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State Teachers College News Letter

Volume 19

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Number 1

S. T. C. President Dr. R. N. Ridley



In the first issue of the Newsletter since my coming to State Teachers College, I extend sincere greetings to all. The Newsletter is a medium for the dissemination of news and the sharing of opinions about our college. My family and I are happy to share with you the news of our pleasure in being accepted as a part of the State Teachers College Family and the Elizabeth City Community. We have enjoyed the warmth of your greetings, the cooperation with which you have worked, and the general friendliness of the people in and around the college community.

We would share also the opinion that our stay at State Teachers College will bring to us the opportunity for many rewarding experiences, if we do our share. Again, we return to news and say, "We plan to do our share."

We shall look forward to reading the Newsletter in order to keep up with news and opinions about the State Teachers College Family. May the work which all of us must do as students, staff and friends of the college bring to us many joys as well as confidence and pleasure in working and living together.

Very sincerely yours,
Walter N. Ridley
President

FRESHMEN IN CANDLE-LIGHTING CEREMONY

The Annual Candlelighting Service was given in Moore Hall on Sunday September 14 at 6:30 P.M. Freshmen representing youths in search of light were the main participants, and President Walter N. Ridley spoke on "Let Us Have Light."

The prelude, "I Call to Thee Lord Jesus Christ" was followed by the processional, "Psalm XIX," and the Lord's Prayer (Malotte) was sung by Joyce A. Welch.

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PANELISTS STRESS COMMUNITY COOPERATION

The Mayor of Elizabeth City, The Honorable Levin Culpepper, Mrs. Edna H. Mitchell, President of the Northeastern Federation of Women's Clubs, Superintendent John H. Moore, of Pasquotank County Schools and a Trustee of the college; George Attix, of the Elizabeth City Chamber of Commerce, and Dr. N. H. Shope, Superintendent of Elizabeth City Public Schools, participated in a panel on "Community Cooperation" before the weekly assembly of students and faculty at Elizabeth City State Teachers College.

Mayor Culpepper stressed the need for closer cooperation between the community and the college as he gave recognition to efforts of the past and to future responsibilities for broaden the scope of activities to meet present day demands. Today's needs for shared services in improving the social and cultural life of this community are even greater than before. The community looks to the college for help in meeting problems and for leadership in cultural progress. We feel very strongly the impact of the interdependence of college and community", said Mayor Culpepper.

A review of previous college-sponsored activities in cooperation with church, civic welfare, and social-cultural activities in the Elizabeth City community was made by Mrs. Edna H. Mitchell, a graduate of the college now serving as Head of the College's Department of English, who spoke for community club groups.

Indications of progress through the expanding college curriculum were pointed out by Trustee John H. Moore. Reference was made to the provisions to equip the college with facilities for

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140 FRESHMEN BEGIN 1958-59 SESSION

Faculty Welcomes Freshmen

The annual Reception to acquaint the State Teachers College Faculty with the new students was given in Cale Hall on September 7.

There was no receiving line; the affair was informal. The faculty were arranged in small conversational groups to whom the freshmen were introduced by junior counselors. They were then left to chat briefly before going on to another group.

It was felt by faculty and students that the hour was very enjoyable and that it gave the opportunity for the two groups to become acquainted in a casual manner.

A faculty committee and junior counselors were responsible for the planning and service.

COSMETOLOGY DEPARTMENT HOLDS OPEN HOUSE

On Sunday, October 12, from three to five p.m., the Cosmetology Department of the State Teachers College held open house. More than two hundred guests visited the modernly-equipped center.

The welcome to visitors was given by the president of the class, Laura Wright, and response was made by Mrs. E. A. Eaton.

A highlight of the afternoon was the installation of the officers of the club by Mrs. Blanch B. Guilford. Officers are: Laura Wright, president; Mary Kee, vice-president; Katrina Jordan, secretary; Vandella Alston, assistant secretary; Velma Lassiter, treasurer, and Maude Draughn, business manager.

—Maude Draughn

At the formal opening of the College on September 5, at 1:00 P.M., Dr. Walter N. Ridley, who had arrived just four days before, welcomed a group of more than one hundred freshman students. In doing so, he urged them to think seriously of the importance of a good start and to accept their responsibilities as beginning college students.

After the assembly, the students, directed by personnel leaders, were divided into groups, assigned to junior counselors, and taken on a tour of the campus. When several places of interest had been visited, including the office of the president, the tour ended.

In the evening a Freshman Mixer was held in the Recreation Hall. A large number of new students exchanged greetings and participated in games.

A good night's rest and an appetizing breakfast helped the students to prepare for the placement tests scheduled for Saturday morning. Language and Reading Tests were held during the day. The change came in the evening when the group enjoyed a movie in Moore Auditorium.

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Former President Retires

Sidney David Williams, former president of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College, was born in Macon, Georgia. He obtained his degree of bachelor of arts from Atlanta University, and his master of arts from Teachers College, Columbia University. He later studied at the University of Chicago.

During Dr. Williams' educational career, he was an instructor of science and mathematics; an athletic coach; a high school principal; and from 1929-1945 dean of this college. In 1945 he became president of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College at which he served until his retirement in May 1958.

His prestige and interest in the college made possible many accomplishments during his administration. Two new dormitories, a science building, an infirmary, and a Fine Arts and Physical Education Building, which now bears his name, were erected. The college has also been approved by the most outstanding rating boards for Teachers Colleges in the United States.

Near the time of his departure, many campus and community organizations honored him. There were gifts, teas, dinners, and other beautiful tributes.

