Md. Divided On Princess Anne College Issue

PRINCESS ANNE, Md.—(ANP)—Educators and lay citizens, colored and white, are separating into two violently opposite camps on the establishment of the new Princess Anne College as a state land grant college for Negroes following developments last week.

On one side of the fence are newspapers, Baltimore’s Morgan State College, and the NAACP. These groups are demanding that Princess Anne Academy be turned into a first-rate high school for Negroes. They claim that the move to establish a college there is designed to keep Negroes from obtaining equal education at the University of Maryland.

OTHER SIDE

On the other side are Dr. H. C. Byrd, president of the University of Maryland, and Dr. John T. Williams, former dean of Kentucky State College and newly-appointed president of the Princess Anne College.

The controversy between Negroes and Dr. Byrd flared anew recently when a grant of $3,765,000 had been made by the state to change the academy to a college in Princess Anne, the county seat of Somerset county on the Eastern Shore.

About 30 colored students are attending the university’s graduate schools in Baltimore. Agitation for admission of colored students to the university began several years ago when Negro students won a court trial to enter the law school.

APPROVES REGIONAL PLAN

Dr. Byrd agreed that the state of Maryland could not afford to set up medical and other professional schools for Negroes at separate schools. He said he approved of the southern governors’ proposal for regional schools.

Credited by Negroes as an advocate of “a system of limited segregation and limited integration,” Dr. Byrd said that selected professional students probably would get along all right at the white school, but he was not sure large numbers of Negroes would get along well there.