

MANGERE COLLEGE 1976





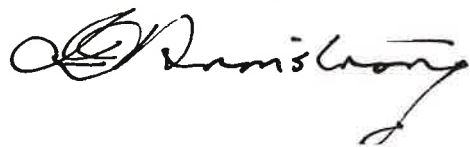
PRINCIPAL'S FOREWORD

'Education in Change' — the theme of the 70's. In recent years we have seen a constant succession of changes in education and almost every post brings proposals for more. We know that without change a system can stagnate and become ineffective, but we know also that when change is made for changes sake or at the whim of an ill-founded philosophy, instability, insecurity and indecision are the consequence. This situation has often recently been expressed in the view that every school should do its own thing, with little regard for the fact that each school is only a small part of a national system which has a basic responsibility for the future national well-being and a responsibility to its students to see that some 'fine philosophy' does not put them at a disadvantage.

Where are we going? What are we supposed to be doing? What is the aim of this school? The answer to this last question is basically quite simple. Our aim is to produce responsible adults whose capabilities are developed to the fullest degree and who have acquired the knowledge and skills which will benefit them in the outside world. How do we achieve success? If only the answer to this was as simple as our aim! But there are some things which we must be doing:- demanding more than we presently do — our acceptance of things for convenience' sake is not something of which we can be proud — establishing a sound ethical climate — it is easier to be persuaded that times are changing and new standards of courtesy, honesty, reliability and diligence should be acceptable — persuading parents that our students have responsibilities both to themselves and to others (and without full parental support success is not possible) — keeping ourselves under close scrutiny to make sure we are not deliberately disguising deficiencies — promoting in our students a sense of identity and worth so that they can find the fullest satisfaction in both the working world and the wider community.

This College, like its counterparts throughout the country, has a vital role to play in the development of our young people. We are making progress. There is a developing sense of purpose and determination which augurs well for the future.

I.D. ARMSTRONG
PRINCIPAL



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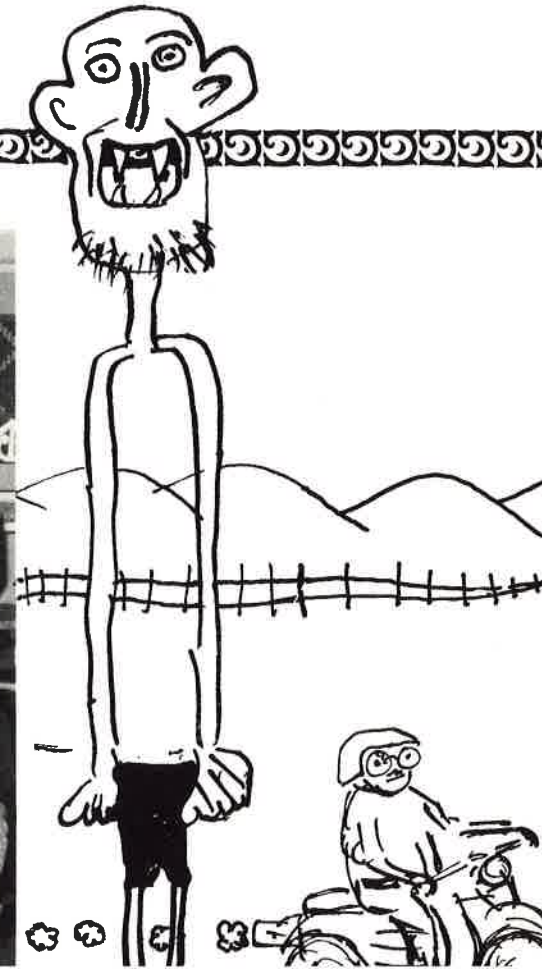
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THE FUTURE

In the future the world will be a terrible place in which to live or exist. Within a decade or two, things will be much worse than they are now, mainly because we suspected as much, and therefore sat back to let the 'inevitable' occur. Things will be a lot worse because everyone kept saying 'Well, it's too late now', until finally it actually was too late.

