

CLIFTON R. WHARTON, JR. • PRESIDENT

April 12, 1971

To the Young People of Troy:

You who are reading these words have only to look around you to know the wealth of ideas which are preserved within these walls. However, the mere acquisition of these ideas does not produce a better person. How you use the knowledge is equally as important.

But what of your friends and the other young people of Troy? What is your responsibility to them? Only as you share the richness of your library experiences will society as a whole benefit. Edwin Markham pointed to this in his poem, Outwitted.

He drew a circle that shut me out  
Heretic, rebel, a thing to flout.  
But love and I had wit to win:  
We drew a circle that took him in.

The citizens of Troy met their responsibility by providing you with this library and its collections; you, in turn, must meet your responsibility by determining the dimensions of your circle. Will it take in all of society, with its many problems? I sincerely hope so!

The motto of my alma mater, the University of Chicago, is "Crescat Scientia vita excolatur" -- "Let knowledge grow from more to more and so be human life enriched." These simple words describe with eloquency the purpose of this, or any other, library.

Sincerely,



Clifton R. Wharton, Jr.  
President