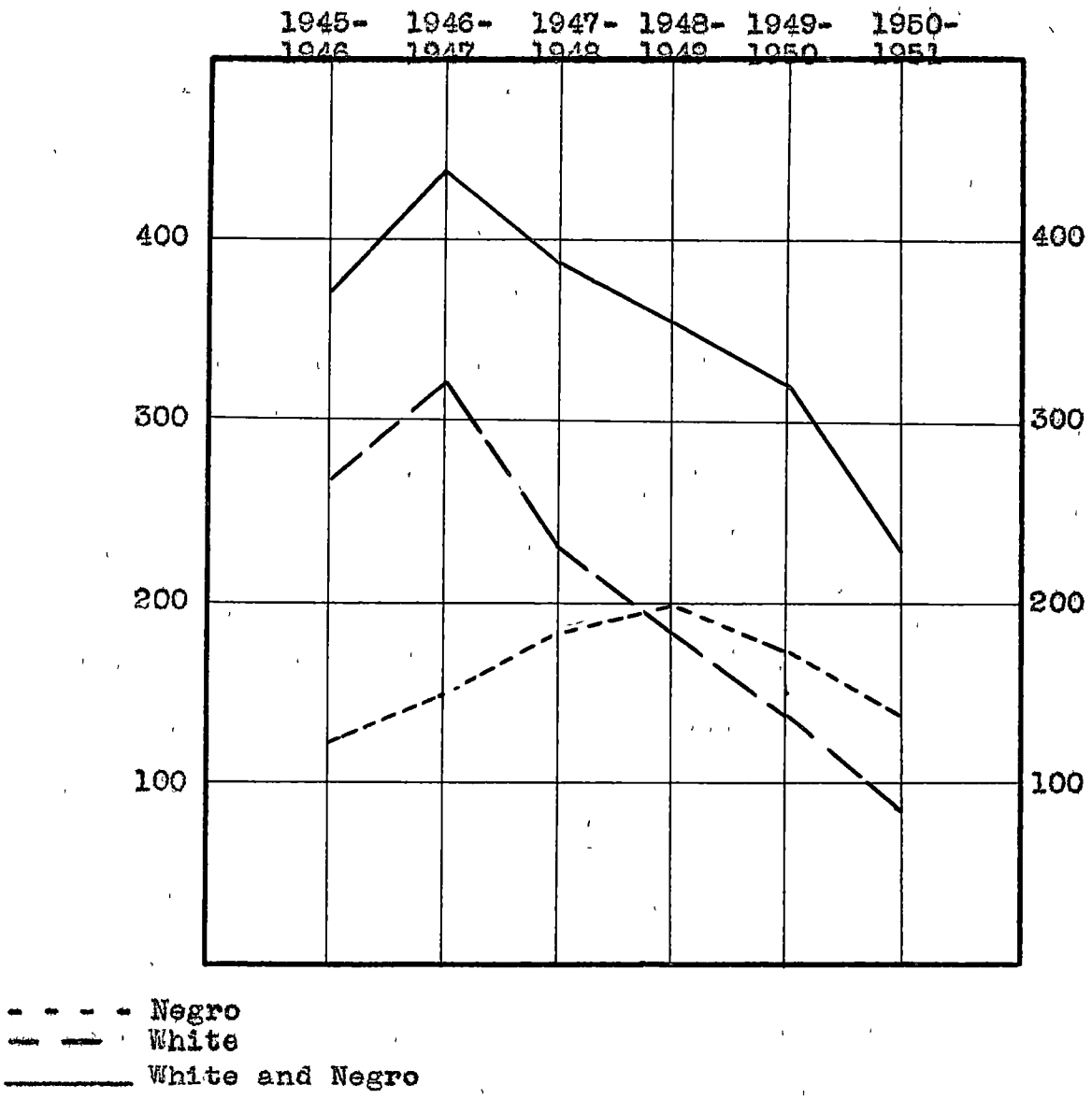


Figure 4. Average monthly attendance by years in Memphis Veterans Institute.

the largest daily average attendance for whites was April 1946 when 362 veterans were in average attendance. General Education was the largest group with 181. For the same month 122 Negroes were in average daily attendance. This same month was the greatest grand total with 484 white and Negro veterans in average daily attendance. November 1948 had the highest average daily attendance of Negroes. According to Table XVII there were 186 Negroes in average daily attendance. White veterans in average daily attendance during this same month numbered 174.

Veterans were dropped from the rolls after three consecutive absences during the period 1945 to August 1948 in accordance with school regulations. From September 1948 to close of the school veterans were dropped from roll for any three absences during a calendar month. In either case subsistence was discontinued until the veteran was re-admitted. From April 1949 to June 1951 a veteran who was dropped from roll was not permitted to return for 30 days unless his absences were of such nature that they may have been excused.[7]

Veterans were suspended for one to three weeks for excessive absences, reporting to school under the influence of intoxicants or similar offences against school regulations.[8]

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[7]Veterans Administration Directive, April 1949.

