

From Dr. Whitaker to the Alumni

There are several matters to which I should like to call the attention of alumni, students and friends through this issue of the *Chowanian*.

SCHOLAR INCENTIVE BILL:

At this writing there is before the State Legislature a Scholar Incentive Program represented in Senate Bill 264 and House Bill 508. This legislation is a vital factor in the total program of higher education in the State of North Carolina, and of special relevance to the private higher educational institutions of North Carolina and North Carolina students who may choose to attend them.

In the first place, it is declared to be the public policy of the State to comply with the mandate of the Constitution of the State wherein it is said: "Religion, morality and knowledge being necessary to good government and the happiness of mankind, schools and the means of education shall forever be encouraged." Currently, approximately 46% of the students enrolled in the colleges of North Carolina are in private or church-related colleges and 54% are enrolled in public supported colleges. The State of North Carolina now must appropriate an average of \$750.00 per student enrolled in public colleges beyond what the student himself pays. The Bill under discussion is designed that for each student enrolled in a non-tax supported college (certainly beyond those now enrolled), the State would save up to \$550.00 per student, to say nothing of capital construction costs that would probably amount to \$200.00 per student annually.

The Bill in effect would provide badly needed assistance or scholarships for needy and worthy students who could not attend college without help.

In the second place, under the provisions of this Bill, a qualified resident of North Carolina, who attends North Carolina colleges (public or private) could receive a tuition grant of up to \$100.00 per semester or a maximum of \$200.00 per year, depending upon net state taxable income.

It has been found that 77.8% of North Carolina residents have a net state taxable income of \$2,000.00 or less, and under the program a boy or girl from one of these families could receive up to \$100.00 per semester, if the college of his choice charged as much as \$400.00 per semester for tuition (there would be no grant unless the college charged in excess of \$100.00 per semester). There is a graduated scale so that if the net state taxable income of a family exceeded \$7,200.00 (and only 3% of the North Carolina taxpayers have an income exceeding this amount!), there would be no help under this Bill. It is estimated that the cost to the State would be \$3,000,000.00 per year or \$6,000,000.00 for the biennium.

It is important to note that this is an incentive program. Moreover, it would help to equalize the tuition charge between private and tax supported institutions. It would permit students who live in the locality of a private or church-related institution to attend one of these colleges, and thus serve one of the stated purposes for establishing a State system of comprehensive community junior colleges.

North Carolina students have a great deal to gain if this Bill is passed. I strongly urge our students, alumni and friends to contact their senators or representatives and make known their thinking concerning the Bill.

This Bill is much like the old Federal G. I. Bill. Moreover, the State now helps students, in the college of their choice, under the Rehabilitation Program of the State and gives up to \$300.00 per year to students who plan to teach

in North Carolina. It is important to note that there is no infringement of the cherished principle of separation of church and state, in that any grant made would be to the student and not to the college.

Building Program on Campus

Currently we have under construction a 216-bed dormitory for men, which will feature built-in furniture and will be completely air conditioned; it is located immediately behind Mixon Dormitory and the existing New Dormitory for Men. This dormitory is scheduled to be ready for use in September of this year. Also, we are beginning construction on a new classroom building. This facility is a most needed and significant one. It will enable us to increase our library temporarily, to make use of areas now used as classrooms, adjacent to the gymnasium, in our physical education program. The classroom building is scheduled to be ready for use sometime around Thanksgiving. We have buildings under construction: now we must get the money together in order to pay the Contractor!

We have paved the drive at the rear entrance of the campus, something which has needed to be done for several years. One of our interested friends is considering helping us to build two additional and much needed tennis courts, and to place lights on them and the three existing ones. The three tennis courts now in use were constructed when we had just over 200 students, and with an enrollment of over 800 we should have at least ten or twelve; two additional ones now will help.

Action is being taken to provide an athletic field on the campus. The field will be adapted for football and baseball and provide approximately 2,000 seats for spectators. Already, civic clubs, students, faculty and other interested persons are at work raising the necessary funds. The Murfreesboro Jaycees have purchased and donated nine 80 foot poles with a total of 90 powerful lights. The Murfreesboro Exchangites have pledged a handsome scoreboard and clock. **Chowan students are at work selling magazines and the profit from these sales will be added to the funds for seats. Many others are at work. It is expected that other civic clubs, campus organizations and friends will join together to "turn on the lights" on the Chowan College Athletic Field.**

Alma Mater is growing in size, quality and service. I am happy to report that the "Chowan spirit" continues to pervade the campus. There will be inevitable changes and additions in the physical plant, but it is my hope that we will strive always to follow the long honored tradition of providing "a school of high order". We have other building needs, including a new drive and a great deal more parking areas for automobiles. The need for a new and modern library, with additional volumes, is nothing short of urgent.

May Day and Commencement

We are looking forward to May 4 when we will celebrate May Day. At that time many of our alumni will return and hear an address by an alumnus, State Senator John R. Jordan, Jr. of Raleigh. A highlight of the day will be the crowning in the afternoon of the May Day Queen and attendant festivities.

Commencement exercises will be held on Sunday, June 2. Dr. James C. Barry, Editor of *Week Day Materials* of the Baptist Sunday School Board in Nashville, Tennessee will deliver the baccalaureate sermon at 11:00 a. m. The venerable Rev. J. Clyde Turner, long time pastor of First Baptist

Church in Greensboro and now of Raleigh, will deliver the commencement address at 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon. We expect to graduate approximately 175 students.

