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1960

Speech by Ralph Brown

State University of New York at Cortland

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STATE UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
CORTLAND, NEW YORK

A New President for a New Era
Dr. Donovan C. Moffett Assumes the Presidency

by

Ralph Adams Brown

On Friday, September 16, 1960, a new era opened at the State University College of Education at Cortland. On that day the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York announced the appointment of Dr. Donovan C. Moffett as Cortland's new President.

Dr. Moffett assumes his presidency as the Cortland College of Education stands at the threshold of a new era. With a student body of almost 2500, a faculty of ~~234~~ and an annual budget of \$2,000,000, Cortland is no longer a small college. Its growth in the future will almost certainly be even more spectacular.

A beautiful new library is nearing completion. Soon, perhaps before this appears in print, contracts will be let for a new science building and for four education buildings: Campus School, Campus School cafeteria and auditorium, Campus School gymnasium, and a college education building.

The past twelve months have witnessed the completion and use of four new dormitories: Shea, Bishop, Hayes and Hendricks Halls, and of a new student union and dining room: Neubig Hall. Appropriation for yet another dormitory has been made.

Removal of the library, campus school and science department from the main building, made possible by completion of new buildings, will allow the "Old Main" to be renovated and reconditioned for more effective classroom use.

Even though no official estimates will corroborate, it is not visionary to estimate that within a decade Cortland will have over ~~4,000~~^{3,500} students.

New curricula have been added in recent years. For example, Cortland now certifies graduates to teach both mathematics and the sciences at the secondary level. Inevitably there will be other changes in the near future.

Higher education through^{out} the nation is beset with challenges and confronted with great opportunities. The "population bulge" of the post-war years will double enrollment in our nation's colleges, universities, and institutes. This great increase in size brings with it major challenges: providing physical equipment, finding competent faculty, and maintaining scholarship and academic standards.

Cortland, as all other colleges, must face up to these challenges and make the most of these great opportunities.

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The man chosen to lead Cortland into this new era is well known to our alumni. Dr. Donovan C. Moffett graduated from Depauw University, received his M. A. at Columbia University and then earned his Ph.D. at the State University of Iowa.

Dr. Moffett had a distinguished career as athletic coach and as director of athletics in the mid-West. He enlisted in the Army Air Force in World War II, and rose from captain to lieutenant colonel.

In 1946, Dr. Moffett came to Cortland as professor of physical education and director of athletics. In 1952 he became Director of the Division of Health, Physical Education and Recreation. Two years later he became Dean of the College, a position he held until Dr. Donnal V. Smith resigned as president in December 1958. Since that time, Dr. Moffett has been the Acting President.

Cortland is entering a new era. One that will certainly be marked by continued growth and frequent changes; one that must be characterized by the raising of academic sights, the elevation of intellectual goals, and the growth of professional and scholarly competence.

To these important tasks the new president brings strength and experience. He was the unanimous choice of the faculty, and his appointment as president was greeted with sincere acclaim. His fifteen years at Cortland have given him knowledge of the college, the community, and the state. People who have known him and worked with him recognize his sound judgment, his uncompromising devotion to duty and his genuine integrity.

Cortland College of Education is in good hands as it enters a New Era.

10/3/60