

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. <sup>one half</sup>

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~~ <sup>our</sup> ~~doing the same thing.~~ 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.