



Historic McDowell Columns as seen in the 1940s.

equally important days and events."

Mrs. Revelle noted, "We were coed." She explained that in 1931 eight men were enrolled and by 1937 the number of men students had increased to 25 — all day students.

These 25 men formed Chowan's first football team. "All had to play," said Mrs. Revelle. "As 'Piggy' Jenkins (retired superintendent of Hertford County Schools) said 'Chowan was the only school with a 120-pound center.'"

She continued, "Societies were Alathenian and Lucalian. 'Rush time' every fall consisted of parties given by both groups to the freshmen. Programs were given at regular intervals and there was a certain degree of secrecy surrounding all."

#### Other Events

Two other events that brightened the students days were Sophomore Day — "a real fun day, especially for the sophomores" - and Founders Day, which featured tennis matches, an address, and faculty recital.

Mrs. Revelle has fond memories of the traditions and activities associated with Christmas. One of her outstanding memories was of the Christmas Vesper Service held the Sunday before the students left for home.

It was a 5 p.m. candlelight service and "by the time the program was over there was darkness outside."

"P-Nutting" was another interesting holiday activity, she recalled. "P-Nutting at the Christmas season was filled with surprises and much excitement, especially the night before the Christmas holidays. Around Thanksgiving the SGA would place a name in a peanut shell. Everyone would draw one — even the teachers. Almost every day a package (mostly very small things) would be placed around the buildings. Sometimes there would be clues as to where it could be found but never until Christmas was the name of the donor known. The fun was in the secrecy and all the stories told about who a P-Nut might be! The night before the Christmas holidays everyone gathered and found who the P-Nut was."

#### Three-Day Commencement

Back then, commencement covered three days. Sunday was reserved for Baccalaureate and Missionary sermons. Monday was Class Day featuring the Alumnae Association and an operetta at night. Graduation was on Tuesday morning, Mrs. Revelle noted.

While the 50th reunion is for the Class of 1937, members of the classes from 1934 through 1938 are being invited to attend.



Vint Tilson, Director of Alumni Affairs, enjoys hearing of the "old days" from returning alumni.