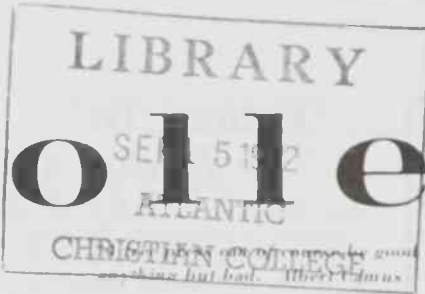


# The Collegiate



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## ACC Holds 71st Annual Convocation

### Federal Aid Funds Cut

By BEN CASEY

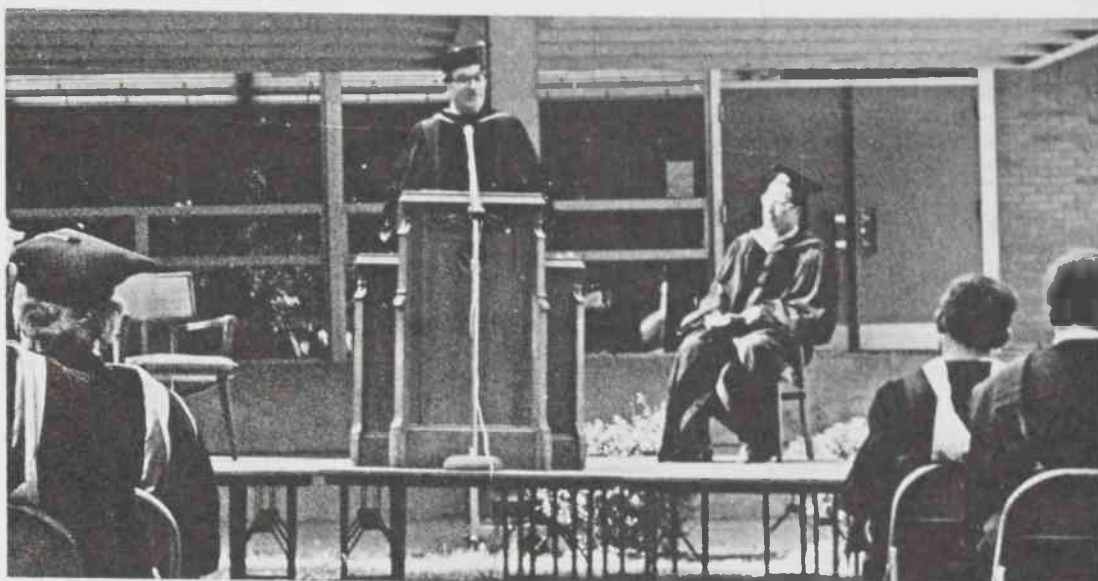
Dir. of Student Financial Aid

Prior to the beginning of the current school year great numbers of college students across the nation found themselves in a quandry when attempting to arrange financing for their educations.

While numerous factors were involved, the dilemma began to develop when the U.S. Congress made sweeping changes in the federally funded student aid programs on June 23, 1972. Coupled with these reforms, increased demands for student aid across the nation resulted in grossly inadequate funding for loan, scholarship, and work programs at Atlantic Christian College and most all other institutions of higher learning.

The National Defense Student Loan Program created in 1958 has been replaced by the National Direct Student Loan Program. The most far reaching effect of this program was the striking down of provisions for many eligible borrowers to cancel a portion of their loan principal for teaching.

The National Direct Student Loan Program allows borrowers



President Wenger Welcomes Masses at 1972-73 Convocation.

to cancel a portion of their loans only if they are teaching in schools designated by HEW as having a high concentration of students from low income families or teaching of the handicapped. Previously the borrower could cancel ten per cent of their loan principal each year up to five years if they taught in any public or non-profit private school.

The new Basic Opportunity Grants Program created by Congress will not be funded until 1973-74. The program is designed to guarantee all students a minimum grant — less family

contribution. It remains to be seen if the new program can elude the problems of present programs, mainly inadequate funding.

During the current school year at Atlantic Christian, we face shortages in all phases of federally funded financial assistance programs. In the new National Direct Student Loan Program we have a tentative commitment from HEW of only sixty-six per cent of the amount previously approved by the U.S. Office of Education panel. This means we will have some \$31,000 less in this program during the

current year than what we received the prior year. Some 40-50 less students will receive such loans.

The Educational Opportunity Grants Program and the College Work Study Programs were cutback 42 per cent and 20 per cent respectively.

The most devastating blow came in the Nursing Student Loan Program where we received only 40 per cent of the amount requested. Many students face cutbacks in their aid packages while others will be denied loans altogether. Those

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Atlantic Christian College held its annual Fall Convocation for the 71st academic session of the institution Tuesday morning. Presiding was Dan J. Hensley, chaplain of the college. Convocation speaker was Dr. Arthur D. Wenger, president of the college.

Citing the college's 70 years of history, the college president said, "Our history brings us to a point where we join together in looking at a common cause — our educational task."

"The day to day operation of an educational program," said the speaker, "consists largely of every man doing his own thing. But, on an occasion such as this, where we look at an institution's past history, prompts us to join together as we think about our various roles at the college."

