Chapel January 7, 1930

President Wright

Scripture reading from the eleventh chapter of the Book of Ecclesiastes.

(President Wright urged the young women of the school to join the Y. W. C. A. Pointed out the very large returns from the small investment in the Y. W.--only a dollar. Quoted a successful banker who said that it cost $30, 000 a year to operate a certain bank in his town, and $20,000 to operate a certain Church. The banker said the Church was of infinitely more service than the bank, although the bank was the largest in the town.)

"North Carolina today is in the midst of one of the meanest psychological depressions the state has ever been in--certainly in my day--and people are beginning to question their ability to do things. 'He that observeth the wind will not sow; and he that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.'

North Carolina thirty years ago spent about one million dollars annually on its public schools. North Carolina last year spent over thirty million dollars on its public schools. Thirty years ago the income of the people of North Carolina was about eighty million dollars. Last year it was over three hundred million. In fact, the income of the state last year was almost the equivalent of the total wealth of the state thirty years ago.

We are poor primarily in our thinking. We can do what we want to do. The question is, do we want to do it? We are confronted with a school situation that is at the present moment a little bit critical, but by no means hopeless; because the people of North Carolina are determined that they are going to give their children an education.

That means they are going to call for better trained teachers, and better trained Superintendents. I was talking with a Superintendent who has been getting people from out of the state. I asked him about this and he said it was because he wanted people who had Master's degrees. He preferred employing North Carolina people, but it was a question of getting those who were best prepared.

Our college is to offer graduate work that leads to a Master of Arts degree. It has been submitted to the Board, and passed by the Board of Trustees, and in a very short time we hope to give out information concerning this work in detailed form. Some of the young folks finishing a college course ought to begin right now to work for a Master's degree. There is no extra charge for this over the regular charge of attending college here. The state is constantly calling for a higher grade of teachers. The low-grade teachers are not going to get as big a show when it comes to employing teachers as those of a higher order. I am asking Mr. M. L. Wright to talk to you about what he has observed in this connection.

This college has worked out its course of study so as to enable you to get a greater amount of training in the shortest possible length of time. A girl can come three calendar years, and if she does her work successfully get her A. B. degree. ~~Other Universities are doing the same thing~~. Our The University of North Carolina is doing this. Economy of time is the same as economy of money. It will pay you folks to go to school in the summer time. 'Oh, I just can't stand it!' As a rule, that let-up in the summertime does more harm than good. Dr. Laughinghouse said when the girls left school that he was sending away a ton more flesh than he got in the fall. This intellectual work doesn't keep you from growing. If you 'just can't stand it' you

do not love this kind of work. It means that you are going to save a year in your life. If you are going to teach it means that you will get one more year's salary, and one more year of opportunity to serve the children as you want to.

We need a little information in our work in the college, which you can give us. When these times of distress come of all times to be economical, it is then. We hear people say that it isn't economical to go to school. You can come to school here for a quarter, and pay all your charges for the actual quarter for less than you could stay at home, if you had to buy and pay for the food and laundry and things the college furnishes. The actual cost is less. If I could arrange my family life so that I could do it I could come over here and board in the college and save money, by so doing. Looked at from the standpoint of money alone, it would pay. 'He that regardeth the clouds shall not reap.' If you don't want to do it you can find plenty of excuses, but if you want to do the best thing for yourself and those at home it will pay you to come to summer school. It will pay you to do the work in three calendar years and you will be more efficient as a teacher.

Dr. Meadows and I need a little information for the summer school work. We want to know how many of you students here are planning to be here this summer. Hold up your hands, please".

(There were 157 hands.)

"How many are planning to take the four-year course in three calendar years?"

(Quite a number said they were; and some of them, perhaps less than fifty, had already put in their applications.)

"Talk with me and talk with Dr. Meadows, and in any way that you see it, from the standpoint of the student, that this college

can help you better to accomplish your purpose in life, tell us. Make any suggestion that you think will help you or someone else. We may not be able to do it, but we want your suggestions. We want you to see that this college is a mutual organization. We want to be of the greatest service to those people who come here. You help us to see how we can do this, and we will do our best to be of that greater service.

CHAPEL January 15 1930

-President Wright

Scripture reading 6th chapter Book of Matthew from the 19th through the 24th verse.

I want to talk to you this morning with reference to the conditions which confront us in this conntry as a people, and especially with reference to the conditions that confront us in this particular state, and particular part of the state. I am not sure that my conclusions are correct, but I believe they are. I am not going to ask you to accept them as the truth, but I am going to ask you to take them as food for thought. I selected this passage this morning because it clearly sets forth that we have two classesof values in this world. There are spiritual values and temporal. Jesus, in talking to the people at the time he delivered this so-called Sermon on the Mount, said: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust doth corrupt, and where thieves break through and steal, but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust doth corrupt, and where thieves do not break through nor steal; For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also."

