



March 2020

Andrew Sugiyama Graduation Address, n. d.

Andrew Sugiyama

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/cook-nisei>

Recommended Citation

Sugiyama, Andrew, "Andrew Sugiyama Graduation Address, n. d." (2020). *Guy and Marguerite Cook Nisei Collection*. 99.

<https://scholarlycommons.pacific.edu/cook-nisei/99>

This Speech is brought to you for free and open access by the Japanese-American Internment Collections at Scholarly Commons. It has been accepted for inclusion in Guy and Marguerite Cook Nisei Collection by an authorized administrator of Scholarly Commons. For more information, please contact mgibney@pacific.edu.

GUY W. COOK
NISEI COLLECTION
University of The Pacific

*Graduation Speech
Tule Lake -*

MEMBER OF THE FACULTY, HONORED GUESTS AND FELLOW STUDENTS

Tonight, as President of the Senior Class, I have the honor of welcoming you to the graduation exercises.

On this important occasion when we experience mingled feelings of pessimism, happiness, and hope for a brighter future, the fact remains that we have the unique opportunity of being the first graduates of Tri-State High School, here at Newell, California. Graduating under the present circumstances, is in itself one of the most unusual experience that a person can have. When we consider the abnormality of the whole situation, such as the completion of our fourth year of high school in barracks during our confinement in the relocation camp, it is quite natural that we take the pessimistic view of the whole picture. But we should consider too, the privilege of having been able to contribute our efforts to the establishment of a new school and the initiation of student government, then we can recognize the significance of such an experience.

In spite of obstacles, senior activities have gone on in much the same way as they would have back home. I wish to extend our sincere appreciation to our amiable class sponsors, Miss Editha Hartwig, Mr. Charles Palmerlee, and Mr. Garret Starmer for their help in senior activities.

When we first entered Tri-State High, there were no set traditions or precedents for us to follow. The gradual development of the school from its preliminary barren state to its present firm structure in both internal and external aspects, can be directly attributed to the unselfish efforts of the members of the faculty, and office staff, as well as to student leaders. Interested teachers left secure positions to come here to render their greatly appreciated service. So, with the help of faculty members and our diligent student body officers, extra-curricular activities such as the yearbook, the newspaper, the "Kanaka" carnival, harvesting out at the farm, rallies, interclass sports, and the Scholarship Fund Drive were successfully managed.

Our association with students from all over the Pacific Coast has shown clearly that whether from city or country, North or South, we can become good friends and can work together for mutual benefit.

Let us also give credit and thanks where it is largely due, to our parents, who aided us and encouraged us throughout our entire school career.

When we depart, we will miss those familiar faces in our former classrooms, the patient teachers, and even the tardy buzzer and siren.

With the aid of our increased initiative, we will strive onward using the experience and education we have gained in school, to help us guide our way through this troubled world.

---Andrew Sugiyama