Significance Of Regalia Revealed: Degree, School Determine Styles

By MILTON STEFFEN

An interesting feature of the inauguration and Semicentennial ceremonies was the wide variety of academic regalia worn by the scholars participating.

In the United States, academic dress consists of three parts: the gown, the hood, and the cap.

THE BACHELOR'S gown has pointed sleeves and is made of serge or worsted material. The Master's gown has closed sleeves with arm slits and is made of the same or silk. The Doctor's gown is made of silk and has rounded sleeves. The Doctor's gown is trimmed with black velvet down the front and with three bars of the same material on the sleeves.

Sometimes the trimming on the Doctor's gown is colored to denote the subject of the degree.

An exception to the standard black gowns is the Harvard crimson as worn by Dr. Carey Croneis and Dr. Floyd Lear.

THE CAP is black like the gown, and is of the mortar-board form. The tassel is black and is fastened to the center of the top of the cap. The Doctor's tassel may be of gold thread.

The hood is of the same material as the gown. It is lined with the colors of the school from which the degree was conferred. The binding of the hood is of the color of the subject of the degree. The red, blue, green, yellow, and brown stoles worn by the seniors denote the color of the seniors college.

THE RICE Marshals wore special gowns of gray trimmed with blue. It is the Marshals' job to organize and carry out all academic ceremonies of the University. The Marshals serve a term of seven years.

The dress of the scholars from foreign nations is somewhat different. The Doctors of the English Universities wear a red hood and a red gown. The French University gowns are very colorful, with the coloring denoting the professor's chosen field. A stiff round high hat is worn instead of the mortarboard.

The forked stick carried by Margaret Mead denotes a broken ankle which she received two years ago.