

Bandmaster's Career Has Been Packed With Success

By MARY MEBANE



MR. WESLEY I. HOWARD

Probably one of the first-class prophecies ever to be fulfilled was the one made about Wesley Howard of the class of 1913 of Richmond High School, Richmond, Indiana. The class prophesied for him a brilliant career as a violinist and position as leader of a symphony orchestra at Hampton Institute.

Mr. Wesley I. Howard, Bandmaster and teacher of instruments at North Carolina College, during the 1920's and 1930's, played to critical acclaim all along the Eastern Seaboard in America and in European cities. Critics of such news organs as *The Washington Daily News*, *The Washington Post*, *The Philadelphia Tribune*, *The New York Age* and *Musical America* came to hear and to praise Mr. Howard. *Musical America* said this about Mr. Howard's playing: "Mr. Howard, the violinist, has a warm and expressive tone, was well prepared for his performance, and added much to the artistic pleasure of the evening." Mr. Howard also during the 1920's gave joint recitals with Roland Hayes, the tenor.

Fulfilling the second part of the prophecy, Mr. Howard did lead a symphony orchestra at Hampton Institute and also at Howard University, Virginia State College and Talladega College.

Mr. Howard studied long and intensively to master his instru-

ment. It is a tribute to his ability that all of his schooling in violin was paid for by scholarship. He has degrees from the New England Conservatory of Music, The Juilliard School of Music, L'Ecole Normale, Paris, France and Trinity College, London.

It is characteristic of the man that, although he has numerous degrees from the very best schools, he prefers to be called simply "Mr. Howard." Mr. Howard is so unassuming that it is difficult to connect the career with the man. He has four thick scrapbooks containing clippings about his artistry and the programs on which he has played. He is the subject of an unpublished biography by Mr. H. L. Faggett. Yet he himself is warm, easily approached, and is painstaking and patient with the pupils and the groups with whom he works.

For recreation, Mr. Howard plays chess and has studied for sometime the Chinese language.

Mr. Howard is active in music circles. On April 17, 1955 he was guest soloist with the Virginia State College Little Symphony. On April 22, Mr. Howard was the guest conductor with the Lincoln High School Band for the performance of Schubert's Unfinished Symphony. Mr. Howard has also been selected to serve as a judge of the N. C. State Band Festival which will be held at A. and T. College, Greensboro, N. C. on May 6, 1955.

Graduate Dean Discusses Poetry At CLA Confab

Dr. Richard K. Barksdale, assistant dean of the Graduate School at North Carolina College, participated on a special panel on the teaching of Poetry during the Fifteenth Annual Meeting of the College Language Association held at Hampton Institute, Hampton, Va. The conference was held April 22-23.

Other NCC faculty members attending the conference were Dr. Ruth Horry and Dr. Charles A. Ray. The conference theme was "Cultural Orientation in the Teaching of Language."

Among the nation's foremost scholars in language and literature who took part in the two day meeting, were J. Saunders Redding, author and critic from Hampton Institute; M. Carl Holman, dramatist from Clark College; Mrs. Henrietta McMillan of Chicago Teachers College; and James M. Smith of Emory University.

Dr. Ray is the corresponding secretary for the Association, and Editor of the *College Language Association Bulletin*.

Mom-Daughter Week-End Set

NCC's seventh annual Mother-Daughter Week-end starts a two day run tomorrow morning. The mother of every freshman and sophomore co-ed has been invited.

This year's special attraction will be the presentation of Miss Hazel McCree in a vocal recital to be held in B. N. Duke Auditorium tomorrow night at 8 o'clock.

Registration of mothers will begin tomorrow morning. At noon there will be a mother-faculty luncheon in the dining hall. At this time, the mothers will have the opportunity to talk with their daughters' instructors.

After the luncheon, a mother-daughter forum will be conducted. The mother-daughter supper is scheduled for tomorrow night.

Sunday's activities for the visiting mothers begin at 7:30 A. M. in B. N. Duke Auditorium with an organ prelude service. Immediately following this is a vesper service at which the Women's Glee Club will sing. At 8:30, there will be a coffee hour in McLean Dormitory.

Another vesper service is scheduled at 4:30 which all mothers are welcome to attend.

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