

ROBERT MACDONALD LESTER, native of Alabama and, by recent adoption a North Carolinian, graduate of Birmingham-Southern University, Master of Arts of Vanderbilt University, for many years an executive of the Carnegie Corporation, he took a leading part in directing programs for the improvement of higher education in the South, particularly through grants-in-aid and assistance to graduate studies in southern colleges and universities. In this relation, the University of North Carolina has benefited as much from his wise counsel as from the financial aid that he facilitated. More recently, he was influential in the establishment of the Southern Fellowships Fund, which he now administers from Chapel Hill, making graduate study possible for many young scholars who will teach in the South. Recognizing his wide and beneficent impact on higher education in this region, the University of North Carolina proudly confers upon him the degree of Doctor of Laws.