October 2, 1931

My dear Sir Arthur:

It gives me great pleasure to announce to you that, by authority vested in the Board of Regents, the University of the State of New York, at its Convocation on October 15th, conferred the following degrees:

Doctor of Laws upon the Honorable Ray Lyman Wilbur, President of Stanford University, who has been released temporarily from his university duties to fill the office of Secretary of the Interior of the United States;

Doctor of Science upon Doctor Frederick G. Banting, who occupies the Banting-Best Chair of Medical Research, established in the University of Toronto in recognition of his discovery of insulin.

You may wish to send a word of greeting to Secretary Wilbur at Washington and to Doctor Banting at Toronto as they join the small group of men now living who have been the recipients of the highest honor that the University of the State of New York may bestow. In addition to yourself and the two members just added, this group now consists of the Honorable Elihu Root, the Honorable Jean Jules Jusserand, Doctor John H. Finley, the Honorable Vittorio Rolandi Ricci, the Honorable John Bassett Moore, the Honorable Charles Evans Hughes, the Honorable Frank Harris Hiscock, the Honorable Owen D. Young, Doctor Nicholas Murray Butler, Doctor Abbott Lawrence Lowell, Doctor Elmer Ellsworth Brown and Doctor William Henry Welch.

It is with great regret that I must this year omit the name of Doctor Thomas A. Edison from our list. The degree of Doctor of Laws was conferred upon him in 1916 and he was an esteemed member of this little circle until his passing last Sunday. There is little I can say here except that the University of the State of New York felt that it honored itself in honoring Doctor Edison and we join with the world in deep sorrow that death has taken this good and great man.

With academic greetings, I am

Very sincerely yours,

FRANK PIERREPONT GRAVES

To
Sir Arthur William Currie