[8]Record Files, Regulation, Memphis Veterans Institute.

Second offenders were permanently dismissed. Twenty-six students were suspended for unsatisfactory attendance. Six students were suspended for use of intoxicants. Five were permanently dismissed for excessive absences and three for use of intoxicants. Seventeen students voluntarily withdrew after conferences with the director and instructors of the school regarding lack of interest and unsatisfactory progress in field of study.[9]

Figure 5, page 59, depicts the percent of attendance. It is noted that the percent of attendance was greater the second year than the first. There is indicated a decline in percent of attendance for both white and Negro from the second year to the third and a further decrease in the attendance of whites for the fourth year. The percent of attendance for Negroes increased for the year 1948-49 and improved for each year thereafter according to Figure 5. The percent of white attendance did not improve until the year 1949-50. This improvement continued to improve until the school was discontinued in June 1951. Figure 5 reveals that the percent of Negro attendance was consistently lower than that of whites for the entire history of Memphis Veterans Institute with the exception of 1948-49 when the average of both white and Negro was 90 percent.

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[9]Personnel Records, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945 to 1951.

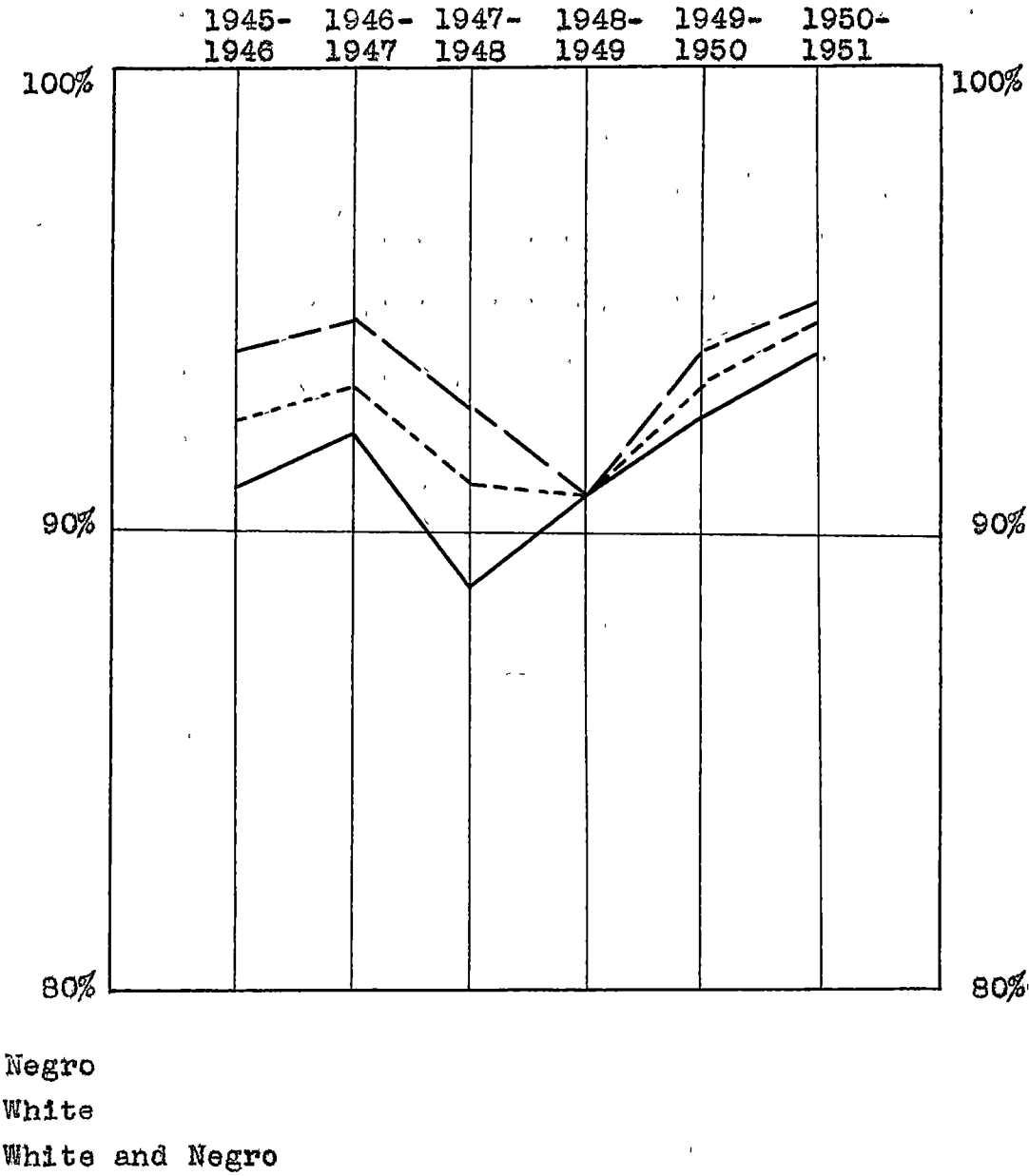


Figure 5. Average monthly percent of attendance by white and Negro for the years 1945-1946 to 1950-1951 inclusive.

