

MRS. KATE GEORGE and Mr. James Anderson discuss when Mr. Anderson is to approach the podium and begin calling the graduates up for their diplomas.

Always be Prepared

The proud parents and friends of the graduating class who attended the ceremony had little idea of all the hard work that went into its preparation.

Of course, the first step was that first step into a classroom some twelve years ago. From that firm foundation in education, each student built his knowledge year by year. Elementary school led to middle school and junior high to high school.

By the time these students reached their twelfth year in school, they were ready to move on, secure in the knowledge that the lessons they had learned would help them in their future plans.

Although the actual preparation for the ceremony was not so important as all the hard work and dedication, it was necessary. Mrs. Kate George, graduation coordinator, was responsible for having the gym and all the students ready

for the occasion. Almost a thousand folding chairs for the seniors and their audience had to be arranged, and the gym had to be spotless.

Another important part of preparing for graduation night was the traditional speeches, which were written and practiced by Michelle Wasson, valedictorian, and Karen Mannerak, salutatorian.

Even after all was done, Mrs. George and the senior homeroom teachers had to gather the some 280 graduating seniors and the junior marshalls together for a mass simulation of the event.

As practice ended and the participants went home, their joy of "getting out" turned to anxiety in some and sadness for others. All these students knew that what they were so diligently preparing for was the end of a very important time in their lives and the beginning of a new and totally different one.

WEARING A senior T-shirt and nervous expression is graduate Barbara Jenkins. Many graduates worried about forgetting all the instructions they had been given during practice.

MICHELLE WASSON and Karen Mannerak run through the procession while being watched by the junior marshalls. The marshalls are the top ten students in the junior class.