Do not put too much stock on the things of today. Do not throw your life entirely into the things temporal, because the thieves do break through and steal, and take away from you these things temporal, but lay up for yourselves things spiritual--that is what Jesus was saying to these people. Then he says you cannot serve two masters. It makes no difference what they are. You will hate the one and love the other; or else hold to the one and despise the other. You cannot serve God and mammon. If you put your mind on acquiring wealth, if you make dollars and cents the big thing in your life you are laying up for yourself treasures on earth. If you put the emphasis on spiritual values then you are worshiping

God. When people make a big sacrifice, how rich the spirit is. When a man has the spirit of being willing to sacrifice his life for others he has reached a very high point of spiritual value. I have never lived through a period in my life when people reached quite so high a point of spiritual values as the American people attained just before we sent our large army across the waters to help make this world safe for free government. I think anyone will agree with me in the statement that President Wilson brought the American people to the highest point of spiritual life ever attained as a nation. Somehow we felt that we were doing the right thing and that Jehovah was with us. We reached an exceedingly high point in spiritual life when we were offering up thousands and thousands of our young men for the good of humanity. After the world war, and after the boys came back home we began to take up life where we had dropped it. We struck a period for a year or two of marvelous prosperity. In 1819, about ten years ago prosperity was the thought uppermost in all minds. From that day to this, as I see it (I am not asking you to take this as I see it, but only to think upon it) from that day to this the people of America have been worshiping the God of riches. In my opinion there is no question about that.

Go before the legislature of the American people, state or national, with almost any kind of proposition and the first thing they do is to place the dollar mark upon it--to ask what it will cost. The worthwhileness of things today is being measured in dollars and cents.

Men, who before had not stood very high in their community because of the life they had lived, have, during this period of prosperity amassed wealth and become ~~one of the~~ leaders. People

of the United States have gone on the basis of doing everything they do for its economic value. The United States has gone on what is known as a business basis. North Carolina has gone on a business basis. Practically every state in the union has gone on a business basis.

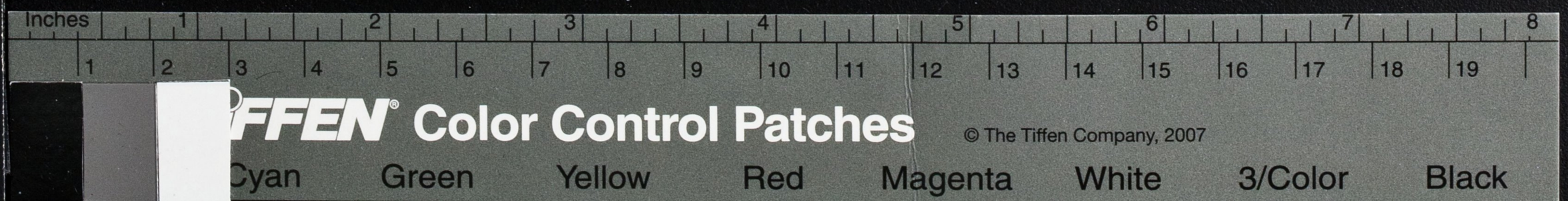
Now, it is allright. I am not objecting to this if it carries on its spiritual value, but it is not carrying on that spiritual value. We are measuring everything by the American eagle that is placed on the dollar, and have done that until all the nations of the world realize that we are a ~~commercial~~ money making people. This is the accusation that all the nations of the world are making against America, and Americans realize it is true.

I don't know, but I believe that the things we are going through today are due to the fact that we have been worshiping the god of riches. I may be wrong, young friends, but it looks thate way to me, and has looked that way for some time, and by some time I mean four or five years.

Mammon makes trememdous demands upon those who worship him. The nerve tension of the American people today is at the highest point it has ever been. Therewere more suicides in North Carolina in the last few weeks than I have ever known before in a period of years. More people have dropped dead. More people who have gone out unexpectedly. In this particular community there have been more deaths than I have ever witnessed before in any two years, and it seems not to be only here, but everywhere in our state and the United States. Pick up a newspaper, and enumerate the number of deaths recorded daily. It is absolutely shocking. I don't mean that all these people are worshipers of mammon--don't misinterpret me. But nerve tension has reached the point where it is breaking.

I understand that newspapers are telling how poor we are down here in the East. Of course, we have had a crop failure, but the newspapers would make one believe we are starving to death, and asking organizations and individuals to help relieve the suffering. But many of these organizations have found cases like the one I know of. A family was reported suffering and in great need. When the man on whose farm the family lived was asked about the situation he said"Give those people clothes? They will always be poor. If you gave them clothes they would burn them to get someone else to give them more." He may have exaggerated but most of the suffering is by those who are absolutely unwilling to work, and thriftless, and they will always be poor. I am not talking about the things caused by crop failure. I am talking about things outside our community, things that are going on all over the world.

