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Published Quarterly by Wofford College
Spartanburg, S. C.
Entered at the Post Office at Spartanburg, S. C., as second class matter.
The Exercises of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary

The celebration of the Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the foundation of Wofford was a great and significant occasion. The quality of the programme, the representation from other institutions, the number of Alumni present, the co-operation of a variety of interests,—the Trustees and Faculty, the members of the two Annual Conferences, the officials, citizens, and civic clubs of Spartanburg,—all joined to make the occasion as important as any ever held in South Carolina.

The celebration began when the academic procession moved out of the Chapel of the Main Building down the steps toward the Andrews Field House. There were more than 1200 people in the procession,—the speakers, delegates from seventy-five leading American Colleges and Universities, the Trustees, Faculty and officers of the College, the student body, the Alumni, and the Faculty and student body of Converse College.

It was a picturesque and impressive procession as it marched toward and into the Field House, which was decorated with Wofford colors. The Faculty and Trustees wore academic costumes, as did each of the delegates representing other institutions. The colors of the different degrees and of the institutions from which they were received blended with the autumn tints of the trees and the golden sunlight of a perfect October day to create a scene memorable for its beauty and suggestiveness.

Approximately 2000 people gathered in the Andrews Field House to witness the exercises and to hear the addresses. Delegates of the following institutions, in the order of their founding, were introduced as they presented greetings and congratulations:

Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass., 1636; Yale University, New Haven, Conn., 1701; Washington and Lee University, Lexington, Va., 1749; Columbia University, New York City, 1754; Hampden-Sidney College, Hampden-Sidney, Va.,
1842; Limestone College, Gaffney, S. C., 1845; Baylor University, Waco, Texas, 1845; Otterbein College, Westerville, Ohio, 1847; University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin, 1849; Northwestern University, Evanston and Chicago, III., 1851; Polytechnic Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y., 1853; Columbia College, Columbia, S. C., 1854; Greenville Woman's College, Greenville, S. C., 1854; Newberry College, Newberry, S. C., 1856; Birmingham-Southern College, Birmingham, Ala., 1859; Vassar College, Poughkeepsie, N. Y., 1861; Kansas State Agricultural College, Manhattan, Kansas, 1863; Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass., 1863; University of Denver, Denver, Colorado, 1864; Cornell University, Ithaca, N. Y., 1865; Worcester Polytechnic Institute, Worcester, Mass., 1865; The College of Wooster, Wooster, Ohio, 1866; Kentucky Wesleyan College, Winchester, Ky., 1866; Wilson College, Chambersburg, Pa., 1869; University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark., 1871; Lander College, Greenwood, S. C., 1872; Weaver College, Weaverville, N. C., 1872; Lon Morris College, Jacksonville, Texas, 1873; Colorado College, Colorado Springs, Colo., 1874; Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tenn., 1875; Parsons College, Fairfield, Iowa, 1875; University of Southern California, Los Angeles, California, 1879; Presbyterian College of South Carolina, Clinton, S. C., 1880; Bridgewater College, Bridgewater, Va., 1880; Reinhardt College, Waleska, Ga., 1883; Goucher College, Baltimore, Md., 1885; H. Sophie Newcomb Memorial College, The Tulane University of Louisiana, New Orleans, La., 1886; Winthrop College, Rock Hill, S. C., 1886; Millsaps College, Jackson, Miss., 1890; Converse College, Spartanburg, S. C., 1890; Meredith College, Raleigh, N. C., 1891; Stanford University, Stanford University, Cal., 1891; The University of Oklahoma, Norman, Okla., 1892; Clemson Agricultural College, Clemson College, S. C., 1893; Carnegie Institute of Technology, Pittsburgh, Pa., 1900; University of Florida, Gainesville, Fla., 1905; Coker College, Hartsville, S. C., 1908; Woman's College of Alabama, Montgomery, Ala., 1909; Anderson College, Anderson, S. C., 1911.

The addresses of Chancellor J. H. Kirkland, of Vanderbilt, and President W. P. Few, of Duke University, were of high order, and each not only interpreted with insight and understanding the place and mission of the Liberal Arts College, but also paid a tribute to the extraordinary service that Wofford itself had rendered.

At the conclusion of the exercises, the Alumni, between 300 and 400, were the guests of the College at an informal luncheon in the Field House. From all reports it proved to be a happy get-together meeting of the representatives of almost every class that had members yet living.

At the Cleveland Hotel at the same hour, visiting delegates were given a formal luncheon by the Chamber of Commerce, representative citizens of Spartanburg sharing as hosts. Brief addresses were made by President H. M. Cox, of Emory University, speaking for the Southern Methodist institutions; President D. M. Douglas, of the University of South Carolina, for the State institutions, and President W. J. McGlothlin, for the denominational colleges of the State.

