TO THE GRADUATING CLASS - 1929

NECESSARY ADJUSTMENTS

The members of this graduating class were freshmen when I came to the University in 1925, and you are therefore the first graduating class with whose entire college career I am familiar.

Probably no other class for years to come will witness a more significant period of transition in the life of the university than it has been your privilege to witness. Unusual growth has been accompanied by significant modifications of administrative policies, and by new standards and ideals in student life.

You have had a vital part in reshaping the policies of student affairs, and in adapting those policies to the enlarging life on the campus. I do not have time now to recite the many things which you have done in this connection. Such a recital would show that you have been engaged in the creation of worthy traditions; in the founding of constructive student organizations; in reconstructing existing organizations; in guiding social and religious activities; and in assisting in all ways to stabilize, unify, and improve the conditions of life in the University. I congratulate you on the progress which has been made under your leadership and assure you that Regents faculty and students appreciate your labor in these various phases of student life and organization. You found
it essential to make many adjustments while here, and you may find that making adjustments will engage your best thought after you leave us. Social, economic, and political adjustments seem to constitute the order of the day in this country and in the world. I urge you to make use of all the lessons learned here in order that you may be better able to make the necessary adjustments in life. Be in the front ranks of those men and women who accept change, and who are ever ready to do new things and to do old things in new ways.

I am sure that you will find it advisable to continue to study and to keep alive your intellectual life. Despite cynical utterances, I am convinced that those who lead in the future will not be demagogues and opportunists, but will be men and women who spend much time in earnest thought on the problems of their day. We will count on finding you in this group.

You have found it natural, after working in the interests of this institution for four years to love it and to cherish the highest ambitions for its future. The continuation of your devotion and of your interest is taken for granted. You will join eagerly with us in building the kind of University here that will, by utilizing the wealth of scientific, historical, and artistic material in our own environment, continue to enlarge and enrich the lives of the young people of this state.

The fact of your graduation does not lessen in any way the University's interest in your welfare. Indeed it heightens that interest. We shall watch with eagerness your life and
work, confidently expecting to find you engaged in important tasks and giving to them the best of talent and wisdom which you possess.

And whatever you may do, it is my sincere wish for every one of you that your life may be rich and full of work, of thought, and of love.