

# THE COMPASS

For Students and Alumni

Published by  
**STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE NEWS PRESS CLUB**  
 ELIZABETH CITY, N. C.

Member:  
**Columbia Scholastic Press Association**

**EDITOR-IN-CHIEF** Clarence E. Biggs  
**ASSOCIATE EDITOR** Sunny S. Vick  
**LITERARY EDITORS** Lois Gray, Thelma Howard, John Jordan  
**SPORTS EDITORS** Joe Hand, Matthew Lewis, John T. Williams  
**SOCIETY EDITORS** Joyce Brown, Marcell Tobias  
**EXCHANGE EDITORS** Elsta Dancy, Frances Moore  
**FEATURE EDITOR** Thomas C. Hodges  
**REPORTERS** Arthur King, Theresa Dilly, Deloris Bovee  
 Imaene Blue, Marlene Elliott, Leona Griffin, Mildred Thomas, Hampton  
 Bland, Willie Arrington, Shirley Carpenter, Annie B. Lea, Sarah Sutton,  
 Luvellia Johnson, Gloria Melton, Joyce Wilson and Delores Sutton  
**CARTOONIST** Lorraine Walker  
**TYPIST** Ethel R. Rodgers  
**ADVISORS** Mrs. E. H. Mitchell, Mrs. V. B. Taylor

## Aim For Quality Teaching

Have you ever thought of the many factors that help in characterizing a good teacher? Do you know the many steps one has to take in preparing himself to be a good teacher? Or have you given serious thought to who a good teacher is?

These are a few of the questions which students and especially seniors, should ask themselves before entering the wide, challenging field of teaching. Seemingly, many of our youth are being crippled educationally, simply because many teachers fail to possess the "know-how" and the "do's and don't's" of teaching. It is fairly easy to attend a college or university for four years and secure a teacher's certificate, but it is not so easy to meet the needs of a heterogeneous group of students who are striving to their utmost to develop their potentialities. Can such a situation create a problem for youth who will be leaders of tomorrow? If so, what can be done about it?

In an attempt to improve the teaching-learning process, teachers and prospective teachers should aim for

quality and not quantity teaching. That is, the methods and procedures used should be so stimulating that students will find it pleasing and inspiring to engage in the many classroom activities which will be initiated by the teacher.

Thinking a little more seriously about ourselves, what can we, the students of E. C. S. T. C. do to improve the field of teaching? It is true, however, that the task of educating all children of all people in an increasingly complex world is quite difficult, but in spite of that fact, it should be the aim of every person who plans to teach to be the best teacher that he can be.

The competent teacher is a scholar; he is a specialist in the teaching-learning process; he is a good decision maker; he views himself as a professional person and has general and specific duties to perform.

If S. T. C. is to progress in the production of good teachers, each student MUST accept the responsibility of finding out what it is that a good teacher needs to know.

## The Meaning of Thanksgiving

For thousands of years people in many lands have had harvest festivals. The American Thanksgiving Day probably grew out of the harvest celebration of England.

In the United States, a day is set aside each year as Thanksgiving Day. On this day, people give thanks with Feasting and Prayer for the blessings they have received during the year.

The first Thanksgiving Day harvest festivals, or days for thanking God for plentiful crops. For this reason the holiday still takes place late in the fall, after the crops have been gathered.

In the United States, Thanksgiving is usually a family day, celebrated with big dinners and joyous reunions. Many persons travel hundreds of miles to spend the day with parents.

The very mention of Thanksgiving often calls up memories of old farmhouses with their kitchens and pantries crowded with good things to eat.

## A Recipe for Success

It has been stated that the ingredients that will make for success are: 4 cups of intelligence, 1½ cups of responsibility, 2 cups of open-mindedness, 3 quart of understanding, 2½ teaspoons of positive attitude, ¼ cups of sifted initiative, 3 cups of ambition, 2 cups of unbeaten patience, 1 cup of tactfulness, 4 cups of ability, 1 dash of judgment.

Procedure: Set all ingredients at body temperature. Sift intelligence, ambition and understanding together. Mix attitude and open-mindedness until dissolved. Gradually add ability, tactfulness and responsibility. Stir initiative and judgment thoroughly. Beat patience until smooth. Blend all ingredients well; then sprinkle liberally with cheerfulness and bake in an oven of determination. When absorbed thoroughly, cool and spread with common sense.

## Yesterday

There are two days in every week about which we should not worry, two days which should be kept free from fear and apprehension.

