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HOME COMING WEEK-END BIG SUCCESS

Graduates Honored At Birthday Dinner

The traditional alumnae birthday dinner was held in Wilbur F. Steele Dining Hall, February 23 at 1 p. m., with Miss Jo Ina Ellis, senior, Salisbury, N. C. presiding. The dinner honored the returning graduates and those born in the months of June, July, and February.

Player Welcomes Grads

The program opened with the singing of the "Bennett Hymn". Greetings to the alumnae were extended by Miss Willa B. Player, registrar and director of admissions at the college. In welcoming the graduates, Miss Player said, "Your return here today is highly significant because you symbolize a sense of security for the college in that you have ventured into the world and made successes of yourselves. Here, on the very grounds, where you fashioned your hopes and dreams, you have returned to offer your suggestions and show your loyalty and devotion to the alma mater you love. It is with grateful hearts and open arms that we welcome you here today."

Webb Gives Response

Mrs. Vina W. Webb, of the class of '33, gave the response and told what it meant to have a home like Bennett to return to in the midst of world strife. Praising the institution for the commendable job it was doing in educating young womanhood, she entreated the group not to forget the way of life at Bennett and to always uphold its high ideals.

With Mrs. Carrie Robinson Quander at the piano, the audience sang, The Preference Song, Skin-a-Marink-a-Dink-a-Dink and The Bennett Ideal. Miss Quander is the composer of the "Bennett Ideal."

The horoscopes for the three months were read by Miss Constance Collier, after which the group joined in singing "Tell Me Why". The introduction of guests was made by President Jones, who also read the birthday lists. Brief words of greeting were extended by Dr. and Mrs. Allan Knight Chalmers of New York City.

The dinner closed with the audience standing and singing the Alma Mater.

UNITED NEGRO COLLEGE CAMPAIGN GETS UNDERWAY

With a goal of \$1,300,000 the third annual United Negro College Fund drive will officially open April 17, it has been announced by W. J. Trent, Jr., executive director. The organization, which has its main headquarters in New York City, contributes to the financial operating expenses of 33 colleges.

Of special interest was news of the appointment of former Lt. David D. Jones, Jr., son of President and Mrs. Jones, as a field secretary. Before joining the army, Mr. Jones managed housing projects for the Farm Security Administration in 1941.

Returning to the States last November, after more than two and a half years duty overseas in the Mediterranean Theater of Operations, with the 408th Port Battalion, Mr. Jones wore five battle stars. His position with the Fund will entail the organizing of alumni groups of the participating colleges in support of the coming campaign.



GROUP OF OLD GRADUATES VISITING BENNETT ON HOME-COMING DAY

Grads Enjoy A Night Of Fun At Get-Together

Thirkield gymnasium was again the scene of gaiety and merriment when the alumnae gathered for their Saturday night "get-together". The evening's program, planned by Mrs. Dorothy Sizemore Smith and committee, got underway with the group singing, "Dear Old Bennett", "Tell Me Why" and "McNamara's Band."

"Since I Left Bennett" was the unique caption of the "old-fashioned hen session" which brought many laughs as graduates told "all" about themselves since leaving their alma mater. Surprisingly enough, the majority of alumnae have no families and have found the lure of the schoolroom so compelling that they have devoted their efforts to teaching others. But not surprising was the fact that a good many of the graduates are just home-makers.

With Miss Roberta Favors as quiz master, representatives of the various classes, tested their wits on "Bennett's Brain Busters". The quiz, which was based entirely on facts concerning the college, brought eager participation from the audience, all of whom were anxious to help their class take top honors. The outcome—no winner but a great deal of fun was had by all.

Celebrities of 1946 featured a gala floor show of freshman talent. Saxophonist Charlotte Davis and clarinetist, Vivian Greenlee gave out with the sweet refrains of "Sentimental Journey" after which the Andrews Sisters (Frances White, Vilma Eason, Elsie Griffin) sang "Accentuate The Positive" and "Put Your Arms Around Me." Marion Dorsey and Margaret Ann Boatwright followed with a dance routine, and then Elsie sang, "My Heart Sings". A tap dance by Gwen Cann and a recitation by Margaret Pleasants provided a fitting climax for Motley and Rogers "Combination Boogie" which closed the program.

The evening ended with the Bennett Sister Circle and the group singing "Bennett's Ideal" and the traditional "Alma Mater."

"Opening Doorways To Economic Security" Is Theme Of 20th Home-Making Institute

The question of full employment and its effect upon the Negro and the nation will furnish the basic theme for the 20th annual Home-making Institute, March 18-24. The institute is held each year with the purpose of bringing about a closer relationship between school and community. In devoting careful study to timely topics, it is hoped that a greater awareness regarding significant problems will be created.

It is the desire of the committee, headed by Miss Barbara A. Ware, Home Economics Director, as chairman, to promote a keener appreciation on the part of students and community people, of problems related to full employment.

