

# VALEDICTORY

On such an occasion as this it is usual to--and perhaps appropriate--to be formal in one's manner of address, but being as we are, a small body characterized by that spirit of family unity, I would like to dispense with formality and simply say, My dear friends.

Being the speaker of my class is a privilege---one fully appreciated---and while expressing myself and my thanks to the various members present I am not only voicing my own opinion but that of my class also.

The great poet of poets, Shakespeare, says that "all the world's a stage and all the men and women merely players. They have their entrances and their exits. So it is with us, the graduating class of 1944. Already we have completed the first act of the drama of life, and now that the scene has dropped we take time out to stop and look back into the various scenes which comprise the act and especially to give expression of our gratitude and thanks to those who put the drama in motion and coached it through to such a final success.

In thanking the ladies and gentlemen behind the scenes of school life, it is right that special mention be given to the school board, to the teachers, and to the parents. Without the co-operation of any one of those, school life could not have been what it has been for us. So it is that we are grateful to you and owe you a great debt---a debt of gratitude which can be repaid to the fullest extent by each and everyone of us. To you, the members of the school board, to you, members of the teaching staff, and to you, the parents, nothing would be more pleasing than that we become sons and daughters that you will be proud of--that America will be proud of. This can easily be accomplished if we take time to put into action, if we make the effort and allow to materialize the ideals

and principles that have been instilled and fostered and nurtured in us during the past years.

With renewed thanks to all to whom thanks is due, I bring my talk to a close. In doing so I think it would be well for all of us, and especially the graduating class to observe and put into practice those precepts which say:

Give thy thought no tongue,  
Nor any unproportion'd thought his act.  
Be thou familiar, but by no means vulgar.  
Those friends thou hast, and their adoption tried,  
Grapple them to thy soul with hoops of steel,  
But do not dull thy palm with entertainment  
Of each new-hatch'd unfledged comrade.  
Give every man thy ear, but few thy voice:  
Take each man's censure, but reserve thy judgment.  
Costly thy habit as thy purse can buy,  
But not express'd in fancy; rich, not gaudy:  
For the apparel oft proclaims the man;  
Neither a borrower nor a lender be:  
For loan oft loses both itself and friend,  
And borrowing dulls the edge of husbandry.  
This above all: to thine own self be true,  
And it must follow, as the night the day,  
Thou canst not then be false to any man.  
Camille Meehan

## Note of Appreciation

We wish to extend our thanks to the Payette Valley Sentinel for the programs contributed for our concert, which was held April 21, 1944.

Band; Glee Club,  
and Director