

Dr. Sarnoff, Members of the Faculty and Student Body, Ladies and Gentlemen:

I should like to make three observations this evening. Surely, all three have occurred to all of you who have participated in this evening's convocation to bestow the doctorate of science upon General Sarnoff. All three observations are related to his life and work and to our own work of education here at Notre Dame.

The first has to do directly with education. We assume quite rightly today that the work of education goes on primarily within our schools and universities. And yet, we have no exclusive claim to the educative process. In listening to General Sarnoff this evening, I am sure that you said, as I did: "There is an educated man." Not just a scientist, not just a man who is well read, not just a man of moral and spiritual convictions -- but an educated man whose mind has searched the many paths of knowledge, whose will has been schooled in the ancient and universal principles of moral integrity.

You heard him say that he has yet to receive a high school diploma. Well, I think he has proved to us that he has valued education and has prized knowledge, outside of school, in the books of wisdom and in the

experience of a life that has been characterized by hard work, creative genius, and a keen sensitivity to the truth that lurks everywhere in this world that God gave us.

The degree that we have bestowed this evening should crown the fact of an education achieved outside the formal channels of education. It should highlight the challenge to each of us that as we live, we should grow, not merely in age, but in wisdom and grace.

My second observation merely seconds the inspiring message he delivered: "That the final test of Science is not whether its accomplishments add to our comfort, knowledge, and power, but whether it adds to our dignity as men, our sense of truth and beauty." The inner crisis of our age which General Sarnoff described so well, is simply this: will men realize that true humanism requires that our spiritual and moral growth keeps pace with our scientific and technological growth. True education perfects man inwardly and bestows upon him the control of himself first, and then the gift of mastering the physical universe. The moral and spiritual universe is the inner soul of man's physical universe. Weaken the soul, deny the spirit, dilute the moral principles, and the body of this world will enslave

or destroy mankind. The greater man's insight into physical power, the greater his need of inner wisdom and integrity to control and order this power.

In our day of great scientific advance, it is heartening to find a man who has pioneered great forward steps in technology, preaching this message with courage and conviction, following it in his life. It is for this fact, too, that we are happy to make him an alumnus of Notre Dame whose educative endeavor is at once scientific and humanistic, philosophical and theological.

My third observation also echoes a note of optimism sounded in General Sarnoff's remarks. We read in the Book of Genesis that when God had made the world, he looked at it and found it good. An intelligent and free man, wandering in this same world today, may not find it always safe or secure or without challenge -- but he will do credit to himself and to his Creator if at least he can find it good.

The present day wonders of science are not to be feared -- unless man is stupid or evil, and then it is indeed that man who is to be feared. But the good man, as General Sarnoff has proved himself to be,

may safely discover the wonders of this good world that God has made. He may glory in his discovery. He need only to use wisdom as the guide of his freedom, and to school his freedom in the integrity that respects wisdom: that all of the good things of this world may be used to glorify their Creator, and benefit man created in the image and likeness of God. But let them benefit him mainly in the inner likeness of mind and will -- that truth may reign, that integrity may characterize our freedom, that beauty of soul may give ultimate meaning and order to our unfolding world.

To inspire such endeavor is the work of education, an inherently optimistic work in a world of fear and pessimism. I am sure that our work has received new heart tonight, and while we can take no credit for the life and achievements of General Sarnoff, we can at least by the accolade of our honorary degree, recognize in him the accomplishment of many of the values we are striving to instill in the minds and hearts of young America.