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Gardner Memorial Dedication Today

HOEY TO SPEAK

By JOHN ROBERTS

North Carolina's senior United States senator, Clyde R. Hoey, will deliver the major address dedicating the new O. Max Gardner Memorial student union of Gardner-Webb College this Easter Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

Other principal speakers for the occasion will be the following: Mrs. O. Max Gardner; Dr. W. Wyan Washburn, chairman of the college board of trustees; Holt McPherson, managing editor of the Shelby Daily Star; President P. L. Elliott, of the college; Ben C. Fisher, executive assistant to the college president; and John Arndt, president of the college government association.

A campus audience, gathered to dedicate the new Memorial and to remember the late Ambassador O. Max Gardner, will include county, state, and national friends of the late Tar Heel governor, as well as trustees of the college, faculty members, and the entire student body. Included among the expected notables are North Carolina's Secretary of State Edwin Gill, the Greensboro Daily News' Tom Bost, and State Senator Lee Weathers.

Early in the 1940's, Max Gardner had a vision of a useful and prosperous college at Boiling Springs, and at that time the small campus had only a few worn buildings and a handful of teachers and students, representing an area hardly larger than 20-miles radius of the campus. Instead of being discouraged by these prospects, the late benefactor was merely inspired by them, and it is the realization of such an inspiration that brings us to this day of dedication and the midway landmark in the first Gardner-Webb decade of growth.

Perhaps above everything else this afternoon, the new O. Max Gardner Memorial student union represents a landmark-reminder of the man who started the revitalization of the college in 1942. Colonial in design, the building represents an investment of \$200,000, and above all, it is one of the few buildings on any college campus erected and furnished exclusively for the benefit and convenience of the students.

The Gardner building is the newest look in college student centers. It houses the college cafeteria, postoffice, soda shop, day lounges, club rooms, student activities offices, the college guidance department, and a reading room. A large picture of Ambassador Gardner has been placed over the fireplace in the spacious main lounge. The Memorial building is expected to offer much to the civic cause of the college and the region generally. The dining hall will be used by the Cleveland Executives Club on April 29 when Phil LaFollette, three times governor of Wisconsin, will be the speaker.

The Gardner Memorial possesses the kind of quality worthy of lengthy description for such an issue as this, worthy of a verbal tour from the colorful terrace at the entrance to the modern kitchen

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on the ground floor. Entering the building from one of the cement walks leading to the front, we cross a spacious cement terrace-patio. The spacious main lounge, 42 by 68 feet in dimensions, is furnished with a score of leather upholstered sofas and as many coffee and end tables and overstuffed chairs. Full vision windows on two sides of the lounge are decorated by aqua drapes that blend with the walls and maple venetian blinds operated by brass chains. The oval ceiling gives an indirect-lighting effect. The floor is of asphalt tile, and at one end of the lounge there is an open fireplace over the mantle of which hangs a portrait of the late Ambassador Gardner.

We leave our wraps in the cloak room to the left and walk into a large room, 24 by 30 feet in dimensions, with an open fireplace. This is a reading and study room where students may work, or receive counsel and placement tests by the college guidance department. Through a door, we see a smaller room, 17 by 18 feet, where students may have private conferences with the director of guidance, Dr. Robert A. Dyer.

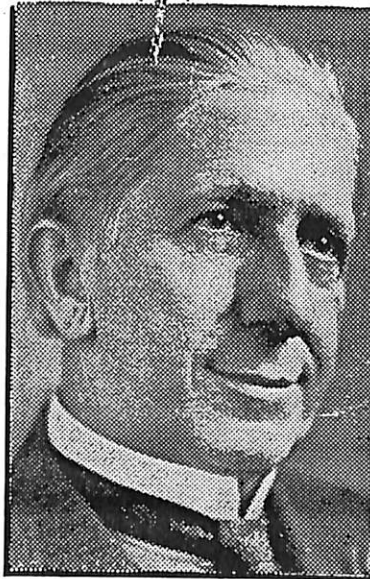
Crossing the lounge again, we find two rooms exactly similar to the ones just visited. The larger one is used as a meeting place for all student clubs and organizations. The smaller room is used by the student officers for meetings of the college Government Association, the student publications staffs, and other student officer work.

We go down a landing stairway into a dining hall capable of seating over 400 guests at special banquet functions. The west side of the college cafeteria is well lighted by full-length windows. To the right is a spacious kitchen and cafeteria equipment, and beneath that cement terrace we saw in front is a maze of storerooms, all of which are equipped with the most modern kitchen and cold storage facilities, from a new bakery oven to the latest dishwasher, steamer, and dryer. Across the cafeteria, opposite from the stainless steel serving counter, we enter the vestibule to the student bookstore, snack-bar, and postoffice.

Although we think we've seen it all, there's still the furnace room to visit. Here a modern, electrically controlled oil burner sends heat to all parts of the building and hot water to the kitchen.

Out of the boiler room, a quick gaze into the soda shop again, and we mount the stairs leading from the bookstore to the main lounge. In the lounge this time we find several boys talking about the latest baseball scores. A half dozen girls are wondering what they will wear to the freshman-sophomore banquet. Some of the fellows are comparing notes for the coming history test, and a teen-age lad is reading a hometown newspaper.

Resting in one of the leather couches, we find ourselves looking at the portrait over the mantel. For a moment it seems to smile upon us, and why shouldn't it, for as long as these halls contain young people with a purpose in life, the spirit that made O. Max Gardner shall never die.



Pictured above is North Carolina's senior United States senator, Clyde R. Hoey, who will be the principal speaker for the dedication of the new O. Max Gardner Memorial Student Union this Easter Sunday afternoon. A close friend and compatriot of the late Ambassador Gardner, Senator Hoey graciously accepted President Elliott's invitation to speak, after Senator J. M. Broughton's untimely death necessitated the procurement of a new speaker. Senator Hoey has been a friend of the college since its beginning.

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