

State Teachers College Newsletter

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Financial Aid to Students At ECSTC Increased \$20.

The financial aid for students at ECSTC this year will increase a total of approximately \$20,000. This increase is based upon the fact that work aid increased approximately \$6,500; direct scholarship increased approximately \$3,000; and National Defense Student Loan fund accounted approximately \$11,000 in funds available for student use. The total amount of aid being distributed among our students in work available, loans, and direct cash grants is approximately \$48,000. Last year the figure was approximately \$27,000.

It is hoped that the amount of cash grants available to students, which this year will likely amount to something less than \$7,000, will be increased greatly through contributions of faculty, alumni, and friends.

Better Student-Faculty Relations Sought

One of the new features of the Student Personnel program is the advising system which is designed to facilitate better student-faculty relations and to provide each student with a personal adviser to help him with his academic progress from freshman to graduate.

Each student on the campus has been assigned as an advisee to some faculty member. Often this assignment has been made on the basis of a student's major. This is especially true of freshmen. Upperclassmen have been distributed among the remaining faculty members. Students are free to make appointments to see their advisers as they feel the need. However, all students must see their advisers at least twice per semester. This is compulsory.

Students are reminded that they are not supposed to wait until they have problems before seeing their advisers.

Since this is a new program, the Student Personnel area is interested in receiving from students and faculty members any suggestions that they may have to make for its improvement.

"Messiah" Renditions Pleasing to Audiences

The State Teachers College Choir, along with its directress, Miss E. A. Johnson, recently took a trip to Murfreesboro where they rendered the Christmas portion of the "Messiah" by Handel. Such a wonderful performance by our choir held the audience spellbound from beginning to end. The choir was also accompanied by its pianist, Miss Edna Davis, President, W. N. Ridley and his family.

Later on, the choir rendered the "Messiah" in Moore Hall auditorium which was filled to capacity with students and faculty, as well as visitors and friends of the institution. All in all, the choir is progressing very rapidly and expects to take longer and more extensive trips in the spring.

"No program our Congressmen could support would benefit the citizens more than a program to reduce the high cost of government."—Don Robinson.

Dr. J. A. Eaton Vesper Speaker

Dr. James A. Eaton, Director of Student Personnel Services, spoke on the subject "Toward a New Approach to Religion," in vespers on January 10.

He discussed mainly a question that had been asked him by several persons: "What do you mean by a living, dynamic religion?" He named two barriers that people meet in the attempt to understand the meaning of religion: A lack of knowledge about religion and a reluctance to removing religion from the confines of a church and making it a functioning factor in the home, the classroom, the dormitory, the Lighthouse or in a parked car some where beside a lonely road.

In setting forth the basis for a dynamic, personal religion, several beliefs which come from the teaching of Jesus were quoted: "The summary of God's relationship to man," "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, soul and mind and thy neighbor as thyself," A second basic premise, "I have come that you may have life and have it more abundantly" was a premise Jesus made to his followers. And the sacrificial principle necessary to any worthwhile effort spoken by Jesus: "He who seeks to save his life shall lose it; he who loses his life for my sake shall find it."

Dr. J. A. Eaton received his B.A. degree from Virginia State College; B.D. degree from Howard University; M.A. degree from Boston University and Ph.D. degree from Columbia University and held additional study at the University of St. Andrews, St. Andrews, Scotland.

George Kitchen, '61, read the meditation thought and also introduced Dr. Eaton.

Music for the service was rendered by the College Choir with Patricia Duren as soloist.

"As long as you feel you are serving others, you do the job well. When you are concerned only with helping yourself, you do it less well. This is a law as inexorable as gravity."—Arthur Gordon.

Student Activities Committee Visits Virginia State College

The S. T. C. Student Activities Committee visited Virginia State College on December 12 to observe the Student Union program.

Upon arrival the committee was met by the VSC Hospitality Committee. They were given souvenirs and taken to Foster Hall, which is the Student Union center. There they met Dr. J. C. Nelson, director of the program, who explained the function of the program and the use of the building. He mentioned its conveniences and services and spoke of it as a "laboratory of citizenship training of students in social responsibility and democracy."

The Student Planning Cabinet of three persons, the president and two other students, head the program. There are several sub-committees and clubs among which are the Esquires, Mademoiselles, Shutterbugs; also the

Christmas Lighting Event Held December 12th

The annual "Christmas Lighting" event was held on December 12. Dr. Charles Lyons, acting Dean of the college, presided at the ceremonies.

The service was opened with the singing of "Silent Night" by the entire audience accompanied by the College Band. Dr. Lyons then introduced Dr. W. N. Ridley who gave a brief talk on the beauty and meaning of lights at Christmas. At this time campus lights were turned on, and the familiar carol "O Little Town of Bethlehem" was sung.

Leonard Slade read a message, "The Spirit of Christmas Around the World" and "The Meaning of the Lighted Tree" was read by Valgene Gibbs. After a rendition by the band, Jimmie Manley gave an interpretation of "Bells at Christmas" while the choir followed singing "Carol of the Bells."

Gladys Johnson then read "The First Noel," and Janie Manley told "The Significance of the Hanging of the Green."

As the program came to a close, the Choir and Band rendered "Deck the Halls." Mr. DeLane and Mrs. Vaughn led the students around the campus, singing carols and hanging evergreens on doors of the campus buildings, thus ending a beautiful and joyful event.

Strive for Excellence: Dr. Ridley to Students

"Excellence is a thing we should all endeavor to achieve," stated Dr. Walter N. Ridley during his message to the first assembly of the year 1960, on January 7.

