WD Cme.



"A Living Laboratory of Human Relations"

THE ONE HUNDRED AND FIRST YEAR OF

### WEST VIRGINIA STATE COLLEGE

INSTITUTE, WEST VIRGINIA
HAZO WILLIAM CARTER, JR., PRESIDENT

# Mid-Year Commencement

THE TWENTIETH DAY OF DECEMBER

A.D. NINETEEN HUNDRED NINETY-TWO

AT TWO O'CLOCK IN THE AFTERNOON

CIVIC CENTER

CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

### The Mace

The Academic Mace precedes the entire procession. The grand marshal carries in his hand this ceremonial staff that is used as a symbol of authority. Its placement and removal from a place of honor signifies the opening and closing of ceremonial sessions. The mace had its origin in the Middle Ages, being used first as a weapon by royal bodyguards to protect their monarches in processions. Today, the mace is primarily used in academic processions, particularly in English speaking countries.

The West Virginia State College mace has historical significance in that it was designed from a spindle from the staircase of West Hall, the second building erected on this campus. West Hall was built in 1895, and was used for various activities. It was located on the present parking lot adjacent to East Hall and on the West side of Fleming Hall.

The mace was restored by James Huffman when he was Assistant Director of Admissions at West Virginia State College.

### The Medallion

The medallion worn by the President represents the chains of office. These chains are worn by chief presiding officers of colleges and universities. Such chains may be of plain links with a medallion suspended from the lowest point in front. In recent years the chains have been replaced by ribbons of velvet denoting the colleges' colors. Incorporated within the medallion is a reproduction of the seal of the College. It is this seal that is impressed on the diplomas awarded to the graduates of West Virginia State College and other official documents.

The medallion is a single piece of crystal, five inches in diameter, designed and created by Cubert L. Smith, class of 1960, retired Professor of Art, West Virginia State College. The seal of the College is etched with an air eraser on the reverse side. This rear etching process enhances the optics of the seal and makes it a one-of-a-kind piece.

### The Academic Procession

The Academic Procession is composed of administrators, honored guests, faculty, graduates and the College Advisory Board. This procession is led by a marshal, a graduate of West Virginia State College, who seats the graduates, faculty and platform guests. The faculty enter by academic rank wearing costumes that had their origin in the Medieval English University system. The costumes were devised to distinguish academic persons from lay persons, since everyone wore robes or gowns to ward off the cold. The recession, then, is in reverse order with the platform guest leaving the dais first, followed by the graduates and the faculty.

The colors of the academic dress have a significance deeply rooted in the tradition of academic life and are specified by a uniformed code maintained by the American Council on Education. Caps are black and are usually mortar boards with tassels. Doctors of Philosophy wear gold tassels usually of metallic thread; other degrees wear black or discipline colors.

The bachelors' gown is simple and black with long, pointed sleeves. Masters' gowns, also black, are longer than bachelors. Older gowns have sleeves that terminate at the elbow while those since 1960 have sleeves extended to the wrist. Doctors' gowns are full, with bell-like sleeves. The front is marked by velvet panels and the sleeves are marked by three velvet bars. While most gowns are black with black velvet, one variation is to replace black velvet with velvet in the discipline color. A second variation is a colored gown usually of the university's colors.

All hoods specify the level of degree, the discipline studied and the awarding institution. First, degree level is signified by the size of the hood with bachelors' smallest, masters' larger, and doctors' quite large and of a different shape. West Virginia State College does not award hoods to bachelors. The width of the velvet trim also conveys the degree. Secondly, the discipline is indicated by the color of the trim edging the hood to form the throat over the gown. Finally, the color of the hood's lining specifies the awarding institution. The colors are displayed in combinations that are drawn from heraldry.

The colors of the tassels worn by candidates for baccalaureate degrees represent the fields of study in which the degrees will be conferred. At West Virginia State College the following colors are used to designate the various degrees.

