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EDITORIALS

INAUGURATION OF DR. JOHN ROSCOE TURNER—The Inauguration of President John R. Turner marks a new era in the affairs of West Virginia University.

This is because President Turner has a new conception of the possibilities of the University, and its relationship to the state as a whole. He believes, of course, that it is primarily a place for the education of the young people of the state but he also sees another field in which the University can serve. That field is the development of the resources of the state through the trained experts and technicians who should be a part of the University staff. To use his own expression, he believes that the University should be “geared” to the life of the state. He believes that it has an opportunity not unlike the opportunity of the research department of a great corporation.

The conception of the state as a joint enterprise for the development of material and cultural resources within its borders is one which is appealing more and more to the imagination of the American people. This idea did not exist twenty years ago. It is necessarily vague in its outline but it does contain a concrete picture of the possibilities which lie before a state government, and this picture has vitally affected the actual conduct of state governments. The efforts of states to develop themselves by advertising, by research, by securing the services of technicians have been often unsuccessful. Their uns success has been due