

THE COLLEGE SINGERS

in

*Washington, D.C. and New York City*

*November 24 - 26, 1969*

NAB leaders scarcely expected that 19 students from Cameroon would capture the attention of government officials and the general public in the United States and Canada. It was quite a surprise when United States Information Agency and Voice of America representatives came to Bethel College (St. Paul, Minn.) on September 29 to cover the performance of the College Singers from Cameroon. A concert tour initially intended to "inform the people of North American Baptist General Conference (NAB) of the work in the Cameroon" took on new importance.

Noting that the College Singers would conclude their three month trip in Washington, D.C. and New York City just before Thanksgiving, NAB dispatched a representative to the Nation's Capitol. The first stop was the Cameroonian Embassy.

Cameroonian Ambassador to the United States, Joseph N. Owono, pointed out the significance of the College Singers as the first cultural exchange group ever to visit the United States from his country. Much of the success of the College Singers' two days in Washington can be attributed to Ambassador Owono's counsel.

Ambassador Owono Plans Reception

After carefully considering the most important activities which could be accomplished during the College Singers' visit to Washington, Ambassador Owono invited the group to his home for a reception in their honor.