WILLIAM BRADLEY Winstead, Governor of North Carolina, was born in Durham
County, and is an alumnus of this University of the Class of 1916. During
the First World War, he served as Lieutenant in the 317th Machine Gun
Battalion and was a member of the American Expeditionary Force. Receiving
his training in the law from Trinity College, he was admitted to the bar in
1920, and at once began practice in Durham. Deeply interested in the political
and civic affairs of his community and State, he served successively as
Prosecuting Attorney for Durham County, as Solicitor of the Tenth Judicial
District, and for three terms as Congressman from the Sixth North Carolina
District. From 1946 to 1948, he was United States Senator, and in 1952 he
was elected Governor of North Carolina, a position of honor to which he
brings the experience and training of a life-time devoted to public service.
As member of a distinguished law firm in Durham, he built up, during the
intervals of his career as public official, a flourishing practice and
found time to become a vital force in community affairs. A loyal alumnus
of the University, he has through the years been an active participant in
her life, through service on the Board of Trustees and in the councils of
the Alumni. Lawyer, public servant, statesman, he has added luster to the
name of Alma Mater, and it is fitting that he be awarded an honorary degree
in grateful recognition of his achievements. (For the degree of Doctor of Laws.)
Commencement, 1952.