

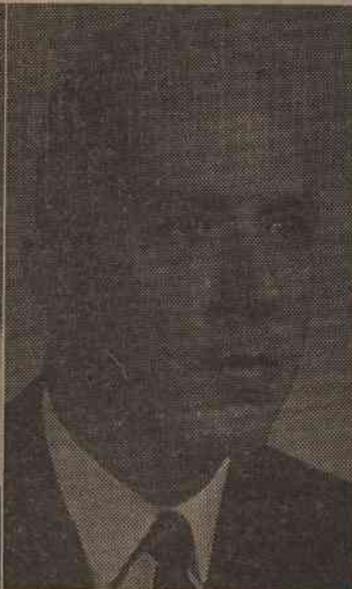
THE BLACKBIRD

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ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.

FRIDAY, MAY 26, 1967



DR. W. O. FIELDS, JR.

DR. RUSSELL T. CHERRY, JR.

Dr. Cherry, Dr. Fields To Speak In 1967 Graduation Exercises

Dr. Russell T. Cherry, Jr., pastor of the First Baptist Church, will deliver the 1967 Baccalaureate Sermon and Mr. W. O. Fields, Jr., Superintendent of the Rocky Mount City Schools, will deliver the commencement address.

A native of Portsmouth, Virginia, Dr. Cherry received his B. A. degree in 1947 at the University of Richmond. He is also a graduate of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, receiving his B. D. degree in 1950 and his TH. D. in 1954. He has served as pastor of the First Baptist Church since November, 1964.

He has been active in associational and state Baptist organizations and is a frequent speaker at Assemblies and Conferences.

Dr. Cherry is married to the former Miss Jewell Jones and they have three children - Jeannie Beth, a sophomore; Judy Lynne; and Rusty.

Dr. W. O. Fields, Jr., a native of Salem, North Carolina, graduated from Selma High School and obtained his B. S. in Business Administration at the University of North Carolina. In 1957, he received his Master of Education degree from UNC, and in 1963, he won his Doctor of Education.

Dr. Fields has served as teacher and principal at several high schools and East Carolina College, and came to Rocky Mount in 1963 as Assistant Superintendent of Schools. In 1966, he was appointed Superintendent and has just finished his first year in that capacity.

Dr. Fields is a member of

the NEA, NCEA, Phi Delta Kappa, and various other educational organizations. He has taken many positions of leadership, and is president of the

Kiwanis Club. He is married to the former Jean Kirby and they have two children - Sara and Frank. The Fields attend the First Methodist Church.



LITERARY OFFICERS—Paradigm Editor Marsha Hammel, Blackbird Editor Bob Chapman. Second row (l to r) Betsy Heady, Pat Stussie, Betsy Elmore.

"Mrs. Van" To Retire With Close Of School

June 2, 1967 will see the end of an era at RMHS—MRS. S. E. Van Buskirk will retire from teaching.

Mrs. Van (as she is affectionately known by her students) began her tenure here with the 1937-38 school year. She has taught English, math, physics, general science, and regular and advanced biology. For the last ten years, she has taught nothing but biology. Obtaining her A. B. degree at Elon College and her Masters at Duke, Mrs. Van Buskirk taught at Hillsborough, Jamesville, Siler City, and Ayden before coming here.

In addition to her work at Elon and Duke, she has completed summer school work at Wake Forest, UNC-CH, and

the University of Chicago. She had accomplished a good deal toward her Ph.D when she decided to drop her Ph. D work and remain in high school teaching. If she had gotten her Ph.D she would have naturally been in a position to move up to college teaching.

Besides teaching, Mrs. Van has been an advisor to several classes, advisor to the National Honor Society for ten or fifteen years, and advisor to the Future Teachers Club when it was in service. In recognition of her outstanding teaching she was given an award in 1962 by the National Association of Biology Teachers as the runner-up for Biology Teacher of the State.

Mrs. Van Buskirk resides at 735 Eastern Avenue with her husband, Mr. S. E. Van Buskirk, a member of the Rocky Mount Police Force. She terms her marriage in 1945 to the young Military Policeman at Fort Bragg as the "greatest event of my life."

A member of the First Baptist Church, Mrs. Van Buskirk is also active in the Business and Professional Woman's Club and Delta Kappa Gamma, a teachers' sorority.

When asked the outstanding events in her school career here, she replied working so long to get an advanced biology class and then getting it, and working with the NHS were the most outstanding. "Of course," she added, "Watching students grow and getting them prepared for future life was the highlight of teaching."



MRS. VAN BOSKIRK
... Retires ...

1967 Paradigm To Be Released June 2 By Staff

The third publication of the Paradigm, the RMSH literary magazine, will be released Friday, June 2nd by Editor Kathy Viverette and her staff. The Paradigm consists of poems, short stories, essays, and miscellaneous art work. All articles are the original of RMSH students.

Editor Viverette also announced that Marsha Hammel has been chosen as Editor for next year's Paradigm. Working with her to produce another RMSH work of creativity will be about 20 sophomores, juniors, and seniors.

Class Of '67 Prepares For June 2 Graduation

Graduation exercises for the Class of 1967 will begin here Sunday at 5 p. m. with the Baccalaureate Sermon in the school auditorium. The culmination of twelve years of learning will be the Commencement Exercises Friday, June 2 at 8 p. m. in the Municipal Stadium. Principal V. J. Colombo will preside at both ceremonies.

Baccalaureate Sermon

After the Senior Class procession to "Pomp and Circumstance", Father Thomas

F. Kerin will give the invocation. Following "Jesus, Jesus, We Adore Thee" by the school choir, the Reverend B. Frank

(Continued on page 8)

1967 Hi-Noc-Ar Dedicated In Assembly To Mrs. Carr

The annual Hi-Noc-Ar presentation and dedication was held Friday, May 19, in an assembly. The 1967 yearbook was dedicated to Mrs. Elizabeth Salyer Carr faithful and ever-present secretary in the school office. "You would not believe how thrilled I am", she said during the presentation. "Very few people in their lifetime have any book dedicated to them, and for me to have my favorite book dedicated to me is one of the greatest thrills I have ever had."

"The people of Rocky Mount will always remember 1967 as the year of the Centennial Celebration, but I will always remember it as the year that you dedicated the Hi-Noc-Ar to me and it will remain one of my greatest thrills." During the dedication, the students gave her a warm standing ovation.



MRS. CARR



1967 BEAUTY COURT QUEEN Jane Ferrell and her court, -Aid of Honor Bobbi Creech and First Runner-up Cherry Hall.

—PHOTO BY KILLEBREW