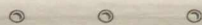


THE WHOLE WORLD IS SAYING THAT SOMETHING IS WRONG WITH THE WORLD

A part of the world is charging the universities with responsibility for the present situation. It is said that the success of these institutions in the cultivation of physical science is reflected in an industrial development in which production is dangerously out of adjustment with distribution and consumption; that society can now produce more than society knows how to use; that a new development of the social sciences is needed, comparable with that of the physical sciences, and capable of assuring a new balance of the physical and the spiritual in human affairs. A discussion of this problem at New York University has been followed by consultation with representatives of other institutions. It has been agreed on all hands that a conference of universities for the consideration of questions such as these might clarify the views and purposes of our institutions of higher education, and point the ways in which they may more fruitfully serve the coming age. The economic, governmental, moral, and international aspects of university leadership will be separately considered.



At New York University, an historic sentiment has entered into this proposal. One hundred years ago, the fathers of this University invited the leading Americans of that day, in education and public affairs, to meet in convention in the City of New York for a discussion of the question, What does our country now require in the way of higher education? The published proceedings of that convention are read with interest in these days. The questions now before us are certainly as weighty as those of a century ago, and as wide in their interest for the body politic and academic. In view of these considerations, New York University has undertaken to sponsor a second conference, not unlike that of a hundred years ago, making it a part of this University's centennial celebration. The questions proposed are, however, of no private interpretation. Accordingly, New York University has sought, and has been happy to receive, the active participation of leaders of other universities and related institutions in the shaping of plans and programs for this conference.