The concept of a Federation contains the ideals of work, knowledge, action and co-operation. All these fundamentals constitute the co-operative movement which is at present so much appreciated and acclaimed all over the world.

Indeed humanity is in need not of abstract ideas, but of real constructiveness. It would be a mistake to suppose that the co-operative movement is only applicable to industry or agriculture. This vital movement can enter and imbue every branch of human life. Even in early school years and throughout all specializations of life this method is possible and should be studied.

Whatever faculty of a university, we may take, be it philosophy, medicine, law, economics, natural science, physics, etc., everywhere can be created units on a co-operative basis. Further on, these units can be assembled into larger organizations, vitally assisting each other. Especially now, when the question of unemployment everywhere has become so acute, one should develop such self-activity.

Successful examples of such beneficial work are evident in many countries and in various fields of life. Also in India I had an opportunity to witness in several places the welfare that had resulted from such beginnings. In these co-operative societies both science and art can have their place of honour. The love for the book can be re-affirmed and art can enter all homes,
for indeed knowledge and beauty are for the people.

Such self-activity saves people from prejudice and fear—these terrifying and paralizing monsters. True science will help to cognize the visible and the unseen. People will thus understand how to realize the protection of cultural treasures which belong, beyond all earthly boundaries, to the entire humanity. On the fields of the co-operative movement will grow the beautiful flowers of Culture and Peace.

The infinite might of Culture may well be expressed in the following historical narrative:

"The Great Akbar once drew a line and demanded of Birbal, The Wise, that he shorten the line without cutting and erasing from either end. The latter drew a longer line parallel to it, and Akbar's line was thereby shortened. Wisdom lies in drawing the longer line."

I wish you my dear young friends, to cherish in your hearts the lofty wisdom of your Great Bharatmata. I wish you the achievement of the longest beautiful line in your creative united labours.

—Dr. Rabindranath Tagore.

Let me not pray to be sheltered from dangers but to be fearless in facing them. Let me not beg for the stilling of my pain but for the heart to conquer it. Let me not look for allies in life's battlefield but to my own strength. Grant me that I may not be a coward feeling your mercy in my success alone; but let me find the grasp of your hand in my failure.

—Dr. Rabindranath Tagore.