

FROM University Relations
The University of Toledo

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Summary of commencement address by Dr. William S. Carlson, president of The University of Toledo, delivered on Sunday, August 30, 1964 at Doermann Theater to summer graduates of TU.

Dr. Carlson told the graduates: "I hope and trust that you see in this graduating class a symbol of the thousands of graduates going forth from campuses, better equipped to serve the free world as intelligent citizens. Their hard-earned degrees are badges of responsibility in fulfilling the commitment with which...you have been charged."

Speaking of their newly won degrees Dr. Carlson told the graduates, "You have received this advantage through the foresight and generosity of fellow-Toledoans. Today not only Toledo but the state, the nation and -- indeed all mankind -- is receiving another dividend on the investment of funds in education."

"Since the founding of our nation, the strength of our democracy has -- in large measure -- been determined by the principle of equal opportunity for everyone. The equality of American educational opportunity is -- historically -- limited only the individual's own intellectual competence. This equality is a precious heritage indeed, and one we cannot allow to deteriorate by default."

Dr. Carlson continued: "One of the great needs of Americans is to reassert our faith in those virtues of our ancestors who gave us the opportunity to be -- with a few of the western nations -- the freest country on earth. Another need is the wider use of the ways of democracy."

"We need more, and better, educated men and women in the future, if our nation -- and what we stand for -- is to survive. In years to come, America must rely to an even greater extent upon energy, intelligence and educated leadership. Whether or not we have it depends upon your sharing of responsibility as well as of opportunity.

2-- Dr. Carlson - summary of commencement address

The degree of support you give to education -- at all levels -- measures your faith in your own future as well as the future of the state and the nation."

Some 222 persons received degrees at the ceremonies, which were held at 3 p.m. in The University of Toledo's Doermann Theater.

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