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One hundred years ago one of the most famous colleges of penmanship and engrossing was established in Columbus, Ohio. The Zanerian College of Penmanship and Engrossing prepared people (special teachers and supervisors of penmanship) for work in the public schools. The Zanerian boasted of its list of famous professional penmen, engrossing artists, and teachers of penmanship for business colleges.

Teaching penmanship or executing pen work was at its peak between the years 1900 and 1940. There was plenty of lucrative employment for those who were qualified in this skill. Teachers of penmanship usually received much larger salaries than those paid to regular classroom teachers. People who did not wish to teach, but wished to prepare as professional penmen or engrossing artists, found splendid opportunities throughout the country. Many young men and women adopted penmanship as a life work, whether as professional penmen, or engrossing artists. Between 1910 and 1930 salaries for such professionals could exceed \$5,000 a year, which was big money at that time. Penmanship gave people one of the most profitable and pleasant career opportunities of the time.

The Zanerian maintained an employment department, the services of which were free to students. The employment department was very alert to the interest of students. Much of the Zanerian's success and the success of its students was due to the service it provided in locating the right students for the right positions.

A summer school was conducted for teachers, supervisors of penmanship, and anyone else interested in penmanship. The Zanerian employed the most skillful teachers available, which was one of the reasons their summer school was so successful. Many students who enrolled in the summer school enjoyed penmanship so much they continued their studies throughout the year.

The Zanerian College of Penmanship offered many correspondence courses in areas such as business writing, ornamental writing, roundhand, broad pen writing, and engrossing. At a time when traveling long distances was difficult and time consuming, the correspondence course offered many people the opportunity to study at home and become skilled penmen. The correspondence courses were evaluated by the many highly qualified instructors at the Zanerian College.