I believe it is because we have stopped worshiping the right God, because we have stopped laying up treasure in Heaven, because we are worshiping mammon, and I am saying these things this morning, young people, because I want you to think about them. It is true you cannot serve two masters--You cannot serve God and mammon. The road lies right out before you, you, who are going out to teach in the North Carolina schools, teach the children of our country to put the emphasis on the spiritual side of life; get them to see that happiness comes only when we serve Jehovah, to realize that their safety and the safety of the future and temporal existence upon this earth is dependent upon the cultivation of the spiritual side of this life; to realize that God is in Heaven; that he rules over the children of this earth and that he loves those who follow him.



Papers

BWW

Chapel, January 16, 1930

--President Wright

Scripture reading: 33rd Psalm

I want to carry on the thought we had in our lesson yesterday in Chapel, and to give you just a little conception of what is going on in our own state.

North Carolina is worth, in round numbers, approximately five billion dollars. That is the estimate of the total wealth of this state. North Carolina has an indebtedness , that is, all indebtedness, county, municipal, etc., that is between five and six million dollars. That means that our indebtedness is a large per cent of our total wealth. And that explains, in part, why taxation is so very high in our state. Of course, approximately two hundred million dollars of ~~our~~ indebtedness in our state is for public highways, and that is taken care of by gasoline tax.

The thing that is interesting to me is that a very large per cent of this indebtedness in our state is for the material advancement and only a comparitively small per cent of that indebtedness is for things leading toward the spiritual life; toward the uplifting of our people; toward the education of the children and young men and young women of our state. The general impression that is created is that schools are the thing that is putting North Carolina in such a condition financially. This is not correct. "You cannot serve God and Mammon" and those who are doing so will constantly find excuses for the thing they have done. "Blessed is that Nation whose ~~Law is God~~ God is the Lord". We need to come to a realization of the situation as it really is. We need to come to a realization of the fact that ~~that~~ we have been materialists,

for a long, long time, and that we have neglected exceedingly the spiritual side of our people. Three years ago this spring I went before the Appropriation Committee and requested that they make a larger appropriation for the enlargement of this college, because the money to be spent here was for the training of young women, primarily young women, to go back into the state and educate the children of our state;and I placed my plea with those people on the basis that the debts that we are now creating are going to have to be paid by the children who are in school today. And I cautioned the joint committee that the time would soon come when we would have such a large debt we would not be able to appropriate funds to educate the children of our state.

On some of them it made an impression, and they told me afterward that I was right about it, but they didn't see any way to get the money. They proceeded at onee to appropriate several million dollars for the material satisfaction of our people. There is no question about it--we have been materialists. I am not a preacher, and I do not wish to preach, but any person who studies the movement of human affairs,any person who studies world movements, any person who goes back into the annals of history and studies nation after nation will realize that Jehovah has so organized humanity that progress comes to those who are developing the spiritual. Looked at from the standpoint of material gain only it will pay people to develop the spiritual side--those things that will lead to a higher and better life.

I realize we are a young nation. We had to build from the beginning. There was nothing here but nature. Forests had to be cleared. Homes and schools and towns had to be built. Railroads and other roads had to be constructed. Churches had to be built. We have done this in a large way, and we have been materialists from the very beginning.

We have reached a point in our national history when we must turn to the other side of life if we hope to make our nation secure. The time has come when we must all work together if we are to make our nation secure. Whether we are Jews or Christians makes no difference. We all worship Jehovah, and God is a God who rules over the nations of the world. And as I see it we must put rather more emphasis on those things that are not material; those things that lead to a higher life--higher in soul, higher in relation to fellowmen.

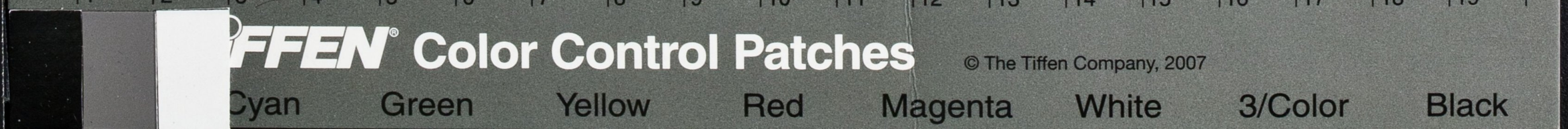
There is a tremendously large task facing the teacher of today. Our people in North Carolina are determined to give their children an education. There is no question about that. That opportunity is going to come to those children through what you and I do. We must get our people to realize that that after all the big debt hanging over them is not at debt for the education of our children but a debt brought on because of the attitude of our people toward material things--and because we have been worshiping Mammon instead of God.

Take this nation as a whole, and only a fraction over two percent of our otal expenditures are for the spiritual development of life. Over 80% is spent because of war, and wars come to the nations of the world because we have not followed Jehovah; because we have not been quite the kind of people we should have been. For the first time, it seems to me, in the history of the world, people are beginning to realize this.

There is a reaction against expenditure of so much money; against heavy taxation. And it strikes schools first. The cry is raised against the next generation, the helpless children of today. We want to get a thorough conception of our obligation to the state, the nation, and

above all to Jehovah as the ruler of the universe.

