ENGINEERING IN AN AMERICAN PROGRAM FOR SOCIAL PROGRESS

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It is a great pleasure for me, on this notable occasion, to bring you the congratulations of your sister institution which I serve and to express the cordial best wishes for the even greater success of your engineering school in the next twenty-five years, which is the confident hope of your thousands of colleagues in sister educational institutions and in the engineering profession.

The Johns Hopkins University has been a pioneer and an example in much of the finest development of education in America, notably in such fields as chemistry, physics and medicine, and in postgraduate education. It attained this preeminence through concentration of its resources in a limited number of basically important fields, instead of dissipating its energies in an attempt to spread thinly over the whole field of knowledge or to pursue the ever appearing will-o-the-wisps of educational fashions. Its School of Engineering, though one of its younger departments, is of this basic character and has achieved distinction through the high ability and character of its staff and through its policy also of limiting its range of activities to those fundamental fields of engineering which it can cultivate with distinction within the limitations of its resources. While we all hope that ways and means may be found to increase its resources commensurately with its proven worth and opportunities, I trust that its wise policy of subordinating expansion to excellence will persist.

1 Address on Commemoration Day at the Johns Hopkins University, February 22, 1937, celebrating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the School of Engineering at the Johns Hopkins University.