

Editorial Page

Away From Classrooms

About 25,000 Halton children will be going back to school on Tuesday. There is, however, an important percentage that won't be making the trek. Dozens in elementary or early high school years will be turning their backs on the classrooms to walk into the work world.

In many instances will go the shattered hopes of parents and relatives, for whether these young people realize it or not, they will be running the risk of never getting the chance to become a successful part of Canadian industry and business.

About 70 per cent of the pupils enrolled in grade two in our Halton schools today, will leave the school system before receiving their junior matriculation in many cases ill-equipped to compete for anything but the unskilled and semi-skilled types of employment.

An examination of occupations in Canada

provides a pretty clear indication of the problem. About 70 per cent of the jobs available in this country are of a professional, semi-professional, technical or skilled nature, and only 30 per cent of employment consists of semi-skilled or unskilled occupations.

We require a basic change in our thinking for the deplorable drop-out rate must reflect the fact that we adults are not yet convinced of the desirability or necessity of advanced education. What was adequate yesterday in the way of education is becoming less and less adequate today.

Just as our country has advanced in the past few decades, so our need for more education has increased. A full realization of this fact by all adults and children would surely bring about a much needed change in social attitudes.

The solution to the school drop-out problem rests with every Canadian.

The Greatest Show

The floss candy makers are busily dispensing their mouth melting delicacy. Midway barkers are enticing the crowds. Automobiles are filling the parking lots. The smell of hamburgers and hot dogs is permeating the air. Livestock and animal breeders are competing for top honors in the show ring. Martial music is originating from the bandshell. Name entertainers are performing for the grandstand crowds and thousands watch the mighty spectacle of fireworks.

It's all part of the Canadian National Exhibition holding forth daily in Toronto. The Ex is different things to different people. It averages one controversy a year and countless letters to metropolitan editors, complaining about everything from the price of admission to the condition of the

grounds or the "shocking" nature of one of the side shows.

For thousands of the less vocal of course the Ex has filled their expectations in one or a dozen ways. No where can one see the variety of displays, the number of exhibits, the beauty of the flowers, the smells of the midway and the animals that are the pride of Canadian farms, all wrapped up in one big exhibition.

Halton farmers will be competing as usual and of course Halton's Dairy Princess will be competing for the Dairy Queen title.

From the chilling midway rides to the beauty of the flower show; from the thundering six horse teams in the coliseum to the martial music at the bandshell the Canadian National Exhibition is in full swing.

See you at the Ex?

Another Holiday?

Monday is Labor Day.

It is a day that has been introduced as a holiday to honor the workingmen.

Like many holidays we now mark there seems to be no effort to attach any particular significance to it. Undoubtedly its introduction in 1884 was hailed as an opportunity for parades and other displays of goodwill to workingmen.

Today the holiday seems to find its only area significance in a long week-end and a chance for many to attend the Canadian National Exhibition where labor is honored.

Much the same situation exists with Civic Holiday, Dominion Day and the old Empire Day.

Actually labor has a history it should be anxious to recall. From the dark days of the Industrial Revolution in England to these enlightened times the workingman

has gained new status and benefits. A day of 16 hours was not uncommon as the industrial revolution gained momentum. It was not until 1833 that children under 13 were limited to an eight hour day. Legislation in the U.S. in 1938 recognized 40 hours as the maximum ordinary work week.

Today about 61 million people make up the nation's labor force. By some generalized mathematics that gives Halton a work force of about 34,000—the equivalent of the county's total population at the mid-way point of the decade.

Labor is entitled to the significance it receives from a special holiday but if holidays are to have any particular importance other than "the day before school starts," "the last holiday of the summer," and "the day we close up the cottage," those responsible will have to get their message across each year.

A Very Real Problem

There is an ominous note in recent unemployment figures released jointly by the Department of Labor and Bureau of Statistics. It shows 311,000 unemployed in July—an increase over last year of 83,000.

The report is ominous in a country notorious for winter unemployment but unfamiliar with unemployment increases in mid-summer.

This community is not unfamiliar with unemployment. Industries here have had the same difficulties as those experienced on an increasing scale across Canada.

Labor Minister Starr appears to be stumped for an explanation of the problem but it is abundantly clear that the business boom forecast by Finance Minister Fleming and Trade Minister Churchill has never got off the ground this year.

