



THE OLIPHANT

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WELHAM BOYS' SCHOOL

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THINK ABOUT IT

A man may be so much of everything that he is nothing of anything.

- Samuel Johnson

As the new Editor, I greet all of you who have to bear with us from this issue of the fortnightly.

One has sympathy for editors of daily newspapers, who have to find something to say every day by way of an editorial. At least for the Oliphant editor, this duty falls but once a fortnight. Even so, there is so much that recurs in each fortnight, with only dates and names changing, that to find something novel to say is not always easy.

To capture the latest tidings this year, remain in touch with Simran 'CNN' Nurpuri, who will be dealing with the "Welham Now". The cartoon section is headed by Saurabh 'Laxman' Narang, so prepare to split your sides. Pratya 'Premchand' Chopra will be leading the Hindi Section. Last but not least Vidura, 'Prime sports' Bahadur will bring alive the sports events of the school.

The holy plan of the 12thies to study after founder's was not religious enough. Most of them went to Delhi to attend the premiere of 'Yalgaar'. A majority went to see Sanjay and they did meet one, but not of the 'Dutt' kind. Even more unfortunate was that the lovely ladies of the film were not present. Mr. Sanjay Khan delivered a splendid speech, praising the high level of discipline in school.

Study fever seems, however, to have hit them



now. Realising the fact that they have to sit for the second preliminary examinations, scheduled for February, has sent a chill up most of their spines. However the forthcoming 'coaching camps' will, hopefully offer some relief.

There are some of course who do model as immaculate students. This species consists of those flaunting their mufflers and sweaters. Oops! I forgot to mention the 'monkey cap' though not a great favourite. To find students of 10th and 12th brewing coffee and lamenting their grave condition as they do it, is a familiar sight.

The predecessor (Varun Sood) can rarely be spotted on campus. Seems to be exploring his text, now that the burden of writing editorials has very gently been handed down to me, the next in line to face the turmoil caused in

school owing to the delay of this widely circulated news magazine.

Our sincere advice to the 10thies and 12thies is to start studying, as you can neither expect nor have something worth having for nothing. Everything has a price, and the price we have to pay for success is incessant toil. Paving the way for your phenomenal success.

- Mohit Mehta

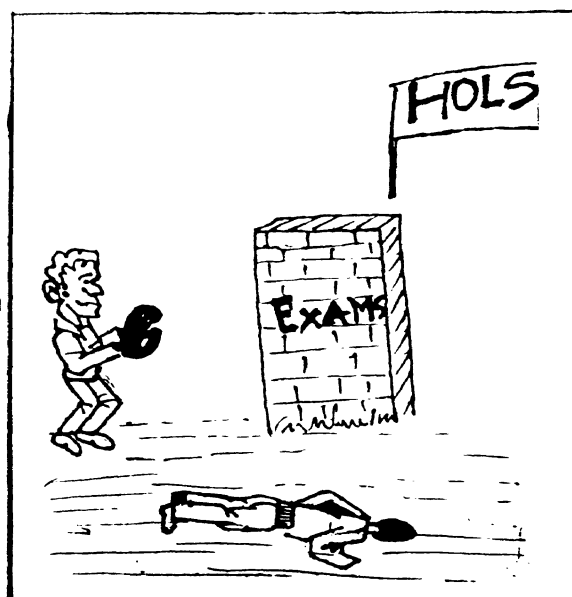
Welham Now!!

1. Nitin Bhanot stood 1st in flute recital in the Uttar Pradesh Sangeet Natak Music competition held at Lucknow on the 14th of October. He received a cash prize of Rs. 800 and a trophy.
2. The Founder's Day celebrations went off well. A large number of parents turned up for it. Two plays, one in English, the other in Hindi, were staged. The English play 'Yesterday, Today And Tomorrow' was staged on the 19th of October. It was produced by the junior, middle and senior school boys and staff members. Mrs. Nilima Sibal directed the play.

On 20th of October 'Sinhasan Khali Hai' was staged. It was directed by Mr. Ashok Chakravarti and Mr. Shashi Bhushan. The plays were well appreciated.

3. Boys of class XI and XII went to Delhi to attend the premiere of the film 'Yalgaar', produced and directed by Mr. Feroz Khan. The premiere was organized by Welham as part of the fund-raising campaign for the Multi-Purpose Hall.
4. An Inter-School quiz was held on 28th October at St. Thomas' College. We were represented by Harjot Singh and Vidura Jung Bahadur and were runners up.
5. Sports Day was celebrated with the usual fun and enthusiasm on 31st of October. Mr. D.V. Singh was the Chief guest.
6. Mehul Mayank stood 1st among the juniors in the Inter-School Hindi Elocution contest held in our school on the 31st of October. Welham Boys' stood second in the contest.
7. We won the Marshall Silver Jubilee Basketball Tournament held on the 5th of November. We beat RIMC in the finals by 50 points.
8. New appointments have been made. The following are to be in charge of the activities mentioned against their names:

