

Graduation Benscath High School  
June 5. 1959

1 Thessalonians 5 - 21.

Prove all things, hold fast to  
that which is good.

It is just possible that you may  
be expecting a sort of pat on the back  
from the chairman of the school board  
and a few words interspersed with a few  
applicable clichés.

The words are going to be few, the pat  
on the back may seem more like something  
else but I assure you that what I do  
say will be motivated from the fact that  
we are interested in you and will watch  
your careers from now on perhaps with  
a tinge of envy and also a little selfishness.

Envy because we watch you going into  
a world that is chock full of opportunity,  
a world that is crying to high heaven for  
men and women of integrity and ambition  
Men and women of courage and loyalty.

Propaganda  
Prof. & Remona & Jan  
2452 a class

Selfishness because you are part of this community and as you fare forth in the world you are, unconsciously, perhaps, ambassadors from this community. Just as while in school you are ambassadors from the homes in which you grew up. You have every right to feel a loyalty to, and expect a loyalty from your homes. You won't have got this far along the road of life and learning without acquiring a knowledge of what loyalty means. As the homes from which you come make up this community so does this community in conjunction with thousands of other communities make up the Canadian nation. So we are selfish that whatever you do or may become we may feel that we have had some little part in that achievement. We are anxious that you may do well not that you succeed. We may bask in the light of your ~~achievements~~ <sup>successes</sup> but that you may - every one of you - have that deep inner satisfaction of knowing that you have accomplished something well worth the doing.

It is easy for age to envy youth. Although at times I know you wonder if your parents were ever young I can assure you many of us don't forget our youth. Your problems are of a different nature than the challenges that

faced us. And you will meet and overcome them in a different manner. I sincerely trust for the peace of this world in a more effective manner. That is why I headed this address tonight with the <sup>2<sup>d</sup></sup> verse from the 5<sup>th</sup> chapter of Thessalonians. "Prove all things hold fast to that which is good." Fundamentals do not change.

In the course of a few months or at the most a couple of years you will be into the world and attempting to earn your own living. You'll be facing a world that will be entirely new to you and all of us, so quickly do things change these days. Don't think it is a soft woolly world either. Certainly it can be for some, who do not care to brist the tide but are satisfied with some secure protected job with a good pension at the end of service. I cannot think, nor feel, that our Canadian youth of today are in the majority who are seeking that type of service. At times we do feel that way, but then when a boy or girl that we know gets down to work at school ceases to be a seat warmer and shows that he has the ability to achieve we know that if he keeps at it, sometime, somewhere in this world humanity is going to be the better for his having been born, and we rejoice with him, his teacher, his parents and his community.

H/  
A challenge was tossed i' the street one day  
It fell at the feet of two men  
One glanced at it then hurried <sup>away</sup> ~~to the way~~  
One glanced and then glanced again  
The one was lost nor heard of more  
The other the challenge met  
And many a scar from the fight he bore  
But men sing of his victory yet.

You are entering a challenging world. A world  
in which at times we seem to be only half  
civilized. A world in which adults men and  
women <sup>at times</sup> act as if they had never relinquished  
the four year old periods of childishness..

You are entering a dangerous world. It has  
always been dangerous and the rewards to those  
who pick up the challenge will leave their  
scars but if the challenges of life have been  
truly met those scars will not be on the  
consciences of the participants

Adm/ You are going to face making decisions  
of your own. Those decisions may affect your  
whole life. But the man or woman who  
never makes decisions and erases all

5/ responsibility along that line is dwarfing  
a character not building one. Sometimes your  
decisions may be seemingly all wrong. But  
if deep inside of you you feel they are right  
stick to them especially if <sup>society?</sup> someone else  
is going to benefit by them and you at the  
time seem the losers.