

Dr. Stokes tells of varied past

by Mark Sauer, B.A., 1976

My most vivid recollection of Dr. Durward Stokes was my first class with him. His grey slicked-back hair and weathered character lines etched in his face told me this man had not spent his life in a library pondering volumes on man's ascent from the cave. He leaned on a black cane worn by use until the grain shone like gold set in ebony but he carried himself with an air of humble authority. His personal glimpses into the Southern experience of history, religion, and teaching gave me more enthusiasm than it is likely I shall ever have again. Dr. Stokes will be retiring from teaching after the summer terms.

Born on Dec. 8, 1908 in Alamance County, he recalls his childhood experiences that helped found his belief in the South. "I was born of substantial working people, and both of my grandfathers lived with us. They were confederate veterans and they instilled in me the principle for which the war was fought." Dr. Stokes has

no "romantic notions" about the large Mississippi River plantation as an accurate appraisal of what ante-be-'um southern life was like. "My grandfathers told me of the glories and the despairs that the war and reconstruction left the South. Although we had slaves, the crucial issue was not slavery but the state's right to rule itself under the constitution. We had a few slaves, and I believe slavery was the greatest curse perpetrated on mankind, but they only meant two more hands in the work," Dr. Stokes says. "I feel the black people were held back in the South; however, this was due to the federal government and reconstruction. Both maligned southerner's thinking and created the hate that was so evident toward the Negro." His formative years gave Durward Stokes a healthy respect for the land and the people that gained their life from it. "I like the neighborly way in the South; people know one another and therefore I believe we are much better off than the largely urbanized North. I like

southern cooking, the easy life style, and the people. I think it's just perfect. I love the United States, but I am a Southerner at heart."

Dr. Stokes' great respect for the land and the people working on it helped create his religious convictions. "I was greatly influenced by the teachings of Calvinism; that is, everyone is supposed to work and produce to the best of his ability, and I feel one gets divine assistance in his endeavors." Stokes remembers what man has risen from and in some instances fallen from. "I can remember when our society was not mobile; most people lived and died near where they were born," he says. His reminiscences are not idle chatter about what some members of society call "the good ole days." His stories are an integral part of making history live. "The first radio broadcast I heard was on the third floor of the old Burlington High School, now the Broad St. School. It was broadcast over KDKA and the first song was Tosti's 'Goodbye.'" The mobility of our society now, compared to

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Dr. Stokes at his desk is a familiar sight to the people in the Social Science Department, but he will soon retire from teaching. (News Bureau, Robert House, Photo)

Honor society undergoing changes

Alpha Chi preparing for next semester

by Kay Raskin

An old organization at Elon is undergoing facelifting for next fall. Elon's Alpha Chi, a chapter of a national college honor society, recently changed sponsors and officers. Dr. Robert Blake is now sponsor and Chris White is assistant sponsor. The new officers are: Zebedee Talley, president; Janice Summers, vice-president; and Bernadette McMullen, secretary-treasurer.

Dr. Blake will be in San Antonio, Tex., March 17 for a national Alpha Chi convention. He plans to bring new ideas suggested at the convention back to Elon and put them into

practice. Alpha Chi has in the past sponsored only one induction in the spring. This was a disadvantage to seniors inducted too late to be active members. Dr. Blake has suggested two inductions a year, one in the spring and another in the fall.

Other ideas under consideration include sponsoring a nationally known lecturer sometime next fall and honoring area high school valedictorians. A picnic at Crumpton Center for current members of Alpha Chi is also planned for May to get new ideas from the members.

Dr. Blake said this is all an

attempt to put some emphasis on the academically talented students at Elon. Members of Alpha Chi are juniors and seniors who rank in the top 10% of their classes. The members must also be of good character.

Members inducted this spring are Verver DeHart, Perry Everhart, Mary Beth Glynn, Joanna Goss, Teresa Harris, Elsbeth Johnson, Bernadette McMullen, Marilee McPherson, Peggy Jo Parker, Arlene Pate, Bonnie Pryce, James Shanks, Rebecca Sharpe, Linda Shoffner, Janice Summers, Zebedee Talley, Rachel Wagoner, and Nancy Sue Wyrick.

Journalism students at Elon finding success in related fields

Several members of the journalism classes at Elon College are writing articles that are published in daily or weekly newspapers. Others have already found jobs in journalism or related fields.

Gary Spitler, sports editor of the *Pendulum*, works with the college sports information office. He covers baseball, spring and summer, traveling with the team while other students are on vacation. He also covers football and basketball. He wrote 86 articles on band members last year for their hometown newspapers. As a dorm counselor, he publishes a newsletter for Brannock dorm every week.

Diane Silcox, taking college journalism while still in high school, writes a weekly column for the *City-County Newspaper* on Cummings High activities as well as profiles, features, and personality stories.

Linda Shoffner has had published several feature articles and profiles in Burlington newspapers.

Joe Chandler, B.A. '76, became assistant sports editor and photographer for a South Boston, Va., newspaper upon graduation. He was already a trained photographer when he came to Elon, and he covered most games and sports while here. He had practice in all

types of writing in two journalism courses.

It was Joe Chandler's published feature article on Ken Toda, the student photographer, that got Ken a job in photography upon his graduation in 1976.

The editorial of the last issue of the *Pendulum* (Feb. 24) was reprinted with credit in the March 2 issue of the *Burlington Times-News*.

Applications

Applications are now being taken for the editor of the *Pendulum*, yearbook, and *Colonnades*. Any interested person with past experience should file an application stating qualifications and reasons for seeking the position. Turn in at room 203, Long Student Center by March 18.

Lost and found office tries new approach for claims

by Ted Salisbury

The lost and found service is run this year by Bill Sharpe in Long Student Center, Room 203. The service was moved there from Mrs. Perkins' office at the end of last year because there were more students at the student center.

A new system is being used by Mr. Sharpe in his effort to upgrade this service. When an object is found, a card is filled out on where it was found, when it was found, and a description of the item. The same is done for those things that are reported missing. When a student comes in and says he has lost something, the card file is checked to see if it is there. The actual collection of lost and found objects is not displayed.

This includes: cumulative folders, discipline reports, standardized tests, teacher or professor comments, psychological evaluations, and intelligence test scores.

Schools and institutions have the right to throw away outdated and unimportant information. Schools must keep a list of individuals, agencies, or organizations which have requested or obtained access to student records. The list must also indicate what particular interest the person or organization had in seeing the records.

Students at Elon may obtain a request form in the registrar's office to see their records. A list is also provided upon request of all places on campus containing records pertaining to students. These records, in most instances, contain transcripts of grades, high school transcripts, college applications, change in schedule forms, and a list of persons or agencies requesting to view the student's records.

A copy of the Buckley Amendment is also available for inspection in the registrar's office.

This cuts down on the possibility of a person claiming something that is not really his. About once or twice each semester the *Communicator* prints a list of the items that have been turned in to Mr. Sharpe's office.

Any valuable items such as watches, jewelry, etc., are kept until the next year. Things like clothes are given to the needy.

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