1. Music - Pavandeep Saluja
2. Chair Squad - Jairaj Singh
3. Entertainment - Pankaj Yadav
4. L.R.C. - Wanchuk Topden
5. Stage Committee - Neil Grant
6. Art School - Saurabh Narang
7. Audio Visual - Gagan Dewan
8. Gank - Piyush Pankaj
9. Hindi Literary Society - Ankur Aggarwal
10. Editor of 'Prayas' (Hindi Magazine)- Mandeep Lamba
11. Dining Hall - Nitin Aggarwal
12. English debates, drama etc. - Vidura Jung Bahadur
13. Lost And Found - Ramanpreet Hora
14. C.C.A. - Pratya Chopra
15. Tuck Shop - Rajesh Sehgal
16. Tuck Inn - Shaad Ali
17. Estate Management - Chirdeep Prashar
18. Computer Room - Udit Raj Singh
19. S.U.P.W. - Simran Nurpuri



Chief Guest's Address

Mrs. Kandhari, the force behind the man who is Mr. Kandhari, the principal of this beautiful school, honourable Chairman of the Board of Trustees and member Trustees, all the teachers of the school, students, parents and a very dear friend of mine, Sanjay Khan and his wife Zarine - actually it is because of them that I am here - and I am very happy that I am here - and all other staff members.

Whenever I come to a school to address such a gathering I am reminded of a very interesting incident that took place at the time of the British. An Inspector of Schools used to go to schools to inspect whether the students and teachers were doing work. One day the Inspector of Schools went to a school. He went to a 9th or 10th standard class and he said to a boy "You boy, get up and tell me who wrote 'Romeo and Juliet'?" The boy got up and started crying. He said "Sir, I didn't write it, I didn't write it." The inspector asked the Headmaster, "What is this? I ask a student who wrote 'Romeo and Juliet' and he cries to say he didn't write it". The headmaster said, "Sir he is the one who wrote it because he has a habit of telling lies"! Since then things have improved. I had a glimpse of all the students in the morning, and I must say that they took me around very beautifully. They were very well disciplined and that reflects the ethos created by the Headmaster, Board of Trustees and the teachers and the staff.

Once upon a time I was a man of very few words. Unfortunately when I became a politician I started speaking too much. When you get bored just start clapping and I will understand that you want me to sit down. It happened when I was told to stand for elections and I started campaigning. I used to go to the streets, 'Jhopadpattis' and other places and with folded hands request people to vote for me, telling them if I won the election I would try and serve them to the best of my ability, and I used to sit down. In the car, on the way to other public gatherings, leaders of my party used to start scolding me. "Why can't you speak a little more" they used to say. I answered "What can I say to the people? I can only tell them if I win the election I will try and serve them to the best of my ability". They said "But you can speak a little more". I asked why I should speak more. They explained that if I spoke less I would get less votes and if I spoke more, I would get more votes! "Do you want to lose the elections?" they asked. I said, "No,

I don't want to lose the election". I felt terrible, I couldn't sleep the whole night. I had never faced defeat in my life. I went to the library, to bookshops and bought a few books of speeches by Pandit Nehru, Mahatma Gandhi, and I started rehearsing for my speeches. Thus I went totally prepared and started speaking. I said, "Well friends, I assure you that if I win the elections I will see to it that there is a canal in Bombay." (There is no need of a canal because there are no fields. There are sky-rise buildings). But people were clapping for me. I said if I am successful there will be a white revolution, green revolution, I will see to it that there are fields. And they were very happy. I said there will be dams, there'll be more electricity, there'll be a rail road and so on and on. I kept on speaking. All of a sudden I felt somebody pulling my trousers. I looked back. I was asked to sit down, I said no I will not sit down, I have to win the election and you told me that if I speak more I will get more votes. So again in the car they scolded me: "What the hell? Why are you speaking all the time?" I said but you told me to speak. They said if you keep on speaking when will we get the opportunity to speak! So I ask, is there any speaker here? I am scared somebody might pull my trousers, so I will be brief.

I would like to say that a period of schooling is the time when you can really build the character of a boy or girl. This is a more important institution than college. Therefore any amount of emphasis given to schooling is for the importance of the future of the children of our country because this is their foundation. If the foundation is not strong no matter how great a building you make, it will fall down. The foundation has to be strong and dynamic. The parents feel that by putting their children in the best schools they have done their job. This is not true. It is the combined effort of the parents and teachers that helps build a child's basic character. I am against the classification of students as A grade and B grade and C grade. A student is a student and he should not be psychologically disturbed by calling him as good or bad. Nobody can be a Mahatma Gandhi. But that doesn't mean that other people are not as important as Mahatma Gandhi was because if other people were not with Mahatma Gandhi he would not have achieved things for the country and for all of us.

I have seen many parents who, when they see their children's marks, tell them, "Look at that boy, look at your neighbour. He got a first class and you have done so badly." This is very wrong. The child suffers. He cannot explain to the parents but his suffering doesn't help him bloom as a fine dynamic human being. It is not important how many marks a child gets, one must see the bent of mind of a child. Every child is an individual. Every child has his own ideas, and those ideas and his individuality should be enhanced. As Mr. Kandhari said, we have degrees but no jobs. Now is not the time for degrees. It is a time of building a human being. When he grows up it is not through the degree alone that he can get a job. There are other jobs that are equally important and there are people in the world who have hit the headlines doing such jobs. But, unfortunately, in our society we assess jobs as high and low. I was staying in a hotel in America when the flush stopped working. There was a big problem. It took four hours for the plumber to come because he was a busy man. He explained how everyone must take an appointment with him as one takes with a doctor. The people gave that importance to him because without the plumbers, nothing can work. And that also is a job, a professional job, which should be honoured and respected.

