

TERRACE BAY NEWS

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EDUCATION WEEK MARCH 1-8

The week March 1 to 8 is "Education Week" across Canada. This is the week each year during which we pause to consider one of life's greatest responsibilities--the preparation of our children for life; the week which has been set aside to encourage parents to visit the schools, talk with the teachers and see just how their children are progressing.

We, in this Community, are fortunate in that we do not have to wait for a special 'Week' to do this. The Principals of our schools welcome visits by parents and will gladly discuss problems or explain and illustrate educational methods being used.

The following excerpts, taken from a recent speech given by Mr. W.F. Colborne, Principal of the Terrace Bay Public School, authoritatively state the educationists ideas.

"Let us turn to our Day schools. Every year our elementary and Secondary schools are targets for all kinds of criticism. In a sense this is a most happy condition from a teacher's point of view. We have a message for adults if we can only get their interest. Criticism tells us that the interest is there...."

I am not concerned that the schools are failing in their job. Neither do I feel complacent. Our schools are actually doing a much better job than ever before. I am worried that they might be doing a part of the job too well! Perfect efficiency in a school contains a hidden evil within itself. This is what we refer to as 'Mediocrity'. One writer refers to as a 'cult':

I think that it is the worst danger that besets us as a nation of people today in a highly-civilized and developed society.

I am afraid that our children who, in themselves, are individuals might lose that precious quality of individualism through the urge to conform. Where educating, merchandising..... etc... are all done on a mass scale, there is a tendency to want to conform, to do what the Jones's do...to avoid being outstanding or different, and still not be sub-standard. The quality is manifested in growing children by their tendency to participate in clothing fads, dancing styles etc.....There is probably nothing wrong with any of these activities as such, but when a boy or girl, upon failure to fall in with the majority, is labelled by the rest;.....it is a very, very dangerous symptom.

It simply means that we are developing into a society of followers but not leaders, a society in which its own mediocrity is leading it inevitably to the way of life where

the individual man counts for nothing! In such a society, the notion of security will be the goal of all, the spirit of adventure will languish and the western ideal of democracy will die of its own poison. Russia simply has to wait.....

To offset this tendency, the schools are moving in the direction of the gifted child.. in him rests the survival of our nation.....

In this world, all of our children must be better educated. Research to make poor students better and good students excel goes on constantly. In our community there is no time for complacency or lack of vigilance. We must be alert that our children have the best possible opportunity.....

To assure the success of our children let us make sure that they have the best education that we can unstintingly give them.....

You are cordially invited to visit the Terrace Bay Public School on Thursday evening March 5th, from 7:30 to 9:00 P.M. There will be a display of pupils' work in many of the classrooms and at 8:15 a short filmstrip "A Report Card for Parents" will be presented. There will also be an opportunity to chat with the teachers and enjoy a cup of tea.

The Principal and Staff of St. Martin's school urge and invite each parent to attend Open House. There will be two sessions -- on March 4th, one in the afternoon from 2.30 to 4.30 P.M. at which the filmstrip "Report Card for parents" will be presented and an evening session at 8.00 P.M. Visit the classrooms, confer with the teachers and show truly that "Education is EVERYBODY'S business."

COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES IN SCHREIBER FRIDAY

On Friday, March 6th at 8:00 P.M. Commencement Exercises will be held in the Town Hall. Awards and Diplomas will be presented and entertainment has been arranged. Parents and friends are cordially invited.

SPELLING BEE FRIDAY NIGHT

On Friday, March 6th, at 8 P.M. the High School Auditorium will be the scene of the Annual Elementary School spelling contest sponsored by the Knights of Columbus.

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Marathon 2 - Nipigon 1--- Marathon win thriller in overtime against Flyers on Tuesday in Terrace Bay. The Fighting Flyers tied the game in regulation time with 2 seconds to go. Next game Thursday in Marathon.