



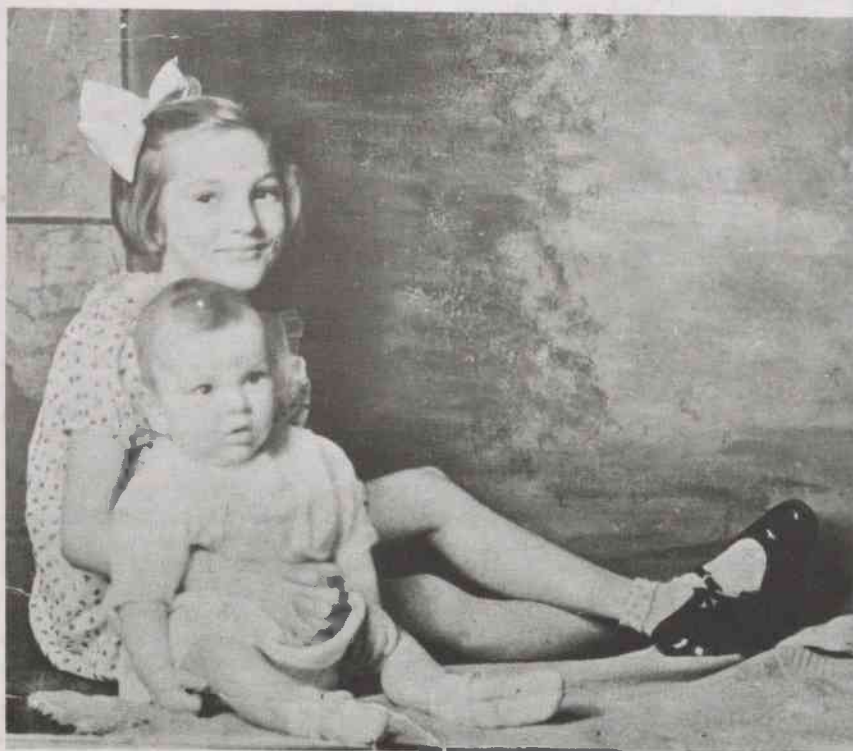
Mrs. Mattie-Macon Norman Gardner as a Chowan student in 1916-18.

## 1935 Letter from Alumna Expressed Concern

The *Chowanian* has received a copy of a letter written by the late Mrs. Mattie-Macon Norman Gardner, Chowan alumna, when she served as a missionary to China with her first husband, the Rev. Philip E. White of Hertford. Mrs. Gardner, who died in January of 1976, attended Chowan from 1916-18. She graduated from Meredith College and the training school of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. She also attended the New York School of Fine Arts and Music. She and the Rev. Mr. White served as missionaries to China under appointment from the Southern Baptist Convention's Foreign Mission Board from

1924-27 and 1935-44. At the time of her death she was the widow of Dr. E. Norfleet Gardner of Henderson. Her survivors include a daughter, Mrs. Authur A. Jackson, Jr. of West Simsbury, Conn., and a son, Louis Norman White of Brooklin, New York.

In her letter, addressed to Mrs. Ruth Thomas of Cofield, who had been her classmate at Chowan, she writes of her concern of Chowan and interest in the friends she made at the college. She also mentions the "great need" in China for the love of Christ in the midst of the fighting that was raging in the country.



**GARDNER CHILDREN**—The children of Mrs. Mattie-Macon Norman Gardner, Geneva Jo White (now Mrs. Arthur A. Jackson, Jr.) and Louis Norman White, posed for this picture when their parents were missionaries in China. At the time of the picture, Geneva was six years old and Louis, six months.

## The Chowanian

Murfreesboro, N. C. 27855

### Mattie Macon's Letter . . .

It is with a great deal of pleasure that I think of the good old days that I was at Chowan and went out to see you. I often wonder how you all are and I wish somebody would get Ruth to sit down and write me a real long letter telling me all about you dear people and also all the other friends I knew around and about. I saw in a paper lately that Chowan had again changed presidents and that Miss McDowell had been made Dean of Women. I do hate for the splendid old college to have to change hands so very often. The days that I spent there were a veritable blessing to me.

China is certainly in a stir-up, politically. I am not at all capable to tell you anything about the situation. It does seem that there is fighting all the time and this city and that city falling into the hands of bandits. It is a pitiful situation.

There is a great need in this land, . . . the love of Christ. Some feel that the missionaries may have to leave sometime. This may be true, but we can all at least pray that China may be saved. We have such a good native pastor, a Mr. Dong. He is such a consecrated man and seems to have a passion for lost souls. There must be other men elsewhere like him and surely China's hope must lay in such men as he.

Phil and I both appreciate your remembrance of us at this Christmas time and we will enjoy the *Journal* all of this year and think of the giver. Do write us. Letters mean even more to a person out here than in America. May each of you have your New Year filled with numberless blessings and joys.

With lots of love to each,  
As always,



**AT HOME IN CHINA**—Chowan alumna, Mrs. Mattie-Macon Norman Gardner, is shown with her first husband, the Rev. Philip E. White of Hertford, in front of their home in China, where they served as missionaries.