

### ***A healthy cheerfulness***

Colin was very sensitive to the misfortunes of his time, so his emphasis on cheerfulness is all the more intriguing. He took every opportunity to celebrate a noteworthy occasion, always encouraged the staff and community to be friendly to one another and to pupils 'as family members.' He often spoke of the need to acknowledge the 'frivolity and weakness of that age in life,' not wanting to 'hasten them into adulthood.'

### ***A minimum of observances***

This attitude came from the atmosphere of the time – schools officially sanctioned as Catholic were set all sorts of catholic observances. Most often this engendered no more than an outward show. Hence Colin asked for the minimum of actual regulation, again recognizing the age level; but this must be tempered with encouragement and understanding, and always the observance to be explained and couched in terms and style appropriate to the students' appreciation.

### ***A plan for each individual***

The educator participates in God's creation, It is not a matter of 'molding' people so much as revealing them to themselves, telling them who they are and who they are in the sight of God. So each is precious in God's sight and plan, and has a special life to live. So Colin would exhort his teachers 'always to love your pupils without trying to have them love you; never tackle them head-on; make it easy for them to take any initiative that would bring them closer to their goal; let a sense of mercy be evident as long as some progress is possible.' He emphasized the building of a good foundation for each young person's sense of self, so that both pupil and teacher could work together to form the full person.