

TO THE GRADUATING CLASS OF 1942

You are to be highly congratulated upon the completion of your college courses at this time. Your graduation plunges you into the midst of tremendous problems, great responsibilities, and marvelous opportunities to contribute to the general welfare. Some of you will go directly into the armed forces, others into immediate defense activities, and still others into teaching and other types of activities which have a distinct bearing upon the maintenance of democratic institutions.

We are confronted now with the task, first of all, to win the war, and concurrently to lay the foundation for the preservation of ideals, procedures, and institutions of democratic living. The enrollments of our colleges and universities throughout the country are dropping at a very rapid rate. The resultant decrease in the number of college students means that our nation will be relatively short of thoroughly trained leaders in every field of endeavor. Because of this, the obligations resting upon the individual graduate of a college are increased many fold.

We have confidence that each graduate of the San Diego State College will render his full share of devotion to his country in one form or another, in accordance with his talent and his opportunity. During your stay here you have contributed vitally and significantly to the establishment of fine traditions and a good reputation for the college in our region of the state. We extend to you our heartiest best wishes as you move to larger fields.