

## President Speaks

# Library Usage Intensifies Knowledge

Change is the keynote of our time. Much of the change we will experience within the next few years will be rapid, radical and beyond the comprehension of many of us.

We do not have to look far to see many of the changes that will be taking place: Gemini space experiments, the telstar communications satellites, the "war on death," are all preliminary stages of what is to come. All of these developments, along with thousands of others, are changing the emphasis on education today.

During the 19th Century education was largely a matter of firm subjects taught with firm discipline. The rigorous Latin courses attempted not only to train the mind but the man as well. Strength of character and good citizenship was held to be the natural by-product of hard mental labor. Every student, when educated, was to be a virtual walking encyclopedia of knowledge.

Today, with all the accumulation of knowledge, there is an increased demand on the college to teach more and for the college student to learn more. It is impossible for the individual college teacher to be the "Master" as he was in the 19th Century, just as it is impossible for the student to know and retain all of the important facts. However, the advances in technology have made new teaching aids to the teacher and to the student. This development has brought about an increased emphasis on self-instruction and individual inquiry on the part of the student. If students are expected to study independently, they must be provided with facilities to do so. The logical starting place is the college library which has been planned for individual study.

The Indian River Junior College library with its fine library staff, excellent collection of books, recordings, pamphlets, its outstanding furnishings, including the individual study carrels, has been constructed for students to begin self-instruction to supplement their classroom lectures and learnings. Since an individual cannot be expected to retain the myriad of facts and information becoming available today, it is essential that he knows where to find the information needed. Our library is well-equipped to help the individual student in this endeavor.

I will look on the library usage as the barometer of intensity of interest in knowledge at IRJC.