

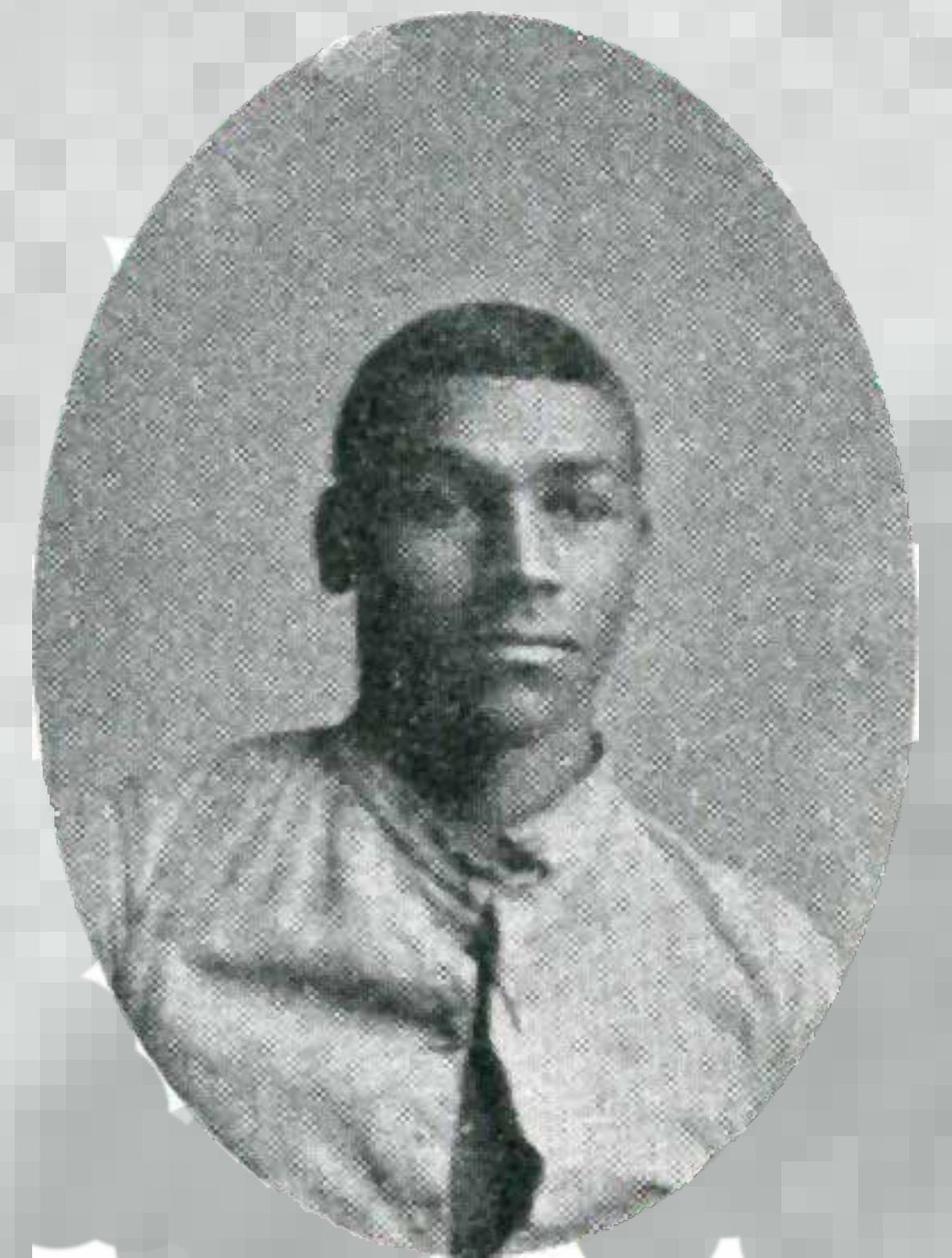
