

Sir James Whitney School, Bel



Dr. J.G. Demeza ending 26-year career at helm of Sir James Whitney

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Staff Reporter

The career of Dr. J.G. Demeza as superintendent of the Sir James Whitney School for the Hearing Handicapped ends this summer but it has been a career, he says, that has provided constant challenge since he left the world of public education to the field of a specialist.

Dr. Demeza retires later in the summer but is being honored Saturday at a banquet for his contributions to the school since becoming its superintendent in 1953.

But, among those contributions, he points out emphatically that although he has been the top administrator at the school, program and facility innovations over the past 26 years have been a team effort—a combining of input from the school's educators and administrators.

"Some of the most significant changes have been in the development of more diversified programs and the facilities that accommodate these things," Dr. Demeza said in an interview.

His personal feelings about the accomplishments of the school in providing a wide-range of programs for its students overshadow his own thoughts on retirement.

As the first school in Ontario for hearing handicapped, many of the programs under way at sister schools in Milton and London received their initial beginnings at Sir James Whitney. It's a long list of developments.