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# NEGRO COLLEGE GRADUATES

## Individual Occupational History

### I. SOCIAL INFORMATION

1. Name Anna Julia Cooper  
 2. Present address 201 T N.W. Washington D.C.  
Street City State  
 3. (If married woman, give maiden name on this line) Anna Julia Haywood  
 4. Length of residence in this city 45 yrs. State of longest residence \_\_\_\_\_  
 5. Age 72 Sex F Date of birth Aug 10, 1860 Place of birth Raleigh N.C.  
 6. Marital status: Single Widowed Married  Date of marriage June 21, 1877 Age at marriage 17  
 Divorced \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Separated \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Widowed   
 Date Sept. 27, 1879 Deserted \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_ Remarried \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

7. Children living: <u>None</u>	Age	Grade (If in school)	Occupation (If not attending school)	Children dead: <u>None</u>	Date of death	Age at death
1						
2						
3						
4						
5						
6						
7						
8						

8. Present occupation Teacher & President Frelinghuysen University  
(Just what do you do?)

9. Present annual salary \$50.00 or yearly net income, deducting expenses of earning except income tax  
 ----- or kindly check the class within which your net income falls:  
 Under \$500 \_\_\_\_\_ \$500-\$999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$1000-\$1499  \$1500-\$1999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$2000-\$2499 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$2500-\$2999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$3000-\$3499 \_\_\_\_\_ \$3500-\$3999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$4000-\$4499 \_\_\_\_\_ \$4500-\$4999 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$5000-\$5999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$6000-\$6999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$7000-\$7999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$8000-\$8999 \_\_\_\_\_ \$9000-\$9999 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \$10,000 and over \_\_\_\_\_

10. Of what college or professional school are you a graduate? Oberlin College Date of graduation BA, 1884, MA 1887

11. Occupations since graduation	From	To	Yearly Salary
1 Professor Modern Lang. & Lit. Wilberforce U.	Sept. 1884	June 1885	1000
2 Instructor in Math. Latin & Greek St. Aug. Normal Sch.	Sept. 1885	June 1887	less than 1000. forget exact amt.
3 Teacher Washington High School	Sept. 1887		from 750 up.
4 Principal M. St. High School	Dec. 1901	Sept. 1906	
5 Professor Foreign Languages Lincoln Inst. Md.	1906	1910	1100
6 Teacher of Latin Washington High School	1910	1930	1800
7 Retired from Public Schools	June 1930		Pension 1434
8 President Frelinghuysen University	June 1930		50.

12. Means of securing present employment (underline):

- (a) Direct application
- (b) Recommendation by friend
- (c) Fee charging placement service
- (d) Newspaper advertisement
- (e) School or university placement service
- (f) Family influence
- (g) Heard indirectly of vacancy
- (h) General canvas
- (i) Promotion within the organization or company
- (j) Transfer within the organization or company
- ✓ (k) Services sought by new employer *always,*
- (l) Other *I have never applied for employment any-  
where.*

13. Do you own your home? *Yes* Value of home *18000* Other property owned *Cottage in Raleigh N.C.  
2 lots in Upper Marlboro Md.* Value *Uncertain, two or three thousand perhaps.*

14. Wife or Husband: Birthplace *Nassau British W.I.* Present occupation *deceased*  
 Education: (Draw circle around last grade completed) *Educated for Priest in the Episcopal Church,  
 Grammar School—1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8; High school—1-2-3-4; College—1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8*  
 Of what college or professional school a graduate *St. Augustine's Divinity School Degree Ordained Deacon  
 & passed examinations for the priesthood under Bishop Lyman Ep of N.C.*

15. Brothers:	Age	Education	School at present attending	Occupation
1. <i>Rufus Haywood N.C.</i>		<i>Band leader</i>	<i>Orchestra &amp; Stanley's Band</i>	<i>died 1882</i>
2. <i>Andrew J. Haywood</i>		<i>Musician &amp; organizer of State Militia</i>		<i>Major Span Am War, 1918</i>
3. _____				
4. _____				
5. _____				
6. _____				

16. Sisters: *None*

1. \_\_\_\_\_

2. \_\_\_\_\_

3. \_\_\_\_\_

4. \_\_\_\_\_

5. \_\_\_\_\_

6. \_\_\_\_\_

17. Father: Birthplace *I do not know* Present occupation \_\_\_\_\_  
 Education: (Draw circle around last grade completed)  
 Grammar school—1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8; High School—1-2-3-4; College—1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8  
 Of what college or professional school a graduate \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

