



*1923-1948*

*Twenty-Fifth Anniversary*

*New Jersey State Teachers College  
at Glassboro*



Arthur Conk '51

*Highlights*  
*Commemorating the*  
*Twenty-fifth Anniversary*  
*of the founding of*  
*New Jersey State Teachers College*  
*at Glassboro*



*Dr. J. J. Savitz*

*1923-1937*

Dear Seniors:

We entertain for you a hope and a wish. Our hope is that you may enter upon the work of teaching in the spirit of the great teachers of the past; that you will search out the uniqueness of each personality and minister to individual need; and that you will do this with such wisdom and in such loving spirit that streams of influence may flow forth to make glad the City of our God.

Our wish for you is that through this service you may find the meaning and significance of life so clearly revealed as to be able to evaluate properly and to select the opportunities for experiencing those things which will develop the finest qualities of manhood and womanhood.\*

J. J. SAVITZ

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\*Taken from a letter written by Dr. Savitz to the Class of 1930 as recorded in THE OAK.

*Dr. Edgar F. Bunce*

1937-



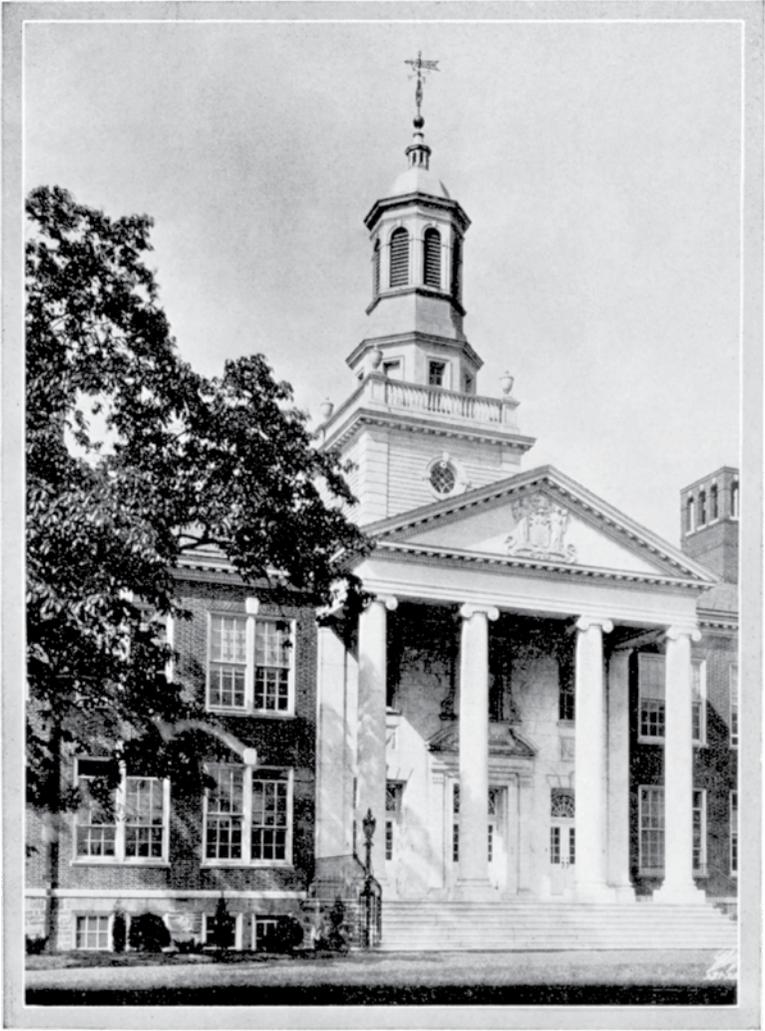
Dear Alumni,

It is a distinct pleasure to greet you and to welcome you back to your Alma Mater on this notable occasion.

Your college has changed over the period of twenty-five years just as you have changed. We have had some successes and some failures just as you have.

