Greetings from President James Kilgo.

Greetings to All the Sons of Wofford and Her Few Daughters!

In addressing you, I desire to direct your thought to one subject—our dear old mother. Did you ever know even three of her sons to be associated for thirty minutes without lovingly referring to her? In thus addressing all her sons, could I speak of any other in whom they all would be so much interested? To you who have had the privilege of annually visiting the dear old being is given the opportunity of knowing her obligation to the minor children of her household, her embarrassment a few years ago to give them shelter, how she enlarged her building to that end, relying upon her many sons to relieve her of the burden that enlargement entailed and to give her what aid was possible in caring for our younger brothers. We all know because of the perfection of her motherhood in bringing her sons into complete and symmetrically educated manhood how the family year by year has increased. Not all of you, perchance, know how burdened she is to meet the demands upon her by this large increase. She wishes her sons scattered throughout the earth to be made acquainted with her needs, knowing their sympathy and love for her will bring them to her aid. As the president of our Alumni Association, having intimate knowledge of the condition of our alma mater, I use this method to acquaint you with her present embarrassment. For the first time in her history she is in debt; not a debt incurred by bad management, nor by any loss of her resources, but by the increased demands made upon her for a larger service. To relieve her of that debt and to increase her resources, a special agent is employed, who is even now in the field appealing to her friends for gifts. Foremost among those giving will be her own sons. Some of you, my brothers, cannot be seen by this agent, and yet this appeal will reach you and you
will demand as a loyal son the privilege of having a part in the support of our old mother. I do not demand, but suggest, that “what you do, do quickly.” To those of you out of touch with the situation, let me definitely say that the debt referred to was incurred in building a dormitory. That debt amounted to fifty thousand dollars. How gracious and reasonable would be the act made by friends to go for Wofford’s living expense. On next June I invite every son of Wofford to meet at that building—“The Carlisle Memorial Hall”; but “before the roses bloom in June” let Wofford’s sons lift that debt.

Appreciating the honor you conferred upon me by making me your president, and with kindest wishes for you all, I am,

Sincerely,

JAS. W. KILGO,
President.

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ALUMNI REORGANIZATION—IMPORTANT FEATURES.

At the regular meeting of the Alumni Association at the commencement of June, 1915, a reorganization was effected with a view to bringing the former students of the college into closer touch with one another and into more frequent touch with the college.

In the new constitution adopted the following features are deserving of special note:

1. Membership.—Any former student of the college, whether a graduate or not, may regard himself as a member.

2. Annual Dues.—There shall be a fee of two dollars, payable annually to the Secretary and Treasurer. This fee is a voluntary one.

3. Alumni Bulletin.—A Quarterly Alumni Bulletin shall be issued and sent, free of charge, to all who pay the annual dues of the Association.

4. Class Organization.—(1) Every class shall elect a permanent officer, known as Class Secretary and Treasurer, who shall have charge of working up reunions and caring for and applying to their proper use any funds under the direction of the class.

(2) The Class Secretary shall have authority to appoint the necessary committees to assist him.

(3) In case of vacancy in the office of Class Secretary and Treasurer, the Secretary and Treasurer of the Alumni Association shall appoint a Class Secretary and Treasurer to hold office until the next reunion of the class and the election of his successor.

5. Class Reunions.—(1) Each class shall hold reunions at commencement one, three, and five years, respectively, after graduation, and every fifth year thereafter. All members of classes, at any time during their course, are expected at these reunions, irrespective of whether graduates or not.

(2) Every class shall, upon the twenty-fifth anniversary of its graduation, make some suitable gift to its Alma Mater.

6. Local and County Organization.—The officers of the Alumni Association shall assist in and encourage the organization of county and other local associations.

7. Executive Committee.—“The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary and Treasurer, and three additional members, at least two of which additional members shall be residents of the City of Spartanburg.”—Article III, Section 1, of Constitution.

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NOTES AND REMINDERS.

The generalization that large bodies move slowly must yield to much modification in the light of modern astronomical conclusions. But no such modification applies to those large bodies made up of “human various”—especially of the many and varied men who make up the alumni of an institution of learning. Such has been the experience in starting the movement toward effecting the reorganization and quickening the activity of the Wofford alumni. From present indications, however, the co-ordinating movement of this great body—and great is the just word—has begun. Never have letters been so promptly answered or tasks assigned so cheerfully accepted as during the past summer.
To one response special attention deserves to be called. In the Bulletin for July appeared the following paragraph, whose potential importance justifies this re-emphasis:

"In the memory of nearly every former student stand forth in a glow of interest or even of compelling influence some college experience, some phrase caught living from the lips of professor or fellow student, some anecdote enhanced in meaning by the light of later events. All this exists—a very treasure of human interest or even of compelling influence some college.

Charles H. Carlisle has been the first to respond to this section in a short article called "Professor Gamewell and Else," which appears further on in this issue. In his response he fixes on and thereby determines as the selected heading of this section the phrase "Memories That Cling."

