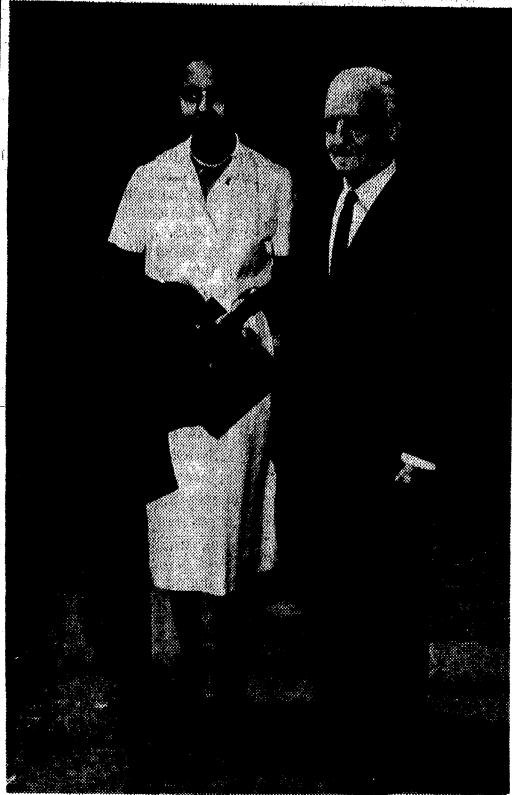


Dr. Graham Praises Negro Students Here For 'Sit-Down' Move

BY DOROTHY ANN BENJAMIN
Record Staff Writer



(Record Staff Photo)

DR. FRANK P. GRAHAM AND DR. WILLA PLAYER
United Nations Mediator Speaks At Bennett College

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BY DOROTHY ANN BENJAMIN
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Dr. Frank Porter Graham, educator and statesman, today called for a rededication of all Americans to equal freedom under law and human brotherhood under God in this atomic age.

"It is a matter of pride to me that this newest youth movement (the student sit-down demonstrations) in our land had its origins, not in Moscow, but in North Carolina," he told the audience at the 87th commencement exercises at Bennett College.

Dr. Graham, former president of the University of North Carolina and now a United Nations mediator, said this movement has its head waters in the Judean hills and its sources in the American revolution.

He stated that the educated Negro college youth were more aware of the remnants of discrimination in North Carolina and "started a youth movement with the lawful petition that stores selling to the public should provide the same quality and quantity of service to all people."

Dr. Graham described the

student demonstrators as having "the Bible in their hands; the national anthem on their lips and non-violence in their hearts" and offered a hope of a future where the majority of citizens were without tyranny and the minority without fear.

He urged the Bennett graduates to struggle for "a fairer America. . . . We, in this critical hour, must rise to the responsibility of our greatness."

"The collapse of the Summit conference must cause us to remember that the United Nations is an institution not to be bypassed by the great powers but should be a forum of the great powers. It is fortunate

that it again became a world forum where the delegates could blow off steam and shout at each other instead of the youth of the land shooting each other on the battlefield.

"The people of the United States learned the hard way that isolation would not keep them out of war. They learned that keeping out of the League of Nations did not keep them out of World War II. They decided to be in the UN and try to prevent World War III," he said.

Dr. Graham pointed out that although the UN is only 11 years old and has only moral power it has helped prevent World War III and "helped cool off six hot spots" in the world.

"We are having it emphatically borne in upon us in these crucial days that the UN must be strengthened," he said and called for effective universal disarmament, an international police force, bold long-range economic programs, establishing the jurisdiction of the UN over problems in outer space and in ocean beds beyond continental shores and greater use of the world court.

However, he reminded his audience that while "we are looking world-ward, we must also look homeward. We need in our own America a rebaptizing in the principles and meaning of the American revolution . . . that our proclamations and declarations are the present and living source of America's faith in herself."

Dr. Graham stated that while the principle of states' rights had a noble origin it has become, in this time, the massive armament of massive resistance — "states' rights should also be the states' responsibility for equal dignity and freedom of all people."

Blanche Laura Adesina Tuboku-Metzger of Freetown, Sierra Leone, West Africa, was named valedictorian and Marie Solomon Moore of Winston-Salem as salutatorian of the Class of 1960.

Other honors went to Nancy Joanne Kirby of Haddonfield, N. J., John Hay Whitney Fellowship; Carolyn Lee Wright of Shelby, Belle Tobias Scholarships; Ann Dodd Florance of Greensboro, Lula Donnell Prize; Doris Ann Luck of Asheboro, Class of 1921 Prize; Jo Ann Martin of Leaksville, Irma Graham Prize; Carolyn Lee Cotten of Tarboro, Goode Prize For Home Economics; Ida Theresa Kearney of Greensboro and Clifford Ann Claye of Houston, Texas, Omicron Eta Chi Awards; Nancy Joanne Kirby, David-D. Jones Leadership Award; Jean Ferrell Hayes of Winston-Salem, Faculty Scholarship Award and Gloria Eugenia Brown of Bronx, N. Y., Florence Turverey Reeves Award.

Sixty-seven bachelor of arts and bachelor of science degrees were awarded. Dr. Willa B. Player, president, officiated and the invocation was offered by Rev. Atherton Didier of Kingston, Jamaica, father of one of the graduates.