Nowadays, our children are made to study a great deal. The syllabus is very vast, there are so many books. This, I feel, should be rectified and it can only be rectified if there is an agitation by teachers and parents. If you say I should raise a question in Parliament, well I raise questions many times but nothing happens. It should be agitational. So you must come on the roads, make the government realise that it is doing the wrong thing, that this is a great burden on the children. There are countries like Germany where till 8 years the child is not thus burdened. Here when the child is born, the mother goes to school for admission for the child. My daughter, when she was pregnant, went to school and said I am having a baby on such and such date and I would like to admit my child in your school after 1 year or 1 1/2 years. The school is a foundation for

building the child and we should not burden him. School is a place where the child's mind should be developed, there should be psychiatrists to find out the bent of mind of a child and they should inform the parents. There should be interaction between teachers and parents. I was in Moscow once. Not the Moscow of today but the Moscow of the Soviet Union. The only places that I wanted to visit were the pioneer camps. During the summer holidays all the old places of the Tsars were opened for children to spend their holidays. Teachers and psychiatrists went with them and everything was provided to the students, to the young pioneers. There used to be a dairy farm, a hall of music, a skating rink, carpentry and boating and other things like that. They used to let the kids do what they felt like doing and they used to observe them. They used to write their report and at the end of the holidays they used to call the parents and inform them of their child's talent and interest. They put the child onto that.

Today, we have schools, we have brains, we have all the things available in our country but the curriculum that our children have is so great that neither they, nor teachers, nor parents have time to realise what children really are and what our children's interests are. To study a child's bent of mind is important and there should be special care taken in this area. I am sure that a school like this can make a beginning. You can be the pioneers in this field.

I can only say that I am very grateful to all of you that you listened to me and I hope I didn't make too long a speech as I used to, to get votes.

There was something which I wanted to mention here. There is a saying of the great scientist Albert Einstein which I really like very much and I wrote it down for all of you: "Try not to become a man of success, but rather try to become a man of value". That is one of the most important things that we need today - to become a man of value. I pray that this school, teachers and parents make their children men and women of value. I thank you very much.

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We apologise for the omission of the names of the teachers of the Junior School in the brochure of the play 'Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow'. Without their cooperation and help, the play would not have been the success that it was.

Principal's Speech

Good Evening, Ladies and Gentlemen.

Mr. Sunil Dutt, Chairman and members Board of Trustees, Ladies and Gentlemen. Please note when I use the word 'gentlemen' I include the students of Welham Boys' School. Thank you for being with us on this day when we commemorate Miss Oliphant and her mother. My thanks are doubly due when one considers the Founders date was changed twice. For Mr. Sunil Dutt to have readily agreed to the change in dates is a matter of gratitude. I thank you. Sir.

You all know of Mr. Sunil Dutt as an actor of great distinction; a producer and director of many award-winning films, but that is only the tip of the iceberg, if Mr. Sunil Dutt will permit me to call him an iceberg. His cultural interests are most catholic. He has taken troupes of classical Indian musicians to the USSR, organised the Ghalib Centenary celebrations in UK and Delhi. But of special interest to us at Welham is his deeply compassionate nature not only as shown by his well-known Nargis Dutt Memorial Charitable Trust but in the help that he has given to Spastic Societies, that is societies looking after spastic children in many parts of India, in helping various disadvantaged individuals and in spite of his being in the world of films, without publicity. It is difficult to comprehend that on top of it all he is now in his third term in Parliament and what is a matter of great pleasure is that he has continued year upon year to be productive not only because he has put forward a lot of effective legislation but also I think because of his 'padyatras' which have made a strong impression on many people. I am highlighting this aspect of Mr. Sunil Dutt's achievement because those of you who have listened to my, I'm sure very tedious, Founder's Day addresses will have noticed my stressing the importance of a school striving to make its student "a whole man" - a man with compassion, with a desire to learn, deeply involved in improving the environment and above all with integrity. Mr. Dutt, what a wonderful example you have set us. May your tribe increase.

Miss Oliphant held her first Founders on the 1st of December, 1937, as it was her mother's birthday and it was her donation of 1000 pounds sterling that launched the school. It says much for Miss Oliphant's grit, tenacity and vision that she made Welham Boys into the best known prep school in India. As if that

was not enough, she launched Welham Girls in 1957. She then donated this entire estate to a Trust, as she put it, as 'a gift to the nation'. That the school has grown and developed is because of the foundation laid by Miss Oliphant and the help, advice and, to say nothing of the occasional ticking off, that the Trustees have given to their principals.

As usual I have circulated some of the chief events of the previous year. I hope you all have the printed circular with you. I would like to focus very briefly on only one aspect of my annual report: our somewhat disappointing ISC results. These were nowhere near as good as expected nor anywhere near as good as they should have been. For that I must personally accept full responsibility. As I wrote to many of you parents, I have made the mistake of trying to treat 18-year olds as responsible young men but failed to get them to respond into using their time effectively. Some months ago we initiated a variety of steps to improve our exam results. Let us see what my colleagues and our pupils achieve.

I must tell you the dilemma remains with us. Do I help prepare my students for 3 years of college or for life? It is not easy to answer that question. Today the world has changed. The days of my youth, when to be an all-round human being was more important than being a scholar, no longer is valid. Today the question I am asked is how many of your boys have got into the IIT, how many have joined medical college. So Ladies and Gentlemen, it is a dilemma and I do not know the answer but luckily like a good student, I am trying to find it.

