

# Missionary slain in Liberia had ties with Chowan

In late November, tragic news came out of Liberia of the murder of a Southern Baptist missionary, Mrs. Libby Tarlton Senter, and her daughter, Rachel, 10.

The missionary had been raised in Shelby where her 87-year-old father, Bill Tarlton, served as pastor of Zion Baptist Church for 16 years. She first dedicated her life to missions there.

## Ties with Chowan

The CHOWANIAN has learned that the deceased mother of Mrs. Libby Tarlton Senter, Mrs. W.V. Tarlton, is a 1927 graduate of Chowan College. Her maiden name was Letha Carter and her hometown was Harris, near Shelby.

According to a Baptist Press report, "The missionary and her daughter were found murdered early November 26 at the Senter home in Yekepa, Liberia. Police arrested suspect Benjamin M. Morris, a graduate of the Liberian Baptist Theological Seminary, the following day as he apparently was trying to escape the country."

George and Libby Senter moved with their two children, which includes a son, Philip, to Yekepa six years ago as newly appointed missionaries. They long ago decided in case either died on the mission field they wanted to be buried in

Liberia as a Christian witness to the people.

According to the Baptist Press, "Forgiveness was one topic the Liberians discussed widely among themselves. They were stunned as word got around that George Senter had placed his hand on Morris' shoulder, looked the accused murderer in his eyes and told him he forgave Morris for killing his wife and daughter."

## Loved Liberian People

"That's a story that just amazed everybody in the area," said

Bradley Brown, the administrator of the 67 Southern Baptist mission workers assigned to Liberia.

"Liberians told how Libby Senter loved the people of Nimba County. 'They appreciated her effort at learning the Mano language, and the fact that she would go out regularly on Mondays and stay overnight with them, asking for no special treatment,' Brown said. 'She wanted to live as one of the villagers and wanted to learn new things as they did them.'

"One village pastor told the crowd with great emotion how his people had given her a name in the Mano Language which meant 'second,' indicating she was only the second woman from outside their tribe who had tried to learn their language.

"Other contributors thanked God for sending Mrs. Senter and prayed that he would speak through the tragedy of her death to draw people closer to himself.

"One contributor to the wake spoke of the daughter, Rachel,

noting in her tribute Rachel's identification with the country. A teacher at the African Bible academy Rachel attended in Yekepa told about Rachel's answer to an assigned question, 'How do you know you are a Christian?'

"The teacher quoted Rachel as saying she knew she was a Christian because as she believed in Jesus Christ as her Savior, her 'heart felt satisfied' - a phrase typical of Liberian speech."

## Chowan College Scholarshare

Cheryl Pope is a Chowan College student from Conway, N. C. In addition to her studies and campus activities, Cheryl also works parttime in the Counseling and Career Development Center.

Cheryl is one of 470 Chowan students who work up to 20 hours a week to help pay for their college education. Without this financial aid, many of these students would not be able to remain in college.

Chowan is pleased to provide and help pay for the work of students who take this kind of initiative. Each year, Chowan pays thousands of dollars from its operating budget to students needing financial aid. Chowan must look to its friends for help.

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## Special week for financial aid information

Governor Jim Martin and financial aid administrators at North Carolina colleges have combined forces to create awareness of the student financial aid programs that are available to students.

Clifton S. Collins, director of financial planning, noted: "In proclaiming 'Student Financial Aid Awareness Week', Gov. Martin recognized that, due to ever increasing educational and living expenses, more and more students are finding it necessary to seek student financial assistance to further their educations beyond the high school level."

Continued Collins, "The underlying theme in student aid, since its inception, has been that of assisting qualified students with inadequate financial resources to attend the postsecondary educational institution of their choice. Because student financial aid programs and dollar amounts are ever-changing it is essential that prospective students and parents become aware of the funds for which they may be eligible."

The North Carolina Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators has made a commitment to provide the North Carolina students more comprehensive information on student financial aid resources available for the 1987-88 academic year.

"Now, more than ever, it is imperative for students to understand student financial aid programs and institutional philosophies," Collins declared.