

THE NEWSLETTER

For Students and Alumni
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A Look Into The Future

In some cultures the custom of palmistry is an accepted medium of predicting the future. Another medium has been the crystal ball. In the following analysis, however, neither of these methods has been applied. Instead, a careful look at present situations and a knowledge of the past have stimulated thoughts concerning the future of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College.

It appears that the future of this institution is a great one. Improvements are taking place in every area of college life. Academic and moral phases are receiving a tremendous boost, and progress is expected to reach its peak. While the training of elementary school teachers, which is the function by which the college has developed a reputation, will be continued, its function will be extended. This extension will come through the offering of work leading toward majors in such fields as general science, social science, English, fine arts, industrial arts and education. This program will accommodate a greater number of students within the larger area who do not wish to settle for elementary education.

Like the arms of the octopus, the vocational and technical institute will reach out its arms to take care of the needs of the students who are interested in cosmetology, radio and television electronics, brick masonry and secretarial science.

There will be greater stress upon school and community cooperation. This in turn will mean greater understanding and greater works to be performed. It will also indicate college and community growth.

Any period of transition imposes greater obligations and responsibilities on those who are the recipients. So shall it be here at the Elizabeth City State Teachers College.

The Responsibility Is Yours

It is a fact that most Americans are aware of the forces within their society. They have been very prudent in facing their problems and have always done so in a realistic way.

This trend of action got its inception when our forefathers, the pilgrims, landed at Plymouth Rock. Scores of problems, as well as new and different situations, confronted them. They met the problems on even grounds, determined not to succumb. Subsequently, they were able to circumvent the problems and launch a fruitful settlement.

Before doing this, there had to be a certain degree of preparation. That leads me to my point of discussion. Advance preparation is the keynote for success in our complex society of today.

We must begin preparing ourselves to take the giant strides which will enable us to fill an important clog in life, for Darwin's "the survival of the fittest" is really beginning to take its effect.

What you gained yesterday and that for which you prepare today will determine your success of tomorrow. For a word of admonition, be ready to meet the many obstacles and deterrents of life by preparing yourself now while the opportunity prevails. You and only you can do this.

For A Happy Easter

As a result of the Twenty-First Amendment to our Constitution, which repeals the Prohibition Act and the increase of horsepower in our modern automobiles, many people in our United States will not be home to enjoy the Easter holidays. A combination of alcohol and automobiles will account for a large number of our holiday accidents and deaths.

I do not condemn the Prohibition Amendment or the horsepower in automobiles, but I believe all should be cognizant of the fact that alcohol and driving do not mix. Instead they tend to break our family circles.

At the beginning of each of our holiday periods everyone advertises: the clothing, shoe, candy, and grocery stores. There is also another organization, the Department of Public Safety which advertises for human lives, emphasizing the number it expects to die over the holiday period. Believe it or not, the number is often reached here in the United States.

You probably think, at this point, that I look upon the approaching holiday as an ordeal or a terrifying experience. This is not true, for

I am familiar with the basic ingredients that make up the holiday agenda: church services, family visits, dinners, and the acknowledgment of religious traditions.

To the latter we must give serious thought, planning and time. If we were to exhibit these same interests in the elements that seem to darken our Easter holidays, we would see many more Easter lilies in the places of pieces of crape hung on the doors in the United States.

This is the land of opportunity. Let us take advantage of it by celebrating the coming Easter and all holidays to follow with an awareness of the best things in life. These are the things which are free of cost. They cannot be worn on the body, but in the heart;

They cannot be felt with the hand or smelled, but they can be seen when they are exhibited. I shall not keep you in suspense, but release to you a recipe for the best things in life:

"Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

—William Long

St. Valentine's Day

St. Valentine's Day is observed on February 14 each year. To some people it means nothing more than a date marked on the calendar. To others it means a day for parties and the exchange of Valentine cards. Still to others it is a day of giving gifts to loved ones.