In this matter of learning, very strange though it may seem to you, is put four questions which I put to you last year. I will repeat them as they require a certain kind of thinking. I would be grateful if you would give me your views. The questions are these: In any matter of dealing with learning:

1. In order to get any answer will the students be required to make enquiries, collect data or merely have to repeat from memory?
2. Will the reach for the answer give a sense of joy in learning?
3. Will learning the answers assist the students in

understanding, in getting closer to people?

4. Above all will the learners' will and capacity and desire to learn increase?

Simple questions, very difficult answers. I suggest you try and strive to find an answer.

In the last so many years countries like USA with its "a nation at risk", France with "an open letter to the people" have all focussed on revamping the educational system. Even Singapore. When the then Prime Minister was asked, "what do you ascribe your success to?" He said, "Education, education and still more education." But what of us? Here is a nation with forces of disintegration, millions unemployed and universities churning out thousands of unemployables, where tolerance is at a discount, where we have no cohesive policy, only pious hopes. What of us? I tell you why I say this. I wonder if any of you have been around the exhibitions today. A lot of hard work has gone in and you know, Ladies and Gentlemen, what you saw in my science exhibition was not merely history but it was ancient history. That is science in our schools today. Please think about it. What are you and I doing for getting ourselves moving towards the 21st century when our science teaching is roughly about the first two decades of this century? There you are.

But perhaps before one can suggest changes in syllabii what one needs to do is to define the skills that will be essential for our students to succeed in the coming century. What are these skills? All of you will have your own definitions. In my opinion:

1. First of all how to absorb, compare, evaluate and finally, apply information. This is the primary skill that our students will have.
2. Secondly will be required a mind set (very difficult for us) but, I repeat, a mind set that can accept and adapt to rapid changes. Changes such as the disintegration of old support systems. Support systems like the joint family and the supportive family, the old school tie, changes in technology, changes in values. This implies above all the ability to think effectively.
3. Thirdly, to communicate effectively. It is not enough merely to think. You have got to communicate thought and that must be also done effectively. This is going to be of great importance because as you already see there is much

static in the atmosphere, so many media invidiously and, often very loudly, claiming our attention. So we will have to put, as someone has described it in not very polite language, into every single child a built-in "crap detector". How do we do it? I ask you that question because I want to look for an answer.

4. And, fourthly perhaps, what most of you will agree with without any hesitation, the student will have to learn to discriminate between values. This discrimination whether you call it taste, whether you call it morals, is, I think, perhaps what all of us want for our children.

The above is only a short list of the different aspects that the teacher and the taught will have to face. Can the teacher and will the teacher do it? On the face of it, not in India, where the majority of the teaching community is not in the least interested in its vocation.

This is a gloomy picture. So it is cheering for me, a matter of delight to me, to see the quality of work so many of my staff and the students put out, working hard and cooperating. I hope some of you witnessed the play yesterday. I do not know whether to call it a play - should we call it entertainment, a creation. A creation that was organic, that involved teachers of junior school, middle school, senior school, involved children from Class I to XII - a total of over 200 - and the script was written by the staff and the boys. It was rewarding. It was, if I may say so, even though I am a critical old school-teacher, heart-warming and this what I said then. It is nice in this gloomy picture to find these rays. And I would like to thank everyone.

You know, this is a nice time for me to thank the many people who get forgotten. I don't mean merely the Bursar or the Senior Tutor or the teaching staff. but I mean those chaps who never get a pat on the back: the fellows in the kitchen, the fellows in the electricity department seeing that the generator is working or that the boys' computer room is not suffering too much, and of course, my favourites: Jhagroo and the 'malis' who keep the school looking prettier than many of you make it. That is a dig at some of my friends who are littering the estate by over feeding their starving children. Of course I would like once again to thank Nilima Sibal and all her team for the tremendous efforts put in yesterday.

As you know, schools often have a somewhat dismal financial picture. I do not think that I want to