Those of us who are responsible for the administration of the college wish that we might have a strong, active Alumni Association. We need your help to secure for Glassboro the buildings and equipment which are so badly needed.

Sincerely yours,  
EDGAR F. BUNCE



*College Entrance*

# *History of the College*

## *the Founding*

In 1917 the New Jersey State Legislature appropriated \$300,000 for the establishment of a normal school in the southern part of the state. This amount being insufficient to carry out the building program, contributions were made by interested citizens; and additional appropriations were granted by the state making a total of about \$500,000.

On October 14, 1919, the building plans were endorsed by the State Board of Education. The construction program was soon under way, and the buildings were completed by April 1, 1923. On February 3, 1923, the State Board of Education announced that Dr. J. J. Savitz had accepted the principalship of the New Jersey State Normal School at Glassboro.

The dedication ceremony was held on November 16, 1923. In the 1925-'26 catalogue Dr. Savitz has described the event in the following words:

An audience of more than fourteen hundred people, consisting of members of the State Board of Education, members of the State Legislature, city and county superintendents of schools, the donors of the twenty-five acres of land, and interested citizens from all parts of the state, especially South Jersey, assembled on November 16, 1923, to assist in the dedicatory exercises of the school.



Charles Robinson '41

*The Whitney House, 1849*

## *The Whitney Mansion*

In the midst of his Holly Bush Estate, in 1849 Thomas Heston Whitney built his home—a mansion of nearby “Jersey” stone. This impressive house has a large central hall, two parlors, a large dining room, and a kitchen on the first floor. A beautiful circular stairway leads up to the second floor of nine bedrooms. Surrounding this stone house are numerous porches, which are ornamented with decorative molded iron work.

During the early days of the mansion it was encircled by beautiful flower gardens; and beyond, was a park timbered with oaks and pines through which deer roamed.

The history of the Whitney family in Glassboro goes back to 1806. Captain Eben Whitney of Castine, Maine, was wrecked off Cape May, losing his vessel and his cargo. On his way to Philadelphia he became acquainted with Bathsheba Heston of Glassboro and later married her, making Glassboro his home.

Thomas Heston and Samuel A., sons of Captain Eben Whitney, purchased the glassworks in Glassboro in 1842 and changed the name to Whitney Glassworks.

Under the ownership of the Whitney brothers, the Glassworks became the largest and the most successful of the South Jersey glass houses. Many well-known historic flasks, the celebrated Booz bottle, many varieties of containers for bitters, footed bowls, pitchers, mugs, window glass, snuff jars, and the then popular "lily-pad" were the products of Whitney Glassworks.

The South Jersey glass was a free-blown technique, and the colors ranged from pale aquamarines to olive greens and ambers.

Many fine examples of early South Jersey glass are to be found in collections at our leading art museums of America and are eagerly sought after by connoisseurs of early American glass.

Connected with the glassworks were a flour and feed mill, steam sawmill, planing mill, blacksmith shop, and a number of farms (1,000 acres) to provide the necessities of life for the four hundred workers of the factory.

During the Whitney regime the mansion was the center for entertaining. Many famous people enjoyed the hospitality found within its walls.

The Whitney House served as our first girls' dormitory and the home of Dr. and Mrs. Savitz and later became the home of President and Mrs. Bunce and family.

## *Dormitory Life*

From 1923 to 1928 different nearby houses were rented by the state to serve as temporary dormitories. These houses being neither adequate nor satisfactory, two dormitories, each housing about seventy-five students, were erected—one in 1927–28 and the other in 1929–30.

The dean has general supervision of dormitory life. A faculty advisor, assisted by student associates, is in charge of the students of each dormitory. In order that opportunities be provided for growth in self-control, the government of the students is administered by an organization chosen by the students from their own number.

Various forms of entertainment and recreation are encouraged. Among these are the recreation hour in the gymnasium, week-end camping trips, hikes, nature-study excursions, theatre parties, and other educational and recreational features.