In this connection, the compiler of the Bulletin would call special attention to the interesting possibilities of another proposed feature—one of personal items gathered here and there about Wofford men. This Bulletin is, as it were, a family chronicle, a circulating collection of family news. No element quickens keener interest or gives more pleasure than the personal, the facts about the well-doing and the well-being of one another. The success of this feature, however, is almost wholly conditioned upon the ready and regular co-operation of Wofford men everywhere. Will not the readers of the Bulletin bear this in mind and send to the Secretary-Treasurer any newspaper clippings or other information about former Wofford students?

The coming commencement will be the reunion year for the classes ending in 2 and 7 and for the classes 1914 and 1916. During the summer, the following letter was sent to committees selected from each of the foregoing classes:

My Dear Sir:—According to the plan adopted in the new Constitution (see July Alumni Bulletin), Commencement, 1917, is the reunion year of your class. By class is meant not only graduates, but all who entered from the Freshman year.

To secure a creditable attendance, the hearty co-operation of the class, and especially a committee thereof, is indispensable. As Secretary-Treasurer of the Association, I ask that you will act on such committee, together with those named below.

Enclosed you will find class list from the Freshman year, with addresses so far as known at this office. Please get in touch with other members of the committee with a view to planning committee organization for a full reunion of class at Commencement, and also with a view to securing for the October Bulletin the following data:

1. Name of class president and class secretary-treasurer, or, if these officers do not exist, suggest the member for appointment by Alumni Secretary in accordance with Constitution.

2. The addresses and occupations of members of your class as given on the enclosed list.

Probably the best way to secure the above would be to send a copy of the class list to each member whose address is known, with the request that he fill in these facts, so far as he knows them, and return same to chairman of your committee.

It would add to the interest of the class items in the Bulletin if any special items of achievement or of noteworthy interest could be added to any of these names, in addition to address and occupation.

I should be obliged, too, if your committee would select two members of your class to write brief reminiscential sketches of your college days, one for the October and one for the January number of the Bulletin.

There will be, of course, no little work in meeting the above requests. You may count on prompt help from this office so far as it can be given. But, after all, the real source of compelling interest must be sought in the class itself through the zeal and persistence of its committee.

Let's work together to make the alumni feature of the next Commencement even more notable than in 1916!

Please let me hear from you at your earliest convenience, and keep me from time to time informed of your plans and their progress.

Sincerely,

A. G. Rembert
Secretary and Treasurer Wofford College Alumni Association.

As indicated before, the responses to this letter have been many and cordial. Two of these responses we publish elsewhere because of their suggestiveness as to ways and means of working up class interest in the reunion.
Owing to inability to secure sufficient data, the insertion of the promised directory of Association and class officers must be postponed until the January issue. This is intended not only as an item of explanatory information, but also as a gentle reminder to those who have not yet replied to the letters asking for the necessary data.

Grateful acknowledgment is herewith made of the many letters commendatory of the Bulletin that have been received. It is to be regretted that so few have offered positive suggestion. The Bulletin is yet in the experimental stage, as it were, feeling its way toward a more perfect service in its sphere of endeavor. There is as yet, therefore, no waste paper basket yawning for new ideas and practical suggestions.

There is, however, a bank balance sadly in need of many more two dollar fees from the members of the Association. Up to the issue of the July Bulletin, sixty-four had paid—whose names were then given. Since that time, payment has been made by the following:

Ariail, J. M.
Bailie, J. G.
Boyd, J. W.
Bruce, W. W.
Burnett, Bobo
Burnett, J. J.
Calhoun, J. S.
Carlisle, C. H.
Clark, N. T.
Cleveland, Jesse
Cleveland, Van
Cox, R. L.
Dobson, C. E.
Fair, H. W.
Fleming, J. L.
Glenn, J. L.

Hall, W. H.
Hamer, P. M.
Harden, S. H., Jr.
Hartzog, L. A.
Holcombe, B. E.
Horger, E. L.
Irwin, W. P.
Kinard, D. T.
Koon, J. B.
Lake, T. D.
Lander, E. M.
McGhee, S. H.
Manning, H.
Moore, A. E.
Moore, F. B.
Nabors, H. Z.
Nickels, W. W.
Plyler, W. E.
Rogers, J. C.
Rogers, J. M.
Smith, W. H.
Steadman, W. W.
Stillwell, L. J.
Stackhouse, R. B.
Stackhouse, T. B.
Strother, D. C.
Tinsley, A. E.
Walker, W. R.
Wannamaker, D. P.
Wannamaker, W. H.
Williams, J. R.
Williamson, E. E.

A full financial statement will appear in the January issue. Meanwhile, there is on hand about half enough to pay for the October issue. The fact of this annual fee of $2.00 has been twice called to the attention of some eight hundred former students. Will those who read this save the expense of a third notice and at the same time do a little missionary work with other Wofford men in their community?

