

# Rockefeller Foundation Gives College \$275,000 To Find, Aid Negro Applicants

THE ROCKEFELLER Foundation has granted Swarthmore \$275,000 for the promotion of educational opportunities available to Negroes and other culturally disadvantaged students.

In a letter which arrived last Thursday the Foundation explained that \$240,000 was to be used for scholarships and \$35,000 for identifying and recruiting potentially talented students from culturally deprived backgrounds. The letter implied that although the grant was not

restricted to Negroes it was meant primarily for them.

According to present plans the \$240,000 will be given in scholarships to about 30 students over 4

years. The \$35,000 will be used to select students with potential talent, to help them receive adequate preparation (such as remedial reading) before entrance, to help them adjust when they are here, and to make a follow-up evaluation after they graduate.

Mr. R. B. Williams, director of Financial Aid, expressed some concern that under the present grant recruiting and selection cannot be very thorough. He explained, however, that if the individual scholarships were very much below the anticipated \$2,000, they would not aid the very students for whose education the

(Continued from page 1)

grant is intended.

He is also concerned that the jump from a poor educational background to Swarthmore may prove difficult for many of the students. Ideally it would have been better to have the present generation of these students attend less-demanding colleges, and make provisions for their children to study at Swarthmore or similar institutions.

The criteria which the college is using to identify these students is economic need and evidence of drive and accomplishment in academic work. Standardized tests are clearly worthless in these situations, he said. He acknowledged that even these criteria are inadequate but under the circumstances they seem most practicable.

The College has already put its plan into practice. It has offered 10 scholarships this year to students whom it would have been otherwise unable to aid. For some of them it has offered to finance summer preparatory work.

Mr. Williams emphasized that the Rockefeller grant was supplementary rather than replacing the efforts which the College has

been making in this direction for some years now. Asked why the grant emphasized aid for Negroes, he said that it was "in keeping with the tenor of the times."

Originally Swarthmore had applied for the grant in November '63 in conjunction with Antioch, Grinnell, Occidental, and Reed. The project was intended as a joint venture, with each college to receive \$350,000 over 3 years. During this period 18 students were to receive \$3,000 in aid each year; the rest of the money was to be used for recruitment and special tutoring. This was closely modeled after a project which Grinnell was negotiating with Lemoine, a Negro college.

The Rockefeller Foundation was dissatisfied with this budget: it felt that administrative and recruiting costs would be lower if each college undertook the project autonomously. Swarthmore agreed, and applied independently for a grant shortly thereafter. ■

WHAT IS  
CHRISTIAN SCIENCE?

Many who are not Chris-