Bachelor of Arts	White
Bachelor of Science	
Bachelor of Science in Business Administration	Drab
Bachelor of Science in Communications	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice	Velvet Blue
Bachelor of Science in Education	Light Blue
Bachelor of Science in Industrial Technology	Orange
Bachelor of Science in Recreation Service	Yellow
Bachelor of Science in Social Work	Citron
Associate Degrees	White

### Barbara J. Oden, Presiding

Vice-President for Academic Affairs

THE PRELUDES—
The Swing March
featuring the Percussion Section
Music from Beauty and the Beast Alan Menken
Malagueña
arr. Sammy Nestico
Irish Tune from Country Derry Perry Grainger
English Folk Song Suite
March: Seventeen Come Sunday
Intermezzo: My Bonny Boy
March: Folk Songs from Somerset
Sarabande and Polka
from the Ballet Soltaire
arr. John P. Paynter
West Virginia State College Wind Ensemble
David Williams, Conductor
THE PROCESSIONAL—POMP AND CIRCUMSTANCE Edward Elgar
March I
THE MARSHAL
THE CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES
THE FACULTY
THE PLATFORM PARTY
THE POSTING OF THE COLORS Color Guard
Reserve Officers Training Corps
Yellow Jacket Battalion
THE NATIONAL ANTHEM
Oh, say can you see by the dawn's early light
What so proudly we hailed at the twilight's last gleaming,
Whose broad stripes and bright stars, thru the perilous fight,
O'er the ramparts we watched, were so gallantly streaming?
And the rockets' red glare, the bombs bursting in air
Gave proof through the night that our flag was still there.
Oh, say does that star-spangled banner yet wave
,, Janes Dear Dearthroad Dearthroad Job Hart

THE INVOCATION . . . . . . . . . . . The Reverend Paul H. Smith Pastor, St. Andrew United Methodist Church, St. Albans, WV

(The audience will remain standing until after the invocation)

O'er the land of the free and the home of the brave?

THE MUSICAL SELECTION: Bridge Over Troubled Water . . Paul Simon arr. Kirby Shaw

> Concert Choir J. Truman Dalton, Conductor Mark Femia, Baritone Liz Ganin, Soprano Carol J. Eich, Accompanist

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE SPEAKER . . . . . . . Hazo W. Carter, Jr. Ninth President, West Virginia State College

THE COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS . . . . . . . . . . Phyllis Harden Carter Director of State-Federal Relations, Governor's Office State of West Virginia

THE CONFERING OF SPECIAL HONORS

AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE

TEACHERS OF THE YEAR

Kanawha County-

Lillie Kathryn Hilts, John Adams

Junior High School

Clay County—

Michael Mullens, Clay County

High School

THE RECOGNITION OF RETIREMENTS

. . . . . . . . Barbara J. Oden FACULTY

Vice President for Academic Affairs

Shirley J. Hairston—24 years

Professor, Department of Social Work

Terry L. Lucci—19 years

Department of Social Work

James E. Brimhall STAFF . . . . . . . . . . . . .

Vice President for Administrative Affairs

Paul Payne—21 years

Center for Instructional Technology and Educational Network

THE AWARDS OF HONORS . . . . . . John Teeuwissen Assistant Vice-President for Academic Affairs

#### ASSOCIATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

HONORS

Angela Salisbury Cruikshank

Alvin Thomas Forth, Jr. Terry Allen Harless

Andrew Patrick Hill

Susan Jane McGinn Barbara P. Moss

Stephen F. Parsons Kandy Lane Prater\* April Dawn Schmuker\* Melissa Lee Stapleton

**HIGH HONORS** 

Alice Ann Atkins Connie Kay Bruno\* Ronald E. Frye

April Beth Smith Michael Edward Stephens Jill Deleana Frye Stone William S. Edward Winkler, II

HIGHEST HONORS

Barbara Ann Bubar Nancy Lynn Davidson Lora Leigh Gillespie Huffman\*

William Edward Judy

David Warren Smith

#### BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS

#### CUM LAUDE

Jonathan Lee Akers Shelly Jean Bostic Melody Dawn Bunch Kelly Annette Carter Thomas R. Cooper, Jr.\* Diana Leigh Frazier

Marcella Eileen Freeman Patsy Ramona Hager Constance Louise Ivey Rita Dianne Long Melissa JoAnn Menefee Paul Augustine Quattrone

Kimberly L. Queen Matthew Shane Scott Julie Lynn Shelton Lee Edward Walker Debra D. Ward Brent Bott Wells