It adds no little to the value and interest of the present number of the Bulletin that in it are found brief sketches of Wofford's first graduate, of the first two presidents of the reorganized alumni, and of the first alumni orator of the same period, with his oration.

**In Memoriam**

**Rev. Norman Lander Prince, '02**

1881-1916

**Letters in regard to class reunions.**

**Dr. J. C. Harper**

Rooms 208-210 Fire Proof Building

Greenwood, S. C.

Greenwood, S. C., September 18, 1916.

Professor A. G. Rembert, Spartanburg, S. C.

Dear Professor:—I have received your letter, with enclosures, suggesting a reunion of our class in 1917, and asking me to act with a committee of my classmates to arrange for the reunion.

I want to say that I am in hearty sympathy with this idea of having a reunion our twenty-fifth year out of college, and will do all in my power to make it an occasion worthy of the class and college which has counted for so much in our lives.

It seems to me that it is very important that this committee which you have appointed should have a meeting at the earliest
possible date, discuss the matter fully, and appoint sub-committees, or individual members, to take charge of and look after each special phase of the work incident to arranging for the reunion.

I would be glad to have the committee meet here, and it will give me the greatest pleasure to entertain them; or I will meet them at any point most convenient to the majority. We might meet in Columbia during Fair week, and at the same time try to get some other members of the class there. Of course, the most important thing is to arouse as much interest and enthusiasm in the matter as possible, and get the fellows to come to Spartanburg next June. I have begun looking up the addresses of as many members of the class as I happen to know anything about, and will write them, telling them of our plans and urging them to be with us.

I will try to get in touch with the other members of the committee at once and see if we can't have the matter take some definite shape. I think Dr. Waller is the logical man to act as chairman of this committee; so tell him to take up the matter of arranging for a meeting and see if he cannot get the committee to meet here.

I will be only too glad to co-operate with you in anything looking to the success of the reunion; so do not hesitate to call upon me at any time.

With kindest regards and very best wishes,

Sincerely yours,

J. C. HARPER.

WOFFORD COLLEGE
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY
C. B. WALLER, Ph.D.
Spartanburg, South Carolina

Dr. A. G. Rembert, City.

DEAR DR. REMBERT:—The class of '92 is planning to have a great reunion next June. We have a committee at work at this time urging every man to attend. We hope to communicate with every member of the class several times during the year. There are to be other committees appointed later to arrange a program and any other business that may be interesting. We are not planning any collection to be taken. When the class roll is called, we hope every living member will be present. It was my pleasure this past summer to meet Eugene Bearden. It has been twenty-four years ago now, but 'Gene could still call the roll in the order in which we sat in Dr. Carlisle's class room.

Very truly yours,

C. B. WALLER.

"MEMORIES THAT CLING."

PROFESSOR GAMEWELL AND ELSE.

CHARLES H. CARLISLE, '81.

The Preparatory Department of Wofford College, now the Fitting School, was for years conducted in the large basement room in rear of the east tower and under what was, until recently, the College Library. This department was then called "Prep," for short, by almost everybody. The light from the low windows of this school room was not the very best for boys' eyesight; but seemed ample for the watchful teacher to promptly detect and expose any inattention or brewing mischief. The seats and desks were at that time (1877) fairly comfortable, two boys at each desk.

The first time this writer ever saw Prof. J. A. Gamewell in his school room capacity was on the opening day of the second term, about February 5th, 1877. Naturally, the day and its incidents are still quite distinct in memory, even after a lapse of more than thirty-nine years. Very little other, however, than the man himself is remembered. The names even of many of the twenty-five or thirty boys present are forgotten. Professor Gus, as he was affectionately known, stood erect and flat-footed on the platform behind his table. He was about five feet nine in height, and weighed about 160 pounds. He wore a short, welltrimmed beard—black then, not so black now. This boy then thought him good-looking, and sees no reason to think otherwise now.

The school was called to order, the morning Bible portion was read, and a short prayer was offered by the teacher, all standing. More than the service itself, however impressive it
possible date, discuss the matter fully, and appoint sub-committees, or individual members, to take charge of and look after each special phase of the work incident to arranging for the reunion.

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Sincerely yours,
J. C. Harper.

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DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY AND BIOLOGY
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Spartanburg, South Carolina
10-10-'16.

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The first time this writer ever saw Prof. J. A. Gamewell in his school room capacity was on the opening day of the second term, about February 8th, 1877. Naturally, the day and its incidents are still quite distinct in memory, even after a lapse of more than thirty-nine years. Very little other, however, than the man himself is remembered. The names even of many of the twenty-five or thirty boys present are forgotten. Professor Gus, as he was affectionately known, stood erect and flat-footed on the platform behind his table. He was about five feet nine in height, and weighed about 160 pounds. He wore a short, well-trimmed beard—black then, not so black now. This boy then thought him good-looking, and sees no reason otherwise now.