"We join in praise for its past and the treasure which it has bequeathed to us. We join in taking an analytical look at our present situation and we join in looking forward to and planning for the future."

Dr. Wenger said the college community must use careful planning in using its human and material resources with utmost effectiveness and would require outstanding performances of students, faculty, administrators and trustees. He said there must be careful nurture in development of needed financial resources and a careful re-statement of the college's purposes in the light of the current understanding of it.

Looking toward the future, the speaker quoted a study which was conducted by the Commission of Religion in Higher Education of the Association of American Colleges as it sought to characterize today's student and his overriding concerns: "Among college and university students, to say nothing of other young people, there is profound and plentiful evidence pointing to a hunger for meaning and purpose unlike anything we have experienced for a quarter of a century. There is a searching for ethical and moral integrity in word and act, a quest for meaningful patterns of activity and structures of community, and a pursuit of larger meaning for personal existence."

He further quoted from a paper given by Mrs. Dorothy Eagles, a retired professor, at the college's last Parents' Day Convocation: "It is my hope that young men and women who come to Atlantic Christian College in future years may find a way to a more stable economic life and at the same time experience the joy that accompanies the growth of mind and sensibility — that the lives of our graduates may be enhanced by a sense of personal wholeness and the interrelationship of all knowledge."

Music for the convocation was provided by the Atlantic Christian College Chorus under direction of J. Ross Albert. Organist was Charles W. Rakow.

## Student Enrollment Increased

The smallest fall enrollment increase in 28 years for the Nation's schools and colleges, and a record \$90.5 billion in educational expenditures during the 1972-73 school year were predicted today by HEW's Office of Education.

Data supplied by the National Center for Educational Statistics for the annual back-to-school survey indicate a total enrollment in public and nonpublic schools that will increase over the fall of 1971 by only one-half of one per cent. However, the Office of Education's statistical center foresees for total educational expenditures a jump of 6.3 per cent from last year's \$85.1 billion.

Total enrollment will rise for the 28th consecutive year to a record 60.4 million persons, but this increase will occur mostly at the higher education level.

Enrollment of degree-credit students in colleges and universities is expected to advance from 8.5 million at the beginning of the 1971 school year to 9 million this fall — a gain of six per cent.

The back-to-school figures exclude undergraduate students enrolled in occupational or general studies programs which are not creditable toward a bachelor's degree. There were an estimated 730,000 of these nondegree-credit students in institutions of higher education in the fall of 1971. Data also exclude persons attending other post-secondary activities, such as private trade, vocational, and business schools.

Total enrollment in elementary and secondary schools is expected to decline by approximately 200,000, with a gain of 300,000 at the secondary level (grades 9 through 12) being

more than offset by a decline of 500,000 in the elementary grades (kindergarten through grade 8). The enrollment in kindergarten through grade 12 is expected to decrease from 51.6 million to 51.4 million, or less than one-half of one per cent.

Public schools this fall will enroll about 46.2 million pupils, and the remaining 5.2 million will be in nonpublic schools.

During the 1971-72 school year, expenditures for elementary and secondary schools amounted to \$54.0 billion (\$48.9 billion for public and \$5.1 billion for nonpublic schools), while the expenditures for higher education totaled \$31.1 billion (\$20.7 billion for public and \$10.4 billion for nonpublic institutions).

The National Center for Educational Statistics also estimates that about 2,320,000 elementary and secondary

school teachers will be employed this fall. About 2.1 million of these persons will teach in public schools, while 220,000 will be employed in nonpublic schools. The teaching staff in public schools is expected to be about 20,000 larger than last year, with practically no change anticipated for the nonpublic schools.

The instructional staff in colleges and universities is expected to rise by about 3,000 from an estimated 630,000 in the fall of 1971 to 660,000 in 1972. These estimates are based on the estimated enrollments combined with the long term trend in pupil-teacher ratios.

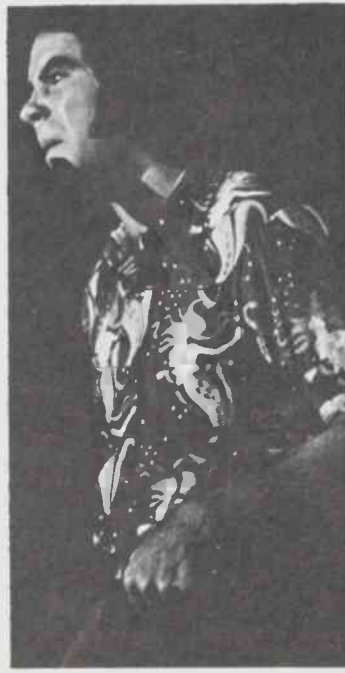
In the coming year, the number of students, teachers, and administrators combined will exceed 63 million — more than 30 per cent of the 209 million people in the United States.



Center: The "Main Ingredient". Soul And More Soul!

Left: Rusty Tabb Crowned Mr. Top Hat by Beth Harper At Tri-Sig's Annual Top Hat Dance.

Right: Comedian Robert Kleen Entertains A.C. Students.



### Pick Nick

Nick Galifinackis will be in at the First Citizens Bank Building at 8:00 p.m., Monday, September 18. Everyone is urged to attend the meeting sponsored by the Democratic Women of Wilson County.