

CHAPEL, September 22, 1933

-- President Wright

Scripture Lesson: 24th Psalm

I am very much gratified at the enrollment in our college. At this particular minute, I do not know just what the enrollment was. The latest report is that it reached 863 yesterday afternoon. Last fall quarter exactly nine hundred enrolled. I hope the enrollment will run over nine hundred this fall--but it is very satisfactory.

You are starting a new year. The future lies out in front of you. Your record here is perfectly clean. What are you going to write there? I hope every one writes a record, not only on the class roll, but in every sense, in the college, that you will never be ashamed of. A college is an institution organized to give young people a chance to do something worthwhile for themselves. A college never makes a student; never makes an educated man or woman. A college never produces a scholar; a college never produced a great man or great woman; the best the college can do is give the student an opportunity to make the most of himself. I am making that statement to you at the beginning of this college year because so many people say college makes or breaks. It doesn't. If the environment set up by the college is not of the nature to help a student it will in all probability hurt him. But it is up to you. With all the changes that have taken place in recent months, and there have been more changes taking place in the last twelve months than in any equal period in the history of the world, with all these changes it is still an individual problem what you will make out of your life. There is no way given man by which he can buy character or individual ability. These things come out of the efforts of the individual, and I sincerely hope and pray that this college organization is such that it may help every student who comes here; that the environment will be the kind that will be best for you. But that is all the college can do for you. Your father and mother may make a sacrifice to keep you here, and give you advice and help, but that is all they

can do for you. The rest depends on your individual efforts. I hope you will realize that.

Years ago when my oldest boy was just a child in school some one said to me, "What are you going to make out of Robert?" I said, "Not a thing. I can't make anything out of him. I am going to help him to grow, counsel and advise him, help him to find his talent if I can, If he finds his talent to be mending shoes, I hope he will become a cobbler. If God has given him a talent I want him to use it." Just so I feel today about every boy and every girl in this college, and in North Carolina. I hope we can throw around you the environment that will enable you to grow and make something out of your life. That is one of the main objects of this institution.

Tomorrow morning I am going to talk to you about going to Church,--going to tell you what Church to go to. Sunday evening at Y. W. C. A. I am going to talk to you on character.