

CONFEDERATE MEMORIAL SERVICE  
EAST CAROLINA TEACHERS COLLEGE

May 8, 1931

Address - President Wright

Friends, as one looks over the world today and as one hears the many notes of discouragement that are constantly being struck it seems to me that it is a time when people should realize that God works in mysterious ways His wonders to perform. I am not one of those who believe that everything on earth is going to the bad. I am one of those who firmly believe that God is in His Heaven, and that all is well with the world. I do not mean by that that there are not problems to be solved; I do not mean by that that there are not difficult tasks for you and for me, but I do mean that in times like these we find our opportunity to do service that is really worthwhile. In periods of depression men are made more worthwhile. It isn't the periods of prosperity that bring to the world real character in human beings. It is the period when all human beings realize that something needs to be done, that sacrifices must be made; it is in these periods that people begin to weigh <sup>values</sup> balances and to realize the worthwhile things of life. The Hundred Years war brought to certain sections of Europe <sup>2</sup> complete breakdown of human society. The great civil war in America produced a generation of sacrifice and suffering on the part of the people who lived in our Southland. Following every great war there has been a let-down, apparently, of standards of life that were there before war began. We are today on this side of the greatest conflict the world has ever known and we are today in the period of adjustment following that great world conflict, but the let-down has been nothing in comparison with that following the Hundred Years war, or that war in which those whom we are <sup>taught</sup> honoring today, <sup>think of this,</sup> ~~honoring fought~~. When we realize that, there is reason for us to take hope and realize that God is in His Heaven, and all is well with the world. It is then



time for us to have faith. I am not going to talk to you this morning about the civil war. Every American whether he was on the one side or the other is proud of the record of the American people, and we people in the Southland are particularly proud of the soldiers that were in our army. We love the remnant of that army with a love that is almost sacred. There is in our hearts a spirit of reverence for those folks who dared to do and dared to die for a cause they believed was right, and it is well for us that we feel that way. It is well for us that we can measure the value of the things in the past because it will help us today to measure values and solve the problems that confront us today.

As I see it, we are in a period just before the dawn of the brightest day that this world has ever had. I know that there are thousands upon thousands of people throughout the world today who do not believe that, but I am quite sure, as a student of history and as one who realizes that the let-down following that great world conflict has followed all previous conflicts, and because I have faith in Jehovah, that this hour is only that dark hour which comes just before the dawn; and that there is before us the greatest opportunity that has ever come to men and women on the face of the earth. "Woe unto ye of little faith!" We need faith today as we have never needed it before; we need hope today as we have never before needed it; we need love; faith in God, in our fellowmen, and especially, faith in the youth of today, <sup>and</sup> the hope <sup>for</sup> the future. We need faith and out of that faith action that will bring to pass that bright day just in front of us. We need love; that love that makes man love his enemies, and <sup>makes us</sup> ~~make~~ sacrifices for the common good; love for God, love for high ideals, love for <sup>ours</sup> ~~his~~ fellowmen. With that kind of love and hope that burns eternal and faith, that we need so much, I am quite ~~sure~~ sure that the youth of today are going to solve the problems of tomorrow, and that tomorrow is going to be the most glorious the world has ever known, and that the civilization of a few years from now is going to be the most satisfying and helpful this glorious world has ever had.



God does move in mysterious ways his wonders to perform. And God is at work with the sons and daughters of man today to bring about a realization that is world wide that all men are brothers and that man cannot live by bread alone. It means the dawning of a day when people will realize the spirit of the Master who said that he came to give us Life that we might have it more abundant, <sup>and</sup> came to show us the way to live the fuller life, <sup>and</sup> I firmly believe that in just a few years we will enter into that day when men and women the world over can live a much fuller life than those who have gone before, <sup>in this</sup> and I am sure that I am voicing the sentiment of the lone soldier who is with us today.