



FROM **WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**

WATERLOO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE - WATERLOO LUTHERAN SEMINARY

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127-1966
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October 29, 1966

For Immediate Release

SOUTHAM OFFICIAL WARNS THAT

MAN'S INDEPENDENCE SUFFERING

A leading Canadian business executive and long-term volunteer worker in the field of social welfare warned a university audience today that Canadians are being weaned away from independence and self-reliance.

Philip S. Fisher of Montreal, chairman of the board of Southam Press, Ltd., told graduates attending the fall convocation of Waterloo Lutheran University that democracy needs people with a sense of responsibility and a chance to exercise it.

"This is an idea which few people will argue with but as a working objective we are letting it go by default. We have compulsory savings for old age, legal limits to bank interest rates, to say nothing of protective attitudes in business, in trade unions, perhaps even in universities.

Mr. Fisher said people today are being conditioned to expect to be looked after. When something goes wrong, they say "It wasn't my fault" instead of, "What a fool I've been."

"A sense of responsibility doesn't blossom automatically in a person," he said. "It must be nurtured. We must want to teach people how to act, rather than tell them what to do.

The Montreal man, called by the Canadian Welfare Council the leading community welfare statesman in Canada," paid tribute to Waterloo Lutheran for forming two new schools this year: The School of Business and Economics, and The Graduate School of Social work.

"At first glance they might not appear to have much in common. But both business and welfare work depend on people working with and for other people. They will be successful largely to the extent that the people involved establish useful human relationships with each other."

Mr. Fisher, noting that the business school will remain a part of the college of arts and science, said that decision was valid and important since a successful man of business must be widely educated.

"Even quite recently it was commonly assumed that the scientific and technical revolution demanded specifically trained people. The graduates of arts were regarded with suspicion in many businesses. Today, business is asking more and more for men trained in non-scientific disciplines."

Earlier, an honorary doctor of laws degree was conferred upon Mr. Fisher and upon Norman Schneider of Kitchener, vice-president of J. M. Schneider, Ltd., Kitchener meat packers; and an honorary doctor of letters degree was presented to J. Bascom St. John, former education columnist and now chairman of the department of education's policy and development council.

One-hundred and fifty degrees in arts, science and theology were conferred by Chancellor W. Ross Macdonald and by Dr. William J. Villaume, president.