Words from the Deans

The opportunity of extending greetings and good wishes to the new and old students comes each autumn with the first issue of The Ohio State Engineer. This I do heartily, sharing with you the realization which you must all have, namely that the responsibilities of the engineer have been greatly increased in the national emergency.

No better evidence of the public realization of this responsibility could be given than the widespread deferment of engineering students from military duties. This deferment certainly is not granted because of a thought on the part of anyone that the engineer is, or should be, a privileged person in the sense of special favors. His privilege rather is to serve his community, his country and his God with the full knowledge of the responsibilities which have been placed upon him by our modern life.

Finally, let us not forget our interest in the success of our University; not necessarily that she may increase in size but rather increase in the ability to instill into her students the determination to try to make a better world.

In Charles Dickens' delightful Christmas Carol you will recall there are three Christmases—Christmas Past — Christmas Present and Christmas Yet to Come. Now I like to think that there are for you, who are students in the University at the present day, three Universities. The University Past, The University Present, and the University Yet to Come.

University Past is the embodiment of the spirit and ideals of those students and faculty members who have gone before you and to whom you, and all of us, owe a debt of gratitude. University Present is, in a very real sense, your own with its traditions, its campus, its halls and laboratories, its faculty and its thousands of students. University Present is your inheritance plus what each one of you contributes during your residence here. Only those who realize their debt to the Past and are eager to contribute their share to making a better and a nobler University are worthy of this inheritance. University Yet to Come lies in the future, after you have completed your studies on the campus and have joined the great body of alumni. The University of the future will need you and your influence just as now you need the help that the University Present can give to you. In the years after graduation may you contribute your share to help make a better and a finer Ohio State. May you be loyal to her noble aims and fine traditions and help make her truly great.

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