



Vol. XXVIII

LOUISBURG COLLEGE, LOUISBURG, N. C., MONDAY, MAY 12, 1969

No. 9

## Graduation Events Taking Place



MR. SHEARON HARRIS

### ALUMNI BANQUET

The annual Alumni Banquet here at Louisburg College will be held on Saturday, May 17, at 7:00 p.m. in the cafeteria. The purpose of this banquet is to support and keep up the financial interest in the college through fellowship. The Chapel Choir will sing.

This year, Louisburg is pleased to welcome as speaker for the banquet, Mr. Shearon Harris, President of the Carolina Power & Light Company. Mr. Harris is a native North Carolinian. He was born in Vance County, the son of a Baptist minister, completed high school at Beaufort, North Carolina, and received his bachelor of arts and bachelor of law degrees at Wake Forest College.

From 1939 until 1957, when he joined Carolina Power & Light, he practiced law in Albemarle, North Carolina.

Mr. Harris holds the Army's Bronze Star and Legion of Merit citations for service in the European Theatre during World War II.

He served as principal clerk in the North Carolina House of Representatives in 1941 and 1943 and was Representative from Stanly County in 1955.

A prominent Baptist layman, he is involved greatly in many aspects of churches and schools throughout North Carolina.

Mr. Harris was elected Presi-

dent of Carolina Power & Light Company in 1963, and Chief Executive Officer January 1, 1969.

### BACCALAUREATE

Sunday morning, May 18, at 11:00 a.m. the Baccalaureate Service will take place. The Rev. Norwood L. Jones will deliver the address. Mr. Jones was born in Johnston County, N. C. He is a graduate of Clayton, N. C. High School; Louisburg College; High Point College and Duke Divinity School, Duke University.

He served as Director of the Wesley Foundation at Auburn



REV. NORWOOD JONES

University in Auburn, Alabama.

All together Mr. Jones has served in five pastorates in the North Carolina Conference and is currently minister of Louisburg Methodist Church.

Serving in a variety of Methodist related conferences has given him experience to make him a fine minister.

This service dedicated to Louisburg's graduates should be very fulfilling and worthwhile.

The Chapel Choir will be singing.

### Daily Thought

"... Our liberty depends on freedom of the press, and that cannot be limited without being lost."

### GRADUATION

The day is close at hand when Louisburg College will lose its sophomore class and one year business students in graduation. There will be around 180 sophomores and thirty-five one year business students taking part in commencement exercise. The Chapel Choir which loses six of its members will sing their final selections of the '68-'69 school year.

Dr. Thomas A. Collins, President of North Carolina Wesleyan College will be the guest speaker for the Commencement address. A native of Wilmington, Dr. Collins graduated from Asbury College, Asbury Theological Seminary, and Emory College. He was awarded an honorary doctorate by High Point College.

Before being elected first President of North Carolina Wesleyan College, he served as pastor, teacher, and school principal.

Dr. Collins is involved in various cultural and community clubs and services throughout North Carolina and Rocky Mount.

Commencement exercises will take place Sunday, May 18, at 2:30 p.m.

Jerri Holland



DR. THOMAS COLLINS

Most people are ready to take a chance if it costs them nothing.



MISS MERRITT

## Column's Founder Honored

### Editor's Note

*For many years Miss Ruth Merritt has given of her time and energies to the publication of Columns. Her help has been deeply felt by all editors, past and present, as well as their staffs. It is therefore with great gratitude that this last issue of Columns be dedicated to her.*

*To show what Miss Merritt has meant to countless students over the years, Columns has asked Mrs. W. S. Gardner, formerly Charlotte Usher, who was editor of Columns in 1945, to write a few words about Miss Merritt for this issue.*

In June 1945, some of the staff members of Columns had stayed a few extra days on campus to put out the final commencement issue with the help of our wonderful guiding sponsor, Miss Merritt. I had written an editorial in tribute to my beloved teacher and friend for this final issue; however, in her great modesty Miss

Merritt would not permit it to be printed. She later wrote me a charming letter thanking me most kindly for it and explaining that although Mrs. Patten, the wife of our president at the time, had pleaded with her, she felt she just could not let her name go in. Now, twenty-four years later, I feel awe at the privilege of being allowed, though of course behind Miss Merritt's back, to express in Columns my deep appreciation and love for this wonderful woman. Thank you Columns staff for this privilege.

In 1944, Miss Merritt was the sponsor for both campus publications, The Oak and Columns as well as for Beta Phi Gamma and the 'Y'. Miss Merritt was such a part of the total campus life when I was there. She has meant so much to me since in an ever growing friendship. My husband, W. S. Gardner, was her student too, also my brother, Griffin Usher. I am sure I am among many who, having come to know her,

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