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## CALDWELL TO VISIT WESLEYAN



### Renowned Author To Give Lecture, Visit Classes

One of America's most famous authors, Erskine Caldwell, will come to North Carolina Wesleyan College on Feb. 14.

A literary giant in every sense of the word, Erskine Caldwell continues a spectacularly successful career year after year. A new novel, "Miss Mamma Aimee," (spring of 1967), and a book of essays, "Writing in America," (fall of 1966), are his latest works. In addition, he manages to keep constantly on the move, seeing the world around him with fresh eyes and a mind that reflects deeply on the social scene.

Erskine Caldwell's workshop is the world. An observant, widely traveled man, he is one towering literary figure who does not like to be thought of as only "literary." He has traveled to almost every state in the Union, to every country in Europe and South America. A perceptive observer of the contemporary scene both here and abroad, Mr. Caldwell's keen impressions invariably find their way into his work.

Mr. Caldwell's novel, "God's Little Acre," which The Saturday Review called "one of the finest studies of Southern poor whites that has ever come into our literature," is probably the most widely read contemporary American novel. It is a perennial classic in the U. S. and, during World War II, was sent overseas to American servicemen in an Armed Services edition. It has been translated into 24 languages and been published in 26 countries. A moving picture was based on it.

No less well known is Mr. Caldwell's "Tobacco Road," the stage and screen versions of this novel having made its title a by-word throughout the nation and the world.

When Erskine Caldwell was eighteen, he enrolled at Erskine College, Due West, S. C., but remained only a short time. He went to sea on a boat that was running guns for a revolt in a Central American republic, and ended up several months later in Mexico. His next attempt to complete his education was when he entered the University of Virginia after having won a scholarship offered by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. He remained there almost a year, working nights in a poolroom for room and board. He had begun to write short stories

though, before he left, and continued writing while working in a variety store in Pennsylvania, playing professional football, managing a lecture tour for a British soldier of fortune, selling building lots in Alabama, working as a bodyguard and as a cub reporter on the Atlanta Journal. The stories he was writing were not good enough to suit him, and he made no attempt to get them published.

After a year, he gave up his newspaper job and went

to Maine, where he remained for eight years, vowing not to come out until he had succeeded in writing a good short story. At the end of four years he sent a story called "Country Full of Swedes" to various magazines. Later the story turned up at the Yale Review, where it was given the magazine's \$1,000 Award for Fiction in 1933. During these years in Maine, he had written a number of novels, also. "The Bas-

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### AAC Recognizes NCW At Annual Meet

North Carolina Wesleyan College achieved national recognition by its election to full membership in the Association of American Colleges at its annual meeting held in Los Angeles recently.

Notice of the favorable vote, which followed the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Association, came by telephone from President Thomas A. Collins who attended the meeting.

"This constitutes full regional and national recognition and grants a distinction to North Carolina Wesleyan College accorded to very few new institutions. In the shortest period of time Wesleyan has met and

exceeded standards for national membership in the association which includes most of the nation's distinguished colleges and universities. We are proud of this record and are deeply conscious of our debt of gratitude to our many friends and supporters in North Carolina," commented Dr. Collins.

N. C. Wesleyan was the first college in the state to be granted early candidacy for membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. At the earliest eligible date, last November, it was elected into full membership. This early recognition

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D. S. JOHNSON

### D.S. Johnson Appointed Assistant To Dean

D. S. Johnson, a former superintendent of Schools and a long-time resident of Rocky Mount, has been named Administrative Assistant to the Dean of Students, according to Dr. Sim Wilde, Dean of Students.

Mr. Johnson, who has been employed by the school since last fall, will serve as an agent of the Dean of Students office to deal directly with student problems. His duties will include dealing with general student problems on campus, handling dormitory problems of a minor nature, and acting as a counselor for students.

Dr. Wilde sees Mr. Johnson to be "a real addition to my staff" and feels that he will be an invaluable asset to the department because of his vast experience in dealing with students and their problems.

Mr. Johnson says he is eager

to assist students in any way possible. "I am looking forward to working with the students and hope I can be of help to them," he says.

He has served for 17 years as Superintendent of Schools in the Rocky Mount School System, having retired last year, and was more recently employed by Jasper Smith in the mimeograph and supply office at Wesleyan.

His office is located in the Student Union Building across the hall from the College Bookstore. His hours are to be confined primarily to the mornings, but he says that he will be available at any hour day or night if he is needed.

Mr. Johnson's appointment was made to help clear the Dean of Students office for some of the more important problems with which it must deal.

### On The Inside . . .

#### THE DRAFT TEST page 3

The DECREE lists the procedure for students who wish to take the Selective Service College Qualification test.

#### ART IN THE 60'S page 5

DECREE editor Ronnie Crouch discusses a growing opinion of art and the artist in the complex world of the 1960's.

#### WESLEYAN HOSTS TOURNAMENT page 6

A review of entries, schedules, etc. for the upcoming DIAC wrestling tournament to be held at Wesleyan February 11.