April sixth, Nineteen thirty-eight

To the Class of 1938,
School of Law,
University of Newark:

When your class entered upon the study of law the University of Newark existed only in name. Five disparate educational institutions were functioning in their respective fields, two of them loosely joined under the present corporate title. With the second semester the five institutions came under a common roof and the University of Newark as a corporate entity absorbed the five schools. From the standpoint of administration the University had come into being. From the standpoint of its educational function it remained with the students to adjust themselves to a changed ideal if the merger were to be a success.

I shall never forget my first meeting with the only class in the University in which an attempt was made to blend the students of the two groups. The animosities and rancour of an enforced union were all too obviously present. It is in no little degree owing to the surrender of these animosities and rancour by your Class that the spirit of unity which has increasingly manifested itself during the two succeeding years of your attendance here was made possible. Today the University of Newark is no longer a series of conflicts. It is an institution of learning with definite ideals and commanding definite loyalties. It has commanded the respect of the community which it has sought to serve and that respect is presently evidenced by the fine effort by public subscription to build an endowment further to increase its opportunity for service. When you shall have left its classrooms, the last of those who were present at its birth will have gone forth from their alma mater. In wishing you Goodspeed as you thus go forth, I do so with a sense of gratitude to you for your good sportsmanship and for your willingness to build for the future an institution to which I am sure we will all, in the coming years, look back with a sense of pride, not only because it is in itself worthy, but because we were among the builders of it.

Sincerely yours,
SPAULDING FraZER,
Dean.