The year in which the percent of attendance began to increase, that is, 1948-49, coincides with the date when regulations regarding absences were changed. Prior to 1948-49 veterans were removed from rolls on three consecutive absences. Subsequent to that date a student was interrupted because of any three unexcused absences within a calendar month.

Tables XX through XXV, pages 61 through 66, reflect the percent of attendance by classes and by months for the entire period of the school history. Figure 5, page 59, entitled "Average Monthly Percent of Attendance by White and Negro," depicts the trend of attendance of white and Negro combined. The tables referred to above reflect in more detail than Figure 5. Tables XX through XXV each represent a period of one year; Figure 5 covers a period of six years.

Table XXVI, page 67, reveals salient facts relative to differences in trend of white and Negro enrollment during the six years of operation. It is noted with little exception, that after the scholastic year 1946-47, the enrollment of white veterans gradually declined. It is further noted in the same table that the enrollment of Negro veterans remained comparatively stable throughout the training program. Nothing in the table indicates a reason for this difference. The study of the individual records of the student personnel revealed one possible reason for the difference.[10] Only 23 out

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[10]Student Personnel Records, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945-1951.

TABLE XX

PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEAR 1945-46

Classes	Sept. 1945	Oct. 1945	Nov. 1945	Dec. 1945	Jan. 1946	Feb. 1946	Mar. 1946	Apr. 1946	May 1946	June 1946	July 1946	Aug. 1946
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	83	90	98	95	88	95	94	97	98	99	98	98
Electricity	90	92	87	88	97	91	97	93	94	96	96	98
General Education	95	96	98	95	91	91	90	94	91	92	92	96
Machine Shop						90	90	85	86	94	90	88
Photography				100	96	96	96	98	88	99	98	97
Radio	99	93	99	98	98	93	98	96	92	93	88	91
Refrigeration	90	93	95	90	97	93	97	97	93	89	95	93
Welding	88	80	97	98	97	95	86	84	93	96	94	96
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	96	88	92	85	90	95	91	96	90	96	91	90
Brickmasonry	80	86	87	73	94	93	85	92	92	89	92	83
Radio	90	89	87	85	96	80	80	80	90	90	80	90
Welding	95	93	87	83	89	95	82	95	90	84	95	94
Woodshop	100	100	97	97	91	91	95	95	96	95	95	96

TABLE XXI

PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEAR 1946-47

Classes	Sept. 1946	Oct. 1946	Nov. 1946	Dec. 1946	Jan. 1947	Feb. 1947	Mar. 1947	Apr. 1947	May 1947	June 1947	July 1947	Aug. 1947
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	90	88	95	98	97	93	94	96	99	98	97	98
Automobile Mechanics		100	98	95	97	94	92	95	99	91	94	96
Electricity	92	90	88	88	92	96	95	93	95	96	97	97
General Education	96	96	99	96	90	90	91	94	92	90	94	95
Machine Shop	97	95	91	95	96	94	92	88	89	95	93	90
Photography	96	94	96	100	97	96	95	99	90	97	98	96
Radio	98	94	98	97	96	95	98	97	96	92	94	89
Refrigeration	91	92	96	91	95	94	95	96	94	91	95	94
Welding	88	82	96	99	96	96	88	85	94	95	94	97
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	97	91	90	88	91	94	90	97	91	95	92	91
Brickmasonry	84	87	89	85	92	91	88	93	91	90	90	85
Radio	90	90	88	87	95	82	85	83	91	89	83	88
Welding	95	92	88	84	90	94	85	95	90	86	93	92
Woodshop	100	100	96	98	92	90	95	95	95	96	94	95

TABLE XXII

PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEAR 1947-48

Classes	Sept. 1947	Oct. 1947	Nov. 1947	Dec. 1947	Jan. 1948	Feb. 1948	Mar. 1948	Apr. 1948	May 1948	June 1948	July 1948	Aug. 1948
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	98	91	93	93	85	93	90	91	83	84	83	80
Automobile Mechanics	95	96	93	94	93	95	93	94	90	93	91	93
Electricity	96	93	94	95	94	97	97	94	95	97	93	94
General Education	96	95	95	94	93	93	92	92	88	89	87	90
Machine Shop	95	96	89	93	93	92	89	84	94	92	95	98
Photography	90	90	93	92	87	96	98	99	95	96	99	98
Radio	95	98	96	94	96	95	92	93	89	94	93	92
Refrigeration	91	97	96	97	96	90	97	93	94	95	95	96
Welding	90	98	92	86	92	92	95	94	94	97	97	90
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	96	92	92	93	90	96	91	95	94	97	98	97
Brickmasonry	80	82	80	84	75	82	86	70	80	85	70	75
Radio	90	87	91	86	90	90	91	90	90	90	90	90
Shoe Repair	94	75	85	95	92	85	89	92	92	95	89	96
Plastering						92	88	80	70	93	86	85
Welding	92	95	93	96	86	96	96	97	96	96	90	93
Woodshop	92	91	91	88	89	94	97	96	97	90	93	95

