

HERMAN J. FELBER

Mr. President, I have the honor to present as a candidate for an honorary degree Herman J. Felber, director of the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra. His career in music has been one of significant achievement. Upon graduation from the Columbia School of Music, Mr. Felber became violinist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, being the youngest member ever to have been admitted to that organization. He has been active in the field of chamber music, serving as member of the Berkshire String Quartet and the Chicago String Quartet. He achieved further distinction as concertmaster of the Chicago Civic Opera Company and the Milwaukee Symphony Orchestra. For the past twelve years he has been conductor of the Northwestern University Orchestra.

In 1933 Mr. Felber joined the Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra in the capacity of violinist and concertmaster. In 1934 he was appointed conductor of the orchestra, a position he has held without interruption since that time. During his tenure of office Mr. Felber contributed so much to the standards of musicianship in the orchestra that today it is accorded widespread recognition as one of the foremost amateur orchestras in the country. Under his direction, the orchestra has become a deep and pervasive influence in the life of the community. In recognition of this achievement the Kalamazoo Rotary Club made Mr. Felber the recipient of its 1955 Rose Award for "outstanding contribution to the cultural and civic welfare of the community."

Therefore, on behalf of the Faculty of Kalamazoo College, I recommend that upon him be conferred the honorary degree, Doctor of Music.