When the Veterans program was instituted at Glassboro in 1947, still more housing facilities were needed. Seventeen units were erected on the campus, each unit accommodating six men.





*Evening at the Dormitory*

*College Picnic at the Fireplace — Built by Class of 1943*





*The President's Reception —planned by Student Faculty Committees*

## *Extra Class Activities*

The faculty consistently strive to lead the students in developing a stimulating environment outside of the classroom. Through their own efforts, students are privileged to enjoy the best entertainments and to listen to lectures of note on the outstanding issues of the day. Under the guidance of faculty advisers, the students initiate and carry on worthwhile projects of their own, ranging from assembly programs to the annual commencement exercises. They gain worthwhile experiences by arranging for and giving teas, receptions, dances, and entertainments to members of other groups meeting at the college.

Besides these events, which are not regularly scheduled, the entire college devotes a definite time each week to the meeting of the various special-interest clubs, in addition to class and college organizations.

## *Student-Faculty Committees*

As one outgrowth of the policy that each individual who is a part of the college must be growing educationally at all times, and that growth is possible only if a real challenge or actual responsibility properly supervised is given each person, with the fullest possible utilization of each one's interests and powers in a co-operative scheme, Student-Faculty committees on Student Welfare, Decoration, Public Relations, Assemblies, Social Affairs, Hospitality, and Publicity, have been organized.

These committees, each composed of elected representatives from the various sections and three faculty members, meet regularly each month to discuss problems related to the work of the committee, to make recommendations of policy which are referred to the President, and to carry out approved procedures.

## *Student Council*

The Student Council is composed of the presidents of the various classes and sections. This Council meets regularly each month. It assists the President and faculty in formulating policies and affords a means of communication between the administration and the students.

## *Orchestra*

Any student capable of playing an orchestral instrument is eligible for membership in the College Orchestra, which meets for practice each week and plays regularly at each assembly of the student body. Members of the group contribute to alumni banquets and other special luncheons. The orchestra is especially active during the commencement season, participating in the Baccalaureate Service, and the Commencement Exercises.

The junior orchestra is open to any one willing to learn to play an instrument. Its members are inducted into the college orchestra as soon as certain necessary skills and techniques are developed.



*Pep Rally—October 1, 1948*

## *Athletic Association*

Every student in the college is a member of the Athletic Association, an organization concerned primarily with the promotion of intercollegiate and intra-mural athletics, and of such special activities as the annual play days, track and field meets, and all sport tournaments.

The funds raised through membership dues and admission fees are used by the organization for athletic equipment, transportation of players, fees of officials at games, and the expenses incident to various athletic contests, thus affording the students opportunities to participate in the management of the college athletic program.

## *College Newspaper*

*The Whit*, the monthly newspaper of the College, has had an unbroken record of publication since 1938. Over that period of time it has won three citations of First Place at the annual Columbia Press Conference in New York City.

The editor is elected by the staff which is drawn from all classes. No previous newswriting experience is necessary for any student to join *The Whit*. Twice a week the staff meets in the regular E.C.A. period. One credit per semester is granted for this work.

## *Association for Child Education*

The Glassboro Association for Childhood Education is one of the forty-five student groups in the United States and the first of such branches to be organized in New Jersey. It is affiliated with the State and National Associations for Childhood Education and has participated actively in the work of the former during the past year.

## *Children's Clinic*

A very valuable service to the children of South Jersey has been developed at the college during recent years. On Saturdays clinics are conducted for children who need special diagnosis and treatment for difficulties in reading, speech, mathematics and body mechanics. Over one thousand children have received either a diagnosis or instructional service.

This clinic is a practical workshop for training teachers interested in diagnostic and remedial work. It is conducted by several highly trained and successful specialists who are members of the college faculty.

## *Demonstration Schools*

To provide for the college students the demonstration of approved methods of teaching and pupil control, the college makes use of the following public schools:

1. The Demonstration School in the college building which includes grades 1-8 for elementary children taught by well-trained and experienced teachers.
2. The Kindergarten and other selected classrooms and teachers in Glassboro Elementary School within a few blocks of the college.
3. Selected rural and semi-rural schools easily reached by bus.

