

THE RAGLAN SCHOOL 1928-1949

FOREWARD TO 21ST ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATIONS

by Alderman J. Reid

Chairman of Edmonton Education Committee,
Opening of the School in 1928

It is with pleasure that I congratulate the Raglan School on its coming of age. I well remember the Saturday, twenty one years ago, when the school was opened by the Rt. Hon. C.P. (afterwards Sir Charles) Trevelyan, M.P. the then president of the board of education. As Chairman of the Education Committee I had the privilege of presiding at the ceremony. The following week the local paper came out with the headline "New School opened during a snowstorm" but in spite of the weather there was a goodly gathering, and the cold outside was matched by the warmth of good wishes for the school's prosperity expressed by our distinguished visitor and by member of the Education Committee who had worked hard to get I built.

Perhaps I may recount a small incident which, as such incidents sometimes do, sticks in my memory. Arrangements had been made for a bouquet to be presented to Mrs Reid by the small daughter of Councillor McManus. By some misunderstanding a bouquet was presented to another person by someone other than the small girl aforesaid, much to her disappointment. To solace the child I obtained a copy of Palgrave's "Golden Treasury" which Mr Trevelyan kindly autographed and gave it to her as a memento of the occasion.

An occasion it was. No new elementary school had been built in Edmonton for many years and high hopes were held of Raglan's future work and influence. Nobody could foresee the difficulties ahead, including the shadow of a six years' War. Yet those who have been able to watch the school's development through the past twenty-one years, as I will all agree that those early hopes have been justified. In spite of the troubles that have attended its youth, *the school has established a tradition.* This, I am confident, the present staff and pupils will fully maintain and indeed, that they will add to it by their work and example.

There is a benefit shared by the pupils of any worthy school which is more than the lessons learnt, more than the games played, and even more than the friendships made. It is hard to define, but it is called "*the spirit of the school.*" **I believe such a spirit flourishes at Raglan.** It is a credit to those who have worked for the school from 1928 till now. While it is cherished, things to come may be met without fear.

So, as Raglan faces the future in the "faith exulting" of its school song, I send you my warm wishes for success. I hope that the school may again look back with justifiable pride of achievement when it celebrates its jubilee in 1978.

Yours sincerely,

J. REID
1949