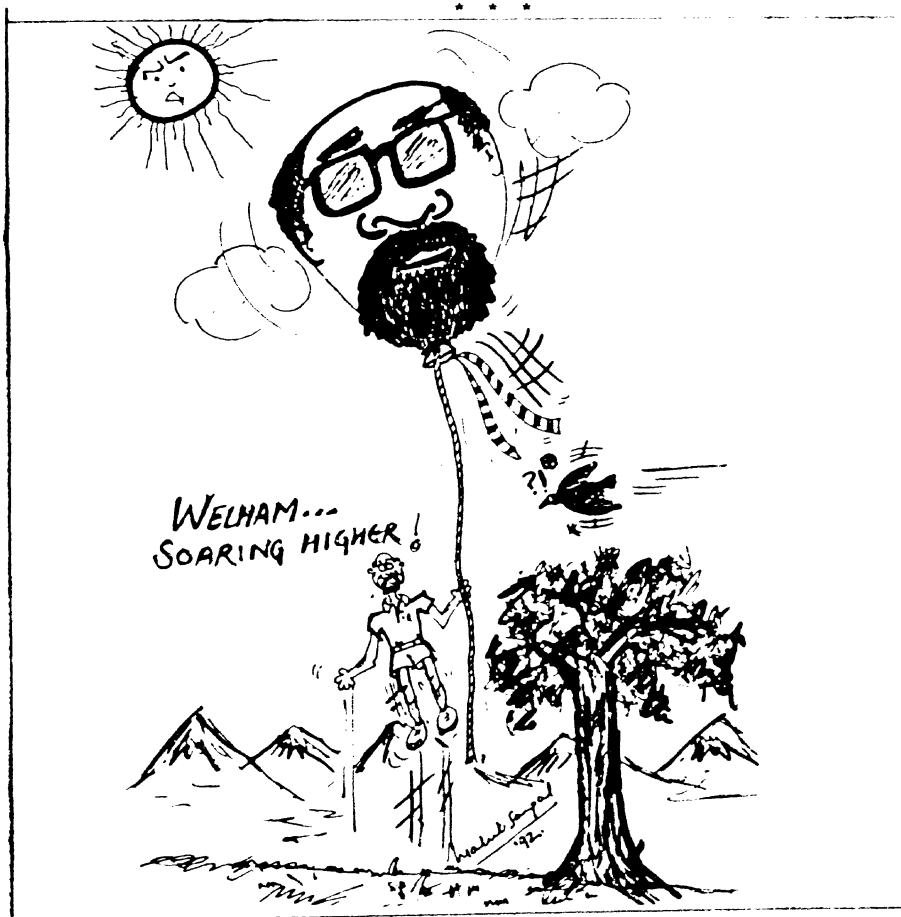
bore you because it is not as dismal as it could have been. This is as you know my last, well not yet, day after tomorrow is my last major fund-raising programme when we are having the Premiere of "Yalgaar" in New Delhi and those of you who have not got your tickets but would like to do so, do not hesitate to ask Dr. Saxena to give you a ticket or two. And I must tell you, for a school which in many ways is only 5 years old, (our first batch did its ISC in '87) I obviously therefore depend on parents and well wishers, I do not have many old boys. So I would like to thank and place on record my appreciation of the efforts of the following parents: Renu Punj, Sanjay Khan, Kamal Bhutoria and Darshan Sachdeva. Without their help I could not have organised a bit of what we have done. I thank you all.

As I complete my decade at Welham Boys' I would like to share with you my personal credo. I was writing it out and by pure happenstance I came across this passage in Kenneth Clarke's "Civilisation" which says better than I can what is my belief: "I believe that order is better than chaos, creation better than destruction. I prefer gentleness to vio-

lence, forgiveness to vendetta, on the whole I think that knowledge is preferable to ignorance and I am sure that human sympathy is more valuable than ideology. I believe that in spite of the last 2000 years of science, man and men haven't changed much and in consequence we must still try to learn from History. History is ourselves. I also hold one or two beliefs that are most difficult to put shortly, e.g. I believe in courtesy, that all living things are our brothers and sisters. Above all I believe in the God-given genius of certain individuals and I value a society that makes their existence possible."

I would like to end, as I normally end, with a short school prayer:

"King of the world, we thank thee for the beginning of a new day, for the dim twilight, the glowing sunrise, for the new hope and the new opportunities, for the new consciousness of thine abiding care, give us courage and strength for our work today, give us steadfastness of purpose, patience and humility and help us to speak the truth."



Speech by the Chairman, Mr. Dharm Vira

Mr. Sanjay Khan, Mrs Khan, Trustees and members of the Board of Management of the Welham's School, Mr Kandhari and his colleagues the teachers, my dear students, ladies and gentlemen.

My task has been made simple. That is of giving thanks to all of you who have come here to join us on the Foundation day of our school. We are grateful particularly to Mr. Sunil Dutt for having taken the trouble of coming here. You all are probably not aware that Mr. Dutt came from London to Bombay only yesterday in the morning. From there he flew to Delhi and from Delhi he flew to Dehra Dun to enable him to be with us today, and this was after some physical problems. So you can imagine the amount of trouble he has taken to come to us and we are very, very grateful to him. Mr. Sanjay Khan and his colleagues have been helping the Principal, I must say with great enthusiasm, to collect funds for the school and we are naturally very grateful to them because we have a lot of problems in hand and a lot of things that we would like to do for the school. And without money coming from the friends of the school it is not possible to take them all up. But I am quite confident that with the help of the parents, old students, the boys, everybody, we should be able to do and achieve everything that we desire to achieve.

I am glad that Mr. Sunil Dutt in his speech said something about the burden that has been laid by the educational authorities on the students. For the last 4 years they have been promising to take some steps to reduce the burden but nothing has happened.

Mr Dutt is an M.P. and I do hope that he will take up this matter with the authorities concerned. He has taken up so many beneficent activities concerned. He has taken up so many beneficent activities in his life and completed them. In fact he is all the time engaged in doing something or the other for those in distress and those who need help. Now here these little children need his help and I hope that he will take it up with the same courage and enthusiasm that is normal for him.

I am grateful to you all my friends, ladies and gentlemen who have come to this function to honour us with your presence. It is nice to see so many friends of the school gathered here. I am sorry that you had to wait for some time but I have explained the circumstances in which these things sometimes do happen. I am happy that you have borne it with patience and on behalf of the school we are all grateful to you for doing so. In the end I would like to thank the parents of the boys without whose cooperation we could not be doing anything and above all the students themselves; they are our jewels and they are the people around whom the school revolves and it is our constant endeavour, as Mr. Sunil Dutt said, to not make them successful but people who have some values and those values we endeavour to teach them so that they become good citizens to take over the many burdens this country faces. I thank you again for coming here. I do not think I can now stand between you and the entertainment the children will shortly be providing for you. Thank you all.

