



**Domestic Science class in basement of the Administration Building  
(now known as East Hall); 1900's.**

**1903**

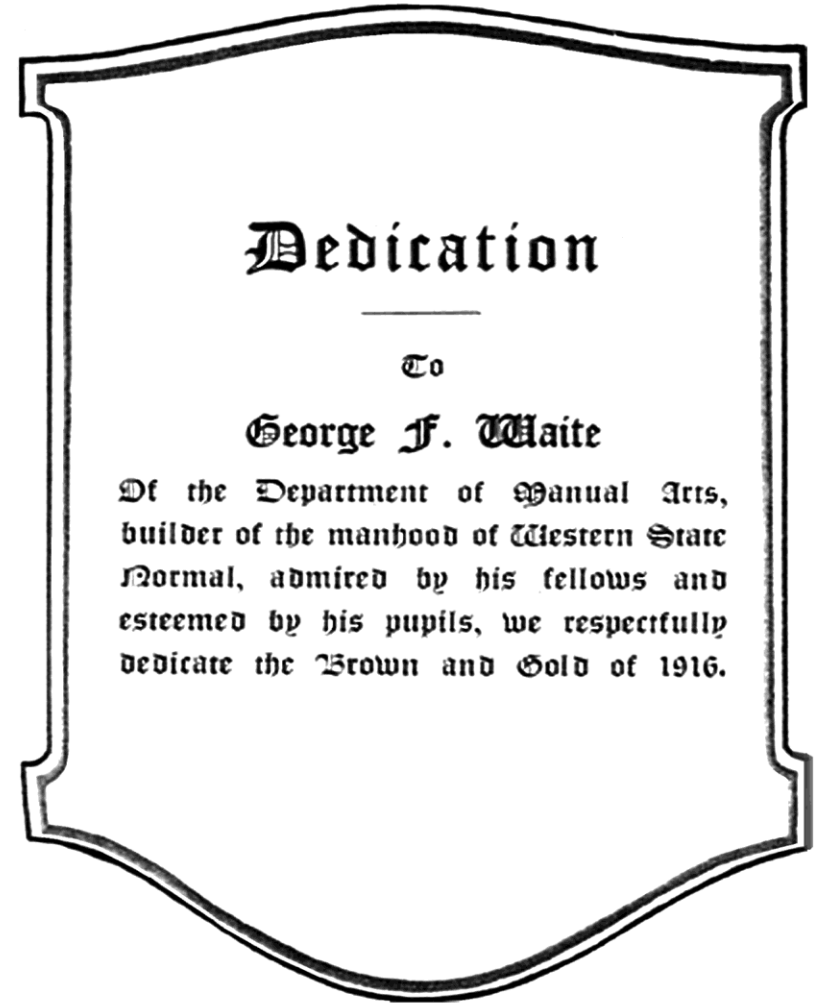
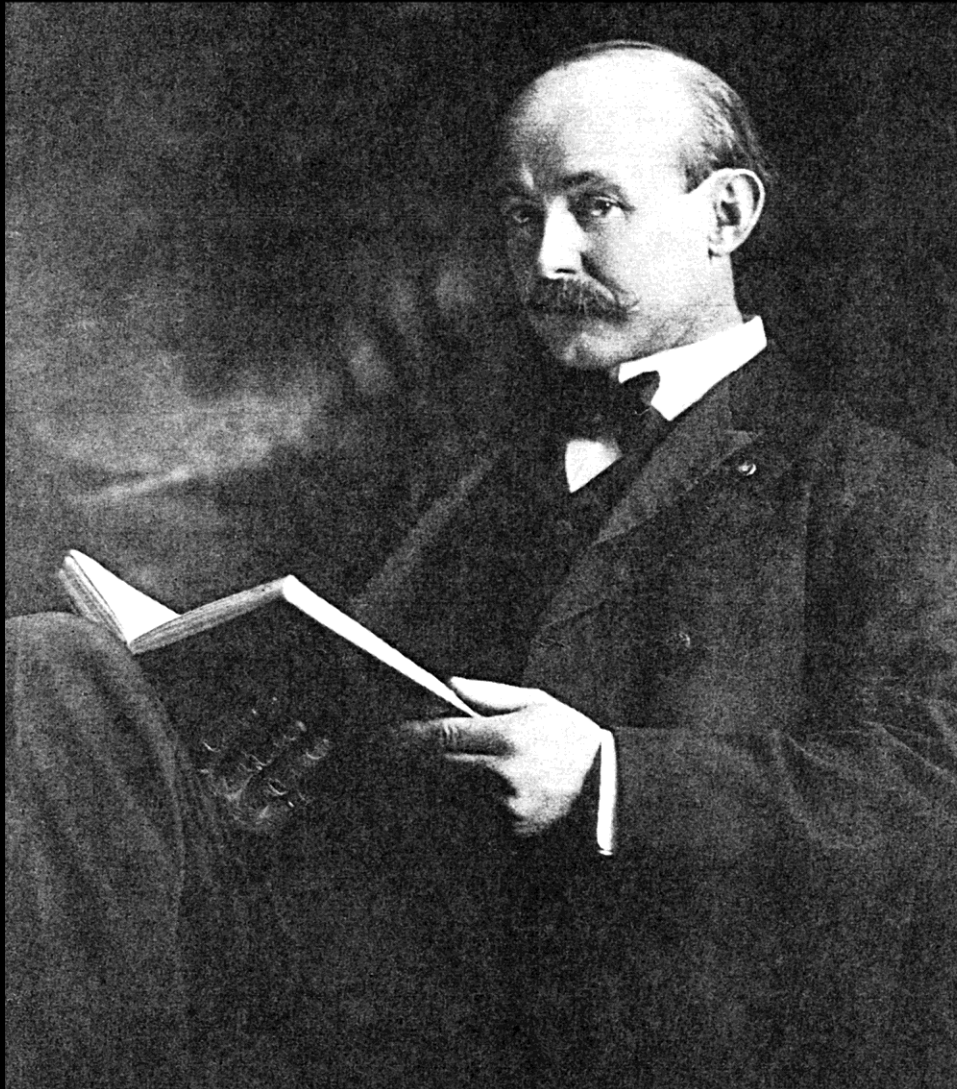
**State of Michigan grants charter to  
Western State Normal School**