The school was called to order, the morning Bible portion was read, and a short prayer was offered by the teacher, all standing. More than the service itself, however impressive it
was to this participant, the man lingers especially in memory. The influence of that simple religious service of the first day at college, backed up by the personality of the teacher, has in some indefinable manner accompanied this boy all along the busy years of college life, of home, church and business experiences, even until this good day. That first day J. A. Gamewell was chosen as friend, and never has that choice for a moment been regretted since; for he has continued true every step of the way. He has been, and is, a veritable fact and influence, helping to keep alive the heart purpose of high living that beat in the breast of that green boy of the years agone. The life of the teacher has been, and is, a veritable fact and influence, helping to keep alive as friend, and never has that choice for a moment been regretted.

Thus it is seen, one generation leaves its legacy of mind in trying to fairly measure the character of this teacher-friend of these nearly forty years. Modest, faithful, steadfast, good. Not in any fulsome, indelicate sense, either, are they attached to the name of this Christian gentleman. Nor need they be further defined. All true men well know their meaning applied to J. A. Gamewell and to others like him.

In the death of Honorable Samuel Dibble, Orangeburg County lost her foremost son and the State one of her most distinguished citizens. He was born in the City of Charleston on the 16th day of September, 1837, and died at a sanatorium near the City of Baltimore, Maryland, where he had gone in the vain hope of regaining his health, on the 16th day of September, 1913. He was educated in the excellent schools of his native city and at Bethel, Conn. He entered the Charleston College, where he was a distinguished student, and afterwards matriculated at Wofford College, from which institution he graduated with high honors, being the first graduate of that famed institution.

Soon after his graduation, he came to Orangeburg County to assume charge of a school, and made it his home for the rest of his life. As a teacher, he was thorough, conscientious, and devoted to his work. While engaged in teaching, he studied law and was admitted to the bar, which he was destined to adorn with his lofty ideals of the profession and his profound and varied learning. He located in this city for the practice of his profession prior to the late war. In patriotic and lasting love for his State, at the first rude impression of the gathering storm he exchanged the congenial life of a lawyer for that of a soldier in the ranks of his country's defenders. He enlisted with the Edisto Rifles, and rose to the rank of first lieutenant in that famous command. He was a gallant soldier and did his full duty to cause and country.

At the close of the war, he resumed the practice of his profession with the marvelous energy and industry which were his great characteristics. In partnership with the late Judge Izlar, he built up a lucrative and extensive practice, and the firm of Izlar & Dibble was one of the widest known and strongest legal firms in the State. His name is written deep in the archives of the courts and in the history of the times. Mr. Dibble studied law as a science, and was profoundly versed in its underlying principles. He argued many notable causes, involving new and difficult questions and of the gravest importance to society. When great principles were to be determined, his genius was equal to the task; and when authorities were to be invoked to sustain that
which already had been settled, he furnished them in exhaustless store and used them with the skill of a master. Mr. Dibble was a learned lawyer and adorned the bar with the wealth of his learning, but as a distinguished public servant he belongs also to the State. His conspicuous and valuable service in public station and in private walk have become a part of the rich heritage of the State. He was a leader of men, and was ready at all times to do all things and to dare all things for the public good.

In the political revolution of 1876, he was in the forefront of the great men who literally gave themselves for the redemption of their State. He was one of the advisers of Wade Hampton, and was engaged in some of the noted legal battles which judicially settled the victory achieved by the people at the ballot box. As chairman of the Democratic party of his county, he worked unceasingly for the cause of good government, and it was largely through his patriotic efforts that this county was restored to the rule of its own people.

Mr. Dibble held many positions of honor and trust, and he filled them all with distinguished ability and absolute fidelity to his constituents. He was an influential member of the State Legislature, and while in that body did a work on the Fraud Committee which alone would entitle him to the lasting gratitude of his people. For ten years he ably represented his State in Congress, where he sustained his reputation as a tireless worker, wise counsellor, and logical debater. He took high rank among the strong men in Congress, and was admitted among the ablest men this State has sent to represent her in the nation's councils. After retiring from Congress, Mr. Dibble devoted his life to advancing the intellectual and material interests of this county. He loved Orangeburg County and her people with an ideal affection, and he worked unceasingly unto the end of his long and useful life for their welfare.

Mr. Dibble was essentially a constructionist. He possessed great administrative ability, and was both a builder and benefactor. He was a man of broad vision, with a clear insight into our industrial conditions, and he had the most optimistic faith in the destiny of this section of the State. He appreciated its resources, and contributed his capital and talents to develop them. He evinced the deepest interest in improved agricultural methods, in the drainage of our lowlands, and in the construction and improvement of the public highways. He developed and brought into a high state of cultivation a large area of practically abandoned territory in the lower portion of this county, stimulating the energy of the people and adding largely to its prosperity. He established and was chiefly instrumental in building the thriving town of Bowman, and with his own means he constructed a railroad from the town of Branchville in order to give to the people of that section railroad communication with the outside world. This growing town and the surrounding country, with its prosperous farms and intelligent citizenship, will ever remain a monument to his genius and energy.