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Getting to Know him - An interview with Sunil Dutt

Q.1 How did you like our school?

A. It is very nice. I was very happy to be there. It was nice meeting all the students from class I to XII. Unfortunately, the electricity failed, I could not see the science and computer exhibitions properly.

Q.2 How did you like the other exhibitions?

A. They were very good. I have been to many

schools because I like the youth of my country. I feel the country's future is in their hands, its unity and secularism depends as the youth, how they take the country forward. Therefore I am very interested in their growth. Therefore I go to different schools. I was very happy to be in your school. I must really compliment the principal, Mr. Kandhari and the other staff members who have dedicated their life to the improvement of the school programme.

Q.3 You saw the play 'Sinhasan Khali Hai' yesterday. How do you rate it - as a politician and as an actor-director? First, as a politician.

A. I think it was a very interesting play. It clearly brought out the problem of power, which has been there from the beginning, how when you get power, you become selfish. It is significant that over the centuries people have been only exploiting power and the country. There are very few who really work constructively to build a country and nation.

Q.4 And as an actor?

A. I think the boys did very well and in such a short time - I was told in two weeks' time - and they were very very good. I personally met everyone and congratulated them.

Q.5 Did you find any glaring mistake in direction, stage setting or lighting?

A. I didn't see the play from that point of view. It was being presented by the school and I saw it as such, I didn't see it as a critic. I enjoyed the play and thought it was a very good effort by the boys and especially the teacher who directed the play.

Q.6 Your son studied in a public school. In your opinion, how is a public school education different from one received in other schools?

A. I feel in a public school, the boys and girls become more independent, the school makes them more independent. But somehow, it drifts away from the basic family structure, though I feel the parents too play a great part in this drifting away.

Q.7 Nowadays it is said films misguide the youth.

A. That's throwing the blame on others. I feel the parents have very little time for their children. In yesteryears, there were films also but at that time, the contribution of the family in a child's upbringing was much more. Now, most of the parents feel that once they put their children in the best school, their job is over. I feel that is not true - their job is equally important - as important as their spending money on the children. I do not think films can spoil the basic values of a human being.

Q.8 But don't you think that the violence shown in films these days, in a way, affects them?

A. I don't think so, because violence is in the human nature and to the extent in which it is expressed varies from individual to individual. There was violence earlier also. When you read the Mahabharata, the Ramayana, you find there was violence in those days too. All the wars that have been fought - there was violence then too; the people who defied Christ - there was violence then also but there were no films then.

Q.9 In your speech yesterday you mentioned education. What education do you recommend for the children of today.

A. I feel till class X the children should not be burdened with studies - mugging from books, exams, the pressures of securing a first class, second class. They should be let loose, and should involve themselves in other activities. If they are good in certain things like sports, dramatics, they should be encouraged in that. Secondly, prepare them to be true Indians. The child should learn arithmetic, geography etc. but I feel we should have only history till class X. So that they learn of the efforts made by our forefathers to achieve freedom and unite the country. Before Independence there was no unity in the country. There were different Maharajas, different states and the British occupied these areas. After Independence we brought in unity in the country, all the states become one country. That is what the children must know. Then the medieval history, Moghul history and all the things which took place can be taught because at this time their mind is open and we can instil the true Indian spirit. Why wars were fought? They were not the wars between Hindu-Muslims, they were wars between kings. Today when our children read about this they are told that the wars were fought between Hindus and Muslims which is not true. Even the Hindu Maharajas fought against Hindu Maharajas. In the Mahabharata they were no Hindus and Muslims, there were only Hindus but the people fought against each other. There was Ashoka, the great - there were no Muslims then. Yet wars took place. That is why I feel that till matriculation, the children should only read the history of Indian Independence

movement.

Q.10 What do you think should be the ideal role of a teacher?

A. The teacher should be a friend of the students. He should not give them the feeling of being an authority, merely imposing rules. He should be like an elderly friend so that the students can respect him and confide in him. In the olden days we had such a relationship between the guru and shishya. We must maintain this so that the teacher may not become an autocrat.

Q.11 What inspired you to enter films and then what inspired you to join politics?

A. Well, in films I came by chance but took up politics to serve my countrymen because I think it is a platform from where I can express myself. Whatever I am today is due to my countrymen - their love and appreciation, and I felt that in return I should serve them to the best of my ability. That is why I took up politics.

Q.12 Can you tell us of some of your achievements in this field?

A. You know one doesn't usually talk of achievements. Achievements don't matter, they are immaterial. It is the effort you put in which counts. I am involved in improving the cancer care in my country, I am involved in the anti-drug movement - drugs are spoiling the youth of our country. I am involved in the education of spastic children. Lately, I have become involved in the movement against AIDS - AIDS which is going to severely hit our country by the end of the century. We are

educating the people about its causes and the precautions to take. We are trying to teach them that it is not only through sexual contact but also through blood transfusion, the use of needles used in drug-injection.

Q.13 What do you find more satisfying - acting or politics?