I have wanted to ~~call~~ throw out these thoughts to you, young people. Agree with me, or not. It doesn't make much difference, but it does make a great deal of difference whether you think about them, or not. Find the truth, and the truth will make us free.



Chapel February 13, Live at Home week 1930

--President Wright

Scripture reading: Matthew 9 Verses 9-13

I have a very difficult subject to deal with this morning, and I am not sure that I am going to handle it just right because it is rather difficult. You know this week has been set aside for the schools of North Carolina as "Live at Home Week", and I don't believe you will be able to do it. Do you girls think you will be able to live at home this week and stay in school?

What is this Live-at-Home week? What is back of it? Can one really live at home? Stop and think for a minute just what the world is doing to give you a place to sleep, things to eat, and things to wear. Did it ever occur to you to think of where all these things come from? It might be a worth-while project for some girl just to take her wearing apparel and find out just where each item is made, and how many nations are involved in clothing a girl in East Carolina Teachers College; how many thousands of dollars are invested in just that one item, etc.

Well, suppose we eat at home(and I hope we all do--even in these days of hard times in North Carolina). But where does the food come from? How much of it is grown in our state? How much that is not grown in our state could be? Where do we get the butter we eat? I knew a good merchant in this town, a good merchant and a right-minded man who was interested in his town. Some people in town opened a bakery in Greenville, but he continued to order bread from Richmond. Someone--in fact, I did myself--asked him why he did not use the bread baked in the local bakery. And he said "Mr. Wright, my customers want Richmond bread, and I carry what my customers want." In other words, I am not running this store for myself, but for the people who patronize me; and that is

good business, and good sense.

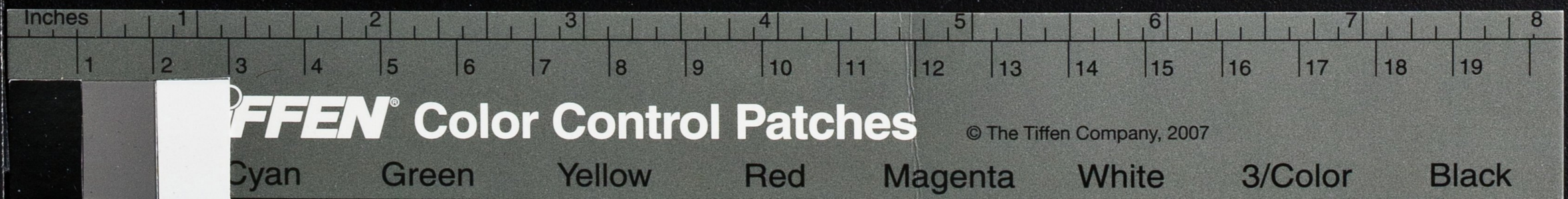
Go into one of these towns where there is a creamery, where butter is manufactured, and go into the stores of that town and you will find for sale butter made in the middle west, or Tennessee, or some other state. Of course you will find some of the local product, but a great deal more that is brought from a distance. Why do merchants carry that? Because their customers want it. If you are running a business you are not running it as a subsiduary of some manufacturing concern, but because the people patronize you.

You can get as good damask manufactured in North Carolina as anywhere, but you will find thousands and thousands of people in the state who do not buy North Carolina damask.

A friend of mine who was building a home ordered a certain kind of furniture. The merchant who shipped it to her failed to take out the High Point label. It was exactly what she wanted, grade, style and all, but she wouldn't have it because it was made in High Point. She sent it back to him,(and I think all he did was to take out the label and ship it back to her, but she was satisfied).

When you order Georgia pine it may not come from Georgia, or when you order North Carolina pine it may not come from North Carolina, at all. It is simply a commercial term distinguishing the lumber made from short-leafed pine from that made from long-leafed pine.

What does "Live at Home" mean? It is the same story that has been taught to the farmers for perhaps fifty years--I know it has been taught them for more than twenty-five years. It means grow the things that you can grow on the farm with a profit; to grow the food products needed to feed your team- hay, etc. It means to keep chickens, and hogs, and at least one cow for each family on the farm, so that those necessary food products will not have to be bought. It means to plant and raise



more than one crop and at the end of the year to have more clear money.

There were several million dollars worth of tobacco sold in Greenville this year, and no money made because the farmers had to buy other things with the money they got from their tobacco--not that a few farmers have not made money,--but many have not and yet there were several million dollars worth of tobacco sold right here. What is the use of making eight million dollars worth of tobacco and having to spend nine million for food stuff?

Live at Home movement is to encourage people to raise everything they can at home, and everything else being equal to buy the products made in the home town. And that has been the policy of this college from the beginning. If the butter manufactured in the home state is good, buy it. If you can get a better grade for the same price by ordering it from another state then you have a perfect right to do so, for live at home means buy where you pay the least.

