Lester of Honorary Graduates and Titles of Degrees conferred upon them by Bryant College

Mary Soong Chiang (Madame Chiang Kai-shek)

The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Letters of Humanitie
Awarded August 7, 1942

Madame Chiang Kai-shek was born at Shanghai, China, and at an early age, came to the United States, where she graduated in 1917 from Wellesley College with high honors. Returning to China, she devoted herself to study and social service work. Child Welfare being a major interest, she was first Chinese woman appointed member of the Child Labor Commission to investigate labor conditions in industries within foreign settlements and concessions. In 1927, her marriage to General Chiang Kai-shek united two dynamic lives whose influence and moral strength inspired thought for bettering social conditions among the people and galvanizing national fervor throughout the country. They started a new movement in China which embodied all the virtues of its past history and gave a new interpretation to means, methods, and direction for the practice of improved living conditions, peaceful social relationships and an ethical administration of human affairs. Since the outbreak of Japan's war of aggression on July 7, 1937, Madame Chiang Kai-shek has given increasing effort to bringing aid, comfort
and inspiration to men, women, and children.

We respect the brilliant intellect, the
graphic writings, the poignant speech of
Madame Chiang Kai-Shek, but we hold
in the highest esteem her noble womanliness
and worthy devotion—her utter honesty of
thought and action—her clear vision of true
democracy and liberation of all peoples
and her courage and readiness to endure
hardships, to face dangers, to share the life
of her fellow country men and women,
and to die, if need be, in their defense.
She is the symbol of democracy at its
best, seeing life straight and true and
with an elevation of mind and spirit
that has never lost the common touch
of love, tenderness and sympathy.