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PRESIDENT CHERRI'S ADDRESS IN CHAPEL, WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 1935.

Ladies and Gentlemen:-

I am going to talk about Western this morning. I may talk for the chapel period and through the next recitation period, I don't know. I feel, under the circumstances, it will be all right for me to tell you some things I think you will be interested in. So I am going to talk about Western, because Western is not its campus, its walks, its drives, its buildings--Western is not physical College Heights. Western is something else. Western is an ideal, a spirit. I want you to get this -- a spirit, a long tradition, a zeal for more life, more knowledge, and still more zeal for more life and more knowledge. It is more than its president, more than the board of control, more than the faculty and the students of a single year. Western represents the achievements of all the known and unknown people who have made it possible, who have given it a distinct stamp, who have supported it in a moral and material way, and especially those people who have interpreted its ideals and its principles into a better citizenship. Western is out yonder in the lives of the children you have taught. Western is a universal thing.

I might say that Western is an interpreting vision, a spiritual contagion and influence. Reduced to its final analysis, as I understand it, Western is a numerous personality, a group personality. Western is a personality. There are thousands upon thousands of personalities that make up the personality of Western. I say again that Western is a spirit. Take the spirit of Western and put it on the campus at Lexington, and transfer the spirit of State University to College Heights and State University would be on College Heights and Western would be in Lexington. Transfer the citizens of Warren County

to Christian County and bring the citizens of Christian County to Warren County and Warren County would be in Christian County and Christian County would be in Warren County. A community is its citizenship. All of the great things that you admire and that you are for and try to develop and prosper are invisible. Take away the spirit of Western and Western would be an ideal without action. It would be a highly organized something without life behind it. It would be a dead, helpless highly organized engine on a dead track without fire in the boiler. It would be a student without vision, a teacher without inspiration. College Heights would be a dead plant and a dying campus. Say what you want to, if you lose the spirit of Western, we will lose the thing that has brought it over a period of years and years and years and made the things we have today possible.

Going back to 1892, forty-two years ago, I commenced with my borther T. C. Cherry as an administrator of an educational institution in Bowling Green, my native town, nine miles from the little humble home where I was born; and from that day until this I have held that position in Bowling Green, fourteen years in connection with a private institution and twenty-eight years at the head of a state institution. I have some pride---and I hope you won't think I am boasting, I'm not. I have made this first statement in order to interpret the institution and not to put to put myself in the attitude of being responsible for it or egotistical; but I have some pride in feeling that there has been kindness, an interest, an attitude or something that has permitted me to hold only one position in my life, in reality the only position and that for forty-two years in my native town, and my native county, in the town where I drove a yoke of oxen when a barefoot boy, feeling that the world was stacked against me, feeling that I was not getting a just deal,

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only wanting somebody to take me by the hand and encourage me.

I have had many experiences but I have never forgotten the log house in which I was born, and I have never forgotten the experiences I had when I was a boy, when it looked to me that the contest of life was beyond achievement. In other words, I have not forgotten the log cabin--I have not forgotten the poor boy or girl, that struggling young man or woman who is seeking an opportunity to be a better citizen.

Starting out with a private institution (I want you to get this)--starting out with a private institution with only twenty-eight students, with only three teachers, and a total floor space, including offices classrooms, etc. that would not equal the floor space of this room by a considerable space---starting out when the prejudice in Bowling Green was so thick you couldn't weed it out, when you reached up for some-thing and tried to draw it in you could not. When you tried to close your hand, you could not. The prejudice was so thick in Bowling Green that I was insulted many times. There are scars on my body as the result of the experiences of those days. I don't mean there was not an inherent loyalty on the part of the people of Bowling Green, but public education had not been sold. To make a movement for universal education was a challenge for war.

Don't forget that when we began as a state institution, there was not a high school in Western Kentucky. The average qualification of a teacher was less than a seventh grade education. There were only about five high schools in the state of Kentucky. Rightly speaking, there were not any when measured in terms of the present standards. Yet you know what has happened.

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I shall never forget that old gray horse and the buggy we rode all over the state of Kentuc ky, my brother T. C. and I, likewise Professor Alexander, living on the road three months at the time. We did not have the human contacts that we now have to make. I call to mind a trip made through Eastern Kentucky. During that whole journey I hardly met an individual whom I knew.

Western has come through the firey furnace. It has paid the price of any achievements we have now. You are the beneficiaries of all that has been done in the past. Out of all this that has come out of the past, Western has arrived, and I am saying to you this morning, I believe, (and I am not whispering it as I did in Louisville at the K.E.A. Breakfast)I really believe that Western is a great institution. I believe that and I have a perfect right to say it. I am saying to you that it is due to" that other thing"I talked about a while ago. I am thinking of that intangible thing that is so splendid and useful to this institution.