The government of our state and the heads of public instruction are trying to carry this message to the people of our state. Nature gave us, in North Carolina, as fertile soil as can be found anywhere. In fact, it tests a little more fertile than any other soil that has been tested, and as good a climate. Taking it all the year round I don't know any place I had rather live, from the standpoint of climate, than eastern North Carolina. There is fertile soil and a good climate, an abundance of rain, and usually not too much, and almost any of the food products or agricultural products can be grown, and as a rule grown at a profit. We should raise these things at home, and then plant enough money crops to give us enough money to carry on. Instead of that we have been planting all the cotton and tobacco that could be raised--and it has about broke us. This movement is to get our people to see this.

I heard someone say he had never gotten enough peanuts in his

life. He should go to Elizabeth City. There are acres and acres of peanuts there, and nothing else on some farms. There is no profit in over-producing one commodity and then having to pay a high price for some others. It is not unusual to see wagon after wagon load of hay taken out of this community, and yet farmers are buying hay where the freight on it actually costsmore than the seller getsfor the hay. They are paying the producer a profit and then paying a hundred per cent above that. Will grass grow in North Carolina? Ask any farm boy. I was a great big boy before I realized that farming was anything but fighting grass. With parctically every kind of grass growing in North Carolina we are buying hay from the middle west.

Live at Home means for us to stop that sort of thing.

RKW

Chapel February 14, 1930

-- President Wright

Scripture reading Matthew 9, Verses 14-17

In reading the book of Matthew, and I am reading in this book now because you are having a study of Matthew in your Sunday School, if you are led to think that events happen in the order in which Matthew tells them you are mistaken. Matthew took certain things Jesus did and and told of them as if they followed each other. Certain miracles which Jesus performed were not performed one after the other as they are recorded. Matthew was trying to convince the Jews that this man Jesus was the long looked for Messiah.

In reading the Bible or any other piece of literature it is quite often necessary that we have a great deal of knowledge that is not contained in the piece of literature we are reading in order that we may thoroughly understand it. I was reading in a magazine this week an article that was rather interesting. The man said among other things that it was necessary for you to do this and that and the other in order to carry the message to Garcia. Now, if I hadm't know what "carrying the message to Garcia" meant I would not have known what this man meant, for there was no other reference made to it.

In reading this passage of scripture Matthew said you would not put new wine in old bottles. (Students were asked how many knew what kind of bottles were used for wine in those days, and very few knew). The bottles were made of leather and the leather stretched as the wine fermented. If the bottle was stretched to the limit the first time it was used and you put new wine in it again it would break.

You have heard the expression "Don't buy a pig in a poke". How many of you know what a poke is? (Most of the girls raised their

hands and President Wright remarked that he had more pok~~e~~ than bottle folks--that we didn't know so much about bottles since Volstead). This simply means do not buy a thing without seeing it. There are sections of North Carolina where ~~that~~ Pike is a very familiar expression.

Time is worth something and it is necessary for you to get as much as possible out of what you are doing. When you come to a reference you do not undestand go to the library and look it up so that you will be able to understand what you are reading. ********* * * * * *

(Pres. Wright was referring to the fact, in this last story that the students had entered Chapel very quietly the day before, but had not been so orderly today. Also, there had been a mass meeting two days previous, which he was assuming was responsible for their ordiliness).

I heard a story of two men who were driving along in a buggy in the good old days before we had automobiles--or even Fords. The man reached out and hit the horse with a switch--that's the way we "stepped on it" in those days--and the horse jogged along much faster for a few paces, and then dropped back into the old gait. This happened a number of times and the friend said to the driver"Your horse must have a tough hide." The driver answered "No, not a tough hide--just a short memory."

What about it girls? Not a tough hide--just a short memory?

On Life's Highway

-- Dr. Wright, in Chapel Feb. 15, 1930

Scripture reading: Matthew 9, verses 18-26

If we could think of Life and our journey from the time we are born into this world until we pass from here into Eternity as a highway, it probably would help us to visualize some of the things I wish to talk to you about this morning.

Psychologists tell us that we are a part of every thing we see, hear, read, ~~or do.~~ Everything ~~that comes in touch with us or~~ that we come in touch with enters into our lives and has something to do with shaping each individual life, ~~during our temporal existence on earth.~~ Some go so far as to say that the color of the paper on the walls of a man's house has something to do with his success or failure, with his mental attitude, and his disposition. I suspect there is some truth in that.

The moving pictures you see have something to do with your life. ~~Ever so~~ often a person is brought up and convicted of some crime that has all the earmarks of ~~one~~ some crime shown in a moving picture. Probably the moving picture has entered into that person's life and made him become a criminal; that is more than a possibility, it is indeed a probability.

Nature from ~~the~~ her depths ~~of the universe~~ speaks to human beings from the depths of their hearts. Deep calleth unto deep is certainly true of the human soul and the things God has placed around us. Our lives are enriched and modified by the experiences we have, ~~not only enriched, but modified.~~

You have heard the old story of the man who never saw anything quite so beautiful after the Civil War as it was before. It made no difference what you said to him about how beautiful or delightful things were, he always told you how much more beautiful they were before the war.