At three o'clock in the afternoon a large crowd, including Wofford and Clemson Alumni and visitors, attended the game between Clemson and Wofford. The score, 30 to 0 in favor of
Clemson, seemingly large, does not fairly represent the gallant and skillful fight made by the lighter Wofford team against a heavier team with plenty of reserves. It was a good, clean game of football.

In the evening at 7 o'clock, in Carlisle Hall, the Alumni and visitors were again the guests of the College at dinner. More than 300 men were in attendance and heard appropriate and suggestive addresses from Dr. John J. Tigert, President of the University of Florida, United States Senator E. D. Smith, and Judge J. Lyles Glenn, of the United States Federal Court.

Saturday morning, October 19th, being the 149th birthday of Benjamin Wofford, was celebrated in the College Chapel as Founder's Day. Three appropriate addresses were made,—by Bishop John M. Moore, on “The Church in Education”; Bishop Edwin D. Mouzon, on “James H. Carlisle, Christian Educator”; and by President Henry N. Snyder, on “Benjamin Wofford, Educational Pioneer.”

At one o'clock, in Carlisle Hall, the members of the two South Carolina Conferences were entertained at lunch as guests of the College. Dr. J. C. Roper, Chairman of the Board of Education of the Upper South Carolina Conference, and Reverend M. L. Banks, Chairman of the Board of Education of the South Carolina Conference, made thoughtful and suggestive addresses interpreting the fine spirit of co-operative comradeship that had always existed between the College and the Conferences. Both Conferences were well represented at the luncheon, which gave evidence of the good will and confidence of their membership now as heretofore.

The exercises closed with a reception in the Andrews Field House, given from five to six-thirty o'clock in the afternoon of October 19th, by the Trustees and Faculty, especially to the citizens of Spartanburg, who for seventy-five years have loyally supported the College. The Trustees and Faculty, with their wives, were in the receiving line. More than five hundred people passed down the line in honor of the occasion.

A Wofford Exhibit In a true sense, the celebration was of the nature of a Wofford exhibit. On the program were the two outstanding educational leaders of the South, Chancellor James H. Kirkland, ‘77, Vanderbilt University, and President William Preston Few, ‘89, Duke University; from the field of business, Mr. William A. Law, ‘83, President of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company, of Philadelphia, Pa.; from the ministry, Bishop E. D. Mouzon, ‘89, of Charlotte, N. C.; Dr. J. C. Roper, ’96, Columbia, S. C., and Reverend M. L. Banks, ’94, Barnwell, S. C.; from the law, Associate Justice J. G. Stabler, ’05, of the Supreme Court, and Judge J. Lyles Glenn, ’12, of the United States Federal Court; and from politics, United States Senator Ellison D. Smith, ’89, Washington, D. C.

These added distinction and importance to the program, but there were present and taking part in the ceremonies more than four hundred other Wofford Alumni representing, beginning with the Class of ’69, fifty-five Wofford Classes, covering a period of sixty years in the life of the College. As farmers, lawyers, preachers, physicians, bankers, manufacturers, and from almost every other pursuit in life, they formed such a
substantial group of the citizenship of this and other States as to constitute a noteworthy exhibit of the service of Wofford to the stability and progress of the State.

Alumni There was no more attractive feature of the celebration than that of the reunion of college friends. Three hundred and forty-seven enjoyed lunch together in the Andrews Field House on Friday, and three hundred and two were at the dinner in Carlisle Hall Friday evening. In between times, members of various classes instinctively were drawn together, and could be seen in groups, large and small, at various places on the campus, renewing old friendships. Reviving the memories of other days, comparing college life and conditions now with what they were when "they were in College," and doubtless also brightening afresh ideals that had become dim or gone lost in the struggles of life. Such a fellowship can mean only good to those who shared in it, and its sentimental values should serve to increase College loyalty and incite all to a more generous practical support in advancing the interests of Wofford in the future.

Personalities Everybody was pleased with the affectionate and appreciative tributes paid, publicly and privately, to Professor D. A. DuPré and Professor J. A. Gamewell. For more than fifty years "Uncle Dan" and "Uncle Gus" have served as instructors in their Alma Mater, and they have not only taught Science and Latin, but have exemplified in their lives what it is to be a scholar and a Christian gentleman. Throughout the celebration they received special honor and recognition.

Three members of the Class of 1871, the Reverend H. C. Partridge, of Florida, the Reverend Thomas W. Smith, of North Carolina, and Professor J. A. Gamewell, had a glorious class reunion, fifty-eight years after graduation, and attracted much attention.

