

mediate. With all the world disturbed, youth rebels against restraint, against the routine performance of daily tasks no matter how useful these may be in themselves. Yet it is important that the graduate, the college student, who have been privileged to drink of the Fountain of Eternal Truth, who have directly or indirectly come under the influence of the teachings of St. Thomas Aquinas and those learned interpreters of the eternal truths, avail themselves of the opportunity to become leaders in this time of trial and menace.

How long would the gallant defenders of Bataan have held out if each individual soldier felt free to undertake whatever mission he preferred, instead of keeping himself subject at all times to the orders of his Commanding Officers? The answer is obvious.

There is need today, of course, and urgent need, for soldiers and air pilots, for sailors and marines. Likewise is there need, increasing need, for other to man production lines that are playing such a vital role in the war today. But, in the stern necessity that faces us, we must utilize completely every resource at our command, and emphasize that the education which our young men have acquired or can acquire ranks high among the resources that are most valuable.

If ultimately a young man's place is in the armed services, he will be the more valuable, they point out, if he is adequately prepared by education for leadership in such services. Likewise, if his best potentiality is in the laboratory or the industrial plant, that too must be considered by him.

In the matter of preparing for that future post-war day, it is essential, too, that our young people give thought to the necessity of pursuing their studies whenever possible. Peace now seems far away but, in the eternal wisdom of God, storms of affliction do not last forever.

Some day, in the not too-distant future, let us hope, Germany and Italy and Japan will go down in defeat, and the United States, in common with the rest of the world, will face the problem of reconstruction. No man or group of men is wise enough to chart the future, but it is possible to appreciate that great changes lie ahead, changes that will affect the lives of every man, woman and child in this Country.

To preserve a genuine Democracy under the impact of these changes, America will have need in every community of leaders who regard life, not as an irrational anarchy of atoms going it blind, but as a magnificent opportunity to contribute to the world stock of good. Their ability must include the ability to think clearly, accurately and fearlessly, and to express their thoughts in words that carry conviction. Their imaginations must be richly developed, for mankind cannot rise higher than the state the imagination can picture. Their emotions must be cultivated, because men cherish and defend the things they love, and what they hate they seek to destroy. Strong wills must be theirs, for the road will be hard. Most important of all, as the very thew and sinew of their equipment, they must accept as their own the moral code which mankind has dug painfully out of experience in its long upward climb towards civilization, and which has been scornfully discarded by the exponents of tyranny as the contemptible babel of slaves.