

124th Year Begun On Firm Footing

Chowan College, Murfreesboro, N. C., has opened a new academic year—its 124th—on firm footing as an outstanding two-year college yet in quest of another facility that will add to the quality education it offers.

The past decade and a half have seen a dynamic transformation of the once sleepy campus into a bustling, modern institution of Christian higher education. Under the administration of Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, in his 15th year as president, Chowan has constructed a new building at a pace of approximately one a year. The student body has increased

from under 300 to close to 1,550. And the faculty has grown in prestige and numbers to assure individual attention to each student.

Services Multiplied
Student services have consistently multiplied. Numerous opportunities abound in student government, clubs, intercollegiate athletics and intramurals, drama, music and service organizations. At the same time, talk-ins and other discussion opportunities and lectures from national and international figures have provided intellectual stimulation for the students.

Chowan's student body during the fifteen years has grown increasingly cosmopolitan. Students come from some 25 states and a number of foreign countries as well.

Spurring the growth has been the development of the campus facilities. McDowell Columns remains the center of attraction and remodeling has continued. But a host of other attractive and functional buildings have been added. The most recent was nine-story South Hall, dormitory for men, opened last fall.

Chowan has also added since 1957 a modern library, fine arts building, two other men's dormitories, two women's dormitories, infirmary and additions to cafeteria and graphic arts structure.

Gearing for Drive
The college is now gearing for a drive that will bring it a badly-needed addition, a new science-engineering facility. It will be modern in every detail and feature classrooms, lecture rooms, amphitheater, study areas, storage areas, animal rooms and faculty offices, all of which are considered essentials. But many are not found in the present undersized, under-equipped Green Hall.

The momentum to obtain funds through a campaign to finance the \$1.3 million facility is already mounting. Enthusiasm is reported by President Whitaker and Bobby Cross, director of development, toward the campaign on the part of many friends and supporters of the college.

Quality Institution
Chowan officials believe that Chowan has already achieved a status as a quality institution. But they also believe that the new science-engineering facility will help Chowan increase the quality of the educational opportunities it offers.

The acquisition of a new science building is in keeping with the master plan of the college.

Careful planning for a purpose has been at the heart of Chowan's growth throughout Dr. Whitaker's administration.



STUDENT OUTING—Chowan students enjoy a "sing-a-long" program held at the home of Chaplain Hargus Taylor, who directs the activities of the Baptist

Student Union, open to all students. They're not singing on an empty stomach as a cookout preceded the entertainment.



BEAUTY QUEEN—Miss Sandy Rice, the current reigning "Miss Virginia Beach," is a popular student on the Chowan campus. Sandy is a sophomore and quite active in college clubs and organizations.



INFORMAL RECEPTION—A group of students enjoy a reception in the home of their advisor at the beginning of school. Students and

faculty of Chowan enjoy a friendly relationship, whereby they have a sense of "belonging" to the college family.

Students Say Chowan Is Very Friendly Place

North Carolina is a state of friendly people.

That's the reaction of international students attending Chowan College. Nine, including six men, recently gave their impressions of life in North Carolina as Chowan students.

Typical was comment of Anthony (Tony) Ehidame Odion-Esene of Lagos, Nigeria who first told of his apprehension of coming to America. He reported some of his friends had warned him that his reception would be less than warm.

He arrived in New York City at JFK Airport. He told of feeling "stranded" until he was befriended by a white taxicab driver. From then on he said he met friendly people, especially in North Carolina.

He said he found Murfreesboro a marked contrast from the industrial cities he had seen on the way from New York. "My first reaction was, 'There are no skyscrapers in Murfreesboro,'" he reported. "At first, I thought I should leave," he said displaying a broad smile. "But then I found that it is very quiet and peaceful here and the people are friendly. You do not have a lot of industry but you have the forests, and it is very pretty."

Tony also had high praise for the faculty and students at Chowan, a theme repeated by each student. Echoing his sentiments was Monica Machien Yin, whose father is ambassador to Costa Rica from Taiwan. Monica was born in Chile but is now a citizen of Costa Rica.

She said the Murfreesboro people are "overwhelmingly warm" and also spoke of the "beautiful campus and friendly people" at Chowan. She is a Rotary Exchange student.