#### MAGNA CUM LAUDE

Joy Dale Ball
Sandra A. Black
Ernest Venton Boling
Marilyn Y. Byrnside
Katryna Cheryl Collins
Vicki E. Cottrell
Jeffrey Scott Davies

Deborah Amburgey Ellis Ann B. Frank\* James Richard Heavenridge Elaine Kay Hill Alice Elizabeth Knight Robin Lynn Long William Michel Meester, Jr. Patricia Anne Melton Monica Marie Morton Elizabeth Ann Neely Jill Deleana Frye Stone Tammy L. Stutler Kimberly Ann Taylor

#### SUMMA CUM LAUDE

Rebecca Lynn Ball Lisa Marie Bishop Phyllis Ann Bush Cynthia Egnor Chapman Lori Jean Davis Nora Gay Dotson Rose M. Gargon Linda Mae Garrett Donna Bernice Kay Danny Wayne Matheney Amy Louise Nutter Mehdi Seyedmonir Sue Ellen Turnbull

THE PRESENTATION OF DEGREE CANDIDATES . . . . . . . . Barbara J. Oden

The Candidates for Degrees will be presented to Vice President Oden in the following order:

Candidates for Associate Degrees

George Bilicic, Dean Community College Division

Candidates for Bachelor of Arts Degrees Maude P. Brunstetter, Chair

Division of Social Science Candidates for Bachelor of Science Degrees

K. Harper-Morris, Chair Division of Natural Science and Mathematics

After the conferring of the degrees by President Carter the names of the candidates will be announced by John L. Fuller, Registrar.

## Candidates †

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE

Alice A. Atkins
Connie Kay Bruno\*
Tyrone Wayne Bryson\*
Barbara Ann Bubar
Donna Marie Burdette
Timothy Charles Campbell
Nancy S. Carpenter\*
Diana Carol Chandler
Tammy M. Cooper
Frances Jean Crider\*

Gary W. Criner
Angela Salisbury Cruikshank
Nancy Lynn Davidson
Julie Lynn White Davis
James Allen Dye, II
Jennifer Ranee Eastwood
Patricia Gail Edmonds
Susan D. Pearson Feazell
James Darrell Ferguson
Randall Patrick Fields\*

Alvin Thomas Forth, Jr.
Ronald Emery Frye\*
Alice Hubbard George
Brenda J. Ghosh
Traci Linn Gilbert
Linda B. Ratcliff Guthrie
Terry Allen Harless
John Glenn Hebb, III
Andrew Patrick Hill
Mark Anthony Holmes

<sup>†</sup> A name on the program does not assure that final degree requirements have been met.

<sup>\*</sup> August graduates

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN APPLIED SCIENCE (Continued)

Lora L. Gillespie Huffman\*
Elvira L. Jackson\*
Lloyd Benton Jarrell\*
W. Kevin Johnson
Gail Ann Johnston
William Edward Judy
Donald Ray Kinder
Michael Jackson Lamb
Robert Thomas Lilly
Keith Joseph Lomax\*
Nancy K. McCallister
Susan Jane McGinn

Melinda Sue McKinney\*
Angela Marie Manning\*
Nancy Cantrell Miller
Barbara P. Moss
Matthew Joseph Muck
Marcia Ann Murphy
Tracy Ray Owen
Susan Lynn Parkins
Stephen F. Parsons
Rosemarie E. Pleasant
Kandy Lane Prater\*
Karen M. Rawlings\*

John Edward Roach, II
Kathy Joyce Searls
April Beth Smith
Susan B. Spears
David R. Stamper
Melissa Lee Stapleton
Michael Edward Stephens
Jill Deleana Frye Stone
Richard Alan Tinsley
Tia Lynette Wesley
William S. Edward Winkler, II

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF ASSOCIATE IN SCIENCE

Delores Lynn Cummings Sandy Fay Downs Linda B. Ratcliff Guthrie Glenn R. Savage
April Thompson Schmuker\*
David Warren Smith

Deborah Lynn VanHoose Jack David Whitt

Cheryl Dawn Withrow

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF ARTS

Cathie W. Adams
Jonathan Lee Akers
Joy Dale Ball
Teresa Tufts Bihl
John R. Blanton\*
Randall Lee Breedlove
Karen Sue Cantley\*
Kelly Annette Carter

