



PEN PICTURES

## Dedicated Teacher

By RUSS FLEMING

Recently a prominent business man of the district made this astute observation, "look to the schools before considering investing in a town, they contain the vital ingredient which determines the future of the town's economy."

In September of 1957 Fatima College opened its doors to give students of Separate Schools of the Tri-Town area an opportunity to continue their education under the same system used for their elementary schooling.

Father Smith, who has been with the school since its origin in 1957, is one of the dedicated teachers and leaders who have made the success of this venture possible.

He was born in Cobalt, but immediately moved to Timmins where he received his early education. He continued his studies at Sudbury University, and finally in the University of Ottawa Seminary Schools.

Ordained in 1950, he served his first parish in Kirkland Lake for five years. After leaving Kirkland Lake his work took him to Lorrainville, where he stayed a year.

Being close to education, and fond of teaching, Father Smith decided to attend University of Toronto Teachers' College.

After graduation in 1957 he came to Haileybury where he took part in the founding of Fatima College.

At the start the only facilities available were in the Bishop's House where the dining room was set aside for a class room.

Early in 1958 after the new separate school was completed, the entire parish voluntarily redecorated and repaired the old building.

A meeting of the Catholics Parents' League was called and definite plans were made to get the school started. The second story was closed off, and the heating plant improved.

Easter of 1958 found the pupils established in the refinished building. The school was designed to serve the Tri-Town district, but draws pupils from as far away as Latchford, Judge, and Earlton.

Father Smith is a busy man, not only does he help in the administration of the school but also teaches Special French, Physics, Algebra, Latin, Geometry and Religion. He works in the new school in

## Development Bank For Agriculture

Establishment of an Agricultural Development Bank, as a pilot project in Ontario, plus studies of the manner in which prices are determined on central markets for beef and poultry products, vertical integration, and further research into farm marketing are some of the important requests made in the On-

close co-operation with Father La Blanc the principal who is a native of Cornwall, and with a Sister of the Assumption, who is supervisor of the girls.

He says "the school is small, having an enrollment of 27, but affords a better chance to give each pupil the individual attention necessary, and we are prepared to help them morally and financially in the pursuit of their chosen careers."

Too busy for hobbies, Father Smith has some strong opinions, especially in his own chosen field, education.

"While a certain amount of equipment is necessary in running a school, I would put more trust in a teacher's ability to create the proper spirit and atmosphere for the students, and impart knowledge which will make these pupils responsible citizens. This spirit, I feel, can only be quickened by a good teacher and so I recognize the criterion of "dedication".

He also asserts "Luxuries available today have upset our sense of values, and the parents are as much to blame as the children. It is a rare parent who dares impose authority upon his child, and because of this they lack direction and purpose, in their daily lives."

"Here we strive to develop in our pupils a sense of social responsibility, and teach them to avoid becoming rebels in an organized society."

"In the near future," he concluded, "we will begin an experiment with student leaders, and try to impart and demonstrate to them the value of assuming responsibility for the full use of school facilities and teachings."

Thursday, May 28, 1959

The Haileyburian

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tario Federation of Agriculture Brief presented to the Agricultural Enquiry Committee in Toronto last week.

The OFA brief, read to the Committee established by the Ontario government to enquire into and study all phases of marketing of farm products, pointed out that agriculture is a relatively declining industry in Canada. With the decline has come a rapid depopulation of the rural areas, high costs because of the need for labour-saving equipment as a substitute for manual labour, and low prices for the farmers' products. Thus many farmers are caught in an economic squeeze.

The farmer has attempted to improve his position through marketing boards, co-operative and other groups, controlled by farmers. These groups now find they need greatly expanded credit facilities in order to satisfy farmer demands for a wider variety of services and increased efficiency of

operation. Thus the request by the OFA for an Agricultural Development Bank which would assist the farmer much as the Industrial Development Bank aids the businessman in other industries.

The OFA brief thanked the government for the establishment of the Committee and the opportunity for an unbiased study of all aspects of the farm marketing problem.

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