

CHAPEL, March 20, 1934

-- President Wright

Scripture lesson: Eight verses from the 10th chapter Ecclesiastes

I don't know just when you hold your elections, but ~~it~~ is sometime sooh, The type of government a college, state or nation has, and the amount of frèedom the individuals have isodependent in a large measure upon the ability of the individual to refrain from doing things that should not be done. The amount of freedom we will have in our college depends upon your ideals of right and wrong and your individual attitude toward things that should not be done. I have asked two committees to work on a revision of the rules and regulations that go into our handbook. They are ready to recommend two or three things, but you students have put a question in my mind as to their advisability. I don't think it ought to be necessary to have in our handbook a rule requiring students to wear hats when they go down the street, but that is a regulation and if you can't conform to it while it is, you are not worthy of increased privileges. I think it would be a very good thing to allow students' friends to talk with them on the campus, to "date" on the campus if you understand that term better, but if you are going to have your boy friends from in town come up here and have dates with them on the campus, then, young friends, we simply can't give you that privilege. I want you to thoroughly understand this morning that your college is ready and waiting to remove a lot of rules and regulations now in the handbook if you can stand it, but you must demonstrate that you are ready for it. I heard the other day that two students were lying down on the campus. You may think that was all right, but I don't and the general public that goes by our college doesn't think so. I don't know whether the noise I heard Saturday night was on the campus or not, but I couldn't go to sleep for the noise somewhere on or around the campus. This kind of thing gives the college a bad name. When I was a boy we had a neighbor two miles from my father's farm; I have heard him calling his hogs many times. That's all right on a farm, but a college campus is not the place for loud noise. There is no harm in having a brass band play for you, but if you live next door to someone else you have no

right to play it and interfere with him. People must refrain not only from those things that are sinful but from those that interfere with the peace and freedom of others. I wonder if we can't build up a spirit of consideration for others, and a realization that we must work together for the common good, and that whatever hurts your college hurts you and all of us. I wonder if we can't get higher ideals. Property in the college is being destroyed, and it looks like you are going to force me to put in a fee to take care of it, because the state can't take care of these depredations. I don't know whether this destruction of college property is by students or not; I hope not. But college students must build higher ideals than some of them have. When the time comes to elect officers elect officers who have high ideals, who will see to it that your college is the best place in North Carolina for boys and girls to go to school.