

1920
AGGIE



ROSCOE W. THATCHER
Dean, Department of Agriculture

TO THE STUDENTS AND FRIENDS OF THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE:

I sometimes wonder whether you appreciate how seriously and vitally interested in your welfare the administrative officers of the University really are. Geographically, you are farther away from us than are many of the schools of other states; but educationally you occupy a very definite and very important place in our plans and thoughts.

Now that the question as to whether the University really ought to maintain or to expand its secondary vocational schools is being seriously considered by the educators of the state, it becomes more and more apparent that there exists no state agency other than the University which can maintain vocational schools for the benefit of young people who reside outside of regularly organized local high school districts. Hence, the Schools of Agriculture are rightly made a part of the University's state-wide activities; and we rejoice with you that in this way you are afforded an opportunity to pursue a course of education which encourages you to go directly into rural life problems with courage, zeal, and intelligence, and with every assurance of success in developing happy, useful farm home life.

Sincerely yours,

R. W. THATCHER.