

DEVELOPMENT NEWS

George Mackie Scholarship established by family

The George Carlyle Mackie Scholarship fund has been established at Chowan College in memory of Dr. George Mackie of Yadkinville, N.C. The scholarship is established by Mrs. Kate Mackie Allen, of Weldon, Lt. Col. Francis M. Mackie of Summerville, S.C.; M. Wilson Mackie and Mrs. V.R. (Blanche) Mackie of Yadkinville, the brothers and sisters of Dr. Mackie.

"We are grateful to the brothers and sisters of Dr. George Carlyle Mackie for establishing this scholarship fund in memory of this distinguished doctor and gentleman who served so many. The memory of Dr. Mackie's dedication and service will live on through this scholarship by providing Christian higher education for Chowan students," stated Dr. Jerry F. Jackson, president of Chowan.

The scholarship will provide funds for incoming freshman students who are in

the top 30% of their high school graduating class. The scholarship is renewable each year as long as the student maintains an overall "B" average. Preference will be given to students from Yadkin County in North Carolina and the scholarship committee at Chowan College will administer the fund.

Dr. George Carlyle Mackie (1902-1969) was professor of physiology and pharmacology at the Wake Forest Medical School. He was also resident consultant in neurology at Philadelphia General in Pennsylvania for a number of years. A graduate of Yadkinville Normal School and Wake Forest College in 1924 with the B.A. degree, he completed medical training at the Wake Forest Medical School. In 1926 he entered the University of Pennsylvania Medical School where he received the medical degree. He served his internship

at Philadelphia General Hospital.

When Wake Forest Medical School moved to Winston-Salem to become the Bowman Gray School of Medicine, Dr. Mackie was the only member of the faculty who elected not to move, but to remain in Wake Forest and maintain a private practice. He served as the U.S. Army Finance School's contract surgeon and was named physician to the Southeastern Baptist Theological Seminary that moved to the campus in Wake Forest.

When Dr. Mackie was named Doctor of the Year in 1961, it was said that "he was born and nurtured in a family in which religious faith and moral rectitude were characteristic of daily living and in which parents taught the children to think clearly, to speak honestly, to love one another, to live nobly, and to participate in the needful work of the world." It was said that Dr. Mackie lived

up to his early upbringing in every way.

In recognition of his service, the Student Health and Psychological Service Center at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem was named for him. Also, the student center building on the campus of Southeastern Seminary bears the name Mackie Hall.

At the time of his death, Dr. Mackie was a life member of the American College of Physicians, a member of the Wake County, North Carolina and Blockley Medical Societies, the North Carolina Academy of Science, the American Medical Association, and numerous other civic organizations.

He and his wife, Kathleen Gilmer Robinson, of Philadelphia, Pa., had two sons, James Wilson Mackie, who resides with his family in Haverford, Pa.; and George Carlyle Mackie Jr., who resides in Wake Forest.

Library gains Roy Johnson acquisitions

How do you tell the age of a snapping turtle? Why is a raccoon living in a cypress hollow browner than one living in a gum holler?

What kind of a man would write about the color of a raccoon and that you can tell the age of a snapping turtle by the number of notches on his tail? What kind of man, called "a national treasure," was a writer-printer who published a newspaper single-handedly for over 25 years?

Anyone who knows anything about the Roanoke-Chowan area of North Carolina knows it could have only been one man, F. Roy Johnson, a highly individualist writer and publisher who gave us stories that other writers would never think of and whose books and newspapers, according to experts, are "a priceless treasure of folklore and history that will enrich mankind for years to come."

The entire collection of newspapers found in the editor's shop published by Johnson from 1938 until 1970 has been microfilmed by the state of North Carolina and presented to Whitaker Library at Chowan College, Murfreesboro as a permanent resource and reference for students for years to come.

"We are very excited about the presentation of these valuable newspapers to the library at Chowan College," states Carol Sexton, Chowan archivist and librarian. "We wanted these newspapers to be available to all of our students and to anyone else who might have need of them so they were put onto microfilm and included in our newspapers holding list. We are able to make paper copies of any of the pages so people can take away copies with



F. Roy Johnson

them."

