

ROBERT ERVIN COKER, born in Society Hill, South Carolina. Awarded the bachelor's and master's degrees by the University of North Carolina, the doctorate by the Johns Hopkins University, and the honorary doctorate by the University of South Carolina. Government service in the U. S. Bureau of Fisheries. Professor of Zoology, Chairman of Department, Kenan Professor in the University of North Carolina, founder and director of its Institute of Fisheries, and winner of the O. Max Gardner Award. Author of scores of published studies, his book This Great and Wide Sea received the Mayflower Award. President of three national scientific societies; and Chairman, Division of Biology and Agriculture, National Research Council. Biologist of international renown, beloved teacher, distinguished investigator, through his contributions he has advanced the frontiers of knowledge; his studies in the biological and economic problems of marine and fresh-water life have been of far-reaching public importance.

The University of North Carolina is therefore proud to confer upon Robert Ervin Coker, the degree of Doctor of Laws.

Commencement, 1959