

progress of civilization and emphasizes anew the controlling part which education has played in the successive stages by which humanity has advanced.

Today marks the climax of one definite phase of life for many of the members of this graduating class, in honor of which we are assembled today. Some, of course, may go on to further post-graduate work. Many, however, are passing out of the "preparatory" phase of life. The graduates thus emerge today into a new world, a world of action, and are required to travel from the field of theory into the domain of stern realities.

It might not be amiss to analyze, firstly, what has been the character of the training received; secondly, what conditions will confront graduates in the changed sphere of action in which they will be called upon to utilize their training; and, thirdly, what special advantages, with corresponding responsibilities, follow such a course of training.

The people of Maryland, as elsewhere, have long since recognized and acknowledged the obligations which they, as citizens, owe to this outstanding institution of higher learning. From College Park and from other branches of the University have gone forth a goodly number of active citizens, the better for having been educated here to the dignity of their franchises and civic responsibilities.

The training that has been yours is such as better to qualify you mentally, is such as to adorn and quicken the intellect, and to fortify and beautify the spirit. You are to be congratulated upon having successfully completed a course in the leading institution of Maryland's educational system. It is no exaggeration to say that you have partaken of the storehouse of learning, of education and culture that has been constructed and filled to capacity by a State, jealous of its reputation as a teacher, but more jealous of the success of its prospective citizens whose future it attempts to shape in the formative years of study.

In the competitive struggle for success which lies ahead, Fortune has been good to you in granting the kind of education that you have received. You start off with a great advantage over many less fortunate citizens. You have the inestimable advantage that no one can ever take from you. You have learned how to learn. How far ultimately you may go in life rests to a large extent upon how determined you are to make use of the tools which have been given you by your Alma Mater.

When we assert that graduates have a duty to make the best use of the abilities which have been enhanced by reason of such a system of education, we are not unmindful of the oft-heard report that business and professional fields are already over-crowded. Such reports, however, are not shown to be well founded when put to the test of analysis and scrutiny in the light of our nation's experience. The history of this Country, the records and achievements of our forebears do not justify a feeling of pessimism and despair. Rather they sanction a feeling of assurance. Unlimited opportunities await thinking men and women. There is an ever present need for leaders, for highly skilled men and women—there is plenty of room at the top.

In science, in the professions, in business, despite the tremendous advances along many lines which have been made in the last decade, the ultimate has not yet been attained. Far from it! There is room for advancement in the specialized fields where true progress is yet to be made, where new laws of