

WILLIAM BRADLEY UMSTEAD, 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, 1954.