



TO THE CLASS OF 1918 AT THE
NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE:

The training, which you have received, has equipped you in a very unusual degree for rendering real service to your community and to your country.

It is impossible for anyone to be alive today, and not to think of everything in its relationship to the present war. It is no exaggeration to say that you are living in the most critical period of all history. We are witnessing the death grapple of two mighty ideas—autocracy and democracy.

In this struggle our nation must have citizens who can place all that they have and are at the disposal of the Government. You are actually prepared to be of genuine service in meeting the needs of the present hour and the serious situations which will arise after the close of the war. I am positive that you stand ready to do your full duty. So I congratulate you and wish for each one of you the very best and most satisfying things of life.

Very sincerely yours,
M. L. BURTON,
President,
University of Minnesota.