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UA3/2/4 Radio Talk

Paul Garrett

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It no doubt seems to the listener after the foregoing recital of the duties of the various officers of administration that there is not much left for the President to do, but somehow he keeps busy and never quite catches up. To be sure, the duties of the President require him to be absent a good bit from the campus. I have just returned, for instance, from a hurried trip to Atlanta in connection with our College building program. Last week I was in Nashville attending the inaugural exercises of Peabody College and Vanderbilt University. But even when on the campus it seems there is always more to be done than can be done.

The task of integrating the work of the other administrative officers falls on the president. He must accept the responsibility for the long-range plan on which proper action so largely depends. The balanced budget is his problem; and so his is the disagreeable task of frequently saying "no." He is in a large measure concerned with public relations and in that capacity goes many places, makes many speeches and receives many visitors on the campus. He is a friendly counselor to students and must
work long hours with members of the faculty and administrative force at common problems. And yet I have said nothing of the insurance agent, the salesman and subscription seeker. Of course they come. The saddest task of the President, I am inclined to think, is to tell a student, prospective or actual, who must have help to come to college or remain, as the case may be, that all jobs and funds are exhausted.

And yet the job of being president is a joyfully challenging and interesting one. The fine cooperation of administrative officers and faculty, the association with eager and ambitious youth make it a pleasant, if not always easy task.