NMA Reviews Year of Progress

WASHINGTON, D.C.—By definition, "progress" means to move forward. For the National Association, the past year has been one of moving forward, of progress.

This will be remembered as the year in which the National Medical Association moved into its first permanent home, purchasing a four story office building in Washington, D.C.

The past year was one in which the National Medical Association made its presence felt on national and international fronts, with members spending time on Capitol Hill offering input on important pieces of proposed health care legislation in the areas of HMOs, Sickle Cell Disease and National Health Insurance.

MAJOR SPOKESMAN

The 70th president of the association, Emerson C. Walden, M.D., journeying to Liberia to attend the inauguration of Dr. William R. Tolbert Jr. as President and later to China.

It was a year in which the association was recognized as a major spokesman for Black and other minority groups, with its Sickle Cell disease program receiving official recognition from the National American Revolution Bicentennial Commission.

It saw continuation of NMA Project-75, the Association's recruitment and retention program for minority medical students, and the beginning of NMA Project Smoking and Health, a nationwide smoking and health education project.

BLOCK COMMUNITY

It was a year in which more than 425 applications were processed to aid minority medical students under the Association's Federally Insured Student Loan Program, and in which the Association received a grant in the amount of $34,583.00 from the Maurice Falk Medical Fund for the production of a 30 minute film on Sickle Cell Disease.

NMA in the year since the last convention was one of the sponsors of the "National Conference on the Status of Health in the Black Community," which was held in December, 1971, at Meharry Medical College, Nashville, Tenn.

The past year was one in which NMA members served on such prestigious committees and councils as the Assistant Secretary of Defense's Medical Advisory Council and the National Advisory Drug Committee of the Food and Drug Administration.

MOVE FORWARD

To progress is to move forward.

For the National Medical Association, 1971-72 was a year of moving forward, a year of progress. It gained strength, becoming a major factor in the processes of development and change in health care delivery.

It became a strongly functioning association, with a year-long program of significant business, affecting the development of many facets of the nation's health.

Minorities Increase At Naval Academy

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The number of Blacks at the U.S. Naval Academy will reach an all time high when 134 midshipmen report for classes this fall.

Seventy-three Blacks will enter this year's freshman (Plebe) class.

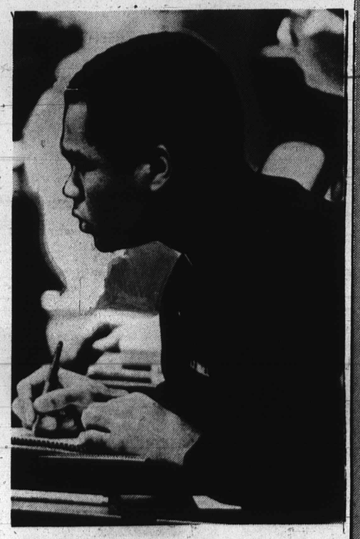
The first Black to graduate from the Academy was Westley A. Brown of Washington, D.C., who was appointed by the late Congressman Adam C. Powell. Brown entered in 1945 and graduated in 1949.

Since 1945, the Academy has graduated 56 Blacks. Last year, 45 were enrolled in the Plebe class.

Today, increased recruiting efforts among minority groups has stimulated a larger number of applications for entrance to the Naval Academy.

Although the present total represents a record high, the Navy is striving to increase the Academy's minority enrollment even further with each new incoming class.

The new Plebe class this year has a total of 94 members of minority groups.



FOR THE FIRST time in the history of the U.S. Naval Academy, 134 midshipmen will be black this fall. The Navy is trying to increase this number. Here, a midshipman is shown listening intensely in class.

NATIONAL MEDICAL ASSOCIATION and NATL. MEDICAL ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION

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1. PROVIDING COMPREHENSIVE, COMPETENT, DIGNIFIED MEDICAL CARE FOR THE POOR ESPECIALLY THE BLACK POOR.

2. EASING THE CRITICAL SHORTAGE OF HEALTH PERSONNEL, ESPECIALLY BLACK HEALTH WORKERS.

3. MORE RECENTLY THROUGH PROJECT 75 WHICH IS DESIGNED TO ALLEVIATE THE CRITICAL MANPOWER SHORTAGE IN HEALTH CARE THROUGH RECRUITMENT OF MORE STUDENTS OF MINORITY RACES FOR PROFESSIONS IN THE FIELD OF HEALTH CARE.

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