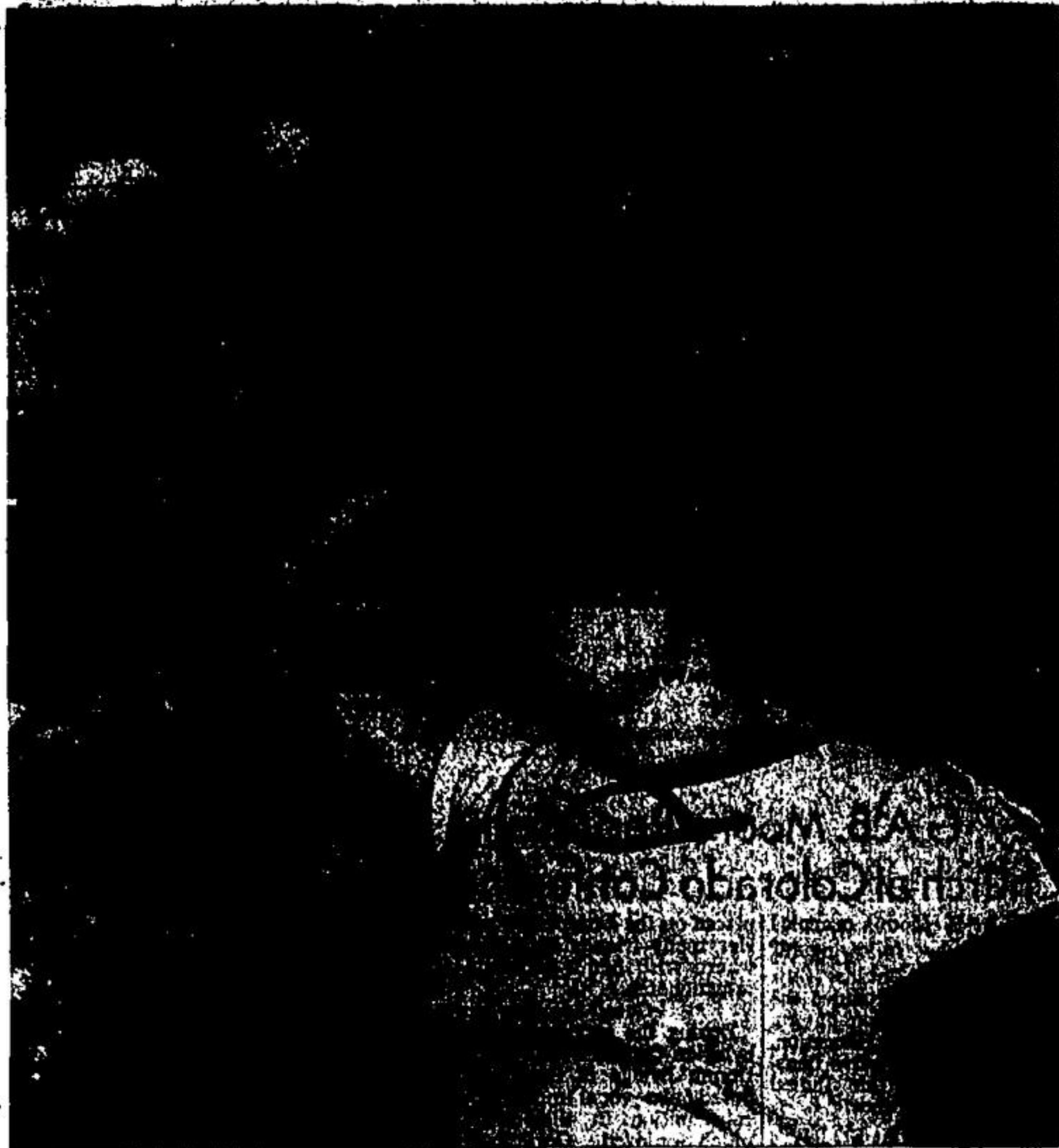
Forecasts of an autumn downturn in the

economy plus the usual seasonal slack later make the outlook for unemployment next winter grim indeed.