In ancient times St. Valentine's Day was taken more seriously by young men and women than it is today. Then the saying was "Birds choose their mates on St. Valentine's Day". The young people believed that the first person of the opposite sex that one met on that special day would be called his valentine for the year, or perhaps for life. Sometimes on St. Valentine's Eve, the young people would meet for the purpose of exchanging gifts and finding their valentines. The names of young ladies were put into a box and young men chose their valentines by drawing names from the box.

It is believed that St. Valentine's Day was named in Saint Valentine's honor. Saint Valentine was a bishop and martyr of the church who was put to death at Rome for his faith during the persecution under Claudius II, February 14, 270.

About Women

Women are a feeble lot. They are as complex as the parts of a watch yet as simple as its operation. They tend to act like a pendulum and fluctuate from extreme to extreme.

At times they do not manifest an iota of intelligence; then again they display an abundance of knowledge. One could issue no prognostic data concerning them, because their capricious attributes prohibit doing such.

They devise the most subtle of schemes to snare any object of prey. Money, men and more of anything are their main objects of desire, more so the latter for most obvious reasons.

Their most poignant defensive weapon is that adroitly placed tear drop. It has been responsible for the alteration and complete expunction of many a decision made by men. The primary offensive weapon of women is a smile, employed only for exploitation purposes.

Women have no concept of frugality. "The medium of exchange is meant to be exchanged" is the motto of this fairer sex. Sales, bargains, and drastic reductions are like magnets to women.

Another universal attribute of women is their ostensibility. This is a crazy paradox. As much as they want to be seen they act prim and coy when someone (a man) watches them. They get self-conscious from stares and in this case truly defeat their purposes.

Women are always up or down, hot or cold, fast or slow. Never are they average, moderate, or in between. It is this irregularity which makes them constitute a discreet and perplexing sex.

Honor Roll

(Continued from Page 1)

Bank, N. J.

Seniors: Georgianna Barnes, Robertsonville, N. C.; Alburah Brown, Durham, N. C.; Hezekiah Cooper, Elizabeth City, N. C.; Naomi Cousins, Roxboro, N. C.; Evelyn L. Harris, Courtland, Va.; Sara M. Heckstall, Plymouth, N. C.; Lizzie G. Houpe, Goldsboro, N. C.; Esther Katrina Johnson, Enfield, N. C.; Charles Joyner, New Bern, N. C.; Helen Kates, Goldsboro, N. C.; Vivian S. Markham, Durham, N. C.; Carolyn L. McArthur, Soperton, Ga.
Special Student: Louise Roxie Gooding, Trenton, N. C.

The right angle from which to approach any problem is the try angle.

Alumni News

Hedgespeth Appointed Norfolk "Y" Secretary

George T. Hedgespeth, former professor at Southern University in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, has recently become secretary of the New Huntton Branch of the Young Men's Christian Association in Norfolk, Virginia.

After his graduation from the Elizabeth City State Teachers College in 1943, Mr. Hedgespeth spent two years with the armed forces in Europe. Upon his return he attended Atlanta University, from which he received the masters degree in social work.

At Virginia State College he later studied guidance and school administration and was graduated in 1954 with a degree of master of science.

Mr. Hedgespeth, a non-commissioned officer, was outstanding in military affairs. He has served as industrial secretary with the Richmond Urban League, and also as worker with the Richmond Area Community Chest.

Among the organizations with which he is affiliated are: The National Association of Social Workers; National Conference of Social Welfare, Council on Social Work Education, American Association of University Professors, Pi Gamma Mu honorary society, and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.

Mr. Hedgespeth is married to the former Miss Audrey Backus of Suffolk, Virginia. They are the parents of two sons, George T., Jr., and Grady.

Daughter of Alumni Makes Good Record

Joyce Welch, an outstanding member of the Freshman Class, is the daughter of two graduates of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College. Her parents are Mr. J. A. Welch, Sr. and Mrs. Mattie Redwood Welch who live in Halifax, North Carolina.