Mr. Dibble was in no sense an ordinary man. He possessed many remarkable characteristics. He was naturally endowed with a strong mind, which he cultivated to a very high degree. He was possibly the best educated and most broadly informed man in the county. Familiar with the classics, a master of several modern languages, and especially gifted in the higher mathematics, he was deeply cultured in the truest sense.

Some years ago, in recognition and appreciation of his scholarly attainments, his alma mater conferred upon him the degree of LL. D.

Mr. Dibble married Miss Mary Louis, a woman universally beloved for her admirable character and charming personality. She, with four children—Mrs. B. H. Moss, Mrs. W. W. Watson, Samuel Dibble, and Louis V. Dibble—survive him.

An able lawyer, learned gentleman, wise statesman, public-spirited citizen, and devoted husband, father, and friend has gone from among us, but his name and fame will always be dear to the State he loved and served so well.

THE FIRST PRESIDENT OF THE REORGANIZED ALUMNI.


B. Hart Moss, recent president of the Wofford College Alumni Association, is the son of Capt. William C. Moss, a prominent planter, and Rebecca C. Raysor. He was born on the 17th day of January, 1862, and spent his early life on the plantation of his father near Orangeburg. He was educated in the public graded
school and the private school of Prof. Hugo G. Sheridan before going to Wofford College as a member of the class of '83. He read law under the late Hon. Samuel Dibble, Wofford's first graduate, and since his admission to the bar he has practiced law in Orangeburg with honor and profit, his integrity and ability placing him in the front rank of his profession. He married Miss Frances Agnes Dibble, daughter of his legal preceptor, and has a son and two daughters; the former, S. Dibble Moss, graduated at Wofford in 1914.

Mr. Moss is one of the most progressive citizens in lower Carolina, and, notwithstanding the pressure of his business and legal duties, he has found time to take a keen interest in public affairs, although seldom in office or seeking office, as he believed he could serve his native State best as a private citizen. He has been on the State Democratic Executive Committee, however; has served as a member of the House of Representatives and as a presidential elector, as well as special Circuit Judge several times. He has been suggested often for Judge, and, although his election would have been certain, he has steadily declined that honor.

The continued and prosperous development of the Edisto National Bank has been due largely to the financial skill of Mr. Moss, its president, who has been connected with it since its origin as a State bank in 1889, and president since 1902. In the interests of this institution he has labored with his splendid talent, and its successful management has probably been his most important life work. While safely conservative, as becomes a banker, Mr. Moss has been progressive, and is always ready to encourage new enterprises and help his community in every way.

In 1902, Mr. Moss was the annual alumni orator at the Wofford Commencement, and his advocacy of enlarged facilities and the creation of an endowment fund of $100,000 found a ready response. The endowment was later carried out through the labors of Dr. R. A. Child, financial agent of the college. In 1903, Mr. Moss was elected a trustee of his alma mater, and has never missed a meeting of the board since that time. He has always been an enthusiastic friend and ardent worker in the interests of Wofford College, and a number of young men have gone there from his community as a result of his influence. For about ten years now Mr. Moss has been giving an annual cash history prize to the student submitting the best essay upon an historical subject, and this competition always brings forward a number of well-written papers.

Notwithstanding his legal and financial activities, Mr. Moss has found time to develop fully the finer qualities of his nature. He has been an active member of St. Paul's Methodist Church for years, and is a steward in his church as well as teacher of a class of young men in the Sunday school. In various ways he has given evidence of his sympathetic interest in his fellow man, and many have been aided by him in various ways. As a lawyer, he has guided quite a few young men through the mysteries of Blackstone and Kent, and sent them into life's service enriched by his contact. As a banker, he has held the welfare of the community and the public always in view, and especially has he been the friend to the young man just starting in business. As a man, he has been helpful and philanthropic in numerous ways, having aided several young men and women through school, besides exhibiting a liberal generosity in many other directions. As an example, he has been all that Wofford College could wish, and he stands today as an illustration of the finest product of education and society and an incentive to those who know him.

OUR PRESIDENT.
J. Milton Ariail, '05.

The new president of the Wofford Alumni Association, Dr. Jas. W. Kilgo, presiding elder of the Columbia District, embodies the best traditions of South Carolina Methodism. The son of a Methodist preacher whom John Wesley would have loved, he has spent his life and done his work in that varied and unique school—the itinerary. Many interesting things are told of that faithful preacher, the Rev. J. T. Kilgo, but the finest of them all is that of his adherence to his determination to send his children to college, involving, as it sometimes did, the question of the necessities of life. For he was a man of vision, and he was very near to the future, so that he knew that the increased perplexities of a new generation must be grappled by heart and brain well trained. What a reward came to his faith is common knowledge;
attendance was irregular or intermittent, because of the fact that he had to push and work his way through; but, with indomitable pluck and persistent effort, he fought his way through the preparatory department into the college and through the Junior year.