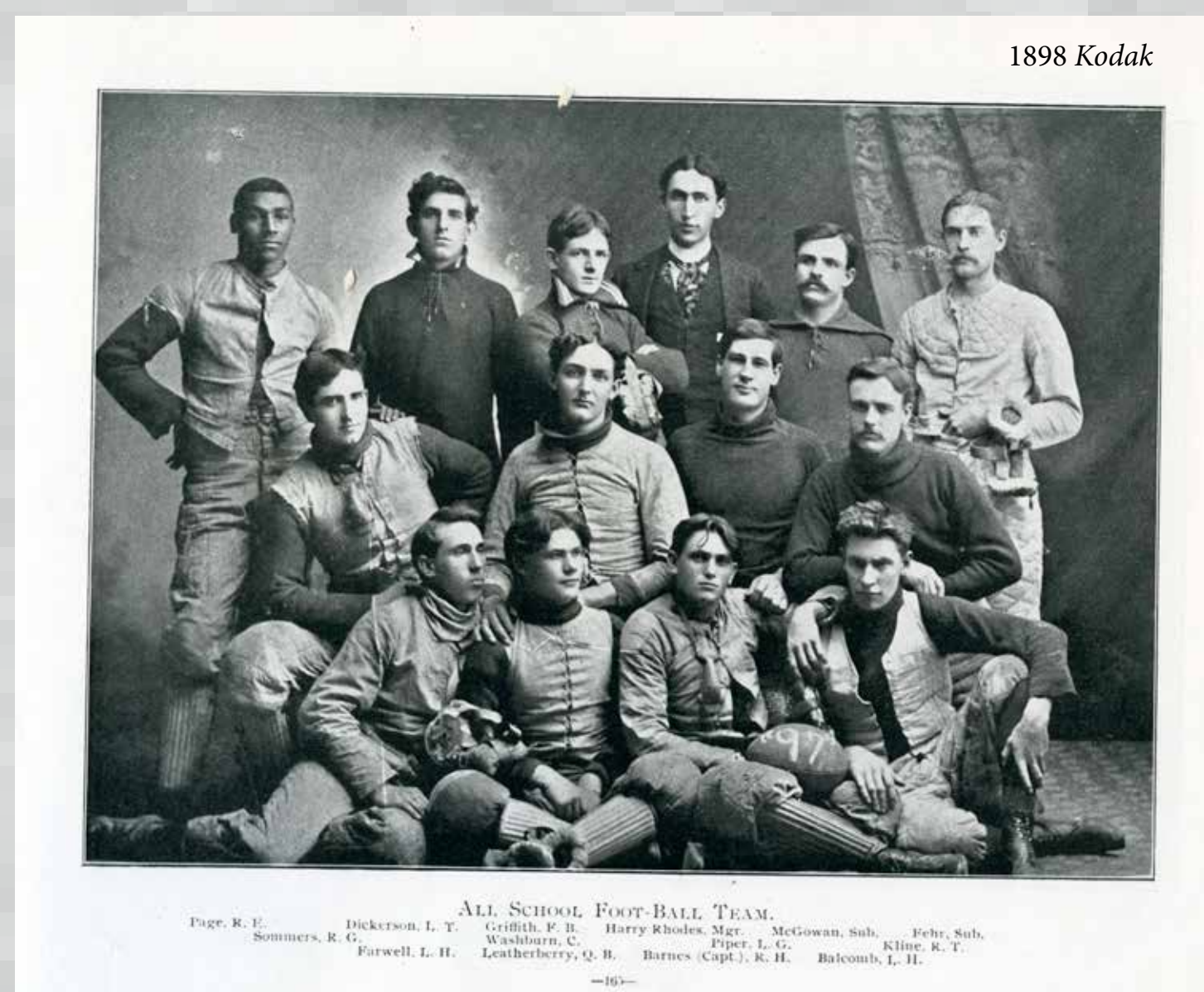