TABLE XXIII

PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEAR 1948-49

Classes	Sept. 1948	Oct. 1948	Nov. 1948	Dec. 1948	Jan. 1949	Feb. 1949	Mar. 1949	Apr. 1949	May 1949	June 1949	July 1949	Aug. 1949
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	89	96	89	80	85	91	87	90	93	81	85	98
Automobile Mechanics	91	95	98	92	92	94	96	95	92	92	96	92
Electricity	93	92	93	94	92	90	94	96	95	91	95	94
General Education	92	91	88	92	90	91	93	94	94	96	96	94
Machine Shop	89	90	92	96	91	92	94	86	99	92	97	95
Photography	98	95	92	98	100	Closed January 1949						
Radio	92	93	96	94	93	90	95	94	93	95	95	93
Refrigeration	95	91	95	98	95	94	93	95	94	95	95	95
Welding	96	93	92	93	97	95	95	93	90	93	92	97
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	96	95	92	92	93	94	94	92	90	94	89	96
Brickmasonry	80	85	87	86	85	93	82	75	80	75	90	92
Radio	90	91	90	70	90	80	90	91	80	90	90	100
Shoe Repair	92	95	96	95	93	90	96	94	94	95	96	98
Plastering	94	92	91	89	85	73	85	85	80	90	98	90
Welding	94	90	96	95	87	94	95	96	93	91	91	94
Woodshop	98	99	94	96	91	92	95	93	94	95	93	93

TABLE XXIV

PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEAR 1949-50

Classes	Sept. 1949	Oct. 1949	Nov. 1949	Dec. 1949	Jan. 1950	Feb. 1950	Mar. 1950	Apr. 1950	May 1950	June 1950	July 1950	Aug. 1950
WHITE VETERANS												
Aviation	99	94	95	93	92	90	89	91	90	76	100	100
Automobile Mechanics	96	96	94	95	95	99	94	94	98	84	92	89
Electricity	98	95	96	94	92	93	94	92	90	93	95	92
General Education	96	98	96	94	91	94	93	91	94	93	92	91
Machine Shop	100	96	94	88	91	88	93	90	97	95	92	91
Radio	90	96	97	97	95	96	94	95	94	95	95	93
Refrigeration	98	96	96	95	94	96	95	95	95	84	89	93
Welding	95	94	94	91	90	93	96	96	92	93	91	90
NEGRO VETERANS												
Automobile Mechanics	92	93	92	91	94	93	91	94	94	93	95	94
Brickmasonry	92	95	95	95	90	88	90	93	90	90	94	90
Plastering	94	92	94	95	94	91	90	91	91	90	92	93
Radio	90	90	98	92	96	91	90	92	90	89	80	90
Shoe Repair	95	94	92	90	96	90	92	96	96	90	95	93
Welding	93	91	93	91	93	90	93	93	94	95	92	93
Woodshop	93	94	94	95	91	97	95	96	96	91	92	96

TABLE XXV

PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY CLASSES IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEAR 1950-51

Classes	Sept. 1950	Oct. 1950	Nov. 1950	Dec. 1950	Jan. 1951	Feb. 1951	Mar. 1951	Apr. 1951	May 1951	June 1951
WHITE VETERANS										
Aviation	84	93	94	93	100	99	100	100	100	100
Automobile Mechanics	95	96	95	94	95	97	96	98	98	91
Electricity	94	90	95	94	93	94	98	98	97	99
General Education	95	97	96	99	97	96	97	100	97	99
Machine Shop	97	96	94	95	96	91	92	97	100	91
Radio	97	93	96	94	98	97	96	99	95	98
Refrigeration	90	94	97	95	94	96	98	98	100	100
Welding	95	96	96	95	94	96	99	99	94	95
NEGRO VETERANS										
Automobile Mechanics	95	97	94	93	96	95	94	97	97	95
Brickmasonry	95	96	95	95	94	93	87	96	85	98
Plastering	90	92	90	97	97	95	94	99	100	Closed
Radio	91	90	95	91	96	95	90	99	98	95
Shoe Repair	94	96	93	97	98	97	97	99	97	99
Welding	92	93	91	95	94	88	93	98	97	99
Woodshop	95	92	93	91	94	99	97	95	96	90

