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DAYTON, O., Nov.

--Principal address at the state convention of the Ohio Association of Deans of Women, to be held in Dayton this week end (Nov. 18-20), will be delivered by Dr. Ernest O. Melby, dean of the school of education at New York University.

The convention, which gets under way Friday and ends Sunday, will be held at the Biltmore Hotel.

Dean Melby, who has completed more than 40 years of service as a teacher and school and college administrator, will speak at the convention's Saturday evening banquet on "The Golden Threads of Freedom."

Former president of Montana State University and chancellor of the University of Montana, Dean Melby has held his present post since 1945. Under his leadership, the school initiated and developed several agencies for community services and research. These include its center for human relations studies, the center for community and field services and the division of advanced studies.

The Classroom Teachers' Association of New York State cited him in 1951 "for outstanding leadership in the field of education."

More than 100 deans, high school principals, assistant principals and counselors are expected to attend the convention sessions.