

Students staged calm demonstration in 1912



Reception dress

Mrs. O. C. Turner, Class of 1912, displays her reception dress worn during the time of graduation.



Music for alumni

Background music for Alumni Registration was live and supplied by Robert G. Mulder, Jr., professor of English, and Mickey Cribb, Chowan student.

In 1912, the students demonstrated at Chowan College.

By standards of 1969, the demonstration was calm. But it was not lacking in imagination or spirit.

It even involved a funeral procession and burial, complete with casket and cornerstone.

What had happened to so stir up the peaceful campus of then Chowan Baptist Female Institute?

Mrs. O. C. Turner, Class of 1912, explained during a recent visit to Chowan. "Chowan had two sororities, the C.O.V.A. and the P.N.A. I was a member of P.N.A. The president of Chowan, Dr. James Bruner, made a decision to ban the sororities as he believed the rivalry between the two was too intense.

"The P.N.A. group decided to give their banner to their oldest member. But C.O.N.A. had different ideas."

Mrs. Turner recalled with a laugh how a spunky group of girls had planned an appropriate farewell for their beloved sorority. They ordered a beautiful marble headstone with the engraving: "1875 - 1912 C.O.N.A. Chowan Baptist Female Institute."

The processional was formed and executed with much pomp and ceremony attracting students and faculty. After a trip around campus, the girls stopped at a spot now forgotten to bury the casket containing their flag.

Dr. Bruner's views are not recorded but one would suppose that even he wore a grim over their mischievousness.

Mrs. Daught Powell, also of Gatesville, who visited with Mrs. Turner, supplied other interesting facts concerning their school days at Chowan. She was valedictorian of the Class of 1911, the first year the Chowan student body published an annual.

Mrs. Powell contrasted the

strict code of behavior of her days with the many changes one sees on the average campus today. "I remember lining up with the other girls and the faculty and staff on Sunday mornings and marching to church led by the president."

Boys were taboo, she said. "None on the students were allowed to date boys and we

couldn't even talk to them," she explained.

Mrs. Turner and Mrs. Powell, who are first cousins, reported McDowell Columns was the only building on campus outside of a small brick building. It was the center of all activities.

Mrs. Powell remarked that Chowan would not be Chowan without McDowell Columns.

SNEA attends Elizabeth City Confab Oct. 10

By JERRY NEWTON

On Oct. 10 the local chapter of the Student National Education Association attended the Northeastern District Convention in Elizabeth City, N. C. The members attending were: Jim Bass, president; Ruth Manson, secretary and treasurer; Jerry Newton, reporter; Cheryl Fishel; Tom Gregory; Mrs. Deaton F. Faucette, faculty advisor.

The members first viewed various exhibits and later attended group meetings concerning elementary education and science. At 1 p.m., a luncheon was held by the Student North Carolina Education Association at the Holiday Inn in Elizabeth City.

The purpose of this luncheon was to discuss plans concerning regional and state meetings for 1969-70.

The newly appointed officers of this district are as follows: Wayne Williams, president; Brenda Storey, secretary; (both of East Carolina University); and Tom Gregory, freshman representative from Chowan College.

Have you noted change in our student body?

By CLAYTON LEWIS
Dean of Students

"Is this year's student body superior to last year's?" asked one of the local merchants. "Several people in town have mentioned to me that there is a better group of students at Chowan this year," he stated as the conversation continued.

Such remarks are music to a dean of students ears. He is always concerned about building or maintaining good relations between "town and gown." I was pleased to know that the citizens of Murfreesboro had sensed the quality of this year's student body.

Many faculty members have told me that student morale is the best they have ever seen at Chowan. Returning students are also aware of the improvement in school spirit.

Reasons for the change are many but impossible to list according to degree of influence in reshaping the environment in our academic community. No one factor is responsible. Such an improvement results from a combination of elements, all working for the benefit of its citizens.

Support Chowan College



Cornerstone for burial

Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker holds the cornerstone used by members of the C.O.V.A. sorority in 1912 for the burial of their beloved flag. Mrs. Daught Powell, left, Class of 1911, and Mrs. O. C. Turner, Class of 1912, explained the activity and college life during their student days to President Whitaker.