

# President's Message

After our first year in university we are naturally making a comparison between it and high school.

When we graduated from high school we had two things; a miscellaneous accumulation of facts, and some experience about the way people differ. From my experience I would say that high school is deficient in its ability to help the student relate all of these things into a meaningful philosophy of life.

Should we, then, expect more from our high schools? I would answer "Yes". Although school's purpose is partially to provide facts and experience, its major purpose is to impart knowledge. Knowledge is the synthesis of facts and experience for the complete development of the individual.

Certainly pupils graduating from high school are partially prepared for the life ahead. But high school can do better than it does, as we have all appreciated after one brief year in university.

There are three areas in which life in university is far ahead of high school.

First, college students are trusted more. Second, they are allowed freedom to think as they wish and to present their own ideas, right or wrong, without being humiliated. Finally, they have greater opportunity to accept responsibility.

In all of these fields the high schools could be doing more. Pupils in high school may not be capable of quite as much as they would be a year or more later when they are in university, but they are quite capable of being treated as more mature people than they are now.

The outcome of a more advanced system of education is this: if a student is trusted, he will be more likely to trust; if he is allowed to express his opinion in school, he is more likely to express it when he is on his own; if he is given more responsibility, he will act more responsibly.

Failure to concentrate on these things in the high schools seriously handicaps the development of people. It has produced a generation, the majority of whom live lives which are isolated from the real world in which they live. If high schools will live up to their increased responsibilities in the development of the young, then students will feel more secure, and in turn this will increase the security of the world they live in.

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