5 Million for Improvement Sought by Morgan Head

Dr. Jenkins Explains to Commission No Way to Pare Down, Says Every Item Is Essential

Requests totaling nearly five million dollars for capital improvements at Morgan State College for the next two years, were submitted Thursday to the State Planning Commission by Dr. Martin Jenkins, Morgan president.

Informed at the outset by the commission that it must "pare down" total requests for State projects of over 75 million dollars, Dr. Jenkins asserted that every one of the items requested by Morgan officials for 1950 "is essential."

His requests included $9,214,690 for nine new building constructions; and $669,306 needed to complete construction of buildings already started. They total $4,053,996.

These unfinished projects are the dining hall, which has a deficiency of $184,306; underground utilities, $180,000; and classroom building for which $305,000 is needed.

Five Trustees Lend Support

Supporting the college president were five members of the trustee board—Dr. Bliss Forbush, Dr. Willard Allen, Carl Murphy, Joseph F. Henry Jr., and William L. Fitzgerald.

Mr. Murphy pointed out to the commission that at one time the building program at Morgan could have been effected for one and a half million dollars.

He emphasized the fact that delays by the start of proposed projects only serves to increase the cost.

"I hope that you will not keep on delaying us," Mr. Murphy said. The basic building program was approved by the O'Conor (former Governor Herbert O'Conor) administration. Certainly $4,000,000 is a staggering figure, but it doesn't complete the work," Mr. Murphy, who is chairman of the trustee building committee, added.

Meeting Minimum Standards

Dr. Forbush declared that under its present conditions, Morgan is operating at the minimum requirements of its accreditation by the Middle Atlantic Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

He said, "To think of operating an institution for 1400 students without a gymnasium is just unthinkable. It's like raising a child. There are some things needed all of the time."

A building to be used as a gymnasium and health education center is the number one item on the list of new buildings submitted in the budgetary requests. It would cost $370,000, according to architects' estimates as of August, 1948.

400 Turned Away Cited

Dr. Jenkins cited figures to show that the enrollment at Morgan this fall is near the 1500 mark, not including nearly 400 others enrolled in extension courses.

He said that 400 students were turned away because of the lack of accommodations, and declared that Morgan could have 2,000 students now if facilities were available.

John B. Funk, State engineer and member of the planning commission, estimated that Morgan's requests for 1950 would cost 10% more if construction were started next year. He was basing his estimate upon past study of building figures at an average rise of 10% a year.

Other Buildings Requested

The other new buildings listed among the requests are a men's dormitory to house 100 students, $482,300; women's dormitory, $432,480; residences for classified workers, $121,370; residences for faculty and administrative workers, $417,300;

Auditorium and fine arts building, $795,000; a second men's dormitory to house 110 students, $524,700; home economics practice house, $106,900; and addition to the science hall, $456,860. All are listed according to priority.

In compliance with the commission's plea for economy, the Morgan officials deleted from the 1950 budget request $402,800 sought for an addition to Carnegie Hall, present administration and classroom building; $16,000 for a storage garage; and $124,444 for an infirmary.

Says All Are Essential

Asked by Senator Joseph Byrnes, commission member, what items could be considered as "not quite essential" if the State has to pare the requests, Dr. Jenkins answered:

"In all sincerity I say that every one of these items is essential. If the State has to pare, I would like to start from the bottom and go up."

He added, "I regard a State institution as an organization of the State whose purpose is to improve the lives of the people."

Dr. Jenkins continued, "The colored population of Maryland is at a relatively low educational level. I think it is due, to a large extent to the fact that the State has not provided adequate educational opportunity for these people.

"It makes my heart sick to walk along Pennsylvania Ave. and in the county areas and realize that the State has not given these people a chance. That would be the statesmanlike thing to do."

Need for Staff Housing

When the question of the importance of staff residences was raised, Dr. Jenkins pointed out that Morgan is about five miles from the central residential area of colored population and a half-mile from a bus stop.

He added that Baltimore City does not maintain apartment houses and homes on a high level for most colored people, and although the Supreme Court has outlawed restrictive covenants, "We would like to stabilize our staff by establishing housing on the campus." Dr. Jenkins left with the commission exhibits showing a converted barn, known as the "dust bowl," which 800 students, now including health and physical education majors, must use as a gymnasium.

He displayed "our auditorium," an open spot on the campus where affairs for the entire student body must be held, depending upon the mercy of the elements.

With a capacity for only 85, Baldwin Hall, dormitory for men, is housing 170 persons and the death of men, Dr. Jenkins revealed. He said that of 1500 students enrolled this year, only 170 men and 200 women have campus accommodations.

"And this total program submitted does not meet all of the needs," Dr. Jenkins asserted, adding, "Our request may appear large, but it is simply unfortunate that it comes in an inflationary period."

ROTC Program Suffering

Out of the $669,306 termed the deficiency funds needed, Dr. Jenkins said approximately $66,250 would be needed for the new ROTC program at the college, to be partly set up in the basement of the new dining hall.

He revealed that the college has been allowed to conduct the ROTC program on a probationary period and that for its full operation a drill hall is needed. Dr. Jenkins further cited the fact that additional accommodations, such as a rifle range and swimming facilities, would be necessary eventually.

Dr. Forbush pointed out that the proposed gymnasium could serve as a drill hall for the ROTC.