The earth will be gravely polluted. This will be due to several factors including the sheer size of the world's population and the amount of indestructible wastes we possess. Human effluent will be of an indisposable volume. Sanitation and sewage systems will collapse under the strain. Thanks to technology we will be lumbered with useless mountains of plastic which we can neither eat nor dispose of safely and efficiently. Starving people have no use for a plastic car. The air that we breathe and the water that we drink will both be of very poor quality, resulting in disease and death. A few fortunate countries will have their sophisticated purification systems, but even these will be almost useless against the waste and chemicals which descend with the rain.

Probably the worst aspect of the future will be the huge number of people on the Earth. Many countries such as India, Jamaica, and Puerto Rico will be absolutely saturated with inhabitants. Living conditions, if they could be called such, would be hideous and almost intolerable. Such countries would be hell-holes of disease, poverty, starvation and murder. Slightly more fortunate nations such as the United States would cease all relations and aid-programmes with these countries. A world-wide trend would probably be a cessation of permitted migration into a foreign country. For instance, the United States would probably prohibit any immigration including that of American citizens who were absent from the country for longer than a certain time. The United States would clamp down on population growth, as would other nations.

Nations would cease exporting food, keeping it instead for their own inhabitants such as handicapped people, convicted criminals and illegitimate babies. This way there would be fewer mouths to feed.

In the future nations will lament the fact that they laid so much asphalt and constructed so many expressways over once cultivable land. New York, Los Angeles, London and Tokyo will be objects of derision as prime exponents of the asphalt syndrome.

Fossil fuels will probably be exhausted by the year 2000. Nuclear, solar, wind and wave power will be the only alternatives, which is little consolation to those few nations which are wet, cloudy, receive little breezes and are landlocked. Wasteful use of power would probably be punished severely in most countries, as well as hoarding and wasting of food.

Generally speaking countries would realise the importance of food and power resources, as well as the advantage of having a small population at the same time.

On a human level, personal relationships will deteriorate all over the world. In fact human relationships will probably revert to something like that of the animal kingdom. There could be a tendency to drift into tribes or racial groups. In present times, this tribal pattern is visible, particularly among certain races: for instance the Negro, the African, the Polynesian.

However the gap between patriotism and violent hysteria or fanaticism tends to close far too often nowadays. People may also segregate according to their religion, and this trend is most obvious in present day Northern Ireland.

Future society will probably collapse due to the general weakening of social controls; once adultery was a shameful, discouraged vice but it is now virtually accepted in many places, though not yet actively encouraged. Communities are no longer the tightly woven networks they once were; increased mobility of populations is one reason for this. A neighbour may come and go before you can learn his first name, not to mention where he came from in the first place. Despite the advent of the telephone, there is probably less personal communication now than in the past, when most conversation was over the back fence.

In this age of communications and transportation an amazing number of people are 'isolated' in their own little world, television being the major outside influence on their lives. Future society will probably follow this 'isolated' individual trend, that is until people are standing shoulder to shoulder like sardines. Only then will they be forced to communicate, if only in pained grunts.

Love, respect, loyalty and other human sentiments and virtues will probably become quite rare, as people begin to fight for the bare necessities.

If things become serious throughout the world, I think we may see a flurry of dictators and police-states. A democracy would probably be ineffective in a time of dire crisis anyway.

To conclude, most of the world's faults in future years will be man made, because of our human nature and inborn greed, we will probably pursue our private twisted goal of being 'successful' until it is too late. Human conflicts will probably be indirectly responsible for the end of the world also, for instance, nuclear warfare. People will no longer love or trust others. There will be only distrust, wariness and self-centredness. Before we destroy our planet entirely we will probably revert to a prehistoric man level or even the level of the apes ironically.

If man weren't here, the Earth would be a better place to live on.