TABLE XXVI

AVERAGE MONTHLY ENROLLMENT BY YEARS IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEARS 1945-51

Classes	1945-1946	1946-1947	1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950	1950-1951
WHITE VETERANS						
Aviation	17	20	12	8	7	4
Automobile Mechanics		12	12	13	13	6
Electricity	36	48	38	37	42	26
General Education	126	123	68	36	23	8
Machine Shop	13	15	11	11	10	10
Photography	12	14	5	5		
Radio	38	43	33	39	38	19
Refrigeration	25	18	20	19	14	4
Welding	9	11	10	15	12	7
NEGRO VETERANS						
Automobile Mechanics	39	52	56	60	51	27
Brickmasonry	12	17	21	22	23	20
Plastering			14	13	14	11
Radio	28	27	32	26	28	19
Shoe Repair			19	21	19	18
Welding	17	18	20	19	16	14
Woodshop	18	24	24	24	24	21

of 1543 white veterans registered for a second course after completing the first. The same study disclosed that 209 Negro veterans out of 1076 enrolled in/or completed two or more courses. This practice indicates a possible reason for the difference in enrollment trend of white and Negro students. Enrollment of new students subsequent to November 1, 1950 was discontinued.[12] Prior announcement of the discontinuance of enrollment resulted in no change in enrollment of white students. Considerable interest was indicated by Negroes by an increase in registrations immediately prior to November 1, 1950.

Tables XXVII and XXVIII, pages 69 and 70, show at a glance the average monthly attendance by years and the average monthly percent of attendance by years. Table XXIX gives the average monthly percent of attendance by years and by races. It is noted that the percent of attendance by white students was consistently greater than that of Negroes with the exception of the scholastic year 1948-49 when the percent of attendance by each race was 90.

An inventory of enrollment records at Memphis Veterans Institute revealed data as recorded in Table XXX, page 72.[13] Computation of students and teachers, white and Negro, in

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[12]Record Files, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1950-51.

[13]Enrollment Records, Memphis Veterans Institute for scholastic years 1945-1946 through 1950-1951.

TABLE XXVII

AVERAGE MONTHLY ATTENDANCE BY YEARS IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEARS 1945-51

Classes	1945-1946	1946-1947	1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950	1950-1951
WHITE VETERANS						
Aviation	16	19	10	7	7	4
Automobile Mechanics		12	12	13	12	6
Electricity	33	50	36	35	40	25
General Education	116	115	63	33	21	8
Machine Shop	11	14	10	10	9	11
Photography	11	14	5	5		
Radio	35	36	31	36	36	18
Refrigeration	24	17	18	18	13	4
Welding	8	10	10	14	11	9
NEGRO VETERANS						
Automobile Mechanics	36	48	52	56	47	26
Brickmasonry	10	15	16	18	22	19
Radio	24	24	28	22	25	19
Shoe Repair			17	20	18	18
Plastering			15	19	17	10
Welding	19	16	18	22	15	13
Woodshop	15	23	21	22	22	20

TABLE XXVIII

AVERAGE MONTHLY PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY YEARS IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE FOR THE YEARS 1945-51

Classes	1945-1946	1946-1947	1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950	1950-1951
WHITE VETERANS						
Aviation	94	95	83	89	92	96
Automobile Mechanics		95	93	94	94	95
Electricity	93	93	95	93	94	95
General Education	93	94	92	93	94	97
Machine Shop	89	93	92	93	93	95
Photography	96	96	94	97		
Radio	95	95	94	93	95	96
Refrigeration	93	94	95	94	94	96
Welding	92	93	93	94	93	96
NEGRO VETERANS						
Automobile Mechanics	92	92	94	93	93	95
Brickmasonry	87	89	95	83	92	93
Radio	86	88	90	88	91	94
Shoe Repair			90	94	93	96
Plastering			85	87	91	95
Welding	90	90	94	93	93	94
Woodshop	96	95	93	94	94	94

TABLE XXIX

AVERAGE MONTHLY PERCENT OF ATTENDANCE BY YEARS IN MEMPHIS VETERANS INSTITUTE BY RACES

Groups	1945-1946	1946-1947	1947-1948	1948-1949	1949-1950	1950-1951
White	93	94	92	90	93	95
Negro	90	91	89	90	92	94
White and Negro Combined	91.5	92.5	90.5	90	92.5	94.5

TABLE XXX

STUDENT-TEACHER RATIOS

Subject	Largest Enrollment of Students by Subject	Number of Teachers
WHITE VETERANS		
Aviation	35	2
Automobile Mechanics	17	1
Electricity	60	3
General Education	201	9
Machine Shop	19	1
Photography	19	1
Radio	53	3
Refrigeration	30	1
Welding	18	1
NEGRO VETERANS		
Automobile Mechanics	66	4
Brickmasonry	27	1
Plastering	27	1
Radio	37	2
Shoe Repair	24	1
Welding	28	1
Woodshop	27	1

Table XXX revealed the student-teacher ratio to be 15.3. Using the same data in Table XXX, but white and Negro ratios separately it was found that the Negro student-teacher ratio was 21.1 while that of white students was 12.3. Table XXX further indicates that some classes, at their peak of enrollment had a much greater number of students than indicated in the total student-teacher ratio. Refrigeration, a class of white students, had 30 students with one teacher. Brick-masonry, welding and woodshop, classes of Negro students had 27, 28 and 27 respectively with one teacher for each class. Further study of the enrollment records of these classes revealed that in each case any enrollment in these classes in excess of 25 was for a period of less than one month.

