

EDITORIAL

Another Year At North Carolina College

The fall season has convened for the 39th time in the illustrious history of this venerable institution . . . Another year at North Carolina College and we return to our old haunts to resume where we left off last June.

A new class, perhaps full of dreams, aspirations, and ideas, has entered into the compact of the college commonwealth. We add our greetings to the long list that the newcomers have received by now. We are a bit loath to use the following well-worn phrase, but for want of something more apropos: this year—just as every other year is predicted—is certain to be a banner year for the institution of the "sloping hills and verdant green."

Before we leave school this year for the summer vacations, the halfway point of this paradoxical and perplexing twentieth century will have been reached. We are entering school amidst and uneasy international situation. The island of Great Britain, its inhabitants long since accustomed to austerity, is on the verge of a currency collapse. Germany, conquered by the Allied powers in the latest war, is being wrangled over by the Allied powers and now it threatens to conquer the Allies in peace. The Balkans, long a sore spot and breeding ground for wars, is fast developing into a bombshell by virtue of Tito's defiance of the Cominform. In the Far East the old order in China is crumbling fast before the march of the people's army.

Here at home we have been aroused by the spy hunting and loyalty checks to the extent that civil liberties are being seriously menaced. The omnipresent threat of a depression, lurking just around some corner, hangs heavy on wise minds. Also our battle, as a race, against the injustices we have been subjected to, is being pressed with more noticeable gain than ever before. In the area of education we have made and are making long strides toward total integration. As a result of our determined fight we are getting more for our separate and hopelessly inferior schools in the South. Proof of that should be very tangible to us—the \$4,000,000 expansion program now underway on this campus. Indeed we are progressing and getting more—but not enough—not nearly fast enough.

Such is the backdrop for our entry into school this year. What we do at the college this year may well determine what will be going on a score of years from now at the college. What we get while here, in the way of attitudes may well determine what the nation will be like a score of years from now. What we develop here in the way of a philosophy may determine what the world will be like—if there be one—a score of years from now.

It seems to us that our prime purpose in college, in light of present day affairs, is to formulate some feasible philosophy to apply to the delicate situation we now face. America puts a premium on education as it advocates education for the masses. We are the fortunate few and must carry the torch. This nation can ill-afford to have another "Martinsville Seven," another "Trenton Six," another "Groveland Three," or another "Peekskill." This world can ill-afford to have another "Titanic" or another "Pearl Harbor." We are approaching the crossroads fast. What path is to be taken? Where will it lead?

THE CAMPUS ECHO

Published Monthly by the Students At North Carolina College At Durham.

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the month at NCC by clay

Came the merry (for the graduating class, that is) month of June and the fortunate, armed with only a North Carolina College skepskin and the will to conquer were launched (jettisoned is probably a better definition for what actually happened) from the sloping hills and verdant green, determined to make a place in the sun for themselves . . . For the scholarly and those "found wanting" in grade points and hours, summer school portals stood ajar. These conscientious souls set out in quest for knowledge and an occasional mint julep when the humidity got

too "rough." Those who had tied up all loose ends were off for home, the beach, the mountains, and entertained blissful thoughts of how to spend the summer vacation . . . The James E. Shepard Memorial Foundation listened to proposals for effecting some lasting tribute to the late founder of North Carolina College . . . The long-awaited face-lifting project for the local campus was about to get started as bids were accepted for the infirmary and health building, first in a series of buildings to be erected in connection with the expansion program. . . .

July: the humidity was terrific and the mint juleps came faster and thicker as inhabitants sought some relief from the rays of 'ol Sol . . . Telephones were installed in the girls dorm and in the gym, at long last. (When will the ECHO office get one?) . . . Summer school was in full swing and the profs, were piling it on according to unreliable sources . . . Building contracts were let for the construction of the infirmary and health building. . . . Also bids for the construction of the James E. Shepard Memorial library and a site for the soon to be constructed Fine Arts building was staked; where we don't know . . .

