

# Bucknell And Susquehanna Erect No Racial Barriers To Negroes

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As part of the general awakening on the part of the nation's colleges and universities to the need of many American Negroes for financial assistance above and beyond the average scholarship program, Bucknell and Susquehanna universities are doing everything possible to assist needy Negroes in their quest for college degrees.

Bucknell University has graduated a number of American Negroes, with several on campus at the present time, and although an American Negro has never been graduated at Susquehanna, three have been accepted on the basis of their scholastic standing and university officials hope that they will enter Susquehanna this fall.

Admissions directors Dan McCuish, at Susquehanna, and Fitz Walling at Bucknell, both stated emphatically that there is absolutely no prejudice against having Negroes matriculate at their schools, that, under law, they are not allowed to ask a prospective student's racial origin on their application forms and more often than not the first time the student's race is apparent is when he comes to the campus to look it over before completing application, or even possibly when he reports for the first day of freshman orientation.

At Bucknell, Negro students have been very well accepted and are much a part of the campus life, Walling stated.

Walling reported that at Bucknell there is the Betty Ann Quinn Fund, set up several years ago, to aid needy Negro students.

Voluntarily this year the Student - Faculty Congress has formed a committee to raise \$5,000 to substantially augment this scholarship since past experience has shown that most Negroes wishing to continue their education come from families of relatively meager means and need almost total financial aid.

Realizing the uphill financial battle facing most Negroes, Bucknell students and faculty are attempting in the current campaign to offer a scholarship of sufficient value to provide a Negro who meets the school's high scholastic standards and is in need of financial assistance with the means to gain his or her diploma.

At Susquehanna where the scholarship program is not quite as extensive as Bucknell, the problem seems to have been that financial support available is not sufficient to meet the needs of most Negroes. Thus a number who have seriously considered Susquehanna and who have been accepted by the school, have in the end gone to colleges offering larger financial aid.

However, McCuish pointed out that the school would welcome any Negro choosing to

enter, and he would anticipate no problems regarding the student's acceptance by other students on campus.

McCuish pointed out that schools such as Bucknell and Susquehanna are often considered by Negro students, but subsequently turned down when the Negro population at the school and in surrounding communities is found to be meager as is the case at both schools.

Both admissions directors say they are speaking frequently with Negroes in their contacts with graduating seniors and prospective students in the hope of drawing the most highly qualified among them to their respective schools.