After his Junior year, Mr. Crouch taught school three years with marked success, and—"went the way of all the earth." Miss Daisy Norton, of Conway, the accomplished sister of one of Ben's college chums, became Mrs. Crouch, and he who writes these lines knows that she has been to Ben a helpmeet indeed.

While in college, Mr. Crouch was a recognized leader. He was a Sophomore speaker, Junior debater, representing the Preston Society, was associate editor of the college Journal, president of his class, was the first of his class elected president of the Preston Society, and was a member of the S. A. E. fraternity. He took a lively interest in all student activities, worked always for the promotion of the best interests of his alma mater.

That leadership which characterized Crouch's college career has suffered no abatement since he entered upon his life work. He took a very active part in the creation of Saluda County, was one of the commissioners to erect the public buildings when the new county was established, and helped to put the county machinery into operation. He was elected the first clerk of court for the new county, studied law with Sheppard Brothers, of Edgefield, and was admitted to the bar in 1901. He soon built up a lucrative practice, and enjoys the confidence and esteem of his fellow citizens. He has served his county two terms as State Senator, and from April, 1914, to May, 1915, was Assistant United States Attorney for South Carolina.

Mr. Crouch is a Methodist, a Mason, K. of P., and has been superintendent of his Sunday school for twenty years. He organized the Bank of Saluda (the first bank in the new county) and has been its president since its organization.

Whatever makes for the betterment of county or State has B. W. Crouch back of it. Whenever a question of right or wrong is involved, no man need ask where Ben is found. His mind alert, his heart in the right place, a striking personality, with the gift of rare eloquence, he is a power for good wherever duty calls him.

ALUMNI ORATION, JUNE, 1915—COMMERCIALISM VS. IDEALISM.

Hon. B. W. Crouch.

Mr. President and Members of the Association:

I am deeply grateful for this kind and cordial reception. As I journeyed this way today, I tried to imagine what my feelings would be when my feet once more pressed the soil of the old campus, and I could no more conjure up in my imagination what these feelings would be than I can now express to you in words what they really are.

Next to the reunion of the members of a family long separated by time and distance under the roof of the old homestead is the joy of the reunion of the "old boys" now grown gray, the "middle aged boys" deeply involved in the stern duties of life, and the younger generations of graduates—all in the shades of a common alma mater!

It is this that forms one of the chief delights of the commencement occasions. And what better thing could we do at the very outset of this evening's program than to pledge a new and fresh loyalty to the old college—to all that it has stood for in the past, stands for now, and what it hopes to accomplish in the future! If such a pledge in fact and truth could be obtained, then would Wofford's future be secure.

The embarrassment of this hour would in a measure be relieved, perhaps, were I at all worthy of the honor you have conferred by the invitation to address you on this occasion. As many of you know, my course at Wofford was an irregular one, and it was never my privilege to complete that course and have my name enrolled among the graduates of this dear old college. I was a rising Senior when I went out into life. But I am happy to be here tonight. Every foot of Wofford's campus is sacred ground to me, made so not only by early associations, but more especially by that majestic character whom we all loved and whose memory we so much revere.

His life and example—far more valuable than all the lessons he taught in books—was and is yet an inspiration to thousands of South Carolinians who in young manhood came under his influence and who were touched by his life. President Elliot, in his inaugural address more than forty years ago, said: "Who-
ever wishes to do some perpetual good in the world, whoever hopes to win that finest luxury, must exert his influence upon the young, the healthy, the promising."

For nearly sixty years Dr. Carlisle's influence was thus exerted, and the impulse and inspiration given to generations of students that came under his magic touch can never be measured by time.

I but speak forth the words of truth and soberness when I say in this presence that I believe the citizenship of South Carolina has been influenced—directly and indirectly—more by him than by any other man who has ever lived in our commonwealth. In the language of another, well may it be said of him: "Great as he was in what he did and said, he was even greater than that. Only the character of the man furnished any standard of his measurement. While he lived, his daily walk was better than a religious revival, and his memory is one of the chiefest assets." * * *

On the grounds of the Panama Exposition are two giant arches, each one hundred and sixty feet high. The one symbolizes the nations of the East, and is called the "Crowning Arch of the Rising Sun." The other symbolizes the nations of the West, and is called the "Crowning Arch of the Setting Sun." This last, which tells the story of American experience, represents a huge prairie schooner, with its oxen toiling westward, carrying a plain family to some undiscovered home. Above this homely caravan are shown the angels of hope and faith and love pointing the way to go. Below is the spirit of Commercialism and above is the spirit of Idealism, and the plodding life of America marches on between the angels and the soil!

On an occasion of this kind it is perhaps a little out of place to raise the voice of pessimism or to sound a discordant note. But it is just here that we stand today, between the angels and the soil, and American character is being tested while this age-old conflict between the forces of Commercialism and Idealism is being waged.

Upon the ultimate result of this conflict, deadly and irreconcilable, depends America's future.

