

BACCALAUREATE

Sunday,
June 3

THE VOICE

"DIGEST OF STUDENT OPINION"

COMMENCEMENT

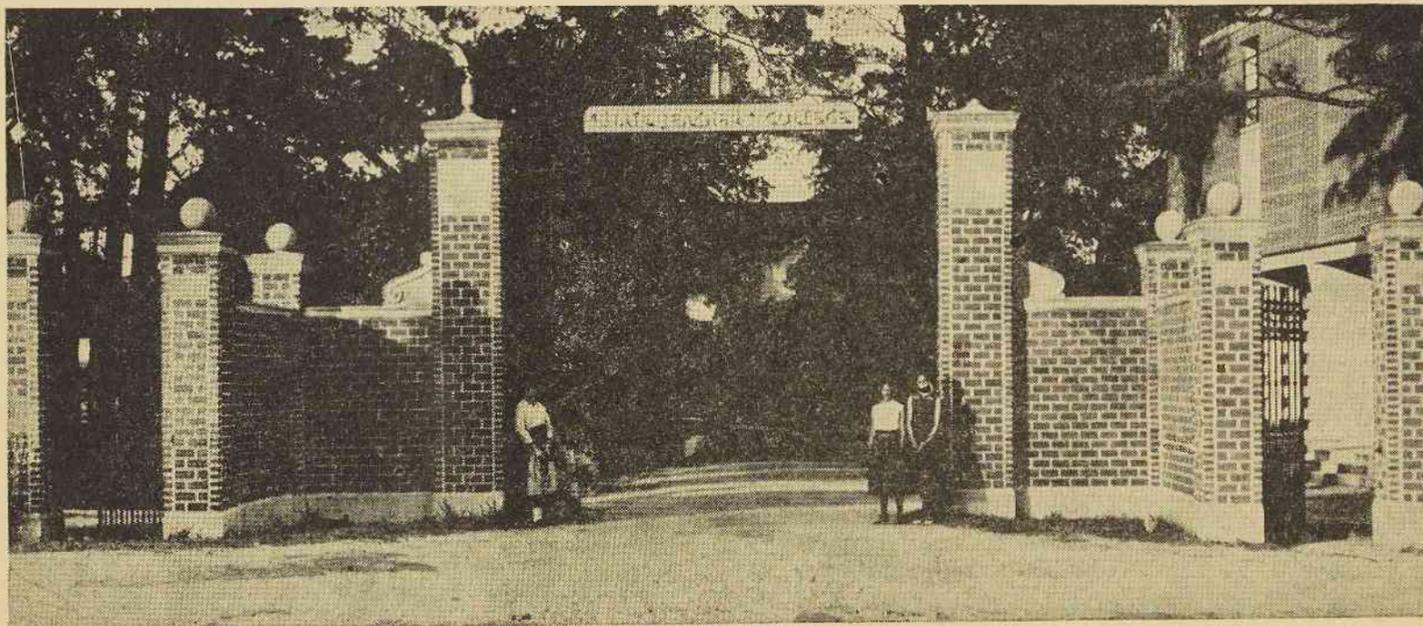
Tuesday,
June 5

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FAYETTEVILLE, STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C., MAY, 1956

SPECIAL PUBLICITY ISSUE



This Is Fayetteville State Teachers College

A Community Resource

Fayetteville, which is experiencing a remarkable, revitalized interest in higher education, actually has been a college community for nearly 80 years. This city is the site of Fayetteville State Teachers College off Murchison Rd., founded in 1877, which makes it the oldest teacher - education institution established in North Carolina and the oldest state-supported college for Negroes in the state.

What has been the relationship between the community and college during the institution's history?

Dr. J. W. Seabrook, president of the college since 1933, declared, "Fayetteville has furnished the type of environment and atmosphere which a college is looking for."

Expanding from this statement, Dr. Seabrook continued, "The citizens welcome our students in their homes and in their churches. The influence upon our student body is wholesome. The people of Fayetteville have always helped our college financially, morally, and in every other way we could expect a community to aid and encourage an educational institution."

The effect of this "very stimulating and safe environment upon our students," Dr. Seabrook said, has been that no college student ever has been charged with a crime more serious than a traffic violation since he came to the school as dean in 1922.

