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EDITORIAL

As I write this editorial I am preparing a short speech on "The Quality of Life" to deliver at the Women of the Year Luncheon.

In this talk I shall be discussing issues such as : a sense of expectancy and enjoyment - a positive engagement with life; an involved and satisfying participation in life and all it has to offer. I shall be considering the role of education in this light.

I wonder how much we really do in our schools to foster such aspects of the quality of life as these in our Aboriginal students. Are considerations like these to the forefront of our minds or are we so preoccupied with the basic skills that we forget that children as they grow up do more than read and write and calculate: that they are more than knowing persons - they are being and becoming persons.

We can, if we value such outcomes, help them to become: enthusiastic and involved people; perceptive people; caring people; people whose sojourn in this world is not merely a matter of surviving the passing years but who are welcoming and enjoying and profiting from a variety of encounters with life.

If schools can co-operate with homes to help children achieve a sense of wonder and enjoyment and contentment and concern, then teachers will have done their share in improving the quality of life for their pupils.

My very best wishes.

Beryl H. Watts