18. Mother: Birthplace *Raleigh N.C.* Present occupation *deceased*  
 Education: (Draw circle around last grade completed)  
 Grammar school—1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8; High school—1-2-3-4; College—1-2-3-4-5-6-7-8  
 Of what college or professional school a graduate \_\_\_\_\_ Degree \_\_\_\_\_

19. What was the attitude of your parents toward your college education? *I owe nothing to my white father  
 beyond the initial act of procreation. My Mother's self-sacrificing toil to give me ad-  
 vantages she had never enjoyed is worthy the highest praise & undying gratitude.*

II. UNDERGRADUATE HISTORY

20. Preparatory Training: Name of School *St. Augustine's Normal & Collegiate Inst. [Now St. Aug. College.]*  
 21. Location *Raleigh N.C.* Date of graduation *No graduations in my day.*  
 22. As you think of it now, do you regard your preparatory training, before college, as adequate or defective? i.e.,

What deficiencies or omissions in that period do you feel would be of value to you? Please comment briefly

*Under Dr. J. Brinton Smith, founder, I was made pupil teacher at the age of 8, first for board & tuition Teaching & Studying, married & widowed in this "world" of a church school. Think the preparation for may pass as "good" for the time in that I was admitted on examination with some praise to the Sophomore*

23. College and Professional Training: *Entrance exams. in the basis the Quad. Calc. Geo. Plane & Solid Geometry & Science of Government*

Institution	Period (give dates)	Diploma or degree
1 <i>St. Aug. Normal &amp; Collegiate</i>	<i>from early youth to 1881</i>	<i>None</i>
2 <i>Oberlin</i>	<i>Sept. '81 - June '84</i>	<i>A. B.</i>
3 <i>Oberlin on 3 yrs. College Teaching</i>	<i>'84 - '87</i>	<i>M. A.</i>
4 <i>Columbia on 4 yrs graduate Courses in S.S. 1914, 15, 16, 17</i>		<i>Maîtrise Internationale Paris S.S.</i>
5 <i>Université de Paris, La Sorbonne 1924-'25 Residence &amp; thesis</i>		<i>Ph.D.</i>

24. How was your education supported? *Personal earnings*  
 25. What part of your support was earned through self-help? *all*  
 26. As you regarded it then, what motives prompted you to go to college? *"innate" wanting to know "indomitable"*

27. What was your major subject or special training in college? *Mathematics (took all in the course)*  
 28. What subjects were most liked (in order of preference)? *Philosophy, Moral & Mental, Logic, Trig. & Calc.*  
 29. What subjects were most disliked (in order)? *I do not recall any that I did not thoroughly enjoy.*

30. What subject or subjects proved most useful to you after graduation? *Have had to use them all. Think at sex*  
 31. What faculty members proved most stimulating to you? (Gives names and position of faculty) *President Fairchild, Prof. Churchill, Tutor (now Ex-Pres.) King of Oberlin, Paul Privat Deschanel, C. Estre & Bagnac*

32. What school influences were most important in giving direction to your life? *"Thursday Lectures", Mrs. Johnson's Gen'l X for Women, & weekly young people's Meetings, with of course the Oberlin "Brotherhood"*  
 33. To what honor societies did you belong in college? *Oberlin had none in my day. The music, the sermons*  
 34. To what fraternity or sorority? *L. L. S.*

Please check extra-curricular activities engaged in *I taught advanced algebra in Oberlin Academy. The students were white.*

	REGULARLY		OCCASIONALLY	
	REGULARLY	OCCASIONALLY	REGULARLY	OCCASIONALLY
35. A. On campus				
Athletics				
Oratory and debating		✓		
Fraternity or sorority				
Literary society	✓			
Dramatics				
Music				
Religion				
Publications				
Student government				
B. Off campus				
Church work				
Social club				
Civic or social service				
Other forms				

4 professors in studying the French language gave me letters asking me first in the class.

36. How well did you do in college? *Hardly a fair question for personal answer. I did my best.*

37. To what extent were you influenced by religious training, personalities or the religious atmosphere of your school? *I entered Oberlin a bigoted "Churchman". I felt not the slightest attempt at proselyting, & yet altho I continued to attend the little Episcopal Church religiously the breadth & real catholicity of the Oberlin spirit the friendly contacts & wider study had the inevitable result which I consider humanizing of bias & "mercenary."*

38. What is your attitude toward educational methods of instruction in college? (Mention the strongest and weakest features?) *Too broad to be answered in lines. If the post was Machine Method of tests & measurements to string out the unfit prevails we never can tell what is to be done for the untalented plodder who*

39. At what period during your undergraduate life did you decide upon your career? *At not far from the kindergarten age*

