

## PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE



*Individuality — that quality which distinguishes one person or thing from another; the sum of characteristic traits; distinctive character or personality.*

Webster's Dictionary

The editors of *Prelude* have asked me to write on this year's theme — Individuality. For many, this term is often confused with non-conformity or with a form of individualistic exaggeration. A normal group of adolescents show this striving to be different in many ways. Included in the possible roles of "differences" are those of: the leader, the follower, the clown, the trouble-maker, the show-off, the one who has all the answers, the gossip, the good guy, and many more. A half hour spent in a school lobby, cafeteria, or the local shopping center, even the classroom situation, will reveal many of these roles.

However, at no time of life is one under such pressure to be conservative — to conform, as in adolescence. One must conform to both the opinions and the appearance of other adolescents. If "other kids are doing it" then this is the most important and compelling reason for doing a thing. What is really happening is that the group by its very conformity is emphasizing a "difference" from the outsider, another group, or the adult world. It is a rare adolescent who can ignore group opinion lest he be given the title of 'square' or whatever the appropriate term happens to be at that time. (I write as an ex-adolescent, believe it or not).

The adult world is little better in its conformity. We are manipulated by advertising and politics. Our tastes are regulated to the largest and often the lowest common denominator. The affluent society does not necessarily bring personal satisfaction in being an individual.

The point I wish to make is this: surrounded on all sides by pressures for conformity one may be led into some form of exaggeration in order to express one's individualism. I submit the idea that one should first consider carefully whether or not the exaggeration or expression is simply a form of conformity with a group. I also suggest that true individualism is a condition of spirit and mind. One must be ready to reflect, consider, evaluate, and then to act according to his or her own sense of values and not simply because "the others are doing it".

It has seemed to me that Wagar pupils *have* been different — with an original and individualistic turn of mind.

It is my hope that they will continue to show this quality in their years to come.

*J. F. Stewart*

J. F. STEWART

Principal.

Enough of science and of art;  
Close up the barren leaves;  
Come forth, and bring with you a heart  
That watches and receives  
—The Tables Turned—  
Wordsworth



A. E. JOHNSON



A. E. MILLER

As a newcomer to Wagar High School, I have been greatly impressed by the beauty of the building, the dedication of the staff and the eager energy of the student body. It gives me great pleasure to add my congratulations to the graduating class.

In extending my best wishes to you, may I remind you that on leaving high school, you are stepping over the threshold of apprenticeship in education into a wider world of educational opportunity. The skills you have acquired here may be put to use throughout your life, in a continuing process of obtaining a liberal education, one of life's greatest treasures. The values of such an education have been described as follows:

"Education is a companion which no misfortune can decrease, no crime destroy, no enemy alienate, no despotism enslave; at home a friend, abroad an introduction; in solitude a solace; in society an ornament. It chastens vice, guides virtue, and gives grace and government to genius. Education may cost financial sacrifice and mental pain, but in both money and life values it will repay every cost one-hundred fold."

To every young person who realizes the truth of this statement the Province of Quebec offers at this time a unique opportunity to become part of a tremendous cooperative effort to build an educational structure second to none.

My sincere wish for all of you is that you may succeed in achieving your highest ambition and that you may have the satisfaction of using your educated talents in the service of Man and His World.

## DEPARTMENT HEADS



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Mrs. E. Speyer  
History



Mr. K. Mann  
Science



Mr. H. W. Jordan  
Guidance



Miss H. Ferguson  
English



Mr. D. Chodat  
French

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### MRS. S. PALTIEL

To Mrs. Paltiel, our former Vice-Principal, who is presently at Montreal West High School, we, the students of Wagar give our deepest thanks. Mrs. Paltiel was Vice-Principal of Wagar since its opening year in 1963. During that year, in addition to her many administrative duties, she also used her valuable experience in teaching French and was, in part, responsible for the fine scholastic achievements of the pupils. Mrs. Paltiel endeared herself to Wagar students as a valuable administrator, dedicated educator, and trusted advisor.





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*Eng.-Hist.*



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*French*



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*French*



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*Hist. - Science*



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*L.A. - T.D.*



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*Latin - History*



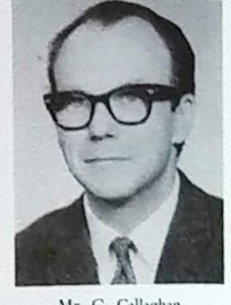
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Mrs. E. Litwin  
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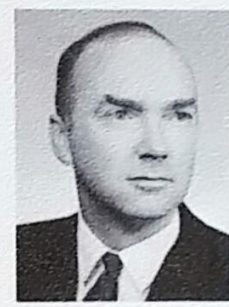
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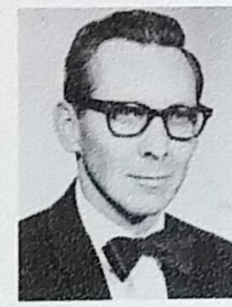
Miss H. Murray  
History



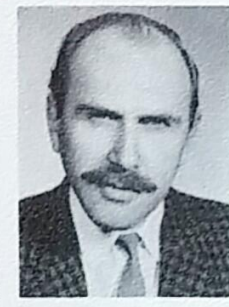
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Mrs. DeWolfe



Mrs. Schrier