Halton M.P. Sandy Best has advised us of extensions in the winter works program to include a broader field of assistance grants on municipal projects. This could help the local picture only slightly, in municipalities with budgets long since set and expenditures already running high enough.

It is true, however, that federal and provincial governments alone cannot be expected to ease the situation. Not only local government but local citizens as well will have to get into the act. Nothing can cripple a community faster than unemployment.

The subject of unemployment here is not a new one but it may be a continuing one.



—Photo by Esther Taylor

Cap of Gold

Sugar and Spice...

BY BILL SMILEY

People keep asking me how I got on this school teaching kick. "Didn't you like the newspaper business?" they query. Sure, I like being a weekly editor, I am also very fond of pickled pigs' feet, but I don't want them for breakfast, lunch, dinner and bedtime snack, every day except Sunday.

It wasn't a sudden aberration, just one of those wild impulses a man has when he hits the 40-year mark. It was carefully reasoned out. This column, written four years ago, is proof of that. Here's the way I told it back in '56:

The other day I was sitting in the heat, feeling sorry for myself, watching the tourists waltz past the office window. They looked lazy, carefree, healthy. I started worrying about how hard I work, how scanty are the holidays, how many thousands of words I had to produce in the next few days. "What a pity," I thought, "that an intellect like mine should be chained to a 50-year-old Remington-Rand when all these other clods are having two weeks with pay."

Just then one of our local high school teachers sauntered past in Bermuda shorts, licking an ice cream cone and looking as happy as a beachcomber. Inspiration struck me so violently that my old switch chair almost went over backwards.

Everybody knows there is a great shortage of teachers. Why couldn't I take one of those summer courses and obtain a teacher's certificate? Then I'd get a job teaching at the local high school—provided I changed eight or ten of my personal habits.

Then I'd hire some smart kid just out of journalism school as editor. I'd make enough money teaching to pay his salary and have some over for smokes. And—get this—I'd have two months' holidays out of the deal. I went over the scheme a couple of times, checking the logic of it. I couldn't find a flaw. It was foolproof, the great escape.

I went happily home to lunch, practically drooping as the simple beauty of the plan sank in. Eighty-three to four, five days a week. Holidays at Christmas, holidays at Easter. Two glorious months in the summer. Wow! Teaching and I were made for each other.

"How would you like to go to Europe next summer?" I propositioned the Old Girl when I walked in. "Fine," says she, getting out the can of soup. "How would YOU like to go out and bring in that linen of clothes?" Boy, that makes me mad. Always those smart-aleck answers when I have the world by the tail.

To take her down a peg, I outlined my scheme about teaching. She just looked at me. "Deadpan," that would be lovely, dear," she observed. "You'd be able to get a lot more done around the house, if you had Saturdays free." I felt a slight chill, as though a corpse had just lifted the lid of a casket and winked at me.

"Well," I temporized, "actu-

ally, I thought I'd drop down to the office on Saturdays, and kind of poke around and check on things, and write some editorials, and sort of tidy up loose ends, and you know..." She nodded thoughtfully.

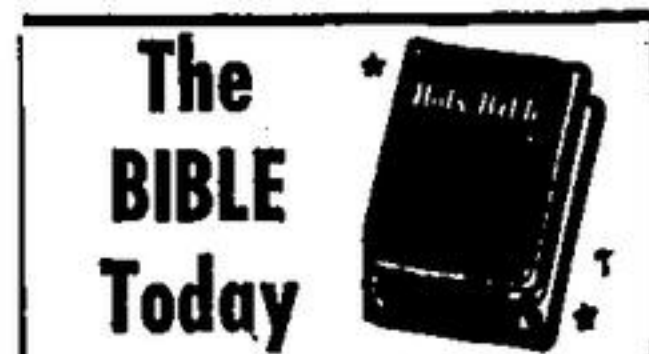
"It will certainly be good for you to give up smoking and swearing and making remarks like 'look at the lungs on that' and drinking beer," she pointed out in a kindly way. "Now hold it a minute." I returned hotly. "School teachers aren't like that any more. That was in the good old days, when we had the speeche under our thumbs, and a teacher couldn't even have a snort of dandelion wine without turning out all the lights in the house and locking the door."