Gaitha Page

Gaitha Page was born in Port Royal, TN, on November 13, 1879. His father was a boot maker and his mother was a laundress. In June of 1897, he graduated from Topeka High School and with encouragement from his siblings; he was influenced to go into teaching. At Kansas State Normal School (KSN) Page became an accomplished student and athlete. He was able to complete three years of work in only two by taking extra classes and special examinations.

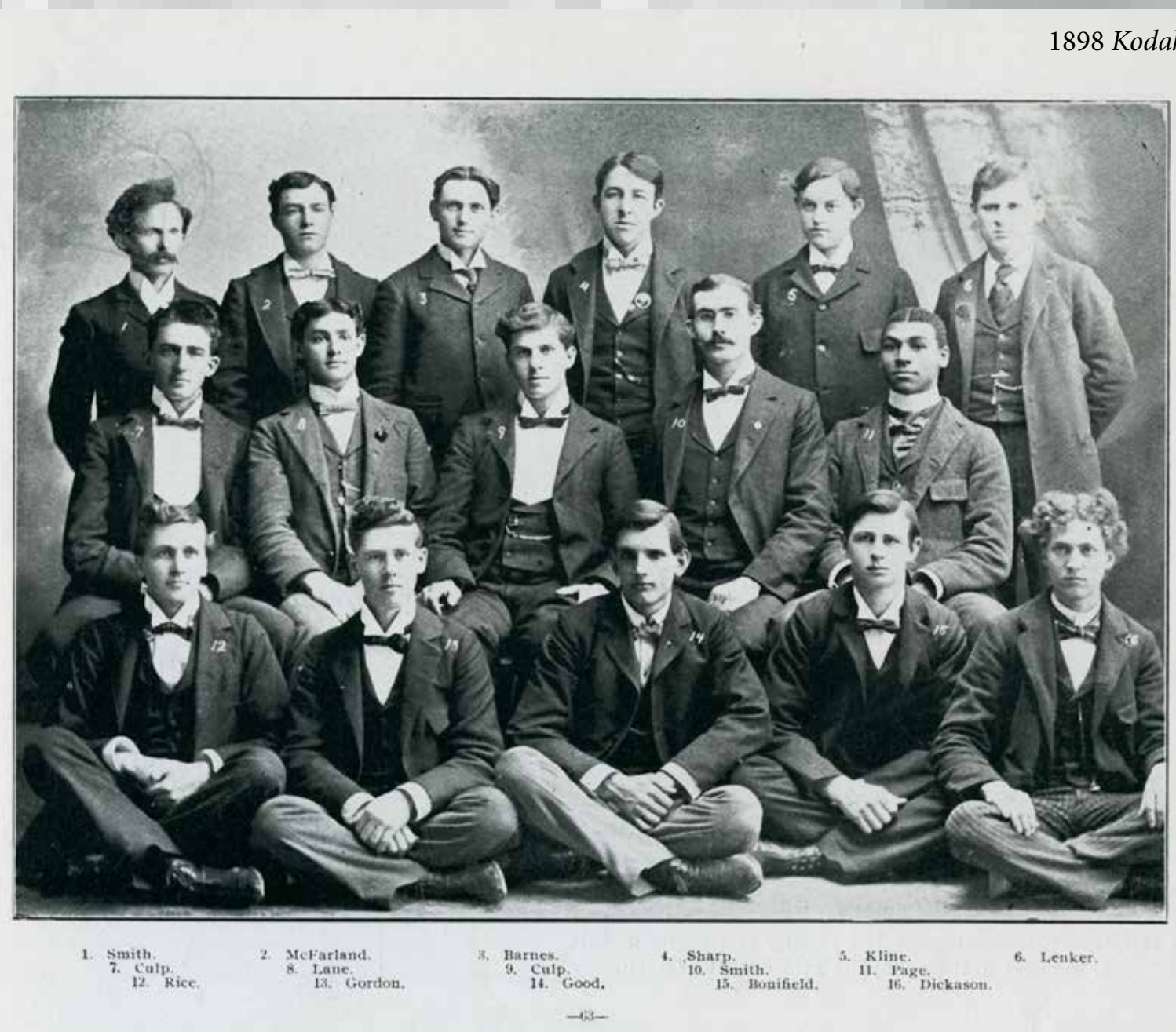
While at KSN, Gaitha was a member of the Literati Society, which was a program consisting of music, recitation, papers, and debates. Members of the community also attended including ministers, other college students, and business men. Page also participated on the football and baseball teams, joining them in fall 1897 and spring 1898 respectively. Gaitha graduated from KSN in 1899 and began his teaching career in Topeka at Buchannon Elementary. In 1907 he retired from teaching and became an owner of a shoe repair shop. He passed away from illness in 1970 at the age of 90.

Page played right end on the KSN football team. While describing the sport in "Before the Turn of the Century" featured in *The Alumni News*, he noted it was "rugged and called for raw, brute strength in ruthless body contact..."



Page recalled in his article for *The Alumni News*: "Quite a number of boys came out for baseball and we got a very good team together which became one of the best in the school's history. We had the best college team in Kansas. We defeated Kansas University, Manhattan, Winfield, Ottawa, and all playing at that time."

Page noted in "Before the Turn of the Century": "There were two societies, Literati and Lyceum. I joined the Literati...The debates were always exciting and often illuminating."



Background: 1898 Football Team, 1898 Kodak.