

Hon. Pres. of the Bd. of Trustees, Governor Barcelo,  
 Ch. Jus. of Supreme Court of P.R. ~~Don~~ Instituto del Comercio  
 Pres. of the Poly. Inst. of P.R. and Faculty & students  
 Pres. of Alumni Association and graduates  
 Ladies and Gentlemen:

I have here prepared a short written history of my work leading up to in P. Rico from 1906 to 1937, in which I have set forth clearly my three attempts and failures to found a school suited to the needs of the youth of P. Rico and of my final & permanent 4th attempt there which officially dates from March 2, 1912. This account is too long for me to read at this time but I hope it may soon be printed and a copy of it given to those interested in the first 25 years of the Poly. Institute.

The original vision was first received <sup>many</sup> years before I even knew there was a P. Rico. For six years the ideal school kept evolving and clarifying. It finally took definitely mental shape out of prayer and communion with God, and out of association and close observation of the people of P. Rico. Three definite attempts two in Sherman and one in Lajas and three failures - carried me on into the year 1911. I had hoped ~~once~~ that the Mayaguez Training School founded by Rev. J. H. Underwood <sup>in 1906</sup> would develop into the needed college. A school in which were admitted only the choicest young men of the Presbyterian Church, but it lacked the industrial training that I felt was ~~then~~ necessary for the hand of every man. <sup>Dr. Juan Canic Ostig's Institute founded in Lajas in 1906</sup> embodied the agricultural arts of <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>of</sup> Lajas embodied the industrial arts ~~but~~. The purpose of Dr. Canic



was to take the abandoned children of our towns and to make them into real assets to our island by intellectual and industrial training. ~~But~~ But this school lacked the definite religious training that ~~seemed to~~ <sup>is</sup> necessary for the best life of the youth. Homeless and abandoned children need not only head and hand training but also the heart or soul training, found ~~only~~ <sup>best</sup> in a clear teaching of non-sectarian teaching of the Bible. The ~~the~~ <sup>Bible</sup> ~~training~~ <sup>teaching</sup> the ~~the~~ <sup>training</sup> Rajas school lacked.

Our ~~best~~ <sup>best</sup> choicest youth need not only the training of the head and heart but also the hand training. This latter the Mayaguez Training School lacked.

~~When the Rajas school was about to close in the year 1910. I hoped that the two could be united as one school in Palmaris. <sup>But</sup> ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> Presbytery ~~asked~~ <sup>asked</sup> met in Palmaris and asked the Mission Board to accept Dr. Cancio's offer of the transfer of ~~the~~ <sup>his</sup> school to Palmaris to the Mission for the Training School. The Presbyterian Board would not accept the Palmaris school as a gift.~~

I felt and still feel that the best training for young people must comprise the head, the hand and above all the heart.