In contrast to Tony and Monica, who have just arrived in the United States, Monica Rivas Alvarado of Santiago, Chile has lived two years in New Jersey. While the people there were friendly, she was not prepared for the greeting she received in Murfreesboro, she noted.

"After I had just arrived, I was walking down the street

when someone said 'hi'. I did not think they were speaking in Chatham, Va. prior to me. Then it happened again and someone said they were saying hi to me. I just couldn't believe they were speaking to me," she exclaimed.

One student, Arcadio Lara Gil, reported he had ridden three days and three nights on a bus to arrive in Murfreesboro from Mexico City. "I am very happy for the opportunity to live here," the Mexican said.

Carlos Roberto Sultan is from Caracas, Venezuela. Carlos studied three years at

Hargrave Military Academy in Chatham, Va. prior to coming to Chowan. Carlos is planning to run for president of the freshman class and reports he is impressed with both the college and town. "Chowan is a very good school. I am impressed with both the teachers and the students. I like the atmosphere on campus and in the town," he added.

Chowan has a total of 13 international students among its student body of 1533 students.

Our Purposes

The purposes of Chowan College have been outlined in each issue of the catalog, and are listed as:

1. To provide quality higher education—influenced by Christian pre-suppositions relative to the educational task—and to help the individual student to gain a philosophy of life which will lead to the development of responsible citizens and Christian leaders—both lay and professional.

2. To give thorough training in the standard disciplines to those students who wish to pursue the baccalaureate in other higher educational institutions, and to afford those whose formal education will not extend beyond an associate degree program an excellent vocational instruction on the backdrop of a liberal arts education.

3. To meet the personal needs of the individual student and to make his stay at Chowan College as meaningful as possible by providing him with effective academic and social counseling.

A New World Has Opened . . .

Joyce Dodson is a 19-year-old sophomore at Chowan College. She has the knack of reducing the complex to the germane. Asked why she selected Chowan, she replies simply "to find myself."

Chowan is the kind of school that specializes in helping students like Joyce to find themselves. Its president, Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, reports that the college is large enough to provide a sound academic program, and yet small enough to treat Joyce and her fellow students as individuals.

"I wanted a small college, far enough away from home so that I could get away and be on my own," Joyce says. "I wanted to attend a church-related (Baptist) junior college because I felt it would provide the atmosphere that would help me to establish myself. Chowan fitted all my requirements," she adds.

Had Joyce come to Chowan 13 years ago when Dr. Whitaker began his service as president, she would have found only 300 students on campus. Now she is part of a student body consisting of over 1,500.

The college began as the Chowan Baptist Female Institute in 1848. Yet, most of Joyce's time is spent in modern facilities built since 1957. Evenings she studies in Whitaker Library, which is named for the president, who recently announced a campaign to finance a new \$1.5 million science-engineering facility.

Joyce says she was surprised to find the diversity offered by the liberal arts program at Chowan. She attends a different exhibit each month in the new art gallery. As a freshman last year, and again this year she joined 26 of her classmates in the touring choir.

The attractive sophomore has found many guides on the

pathway of self-discovery. Among them are Miss Rebecca Kinnamon, professor of English, and Dr. Morris Carson, of the Spanish Department.

"Miss Kinnamon knows how to put her material across. She's an excellent teacher. But she has also been a friend as well. She is always willing to talk with me about personal matters," Joyce explains. "Dr. Carson has helped me answer one big question about myself," Joyce states.

