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Southern Association Admits College To Full Membership

By PERRY R. LEAZER

North Carolina College was one of 18 Negro colleges admitted to full membership in an historic move by the Southern Association of College and Secondary Schools during that organization's recent meeting in Richmond, Va.

The action taken at the closing session of the sixty-second annual meeting at the Hotel John Marshall marked the first time a Negro school has been admitted to full membership in the Southern Association.

A plan for inclusion of qualified Negro institutions was approved by the group last year, but the recent meeting was the first time specific schools were voted upon for membership. In the past, white and Negro institutions in the South have been rated according to different sets of standards. Standards for Negro schools were always considerably lower than those for white institutions.

However, the recent action by SACSS means that the 18 Negro colleges admitted to full membership have measured up to the same standards as those set for white institutions in the South. According to Leo Chamberlain, of Lexington, Kentucky, chairman of the admissions committee, 63 Negro colleges were investigated by the Association during the past year. The 18 admitted were the only ones judged to be measuring up to standards set by SACSS.

Membership in the Association is only one of the marks of academic recognition for NCC. The school is also approved by the Association of American Universities, the American Bar Association. It is a member of the American Council on Education and is rated Class 'A' by the American State Department of Education, and the American Medical Association.

Graduates are admitted without conditions to any institution in America requiring the bachelor's degree for admission. Of this college's admission to Southern Association membership, President Elder told the ECHO this week:

"All of us at North Carolina College felt very happy when the announcement was made that our college had been elected to full membership in the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools. This feeling, we know, is shared by graduates and former students of the college and friends.

"As stated in the Constitution of the Association, which was organized in 1887, 'the object of this Association is to improve education in the South, through exercise of leadership and through the promotion of cooperative efforts between schools, colleges, and related agencies. Accreditation is only one of the functions of the Association.

"Our admission to the Association means that our institution has met certain standards of excellence which have previously been applied only to institutions for white students. This is pleasing to us because we would not wish to be admitted on any other basis.

"Now that we have been accepted on the basis of our past record, we have the responsibility of maintaining from year to year the standards of excellence required by the Association. We must understand clearly, however, that standards of excellence are variable factors and that they will change with the demands upon the schools to meet the educational needs for living in the modern world. What is considered 'good enough' for today will be not be good enough for tomorrow.

"As a matter of pride, we should not be content with mere-

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Five Students Attend UN Seminar

Five members of the Political Science Organization of North Carolina College attended an American Friends Service Committee sponsored United Nations Seminar in New York City Dec 5-7. They were Samuel Russell, George Denton, Vernell Thompson, and Alexander Faison, Juniors; and Joseph Becton, Jr., Senior.

The topic under consideration was "East-West Tensions and Disarmament". It was elaborated upon by such speakers as Sydney Bailey, Friends Mission Member, and Bert Bridgell, UN Aide to AFSC. Wolf Mendal, Far East Friends Representative, spoke of the Anglo-Japanese Relationship in the final session.

The delegates had an opportunity to visit United Nations missions and to hear representatives of each mission state their

country's stand on the issue of disarmament. The missions visited by the delegation were USSR, Poland, Japan, India, Canada, and the United States.

The members had a chance to see the General Assembly in operation when they witnessed the 925th meeting of the First Committee (Political and Security, including the regulation of armaments) as they debated the question of Algeria.

This seminar was sponsored by the American Friends Service Committee, and its work at the United Nations is part of an effort to promote understanding conducted from Quaker centers in different parts of the world. It is closely related to conferences for diplomats and parliamentarians, international student seminars, relief work and rural development projects.