*Children Discover Scientific Truth*





## *College Camp*

A special interest organization called the Outdoor Club, together with an association of students and alumni, purchased the Greenwood Lake property near Elmer for a camp site.\* The property comprises about seventy acres of land on which there is a farmhouse. This camp is at the disposal of students and alumni throughout the year, over weekends during the session of the college for students, and during the summer months for groups of alumni who may care to enjoy a reunion with their classmates.

The camp is located in a beautiful secluded spot eleven miles from the college and one mile from the Elmer railroad station. Students and alumni who use the camp organize for the purpose of carrying on the activities by assigning duties to individuals and groups. A member of the faculty or other responsible individual delegated by the president chaperons each group.

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\*edited for clarity, 2023

## *The Curriculum*

In 1923 Glassboro State Normal offered a two-year professionalized subject matter course. Students completing this curriculum were granted a diploma and permanent elementary certificate. In 1929 the required time of attendance was extended from two to three years. In 1935 Glassboro became a college, offering four years of training for elementary teachers. The College now offers three curricula:

1. **The Kindergarten-Primary Curriculum** which prepares young women to teach in Nursery Schools, Kindergartens and in grades one, two and three of the Elementary Schools.
2. **The General Elementary Curriculum** which prepares students to teach in grades two to six inclusive of the Elementary Schools.
3. **The Junior High School Curriculum** which prepares for teaching all subjects in grades five to eight of the Elementary Schools and English, Social Studies, Mathematics and Science in the ninth grade.

NOTE: Most of the men students select this curriculum.

NOTE: During 1948-1949 Sophomore courses in Business Administration and Pre-Engineering will continue to be offered for Veterans who entered during 1947-1948. This will complete Junior College work for Veterans which was begun in 1946-1947.

## *Placement*

Alumni from Glassboro teach in practically every county of the state with Camden and Gloucester Counties absorbing 25% and 20%, respectively, of our total graduates in the past ten years.

*Charter Staff Members Still in Service*



*Seymour G. Winans*

*Grace Bagg*

*Marion L. Little*

*Florence Dare Boyd*

*John B. Sangree*



FRANCES MORGAN



LEONARD HERRING

*Charter Maintenance Members Still in Service*



*Mock National Convention—May 1948*

## *Administration, Then and Now*

The character and success of any institution depends to a great extent on the administrative policies which have directed its establishment and growth over a period of years.

The Glassboro Normal School was established for the definite purpose of training teachers for the elementary schools of the southern part of New Jersey. The first principal of the school, Dr. J.J. Savitz, was a leader with wonderful preparation and experience for this type of administrative work. He realized that teachers of elementary grades need character, culture, understanding of children and practical training in teaching in order to be successful.

Under his careful direction the school was built, organized and conducted to carry out the training program which seemed at that time necessary in order that the Glassboro graduate might do well as a public school teacher. He emphasized the necessity for good teaching procedures by all faculty members so that their students could profit from the examples set. He insisted on a high standard of achievement by each student in every subject and school activity. He realized that successful public school teachers must be people of high moral character and he endeavored to develop such character in the students. He knew that hard work and determined effort are fundamental to teaching success and he insisted, therefore, that each student should form correct habits of work. He believed that teachers of children must see children often and must work and play with them in order to understand them.

As a definite part of the program of preparing teachers Dr. Savitz believed in a school plant which was at all times sanitary, beautiful and efficiently organized. He encouraged faculty members and students to beautify the campus and to keep everything in excellent working condition. As a result the Glassboro campus and buildings are favorably

known throughout the State for their beauty and orderly appearance.

For fourteen years from 1923 to 1937 the Glassboro State Normal School, now the New Jersey State Teachers College at Glassboro, developed under the administrative leadership of Dr. Savitz into an excellent institution with a remarkable record of placement success of its graduates. Changes were made from time to time. The school population varied from year to year and the curriculum was gradually lengthened to four years thus allowing the school to be classified as a college but the personality and philosophy of one man, its builder, continued to be evident in all activities and achievements.