Starting out with twenty-eight students, for two years we worked down here in the valley where the business college is; and I don't believe it would be out of place to say I started the campaign that raised the money to put up the Business College and Frisby Hall, now Logan Lodge. Education wasn't sold as it is today. We gave that property to the state with the understanding that a normal school would be located in Bowling Green. After the buildings were put up for the use of a private institution, the state institution was established, and it became necessary to clear the title of the property and pay off all debts in order for the state to accept it.

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We were down there for two or three years, two and a half I believe, and the question came up would we establish a state institution on that site. I call to mind soing to see the governor and he appointed a special legislative committee. It was held over until the next general assembly. I went before them and told them it would be a crime to establish a state institution on four or five acres of land. More than that, it would have been repudiated before now, if we had done it. We had the recommendation of the legislative committee and the governor to come to the Hill. An appropriation of \$150,000 was made. This was the first building put up. The other buildings on the campus were the old brick building over there and the president's home, the stone of which went into the Domestic Science Building. We had this building and the old Potter College Building. In reality that was all. Yet, we had a considerable attendance.

Twenty-six years ago we decided to come to the Hill. We did not have a dollar to move with, not even enough money to pay for the transportation of the chairs. We were 100,000 in debt, for which I received a real legislative whipping. They really spanked me good, notwithstanding the fact that I did what I did according to the authority of the governor and the legislative committee--that does not always prevail in a legislature. Twenty-six years ago I announced in chapel that we were ready to move but that we dod not have any money to pay for moving to the Hill. You will find a picture in the literature of the school of a long line of boys and girls reaching from the top of the Hill clear down to the valley with chairs and tables and everything in the way of school equipment. They really picked up the equipment and brought it to the Hill. That is the spirit of Western, that is "that other thing" I am going to talk

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about this morning. That is what has made Western and that is what is going to carry on, and I am not mistaken about it.

Look now at what we have. I walk around this Hill in the circle four or five times a day because it is so beautiful. Of course you cannot separate the spiritual from the physical in the sense that I speak. The beautiful flowers and the wonderful landscaped physical vision has a cultural value. It influences the the soul, stimulates enthusiasm, and puts courage into our lives. It is a necessary thing. A great plant. I believe Western has the most beautiful plant in-I won't say Americabut in the South, and I am not so sure that it is not the most beautiful anywhereco When we came on this Hill, it was a thicket. I heard the owls. I saw the rabbits. The foxes were up here and the Whipper Wills. I came on this Hill with a twenty-two Winchester rifle. We could hardly get through the thicket, but we had a joyous and beautiful spot after all, and we decided to use what nature gave us. The first step (and I insist that this is an educational talk, and what we did every county superintendnet should have done before planning any high schools. Instead of laying out high schools miscellaneously, the county ought to have laid out just as we worked out this Hill). So in deciding to use what providence had given us, we employed experts to lay out the Hill. A picture of College Heights that is almost an exact duplication of what is here now. It is not in my office now, but we will have it out in a few days. All you see now was drawn into the picture before a single building was put up. Even that circular walk down there, and the whole thing you can see it in that picture. We would not have been competent if we had done otherwise.

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At that time we had only two buildings, there are now eighteen counting the little home and all of it. The state has appropriated \$1,450,000 for the construction of buildings. The property is estimated by a conservative committee and that is on record at Frankfort---the property for which \$1,450,00 was appropriated is worth \$2,463, 320, and that does not take into consideration the Ogden property. That don't look like bad manage-ment. That don't look like graft. You know the very fact that a man is the head of a state institution or any state effort, people some way think he is a grafter, even if he says his prayers every night and attends church every Sunday, and takes half of his salary and turns it back to the state. So long as the public will not discriminate between an honest and a dishonest official, it will be hard to get men to go into public office.

Have you seen these new drives, these walks and the tennis courts. Those are the best tennis courts in this state. There are six now. In a little while we will finish another three making nine in all and a little later three more making twelve in all. The pioneer log house is going up silently down there. We would have been at work on that if it had not been for the weather. There is the Italian Garden and the Rock Garden. I am going to ask Mrs. Leiper and Miss Woods to tell about these later. That Dixie Highway landscaping is being turned over to the state of Kentucky without any cost to the state. It was prompted by that other thing, the student's contribution and interest. The Colonial Garden will be developed a little later. There will be a dogwood drive beyond the spur road. Numerous planings of every kind have been made.

