

The need for an elementary school building had been apparent within a few years after the opening of the school. Mr. F. G. Blair, the first supervisor of the training department (to December 1906), urged the need for such a building before he left Charleston to become State Superintendent of Public Instruction. With Pemberton Hall in operation in January 1909, Mr. Lord turned his attention to the Model School situation. On February 16, 1909 Senator Pemberton introduced a bill calling for an appropriation of \$99,500 in addition to the regular appropriation for operating expenses. Of this, \$75,000 was for a building for the Model School and for the teaching of domestic science.⁵⁹ This 1909 bill, lacking House Committee approval,⁶⁰ did not reach a vote. The Model School Building was more fortunate than Pemberton Hall, however, for only two years rather than four were required to secure its appropriation. On January 31, 1911, in the Senate and on February 1 in the House, companion bills were introduced calling for a special appropriation of \$125,000 for a building for the Model School.⁶¹ The increased sum included a gymnasium to be attached to the building, as well as facilities for teaching the manual arts and domestic science.

On March 3, 1911, a sub-committee of the House Appropriations Committee visited the school "to investigate the merits" of the Model School bill. The report of the committee complimented the school on "the splendid work being done and the results accomplished." The visiting legislators believed that the school was "one of the best of its kind in Illinois," and recommended the passage of the bill.⁶² Despite this favorable recommendation, Mr. Lord was concerned about the outcome of the special appropriation. On April 10, 1911, he expressed his concern to Senator Pemberton, as follows:

As I read in the papers of the economies the Legislature feels obliged to exercise, I am getting very anxious about our building. We are the only one of the five Normal Schools who have no place for the Manual or Domestic arts. Now, whatever may be thought about the advisability of teaching cooking, sewing, and other things of that class, the demand is upon us and must be met. Unless we get our new building, we will be thought by many to occupy an inferior position with regard to the other schools. This school has the respect of the people—educational people and others—and we wish to maintain it and to have it increase.

We have had recitations in the reception room for a number of years and now are embarrassed for the lack of recitation room. Before Mr. Blair left us he talked of the needs of a model school building, and this \$125,000 we are asking is, as you know, for a building for the housing of the Model School, for manual arts, and there is also to be a gym-

⁵⁹A companion bill was introduced in the House by Representative Carl S. Burgett of Newman on the same date. Copies of the bills in Lord Letterbooks, No. 37.

⁶⁰Letter Carl S. Burgett to L. C. Lord, March 24, 1909, Lord Letterbooks, No. 14.

⁶¹The Senate bill was introduced by Senator Dalley and the House Bill by Representative D. B. Miller. Copies of bills in Lord Letterbooks, No. 37.

⁶²Copy of committee report in Lord Letterbooks, No. 6.