Vicki Diona Anderson Coiner Lori Jean Davis Marcella Eileen Freeman Patsy Ramona Hager Terri Johnson-Stone Shawn Anthony Lewis Rita Dianne Long Melissa JoAnn Menefee

Monica Marie Morton Stephen Bryan Murray\* Daniel Glen Riffle\* Mehdi Seyedmonir Valerie Ann Taylor Steven Lee Wager Lee Edward Walker Christopher Mark Willits

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF REGENTS BACHELOR OF ARTS

Edwin J. Harmon

Tracie Jo Adams\* William Baisden Mamie Kathleen Beckner Sandra A. Black Rodney Belford Booker Albert Eddie Bostic Julia Ann Brannon\* Nancy Kay Bupp\* Dara Lea Burgess Tina H. Camper **Emily Frances Casterline** Carol Sue Cisco\* Charles Fredrick Cole, III Linda L. Compton\* Thomas R. Cooper, Jr.\* Greta Ann Dingess Jeffrey DiVito Bridget Ann Edwards\* James Allen Fink Terry Gene Frame\* Tommy Marshall Frye

Robert D. Hatfield\* Melinda M. Hensley Janet Anne Hickman Odie Don Hurt\* Debora Kay Jacks Alan David Jenkins, Jr.\* Tayana Arlene Jones Michael Kalfut Glenn Allen Kennedy Philip Neil Kennedy Michaela Harless Kessler\* Margaret C. Kimpel Margaret Sharon King Nela Brock Kittle Alice Elizabeth Knight Robert Thomas Lilly Kimberly M. Loftis Tammy Lynn McCormick Corinne Anne Marko Danny Wayne Matheney Charles Steven Means Mary Allan Murphy James Lewis Neal, Jr.\*

Elizabeth Ann Neeley Rhonda Thomas Nichols Perry Lee Pence\* Robin Burdette Perdue Steven S. Ramsey Lori Judge Rhodes\* Keith Lazelle M. Ridgeway Patrick John Rinard Paul Richard Shamansky, Jr. Tammy Jo Shingleton Catherine Jean Shrewsbury\* Victor Maynard Sizemore\* John William Smith Dan A. Stacy Robert Wayne Stafford Meredith Leigh Taylor Robert Lincoln Taylor\* Betty Lou Thompson\* Melissa Sue Wheeler Cynthia Aritta Landers White\* William Bream White, Jr. Rosemary Cole Withers James Roy Wright, III

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

Rozella J. Brooks Eric Christopher Burgy Timothy Charles Campbell Ronnie Lee Crowder

Thomas Eric Gates\*

Linda Kay Green

Judy Lane Hall

Emma Nicdao Fernandez Gloria Melde Ferrell Kazuya Makita Kevin John Mason\* William Michel Meester, Jr. Paul Augustine Quattrone Kimberly Yvonne Thomas Michael Alden Wright

## FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

Donna Jean Ahmad Dani Renee Asseff Diana Lee Bird Shelley Jean Bostic Stephanie Allyn Bowen Robert A. Bradley Marilyn Y. Byrnside Tishawa Wedase M. Campbell Stacey Lynn Cobb James Franklin Cole, Jr. Jeanna Gayle Bailes Compston Cathy Ann Corley James Anthony Davis Melena Renee DeBolt Tracie Kay Farmer Barbie Jean Fields-Allen Mark Allen Fisher

Trent Alan Forbis\*
Barbara Ann Gibson
Timothy Murray Greene\*
Cameron Mitchel Harmon
James Richard Heavenridge
John Glenn Hebb, III
Elaine Kay Hill
Tamara R. Hoffman
Tisha Gail Huffman
Daralene LáNise Jackson
Sandra Reneé Jackson
Terry Lee Justice
Kima L. Kendrick
Jennifer Elaine Lewis
Robin Lynn Long

Patricia Anne Melton Stephanie Gail Metzner Glenn Andrew Moore Betty Jo Morgan Letitia Cecilia Powell Sherry Laverne Reynolds\* Scott Lee Rose Karen Lea Samples Susan Marie Schwartz Andrew Meridith Searls\* Robert G. Swain, Jr. Debra D. Ward Brent Bott Wells Paul David White Dennis Eugene Winter Gary Lee Wiseman