CHAPTER VI

STUDENT OBJECTIVES

The objectives of Memphis Veterans Institute have been discussed in an earlier chapter. The writer now comes to the problem of what proportion of those veterans enrolled in the various courses actually reached the objective for which they enrolled. It has been related in a preceding chapter that those registered for General Education had high school graduation as an objective and those in trade classes expected to prepare themselves for employment.

The study of the personnel file on each of the 2619 veterans revealed important facts regarding the previous scholastic training of the veterans. The 484 veterans enrolled in General Education had completed grades previously ranging from the sixth to the eleventh grade. Of the 1059 white veterans in trade classes 592 had advanced beyond the eighth grade. Of the remaining 467 white veterans 353 had completed the eighth grade and 114 had completed grades below the eighth. It was further noted that 287 of those who had advanced beyond the eighth grade were high school graduates.

The personnel file inventory of the Negro veterans indicated 69 high school graduates, 197 had quit school while in one of the high school grades, 686 had finished only the eighth grade and 125 had completed less than the eighth grade.

Table XXXI, page 76, entitled "Recapitulation of Classes Showing Total Individual Registrations, Percent of Totals, Length of Courses, Number Completed, and Percent Completed," denotes some interesting statistics. Of the 1543 white veterans registered 1273 or 82.5 percent completed the objective for which they registered. The same table reveals that of the 1076 Negroes registered, 816 or 75.8 percent completed.

The lists below are of classes with the percent of those completing objective indicated: The percents are arranged in descending order.

Class	Race	Percent
Welding	Negro	87
General Education	white	86
Plastering	Negro	86
Aviation	white	85
Photography	white	84
Radio	white	84
Automobile Mechanics	white	82
Refrigeration	white	81
Radio	Negro	81
Woodshop	Negro	80
Electricity	white	77
Welding	white	77
Brickmasonry	Negro	74
Automobile Mechanics	Negro	72
Machine Shop	white	71
Shoe Repair	Negro	67

A review of the termination reports on the 2619 students to determine the number who failed to complete their objective disclosed that 270 white and 260 Negro students discontinued

TABLE XXXI

RECAPITULATION OF CLASSES SHOWING TOTAL INDIVIDUAL REGISTRATIONS, PERCENT OF TOTALS, LENGTH OF COURSES, NUMBER COMPLETED, NUMBER NOT COMPLETED, AND PERCENT COMPLETED

Classes	Total Individual Registration	Percent of Total	Length of Courses in Months	Number Completed	Number Not Completed	Percent Completed
WHITE VETERANS						
Aviation	85	5.5	24	73	12	85
Automobile Mechanics	75	4.8	18	62	13	82
Electricity	293	19.0	36	227	66	77
General Education	484	31.4	36	421	63	86
Machine Shop	86	5.6	24	61	25	71
Photography	51	3.3	18	43	8	84
Radio	259	16.8	24	219	40	84
Refrigeration	126	8.2	18	102	24	81
Welding	84	5.4	24	65	19	77
Sub Total	1543	100%		1273	270	82.5
NEGRO VETERANS						
Automobile Mechanics	334	31	18	241	93	72
Brickmasonry	129	12	12	96	33	74
Radio	75	7	24	61	14	81
Shoe Repair	172	16	18	109	63	67
Plastering	86	8	6	74	12	86
Welding	130	12	24	114	16	87
Woodshop	150	14	24	121	29	80
Sub Total	1076	100%		816	260	75.8
Grand Total	2619	100%		2089	530	79.1

training prior to completion.[1] Causes for drop-outs were found to fall in seven categories: unsatisfactory progress, obtained employment, dismissed for infraction of school regulations, financial difficulties, sickness, change of objective and no reason indicated. Seven white and ten Negro students were removed from training because of unsatisfactory progress in subjects. Ninety-nine white and 154 Negroes obtained employment in field or related field for which they were being trained. Five white and four Negro students were dismissed from further training by the school for infraction of school regulation. Sixty white and 54 Negro students discontinued their training because of financial difficulties. Fourteen white and 12 Negroes failed to complete objective due to illness. Twelve whites and one Negro student changed objective, and 74 white and 114 Negro students indicated no reason for interrupting their training. Of the 530 veterans who discontinued training, 342 indicated specific reasons for so doing. A major percent of the 188 who failed to indicate a reason may have had one or more of the causes, as indicated, by the 342 students, if they had so indicated. It is further noted that the 530 who did not achieve their objective represent 20.9 percent of the total enrollment. Although no attempt was made to compare completions and

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[1]Student Personnel Records, Memphis Veterans Institute, 1945-51.

drop-outs with other similar institutions, the above record indicates that the holding power of Memphis Veterans Institute was good.