A man asked me the other day what are you planting those walnut trees for. It will take them fifty or twenty-five years anyway to bear walnuts.

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What of it! My children and their children and that generation that will come along will get the benefit of the walnuts. That is the spirit of the institution. It is that other thing. Did I say that right? I tell you frankly why I planted that walnut tree, I would rather plant something that would bear fruit in the future than something that would bear fruit tomorrow. It is a fundamental principal that will apply to all of us. There are four hundred red and white dogwoods. I wish I could live a million years--I do! I could never work out in my mind why people do not enjoy life. That big tree out by my window I planted twenty-five years ago. How I have enjoyed seeing nature push it up and spread its branches, and feeling that I had something to do with its being there, that it was put there by my hands and I had the thought and interest to put it there twenty-five years ago. There have been planted five hundred native trees of all kinds.

Inside the Kentucky Building will be preserved the history and traditions of the state. There will be the pioneer room, the colonial room, and the material resources of every county in Kentucky, and many other things. In there will be the Kentucky Library. Right now people are coming here from the north and south, research people, to get the benefit of the Kentucky Library. The Alumni headquarters will be there. The College Heights Foundation will be there.

Eight hundred shrubs have been planted. There are many kinds of them, and thousands and thousands of bulbs have been planted. They tell me that over half of these have been donated by the student body and friends of this institution. That other thing prompted them to do that.

I am coming to the faculty and must hurry. You will have to sell Western to yourself before you can sell sell it to others. That is what I have to do myself. The law of transmuting life is the law of personality. That is what

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it is. You cannot send that ideal out yonder except through some human soul; so this plant would be a dead thing without it. The success of every school depends largely upon the essence of personality, upon a faculty who have learned, have loved, and served--that learns, that loves, that serves, a faculty that is trained and whose heart is right. It has been the highest purpose of this institution to employ a faculty that is right. I believe that you will join with me when I say that we have a faculty that is in every way worthy of an institution of this kind.

When we started as a state institution, there were sixteen members of our faculty. Two of the number held the Ph.D., two the M.A., and two the A.B., and the others held no degree at all. There are now twentythree members of the faculty that hold the Ph.D., eighty-nine the M.A., and eleven the A.B. degree. There are nine more members of the faculty that have done anywhere from one to two years above the M.A. towards the doctor's degree. Within a few years there will be thirty or thirty-five members holding the highest professional degree, most of them are young people who have the good part of life ahead of them, right out of the best universities of this country. What more can a school do in launching and advancing an educational program? Now coming to the course of study, in 1906 we gave only two years of work, which is equal to only one and onehalf years when evaluated not. Until 1922 only two years of work was given.

I am not bragging this morning, I am going to tell you some things that are true. I went before the general assembly when there was a heavy opposition and proposed that the normal schools be made teachers' colleges. In 1922 the legislature made the normal schools teachers' colleges.

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Later on this institution made the leadership to have graduate work without assistance. That was ordered by the general assembly of Kentucky. Now we are giving five years of work above the high school level. In 1924 there were seventy-five graduates. In 1934 there were two hundred fifty-six graduates. There will be three hundred fifty this year. In the first M.A. class there were twelve graduates. In 1934 there were twenty-two. There have been three classes with a total number of fifty-three, everyone of which are in positions with the exception of two, and some of them are in school.

I am going to say this now in order that you may take it home with you. We are closer to the M.A. now than we were to the A.B. when we were a normal school. The ruling has already been made that no man can be a principal of an accredited high school under the order of the Southern Association of Colleges with less than an M.A. degree after '36. Before you know it, the man with the M.A. degree will be in line for the better position just as the A.B. is now. In addition to this 3722 standard certificates have been issued.

There are twenty-one literary clubs on this Hill. I would attend them all if I could. You know what they are. I went to the Education Club the other night. It thrilled me to see that fine body of men and women showing every evidence of growing personalities, with all earnestness and seriousness, and when you think there are twenty-one on the Hill, and not one of these little old secret orders on the Hill, may we hope there may never be one. There is not a one, and I am grateful there is not one. I am asking Mr. Canon to keep me posted, and almost every day there are clippings laid on my desk. You would be surprised at what is going on in this country. They are abolishing them by legislative act. The whole thing is wrong.

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If a secret order should really get itself established, and I had knowledge of it, I would just feel like I would pass out. But we will not fuss about that because there is just such a fineness it is not here.