A graduate of the Ralph J. Bunche High School in Weldon, North Carolina, Joyce enrolled in September as a student interested in completing the four-year course in elementary education. Since that time she has been successful in maintaining a scholastic average that has placed her on the honor roll.

In extra-class activities Joyce has also become well known. She is a member of the College Choir, the Modern Dance Group, and of the House Government Committee of Bias Hall in which she is a resident.

S. T. C. Alumnus Is Workshop Consultant

Mrs. Velma Turnage Joyner, '41, Health Educator with the North Carolina Tuberculosis Association, served as consultant in the Family Life Workshop at the Marian Anderson High School February 3-5. While she was in the vicinity, Mrs. Joyner, who was accompanied by Mrs. Georgia Barbee and daughter, lived in Hugh Cale Hall.

Several graduates of the College have been addressed by Dr. Ridley within the last two months. They include Alumni of Grimesland, Columbia, Kinston, Hertford County, which is reactivating its Chapter, New York City and Brooklyn, New York.

Alumni news for the March issue should be sent to Mrs. E. H. Mitchell, State Teachers College, not later than March 20. It is important that College and Alumni be informed.

Alumni Executive Board Holds Annual Meeting

The Executive Board of the State Teachers College Alumni Association held its annual January meeting in the Science Hall on January 10 at 11:30 a.m.

Plans were made for participating in the Founders Day and Commencement programs of the College to be held on February 22 and May 23 respectively. Mr. Nicholas Meekins was named to represent the association on Founders Day. Other details concerning Commencement plans are being mailed to the several chapters.

During the morning session Dr. W. N. Ridley spoke interestingly concerning the growth of the College, emphasizing the expansion of the curriculum and the launching of a campaign for Academic Scholarship.

Dean L. W. Neyland was introduced to the Board as acting dean of the College. In his remarks to the group, Dr. Neyland pledged his support to the work of the college and challenged the Alumni to send to the College strong young men and women interested in becoming citizens in our democracy.

Luncheon was served in the Lane Hall. An appetizing meal and lively conversation were enjoyed by officers, members of the Board, and visitors.

A brief business session was held in the afternoon.

Alumni and friends are already sending in their checks for the Scholarship Fund. This is an opportunity for every loyal Alumnus to come to the aid of the institution that has helped in a large way to make him a responsible citizen. Note the following:

1. Mr. J. C. Bias—An award of \$25 to the student making the most outstanding contribution in the field of Religious Activity.
2. Mr. J. E. Jordan and Mr. A. C. Crowder—\$25 to the best all-around Football Player.
3. Mr. I. A. Battle and Mr. C. E. Boone—\$25 for the most outstanding Basketball Player.
4. The Alumni Association will make its annual award of \$30 to the one who has excelled in an area of studies. This year the cash will be given to a student in the department of Physical Education.
5. Information has been received from the office of the President that a check for \$100 has been received from Mrs. Sadie Sawyer Morton for a S. S. Morton Scholarship Fund. Mrs. Morton taught for a number of years in the public schools of Elizabeth City. She is now retired. Her home is in Waverly, Virginia.

Mr. Wilford Steele, now employed in Newport News, Virginia, spent several hours on the campus recently.

Elizabeth City Alumni Enjoy Christmas Party

Alumni of Elizabeth City met at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Carl Morgan, Southern Avenue, on December 27 to have fun and to leave small gifts for the needy in the community.

Games were enjoyed by several members and visiting Alumni. President and Mrs. Ridley, who also were guests, expressed their pleasure in being able to meet the group at such a time. They were introduced to individuals by Mrs. E. H. Mitchell.

President Ridley, who never misses an opportunity to speak for S. T. C. told of the Newsletter and Scholarship projects and urged Alumni cooperation.

Several packages which had been brought as gifts of cheer were left in a box at the entrance.