August, the month named for some Roman named Augustus

somebody (better look that up) visited its "swelterful" daze, oops, days, on the North Carolina College campus and found the summer scholars still plugging away . . . The nine-week session of summer school ended and the ultra-scholarly girded themselves for the three-week post session . . . Construction bids for the faculty apartments and a classroom building were accepted . . . A musico-drama production, "Shall We Inherit" was presented by the summer players for local consumption . . . Already in the heat of August, Alumni officials, looking to the crisp, tangy days of autumn when king pigskin would rule (that's what it says here) were laying plans for a homecoming to end all homecomings . . . Changes in the staff and faculty were being made, thick and fast. Eight out of eighteen appointees to the faculty were Ph. D. holders . . . The Placement Bureau of the Alumni Association made a howl over the fact that graduates were "snubbing" the service offered by that office in securing a job . . . The Shepard Memorial Foundation launched a quarter million dollar drive for funds. Prof. J. T. Taylor, Sen. Frank Graham, Gov. Kerr Scott, and Rep. R. M. Gant took to the airplanes via state-wide network to explain the purpose of the Foundation and

to urge support of it . . . History was in the making in September at the institution of North Carolina College. The contract for the construction of the faculty apartment was let to the Berry Company of Durham, thus marking the first time in the annals of the State that a Negro contractor was hired to construct a building for a state-supported institution . . . Coach H. H. Riddick issued the call for grid practice and approximately 60 hopefuls answered. (Cluey, someone's calling, night shade's falling. Oh what the heck). When all the candidates had assembled, a quick glance revealed that 27 men were missing on account of graduation, ineligibility rules, and academic shortcomings . . . By September, the sloping hills ceased to slope so and the verdant green lost some of its verdant "green-ness" as bulldozers, cranes, pile drivers, and other varying types of heavy equipment proceeded to make the campus look like a contractor's depot . . . The CAMPUS ECHO staff (ha!) moved in and set up offices for the year. Then on that fateful last Tuesday, a horde of freshmen moved in to be welcomed by the official welcoming and orientating committees and to be really "orientated" by the un-official committee. (He, he).

Expansion

Continued From Page One

Construction contract for the Infirmary-Health building, to be erected at a cost of \$200,000, was awarded to T. E. Poe and Son of Durham.

Next building to be started is the James E. Shepard Memorial library, whose site was formerly occupied by the annexes, three and four, housing the department of dramatic arts and the band room. Work on the building, estimated to cost around \$500,000, has already begun.

Not included in the four million expansion program, but under repair is the old Avery auditorium which will be converted into a temporary Law library. Cost of the renovation of the auditorium is estimated at \$20,000.

Already the walls of the Infirmary-Health building are going up and it is expected to be completed and ready for occupancy sometime late next spring.

Preliminary work has begun on building a foundation for the library while the Avery auditorium is expected to be ready for use in the very near future.

Next on the expansion program schedule is construction of the faculty apartments and a classroom building, slated to be under construction soon.

The faculty apartment is estimated to cost above \$200,000 while the classroom building will be built at an approximate

Open Letter From The President

We like to think of our college as "Our Community" because we feel that each person should have the opportunity to grow in his capacity to live graciously and to act intelligently.

We feel that the quality of the buildings, the equipment, and the services of the college represent the appreciation and respect which the people of the State have for us. In turn, we feel that the extent and quality of our use of these facilities and services reflect the respect that we have for ourselves.

We welcome our new students as new citizens of our college community. I know that I express the sentiments of the older students and members of the faculty when I say that we shall do our best to demonstrate to you that our goal of living is to be friendly, cooperative, and intelligent. We welcome you because we feel that your aims in life are similar to ours and that you will join with us in an ef-



DR. A. ELDER
... "each person"

fort to realize more fully our cherished hopes and ideals.

Sincerely yours,
A. ELDER
President

cost of \$190,000.

The Berry Company of Durham became the first Negro contractor to be awarded general construction contract for erection of a state-supported institution in this state as the company's low bid of \$102,000 was accepted for the faculty

apartment.

The R. H. Pennix Company, also of Durham, is the contractor for the classroom building.

All the new buildings will be constructed along the architectural lines of the Colonial era to correspond with the rest of the campus buildings.