



*Dr. Fred N. Briggs, Dr. Charles S. Singleton, Joyce C. Hall, Governor John M. Dalton, James Wesley McAfee.*

## Five receive honorary degrees

Honorary doctoral degrees were conferred upon five prominent Americans by the University of Missouri at its 121st annual Commencement exercises on the evening of June 4. Four of the recipients are graduates of the University. The degrees were conferred by University President Elmer Ellis.

The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon John M. Dalton, governor of Missouri; Joyce C. Hall of Kansas City, founder and president of Hallmark Cards, Inc.; and James W. McAfee of St. Louis, president of the Union Electric Company.

The degree of Doctor of Science was conferred on Dr. Fred N. Briggs, Dean of the College of Agriculture at the University of California; and the degree of Doctor of Literature upon Dr. Charles S. Singleton, noted Romance language scholar and Professor of Humanistic Studies at John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Md.

All except Mr. Hall had previously received academic degrees from the University, although only Gov. Dalton and Dr. Briggs are native Missourians.

Gov. Dalton delivered the Commencement address, speaking on "Missouri and Mortarboards."

The complete citation for each recipient follows:

**JOHN MONTGOMERY DALTON**, native Missourian, Governor of the State of Missouri, graduate of the University of Missouri with a degree of Bachelor of Laws, distinguished lawyer, energetic statesman, and practical politician.

Following graduation from the University, he established a law firm in Kennett, Missouri, and his record of public service began as city counselor of

that town. He served as Attorney-General of the State of Missouri for two terms, and while in the position was elected President of the National Association of Attorneys General.

A deep and continuing interest in education is exemplified in Governor Dalton's service as a member of the Board of Visitors of the University of Missouri from 1949-53, and his present positions as a Trustee of Westminster College, as a Trustee of The School of the Ozarks and as a member of the Board of Curators of Stephens College. His concern for public education is evident in his strong support for financing of the public schools, colleges and universities of the state and his participation in the inauguration of state-supported higher education in Missouri's urban centers.

The development of Missouri's resources and the strengthening of her economy is a guiding objective of his administration and his frequent and friendly contacts with business leaders in Missouri and throughout the nation, and his strengthening of relationships with the business community have gone far toward an improvement of Missouri's position.

As Governor of the State of Missouri, he has an outstanding record of effective administration, and he will long be remembered for the qualities of integrity and responsibility which he has brought to the office of Chief Executive.

To a distinguished son of Missouri, to an alumnus of the University of Missouri, and to a Governor with an absorbing interest in the welfare of this state and all her people, his University is proud to extend this honor and recognition.

JAMES WESLEY McAFEE, graduate of the University of Missouri School of Law, a distinguished lawyer, former circuit court judge, President of the Union Electric Company.

While a student in the University, he was a member of the Order of Coif, QEBH, and Phi Delta Phi. He was also a recipient of the James S. Rollins Law Scholarship. His distinguished legal career includes service as special tax counsel for the City of St. Louis, Judge of the St. Louis Court, and a member of the Grievances Committee of the St. Louis and Missouri Bar Associations.

Mr. McAfee was elected President of Union Electric Company in 1941, the position he now holds. He was the first president and is a director of Electric Energy, Inc., which was formed by Union Electric and four other companies in 1950 to build a 937,000 kilowatt power plant to supply half of the electricity for the atomic energy project near Paducah, Kentucky.

He has a history of outstanding civic contributions to the City of St. Louis, including membership in the Executive Committee of the Community Chest, Executive Board of the St. Louis Council of Boy Scouts of America, Board of Trustees of Barnes Hospital, director of the Municipal Theatre Association and the St. Louis National Baseball Club. He is on the Board of Directors of Anheuser-Busch, Inc., General American Life Insurance Company, General Motors Corporation, St. Joseph Lead Company, St. Louis Union Trust Company, and Universal Match Corporation.

In recognition of his distinguished record of leadership and outstanding achievement, it is a privilege to present him for this honor from his own University today.

CHARLES SOUTHWARD SINGLETON, graduate of the University of Missouri, Professor of Humanistic Studies at The John Hopkins University, distinguished authority in the field of Italian Literature.

After graduation from the University of Missouri, he took his doctorate at the University of California, receiving also an honorary degree some years later from Harvard. He was a member of the staff of the University of Missouri and has served as a staff member of Harvard University in addition to his service on the staff of The Johns Hopkins University.

Known as the outstanding American scholar in the field of Italian Literature, he has published extensively in this field, especially in the Italian literature of the Renaissance Period. His eminent contributions have been recognized by the Italian Government and, in addition to his membership in Phi Beta Kappa, he is a member of many professional societies.

As one of her most distinguished graduates in the field of scholarship and academic learning, the University of Missouri is proud to present him today for her highest recognition of his magnificent attainments.

JOYCE C. HALL, a distinguished civic leader, the architect of a distinctive industry, a sponsor of the arts, a tireless worker towards better understanding among the peoples of the world.

A native of Nebraska, he came to Kansas City as a youth and through his own ingenuity and business acumen developed there the greeting card company which has been recognized for three decades as the pace-setter in its field.

As chairman of the executive committee of the People-to-People Program he directed this nationwide movement which seeks to improve understanding among the peoples of all nations.

In an effort to encourage public appreciation of fine art, he has sponsored international competitions, presenting cash awards to the winning artists and sent their works on international exhibition tours. As a Trustee of the American Heritage Foundation, member of the Board of the Midwest Research Foundation, member of the Executive Committee of the University of Kansas City, and numerous other community and civic organizations, he has made substantial contributions to education and research.

As a self-developed business and community leader in the best American tradition, as one who strives continually to further understanding among the peoples of all nations, as an active and discerning benefactor of education and the arts, this University in his adopted state takes pride in honoring him today.

FRED N. BRIGGS, member of a distinguished Missouri family, graduate of the University of Missouri, Dean of the College of Agriculture, University of California.

After graduation from the University of Missouri, he took his graduate work and received his doctorate from the University of California in 1925. His work in plant pathology and plant breeding, especially for the development of "backcross breeding," has made his name widely known to plant breeders throughout the world. His fundamental research on inheritance of disease resistance in wheat and barley has made him one of those chiefly responsible for the astounding surplus of food grains that continues to distinguish American agricultural production.

As Professor of Agronomy and since 1952 as Dean of the College of Agriculture in California, he has had a leading part in the growth of crop production in one of our leading agricultural states. He has been a fellow of the American Society of Agronomy since 1952 and holds membership also in many other professional and honor societies.

The state of Missouri and this University are proud of this distinguished scientist who has directed the work of many graduate students, and he is presented today for the honor from his University that he so richly deserves.