He was out with a friend on one of those rare, balmy evenings when ~~there were a few stars, and~~ the moon was shining gloriously. The friend said, "Just look at the moon. Isn't it beautiful!" "Yes, it's all right," the old veteran said, "but you ought to 've seen her before the war."

The war had taken out of that old man's life many of the beauties. We laugh at him for making a fool of himself, as we express it, but that four years had taken from him many of the best and most beautiful things of life. Of two people looking at the same thing one may see beauty beyond compare because of the journey he has taken ~~back here~~ life's on ~~the~~ highway, because of the beauty he has seen, the things he has thought, and the things he has read. He may stand on the mountain top and see the beauty of the clouds above and the gorge below, and ~~the~~ see the smoke curling up from a house below and reflect on the beauty and the peacefulness of the scene. The convict who is crushing rock on the highway may look at the same scene and, because of the life he has lived, see nothing of beauty in it. The smoke coming up from the chimney may remind him of the crime he committed which caused him to be ~~crushing rock there~~ a convict. The same seenes look entierely different to people who have come from a different environment.

It behooves us as we go along life's highway to pick out the things that will help and uplift, and shun those that come back in later life and remind us of unpleasant things--to keep out of our lives the things that will keep us from enjoying those things that come to us from the depths of nature as it speaks to the depths of our souls. It behooves us to take those things that add to and enrich our lives and come back to us later, in joy and happiness and in satisfaction.

That woman who walked up and touched the hem of Christ's garment that she might be healed had faith; she reached out for help, and Jesus knew it. He realized that power had gone out from his life into her life, and turned and said to her "Thy faith hath made thee whole". You and I are passing along life's highway, and whether we know it or not, though usually we are conscious of it, there is power and influence going out of our lives, and helping to make whole or to make sick the people with whom we come in touch. Their faith in us will do them good if we are living the kind of life we ought to live.

This is especially true, young women, with people who are teachers. It is a glorious privilege to so live in this world that you can radiate into the souls of boys and girls you are ~~going to teach~~ teaching the influence that will help heal their moral and intellectual sickness. I do not know any place on earth that you can do more good by living aright than in the school, if you have the spirit that ought to be in each teacher. It seems to me that the teacher, as he goes along life's highway, has an unusual opportunity of being of help to his fellowman.

~~This man~~ That ruler who came to Jesus and told him that his daughter was already dead, but if he would come and ~~take her by the hand~~ lay his hand on her she would live again. And Jesus did this, because the man had faith. There are little boys and girls all over North Carolina who will have faith in you and in me, and we want to touch those who are deep in sin or wrong-doing with the hand of light and lift them back into the life of usefulness and service. Along life's highway as we go, day by day, there are thousands of things that will come to pull us off the right ~~road~~ way, but the spirit of the true teacher will enable one to pass these pitfalls and ~~enable him~~ go on to help his fellowman.

There is, after all, no nobler thing one can do than to help lift his fellowman to a higher and nobler plane of living. It is great. It is a great privilege to be a teacher.

Chapel March 5, 1930

___ President Wright

Scriptrue Reading: Matthew 11, Verses 7-15

I suppose I ought to, but I don't, know just when the Student Government Association holds its spring election, but I know it is some time soon. This is election year not only in our college, but all over our state, and election is, perhaps the most important year we have. It determines largely the kind of government under which you and I are to live. It is up to the citizens to see that we send the right kind of people to make, judge and execute our laws. If we select the right kind of folks then we will have a good government. If we select the wrong people to make, judge, and execute our laws then we, who elected them, will have all kinds of trouble. We are having trouble in this nation today, enforcing the prohibition law, having considerable trouble all over the nation with that particular law. If we would only stop and think over the matter we would see clearly where the trouble lies. The people who judge, and the people who execute our laws are not always in favor of this particular legislation. There are too many judges all over the country who patronize bootleggers, too many solicitors who are buying moonshine for us to enforce the prohibition law. There are too many sheriffs who are getting a rake-off from those who are running this illegal business--there is where the trouble lies. In its final analysis we find the trouble is with those people who have been elected, all over the nation to enforce this law, who are, themselves, not in favor of it.

You, young women, have had the best year so far there has ever been in this college. I am just as proud of you as I can be. People in North Carolina who are interested in college life, and practically all of our citizens are, are very much concerned as to whether the college which their son or daughter is attending is teaching the right kind of principles, of religion, of citizenship, and of duty.

The Masons have recently given us another $1,000 to add to the Masonic Loan Fund here, bringing our fund up to $6,500. Yesterday I received a questionnaire asking about the citizenship that was being taught in our college, about religion, etc; about the way we conducted the college and our efforts to make right-minded, true, efficient American citizens of the students who attend our college. I was glad to answer those questions; glad to find a body of people who are so deeply concerned about the development of good citizenship. It occurred to me that this would be a good time to say a word to you about the Student Government Association and the officers for next year. This is your job, not mine, but after all your job is mine, and I am only hoping that in your nominations and elections you put up the kind of students who are as efficient and can give you as good Student Government Association as you have had this year. It is <u>your</u> government and your opportunity to choose the right kind of girls with the right kind of ideas of good citizenship and government, of fairness and order.