NCC Foundation Receives Grant

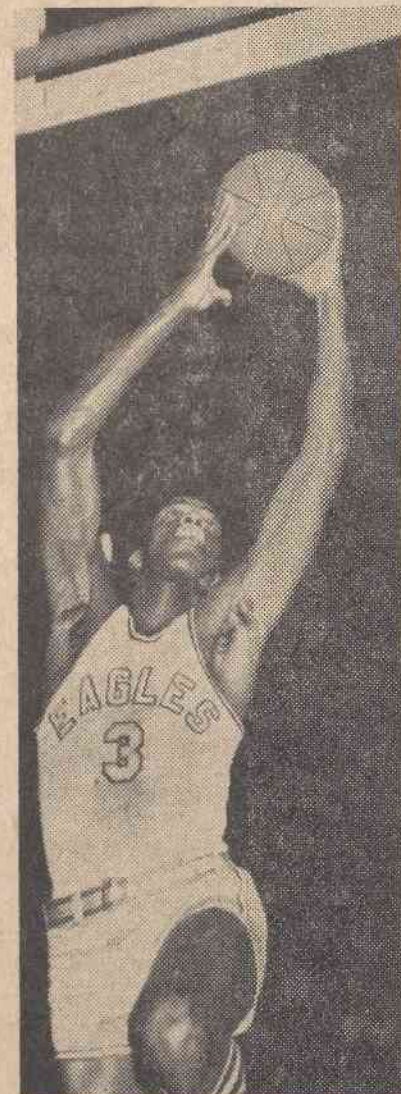
The James E. Shepard Memorial Foundation, Inc., received notification from the Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation last week that it had been made recipient of annual grants of \$1,000 for four years.

Richard J. Reynolds, president of the Foundation announced the grants in a report from Winston Salem.

The award was authorized by the Foundation's board of trustees at two meetings, one at New York November 15, and the other at Winston-Salem November 26. The Foundation authorized total grants of \$1,154,000 to educational and charitable institutions.

Five scholarships of \$200 a year will be administered here by the James E. Shepard Foundation for needy and deserving students at North Carolina College.

Since the Shepard Foundation originated (1947), it has provided and administered numerous scholarships for students at NCC. James T. Taylor, psychology professor and long-time friend of Dr. J. E. Shepard, for whom the local foundation is named, serves as executive secretary of the Foundation.



Carlton "Ding Dong" Bell, NCC's leading scorer, is shown going up for a lay-up in a recent tussle on the Eagles home court. Bell will be one of the cagers Coach Brown will be counting on in tonight's tussle with the A. & T. Aggies. —Photo by Dunn.



The spirit of Christmas is everywhere in evidence as basketball John Keels, Tarrytown, N. Y., senior, considers the Canteen gift selection of Bertie Sowell, Durham freshman, as they socialize under the beautifully decorated Christmas tree in the Canteen.—Photo by Dunn.

Prexy Heads Scholarship Drive, Urges Students To Contribute

With an air of "great urgency" attached, the annual scholarship drive got underway on campus last week with appeals being made "to every element of the campus population."

Underscoring the gravity of the situation, President Alfonso Elder assumed personal command of this year's drive and made appearances before faculty and staff, and student groups. It is also understood that the President is extending his campaign for student assistance funds beyond the campus community.

Faculty members in large numbers have already pledged one per cent of their salaries in the scholarship drive.

Dr. Elder termed the need for funds "critical" and said "every person may do as much as he can to guarantee that good students who want to come to our institution may not be prevented from doing so by lack of funds." The President pointed out that in some of the larger colleges and universities in America, one out of every four students receives some type of financial assistance other than that afforded by parents. He contrasted that with the modest number of scholarships NCC was able to award last year from the \$5,000 collected in the 1956 drive.

Dr. Elder asked each student to accept it as his responsibility to "make a contribution to this worthy cause."

Prof's Article In Nat'l. Magazine

A recent edition of *College and University Business*, national professional magazine, carried an illustrated article by Mr. James E. Parker, director of the Audio-Visual Center here.

Mr. Parker's article was titled "Audio-Visual Center" and was accompanied by floor plans of the NCC AV Center as well as photographs of NCC students engaged in the various activities which are sponsored by the local Center.

In the article, Mr. Parker discussed the various physical features, the material and services, and the scope of the NCC Audio-Visual Center, which he described as "a centralized pool of audio-visual materials, facilities and services."

The NCC professor reported that the local center encompass-

es four areas: instruction, services, production, and research and publications. He discussed each of these in detail.

Illustrative photographs were taken by Mr. Parker and drawings were done by Mr. Edward N. Wilson of the art department.

Leazer Attends Raleigh Meeting

Perry R. Leazer, Managing Editor of the ECHO, attended the Regional meeting of the National Student Association at North Carolina State College in Raleigh last week.

Leazer attended as the official representative of the North Carolina College Student Government. (Continued on Page 12)