The college president pointed out that students of the college do not seek out undesirable places "and these joints would not welcome our students, for they know the surest way to arouse the indignation of the citizenry of Fayetteville and get their places closed would be to entice or cater to college students."

Fort Bragg Asset

Turning to the neighboring Fort Bragg reservation, Dr. Seabrook stated, "I can conscientiously assert that Fort Bragg is a definite asset to the college and that we

have had many helpful and pleasant contacts and dealings with the Fort Bragg soldiers and their families."

Many military personnel over the years have taken special courses at the institution. Their wives and children have attended and are attending the institution.

"The young soldiers that visit the college are just as genteel and circumspect in their conduct as are the male students," he added.

"Many have entered upon successful marriages with our female graduates . . . We find them above the average intellectually and socially. There are other types among the 40,000 troops at Fort Bragg, but they do not visit the college. Actually, that undesirable group, knowing it will not find liquor, gambling and fast women, just doesn't come."

"There is an exchange of musical presentations, educational programs and other events between the post and college that proves to be "pleasant and profitable," the college president added.

What has been the progress of Fayetteville State Teachers College during the 23 years Dr. Seabrook has served as its head?

In 1933 there were 364 students attending the institution — then a two-year normal school. The State Legislature designated it as a four-year teachers college in 1939 and growth has been steady until its present enrollment of 550.

Over half of North Carolina's hundred counties are represented among the student body. Of the total enrollment, 494 are from this state, with the remainder mostly from New York, New Jersey, Virginia, South Carolina and the District of Columbia.

Many Day Students

An interesting note is that one-third of the student body is day students. Dr. Seabrook said that most of these 187 non-boarders commute to the college each day from their homes in Fayetteville

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Fayetteville Plays Host to National Speech - Drama Meet

The Twentieth Annual Conference of the National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts was held at the Fayetteville State Teachers College April 11-14. This year's session was an enthusiastic and meaningful one with delegates in attendance from South Carolina, North Carolina, Louisiana, Georgia, Missouri, Kentucky, Ohio, and Florida.

The Thursday assembly session was heightened by a keynote address by Paul Green, author of the Pulitzer prize winning play, *In Abraham's Bosom*, and currently chairman of the Department of Folklore at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, N. C.

Introduced by Dr. Thomas E. Poag, chairman of the Department of Speech and Drama at the Tennessee A. and I. State University, Paul Green spoke on the topic "Our Democratic Heritage." At the assembly session, Dr. J. Ward Seabrook, president of the college, formally welcomed the group to the campus and Dr. Thomas D. Pawley, head of the work in Speech and Drama at Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Mo., gave the response.

Varied Speech Drama Activities

The four-day meeting was replete with displays, lectures, discussions, and demonstrations on effective choral speaking, speech correction, and radio and TV drama activities. Likewise, the program provided for High School Day, Affiliated Organizations Day, and for the annual NADSA semi-formal dance and the annual Association banquet.

Array of Consultants

Among consultants present were S. Randolph Edmonds, chairman of the Department of Speech and Drama at the Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College, Tallahassee, Fla.; Dr. Thomas E. Poag, former Association President and Chairman of Speech and Drama at the Tennessee A. and I. State University, Nashville; Dr. Thomas D. Pawley, former Association President and Chairman of the Department

of Speech and Drama at Lincoln University, Jefferson City, Missouri; James E. Randolph, Director, Community Youth Center, Springfield, Mo.; Irene Edwards, Director, Children's Drama, Florida Agricultural and Mechanical College, Tallahassee; Dr. W. S. Swiers, Assistant Superintendent of Schools, Fayetteville; Nancy Keener, Speech Correctionist, Fayetteville Public Schools, Fayetteville; and Dr. Edgar A. Toppin, Chairman, Department of Social Studies, Fayetteville State Teachers College.

The Thursday evening series of plays included "Overruled," by George Bernard Shaw, presented by Central State College, Wilberforce, Ohio; "Smokescreen," by Robert Kaster, Kentucky State College, Frankfort; and Paul Green's "No Count Boy," Mary- (Continued on Page 7, Col. 1)



NADSA Conference Group