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William Muehl

Mr. President, I have the honor to present as a candidate for an honorary degree William Muehl, who began his career auspiciously with his birth in Detroit, Michigan, and has since won esteem as an educator, as a Christian layman, as an author and speaker, and as one whose piquant wit has been a delight to the many proto-preachers who have been the beneficiaries of his teaching talents.

Mr. Muehl was educated in this state, receiving his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Michigan and the Bachelor of Laws degree from Michigan Law School. He has since received an honorary Master of Arts degree from Yale University, where he has been teaching in the Divinity School since 1944. He is the author of three books and numerous articles; he has gained renown as a preacher to students, in preparatory schools as well as in colleges and universities; and he is a frequent counselor to business and professional organizations.

While Mr. Muehl has been most directly involved in teaching young seminarians to preach from pulpit and lectern, he has demonstrated by his own life that dedicated Christian concern goes far beyond the sacred precincts of the religious establishment. He has served as a member of the Michigan State Bar Association, the Connecticut State Arbitration and Mediation Panel and the New Haven Board of Aldermen. He has given his leadership to the Democratic Party, Americans for Democratic Action, the Cooperative Movement; and has concerned himself, and caused others to be concerned, with the role of the responsible Christian in the political arena. He has, in short, not only trained his students to speak effectively, but has by his example given them much that they might well speak about.

I therefore recommend, on behalf of the Faculty of Kalamazoo College, that upon William Muehl be conferred the honorary degree, Doctor of Laws.