In 1937 a change in administration was made. Dr. Savitz retired and Dr. Edgar F. Bunce succeeded him as the President of the College. Dr. Bunce knew the College fairly well because he had supervised its work for six years while State Director of Teacher Education. His early training in Normal School and College and his experience as teacher, principal, superintendent, college instructor, Vice President of a Teachers College and State Director of Teacher Education admirably fitted him to carry on the work which Dr. Savitz had so well started.

In harmony with his own democratic philosophy of education, Dr. Bunce has inaugurated a number of administrative policies. Several of these might well be mentioned here.

Each faculty member now has considerable individual freedom to use his time and talent to the best advantage of the College and himself. As far as possible and in harmony with the activities of the rest of the staff, each instructor is encouraged to initiate new projects and to experiment in his work. This encourages growth and contributes toward individual happiness.

A plan of student-faculty committees has been started which allows students to discuss and to recommend desirable changes in college procedure. The College thus becomes their college.

Emphasis on the value of creative work has been made possible through the photography club, the college newspaper, the art classes and the music groups. The college yearbook is now planned, executed and sold without any help from the faculty. This is only one illustration of many things which are now being done under student leadership.

Adequate facilities for field trips by bus and by auto to public schools and to centers of cultural interest make the college campus almost unlimited in its extent and educational value. Such procedures broaden a prospective teacher's horizon and put reality in what she teaches.

Now that the College has a larger proportion of men, college athletics are allowed to assume a more important place than formerly. Restricted schedules with other colleges are followed and changes in equipment and building facilities have been made to make athletics possible.

Dr. Bunce as President of the College endeavors to maintain the open door policy so that any student and any college employee may walk into his office at any time. Such an arrangement seems to be appreciated by students and employees.

In line with his philosophy that a State Teachers College should be helpful to all groups interested in education, Dr. Bunce has encouraged groups of teachers and many others to use the College Building for their meetings. Almost every week one or more groups meet at the College, thus in many respects making it an educational center for South Jersey.

Just what the future of the College will be, no one knows. As a public institution it must continually change as the social and economic conditions of our State change. It will, however, continue to be the policy of the administration just as it was the original policy of its builders to have the College serve the southern part of New Jersey on the level of higher education with special emphasis upon preparing teachers for public school service.



*Our Trees*

## *Alma Mater*

Alma Mater, we greet thee; all praise to thy name;  
Thy banner unfurls to the breeze!  
Thy children salute thee, and pledge to thy fame,  
As soldiers who drink to the lees.  
All about thee arise the first temples of God,  
Lifting high leafy arms to the sky;  
And the flowers that bloom in the green of the sod,  
Seem to love thee too fondly to die.

Loved School, it is thine to impart to thy youth  
The wisdom within thy fair walls;  
May we daily teach others, with courage and truth,  
The lessons we learn in thy halls.  
Thou art more than a plan; thou art more than cold stone;  
Thou art Spirit, and Beauty, and Light.  
And the standards we raise in the years 'neath thy dome,  
Are the standards for which we shall fight.

*Ada P. Schaible '24*



*Winter*  
*Snowfall on the campus*

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Parthenia J. Vander Mark, *Chairman, Booklet Committee*



100  
YEARS

This volume is a re-issue of the history the institution published in 1948 for its 25th Anniversary. That publication followed a 1940 version with more extensive content and student artwork, available in the University Archives & Special Collections at Campbell Library.

Produced as part of the Rowan University Centennial celebration, this 2023 version includes better-quality photo reproduction. Except for corrections to typographical errors and as noted, the text is largely consistent with the 1948 publication.

Because the new booklet contains no substantial changes to content or style, readers will find obsolete references, terms and turns of phrase that mark the original 1948 text as the product of its time and the perspectives of its authors.