

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS  
Republic of the Philippines  
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON  
Department of Education  
Maynila

TANGGAPAN NG KALIHIM  
Office of the Secretary

April 1, 1971

DEPARTMENT ORDER  
No. 8, s. 1971

LAVISH AND ELABORATE COMMENCEMENT EXERCISES TO BE  
AVOIDED

To The Director of Public Schools,  
The Director of Private Schools, and  
The Director of Vocational Education

1. In view of the high cost of living and to avoid adding burden to the parents of graduating students, it is directed that this year's commencement exercises in both public and private schools be made as simple and as inexpensive as possible. The wearing of elaborate and expensive attire and the holding of graduation parties and dances should be discouraged. As much as possible, commencement exercises should be held during the day. The printing of costly and elaborate annuals, souvenir programs and the like should also be avoided. To commemorate the fact of one's graduation, a simple group pictures or simple publication will suffice, orders of which should be strictly voluntary on the part of the graduating students.
2. Regarding attire for graduation, it is suggested that proper inducement for graduates to wear clothes of inexpensive materials, preferably of local make, simple and fit for the occasion should be made. The practice of requiring candidates for graduation in the high school, elementary and kindergarten to wear gowns or togas should be done away with. Likewise the wearing of hoods should be restricted to candidates for graduate degrees.
3. It is further directed that no unnecessary or unauthorized fees or dues should be collected from students. This and the practice of requiring class donations from the graduating students are causes of many complaints from parents. Our school personnel should give no cause for complaints of this sort.
4. Instructions herein given are largely a reiteration of previous regulations and department orders. However, it is desired that their implementation be intensified.
5. All schools, colleges and universities should be directed to submit reports on this matter which should be the basis of a general report of each Bureau to this Office before the beginning of every new school year.

(SGD.) JUAN L. MANUEL  
Acting Secretary