**On May 27, 1902, Governor Aaron T. Bliss  
signed the Michigan Legislature bill  
authorizing Michigan's fourth Normal School.**

**The location of the new school was awarded to  
Kalamazoo, Michigan, in a vote by the State  
Board of Education on August 28, 1903. The  
original tract of land on which the  
Western State Normal School was built was  
donated by the City of Kalamazoo. It  
consisted of 20 acres on Prospect Hill,  
overlooking the city and accessible either  
by walking up from Davis Street on the east  
or via Asylum Road (now Oakland Drive)  
on the west.**

**A 1905 bulletin listed typical living  
expenses per term:**

<b>Board, room, fuel and lights .....</b>	<b>\$42.00</b>
<b>Books .....</b>	<b>5.00</b>
<b>Tuition .....</b>	<b>3.00</b>



**George S. Waite served as the first Director of Manual Training at Western State Normal School, from 1904 to 1917.**

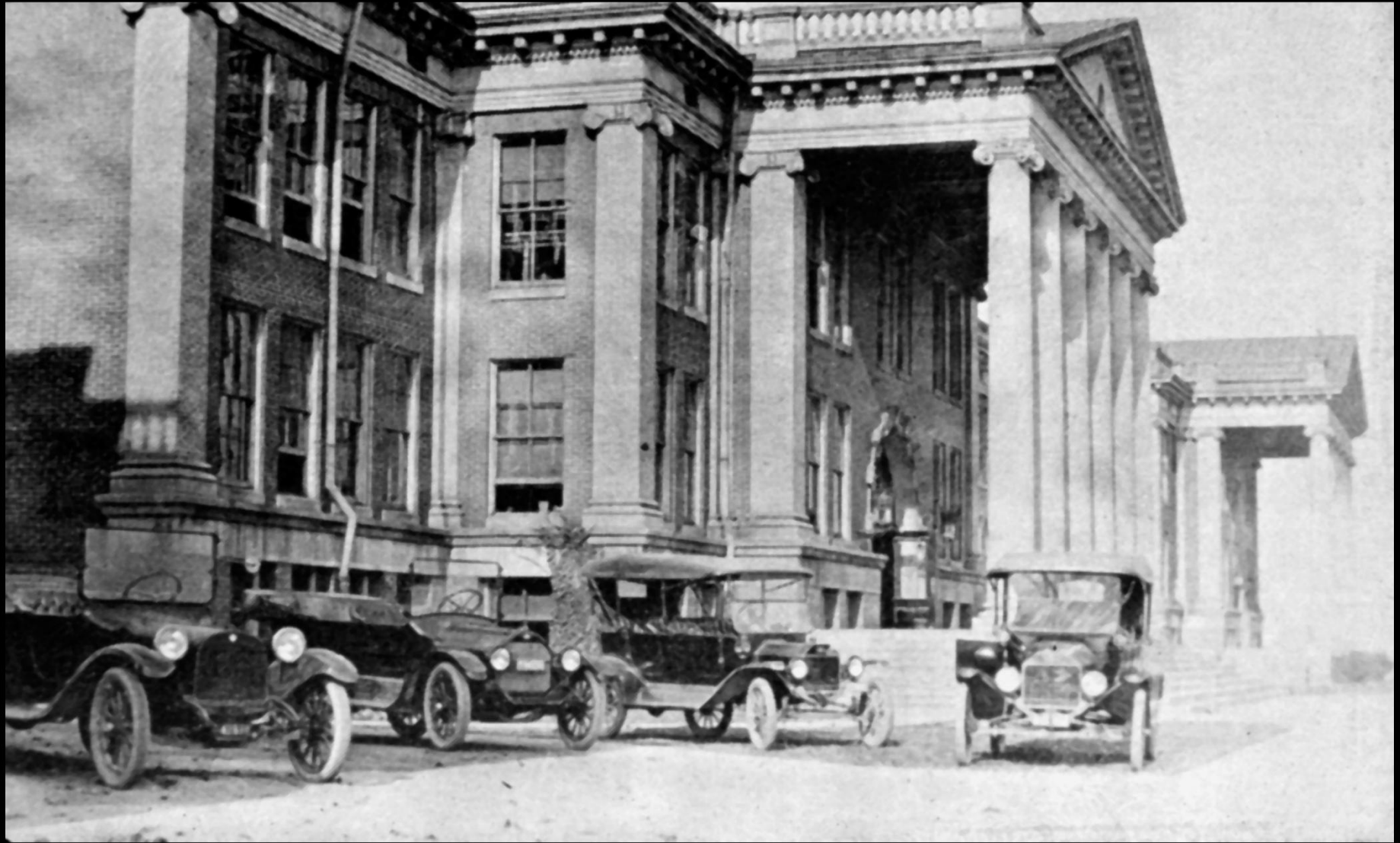
~ 1906 ~