The completion reports in the students' individual files revealed valuable information regarding employment of individuals after they had completed objective.[2] Unfortunately information on many of the students was not complete in that employment information was not available. An attempt was made to determine the number of students who obtained employment in the various fields for which they had been trained. It was found, of the 1273 white veterans completing out of an enrollment of 1543, that 514 secured employment in the field for which trained. Seventy found employment in related areas, 15 became employees of insurance companies, 48 established business of their own, 209 entered college, 13 became law enforcement officers and 42 returned to military service. Information as to employment of 362 white veterans was not available in the records. Of the 816 Negroes completing out of 1076 enrolled, 439 found employment in areas for which trained. Thirty-four were employed in related fields, 31 established own business and 19 returned to military service. Information regarding 293 Negro veterans was not available.

Table XXXI, page 76, shows the length of time required to complete the various courses. Attendance for the full

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[2] Ibid.

time indicated was required in all classes with the exception of General Education. Thirty-six months were allowed for a student to complete 16 credits. Time allowed for any number of credits less than 16 was prorated. Policies established by the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools regarding classification of high school students in the Veterans Program was discussed in Chapter III. It was further indicated in the same chapter that the academic program was operated on an individual and accelerated basis. The student was permitted to progress with as much speed as his ability and initiative would permit.

Salient facts are revealed in the computation of average number of hours of classroom work necessary for completion of credit pursued under the individual and accelerated program. It was found that of 158 students classified in twelfth grade on the basis of the General Educational Development Tests, 18 of the students completed four credits in an average of 67 hours per credit. Fifty-seven of the 158 students completed four credits in an average of 72 hours per credit. Eighty-three out of the 158 completed four credits in an average of 90 hours per credit. Of 245 students classified in the eleventh grade on basis of same test, 115 completed eight credits in an average of 120 hours, 120 completed eight credits in an average of 135 hours per credit and 10 students completed eight credits in an average of 162 hours per credit. Of 18

students classified in tenth grade on the basis of the tests, 12 completed 12 credits in an average of 175 hours and six required an average of 192 hours per credit in order to complete the 12 credits.

A review of the records of the 63 high school students who did not complete their objective revealed that two students classified in the tenth grade and one in the eleventh grade were dismissed due to unsatisfactory progress. Of the remaining 60 who did not graduate the average time computed was based on the amount of work completed and the time required. Thirty-one of the 60 students were classified in the tenth grade and average hours required was computed to be 205 hours per credit. Eighteen were classified in the eleventh grade and time established to be an average of 194 hours per credit. The remaining 11 students were classified in twelfth grade; time required was an average of 180 hours per credit.

It was further noted that End of the Course Tests were not prepared by the teacher. All students were required to satisfactorily pass a Standardized test on each subject before credit was granted.

CHAPTER VII

THE INSTRUCTIONAL STAFF

Teachers employed in Memphis Veterans Institute were specialists in their fields. Those in the General Education or High School program held either Bachelor's or Bachelor's and Master's degrees with majors in the areas taught. The academic teachers had an average of fifteen years experience in teaching. Of the four male instructors in the academic field all had seen military service during World War Two. One had attained the rank of Lieutenant Colonel, one the rank of Major and the other two the rank of Captain. These instructors taught either mathematics or science or both. They held certificates covering subjects taught and were teachers with several years experience. Their most recent teaching experience had been with the Memphis school system. The five women teachers of academic subjects in the program were transferred from various high schools of the Memphis system. Of the five women, two taught English, one taught Social Studies and two taught Commercial Subjects.[1]

There were thirteen Vocational teachers in the white division of the training program. Six of these teachers had been employed by the Board of Education of the Memphis City

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[1]Record Files, Memphis Veterans Institute.

Schools in the War Production Training Program from 1941 to 1945. All had come directly from industry when employed by the Board. Eleven vocational teachers were employed in the Negro Division of Memphis Veterans Institute. One of the eleven, a white man, was employed to teach welding to Negroes due to the fact that a Negro welding instructor was not available. Six of the eleven men who taught in the Negro Division were transferred from Negro schools in the city system. The other four Negroes were secured from industry. The white teacher of welding for Negroes had been employed in the same capacity during the War Production Training Program. He, previously, had been employed in industry.[2] Seventeen of the 23 white teachers in the Veterans Training Program remained in the teaching profession after Memphis Veterans Institute had been discontinued. They were transferred to other schools in the city system. Two of the men, teaching academic subjects, were promoted to Junior High School principals. One lady, the teacher of social studies was promoted to principal of an elementary school. The two other men teachers in academic subjects returned to college, later obtained their Doctor's degree and now one is a college professor and the other in personnel work with industry. Seven

