

# Professor Spends Summer Teaching Others to Swim

While stories of drownings and near-drownings continue to shock readers and bring tragedy to many families, a Chowan professor again dedicated his summer to attempting to save lives through instruction in water safety, lifesaving, and learning to swim.

Professor, coach, and Red Cross instructor, Jerry Hawkins was active during the summer months in Chowan's pool. His duties included teaching learn-to-swim classes involving all ages to some 50 individuals and several water safety and lifesaving courses.

This was the second summer that Hawkins, who is an assistant football coach and coaches baseball, has been active in Red Cross sponsored programs.

His pupils in the learn-to-swim category ranged in ages from three to 55. The children and young people received instructions in the mornings and afternoons and adults in the evenings.

Hawkins, who is a big favorite with the youngsters, works on the assumption that the earlier a child learns to swim, the better. "It's easier to teach them



JERRY LEE HAWKINS

when they are young and small than when they are older," he asserts.

He explained that the children are eager to put on their suits but once they get to the edge of the pool, some balk. At this stage, Hawkins must resort to his knowledge of psychology, which he teaches at Chowan.

Friendly persuasion is the key, he said, and not force.

The classes are serious in purpose but Hawkins attempts to make them as much fun as possible. This includes rides on his back and gliding the children through the water. Both activities are designed to help the children feel comfortable in the water.

The next step, encouraging the children to put their faces in the water, is crucial. "We must help the children overcome this fear before they can learn to swim," Hawkins said. "At first we ask them to splash water in their faces and this is followed by keeping their heads under the water for a few seconds." Teaching the proper way of kicking and stroking comes later.

Children learn at different rates. Some are swimming after the first series of classes, especially if they have had prior familiarity with the water. Others return the following summer and most of these are swimming before the classes end.

This sense of accomplishment adds to the confidence of the youth and adults, but it does more than provide their ego with a boost — it may save their lives.

Helping to save the lives of others is the main purpose of the water safety and lifesaving courses. Included in the course is instruction in four basic strokes, side, breast, back and crawl. The breast and back strokes are taught differently than in the past and require considerable practice to perfect.

To pass the course, the candidates, who are divided into junior or senior categories according to age, must be able to swim out to the deep end of the pool and "rescue" a "drowning victim." Pupils are taught to bring in an unconscious swimmer and one who is thrashing.

The swimmers must also demonstrate endurance by swimming for 30 minutes without resting, using the four strokes.

The course also includes a session outside of the pool designed to implant the proper philosophy of water safety. Hawkins considers swimming out to a person in distress a last resort.

Hawkins explains that it is safer for both the victim and the lifesaver to use other means if available. This includes throwing a tube or floating object to the victim or handing him a pole to grab. If the victim is far out it is better to use a boat.

If nothing else is available, Hawkins explains that a lifesaver can swim out with a towel to hand to the victim.

The pupils are also taught the techniques of mouth-to-mouth resuscitation.

No one can say how many lives, if any, will be saved because of the classes. But Hawkins knows that in or near the water the swimmer has the advantage over the non-swimmer.

He knows too that some day in a swimming hole, lake, or beach, a cry for help may be heard by one of the lifesavers. As he springs into action, intent upon saving a life, he will be aided by the knowledge and confidence he has acquired.

For Hawkins, preparing his charges as a Red Cross instructor for the unknown, is satisfaction enough.



## Convocation Speaker

Philip P. Godwin, speaker of the House of Representatives of the North Carolina General Assembly, delivers the convocation address at the opening of the fall semester. Seated are Dr. Bruce E. Whitaker, president, left, and Dr. Hargus Taylor, chaplain.

## Morris Carson Awarded Doctor of Philosophy

Morris E. Carson, professor of Spanish at Chowan College, was awarded the degree of Doctor of Philosophy in Spanish Literature and Letters, magna cum laude, from the Graduate School of La Universidad Interamericana in Saltillo, Mexico on July 22.

Dr. Carson received his B. A. degree in Spanish and English from Lynchburg College and his M. A. in Spanish from The University of Mississippi. In addition, he had done further graduate study at the University of Virginia and at a National Defense Language Institute at the University of Mississippi.

Dr. Carson begins his fifth year when Chowan opens its 123rd year August 27. Previously he taught English and Spanish at E. C. Glass High School in Lynchburg, Virginia. While a member of the Glass faculty, he served as a member of the self-study evaluation team in the area of foreign languages in Virginia and taught conversational Spanish to employees at General Electric.

Currently he is a member of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, the American Association of Teaching of Foreign Languages, the American Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese and the North Carolina Chapter of Teachers of Foreign Languages. He also serves on the Advisory Board of La Universidad Interamericana.

Dr. Carson is the author of the following articles: "Teaching A Modern Foreign Language According to Structure and Discipline," "New Trends in Teaching Modern Foreign Languages," and "The Use of Language Laboratories in Language Teaching."

He is sponsor of the Spanish Club which annually presents several musical programs in Spanish, including one featuring Christmas music.



DR. MORRIS CARSON

His duties include director and supervisor of the language learning center which aids students electronically in learning to speak and understand a foreign language.

## Surface Joins Football Coach Staff at Chowan

A health and physical education teacher and coach with Greensboro public schools, Dan Surface, 26, has been named professor of physical education at Chowan College. He will serve as an assistant football coach and coach of the track team.

Surface attended the College of William and Mary and is a graduate of Guilford College with the A. B. and the University of Tennessee at Knoxville with the M. S.

He has also served as a health and physical education teacher with the County schools of Fairfax, Va.

In college he was a member of the football and baseball teams. He is married.

## Famous Lecturer to Address GA Students

Howard N. King, a consultant for Harris-Intertype Co., New York, and a recognized authority on printing design and typography, is scheduled to speak to Chowan College Graphic Arts students on Tuesday, October 27, at 1:00 p.m. The topic will be "The Impact of Phototypesetting on the Printing Industry," which will be illustrated by a color slide presentation.

King is a well known typographer, book designer, writer on printing and advertising, and lecturer on the effective use of type. As "typographic consultant for the Intertype Company, a division of Harris-Intertype Corporation," he has travelled far and wide speaking before Graphic Arts organizations, Advertising Clubs, Newspapers, Industrial Publications and many associations interested in printing design.

He is a past president of the International Associations of Printing House Craftsmen and winner of the 1956 award of that organization as the outstanding craftsman of the year. This is considered to be the highest honor that can come to anyone in the Graphic Arts industry. King is a practical printer by trade, having learned his trade as a compositor. He is a graduate of the American Academy of Art, a member of the American Institute of Graphic Arts and the Chicago Society of Typographic Arts.

He was the organizer and first president of the York Club of Printing House Craftsmen and a past president of the Advertising Club of York. He is vice president of the Maple Press Company of



HOWARD KING

York, Pennsylvania, one of the largest technical and medical book houses in the country. He is also vice president of Graphic Services, Inc., one of the unique trade houses in this country which deals only in photographic typesetting. This company is one of the prime developers of this new method of setting type. Annually he is called upon to design twenty-five to thirty books, a chore he accomplishes in a very fine home studio during evenings or week-ends.

Mr. King is a forceful speaker, clear and concise in his treatment of the subject, with the ability to intersperse his material with humorous comment. His sincerity and enthusiasm add much to the presentation. He never fails to introduce new and constructive ideas—for typography, and for real attainment through creative craftsmanship."