**Departments of the Western State  
Normal School:**

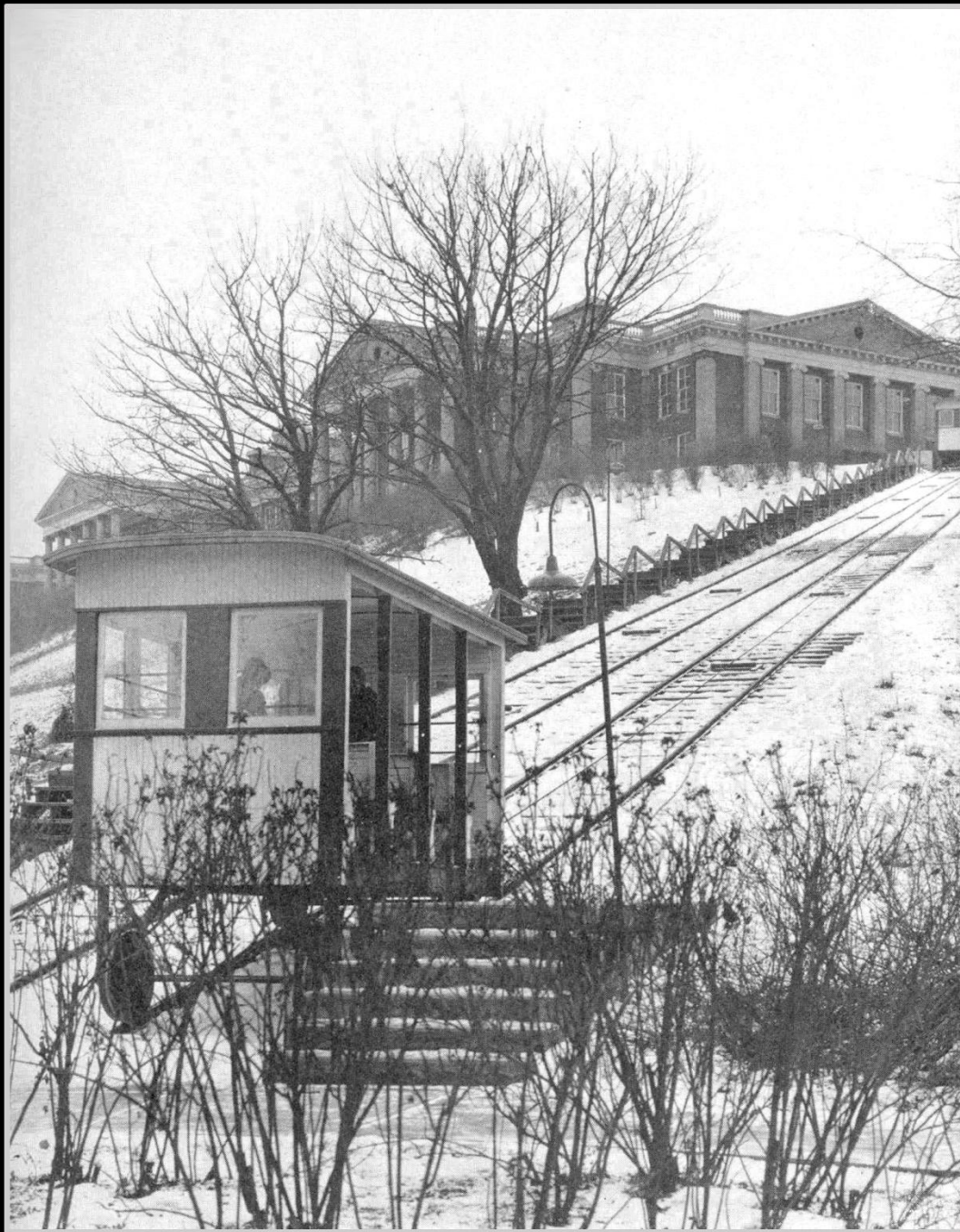
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- The seal of Western State Normal School is a circular emblem. It features a central figure, possibly a personification of knowledge or a historical figure, surrounded by a wreath. The words "WESTERN STATE NORMAL" are inscribed around the perimeter of the seal.
- ~ Civics
  - ~ Domestic Science  
(also called Domestic Economy)
  - ~ Drawing
  - ~ English
  - ~ History
  - ~ Manual Training
  - ~ Physical Education
    - ~ Psychology
  - ~ Rural School
  - ~ Science



1908 ~ Western State Normal School ~ 1908



1908 ~ Western State Normal School ~ 1908



**The Western Trolley, an alternative to the 105 grueling steps running up Prospect Hill between Davis Street and East Campus, was also known as “Normal Railroad”, and sometimes as “Toonerville Trolley”. Two cars on side-by-side tracks ran continuously from 1908 to 1948.**