One of these days is yesterday with its mistakes and pains. Yesterday has passed forever beyond our control.

All the money in the world can not bring back yesterday.

We cannot undo a single act we performed; we cannot erase a single word we said. Yesterday is gone.

The other day we should not worry about is tomorrow with its possible adversities, its burdens, its large promise and poor performance. Tomorrow is also beyond our immediate control.

Tomorrow's sun will rise, either in splendor or behind a mask of clouds—but it will rise. Until it does, we have no stake in tomorrow, for it is yet unborn.

This leaves only one day—today. Any man can fight the battles of just one day, it is only when you and I add the burdens of those two possible eternities—yesterday and tomorrow—that we break down.

It is not the experience of today that drives men mad—it is remorse or bitterness for something which happened yesterday and the dread of what tomorrow will bring.

Let us therefore, live, but one day at a time.

Robert J. Burdette

## On Yonder Hill

I found a dream on yonder hill... out where the birds are free And as I held it in my hand... It truly smiled at me... In such serenity I stood... And looked across the land... And then slowly walked away... Upon the golden sand... Some beautiful tree on yonder hill... Beside a shady tree... My dreams will come true and end... This loneliness in Me.

Joyce Brown

## We Have Started

All of us here at STC realize that the half way mark in our semester is now behind us. If we were on the wrong road of "D's and "F's" the first half of the semester, we still have a chance to cross over to that of the "A's" and "B's" before the end of our journey. We should not cry over that we did not do, but rather, we should employ our time and energy to recover from that lax mental state which was responsible for our deficient grades.

Of course, there are many, I hope who are not in this state at all. These are students who are working to their maximum and who, as a result, have only "A's" and "B's" at the end of the nine-week period. To these students we can only say, "congratulations," and hope that most of us will catch up with you before the semester is over. AH! one word of caution: Do not get lazy because you are doing well now. Remember, you do not "have it made" until you have completed your semester's examinations.

We have no excuses for failure, and we, not our friends, will suffer the consequences of probation, or of being sent home for a semester.

## If I Were A Freshman Again

What would I do if I were a freshman again? First of all, I would imprint in my mind a strong and working philosophy of life and education. This would serve as a guidepost to keep my aims and purposes constantly before me. I would never let any thing interfere with the reason for my being in college.

Second, I would be determined to do well in all my classes. I would strive to make a successful adjustment to college during the Orientation Week, and I would burn the torch of knowledge at both ends. I would arrange a schedule and divide the day into three equal parts: eight hours for study and work. I would never deviate from the schedule. I would thus have a time and place for all my activities. I would give myself ample time to prepare adequately all my lessons.

Third, I would attend most of the social functions, as well as cultural activities. I would join two co-curricula activities, and also attend social and cultural affairs like, dances, movies, and receptions.

These are the basic things that I would do if I were a freshman again. I would strive to be a better student, developing a philosophy of life and education.

Jay Witt Jr.

## A Sophomore's Prayer

Dear Lord, give us as sophomores the guidance we need to make the grade here at State. Give us courage, faith, tolerance, and the will to do our best, knowing that by helping ourselves, we add to our stature the power to help others. Render to us the wisdom to accept defeat and go on to forget past grievances and to look forward to the future with a smile. In Jesus Christ's name we pray.

Amen

## Let's Be Orderly

It is very important that college students be orderly while changing classes. Breaks between classes and the lunch hour allow time for socializing. Again, the old saying that there's a time for everything fits well.

Many a youth has the disadvantage of his advantages in that he does not earn his education by struggle, which in itself creates the finest things in manhood.

## Alumni News

### Brooklyn Alumni Chapter Sponsors Tea

Recently, the Brooklyn Chapter of the Elizabeth City State Teachers College Alumni Association sponsored an Autumn Tea in the First A. M. E. Zion Church, Brooklyn, New York. The purpose of this affair was to aid the Scholarship Fund.

Dr. S. D. Williams, former President of E. C. S. T. C. served as Master of Ceremonies. Other persons who participated on the program were: O'Loughlin, Ella Inmiss, Carl Thomas, Julia Stith, Maudie Antony, Eric Coleman, Louis Baily, Nellie Crowder, Roy Amanda Melford and Willie Allen.

