

## Meet The Graduates



Top row—Alfonso Sutton, Reba Holmes, Mary E. Joyner, Ezekiel Tysor.  
 Second row—A. Virginia Newton, Betty Massenburg, Marjorie Brown, Catheryn Malloy.  
 Third row—Odell Uzzell, Thurba Fuller, Frances Wilkerson, Walter Gibson.  
 Fourth row—Elizabeth Miller, Vivian Holsley, Katherine Penny, Dora Ratliff.

### HISTORY OF THE CLASS OF '46

On Monday, September 14, 1942 the first wartime class, a hopeful horde of 171 would-be teachers invaded the campus of Fayetteville State Teachers College. No one had to inquire who these intruders were for their expressions of awe and uncertainty signified that they were freshmen.

The administration called that first week orientation week — somewhere to go every night, test to take, lectures to hear, a get-acquainted social, all in all, the beginning of a great life.

Our first real endeavor was that of getting acquainted and organized. One hundred seventy one strong, we assembled in Smith Auditorium to elect officers. There were some ninety odd "left-overs" classified as freshman and some of them attended

our election. Our faculty advisors, Mr. John W. Parker, Mr. Frank McDuffie, Mr. Edwin D. Sheen and Mr. J. Walker Freeman were present. Those chosen as Freshman class officers include: India M. Martin, president, William G. Lowe, vice president, Marjorie Brown, secretary and Virginia Newton, Treasurer.

Our varsity football team was composed mostly of big, robust freshmen; it won a majority of the games. The Homecoming Game, at which Mary E. Joyner was freshman attendant, was a gala event, for "our boys" trampled the Elizabeth City Teachers in the dirt. Then came Uncle Sam and took away so many of our men that football had to be discontinued. What a blow! What would the young women do now? Well, somehow wait and hope

for the return of their gallant classmates. That was no easy task, but they did it.

Meanwhile, spring came on. Our College Social Committee permitted parties and dances with service men from Fort Bragg and from other near-by army posts. This meant another new experience, something new under the sun, a campus to which service men come frequently in large numbers, and one might say, still come, but in numbers less large. Nor was scholarship neglected. A representative number of us as freshmen saw their names on the Dean's List each quarter.

During the Sophomore year we found things a little different courses a little more difficult to master and our number slowly but surely growing smaller. Undaunted by this difficulty we pushed on.

One signal event of the sophomore year was the Drama Guilds production of "Our Town", under the direction of Mrs. Marian Page Wall. Participants from our class were Marion Eloise Wilkins and Alfonso Sutton playing leading roles and Mima Melvin, India Martin, and Juanita Baker with minor roles.

Mr. John W. Parker, instructor in English and American Literature was always in evidence. "Tomorrow" he would say, "we will have 30 poems, beginning with the 23rd Psalm" and going right through "A Man's A Man for A That."

The young women in the Sophomore dormitory cannot forget the fun they had with Mrs. S. Charlotte Phillips and her nature stories. Nor can they forget Camp Lejuene and the "endurance contests" they had on the concrete dance floor with the Marines who did everything they could to make the evenings enjoyable.

In September 1944, Alfonso Sutton was chosen president of the class along with the Rometta Davis, secretary and Mrs. Mabel Harris Treasurer.

The paramount endeavor of the Junior Class was to give the Seniors a dignified, enjoyable prom. The effort turned out to be a successful experiment in class cooperation. The 219th Army Ground Forces Band of Fort Bragg rendered music. Some of those present said, "Yours was the best Junior-Senior prom I ever attended!"

Meanwhile, scholarship was not neglected. A number of us as Juniors made the Dean's List and Alice Shaw and Odell Uzzell were elected to membership in the Alpha Kappa Mu Honor Scholarship Society.

Gladys MacRae was Maid of Honor to Miss Homecoming (basketball) and Mae E. Tyson-Flowers was attendant. Mary Wilson was chosen superintendent of the college Sunday School for two quarters.

Mary Wilson went to Hampton Institute as a representative of the college Y. W. C. A.

We did not really dominate the campus as most senior classes do. We realized that we too had once been lower classmen, hence we went about our own affairs and left as many high offices in college organizations to the Sophomores and Juniors as possible. This we did because we wanted to show our appreciation to and consideration of our schoolmates.

Again, we were glad as Seniors to have so many of our veterans returning to continue their schooling. We are glad to be the first peace-time class to be graduated, to see the rebirth of football and to see our classmate beautiful "Bea" Morton as "Miss Homecoming of 1945."

Now, it's commencement — the end, the beginning. We are going to utilize our talents to add more fame and renown to dear old F. S. T. C.

India M. Martin,  
 Class Historian.