AAU Accreditation Lacking

It was brought out that Morgan is not accredited nationally by the American Association of Universities, which would allow its graduates to enter select graduate schools without examination.

"I would guess that we would be turned down because of our library and gymnasium facilities. Our laboratory facilities would be a third reason," Dr. Jenkins answered when Senator Byrnes asked how far Morgan meets the minimum requirements of the AAU.

Dr. Jenkins further informed the commission that classroom space is being rented from the Christian Center; that when the city widens Hillen Rd. it will leave the college without its art and music building (which was a former roadhouse); and

That the downstairs rooms of the library are being used for class room space.

Change for Better Admitted

Both Dr. Jenkins and Dr. Forbush admitted the favorable comparison of figures which showed during the first eight years of operating Morgan, that the State spent an average of $77,000 a year for capital improvements; and within the next two years that the new president, is shown addressing some 1500 students, Tuesday, in his first meeting with them. The September enrollment is the largest in the history of the college. Over 500 students are in the freshman class.

Morgan College Students Fill Campus to Meet New Prexy

Pictured above is a section of the 1500 students and faculty members at Morgan State College who gathered on a campus knoll, Tuesday, to hear an address by Dr. Martin Jenkins, new president. Dr. Jenkins told the group that the Morgan College of the future depends upon how well they inform the State's legislators of the college's needs.

New Morgan Prexy Greets Students

Forced to speak on the open campus because no building at Morgan College is large enough to hold the student body, Dr. Martin Jenkins, new president, is shown addressing some 1500 students, Tuesday, in his first meeting with them. The September enrollment is the largest in the history of the college. Over 500 students are in the freshman class.

New Morgan Head Raps Facilities

(Continued from Page 1)

such facilities "on a whole poor when compared to institutions for the white people."

Responsibility Is Students'

"When we examine the occupational and professional life in America, we don't find enough colored representation," the president asserted, placing the responsibility for correcting such conditions directly upon students in today's classrooms.

"There is no place at Morgan," Dr. Jenkins went on, "for students who are not concerned with academic development.

"We cannot afford to harbor social butterflies, ne'er do wells and just get by'ers. The need for advancement is too great to permit us to dissipate our energies and not seriously concerned with this matter of being students."

Dr. Jenkins urged those present to take advantage of cultural and intellectual programs afforded outside the classroom. He said efforts will be made to bring Morgan students in contact with the "very best brains in America."

Conditions Crowded

Among his impressions of the Morgan College community, Dr. Jenkins listed "a beautiful site and well-kept gumnuts," an "alert, young and intelligent faculty," and "terribly overcrowded conditions."

Pointing to the lack of an assembly hall, sufficient dormitory, laboratory and physical education housing space, Dr. Jenkins declared, "These are needs which must be met by the State of Maryland."

Former Howard Professor

Former professor at Howard University and survey expert in education, Dr. Jenkins was introduced by Dean George C. Grant who called him "an outstanding leader in the area of higher education."

One selection was rendered by the College Choir directed by J. O. B. Moseley. The Rev. Howard Cornish, director of the Morgan Christian Center, delivered the invocation.

Record Unit Asks for War Names

The Maryland War Records Division has begun a series of mailed requests to churches and other institutions for copies of World War II Gold Star Honor Rolls which they have kept.

This request is part of the detailed checking necessary to insure the accurate compilation of a State-wide Gold Star Honor Roll which the Division plans to publish.

This Division is sponsored by the Maryland Historical Society for the State. Individuals who wish to submit names for the official State Gold Star Honor Roll may contact the Division at 620 Park Ave.

Temporary Unit Shelters Church

The congregation of Mount Olivet Christian Church, the Rev. C. L. Whitfield, pastor, is now worshipping at the hall of the Order of Moses, 608 N. Eutaw St., during rebuilding of its edifice in the 1700 block Division St.

Services are being held at the temporary quarters every Sunday at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m. The congregation expects to return to its own building by Dec. 1.

A successful tea, planned by Mrs. Deborah Tisdale, with the assistance of various groups, was given Sunday at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Jones and Mrs. Eleanor Greene.

Housing Exhibit Makes 5th Stop

The housing exhibit sponsored by the Peale Museum in co-operation with six city departments, opened for its fifth stop this season at the West Lexington Street Recreation Center, Mrs Mattie B. Smith, director, from Sept. 29-Oct. 8.

Sponsoring groups for this stop will be the Philomathenas, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, and the Poe Homes Hostess Club.

4 Programs Scheduled

Four programs have been scheduled for the week:

On Oct. 4, Richard C. Steiner, Baltimore Redevelopment Commission, will speak; on Oct. 5, Oliver C. Winston, Housing Authority; Oct. 6, Wilbur H. Hunter Jr., director of the Peale Museum, and G. Yates Cook, Division of Housing, Baltimore City Health Department.

On Oct. 8, Miss Frances Morton of the Citizens Planning and Housing Association will be on hand.

The exhibition will be open daily from 7 p.m. to 10 p.m. During school hours children from the neighborhood schools will visit the free exhibit.

Grocer Held for Jury on Lottery Charge

A suspected lottery writer, who, according to police, admitted transferring his business from the sidewalk to his grocery store, was held under $1000 bail, Tuesday, to face grand jury action.

Arrested by Sgt Thomas Joyce after a play had been made by Officer Leroy Moody, the suspect was booked as Homer Darcy, 25, of 1028 Pennsylvania Ave.

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