### Alumnus Extended An Honor

Isaac A. Battle, Principal of the Amanda S. Cherry Elementary School located at Hartsville, North Carolina, will be one of the representatives from the Northeastern District of the North Carolina Teachers Association at the Regional Conference on Instruction at NEA Center, Washington, D.C. from December 3-6, 1961. Mr. Battle was chosen by the President of the Northeastern District, Mr. E. V. Wilkins, and approved by the State Executive Committee of the NCTA.

### Alumnus Submits Poem

The following poem was written by Alfred Wright '59, a teacher in the elementary schools of Red Bank, New Jersey. As a student Mr. Wright made frequent contributions to the school publication. He will enter Atlanta University to do graduate study for the major in English in February.

### Nefarious Want

A little boy amazed at a cloud,  
 As he gathers pebbles for naught,  
 What makes the grass green and  
 thunder loud?  
 What's to the butterfly he's caught?  
 How was I born, why am I small?  
 Why is a tree so high?  
 Why don't stars from heavens fall?  
 Where do we go when we die?  
 Who made the sky, why does it  
 snow?  
 Why is it cold and hot?  
 And why at night does a firefly  
 glow?  
 Are questions of his lot,  
 The answers which he gets from  
 adults  
 Ever spurious and untrue.  
 He's a victim of an unjust mulct  
 Over which he'll later rue.  
 He's told that stars are glued to  
 the sky  
 And a host of other whims—  
 That he'll learn the truth by and  
 by, when his mind grows and stems.  
 As he accrues in days and mind,  
 Should not each answer be  
 Of the nature and of the kind  
 That explain eternity?  
 But the misleading days of infancy  
 Left reason to rave and trudge.  
 Thus, in his unsevered truth, you  
 see,  
 He's only his heart to begrudge.  
 "Alzo"

Mr. Battle completed requirements for the B.S. degree in Elementary Education from E.C.S.T.C. in the summer of 1952. Realizing the need for better preparation, he attended Pennsylvania State University located at University Park, Pennsylvania, where he received the M. Ed. degree in 1956 with a major in Administration and a minor in U. S. History. He has been accepted in the Doctoral Program at Penn State and is working toward the completion of that course.

He is a member of the North Carolina Teachers Association; National Education Association; Department of Elementary School Principals (NEA); Vice-President of the Hertford County Teachers Association; President of the Hertford County E.C.S.T.C. Alumni Chapter; Member of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity and Post Commander of the Bernard Freeman Legion Post No. 178, located at Hartsville, North Carolina. He is also Vice-President of the General Alumni Association of E.C.S.T.C.

Prior to becoming Principal of the Amanda S. Cherry School, he served as Teacher-Coach at the former T. S. Cooper High School, Sunbury, North Carolina; and he was instrumental in sending to the college one of the greatest Athletes of all times, the redoubtable Henry Fields.

## Don't Be Discouraged

When persons strive constantly over a period of time to achieve a certain goal or accomplish a major purpose and end in complete failure, usually they are discouraged. Do not let this happen to you.

The portion of the Bond Issue from which Elizabeth City State Teachers College would have benefited, had it passed, was voted against at the polls on November 7. Does this mean that we—members of the faculty, administration and student body did not support the campaign? No, it does not. It simply means that voters cast more negative than positive ballots for the section which dealt with State Educational Institutions Improvements. Should we be discouraged or upset over this incident? No. Instead, it should teach us a lesson; for we now see how members of our own community feel about us. As doubtful as it may seem, we should learn a lesson after having such an experience. That is—that one knows what he needs when he considers his own situation may be entirely different in the opinions of those about him.

Those who devoted time and effort toward promoting the campaign have been commended for a job well done. It took courage and ambition to run designated miles across North Carolina carrying a "Torch for Education" as well as to visit homes informing parents and friends of the necessity of the issue. We are proud of you, and we are sure you are proud of yourselves.

May we all look forward to being more successful in our next attempts.

## Letter to the Editor

What is happening here at S. T. C.? Everyone seems on the same level. There are few students who work toward the higher goal.

By the time students become sophomores they fall in line with other under-performers. They become—LACK ADAISICAL. They do not have analytical minds, nor do they wish to develop them. They accept to readily what is passed on to them. Is there a feasible answer?

They too soon become complacent and direct their attention towards graduation. How can they do this effectively, when they have learned only in part?

What does it take to awaken this school? Mr. KHRUSHCHEV? HUH? No, that is not the answer. It takes us—working together academically, socially, physically, psychologically, and spiritually. Now is the time to awaken; time waits on no man.

Horace Gordon

By and by it will be part of a liberal education to devote a year or more to personal labor for the unfortunate.