40. Length of time between graduation and first employment. *Not a moment.*

41. Length of time between graduation and employment in field of choice. *ditto. I was engaged to return to St. Aug. the*

42. Did you return to your home town to work after graduation? *2<sup>d</sup> year Temporarily? two yrs. Permanently?*

43. Reasons for returning or not returning to home town to work after graduation? *D<sup>r</sup> Suedes the Prin. under whom I had taught before leaving for College & who had engaged my services to return was at that juncture superseded by D<sup>r</sup> Sutton who wanted to change the contract from "Professor" to "teacher in charge of girls." I refused.*

44. If you could control the situation, what would you like to be doing ten years from now? *What I am doing now*

45. Have you been prevented from entering the vocation of your choice by racial factors? *No* Can you state any of them? *Teaching has always seemed to me the noblest of callings, & I believe that if I were white I should still want to teach those whose need presents a stronger appeal than money. There may be a bit of vanity in this. It is human to be stimulated by appreciation where it is genuine.*

46. What racial factors have interfered? *During my principalship of M. St. H. S. the colored prin. was under the white Director of High Schools. At a meeting of principals she was told when the question of scholarships in colleges came up, that her graduates were not eligible to try for them. The Director at the same time recommended to Congress that a*

47. Will you give a brief estimate of the value of your college training? *My estimate can be mathematically stated in dollars & cents. When I announced to the Prin. of St. Aug. my intention to go to college I was receiving \$30.00 per mo. as an inducement for me not to go he offered to double that figure at once. I am not sorry that I refused such magnificence.*

48. How would it be changed if you could do it over again? *Who does the best his circumstance allows need have no qualms in judging results. The world changes & if I had my story to start now I should surely have to meet other problems & conditions from those of 50 yrs. ago. but I doubt not I should adjust myself to them with the same pluck & energy that I believe to be an unchanging part of me. I should miss perhaps a friendly interest & even a surprised applause on the part of whites who are now concluding that N. are best educated in N. Schools. But that is not essential, the vocation for which you*

III. AFTER GRADUATION CAREER

49. Are you at present employed upon the occupation of your choice? *Yes.* were prepared? *The Education of neglected people.*

50. Membership in learned societies (give name of your organization) *"Learned Societies" do not seek colored workers. Wanting some help in researches I contemplated for a history of the Negroes of Washington I applied to the Brookings Inst. for Research also to the American Graduate School here of wh. Dr. Ed. Devine was then Dean. Both schools raised the color bar & Dr. Devine soon afterwards resigned.*

51. What do you regard as your outstanding accomplishments since graduation? *Perhaps others will think first of the Defense in French before a jury of French Doctors at the Sorbonne of my thesis on the attitude of France on Slavery. Feb. 23/92. My own preference is the building of a beautiful home at the Capital from unsubsidized earnings to be dedicated in the name of my slave Mother to the education of colored working people.*

52. What positions of honor and distinction do you now hold? (List)

*I am called President of F. D. Ingghuysen University started by the late Jesse Lawson 25 yrs. ago, which has now for the first time a permanent home at 201 T. N. W. "a group of Schools for Adult Education, comprising a Law School, School of Religion, & Opportunity classes for pre-academic workers. A "Foundation" is sought for the Jesse Lawson School of Social Service, an outstanding need at the Nations Capital training colored workers.*

53. Have you held or do you now hold any public office? (Name) Principal M. St. High School Washington D.C. 1901 to 1906

54. Books published A Voice from the South, L'Attitude de la France à l'Égard de l'Éclavage <sup>These</sup>

55. Titles of important articles published D. F. Boem de Pelerinage de Charlemagne avec Glossaire edited.

"Educational Programms" Simon of Cyrene - "The Southland" the first Negro Mag.  
"The Ethics of the Negro Question - The Social Settlement what it is & what it does etc."

56. Honorary degrees None Summer Editor Southern Work

57. To what church denomination do you belong? Episcopal (St. Luke's P.E.)  
Active membership? Contributing Office in church? No

58. What are your present cultural interests? Education of the under privileged

59. What further study have you engaged in since graduation? 4 Graduate courses at La Guilde Internationale  
8 Full Courses S.S. Columbia; Dept. Romance Lang, French 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106,

60. List civic and social movements in which you are engaged. Speakers Bureau Community Chest  
Phyllis Wheatley Y.W.C.A. N.A.A.C.P. Xi Omega Chap. Alpha Kappa Alpha etc.