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN COMMUNICATIONS

Carlos Marquett Burnett Roger Marvin Echols, II Laura Ann Edens\* Ann B. Frank\*

Rodney Dwane McKnight Ann Marie Pauley Kimberly Queen Eron Bryant Richardson\*

Elmer Reace McFarland

April Lynn Martin

Malcolm E. Spence John York Tincher John David Vogel\* Kennith Roger Watts, II

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Christopher Aron Bailes Anthony Wayne Fizer\* Rose M. Gargon Rodney Alexander Hairston\* Randolph C. Hawkins, Jr. W. Kevin Johnson Charles Steven McCann Everett S. McCauley\* Stephen Darrell McClung Patrick Shannon Miller\* Keith Ray Painter\* Steven Eric Parks Eric Glenn Powell\*
Matthew Shane Scott
Jonathan Lee Smith\*
Richard Alan Tinsley
Julia Leeana Williamson

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION

Michael Jarrett Arbogast Glenessa L. Arrington Rebecca Lynn Ball Lisa Marie Bishop Ernest Venton Boling Melody Dawn Bunch Phyllis Ann Bush Lisa Carol Campbell Cynthia Egnor Chapman Katryna Cheryl Collins Vickie E. Cottrell Valerie Ann Craddock Jeffrey Scott Davies Nora Gaye Dotson
Dennie Arnold Duncan
Diana Leigh Frazier
Linda Mae Garrett
Stephen Thomas Graley
John Timothy Hensley
Robin Lynn Horsfield
Constance Louise Ivey
Rochelle Ann Jones
Donna Bernice Kay
Kimberly Dawn Kirk
Aissa Agcanas Martin
Beverly Yetter Meeks

Robert Joseph Miller, Jr.
Amy Louise Nutter
Amy Christine Patton
Kathryn F. Ring\*
Julie Lynn Shelton
Patricia Erin Shreve
Susan Beth Spears
Jill Deleana Frye Stone
Tammy L. Stutler
Kimberly Ann Taylor
Sue Ellen Turnbull
Jennifer J. Woods
Tamara Faith Workman

#### FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN RECREATION

Deborah Amburgev Ellis

Carmel Rose Dooley

Stephanie Danyale Harris\*

Angela Beth Offutt

## FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN SOCIAL WORK Lisa Cogar Martin

THE PRESENTATION OF
GRADUATING OFFICERS Willie C. Lucas
Professor of Military Science
Charles Cole, Second Lieutenant, Charleston, West Virginia
James Fink, Second Lieutenant, Ashford, West Virginia
THE SALUTE TO THE GRADUATES Hazo W. Carter, Jr.
THE STUDENT RESPONSE Lisa Bishop
THE ALUMNI PLEDGE Acie McGhee, Class of '54 National President, WVSC National Alumni Association
To join hands with other alumni in perpetuating the ideals of
my college, nurturing its growth and promoting its program, to
serve with honor in my chosen profession and to make of myself a symbol of the best traditions of my college—this is my
commission and my challenge.
THE ALMA MATER
THE CLOSING REMARKS Barbara J. Oden
THE BENEDICTION The Reverend Emanuel A. Heyliger Pastor, Ferguson Memorial Baptist Church, Dunbar, WV
THE RECESSIONAL—Paldin: A Concert March John Stout West Virginia State College Wind Ensemble
The audience is requested to remain seated until the graduates have recessed.
Grand Marshal—
Professor R. Charles Byers '68
A COLOMANIE MA POLYAL C
ASSISTANT MARSHALS— Professor Dallas Brown '54
Professor Mona Dues '82
Professor Charlotte L. Finney '61
Professor Amy Kokesh '85
Professor Christopher Passero '84

Professor Patricia Shafer '71 Professor Steven E. West '60

### Honor Societies

#### ELECTED TO ALPHA KAPPA MU—NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Joy Ball Rebecca Ball Lloyd Bennett Teressa Bihl Lisa Bishop Sandra Black Ernest Boling Kelly Carter

Vicki Cottrell
Lori Davis
Nora Dotson
Deborah A. Ellis
Ann B. Frank
Nicholas Gillispie
Elaine Hill
Donna Kay

Patrica Melton Monica Morton Barbara Moss Amy Nutter Mehdi Seyedmonir Terri Johnson-Stone Kimberly Taylor