You don't want to put up the kind of girl who thinks the office gives her a right to violate the law. There are such Judges in the coutts of our country, such solicitors in ~~every~~ many judicial district, and in every county officers who think their position gives them the right to violate the laws they are paid to enforce. It would be bad enough if the trouble were confined to that particular person, but with a girl of that type in the S. G. A. or an officer of that type anywhere, you have placed someone where his influence is felt and that influence is bad. You do not want a tyrant--nobody wants a tyrant--but you want a fair-minded young woman who is too big to let prejudice enter in, too big to let favoritism enter in, who will endeavor regardless of individual feelings and thoughts to hold the scales of justice in an even balance.

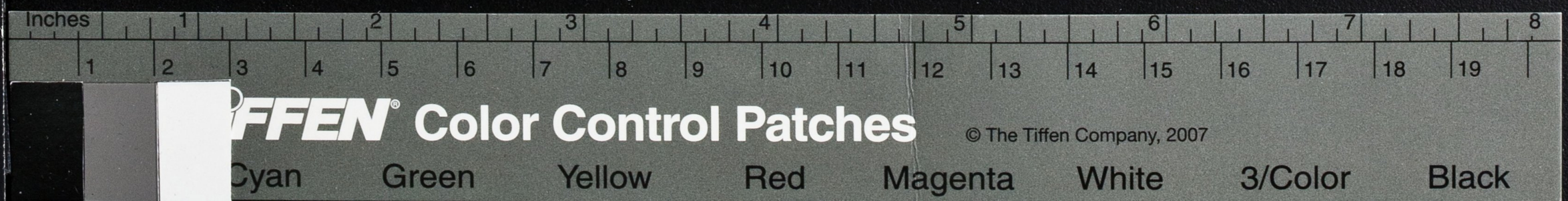
You do not want to let the few---there are a few, but only a few this year, I am glad to say--we do not want to let those few who want to violate the law dominate the student body. At this, probably the most important season in the whole year, it is up to you, young women, to see that, in selecting your officers for the coming year you get the right kind of people.

There are very few people who are punished, and severely punished, who think they should have been. I have known a few students, however, who said "I ought to have been punished for this." Some years ago a girl came into my office who was guilty of a serious offense, but not one for which girls were expelled. She said, "Dr. Wright, I am guilty." What do you think the punishment ought to be?" I asked her. She told me. "Do you really think you should be punished that severely?" I asked. "I don't know," she said, "but for the sake of the other students you should do something about it." ( I couldn't). But she saw clearly that not only because she was guilty of the offense but for the sake of the students she should be punished. She made next to the best teacher we turned out that year, but that experience is what saved her.

More frequently we meet with the kind who go out and say "They didn't treat me right." "Weren't you guilty?" "Yes, but I didn't deserve to be punished." That type can stir up more trouble than a bunch of monkeys could if turned loose in this auditorium.

Young women, you are right-minded, practically the entire student body. See to it that for the next year we have as good organization as we have had this year. You are a pretty good bunch of girls. You have done well in your selection of officers. I take my hat off to you for that. And when the time comes for you to think about new ones, think carefully.

I hope you choose aright.



Chapel -- March 18, 1930

--President Wright

Scripture reading Matthew 12: Verses 29-37

I was detained last evening on account of another appointment, and only heard one part of the musical recital. I want to commend you most highly. I enjoyed every bit of it. It always pleases me to see the students of this college measure up in a big way, as the girls did last evening.

We have completed the registration, and so far it has been the most satisfactory we have ever had. You are now on the beginning of the last lap. You know we are all interested in baseball--I don't know anybody that isn't interested in baseball--and in Babe Ruth. You know the most interesting place in baseball--that last lap, the run from third base to the home plate. You are ready now to make that run. I <u>want you to score</u>. There are a number of things that keep a person from scoring.In baseball the runner's ability to score depends upon the one at the bat. That isn't so in this game you are playing. Your ability to score doesn't depend upon someone else. If you have the ability and the disposition, if you have the willingness to make the sacrifice you will score.

(If you are like these two girls sitting right down front, of course, you won't--these two who want to laugh and talk. If I were your teacher I would meet you half way and tell you that you were out.)