The interrelation of the nations commercially was never closer than today. A single instance will suffice to show this. In far-away Servia a reckless anarchist throws a deadly bomb; there is a terrific explosion that echoes around the world; a duke and duchess are murdered. Demands are made upon Servia by a neighboring people. Diplomacy is set to work to avert a resort to arms. And, just when every demand is about to be conceded, brutal selfishness steps in and the world is startled with the news that all Europe is at war! Beneath the iron heel of one of the belligerent powers a neutral nation is ground to powder. The conflict grows bloodier, death and desolation follow in its wake; millions of human lives are sacrificed on war's unfeeling altar, while other millions are hurried to the front to take their places.

So closely related in a business way are the United States with these distant and warring nations that immediately our national treasury faced a deficit. Hurried legislation alone could prevent it, and we are now enjoying the luxury of paying an emergency war tax!

Thoughtful men everywhere are asking the question, "What gave rise to so great a cataclysm?" Various answers are being given to this question. No one answer in itself perhaps may be complete. But we cannot be far wrong when we attribute it primarily to that spirit of commercialism which has for the past quarter of a century or more so completely possessed the nations of the earth. That the world is now held in the grip of materialism no one will deny. And our own America has set the pace.

The nations of the Orient are not nearly so much interested in our religion as they are in trying to think, act, and do things like America.

It is a depressing thought this, that just at a time when the world powers had achieved so much of material wealth, when learning was becoming so universal, when agencies were being organized to carry the tidings of "Peace on earth, good will to men" to the very ends of the earth, that at such a time as this the nations' navies should be enlarged, the standing armies increased, the heavens filled with dirigibles and the waters with submarines, thus greatly multiplying the means for human destruction. And yet such is the case.

It is the old, old story of the Israelites setting up the golden calf as a substitute for God! The modern means of communication and transportation, facilitating commerce and trade, has
developed a material prosperity heretofore undreamed of, and one of the very first results is gangrenous greed for supremacy.

"Commercial supremacy" is the "golden calf" of today, and toward this unholy shrine the leading nations, including our own, have in recent years been steadily marching.

It is a far cry from the day when Patrick Henry boasted of America's three millions of men "armed in the cause of truth and justice." From the few millions of that day we have grown to a hundred millions. The civilization then scattered along the Atlantic's front has crossed a continent. Our American life has grown great in many things. It is incomparably great in its material aspects and in the accumulation of wealth. Industrially and commercially and in the consummation of enterprises that stagger the mind to contemplate, it is unrivalled. Her mountains pour forth a stream of gold and silver; her iron mines and coal beds are apparently inexhaustible; the lonely prairies of former days feed a nation; while her cities, towns, and hamlets dot the country over.

When this college was founded, sixty years ago, the total wealth of the United States was less than seven billions of dollars. Today, it approximates one hundred and fifty billions. Such has been the increase within the memory of men now living. In the language of another, "It is as if the people of the United States had been given the touch of Midas, which transmutes everything into gold."

There is no parallel like it in the history of other nations. And not "only is wealth increasing at an enormous rate, but the rate of INCREASE is rapidly INCREASING."

According to treasury statistics, the average increase of savings over and above all expenditures and waste from 1890 to 1900 was in excess of six millions a day. It is estimated that the savings now amount to nearly fifteen millions for every day in the year!

In the light of this stupendous, this appalling wealth, the question that does and must press itself home to thinking minds is whether or not we are to be the victims of our own prosperity and robbed of our ideals by the very magnitude of our commercial gains?

The wealth of this country is today putting a strain on the moral character of this nation such as no other nation on earth has ever been called upon to endure.

Wealth has always been dangerous. It brings luxury, and luxury in its very nature is degrading. Greece and Rome went down beneath its sordid weight. Spain, once the proud mistress of sea and land, was at the height of her power when the wealth of a NEW WORLD was poured into her treasuries. She broke under the strain and took the lowest place among the nations.

Our material prosperity is already stagnating and putrefying our very civilization. By it politics are corrupted and social life is defiled. And who will assert that our churches and educational institutions are free from its insidious touch? By its baneful influence our ideals are being tainted.

By money we not only measure material values, but it has come to be the measurement of life's standards. With many, to be without money is to be without character, and there is a vast army in this country who have come to the point where they feel that they can do without character if they only have plenty of cash!

I am reminded of the story told of the hold-up of a tourist by a highwayman. A huge pistol was thrust into the face of the tourist by the highwayman, who growled savagely: "Give me your money or I'll blow your brains out!" "Blow and be blanked!" said the tourist. "A man can get along here without brains, but he must have money."

Coupled with this material prosperity that is testing American character as it was never tested before is the insidious poison of so-called "modern education." Unless one be liberal (loose comes nearer expressing it) in his views concerning things moral and spiritual, he is classed as being effete. "Intellectual high brows," both in our churches and colleges, are exerting an influence that is undermining the old time faith and working ruin to the young manhood of our nation.

One is not considered "cultured" now, I believe, unless he doubts the Genesis account of creation or leans to the theory that if only the "missing link" were supplied man's "descent" from the monkey would be proved!