In 1906 out of every 1000 students enrolled in this institution there were only four high school graduates. Now there are 2668 college students in daily attendance at Western, all high school graduates. There are 715 freshmen, 959 sophomores, 590 juniors, 351 seniors, 36 graduate students, and 17 special students on the campus. The graduate attendance will run around 150 in the summer.

Here is something for you to remember. It is the most unusual thing I know of. In the fall there were twenty-seven more men attending a teacher's college in Bowling Green than women. At the present time 47 per cent of the student body to men and 53 per cent women. I don't believe you will find that duplicated anywhere else. I have made frequent trips. I remember going to a teachers college in Illinois, and when I went into the chapel, there were about a dozen boys sitting over by themselves and the rest of them were women. To be frank I like women. I think they are all right. They are the salt of the earth. They are the salvation of the whole thing. I don't believe I would like to go to a school where there were 600 women and only 12 men. In other words, I think it is a fine thing that we are beginning to get this thing divided up. I don't believe it would be best for the profession to be all women or all men. I am glad you men are here, as far as I am concerned. I think these women are too.

There are 2100 students taking English, 1365 History,_____855 Economics, and Sociology 685. The trend is toward the sciences. There are 2264 taking Physical Education. I am telling you these things in

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order that you may know more about College Heights. It is a study of itself. You ought to appreciate it. It is a wonderful institution.

I want to speak of the College Heights Foundation a minute. There have been 6020 subscriptions made. \$247,000hate been subscribed; \$119,000 has been paid. Many collections have been made recently. The faculty of this institution has already subscribed \$32,579. I want you to get that. I know the economic condition of this faculty. You are looking into the faces of many men and women right now who will be paying off the debt of their education cost for the next eight or ten years. Nothwithstanding that fact, they have come across with wonderful subscriptions running all the way to \$750 to the individual. Some gave more than they ought to have given. And the citizenship of Bowling Green, many of whom don't know you, put up \$47,000 in order that some poor boy or girl might have the opportunity to get an education through the loan fund or to finish the Kentucky Building. The sum of \$24,678 was given by the citizenship of Louisville. I had headquarters in Louisville, and we would have come out of there with \$75,000 or \$100,000 if the stock market had not crashed. The students on the campus gave \$24,000 and \$16,000 has been given miscellaneously .. There was one subscription of \$1500. There have been twenty-five subscriptions of \$1000 each; 500 of each; 595 of \$100 to \$300; 447 from \$50 to \$100; 1925 from \$25 to \$50, in addition to about 2679 student subscriptions amounting to \$25,000.

What does the College Heights Foundation do? It is an incorporated institution, incorporated by the laws of Kentucky, organized along economic and business principles. It has already made a wonderful contribution. It has made 4100 different loans amounting to \$152,000. Will you please interpret that in terms of the earnest student who wants to be a good citizen and borrows the money to go to school on, and after having used it pays off the subsubscription regarding it as the most sacred obligation ever made. The Foundation has put up the Kentucky Building, and it is going to finish it. We are going to finish it very soon as I shall indicate in a moment.

No college that is content just to impart knowledge functions properly. Just simply imparting knowledge is not the only thing that a college must do. There is such a thing as dead knowledge, very dead. There is such a thing as a college that doesn't get out to serve the better c_tizenship. There should be a vitilizing force, and it is not of the intelligence alone, it is very largely of the spirit and of the heart. It cannot be taught by merely imparting knowledge. It takes more than this. An appeal must be made to the heart, the spirit, the emotions, as well as to the intellect. The big thing in a college is its spirit. It is the vitilizing soul. The spirit of Western is the central theme of its various activities. The faculty expresses it in the resitation. This spirit falls from the lips and tongue of every student. It prompts students to voluntary attendance at chapel exercises, to launch campaigns, and to support Chautauguas, music festivals, and all other worthy programs. The student body is most joyously active in supporting the program of the institution.

I spoke of moving day a while ago when we moved up to the Hill. I remember the old stables and the awful condition the Hill was in. The students took picks, shovels, wheelbarrows, and other things and worked on the campus because we did not have money to beautify the campus. You will never know how much they did along

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that line.

Do you know the history of the Cedar House? There is an obligation you owe for that. The cedar trees were dying because of disease and the students in the heat of the summer, and I remember it was a hot summer, want out in the thicket and cut the cedars and hewed the logs, erected the building, and gave it to the state of Kentucky for the activities you are using it for now. We were forced to use it for a library for a little while, because we did not have a place for a library, until we could get a library. So do not forget when you enjoy it today that the students in the past did what you must do today if you carry on.

