

Greeting to President Phillips on Behalf of the People of Montevallo

By W. M. Wyatt, Mayor of Montevallo

I am honored to have the opportunity on this important occasion to extend, on behalf of the people of Montevallo, our greetings to Dr. Howard M. Phillips as the eighth president of Alabama College.

Dr. Phillips has come to take a place of citizenship in Montevallo which has been in past years occupied by a succession of eminent predecessors.

I will digress here to say a few words about the community of Montevallo. It is an ordinary small town, not very dissimilar to many other Alabama towns, with the exception of the fact that it is the home of one of the State's institutions of higher learning. It is the smallest town in the State to have such an institution in its midst.

The people of Montevallo recognize Alabama College as the most important institution in our community life. We appreciate as among our most distinguished citizens the people of the college administration, faculty and staff. They not only serve in their duties to the college but also contribute an important part in the civic, religious and cultural life of the community.

The people of Montevallo throughout the years have realized the challenge that faces us to make our community attractive to and worthy of those who come into our midst through connections with Alabama College. We seek to meet this challenge so that our community may be a pleasant interlude of wholesome living for students who live here four years for their education, and for the staff and officials of the college who likely may become permanent citizens of the future.

It is our constant endeavor to make our municipal facilities adequate for ample service to our community and for extended service to Alabama College according to its uses and demands. Commendable service in municipal affairs

of our community has been rendered in the past by some members of the college faculty. Mr. Sharp has served as councilman and mayor. Dr. Hallie Farmer served a number of years as a member of the town council. Presently, Mr. Sharp is a member of the Montevallo Water Board and Mr. Ralph Sears is a member of the City Council.

The progress of Montevallo in years past has been an accomplishment of the combined vision, energy and effort of the college people and the townspeople. Our prospects for continued progress in the years to come will be measured by the extent of the cooperation which all of us make.

We would not object to having a bigger town. We hope to have a bigger Alabama College in the future. The welcome mat is kept out for more good citizens, more industry and more cultural institutions. But our first concern is to make and to keep our community good, clean and wholesome so that all those here and those who may come will find it comforting and satisfying to live here.

We greet and welcome Dr. Phillips, President and administrator of Alabama College, and as a citizen of our community. Our arms and our hearts are open to him and to his family as citizens among us.

We greet you Dr. Phillips as the leader of the college and we feel that the first year of your residence with us assures us that you will carry on in the future with energy vision and determination to make Alabama College not only the most important cultural institution in Alabama but also to maintain and further its recognition as among the best of America's colleges.

We want you to feel and to know that your neighbors, the citizens of Montevallo, are sincerely interested in and constantly concerned about what we may do to sustain you in accomplishing your full measure of success for Alabama College. We welcome and solicit your active interest as a citizen of our community.