



WALTER C. COFFEY  
Dean and Director, Department of  
Agriculture, University of Minnesota

TO THE SENIOR CLASS OF 1924 OF THE NORTHWEST SCHOOL:

Cato, the Roman Censor, who was born 234 B. C., wrote much about agriculture. I recall the following striking sentence from him: "Agriculture makes the bravest men and the sturdiest soldiers; of all sources of gain it is the surest, the most natural and the least invidious, and those who are busy with it have the fewest bad thoughts." This statement, written more than two thousand years ago, is worthy of emphasis in relation to agriculture at the present time. Therefore, young men and women who have prepared themselves to engage in it are to be congratulated.

During the three years the members of the 1924 class have been in the Northwest School, agriculture has been passing through a post-war period of depression. Consequently some have lost sight of the truths contained in Cato's statement. I hope you have not, for you should not, and a factor in your success will be the extent of your faith in your chosen profession. Trusting that your preparation, ambition and faith will urge each and every member of the class on to success, I am,

Very sincerely yours,  
W. C. COFFEY.