The microfilming of the Johnson collection was made possible by Mr. and Mrs. Finton Ferguson of Murfreesboro and Frank Stephenson, director of the Upward Bound program at Chowan College. The Fergusons donated the funding for the microfilming and Stephenson took a truckload of newspapers to the state archives office in Raleigh for them to be microfilmed.

F. Roy Johnson, following in the tradition of Benjamin Franklin and Thomas Paine, was a writer, editor, publisher and printer until his death in 1988. He was the author and published of over 60 books on the folklore of eastern North Carolina and Virginia.

Several of his books received national and international recognition, including *The Peanut Story*, *The Nat Turner Story*, found in the editor's shop and *The Gatling Gun and Flying Machine*, the last he co-authored with Frank Stephenson Jr.

But, perhaps his most significant work may lie within the pages of his newspapers which are now captured permanently on microfilm for students to read.

Cathy Morris, manager of the technical services branch of the archives and records section in the N.C. department of history and archives, said the collection of Johnson newspapers now on microfilm in the state archives and at Chowan is a valuable addition to the archives and a significant resource for anyone conducting research into the history of the Roanoke-Chowan area of North Carolina.

Johnson's book notes are also on record in the state archives and according to George Stevenson, private manuscripts archivist for the state, these notes are an important collection in the state archives.

"The collection contains valuable information on Black and Indian history, and local folklore in Bladen and Hertford counties in North Carolina," said Stevenson.

Born in 1911 in Bladen County, N.C., Johnson received a degree in English in 1932 from Duke University. He worked as an editor on the *Duke Chronicle* and after a brief stint on the *Durham Sun* as a reporter, moved in 1937 with his wife, Margaret Elizabeth Hamlin to Surry County, Va. where he became the publisher of the *Surry Herald*. A year later he began publishing the *Northeastern North Carolina News* from the Surry office and moved the newspaper to Murfreesboro in 1938. The name changed to the *Roanoke*

Chowan News in 1948.

For years, Johnson operated a storefront newspaper publishing office in Murfreesboro. From time to time readers took offense to what the young printer-editor had to say. But Johnson shrugged it off and in an interview in 1981 said, "Some objected to the way I reported the court news. Didn't want their names in the paper. I had 'em threaten me with suits. But I never let them interfere. I printed what I pleased. You have to give people so much with a newspaper. They expect it. I don't think most of 'em realize how much service a newspaper gives to people for free."

The *Roanoke-Chowan News* had a circulation of about 300 and the editor had to crank each page out by hand.

On the first page of his very first issue, Thursday, September 1, 1938, there was a news story with a headline declaring "Big Freshman Class Expected at Chowan." The story went on to list the names of young ladies enrolled in what was the "largest freshman class in recent years."

In the 1981 interview, Johnson said "there's a great satisfaction in doing this kind of work. You find yourself in a kind of endless flow of things, past, present, future. History doesn't pass you by."

A part of that history which one man printed is now in the permanent collection of Whitaker Library at Chowan, and available for anyone who would like to recall a time gone by, a time reported for all eternity by F. Roy Johnson.



Head librarian Geraldine Harris and acquisitions librarian Carol Sexton view the newspapers on microfilm with Mrs. Margaret Johnson, the late editor's wife.

Development Notes

"The Best Investment"

Everyone has something to invest. He has the money he makes, his time, his ability, his enthusiasm, his life. What shall we do with this treasure so that we may run no risk of losing it and at the same time receive the largest dividends?

We have a choice between two types of investment. We can put it in the bank of the world or the bank of Christ. We can spend it primarily on physical satisfactions or on character. The first is a treasure on earth; the second is treasure in heaven.

We sometimes hear people say, "No one can take his money with them when they die." They are mistaken. If your money has been

used for the enrichment of human minds, strengthening of character, the development of good will, the spreading of the gospel of Christ, it has become immortal. It is treasures laid up in heaven that will pay dividends through all eternity.*

If you would like to talk with someone about how to use your money to build treasures and enrich others, write or call the Development Office, P.O. Box 1848, Murfreesboro, NC 27855; telephone number 919/398-4101.

* Taken from *Remember Now* by Walter Dudley Cavert. Copyright renewal 1972 by Walter Dudley Cavert. Use by permission of publisher, Abingdon Press.