

8-B-71

A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT OF THE ACTIVITIES
OF THE JOHN MCKEE SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE
(1955 - 1971)

Early in June 1955, Judge Robert V. Bolger of the Orphans' Court in Philadelphia, appointed the "John McKee Scholarship Committee" to carry out the Cy Pres Proceedings with respect to the will of Colonel John McKee. Specifically, this Committee was charged with the duty of receiving applications, screening and grading applicants by examination if advisable, fixing eligibility requirements in keeping with the McKee will, and determining the number of scholarships to be awarded annually. The original committee as designated by Judge Bolger consisted of:

Mr. Revelle W. Brown - Chairman

Hon. William H. Hastie

Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward M. Reilly

Rear Adm. E. H. von Heimburg

Dr. C. G. Wooding

Mr. John J. Gallen - Executive Secretary

Judge Hastie was succeeded by Mr. Robert L. Poindexter, Associate Superintendent of the Philadelphia Public Schools, in May, 1968. His expert and interested service was much appreciated.

Monsignor Reilly was succeeded by the new Superintendent of Catholic Schools in Philadelphia, Rt. Rev. Msgr. Edward T. Hughes in 1961, and by Very Rev. Msgr. Francis B. Schulte, in 1970.

Each has proven to be most interested and sympathetic in the work of our committee.

The post held by Admiral von Heimburg, in his office as Commandant of the Fourth Naval District has been filled by his

successors in that office

Admiral Lyman

Admiral McLean

Admiral Cavenagh

Captain Stimson

Admiral Speck

and presently by Rear Admiral Kenneth L. Veth.

Dr. Wooding's post was assumed by Mr. Ragan T. Henry, Esq. in 1970. Dr. Wooding had served for fifteen years.

It has been a real pleasure to be associated with all of these men. The fact that we had 100% attendance at all of our meetings was most remarkable and only on two or three occasions was the principal member represented by another. To get five such busy men to agree on a meeting date was a revelation to me and indicated a sincere interest in the work we were doing.

As indicated in the first five year report the Committee agreed on the procedures which were to be followed. Essentially these procedures were:

- (a) The executive secretary would send out announcements and applications to all boys' high schools in the area considered to be Philadelphia (Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, Delaware, and Montgomery counties). In addition these forms were to be sent to any agency or individual expressing interest.
- (b) The executive secretary would then review the applications and score them in accordance with the point values formulated by the Committee. This would be the PRE-INTERVIEW SCORE.
- (c) On the basis of the pre-interview scores the secretary

would invite an equal number (if possible) of white and non-white applicants to an interview with the full Committee at the annual meeting held usually in early April.

- (d) The Committee would rate the applicants by a pre-determined score system for the interview.
- (e) The combined pre-interview and interview scores would determine the scholarship awards on an equal number basis (half white and half non-white) in keeping with the spirit of the will of John McKee.

From the humble beginning in 1955 when there were four scholarships awarded there have been a total of one hundred and thirty six scholarships awarded. From the \$1000 stipend in 1955 the amount has been increased first to \$1200 a year and then to \$1500 because of the rising costs of education. In addition, the Committee saw fit to allow the scholarships to be used for technical or vocational education with an annual stipend of \$1000 a year. This also applies to Community College work where the tuition rates are considerably lower than those in the regular four-year college programs.

Several years ago there was considerable question concerning the annual stipend. It was decided by the Committee that the maximum stipend for the McKee scholarship should be kept at \$1500 a year but that the students should be permitted to accept other forms of direct aid not to exceed \$1000 a year. It was felt that more boys could be given scholarships if the stipend were to remain fixed. As a result of this decision we have been able to award eighteen (18) scholarships during the past few years.

From the four scholarships awarded on recommendation of Dr. Burkhardt and Msgr. Reilly in 1955 the number of applications has risen to more than 130 as in 1971. Included in this number there were more than 30 non-white applicants. The latter number has risen sharply during the past few years. We feel that this may be attributed to publicity and also to the activity of the school counsellors who are becoming increasingly aware of the opportunities offered to their graduates.

Here are the statistics on the number of scholarships awarded since the beginning of the program:

<u>YEAR</u>	<u>WHITE</u>	<u>NON-WHITE</u>
1955	3	1
1956	3	1
1957	3	1
1958	2	2
1959	3	1
1960	3	1
1961	3	3
1962	3	3
1963	5	2
1964	4	2
1965	4	4
1966	4	4
1967	5	5
1968	6	5
1969	7	7
1970	9	9
1971	<u>9</u>	<u>9</u>
TOTAL	76	60

The performance of most of the scholarship recipients has been well above average. Of the total number of 136 scholarships awarded the following statistics obtain:

SCHOLARSHIPS		DROPPED		WITHDREW	
WHITE	NON-WHITE	WHITE	NON-WHITE	WHITE	NON-WHITE
76	60	4	5	2	5

Attached herewith is a complete list of the McKee Scholarship recipients, their colleges, and their final standing (until the 1967 group who would have graduated in 1971). Our scholarship recipients have been accepted at 49 different institutions.

Respectfully submitted,



John J. Gallen
Executive Secretary
August 13, 1971