



To the Senior Class of 1926:

Does it pay to do this, that, or something else? So many times we attempt to answer a question of this nature in terms of dollars and cents. By using money as a measure, we can prove that the protection of health pays; and that religion pays, as has been shown by Roger Babson in his book, "Religion and Business." We can prove, also, that education pays, and we have collected statistics to show that agricultural education pays.

We have become so accustomed to thinking in terms of money, that we justify our engaging in an enterprise if we make it pay in dollars and cents. If the enterprise is a worthy one and if honest methods are used, I can see no reason for disagreeing with such a conclusion.

But the one great and supreme enterprise in which we are all engaged is life, the success of which cannot be measured solely by our ability to make money. Unless we realize this early in life, and unless we so shape our plans that the attaining of money and property shall be subservient to those things which expand and strengthen the mind and heart, we may fail to make the great enterprise of life pay.

A successful life on the land without a fair degree of economic success is scarcely conceivable, because civilization rests on an economic basis; but economic success on the land without successful living is conceivable.

My young friends, if you will look back over your experience in the Northwest School of Agriculture, you will see that your training was designed to help you make farming pay, but more particularly to help you make life pay.

Will you not look back? Upon your success in attaining a worthwhile life on the land much depends, not only for you personally but also for the future of our country.

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