1981

Founders' Day Convocation (1981 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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Illinois Wesleyan University

Founder's Day
February 18, 1981
Dr. Beulah Roberts Compton '41

Professor Compton is a member of the graduate faculty of the University of Minnesota's School of Social Work, which she joined in 1952 as a clinical instructor. Currently on leave from Minnesota, she is visiting professor at Indiana University where she is directing the development of a doctoral level program at its School of Social Work at Indianapolis. That project is similar to a program she helped establish at the University of Southern Mississippi, where it is now fully accredited.

Her interest in the field of social work and social welfare was spurred by her studies at Illinois Wesleyan under the guidance of Dr. Samuel C. Ratcliffe. Now in his 95th year, Dr. Ratcliffe established the Department of Sociology at IWU in 1927 and taught here until 1960 when he was named Professor Emeritus. Dr. Compton's most recent publication, a textbook titled Introduction to Social Welfare and Social Work: Structure, Content and Process, is dedicated to her mentor and currently in use by Wesleyan Sociology students.

At Minnesota, she chairs the Personal Social Services concentration, which involves leadership in curriculum development and planning in one of the two divisions of the Master of Social Work program. She also serves on a number of university committees, consults on projects of other academic departments, works with other institutions and governmental agencies and leads seminars and workshops in the U.S. and Canada.

She was born in Tonica and entered Illinois Wesleyan in 1937 with majors in history and sociology, receiving her degree in 1941 simultaneously with a teacher's certificate in educational psychology earned by attending Illinois State University during the summers between her Wesleyan years. On New Years Eve 1941 she married Charles G. Compton, now a management consultant. Indiana University awarded her a master's degree in 1951, and twenty years later—in 1971—she received the doctorate from the University of Chicago's School of Social Service Administration—exactly 50 years after Dr. Ratcliffe received his doctorate in sociology from the same university.
ILLINOIS WESLEYAN UNIVERSITY

CONVOCATION

HONORING THE FOUNDERS

Westbrook Auditorium, Presser Hall

Wednesday, February 18, 1981 11:00 a.m.

President Robert S. Eckley, presiding
Professor Emeritus R. Dwight Drexler, Mace Bearer

ORGAN PRELUDE ......................... Professor David Gehrenbeck, Organist
Variations and Fugue on America ........................................ Max Reger

PROCESSIONAL

Variations on America .................................................. Charles Wesley

INVOCATION ..................................... The Rev. Chester E. Sheldon, Director
Council on Ministries, Central Illinois Conference,
United Methodist Church

SPECIAL MUSIC .... The Chamber Singers, Professor David Nott, Director

Three Shakespeare Sonnets ............................................. Relly Raffman
The Passionate Pilgrim (Sonnet 138)
When to the Sessions of Sweet Silent Thought (Sonnet 30)
Shall I Compare Thee to a Summer’s Day? (Sonnet 18)

Marie Bosche, Recorder
Professor R. Bedford Watkins, Harpsichord

PRESENTATION OF SPEAKER ............. President Robert S. Eckley

ADDRESS .................................................. Dr. Beulah Roberts Compton
“My Brother’s Keeper”

PRESENTATION OF HONORARY DEGREE

ALMA WESLEYANA

From hearts aflame, our love we pledge to thee
Where’er we wander, over land or sea;
Through time unending loyal we will be —
True to our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.

When college days are fully past and gone,
While life endures, from twilight dream til dawn
Grandly thy soul shall with us linger on —
Star-crowned, our Alma Mater, Wesleyan!

ORGAN POSTLUDE

Variation on America .................................................. Charles Ives