Three of our top professors will be away next year completing work for their Ph.D. degrees—Professor James M. Chamblee, chairman of the department of music, at the University of North Carolina; Professor William Calvin Dickinson, of the department of history, University of North Carolina; Professor Leo L. Bishop, chairman of the department of science and mathematics, at Louisiana State University, on a scholarship from the National Science Foundation. The college will aid each of these men to some degree financially.

We anticipate an additional 75-100 students for the coming year, giving us approximately 850 stu-

dents. Continue to recommend qualified students for admission. In terms of the quality of students being admitted and the number and quality of our faculty. I anticipate the coming year with great satisfaction.

To those students who are graduating, I extend congratulations and best wishes. To them I can say that they have been a part of a growing and strengthened Chowan College. On June 2 they will not only graduate but will be a part of the closing of what I consider to be the best, by far, of my six years of service as President of this beloved Chowan College.

To all of our alumni and friends, we extend greetings and best wishes. We invite you to visit the campus whenever you can and will. I close with a plea that you remember Chowan College as you pray.

**Alumni:
Chowan
Needs
Your
Support**

Profile of an Alumnus

J. M. "Piggy" Jenkins lives at 508 Lakeview Drive in Murfreesboro, North Carolina. "Piggy" as he is known to his many friends, is a first rate citizen.

The Murfreesboro Exchange Club attested to this recently by entering his name in the Book of Golden Deeds. The club thereby expressed appreciation for his manifold contributions to his community, his area, his state, and his country.

Mr. Jenkins has served as principal at the Murfreesboro High School for the past 15 years. Prior to his association in Murfreesboro as principal he was associated with the Beaufort County Board of Education. He attended Chowan College in 1933-35 and then continued his studies at Wake Forest College where he received his B.S. degree in history-government. He has done graduate work at Wake Forest and East Carolina College getting his M.A. degree from Wake Forest College. The principal is currently serving as president of the Northeastern District Principals' Association. He serves as a deacon in the Murfreesboro Baptist Church and is president of the Murfreesboro Rotary Club.

"Piggy" is well-known for his exceptional ability as an after-dinner speaker. He averages five or six speeches per month which are classified as speeches of humor and inspirational thoughts. He



ABLE ADMINISTRATOR—He is an able administrator. J. M. "Piggy" Jenkins is principal of the Murfreesboro High School where he administers the multitudinous duties of a busy, progressive and successful high school principal. He is also "right at home" behind his desk.

draws humor from experiences directly or indirectly associated with school work. This seems to come easy for this man who is known by all as a cheerful and witty person with a certain serious content that makes him adept at making others happy.

The Murfreesboro Principal claims an unusual hobby. He likes to be a spectator at any kind of game. He never misses a game that his high school plays and at

home football games he is an able announcer. When the Chowan Braves put on an athletic exhibition he is right there giving moral support.

Mr. Jenkins is the father of a 12 year old son, J. M. Jenkins, Jr. Mrs. Jenkins is the former Josephine Ambrose of Belhaven, North Carolina.

We proudly salute J. M. "Piggy" Jenkins, another successful Chowanian of outstanding ability.



PUBLIC SPEAKER—Indicative of Mr. Jenkins' ability as a public speaker, he is "right at home" behind the speaker's stand. His ability as an after dinner speaker, is supported by his humor and words of wisdom that penetrate every audience that he faces. He averages five or six speaking engagements per month.

Wedding Bells

Betty Lou Picot of Franklin, Va. to Patrick Wayne Jordan of Ahsokie, October 7 in Franklin.

Floyd Estel Davis, Jr. of Winston Salem to Beverly Ruth Wicker of Raleigh on Dec. 29 in Raleigh.

Susanne Faye Sansbury of Roxboro to SP4 Robert Lynn Parsons, USA, on Dec. 24 in Roxboro.

Janet Gail Williford of Windsor to Lewis Smith of Newsoms, Va. on Dec. 22 near Windsor.

Mrs. Ruth S. Stephenson of Pendleton to Rev. Randolph Phillips of Pendleton on Jan. 5 in Wake Forest.

Audrey Jean Hoggard of Lewiston to Joseph Harrington, Jr. of Rich Square.

Nancy Jane Britton of Roanoke Rapids to Alonzo Merrick Barnes, Jr. of Philadelphia, Pa. in Raleigh on January 26, 1963.

Mary Jo Lowe of Maravian Falls, Va. to Lt. David Elwyn Lovette, USA, on Jan. 27.

Richard Jefferson Shouse to Sandra Elaine Williams on Dec. 23.

Frances Patricia Turner of Weldon to Shelby Gene Vaughan of Roanoke Rapids in Weldon on Dec. 22.

William Neil Graham to Patricia Jeanne DeBerry in Murfreesboro at the Murfreesboro Methodist Church on February 10. Mr. Graham is presently stationed with the United States Paratrooper Special Forces, Ft. Bragg.

Frances Blanche Peed to Allen Gray Tyre on Sunday afternoon, February 17, in the Vernon Methodist Church in Williamston.

Carolyn Lee Coltrain to J. C. Griffin, Jr. in Williamston at the Macedonia Christian Church.