A. I think everything is satisfying if you see everything in the right perspective. I like acting and film-making because that is my profession. Whatever I am today is due to my profession. I love my profession. I have never done anything which I have not enjoyed. I even enjoyed being in your school. I don't do anything which I don't enjoy.

Q.14 Do you intend to continue acting?

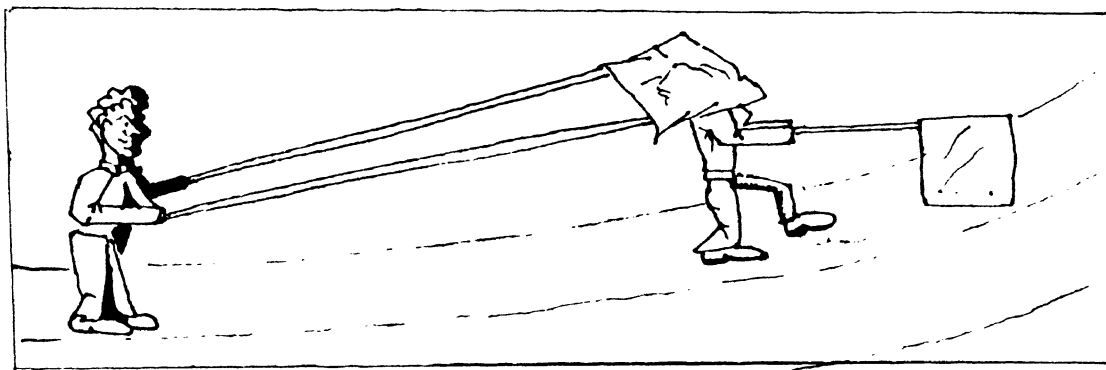
A. Yes. I am still acting because acting is very important to me and very important for my staff who have been working for me for the past 25 years and I have to give them salaries. The salary I get as a politician is not enough to even afford a secretary, therefore I have to act to earn money to pay my staff.

Q.15 Can you tell us something about your forthcoming films?

A. Recently I made a film on the problem of dowry and dowry deaths. It is a major problem. In 1989 about 4,600 girls were killed because of insufficient dowry. I made a film on this 'Yeh Aag Kab Bujhegee'. It didn't do very well. When people ask me why it didn't do well I say because people still want dowry. That is why they didn't like the movie! I have not yet decided what I am going to make next.

✓

* * *



Sports Trivia

There has been a lot of sporting activity in the past few weeks.

The interhouse swimming came to an end. All the events were closely fought. Much was expected of Ved Krishna but the star was not in form. Mohit Mehta emerged as the most successful swimmer in group 'C' winning all his events (Freestyle, Breast-stroke and Ind. Medley).

The individual medley was keenly contested between Ved Krishna and Mohit but Mohit surged forward near the end and won. Surya Todi excelled in group 'B' (events: Freestyle, Breast stroke) and Varun Puri in group 'A'. In the free-style event in group 'B' Akshi Saxena and Surya Todi were declared joint winners.

The house - results were
Group A - Jamuna
Group B - Cauvery
Group C - Ganga

The sight of athletes practising on the main field, sweat pouring from their brows can no longer be seen. This toil and labour brought dividends to some on the Sports Day held on 31st. In the Section D, Cauvery held away. The formidable trio of Aziz, Harjot and Ved dominated the track events. Aziz ran a memorable 400 metres taking a lead of almost half a lap over his nearest rival. Harjot Singh won the 100 metres clocking 11.6 seconds. In the field events too Cauvery excelled, picking up the gold in discuss (Manav Khullar). Varun Sood and Piyush Kedia came first in the long jump and high jump respectively.

Anurag Garg, Rishi Chopra, Munish Suri. Sunil Mittal and Prajwal Shrestha also performed well. Aziz Rawat was declared the best athlete in section D (Events: 1st in 400 metres, 1st in Triple jump, 1st in 200 metres.)

It is said that two seconds are better than one first. Sharib Khan came first in 3 events and second in two (Events: 1st in long jump, 1st in 400 metres, 1st in short put, 2nd in 100 metres, 2nd in 200 metres.) Jairaj Singh, his closest contender for the best athlete award, came first in four events but failed to achieve any position in his 400 metres race. Rana Randip made a strong comeback after 3 years, winning both the 100 metres and 200 metres events.

Rana also enthralled the audience with his 'super-man act' in the high-jumps, coming first in his section.

In section B, events were also closely fought however, Anshul Anurag of Ganga dominated the short distance events and ultimately won the award for the best athlete. He was supported by Muzzafar Ali Khan to enable Ganga to lift the trophy in this section.

The Junior school put up various entertaining races like the 'Maaza Race', 'Garland Race', 'Getting ready to go to school', 'Changing dress' etc. In middle school Toad Hall won the athletics and the marching cups.

Cauvery won the marching cup as well. Perseverance pays dividends and it did in the District Athletics Meet. It's worthy to know that there has been some improvement under the watchful eye of Mr. Rana and Miss K. Yadav. Jairaj Singh stood 3rd in the gruelling 8 Km. run, Sharib stood 2nd in the long jump and Rana Randip struck gold in the 200 metres. Anshul Anurag stood first in the long jump event in his section. We congratulate all the winners.