Highlighting this year's sessions

will be panel discussions and addresses on pressure groups, organized labor, and governmental regulation.

The institute will close Sunday, March 24, with an address by Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina. Other outstanding speakers to be heard during the week are C. C. Spaulding, president of the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company, Durham, N. C.; George W. Streater, first Negro reporter appointed to the New York Times; Miss Bertha Diggs, Secretary of Labor of the State of New York; John R. Pinkett, real estate broker of Washington, D. C.; and Mrs. Sara Spencer Washington, president of the Apex Hair Dressing Company, Atlantic City, N. J.

Chalmers Delivers Home-Coming Address

The recent visit of Dr. and Mrs. Allan Knight Chalmers to the campus proved both interesting and highly educative. Dr. Chalmers, one of the most outstanding Christian leaders of today, was the vesper speaker, for the alumnae home-coming, Sunday, February 24.

Greatly sought after as a speaker, Dr. Chalmers is an author of note, having written several books on religion, and an extensive traveller with numerous interesting experiences.

During their stay on the campus, students and faculty were privileged to talk with Dr. and Mrs. Chalmers at great length and to learn something of their varied unusual experiences. Among some of the topics discussed were his thrilling visit to the leper colony in the Virgin Islands, the time he went to Detroit in an effort to avert the race riot, and his mission to Puerto Rico on a trouble shooting job.

Mrs. Chalmers addressed many student groups and was guest speaker Sunday morning during the Sunday school hour. After her talk she

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Seniors Dedicate Tree In Honor of Late Benefactor

The traditional Senior Day exercises, at which time members of the graduating class received their caps and gowns, took place Friday, March 15, at 10:30 a. m. in Annie Merner Pfeiffer Chapel.

Appreciation from the class of '46 was given by Miss Nancy Pinkard. The senior day address was delivered by President David D. Jones, who presided.

Following the chapel exercises the audience assembled on the campus for the customary "tree" dedication honoring the late Mrs. Henry Pfeiffer, benefactor, who made such an outstanding contribution to the growth of the college. Miss Beatrice Martin gave the dedication speech and the Senior group rendered a choral arrangement of "Trees", by Miss Camille Dunham, of the class of '46.

Other highlights of the day were the senior banquet and dance.

A woman said to her husband, "I don't think I look thirty, do you dear?" Her husband replied, "No, darling, not now. You used to."

Record Number Of Graduates Re-Live College Experiences

The college campus hummed with excitement as former graduates returned to their alma mater for the annual home-coming, the week-end of February 22nd. More than fifty alumnae were in attendance to participate in the busy week-end of activities.

Extensive plans were made for the graduates, by the Home-coming Committee, headed by Mrs. Juanita Pope Morisey as chairman. They began arriving on the campus Friday afternoon and were welcomed by the registration and housing committee, headed by Miss Dudonna Tate as chairman. From then on, the long awaited anticipation of setting foot on old familiar ground and of seeing former college classmates, was greatly in evidence. Without a doubt the setting brought back many happy memories.

Friday evening, after dinner, the group attended the opening performance of "Suspect," presented by the Bennett thespians in the Little Theatre and which was one of the scheduled events for the week-end.

Later that same evening the annual alumnae dance was held in Thirkield gymnasium. For four fuf-fested hours "old acquaintances" met again and danced to the strains of beautiful music played by Max Westerland and his orchestra. In the receiving line were President and Mrs. David D. Jones; Mrs. Grace C. Gates, president of the Alumnae Association; Mrs. Juanita Morisey, Home-coming Chairman; Miss Willa B. Player, director of admissions and registrar; and Mrs. M. B. McLaurin, association treasurer. Misses Peggy Toatley and Mary Whitfield were co-chairman of this affair.

After a busy night, the group started Saturday off at 1 p. m. with

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"SUSPECT" OPENS HOME-COMING EVENTS

Enthusiastic applause rewarded the commendable character portrayals of Yvonne Peeler, and Delores Newsome, of a clever psychopathic case, in the psychological drama, "Suspect", Friday and Saturday evenings, February 22-23, in the college Little Theatre.

The actresses received worthy praise for the impressionable response they gave to the role of a character who had been accused of committing a horrible murder many years ago and freed by lack of evidence. Miss Peeler was starred Friday night and Miss Newsome, Saturday night.

Frank Cuthbertson and Walter Lewis gave splendid interpretations of their roles as Sir Hugo Const, former reporter who had attended the sensational trial, and Dr. Randle, the doctor, respectively.

The intensity of the drama was relieved by the drollness of the village priest played by Jatha Coward.

Supporting roles were played by Irene Pickens, Ruth Sydnor, Charles White, and Margaret Caldwell.

Directed by Miss Constance Johnson, instructor in speech and dramatics, the play was one of the events of the Home-coming week-end.

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