



Long Live the King

The Story of 'King Edward'

by the Grade IX MPH Creative Writing Class of 1968-69

"PRINCIPALS' PRINCIPLES"

Messages from the men who have guided the destiny of
King Edward School, from 1912 to the present.

-- from Mr. William Aberhart, Principal, 1913-1915.

In the Crescent Heights "Bugle" for 1933, Mr. Aberhart wrote the following under the title, "Power of Initiative":

"During the great war a certain steamship crossing the Atlantic was waylaid by a piratical German submarine. The submarine's presence was not detected until it was very close to its prospective prey.

Then it was useless to attempt escape by flight. The situation seemed hopeless, capture and sinking inevitable.

But the captain of the steamship, signalling to the engine room for full speed, instantly changed the course of his vessel so that it bore directly on the submarine. At once the tables were turned, the hunter became the hunted.

Frantically the submarine sought concealment in the depth of the ocean. Too late. There was a crashing impact -- and that particular submarine could never again do the devil's work ordered for it by the Kaiser.

Quick thinking on its captain's part, intelligent planning, decisive acting, had saved the steamship. And quick thinking, intelligent planning, decisive acting constitute initiative.

Confronted in your daily work by unexpected problems, how do you react to them?

Do you attack them boldly and confidently? Or do you wait for someone else to instruct you what to do?

Do you, indeed, in your daily work, give alert thought to the devising of methods to get more satisfactory results? Or are you content with accurately following the directions given you?

To be able to follow directions accurately is itself a good thing. But it is far better to be able to originate improvements yourself. Then you are an initiator, not merely an imitator of others.

And it is to the initiators that the big rewards of endeavor go.

Scan the annals of business life, of the professional world, of scientific, literary and artistic activity. Always you will find that it is the initiators who gain the greatest success.

How can you grow in the power of initiative?

It is largely, though not wholly, a matter of practice in constructive thinking. Study the work you now are doing, with reference both to the methods you use and to results. Ask yourself if there is not some way in which, of your own accord, you can bring about some improvements.

Do not try to achieve too much at once. Be satisfied at first with working out a betterment in some detail, however petty. Then promptly act to realize that betterment.

The outcome may show that you have been thinking feebly or over-hastily. The expected improvement may turn out to be no improvement at all. Do not let that discourage you.

Keep on trying to think constructively. Learn from your failures. When you have decided on a new attempt let action quickly follow decision.

-- from Mr. T. A. Florendine, Principal 1915-1940.

"To the many teachers and students - past and present - of King Edward - Hello!

At the end of this month, June, 1969, I shall have been twenty-four years in retirement. As I look back into the past, my thoughts travel to the years from 1915-1940. During that time, the happiest of my working life, I was Principal of King Edward.

To be successful, a principal must have a staff of dedicated teachers whose slogan is - my school first, last and always. Such a staff was mine. Without fear of contradiction, I can say that I had one of the best staffs in the city. We worked together for the good of a great school and were blessed with parents whose chief ambition was to see that their children took advantage of what the school had to offer. The attitude of these parents helped more than one can realize.

Of those pupils of yester-years, who now have become parents, I make this request - get to know the teachers of your children.

Teachers have a very difficult job. They are working with human objects. Each object, the pupil, being different from every other. I consider school teaching is the most important and demanding work ever undertaken by any member of the human race.

PRINCIPALS OF KING EDWARD SCHOOL

1913 - 1969



William Aberhart, B.A.,
1913 - 1915



T. Arthur Florendine,
1915 - 1940



T. E. A. Stanley, B.A.,
1918 - 1929



B. O. Millar, B.A.,
1940 - 1945



Kenneth B. Meiklejohn, B.A.,
1945 - 1949



Robert G. Wallace, B.A., B.Ed.,
1949 - 1966



Fred E. Worger, B.Ed., M.
1966 - present