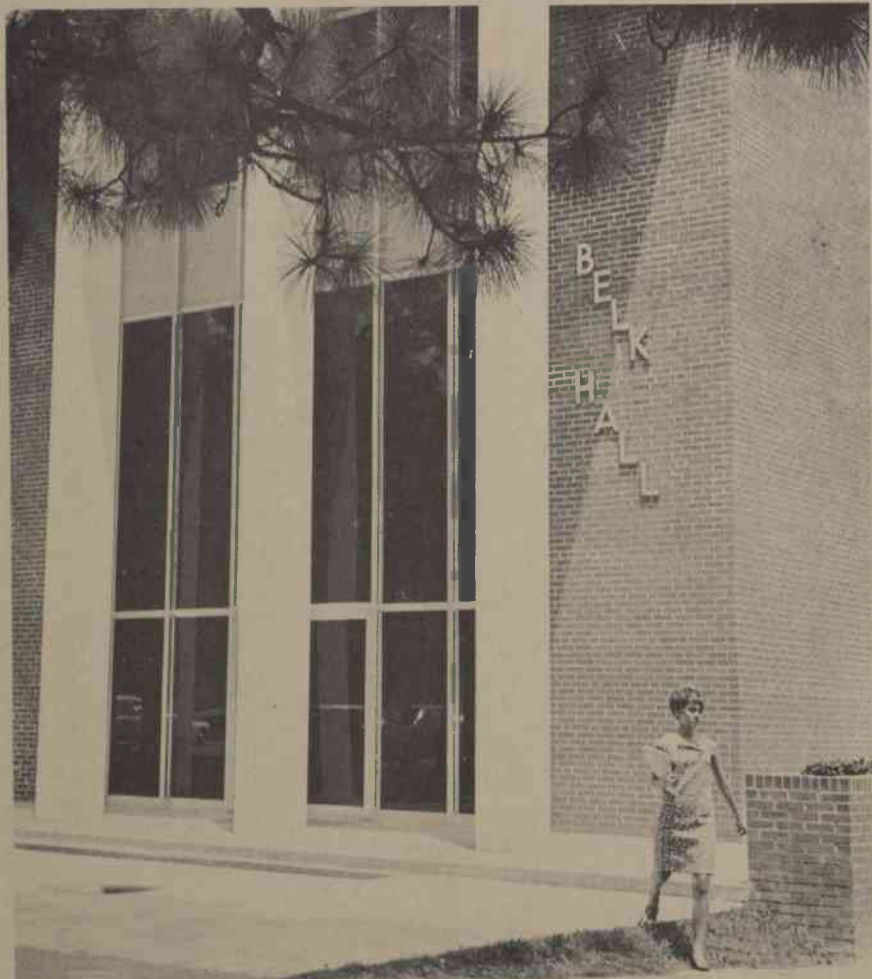
"As a freshman, I had not selected a major. But he opened up a new world to me—the Spanish language and customs. I have given it a great deal of thought, and I have decided to major in Spanish."

Joyce also serves as Dr. Carson's student secretary. "As a sophomore, I am finding a larger set of friends and activities and I have grown," Joyce comments. "The first year I was asking, 'Now I am doing. Serving as an officer in my residence hall has given me responsibility. I have many friends—they're easy to make at Chowan—and more things to do than there is time.'"

As a junior, Joyce will make the transition from a junior college to the international community at the St. Louis University in Madrid. It is part of a program offered by Stratford College, located in her hometown of Danville, Va., where she will complete her senior year.

Joyce does not minimize the challenge she will face but believes Chowan has helped her. "It has given me the opportunity to discover who I am, to really find myself. This is the start I needed."

Eighty-five per cent of all Chowan students are enrolled in transfer programs.



DORMITORY FOR WOMEN—One of the modern, air-conditioned residence halls for women is Belk Hall, which was named in honor of Mrs. Carol Belk, wife of Senator Irwin Belk of Charlotte.

A Word About Chowan . . .

Chowan College is a two year, co-educational college, supported by the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and is located in Murfreesboro.

Chowan follows in the time-honored tradition of smaller, church-related colleges where one finds such advantages as a real sense of "belonging" to the college family, instruction based on Christian presuppositions, economy in tuition and boarding expenses and definite interest in the individual on the part of the faculty.

Chowan is the second largest two-year college related to the Southern Baptist Convention and the second

oldest (1848) of North Carolina's seven Baptist colleges.

This co-educational institution has celebrated an unprecedented period of progress in growth and service as an institution of Christian higher education. The total enrollment is over 1,500 students. The plant evaluation is over \$8,500,000. However, the trustees and administration are determined that quality rather than quantity shall ever be the primary consideration. They realize that the smaller, well-equipped and accredited junior college is able to offer a quality and type of education which the larger institution

can never provide for youth who are standing at the doorway of their higher educational experience.

This Christian Junior College exists for the student, propagates with unyielding tenacity its avowed purposes, and operates within a framework of responsibility of maintaining Christian commitment through its entire program.

By action of the Board of Trustees of Chowan College, the college is operated on a non-discriminatory basis as regards race, creed or color. This includes employment, admissions, housing, scholarships and grants-in-aid, and public functions.



STUDENT CENTER—Signs of the Zodiac add color to the windows of the student center at Chowan College.