

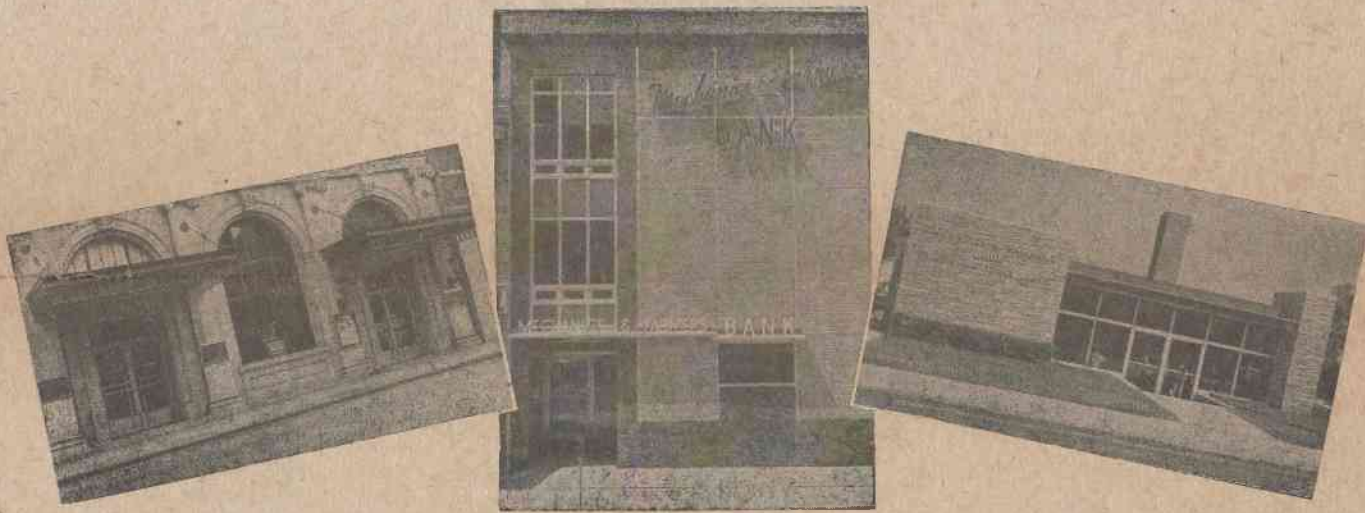
# *Anniversary Greetings And Best Wishes . . .*

*are extended to*

## **North Carolina College at Durham**

*on the Occasion of its*

# **Golden Anniversary**



Through the years, **MECHANICS AND FARMERS BANK** has been pleased to serve the faculty and students of North Carolina College in numerous ways. This Golden Anniversary celebrates fifty years of close and fruitful cooperation between our two institutions and gives promise of another half century of friendship.

Among our nine original incorporators, headed by William R. Fitzgerald, were numbered the friends and associates of Dr. James E. Shepard, founder and first president of North Carolina College. The bank opened its doors in 1908 and the college two years later in 1910.

Our records show that these early pioneers in the related fields of education and business gave encouragement and assistance to each other in helping to improve the lot of Negroes and the relations between colored and white citizens of Durham.

Their common goal of excellence in all endeavors has inspired generations of our citizens to useful and exemplary work in the service of humanity. It was their desire that Negroes should achieve first-class citizenship and the pride which accompanies it.

Today, North Carolina College stands as living testimony to the wisdom of this dream envisioned by Dr. Shepard and continued under able administration of his successor, President Alfonso Elder.

In the excellence of its faculty and physical facilities, the size and caliber of its student body, and in the extent of its influence in our city, state, and nation, the college truly fulfills its ideal of "Truth and Service."

**MECHANICS AND FARMERS BANK** was organized in January 1907 under authority of a charter issued by the Legislature of the State of North Carolina. The group of nine persons who acted as original incorporators was headed by William R. Fitzgerald. The bank was opened for business on August 1, 1908, two years before the founding of North Carolina College.

By 1935, its resources exceeded the sum of \$1,000,000. Its resources today exceed \$8,000,000.

The bank operates two branches, one of which has been located at 13 East Hargett Street, Raleigh, since 1923. The other is located in the immediate vicinity of North Carolina College at 615 Fayetteville Street, Durham. Since 1922, the main or home office of the bank has been located in the six-story office building owned by the North Carolina Mutual Life Insurance Company at 114-116 West Parrish Street, in the heart of the Durham business district.

In its more than a half century of service, the bank has had six presidents. They included: William R. Fitzgerald, John Merrick, W. G. Pearson, S. L. Warren, C. C. Spaulding and J. H. Wheeler.

# **Mechanics and Farmers Bank**

## **Durham and Raleigh, N. C.**