

WILLIAM HAYWOOD BOBBITT

William Haywood Bobbitt has recently retired from a long judicial career during which he rose to become Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina. Born in Raleigh, he received his Bachelor's degree from this institution and attended the School of Law. He was a member of the Order of the Golden Fleece and Phi Beta Kappa. As a student he enjoyed debating and, it was said, would make a speech at every opportunity. He is permanent President for the Class of 1921.

Admitted to the Bar, Mr. Bobbitt practiced law in Charlotte; he was elected a Superior Court judge in 1938 and served in that capacity for fifteen years. He was appointed Associate Justice of the State Supreme Court by Governor William B. Umstead in 1954, and was returned to that post by election for successive terms. In 1969 he became Chief Justice of this State. Judge Bobbitt's career has been characterized by careful moderation and respect not only for the judicial processes but also for the other branches of government; he has a lively understanding of how these parts must function together as an effective whole.

Always a friend of the University, Judge Bobbitt was President of the General Alumni Association in 1954-55 and did much to help launch the Alumni Annual Giving program so significant for the University. His Alma Mater recognized his eminent achievements with an Honorary Degree in 1957 and now once again, by this Award, demonstrates a grateful appreciation of his important service to the State and to this Institution.

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CLEMENT EATON

Clement Eaton is a historian of high distinction who has specialized in the history of the South. He was born and reared in Winston-Salem, where his father was for many years mayor. His Bachelor's and Master's degrees were awarded by this University; he received his doctorate from Harvard. In his senior year here as an undergraduate, 1918-19, he lived at the "Old Inn" with several others of later great distinction, including Thomas Wolfe, Luther Hodges, Paul Green, and Albert Coates.

Dr. Eaton taught at Clark University, at Lafayette College, and finally at the University of Kentucky, where he became Hallam Professor of History. In 1956-57 his faculty colleagues voted him Distinguished Professor of the Year. His first major book, Freedom of Thought in the Old South, received the Duke University Press Prize in 1940. Among his many other important works are A History of the Old South, A History of the Southern Confederacy, The Growth of Southern Civilization, and The Mind of the Old South.

He was selected Pitt Professor of American History and Institutions at Cambridge University for 1968-69, and he was Fulbright Lecturer at the Universities of Manchester, England, Innsbruck, Austria, and Bologna in Italy. He was President of the Southern Historical Association in 1961. The University is itself honored by the enduring accomplishments of this alumnus and presents this Award in further token of his outstanding achievements.

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WALTER GORDY

Walter Gordy, one of the world's leading physicists, is James B. Duke Professor of Physics at Duke University. Born in Mississippi, he took his undergraduate degree at Mississippi College and came to Chapel Hill for his Master's and Doctor's degrees in Physics in 1933 and 1935. He joined the Duke faculty in 1946 after teaching at Mary Hardin-Baylor College and working on the staff of the Radiation Laboratory, Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Dr. Gordy's work is of wide-ranging significance, involving three major disciplines, physics, chemistry, and biology. In several books and more than 250 papers, he has presented experimental and theoretical contributions of great significance in microwave spectroscopy, microwave spectral measurements and electron spin resonance studies. Among other things, he has established the existence of hydrogen bonds in relation to basicity for many species and he has established an experimental basis for, and a theoretical definition of, the concept of electronegativity.

Among the high honors that have come to Dr. Gordy are membership in the National Academy of Sciences and on the National Research Council. With this Award the University now acclaims the distinguished accomplishments of this alumnus, who has done so much to make possible continued progress in several important scientific fields.

LOUIS HARRIS

Louis Harris has long been recognized as one of the most effective public opinion analysts in the United States. He received his Bachelor's degree in Economics here in 1942 and was elected to the Order of the Golden Fleece. His first experience in polling came while he was in the Navy, after World War II, as he interviewed sailors awaiting demobilization in Boston. He joined Elmo Roper and Associates in 1946; ten years later he set up his own firm.

Mr. Harris has developed a finely honed system for collecting and analyzing data on public opinion for political parties and governmental agencies, as well as for marketing, industrial, and financial firms. His public opinion surveys, used in planning the national political campaigns of 1960, notably affected the elections. The Voter Profile Analysis used with great success by CBS to project the outcome of elections soon after the polls have closed was developed by him. His three books and numerous articles have influenced the work of others in the field.

Most important to the world of scholarship and to this University, in 1965 Mr. Harris established on this campus the Louis Harris Political Data Center, where selected significant data on political polls have been made easily available for study by political scientists and other scholars from this institution and elsewhere. With this Award the University now recognizes the brilliant work of this alumnus in developing means by which the democratic processes can function more continuously and for making his scientifically gathered data available for scholarly study.

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CHARLES RAPER JONAS

Charles Raper Jonas for two decades served this state as a conscientious, honorable, and effective Representative in the United States Congress. He received his Bachelor's degree here in 1925 and a Law degree three years later. While here, he was President of the Dialectic Senate, an intercollegiate debater, and a member of the football and track teams and of the Monogram Club, as well as of the honorary organizations of Gimghoul, Amphoterotheren, and the Golden Fleece. He is permanent President of the Class of 1925. In service with the United States Army from 1939-46 he rose to become a Lieutenant Colonel in the Judge Advocate General Corps.

In 1952 he was elected to the Congress from the 10th District, and though a member of the minority party was reelected nine times. As a hard working member of the Appropriations Committee of the House he became known as the "watchdog of the Treasury." In 1972 he chose to retire from the Congress to a law practice in Lincolnton and Charlotte.

Mr. Jonas' high character and integrity, as well as the outstanding quality of his work in the Congress, have been recognized not only by the voters in his own district, but by myriad others in this state and nation. Over the years he has shown a continuing regard for this University, which now takes great pleasure in conferring on him this Award.