One of the strongest things in education, one of the things you need to acquire, is the ability to give sustained attention. That ability carries you over and gives you the power to apply

yourself,to put your thought on the particular task in hand, and young friends, after all that is probably the biggest thing the college can give you. We are not going to educate you, and I don't want you to deceive yourself by thinking we are. We can't do it. We can help you to educate yourself. It depends upon you, and where your heart isthere is your treasure--and where your treasure is there is your heart also. You cannot serve two masters. You cannot think of Jim and John and Bill and geometry at the same time. One is mathematics, and the other is--not. You cannot be thinking about what kind of dress you are going to wear Commencement, and at the same time make a good grade in English. You might do that in Home Economics. Home Ec gives you a chance to think about and work at clothes. You must lay aside everything else and give yourself to your work. I am talking to you about this this morning because I want you to get through, I want you to master your work, I want you to realize that you must apply yourself to your individual task, I want you to realize that all we can do is to fix the place and give you some assistance. Education is the result of individual effort. We can throw around the student an environment that will help you to make the application , but you must do that yourself.

We can give you well-trained teachers that can be of invaluable aid to you, but they can't do the job for you; the job is yours, and I am glad it is that way. Jehovah, in making the laws that govern the relations of human beings one to the other, and in making the laws of the universe and solar system has made them so that they must be followed. There isn't but one way in the world for the individual to make good, and that is to conform to these laws.

In talking to these people Jesus said that the good trees brought forth good fruit and the evil trees, evil fruit, and we are going to judge the tree by the kind of fruit it brings forth. Out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh. We reveal to the world with every word and act the kind of people we are. Students reveal to their teachers the kind of persons they are, just as the officers and teachers of any institution reveal their character to the students. Every word is recorded, and I am going a step farter and say that every thought is recorded. A person broadcasting may make a mistake which goes all over the world. If he discovers the mistake in time he may correct it--but it has been made and recorded. What we say and think is broadcast, and Jehovah receives it, whether it be good or whether it be evil. If we apply ourselves, that is broadcast. If we do the best we can, that is broadcast. If we flit and idle our time away there is no escape from the consequences. "A good tree brings forth good fruit, and an evil tree brings forth evil fruit."

I want you to know that I, and that all of your teachers will be glad if you make good this quarter. I hope you score at the home plate the last week in May.

Inches 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19
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Cyan Green Yellow Red Magenta White 3/Color Black

Chapel March 26, 1930

-- President Wright

Scripture reading: 12 verses from the 14th chapter of St. Matthew

I want to take this opportunity this morning to tell you something of the meeting of the North Carolina Education Association that was held in Raleigh last week. I want to tell you, also, that I am very, very proud of the number of complimentary things said about our former students who are now teaching in the state. I was delighted to see so many of them attending this meeting.

North Carolina has its teachers organized, as the North Carolina Education Association. Membership is two dollars a year, and you get for that a year's subscription to the North Carolina Teacher, which is one of the best educational journals printed anywhere in these United States. Our state is divided into districts, six of them, and the district meetings are held in the fall of each year. Greenville is in the northeast division. Our meeting last fall was in Elizabeth City; next fall it will be in Greenville. These meetings are held early in the fall with the idea of giving the teachers the benefit of these discussions early in the school year. At these district meetings professional subjects that concern the teachers are discussed. Then in the spring, at some central place, and usually at Raleigh, the Association holds its meeting where the policies of the association as a whole are worked out--that is the idea of the meeting, at least. All over the state are local units. The college here is a unit. For ever so many units a delegate is elected and these delegates do the voting at the state-wide meeting. Any member at any time is welcome to any of these state meetings and any member whether a delegate or not is at liberty to discuss any sub-

ject before it comes up before the general meeting, but only the delegates have the right to vote. The idea is to work out at this state meeting the program the state will work on for the coming year.

There are always a number of departmental meetings, mathematics, English, etc.--a long list of them. On Friday evening various institutions in, and some outside, our state hold dinners. These alumni or alumnae meetings are always enjoyable occasions. Nothing like all the students present of any given college can attend any one, for they are so often eligible to more than one. For instance I was eligible to the Peabody, University, and our own college dinner. (Not being a good oil--Three-in-one--I was able to attend only our own alumnae dinner). There were a large number of teachers and former students there, but some had to be turned away because they hadn't made reservations. Remember that girls, if you are going next year, and notify the local organization that you are going to be there. We had a splendid meeting of our alumnae and they gave us a splendid dinner. We had a real good hour and a half together. It did my soul good to see the girls who had been here before greeting old friends and renewing acquaintance. The goodfellowhip and enthusiasm shown made our dinner one of the best we have ever had. I was very proud, indeed, of our college and of the number of people from our college who were helping to carry on this meeting of our state. I sincerely hope that when you young women get out of school you will do as these other teachers have done and make yourselves active members of this organization, and take an active part in its work. This organization is to enable us to get the kind of information we need, and to get to the people the kind they need, and to do the right kind of work to help the childhood of the state.

Don't forget that we have a large number of guests this

evening. And girls, don't go up and say, "How d'y' do, you don't remember me, do you?" (And don't try that on me, either. I'll probably say, "No, I never did know your name. What is it now?") Tell them who you are, and that we are glad to have them. Let them feel that we are glad that they are here. You and I won't be at the next Centennial of this occasion. Make our guests feel that we are glad they are here with us.