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# 1,500 Rally in Trenton to Defend Shelton College Against State

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TRENTON, July 30—About 1,500 banner-waving, hymn-singing "Bible believers" poured into Trenton from a dozen or more states today to defend tiny Shelton College against "the enemy in the State House."

The gathering of young, middle-aged and elderly people for a parade, rally and prayer meeting represented a mixture of right-wing, anti-tax politics and fundamentalist, Protestant theology, with some fragments of avowed white racism from the Deep South.

The demonstration near the State House was intended as a protest against a public hearing by the State Department of Higher Education on the possibility of ending the authority of Shelton College to grant baccalaureate degrees.

The hearing was postponed because the Cape May college's lawyers were unable to attend today, but the "march on Trenton" came off on schedule, led by Dr. Carl McIntire, the college's president, a fundamentalist Presbyterian clergyman and conductor of a right-wing radio program known as "The 20th-Century Reformation Hour."

## 'Unwelcome' Group Present

Except for fewer than half a dozen Negroes and a sprinkling of Pakistanis who have taken a breakaway movement of the Presbyterian Church in their homeland into Dr. McIntire's own International Council of Churches, the crowd was white, Anglo-Saxon and Protestant.

Among the many banners



Dr. Carl McIntire, college president, carrying papers in left foreground, leading the protest march in Trenton

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and buttons were those of the anti-Semitic and anti-Negro National States Rights party. A spokesman for the rally, however, said Dr. McIntire "disavows" the party and had told it that its presence here "would not be welcome."

Shelton College, with an announced enrollment of 180 students, has had a turbulent career despite its youth. It was first established in Ringwood, N. J., in 1954, after moving from New York City, where it was known as the National Bible Institute. It relocated in Cape May in 1964.

Its accreditation as an authorized four-year college has been questioned by state officials several times, but has always been renewed, usually on a one-year basis.

Now, the state has asked again that "consideration be given" to the revocation of the college's authority to grant baccalaureate degrees. It has cited 19 instances in which the school allegedly failed to meet state academic criteria for colleges awarding such degrees.

Among the complaints are ones that the faculty is underpaid and unqualified to teach many of the subjects offered, that the catalogue lists courses that are not offered, that the college's physical facilities, although now being expanded, are inadequate and that its financial condition is unstable.

But today, to amens and hallelujahs, cheers and rebel yells, Dr. McIntire declared:

"The Bible-believing people are going to have the last word. Shelton College trains us to be Christian warriors."

Dr. McIntire had originally estimated that 10,000 of his followers and supporters would appear here today, but this morning, as they massed between the new State Library and State Museum, he reduced the figure to 3,000. A count of marchers in the parade that followed, however, showed the number to be closer to 1,500.

Dr. McIntire had also promised an appearance by Senator Strom Thurmond of South Carolina, but the Republican sent a message of support instead.

Dr. McIntire was not discouraged. As the crowd was assembling this morning, Dr. McIntire gazed heavenward and noted that the sun was shining—for the first time in about two weeks.

"The Lord gave us that at the last minute, and we are very grateful," he said. "And we are trusting God in this great battle."

The battle is being fought mainly against Gov. Richard J. Hughes and Ralph Dungan, State Chancellor of Higher Education. They were the targets

of most of the hundreds of banners and signs carried by the demonstrators, as well as of the speakers at the rally on the steps and grounds of the War Memorial Building.

One sign said, "Governor Hughes, you don't treat Roman Catholics this way," and another described Mr. Dungan as "hatchet man for the Kennedy Klan." Both the Governor and Mr. Dungan are Catholics.

Mr. Edgar C. Bundy, executive secretary of the Church League of America at Wheaton, Ill., and self-proclaimed "No. 1 enemy of Communism in America," denounced the investiga-

tion of Shelton College's credentials as the work of leftists and liberals in religion as well as politics.

"We have identified the enemy," he declared. "The end of the rally that another 'march on Trenton' would be held Oct. 25."