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**Extract of a Forthcoming Report of
Dr. Henry S. Pritchett
to the Carnegie Corporation,
December 1923.**

**POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE OF
PORTO RICO.**

The people of the United States are absorbed in their domestic problems. They give little thought to their obligations toward the peoples who have been brought under the government of the Union through the treaty with Spain in 1898.

If there is any one of these problems that should appeal directly to the conscience of our people, it is that of education in Porto Rico. This fertile, densely populated island is destined, both geographically and by reason of its relations to other Spanish-speaking nations of the Caribbean, to play an important role as an outpost of the United States and as an instrument in the development of the islands of the Caribbean and of the nations of Central America.

During the past year, the Corporation caused an examination to be made of the present, educational situation on the Island. This examination showed that, outside of the governmental activities with respect to

education, the Polytechnic Institute, founded in 1912 at San Germán, Porto Rico, has had a notable development and is offering a form of technical training greatly needed by the people of Porto Rico. Beginning with an enrollment of twelve students, it teaches now a body of three hundred and seventy-five boys and girls, drawn from Porto Rico, Santo Domingo, and the Virgin Islands. It has established itself as the only private institution on the Island with a logical and comprehensive plan for thorough education. The academic work of the Institute begins where the rural schools end, approximately at the fifth grade of our public school work, and continues through the second collegiate year. The teaching is of good character, though greatly handicapped by the lack of suitable equipment. The high school department particularly gives a sound training under good teachers and admits by certificate to American colleges.

Partly with the object of training the Porto Rican in manual pursuits and partly in order to maintain and develop the school as cheaply as possible, the industrial feature of education plays a large part. Three hours of each student's day are devoted to profitable and varied labor under good supervision. In this manner over fifty per-

cent. of the labor cost of new construction is met without direct payment of service. The attitude of the general public in Porto Rico toward the method and program of the school has been transformed from one of indifference or distrust to confidence and support.

The Institute is controlled by a board of trustees who reside in the United States. They are chosen by the Board of Home Missions of the Presbyterian Church. The school is supported wholly by student fees and voluntary contributions.

With its present physical equipment, the school cannot accommodate half of the students who seek admission, and those who are admitted work under great disadvantages through the lack of suitable libraries, laboratories, and housing facilities. In order to provide for these needs, the trustees of the school have entered upon a three-year program which involves the raising of five hundred thousand dollars, to be used partly for buildings and partly for endowment.

The trustees of the Corporation, at their meeting in April, 1923, voted to appropriate to the uses of the Polytechnic Institute of Porto Rico a sum not to exceed two hundred and fifty thousand dollars, over a period of three years, to be used in the erection of

necessary buildings and in endowment, provided that for each payment by the Corporation an equal amount shall have been secured by the Polytechnic Institute from other sources toward the three-year program as projected by the Institute, and provided further that at least one-half of the total amount paid by the Corporation and secured from other sources by the Institute shall be set aside as permanent endowment.

The expenditure of income from the endowment of the Carnegie Corporation is, by the terms of the trust, restricted to the United States, with the exception of a portion of the income that may be spent in the British Colonies. The grant just noted is the first expenditure which the Corporation has made in any part of the United States outside of its continental area. It is the hope of the trustees that a genuine interest in the educational progress of Porto Rico may grow up on the part of the citizens on the mainland of the United States. In such a process of education lies our great hope, not only for the happiness and well-being of the people of this wonderful island, but also for that sound understanding of our institutions which will make their inhabitants Americans in the sense of intelligent and devoted citizenship.