

affairs of the world or the philosophies of its graduates. It must be a living force in shaping and reshaping the purpose and will of individuals, the community and the Nation.

The coming decade may tell the tale of civilization's future. The time is short. Our colleges and universities must provide a positive leadership, based on a realistic appreciation of the facts of the present crisis. The American way of life must be saved by an intelligent and understanding educated citizenship from the destructive forces of world revolution and war.

The leadership of this day must be devoted to the preservation of civil rights, the dignity of individual men and women, and the rights of minorities, cognizant at the same time that the liberty of a democracy does not include the liberty to destroy democracy.

An awakened America must know that the consequences of an Axis victory in the war would be stunning to our economy because it would bring competition with monopolies administered by dictatorial governments. Knowing these things, the new leadership must face realistically the problems of hemisphere defense—political, economic, and military, which difficulties will be with us for many years to come and until the rest of the world is set in order under responsible and humane men.

These are some of the things which were not foreseen back in the twenties. They are stark realities which the men and women of today must face. They are the challenge to the American college of today. There are those who are now proclaiming the inevitability of a Fascist conquest of the world. They say that our way of life is decadent and powerless to resist the "wave of the future" which is sweeping over the earth. They assure us that history is an iron process inflexibly dooming the status quo.

This fatalistic acceptance of doom was not the spirit of the men of Plymouth Rock, nor was it the spirit of the men of '76, nor that of the Signers of the Declaration of Independence. It was not the spirit of the pioneers who settled the great Middle West. It was not the spirit of the far-seeing educators who founded this college. On the contrary, American history teaches that there are no inevitabilities in the affairs of men—that by and large life on this planet is what men and women make it.

It is up to the college graduates of today to evolve and make effective a program to save, in an era of transition, the values held as basic. The fundamentals of democratic government must be determined, and action taken to save them, and to preserve a country free from religious bigotry and racial persecution. *Above all*, the spirit of tolerance and moderation must be kept alive. Women deeply schooled in liberal democratic traditions, who are imbued with respect for the dignity of people and devotion to the humanities, will not easily be led down the road to ruin by those who would destroy us. On the other hand, as important as devotion to American ideals, are the willingness and capacity to see the faults of our present way of life, and the determination to correct them. The new leadership must welcome social progress—indeed, it must further it.

If the institutions and their graduates shall not rise to the demands for leadership of the times, who shall? Men of trained intelligence, liberal outlook,