

The S. N. S. Messenger

Vol. I. No. 1

Elizabeth City, N. C. - May, 1937

Single Copies, Five Cents

Commencement Events To Start May Sixteenth

Rev. Isaac Fisher To De- liver Baccalaureate Address

The baccalaureate sermon on May 16, at 3 p. m. will mark the beginning of the graduation exercises for the senior class of 1937. The sermon will be preached by the Rev. Isaac Fisher of Hampton Institute, Hampton, Virginia.

Senior Class Day exercises will be held in Moore Auditorium on Wednesday, May 19, at 11 p. m. At this time the valedictorian of the grammar grade class, Wendell Jones, the valedictorian of the primary class, Aurelia Lester, will deliver orations.

Thursday, May 20, is Alumni Day. Many of the alumni will be present to discuss new business for the ensuing year and complete the old business of the past year. Some of the chief activities of the day will be the pilgrimage to the grave of Dr. P. W. Moore, the founder of the school; the Junior Oratorical Contest, and the Annual Reception in honor of the Senior Class.

Friday, May 21, will close a week of stirring activity. Dr. D. O. W. Holmes of the Graduate School of Howard University will deliver the graduation address. At this time diplomas are to be presented to more than two hundred seniors by President J. H. Bias.

FACULTY NEWS

The following members of the S. N. S. faculty staff plan further study during the summer months:

Miss V. O. Walden, grammar grade supervisor, at Ohio State University; Miss Virginia Jones, public school art teacher, at Columbia University; Miss Jaynie Shelton, librarian, at Columbia University; Miss Evelyn Johnson, public school music teacher, at Columbia University; Mrs. E. M. Bullard, clothing specialist, at Columbia University.

Mr. Leon DeKalb, of the department of biology, was guest artist at the P. W. Moore High School Glee Club recital on May 2, 1937.

Rev. Doles, school chaplain, delivered the baccalaureate sermon at Roanoke Institute on May 2.

Mrs. Edna Harris Mitchell, of the Department of English, has just completed a successful year as president of the Statewide Dramatic Association. Mrs. Mitchell was a judge at the High School Dramatic contest in Rocky Mount, N. C. on April 9-10.

President J. H. Bias delivered the commencement address at Bethel, N. C., on April 30.

One Act Play Festival Held

Saturday, April 23, the Winston-Salem Teachers College was host to the North Carolina College Dramatic Association of which Mrs. E. C. H. Mitchell was president for the school year 1936-37. For the past three years the association has sponsored a college dramatic tournament, (the last one being held here in 1936) but this year it sponsored a play festival in which eight Negro colleges participated. No awards were given for plays; rather, the plays were presented for their educational value and for the encouragement of play production.

Colleges represented and the plays they presented were as follows: Winston-Salem Teachers College—The Conflict; St. Augustine's College—Death Takes a Bribe; Elizabeth City State Normal—Thursday Evening; Fayetteville State Normal—The Blue Teapot; Livingston College—The Sisters Tragedy; Shaw University—The Caravan; Barber Scotia Junior College—The Glamour Girl. The Bennett College presented a very good Make-up Demonstration. Probably the most outstanding and entertaining plays presented were: (1) Death Takes a Bribe and (2) The Sister's Tragedy.

A very significant part of the program was that played by Mr. Randolph Edmonds, a distinguished Negro playwright and author and now director of Dramatics at Dillard University. Mr. Edmonds delivered an address entitled, "Toward the Negro Theater." Mr. Edmonds, in giving a view point on what Dramatic Associations were driving at said that things come into college curricula because there is a need and demand for them. The educated person needs a combination of learning, literature and art. For that and other reasons greater use is made of dramatics for Art is a weapon that can be used successfully by our people to interpret themselves to the world, to gain peace unconsciously and to carry our philosophy to the world.

Between the presentation of plays the Winston-Salem Teachers College presented its Verse Speaking Choir and Glee Club. Both were very good. During the early evening a reception was held in the college gymnasium.

At the close of the evening performances, Mrs. Edna C. H. Mitchell retiring president, announced the selection of Mr. J. O. Holmes, this year's Festival Manager, of Winston-Salem Teachers College as president for the year 1937-38. The association scholarship of \$100 was presented to Miss Carolease Faulkner, a senior of Livingston College and is to be used for further study in the field of Dramatics.

