

CECIL HARLAND UNDERWOOD

Doctor of Laws

CECIL HARLAND UNDERWOOD, you share with another person on this platform the satisfaction of a worthy ambition that has been fulfilled early in life, and both positions are without guarantees of tenure. Born in the hills of West Virginia, you are living evidence of the American boyhood dream of aspiration to high public office come true. Educated at Salem College and West Virginia University, you also have given service as an educational administrator, and your keen interest in the schools and colleges of West Virginia is clearly evident by your acts as a public official. Your public service has been continuous since shortly after you reached your majority, first being elected to the House of Delegates at the age of twenty-two. Your profession, politics, is one requiring great personal courage. As long as our democratic way of life continues to exist in this great State and Nation, there will be those who differ with you on matters of public policy, and this is as it should be. Nevertheless, all who know you congratulate you for bringing to the office of Governor of West Virginia ability, dignity, integrity, and courage. Your efforts to help our State by travels beyond our borders has required an expenditure of energy that clearly does not come under the category of personal pleasure in the vacation sense, and for these efforts all West Virginians should be grateful. Your personal courage to make decisions you believe to be right, but know to be unpopular, is applauded even by those who may differ in their opinions. Concord College is pleased to have this opportunity to honor the Chief Executive of our State, and hereby confers upon you the degree of Doctor of Laws.

May the Fourteenth
Nineteen Hundred Sixty

Joseph Franklin Marsh, Jr.