Coming to tennis. The inter-house competition saw the Jamuna duo of Atin Sharma and Dhruv Sehgal make a clean sweep of all their matches to help Jamuna lift the cup. Dhruv Sehgal seemed a class apart and was several rungs above the other players. He was understandably declared the best player of the tournament. Zayed Khan the youngest player in the competition, played commendably well to earn the award of the most promising player of the year. However, the tennis standard in general was not very good - perhaps due to lack of practice, a coach, and may be even the poor condition of the tennis courts.

Our basket ball team triumphed in the Marshall Silver Jubilee basketball tournament beating R.I.M.C. in the finals with consummate ease by 50 points.

The Inter house volleyball and table tennis competitions have commenced. I'll spare you the details till next time. Until then,

Au revoir.

- Vidura

हिन्दी अनुभाग

दूरदर्शन - मनोरंजन एवं शिक्षा का प्रमुख साधन ।

मैं इस कथन से काफी हद तक सहमत हूँ। हमारा मनोरंजन करने के लिए, दूरदर्शन का बहुत बड़ा योगदान है।

पुराने जमाने में लोगों ने अपना मनोरंजन करने के लिए अपने ही साधन नियुक्त किए हुए थे। वे शतरंज एवं चौपाल में बहुत अधिक रुचि लेते थे, और बच्चे मिट्टी के खिलौनों के साथ खेलते थे। मगर आज जमाना बदल चुका है। हर आदमी ने अपने मनोरंजन के लिए टी0वी0 रखा है जिसके के अनेक फायदे हैं। पहला यह, कि हमें घर में बैठे-बैठे ही संसार की खबरें मिलती रहती है।

अन्तर्राष्ट्रीय खेल-कूद प्रतियोगिताओं को देखना, तो लोगों के लिए एक कभी न पूरा होने वाला सपना बनकर ही रह गया था, मगर दूरदर्शन ने इस सपने के साकार कर दिखाया है। अब लोग घर में बैठकर, आसानी से अपने टी0वी0 पर ये खेल-प्रतियोगितायें देख सकते हैं।

दूरदर्शन बड़े-बड़े व्यापारियों के लिए भी बहुत काम की चीज है। दूरदर्शन द्वारा वे लोगों तक अपनी वस्तुओं का विज्ञापन कर सकते हैं ऐसा करने से जब लोगों को इन चीजों के बारे में पता लगता है, तो उनमें इन वस्तुओं को खरीदने की ललक उत्पन्न होती है, और व्यापारियों का बड़ा फायदा होता है। साथ ही साथ विज्ञापनों द्वारा खरीदारों को भी अनेक फायदे होते हैं। उन्हें इस बात का ज्ञान हो जाता है, कि उन्हें कौन सी वस्तु खरीदनी चाहिए और कौन सी नहीं।

बच्चों को भी टी0वी0 पर कार्टून-फिल्में देखने से बड़ा आनन्द मिलता है, और उनका मन बहल जाता है।

दूरदर्शन केवल एक मात्र मनोरंजन का साधन ही नहीं है, वरन् हमें उससे कई उपयुक्त शिक्षा भी मिलती

है। दोपहर के प्रसारण में महिलाओं के लिए बड़े अच्छे कार्यक्रम प्रस्तुत किए जाते हैं। उन्हें अनेक प्रकार के स्वादिष्ट व्यंजन बनाने की विधि बताई जाती है, जिससे वे घर में ही, अपने परिवार के सदस्यों को रोजाना नए-नए स्वादिष्ट एवं लज्जतदार व्यंजन बनाकर खिला सकती है। इससे पति-पत्नी और सौंस-बहू में भी एक दूसरे के लिए और प्रेम उत्पन्न होगा।

बेरोजगारों को भी दूरदर्शन से अनेक फायदे हैं। "रोजगार" कार्यक्रम में उन्हें नई एवं ताजी खबरें मिलती हैं जिन पर चलने से कई बेरोजगारों को नौकरियां मिल गई हैं। विद्यार्थियों को भी दूरदर्शन द्वारा कई आवश्यक सूचनाएँ मिलती हैं, जो आगे चलकर उनके लिए काफी लाभदायक साबित होती हैं।

बढ़ती हुई आबादी को रोकने में भी दूरदर्शन का बहुत बड़ा योगदान है। रोजाना समाचार के उपरान्त परिवार - नियोजन के बारे में बताया जाता है। लोगों को इस बात का एहसास कराया जाता है, कि छोटे-परिवार के कितने लाभ हैं। उन्हें आबादी को रोकने के लिए नई-नई विधियाँ सुझाई जाती हैं। जिससे पूरे देश का फायदा होगा।

दूरदर्शन का राष्ट्रीय-एकता लाने में भी प्रमुख योगदान है। रोजाना टी-वी पर ऐसे नाटकों को प्रस्तुत किया जाता है, जिससे हिन्दुओं और मुस्लिमों के मन में एक दूसरे के लिए प्रेम-भाव पैदा हो जाए, वे एक दूसरे के साथ दुश्मनों जैसा व्यवहार न करके भाइयों की तरह रहे। जिस देश के लोगों में एकता होती है, उसकी उन्नति को कोई नहीं रोक सकता।

अन्त में मैं यही कहना चाहूंगा कि दूरदर्शन मनोरंजन और शिक्षा का मुख्य साधन है। यह हर देश की उन्नति का मुख्य कारण होता है।

प्रत्या चोपड़ा
कक्षा - XI

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