It was much regretted by all that the two oldest Alumni, Mr. W. D. Sullivan, of Tumbling Shoals, Laurens County, and Mr. Hugh Milton Stackhouse, of Clemson College, were not able to be present. Mr. Sullivan entered the first class at the opening of the College on August 1, 1854. He is ninety-one years old, and in good health, still living in the home in which he was born in 1838. Mr. Stackhouse entered Wofford in 1858, and left in 1861 to join the Confederate Army. For many years he has been an honored and efficient official of Clemson College. It would have been a fine thing if these two Wofford men of those far-off days had been present at the celebration.

It was a pleasure to see at the celebration three of the eight women who graduated at Wofford,—Miss Puella Littlejohn, '01 (Mrs. S. E. True), Miss May Wannamaker, '01, and Miss Ione Littlejohn, '02 (Mrs. R. B. Paslay). It would have been an added pleasure if the other five had been present,—Miss Carrie Nabers, '02 (Mrs. A. S. Skelton), Miss O. L. Chapman, '04 (Mrs. O. O. Setzler), Miss Jessie Jones, '03 (Mrs. W. W. Niver), Miss M. V. Tarboux, '04, and Miss Mary Ligon, '03 (Mrs. J. M. Evans).

Judge S. W. G. Shipp, of the Circuit Court of this State, the son of the second President of the College, Dr. A. M. Shipp,
and Mr. James H. Carlisle, of Spartanburg, son of Dr. James H. Carlisle, the third President, were on the rostrum Friday morning as honor guests. The authorities of the College were sorry that Miss May Wightman, daughter of Bishop W. M. Wightman, the first President, was prevented from attending. A special invitation had been sent her.

A Birthday Gift  Mr. John A. Law, '84, a member of the Board of Trustees, from Spartanburg, has been long interested in adequate fields for out-door athletics of every kind. He has felt that properly directed physical training is a necessary part of the education of every boy and girl, and that for this important matter the facilities of Wofford were seriously lacking. After studying the situation thoroughly, he prepared his plans, and presented them to his brother, Mr. William A. Law, '83, of Philadelphia, who instructed him to proceed at once to make his plans a reality, and he would bear the expense. This means that Wofford will have for students a steel stadium, football fields for Varsity and Freshman teams, a baseball field, cinder track, and at least three new tennis courts, the whole to be enclosed with the best quality of wire fencing. When Mr. Law's plans are completed, with the new Andrews Field House, no College in the State will have better facilities for the physical training and athletic activities of its student body than will Wofford. The appreciation of every friend of Wofford is thus due Mr. Law and his brother for this timely and appropriate contribution to the educational advancement of the College.

The Present Session, 1929-1930  The College has opened with 415 students,—the same number enrolled to the same date last year. From the very beginning the organization of the work has moved promptly and efficiently, and not only the classes but also the various student activities are advancing in a way to promise an unusually successful year. With the inspiration of the Anniversary celebration upon both faculty and student body there is no reason why the present College year may not be a memorable one in every respect.

Something to Think About  It is the future of Wofford that those who believe in it must think about. Its past is secure. And a worthy past it is,—worthy in a record of high spiritual and educational service. Such a past cannot be forgotten, and its achievements, spirit, traditions, ideals must be preserved. But there is a future that must also be cared for, and as great as the past service of Wofford has been, this future should be made rich by a larger service. To accomplish this, we must think about the College in terms of certain concrete things,—a larger endowment, a community house, a central dining-room, improved and increased dormitory facilities, and improvements to the campus itself. What Wofford immediately needs is an endowment large enough to secure a teaching force to satisfactorily instruct a student body of 500 and to offer courses that cover all the fundamental fields of modern knowledge, and funds sufficient to furnish a nearly perfect physical plant and adequate library and laboratory facilities. In a word, turning from the past to the future, what we are to think about is the
making of Wofford an ideal College of the Liberal Arts and Sciences, and in so doing to serve the best interests of Church and State.

The legal ownership of the College is in the Board of Trustees, its control belongs to the two Conferences, its educational administration is in the hands of a faculty, but it is owned, controlled, and administered in the interest of the students who come to it. It exists to train men intellectually and spiritually, and the men who are so trained by the residence on the campus and by the instruction they receive,—these are its children always, having been transformed from Wofford students to Wofford Alumni. To them the College also belongs, and they to it. Do they, thinking about this peculiar two-sided ownership, ever raise the question of the duty of joining together, and by a great co-operative effort continued over a term of years, meet in a financial way the needs of their Alma Mater, so that its future will be characterized by a much richer service than its past?

The Proceedings of The Anniversary In response to a general demand, the proceedings of the exercises connected with the Anniversary will be published in bound form. The volume will include the program, a list of the delegates, and a full report of all addresses. It will be a volume not only of historical importance, but also of real significance as a contribution to present-day educational thought. Every Alumnus should have a copy, as well as every one interested in certain trends and movements in higher education. It will be offered at cost; that is, at fifty cents per copy. Those desiring a copy should send this amount at once to President Snyder.