The Elizabeth City State Normal players made a very creditable showing for State Normal. The cast of characters in "Thursday

STATE NORMAL SCHOOL GETS APPROPRIATION OF \$109,000.00

Offers Four-Year Course

The State Normal School of Elizabeth City, N. C., beginning with the school year of 1937-1938 will offer a four-year course leading to the bachelor's degree, and primary and grammar grade Class A certificates.

CLASS DAY TO BE HELD MAY 19, 1937

May 19 will be a grand day for Seniors around S. N. S. Why? It is their Class Day. Efforts are being made to make Class Day this year more interesting than ever. The Class Will, History, and Prophecy are to be presented in the most unique manner.

Imagine a young man who has never had a regular girl-friend while at S. N. S. writing (20 years hence) a college text on the "Psychology of Courtship." Well, that's a prophecy.

Imagine a barely-passing student willing his brain to an Honor Roll student so he can keep his girl-friend or she her boy-friend. Well, that's a will.

Imagine history revealing the fact that for two years one gentleman has liked a girl who liked him but neither knew the one liked the other until—

Oh well, stop by chapel, Wednesday, May 19 at 11 a. m. and see the Seniors give their Class Day program.

MAY RECITAL, MAY 16th

Sunday evening, May 16 at the Vesper Hour the Music Department will present its Annual May Recital. Selections will be rendered by the Women's Glee Club, Male Glee Club, Girls' Trio, and students of Piano. The program, in the light of past ones, promises to be very entertaining as well as educational.

Mention The S. N. S. Messenger when patronizing our advertisers.

"Evening" was as follows: Gordon Johns, Grayer Powell; Laura, his wife, Pathenia Rowe; Mrs. Johns, Gordon's mother, Mary Belle Nobles; Mrs. Sheffield, Laura's mother, Lucille Heartley. The players were the recipients of much praise and commendation.

Persons who accompanied the players included the directors, Misses E. J. Lewis, and J. M. Shelton; Mrs. E. C. H. Mitchell, State President and Wendell P. Jones.—Wendell P. Jones, President Dramatic Club.

* The Trustee Board of the State Normal School met Easter Monday at the school. After the business meeting was over, the members of the board came to Moore Auditorium where the group of students had assembled. President Bias gave the introductory remarks. The students were asked to render musical selections.

The numbers presented were "I Want Jesus to Walk With Me" and "Hear the Lambs A Crying" by the Young Women's Glee Club; "I'm Going to Wait Until My Lord Calls Me" and "I've Heard of a City Called Heaven" by the Young Women's Trio; "Wade in the Water Children" and "The Bill of Fare" by the Male Glee Club. The students sang "Steal Away."

Mr. G. R. Little, chairman of the Trustee Board of in the institution stated that the institution would receive an appropriation of \$109,000 out of the \$177,600 that was requested. \$75,000 of the appropriation will be used for construction of a new dormitory, \$10,000 for equipment, \$22,000 for new classrooms, and \$2,000 for classroom equipment. He also stated that the school may be able to get an additional \$89,000 as a PWA grant. If so, a new library building will be added to the institution, and the old agricultural building will be remodeled for the use of the physical education department of the institution.

Mr. Little thinks the reasons for the State's liberal attitude toward the school were the merit of the request, the influence of the visit to the then Governor Ehringhaus and the visit of the Elizabeth City representatives who were Mayor J. B. Flora, Postmaster W. T. Culpepper, Mr. S. G. Scott, chairman of the County Board of Education, Mr. Frank Selig, head of the Chamber of Commerce and Mr. J. C. Sawyer, chairman of the City School Board.

The members of the Trustee Board are Mrs. J. G. Fearing, Mr. W. I. Halstead, Captain J. L. Wiggins, Mr. J. K. Wilson, Mr. G. R. Little, Mr. Miles Clark, and Mr. J. H. Hall.

SCHOOL PAPER NAMED

A name for the school paper! This seemed a very urgent matter at the beginning of this quarter.

Every student was asked to find a suitable name.

A year's subscription was offered to the person or persons who sent in the most appropriate name.

The staff selected the name, "The S. N. S. Messenger," which was suggested by Misses Kathryn Hunter and Mildred Taylor of the Freshmen and Senior Classes respectively.

Tell them you saw their advertisement in your school paper.