The Village was erected in 1920. The oil boom came along, and you will never know what we had to go through with. We borrowed \$17,000 and erected 71 little houses. We paid back the \$17,000 and now for years we have been renting the houses and turning the money over to the state. The state has collected far more from these houses than it paid for them originally. There were originally 71 little houses. Most of them are gone now. I don't know what we would have done without that old gymnasium that stood over ther by Potter College. You know conditions got so bad that 40 young ladies were given the privilege of staying in a single room in that building in order to stay in school. There were curtains stretched to make individual rooms, and forty students shept in one room every night. Sometimes I wonder if they were not happier that some of you are now. Miss Woods was their sponsor.

The Library and Museum will be discussed by Miss Woods and Miss Leiper soon. The only thing we need now is some place to put these tings so that they can be organized and worked into shape.

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I want to tell you about the Bookstore. We borrowed \$1700 from the state in order to operate a bookstore. It has turned over the College Heights Foundation \$14,000 which has been used for student loans. So if you happen to pay a pretty good price for a book, don't complain about it. They are lower than at most places. The Bookstore is run by the College Heights Foundation, and every cent of the profit that is made goes to the Foundation; so when you buy a book or anything else, you foster a wonderful cause.

Western is not the product of accident; it is the product of a discriminating vision. It is an insult for a man to come up to me and say, "Mr. Cherry, you have been lucky." If you call meeting challenge after challenge, and working and working until I nearly drop, lucky, well I am just about the luckiest man on earth, if you call that lucky. Western has given every item of life for young life. It has received and achieved because it has given abundantly.

(Poem by Edwan Markham)

Love drew a circle that shut me out,

Lovedied - - ----We drew a circle that took him in."

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A man may be a physical giant and still be a pigmy. He may be highly educated and intelligent and still be a cunning scoundrel. You may have a formal education and hold a degree and yet hot be an American. There are men with great red corpuscles in their blood with thousands of dollars in the bank who are not good Americans. It takes more than that. It takes the thing I have been talking about this morning. It is that intangible spiritual force that determines every human success and every institutional success. It is a spiritual force that vitilizes human efforts and advances programs. It is what is in nature that makes the flowers bloom and the grass grow. It is a law. It is the vision, the energy, the faith, the push in the acron that makes the oak. It is the push in the grain of corn that makes the ear. It is the vision and faith in you that is going to make the better sitizenship. It is the group consideration. It is the faith and hope and all other forces working together for a square deal wherever there is a human being on earth.

You have heard this story. It is my own, but I cannot think of anything that illustrates the point better. "My boy, give good measure." I hear those words. Those were the words of a dear father who said to his boy who had gone to orchard and gathered apples and filled the measure to the brim "That is not good measure, put on apples and some more apples," and he put on apples until they rolled off. That is the plus that will carry on. There is no danger of the future if you will put enough apples above the rim.

I am now coming to the final conclusion and it is really final---the Kentucky Building. I am announcing a campaign. I am-not going to take any subscriptions, you need not be uneasy. That board will get you some time. I tell you how it will be done. The work is going on down there now, and we have every reason to believe that the work will continue until finished.

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It will take a great deal to put the Building into shape. It takes a dollar for labor and a dollar for material .. The government has said it will furnish the labor if we will buy the material. Every time we put down a dollar, the government will put down a dollar. Now don't you want to finish that Kentucky Building? This is our opportunity. Here is what we have done. Subscriptions have been opened up by the College Heights Foundation payable in five years. What we have got to do is to underwrite this thing, and we have got to have some cash. Here is the freshman who has all of this year before him. He can't do much; but most of you could give a dollar. Suppose you did give a dollar today, don't you believe you could give two dollars easier next year than today? Don't you believe you could give twenty-five dollars easier five years from now than you could give a dollar today? Without going further with the proposition, in view of all of the things that come to you, the room you stay in, the privilege of associating with this faculty, and all the sacrifices that have been made by students of the past, I feel you should be most earnest and militant in helping put over the program. I don't want you to give too much or too little. Give to the extent you can give and regard it as a sacred obligation when the subscription is made. It is a little thing for you to do after all, in view of all you have received.

With little equipment we have made this thing possible. Let's carry on. That's what I am interested in. I am talking to people who were not born when this movement started. I don't know how many grandchildren there are here. I am guessing there are two hundred children of former students in this Hall. This is a blessing that will come back to you. Will you carry on? It won't make much difference to me. Most of my life is behind me, but I would like to see the Kentucky Building finished, that Museum established, that library, and more plantings on the Hill, before I surrender my own efforts on College Heights.

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