

Brig. Gen. Farrand, Rev. Wollet, Teachers, Members
Board, parents and friends;

As we, the Sophomore Class of 1943 bid farewell to our classmates, we are faced with a problem--How will young America fit into the Postwar World? Though the war is far from being won and our greatest sacrifices lie ahead, we must begin now to chart our postwar course or we may ~~lose~~ in the peace all we have fought for in the war.

The children that are gathered here together, and millions like them will inherit the postwar world. They will live in its dust-free houses, eat its improved foods, go to its modernized schools, and, of course, soar on the wings of the airplanes.

Of first importance in the world of tomorrow are the schools. For if we are to preserve the brave new peace, we must arm our children with new wisdom. As each child is new creation, as life is ever growing, so must the philosophy of education be alive and ever changing.

Thinking of the schools of tomorrow, arouses the question--How will these schools be taught. We know that they should not and must not be taught by force. For that is the way a lion tamer would train his lions. If they did not perform as they should, he would use the whip. No, they cannot be taught this way, neither can they be taught by the method of award. Such as boy being told if he did his lesson he would receive a prize. Education, MUST be made of sterner stuff; it cannot be as a sugar coated pill easy to take. It cannot be the path of least resistance. For as you all know, that has been the downfall of many a nation. We must implant among our children the desire to learn, the desire to know about the mistakes of the past and what to do in the future. Anything worth having is worth working for.

Young men leaving these schools will have much to say in shaping the postwar world. Directed by older men, several million young men will win the war. What goes on after the conflict is won, will be largely in their hands also. Not that a lot youthful statesmen will suddenly appear

and write a new charter, voiding all the mistakes of the past. No adolescent will lead a shattered world out of the wilderness. But, collectively, young men will have a lot to say to the older men.

The American form of government, the pre-war economic system--our natural resources and tremendously expanded power of production--all these can be adapted to meet any post-war situation. Beyond question if we use these intelligently we can lift ourselves to a new level of living. If we begin to plan now--if we work as hard at making a successful peace as we have to waging war--we can have a happier, richer life than America or any other country has ever had. But this country must not have a higher or lower standard than than any other country--we must be more on a equal basis, Co-operative and willing to help each other.

The problems of conversion from war to peace are numberless. Our soldiers today have been asking--"What am I and all these with me going to do when this thing is over"? Is peace to bring with it that deadly spiral men laid off and demobilized, hence less purchasing power, more plants closed down more men laid off and once again the breadlines? These are only a few of the problems thought about. No one can answer a fraction of them now. No one can predict a date when the answers must be known. But this much can be said: We must begin now to draw the outline of what we want to accomplish, to build machinery that will make it possible to put the answers to work once we have found them.

The most important contribution we can make to the postwar world is to be strong and prosperous ourselves, now, and to build for the future. As a people we are still living in a peacetime psychology, studying the headlines as if we were spectators. It is time we realized that we cannot win this war with wishful thinking alone, that to win will require the active effort of every citizen. It is time we stopped political bickering, stopped whispering campaigns against American minorities and against our allies. It is time we show our enemies that they are dead wrong in thinking us incapable of unity and sacrifice, a weaker breed of men than our forefathers. The end of the war is soon at hand and we

or they--not both--will survive. And you know if we are to survive each and every one of us must do our part by giving our own contribution. Mothers and daughters in the home can take up a home nursing course, the men can put all their savings into war bonds and the children can put all their pennies into war stamps. These are only a couple of the many things we can do to bring victory closer, so that we once again can have the peace we so long for and once again we can have our fathers, brothers and friends back with us.