The author of the Declaration of Independence and the acknowledged father of the public school system had unbounded
faith in education as an indispensable and "all-sufficient qualification for the preservation of a democratic form of government." His idea of education was a certain amount of intellectual training for all the citizens. To this education or general instruction, to quote his language, he bade the people to "look as the resource most to be relied on for ameliorating the condition, promoting the virtue, and advancing the happiness of man."

It was against an aristocratic form of government that Jefferson warred, and he gave it as his opinion (and I use his language again) that if the people were enlightened generally, "tyranny and oppression of mind and body will vanish like evil spirits at the dawn of day."

Without for one moment reflecting upon the great work that Jefferson accomplished and with no intention of discounting the debt of gratitude that every freeman owes to him, yet it must be said that when he advocated substituting Grecian and Roman history in the schools for the Bible and the Testament as a reactionary measure against the coalition of Church and State, he assisted in the institution of a policy of instruction that has led us far afield from the only true and solid foundation on which government, whether democratic, autocratic, or aristocratic, can with safety be built.

I offer no apology for repeating here what a recent writer said so well and so wisely on this subject: "In our schools we eliminated religious instruction and gave but small place to ethical training. We congratulated ourselves on the degree of success attained in government before we had any efficient system of intellectual training. But we looked upon this as only prophetic of that greater and more successful democracy that would come as the result of the diffusion of knowledge throughout the land. It was this we counted on to usher in the golden age of democracy. We believed that the fondest dreams of the founders of our government would be more than realized when schools were placed within reach of every child. In nothing else in all the history of our government have we been more seriously deceived than in the potency of intellectual training to fit men for citizenship in a democracy." * * *

Men who have passed through our schools are found everywhere allied with the worst enemies of democracy, concocting vicious schemes to advance their own interests by preying upon the people and robbing and corrupting government. Everywhere we find large numbers of the so-called educated class void of any civic conscience and totally dead to any feeling of unselfish political obligation.

Continuing, this writer says: "We are now beginning to realize that mere intellectual training has no ethical quality. It simply gives a man greater power. Whether he will use this increased power on the right side or the wrong side in politics * * * must depend on influences outside of those which have to do directly with his intellectual development." * * *

"The greatest dangers to our democracy are moral, not intellectual. No intellectual remedy, however skilfully devised, can ever reach a moral disease."

One of the greatest misfortunes as well as the greatest dangers to our government resulted from bitter opposition to the theory of "union of Church and State." So far did the pendulum swing that religious training had no part in the general education. And this notwithstanding it was never the intention of the framers of our Constitution that political government should be a thing apart from religion. It was not their intention to make this "government non-religious or non-christian." That it should be non-sectarian was their only aim; but, unfortunately for the people themselves and for the government as well, an erroneous construction has been placed upon this intention, and the experiment has too long been tried of endeavoring to have a safe and sound democracy on an intellectual basis, all aloof from religion.

"That the founders of our government firmly believed in the close alliance of politics and religion is established beyond all question." In his farewell address, Washington said: "Of all dispositions and habits which lead to political prosperity, religion and morality are indispensable supports. A volume could not trace all their connection with private and public felicity. * * * And let us with caution indulge the supposition that morality can be maintained without religion. Whatever may be conceded to the influence of refined education on minds of peculiar structure, reason and experience both forbid us to expect that national morality can prevail in exclusion of religious principles."

A half century or more after Washington spoke these mem-
result would be more direful than the blight of soil or the ruin that follows in the wake of pestilence.

Destroy the idealism—invisible and intangible though it be—that to this good day has pointed the way upward in American life, and there would be annihilated the very basis on which American institutions were founded.

Whatever militates against this idealism—whether it be commercialism, materialism, or, more baneful still, an agnosticism that knows no God, save the god of chance—strikes at the most precious heritage handed down to us from the glorious past.

When President Wilson delivered his inaugural address, he closed with these words: "This is not a day of triumph; it is a day of dedication. * * * Men's hearts wait upon us; men's lives hang in the balance; men's hopes call upon us to say what we will do. Who will live up to the great trust? Who dares fail to try?"

Standing as we do today between a commercialism that tends to destroy men's moral and spiritual lives and an idealism whose mission it is to save, it is with anxious hearts that we view the conflict. For it is between these two mighty forces lies the problem of America's future.

If commercialism shall at last triumph, then shall we go the way of Egypt and Greece and Rome, and, like these nations, our own will become a warning and a byword.

With so much at stake, well may the thoughtful exclaim that "this is a day of dedication, and not one of triumph." For it is not men's social, political, and industrial welfare ONLY that hangs in the balance, but their moral texture is being sorely tried.

The only gleam of hope lies in the possibility that out of the conditions of our commercial life will be created a new and fresh idealism. The call to promote this idealism comes loud and clear to you and to me. "Men's hearts wait upon us. Men's lives hang in the balance. Men's hopes call upon us to say what we shall do. Who will live up to the great trust? Who dares fail to try?"