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[2] Ibid.

of the ten Negro teachers were retained by the Memphis school system by transfer to other schools.[3]

Of the total of 33 teachers in both white and Negro Divisions of the school, nine whites and three Negroes held degrees when employed at the Institute. Of the remaining 21 teachers, seven whites and four Negroes had previous college training. The need for specific teacher training for those teaching vocational subjects was recognized even early in the War Production Training Program. The Division of Vocational Education of the Department of Education of the State of Tennessee recognized a continued need for training of Vocational teachers during the training program of veterans in special training centers throughout the state. The Division of Vocational Education of the State Department of Education set up minimum requirements for teachers of Vocational subjects. Each Vocational teacher was expected to earn a total of 27 quarter hours of Industrial Education within five years after employment with not less than three quarter hours each year.[4]

This presented a problem for Vocational teachers in Memphis due to the fact that training in approved courses in Industrial Education was not available at Memphis State

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[3]Memphis Board of Education, Personnel Records.

[4]W. A. Seeley, Directive to Vocational Teachers, 1945.

College or Southwestern College, the only two colleges in the city. Professor Clyde H. Wilson, Department Head of Industrial Education of the University of Tennessee was instrumental in the organization of special classes in Industrial Education through the Extension Division of the University for those who needed the training in the Memphis area. Teacher Trainers approved by the State Division of Vocational Education, served as instructors in Memphis as classes were organized.[5]

Although it is not the policy of the Board of Education to quote salaries of teachers, it can be stated that the salary schedule of teachers at Memphis Veterans Institute conformed to that of teachers in the regular high schools of the Memphis system with similar duties.

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[5]Clyde H. Wilson, "Annual Report Teacher Training in Trade and Industrial Education, for Year Ended June 30, 1946."

CHAPTER VIII

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The foregoing study was made in an effort to determine the effectiveness of a training program such as that conducted for veterans by the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools during the period September 1945 through June 1951. Records verify the fact that the Board of Education of the Memphis City Schools was farsighted in planning for the training of returning servicemen. In the Introduction and in Chapter I frequent reference is made to action of the Board of Education and to authority granted the Superintendent of Memphis Schools to make available training facilities if needed and as needed for the returning veterans. The plans of the Board were not misdirected as evidenced by the record of 2619 returned veterans who registered for training.

The Board of Education of Memphis employed teachers who were well qualified to instruct in the training program at Memphis Veterans Institute. The holding power of Memphis Veterans Institute is indicated by the 2072 trainees or 79.1 percent of the total registered who completed. It was further noted that 99 out of 270 white trainees, who discontinued training before completion, found employment in the area for which they had trained. It was further revealed that 154 Negro trainees out of 260 who failed to complete found

employment in the area for which they had been trained. The study also disclosed that of 1273 white students completing, 584 found employment in the area or a related area for which they had been trained, 48 established businesses of their own, 209 went to college and 42 returned to military service. The employment of Negroes as indicated in Chapter VI was as successful as that of white veterans.

The training programs of such institutions as Memphis Veterans Institute have not only helped individuals to become skilled workmen and good citizens but have also provided the United States with a backlog of skilled and semi-skilled workmen for any future emergency.

An analysis of the time required to complete academic subjects when pursued on an individual and accelerated basis indicates that our present requirement of nine months or approximately 180 hours in the regular high schools might be questioned. Experience in the academic program at Memphis Veterans Institute as shown in Chapter VI, indicates that if students are permitted to apply themselves without the restraint of group progress, their performance will be greater.

Of 421 who graduated from high school at Memphis Veterans Institute only six students required more than an average of 175 hours per credit. The achievement of high school students as related in Chapter VI indicates that a

similar program should be considered in a regular high school.

Progress of the 63 students who did not graduate was slow as compared to that of the graduates. It may be assumed that those not graduating and who required more than 180 hours to complete credit would have been among those making lower grades in a regular high school program.

In summarizing the findings in the foregoing study it may be concluded that:

1. Training for veterans was provided when needed.
2. Training was provided for whom intended.
3. Training was such as to prepare trainee for objective for which trained.
4. Large geographic area represented by student body is indicative of the high regard for quality of training at Memphis Veterans Institute, an institution which did not advertise.
5. The large percent of completions is indicative of the holding power of the school, which may be attributed at least partially to good instruction.
6. Record of employability of those leaving the school was good as evidenced by records.
7. Training as could be justified, was provided for both white and Negro races.

8. Individual progress of students is possible and desirable.

9. Student with superior ability should not be limited to the progress of a group.

In view of the foregoing conclusions it is recommended that plans be considered for experimentation of an individual and accelerated program for a select group of students including both academic and vocational training.

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