Robin Long

## ELECTED TO ALPHA PHI SIGMA—NATIONAL HORNOR SOCIETY IN CRIMINAL JUSTICE

Julia Williamson

## ELECTED TO ALPHA MU GAMMA—NATIONAL COLLEGIATE FOREIGN LANGUAGE HONOR SOCIETY

Teresa Bihl Kelly Carter

Patricia Melton

Melissa Menefee Stephanie Metzner Monica Morton Valerie Taylor

#### ELECTED TO BETA KAPPA CHI—SCIENTIFIC HONOR SOCIETY

Mehdi Seyedmonir

## ELECTED TO DELTA MU DELTA—NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN BUSINESS

James Hevenridge Elaine Hill Robin Long Patricia Melton Debra Ward Brent Wells

## ELECTED TO KAPPA DELTA PI—INTERNATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN EDUCATION

Rebecca Lynn Ball Lisa Marie Bishop Ernest V. Boling Melody Dawn Bunch Phyllis Ann Bush Cynthia Egnor Chapman Vickie E. Cottrell Jeffrey Scott Davies Nora Gay Dotson Diana Leigh Frazier Linda Mae Garrett Donna Bernice Kay Amy Louise Nutter Julie Lynn Shelton Jill Frye Stone Tammy L. Stutler Sue Ellen Turnbull

#### ELECTED TO LAMBDA IOTA TAU—NATIONAL LITERARY HONOR SOCIETY

Jonathan L. Akers

#### ELECTED TO PHI ETA SIGMA—FRESHMAN NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

Lori J. Davis Robin L. Long Stephanie G. Metzner

Sue Ellen Turnbull

## ELECTED TO PHI THETA KAPPA—HONOR SOCIETY FOR ASSOCIATE DEGREE STUDENTS

Barbara T. Bubar Angela S. Cruikshank Nancy L. Davidson Terry A. Harless William E. Judy April B. Smith

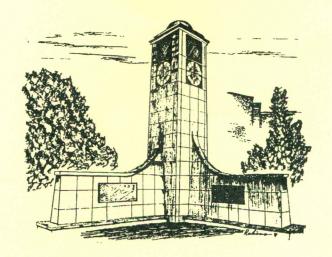
#### ELECTED TO PI SIGMA ALPHA—HONOR SOCIETY IN POLITICAL SCIENCE

Jay P. Riffle

Steve L. Weger

#### ELECTED TO PSI CHI—NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY IN PSYCHOLOGY

Joy D. Ball Teresa T. Bihl Kelly A. Carter Lori J. Davis Marcella E. Freeman Patsy R. Hager Terri Johnson-Stone Mehdi Seyedmonir



### Alma Mater

Ernest Wade '30

Martha Spencer '31

There is a place we love so dear—
Its name we'll ever praise and revere
'Tis West Virginia State we love—
Just one more step from there is Heav'n above.

#### Refrain:

West Virginia's praise we'll sing—
Lift our voices 'til heavens ring—
As we daily march along—
We'll sing a song—
For Alma Mater
How we love her
Pride of all our loyal hearts—
From her we will never part—
Thoughts of thee will ne'er be few
Alma Mater we love you.

We'll love her more as days go by, And send her praises to the sky; To place her over all the rest, And keep her e'er the dearest and the best.

Shadowed 'neath a deep blue sky;
Is STATE for whom we'll live and we'll die—
Arise! O men of God and sing;
We're loyal, and to her we'll always cling.

### West Virginia State College

What is West Virginia State College? It is all of us who believe in it—who absent or present, work in it and wish it well. Its constituency is the living and dead and from them the College enjoys an unrestrained loyalty and willing service. It is an exponent of truth which sweeps aside the petty jealousies of men and all propagandic proposals which would minimize or depreciate personality. It is an institution containing faults and defects which challenge the constructive efforts of students, teachers, officers and graduates. It is incomplete and desires to remain so, to be in an advantageous position for changing life situations.

What is West Virginia State College? It is spirit; it cannot be touched by hand; it is based upon communions between the living and those who though dead yet live in an immortality made practical through enlistments in the College program which of necessity requires eternity for completion. What is the College? You and those graduates ahead of you are the College.

John W. Davis Fifth President West Virginia State College 1932