61. Offices held in civic and social organizations Supervisor Colored Social Settlement  
Chief Guardian Camp Fire Girls, Organizer Girls Clubs Y.W. War Camp Commun

62. In what racial movements are you actively interested? National N. Association Charge Colored  
for Suppression of Atheism & Communism among colored youth

63. Offices in them

64. Do you vote where you now reside? None do To what political party do you belong? Independent

65. Have you a "racial philosophy" that can be briefly stated? My "racial philosophy" is not far removed  
from my general philosophy of life: that the greatest happiness comes from altruistic service - & this  
is in reach of all of whatever race & condition. The "Service" here meant is not a pious idea of being used;  
any sort of exploitation whether active or passive is, to my mind hateful. Nor is the "Happiness" a mere bit.

66. Will you give the name of one or more of your childhood associates (whether they went to college or not) with

their present address (if possible), schooling and occupation? D. S. G. Atkins Prin. Winston-Salem Inst. N.C.  
Mrs. Nannie Delaney (widow Bishop Delaney) 180 Edgecomb Ave. New York City Dean of W. St. C.

Mrs. Jane Thomas Caspar Ave. A Huntersville Norfolk Va. former Teacher & Social

Mrs. M. E. Neale (Mrs. Doctor Luventine B. Neale) 1315 Lynn Ave. Pawhuska Okla.

Mrs. Anna Metcalf Root 333 East 53rd St. New York City BA. Oberlin 1884

Mrs. Professor Anderson 207 East College St. Oberlin O. Conservatory Oberlin 1885

67. Will you give briefly your views of the future of Negro education? (What it should be, what changes might be  
made in the light of your experience; its present direction, value, etc., for the development of Negro youth.)  
I have always stood for that Education that aims at the making  
of Men rather than the constructing of machines. If the Negro is a man  
then what is good for Man, in all its age-old & infinite varieties, is  
good for him. Why should he be cabined & cribbed with just  
this or just that for his mental pabulum?

See also: "Anonymous" paragraph enclosed here with.

(46 Cont.) different curriculum be granted the colored high school, whose pupils he said were not capable of doing the regular work. Insubordination was charged & effectively pressed when the principal sent to Harvard, Yale, Brown & Oberlin students directly from the M. St. Classes who passed successfully their entrance exams, some with high honors. The first time in its history the Colored H. S. of Wash was listed as "accredited" by Harvard & given the certificate privilege. For which unpardonable "sin" against racial supremacy said principal suffers to this day the punishment of the damned from both the white masters & the colored understrappers.

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to give up the struggle. The ballot operates just so far as dominant forces agree to respect it. which angster dominance among ballot holding Americans invites little hope for solution when the element of race is added to the problem. As I see it then, the patient persistence of the individual, working as Browning has it, "mouth wise & pen wise" in whatever station & with whatever talent God has given, in truth & loyalty to serve the whole, will come as near as any other to proving worth while.

(65 cont.) of Pollyanna stuff. I am as sensitive to handicaps as those who are always whining about them & the whips & stings of prejudice, whether of color or sex, find me neither too calloused to suffer, nor too ignorant to know what is due me. Our own men as a group have not inherited traditions of chivalry (one sided as it may be among white men) & we women are generally left to do our race battling alone except for empty compliments now & then. Even so, one may make the mistake of looking at race handicaps thro the wrong end of the telescope & imagining that oppression goes only with color. When I encounter brutality I need not always charge it to my race. It may be - & generally is - chargeable to the imperfections in the civilization environing me for which as a teacher & trained thinker I take my share of responsibility.

The extent, then, of the optimism in my philosophy is that, (Statisticians & Social Science Research compilers to the contrary notwithstanding) the solution of our problem will be individual & not en masse, & the habit of generalization & deductive logic has done its worst.

For after all, Social Justice the desired goal is not to be reached thro any panacea - by mass production, whether DuBois's preachment of the ballot box & intermarriage or Kelly Miller's one time suggestion of self effacement, or even Booker Washington's proposal of the solid hand & separate fingers. For human selfishness will always arise as the domineering thumb to override & keep down every finger weak enough to give up the struggle. The ballot operates just so far as dominant forces agree to respect it. which is reasoning in a circle to insure justice by having men become just, & the spectacle of angster dominance among ballot holding Americans invites little hope for solution when the element of race is added to the problem. As I see it then, the patient persistence of the individual, working as Browning has it, "mouth wise & pen wise" in whatever station & with whatever talent God has given, in truth & loyalty to serve the whole, will come as near as any other to proving worth while.

To me Life has meant a big opportunity & I am thankful that my work has always been the sort that beckoned me on, leaving no room for blasé philosophising & rebellious resentment & with just enough opposition to give zest to the struggle, just enough hope of scoring somewhere among the winners to keep my head "unbowed tho bloody."