

Chapel, March 30,  
Robert H. Wright.

I don't know yet just what it will cost to finish our building program, but it will be somewhere near two million dollars and when that is done we will have the finest physical plant for a 1500 student institution to be found any where and will be equipped to do the piece of work that should be done for a school as large as 1500 students. At the last meeting of our board of trustees they authorized the management of the college to establish a course ~~to train~~ to train teachers to be elementary school principals, supervising principals and to be supervisors. The details of this course have not been worked out, but they will be worked out and given to you as soon as they are worked out. This course is to begin in the fall term of 1927, I mean is to begin during the year 1927. It is possible that it will begin with the summer term, but it is to begin in 1927.

There is unquestionably a very large need in our state for properly trained elementary school principals, principals who can be supervising principals, people who can be of help and service to the teacher in the grades, and it is to meet this need that we are putting in this additional course. I cannot tell you yet just what the admission requirements will be for that course. They will be determined in part by the state's certification of requirements, but you who are looking forward to advancement in your profession would do well to begin to keep this in mind and to lay your plans to take the training that is necessary to qualify yourselves for these positions, and there is going to be any number of them in our state. They, of course, should and I presume will pay more money than the jobs held by people who are just holders of A grade certificates. In other words, it is a chance for promotion in the profession for the teacher who sees it in time and is willing to get ready for it.

I think you will find, and I am pleased to make this statement, that our board of trustees is anxious to make this a real teachers college that



meets the real every day needs of the profession in our state. We are doing that now except we are not doing it for these elementary school principals and no one else is doing it in North Carolina. We are the very first in the field. Now watch some others come in and I hope they do because there certainly is a need for this kind of training.

Of course, it means that you are going to be not only a teacher but a person who knows good teaching when you see it and who knows how to help others to develop into the very best type of teachers. That is what this type of job is going to call for and it is open primarily to the serious minded young woman who wants to do something in the profession. And, young women, when all is said and done the great bulk of the teaching of the childhood of our state is going to be done by the women. It is perfectly natural that it should be and it is perfectly proper that it should be. That means a responsibility is resting upon you that you do not see yet but that you will see later, that is as great as the responsibility that rests upon any other people anywhere. It means that you must be the type of person who has not only correct ideals, but high ideals. It means that you must be the type of person who can live a life in a community that is spotless, a life in the community that the children may take your life as an example to follow, because, after all, those we teach do not do just as we say, but as a rule they do as they see we do. The successful teacher is the man or the woman who lives the right kind of life as well as knows how to instruct in the class room. It takes both. If you are not willing to make the so-called sacrifices that are necessary for you to live the kind of life in the community that you should live, think the kind of thoughts you should think, as well as do the kind of acts you should do, I beg you not to go into teaching as a profession. The person who thinks he can do wrong and keep it away from a child is just simply fooling himself. The student body of a college reads the president and every teacher through and through, I know that. It means that we must lead the kind of life that we should. If we do not,



you know it, and when you go out into a school anywhere in North Carolina, it will be the same way with you. You may stand up and teach honesty and morality and then say you can go off and live the other kind of life when you are not in the school room and the children won't know it. You are mistaken, they will know it somehow. They will read it on your face, they read you through and through. We cannot help it, we can't prevent the children from knowing the kind of man or woman we are. The most inmost thoughts of our hearts will be proclaimed from the housetops. If we entertain those things that are wrong even in our thinking, the child knows it and proclaims it from the housetops. You would be surprised to see how well our children know us. You would be surprised to see how a little child in the second grade sees the troubles that his teacher has. They read us through and through. We can't live <sup>but</sup> one kind of life and be true teachers of the youth of the land and that is an upright, honest through and through manly or womanly life. The life of a good citizen is the only kind of life that an efficient teacher can live and that means you must live that kind of life now if you hope to live it later on.