



## Degrees Awarded 874

Of the 874 degrees awarded by the University of Missouri at Summer Session Commencement exercises on August 7, more than half were master's or doctor's degrees. Five hundred degrees in the Graduate School were conferred, of which 278 were in the field of education. One hundred and two graduates received degrees in cooperation with other state colleges.

Speaker at the ceremonies, held on Francis Quadrangle in the evening, was Dr. James A. McCain, president of Kansas State University. His topic was "The Image Cliche."

Dr. McCain said Americans show "more anxiety over how we appear than how we are, over form rather than substance, over avoiding the appearance of evil rather than evil itself. In fact, I should label this image cliche along with credit cards and TV commercials as one of the foremost abominations of modern life."

The speaker referred to an area of human activity "where the temptation is strong to correct a bad image and ignore the bad condition responsible for it." He said that Missouri, Kansas and the Great Plains states lag in industrial growth, handicapped by an unfavorable reputation of "anti-intellectualism." He cited one critic who "charged us with being more interested in the man with a lot of practical know-how than in the man whose strength is depth of training in advanced science and technology. The critic said we have allowed our ablest people to be lured away by the east and west coasts.

"Admittedly, we have been guilty of anti-intellectualism at a time when the highly trained





*The Academic Procession as it leaves Jesse Hall for march around University's historic Columns.*

intellect is the most vital ingredient in economic growth.

"It is gratifying to observe that your state of Missouri is now committed to a wise and far-sighted program for expanding higher education and raising its quality.

"I commend to you in this graduating class the undeniably attractive resources for living and earning a living here in your home state, and especially the improved career opportunities stimulated by these measures for enriching the state's intellectual climate."

Dr. McCain said the profession of teaching is suffering from a tarnished public image and made four suggestions to raise the level of education in the United States. He advocated that high scholastic achievement should be enthroned as the distinction most to be cherished. He said a minimum requirement for high school graduation should be competence in the use of oral and written English. He would revive the old-fashioned notion that a sound education is literary in character. And finally, he pleaded for preservation of "the good reputation we cherish for our country, a matter involving not only pride but our security as well."

Chancellor John W. Schwada presided over the exercises. President Elmer Ellis conferred the degrees. B. W. Robinson, vice-president of the University Alumni Association, welcomed the graduates to alumni ranks. Prof. Thomas L. Mills led the singing of the National Anthem, and Prof. Perry G. Parrigin was at the organ. The invocation and benediction were by the Rev. Monk Bryan, pastor of the Missouri Methodist Church.

*The Commencement speaker, Dr. James A. McCain, president of Kansas State University.*