Dr. Ridley seemed very sincere as he called the attention of the audience to the danger of mediocrity. "Mediocrity is the arch enemy of human growth and development. Mediocrity is not too good and not too bad."

He urged each student to strive for excellence through reading and rejecting the comfortable mediocrity of living. This address was a much needed stimulation for the New Year.

Helen C. Johnson gave the meditation and Charles King introduced President W. N. Ridley.

Forum, Games and Dance, Hospitality, Fine Arts and the Committee.

The group toured the building and visited such places as the Student Council, Newspaper and Audio rooms; also the multiple room used for showing films, teaching dances, dancing, and holding committee meetings.

After returning to the Lounge the visitors enjoyed a question-and-answer period. Each club or committee chairman explained the purposes and activities of his group. A representative of the NAACP Youth Council explained its purposes and functions. Mrs. Ridley, adviser, and Clarence Biggs, committee chairman expressed appreciation for the information received and for the hospitality of the college.

The trip was very beneficial for the S.A.C. received many ideas which will help the S.T.C. program to grow.

Three Additions To College Staff Begin With Second Semester

Three additions to the Elizabeth City State Teachers College Faculty, including Dr. Coragrene Johnstone, Dr. Garland D. Kyle, and Mrs. Tillis Smith Kyle, were announced this week, to begin with the second semester. Two of these are holders of the Doctor of Philosophy degree and the third has completed all residential requirements leading to the degree. The addition of these two doctors brings to the college a total of eight, the number of such degrees on the college faculty, and represents an increase of 100% over last year. This is a part of the expanded-strengthened program of Elizabeth City State Teachers College, according to President Walter N. Ridley and brings to more than 25% the number of such degrees on the academic faculty.

Dr. Coragrene Johnstone, a native of Brevard, North Carolina, graduated from Talladega College summa cum laude. She later became recipient of the master of arts and the doctor of philosophy degrees from the University of Michigan, majoring in English, Literature and Philosophy. Further study has taken her abroad to matriculate in the Shakespeare Institute, Stratford-upon-Avon, England and the University of London. Back home, she has continued her studies and research at the University of Minnesota and in the School of Letters, Indiana University.

Dr. Johnstone has traveled in Greece, Italy, Switzerland, Canada and Mexico and holds membership in the International Society of General Semantics. Having taught at Fisk andillard Universities, she will join the English Department, which she will head at Elizabeth City.

Student Teachers Return To Teachers College

Elizabeth City State Teachers College is in the process of concluding the most outstanding off-campus student teaching experience in the history of the institution.

For several weeks now approximately 30 students who are preparing themselves for careers as teachers have been assigned to well-organized public school centers in Northeastern North Carolina to observe and to teach under competent supervision. This experience is an integral part of the compels program through which Elizabeth City prepares public school teachers. Following their off-campus work, students will return to the college for a refinement period in which daily seminar growing out of observed problems will be conducted.

Cooperating centers and cooperating teachers (supervising) are selected based on criteria established by the faculty of the Elizabeth City Department of Education.

Renovation of Moore Hall

Renovation of Moore Hall began on December 17, the day before the beginning of the Christmas holidays. The present contract, being done by the Holdbrook Contracting Company of Charlotte, North Carolina, will improve the water proofing of the sidewalks and glazing and tightening of all windows. This should conserve heat, stop wall leakage, and make the building more comfortable. The present cost is approximately \$18,000. This is part of a \$100,000 renovation which will be completed for Moore Hall in the next ten months.

Dr. Garland Dean Kyle will be head of the Department of Science and Mathematics at Elizabeth City. He has earned degrees in Physics and Applied Mathematics from the Universities of Toledo and Michigan, and from Ohio State University and the University of Minnesota. At Minnesota, he was granted the Ph.D. degree and recognized for top competency in the area of statistics and Applied Mathematics. He was a physicist in the U. S. Navy for four years.

Dr. Kyle has served as Chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Physics at Knoxville College, Philander Smith and Arkansas A.M. and N. He has several scientific publications in his credit and holds the chairmanship of the Mathematics Section of the Arkansas Academy of Science.

Mrs. Tillis Smith Kyle, wife of (Continued on Page 2)

Vocational-Technical Institute Certified

The certification of all departments of the Vocational Technical Institute at Elizabeth City State Teachers College for training of veterans was recently received at the college, according to an announcement by Dr. Charles Lyons, Jr., Dean of the College. Programs included in the recent certifications are Auto Mechanics, Brickmasonry, Cosmetology, Radio-Television Electronics, and Secretarial Science.

Further improvement in this area came during the first semester in the completion of a modern well-equipped building to house the Auto Mechanics training. The addition of this new facility, along with the addition of two new instructors in the Vocational-Technical Area, rounds out a well-developed program of offerings.

Applications are now being accepted for admission to this area for the second semester which begins on February 1.

Second Annual Drama Clinic At ECSTC

Elizabeth City State Teachers College played host to the Northeastern North Carolina Drama Association for the second annual Drama Clinic, Jan. 14, in Moore Hall Auditorium. The central theme was "Improving the Quality of Our Production." The critic-teacher, Mr. G. A. Dailey, executive secretary of the North Carolina High School Drama Association, was the guest speaker.

George Kitchens, president of the College Dramatics Club, welcomed the directors and students on behalf of the Dramatics Club and presented Dr. Walter N. Ridley who expressed greetings on behalf of the administration and faculty.

Prices have been going up for nearly two and a half centuries. But there's a catch. While it took 200 years for prices to double—up to a quarter-century ago—they have doubled again in the past 25 years.

Newsletter Gets Invite

The Newsletter has been invited by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association to participate in the 36th Annual Convention at Columbia University in New York City—March 17, 18, 19.