"It's an excellent idea," she went on. "Of course, you'd have to study hard all summer to get your certificate. No fishing or golf. No pleasant cool drink when you come home from work. No swims with the kids. No home cooked meals. But we'd all have to make sacrifices."

"Uh, yeah," I said, with a little less than exuberance. "I'm sure you'd be able to cope with those delinquents in school," she pursued inexorably. "You can't do a thing with your own children, but I know you'd have no discipline problems with teenagers. I think there's a lot of exaggeration in those stories about switchblade knives and all that stuff anyway."

"Uh, yeah," I said. "You know what?" I said. "It's a little late to get on that summer course this year. But next year, for sure, I'll take it, and we'll be sitting on top of the world." "Uh, yeah," she said.

And that was the start of the



The joint committee of the churches which is directing the preparation of the Bible in our current English speech met recently in the Jerusalem Chamber of Westminster Abbey and formally accepted the translation of the New Testament.

The name adopted for this Bible is "The New English Bible." The New Testament is being prepared for printing by the Oxford and Cambridge University Presses and will be published at the same time throughout the world.

Wealth is Tapped
The wealth of trained scholarship in all the churches and from a number of British universities has been tapped to make this translation the most faithful rendering of the Greek text and has made use of the gains of recent Biblical scholarship.

The translation of the Old Testament and the Apocrypha continues.

The joint committee consists of representatives of the Church of England, the Church of Scotland, the Methodist Church, the Congregational Union, the Baptist Union, the Presbyterian Church of England, the Churches of Ireland, the Society of Friends, the British and Foreign Bible Society, and the National Bible Society of Scotland.

...Dodging 'Round the District

BY ROY DOWNS

BURLINGTON—First sod for the big Fuller Brush Co. plant in the town's Progress Park was turned Tuesday of this week at an informal ceremony attended by town and company officials. An immediate start will be made on construction of the building. It is the first large firm to locate in the municipally-sponsored industrial area.

OAKVILLE—You can trip over red tape at municipal level, said Bill Cotton of the Oakville Journal, after a lady smelled smoke in her basement, called the fire department, and an electrician showed up. The action took five telephone calls to fire halls and fire chiefs in the area. More than an hour later, she was informed her sump pump motor had burned out.

GEORGETOWN—A lady telephoned a councillor to give a tip, on an industry which she heard was considering a change of location, and council was very pleased to get the lead on some more industrial assessment. It should happen here!

OAKVILLE—Ford of Canada has cut nearly 1,000 hourly-paid employees off the payroll, effective this week when production of the 1961 model cars and trucks begins. The company is cutting the two-shift 1960 model production line to one assembly line.

ORANGEVILLE—OPP Constable Grand Willis really "flipped his lid" while chasing a speeder near Grand Valley on the weekend. Driving about 70 miles an hour, the hood of his cruiser flew up and he had to stop. The speeder got away.

MILTON—Town foreman Bruce McKerr has mapped the town's 20 miles of water mains, and included the valves and hydrants on the map. The town never had any indication where mains might be located before this.

GEORGETOWN—Local TV viewers thrilled last Wednesday and Thursday to see the Rev. Alex Calder competing on the Price is Right show from Buffalo. The minister won about \$1,800 worth of prizes including a Hi-Fi set, silver tea service, riding power mower and dining room "hutch".

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

BACK IN 1940

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thurs., September 5, 1940.

One of the biggest problems in Acton just now is the housing situation. True, there are a few houses for sale but to rent a house is absolutely out of the question. The situation is bad now but with a new industry—the Wool Combing Corporation—getting ready to commence operations, the question becomes much more completely tangled.

In St. Alban's Anglican church on Monday, the marriage was solemnized of Leona Eliza Caroline, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Waller, to Mr. Herbert Edmund Le Gallais, son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Evelyn Le Gallais of Paspébiac, Quebec. Rev. E. A. Brooks performed the ceremony, assisted by Rev. Capt. E. Brilling of Hamilton.

A discussion at the regular school board meeting Tuesday night revealed that the board were unanimous in not seeking permission this year to teach any of the Upper School subjects here. It was felt that the staff should devote this time to the teaching of the high school course up to Middle School only.

On Tuesday evening, Lakeside chapter I.O.D.E. held their regular meeting in the Y.M.C.A. It was a special occasion because of the presence of Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Duggan from headquarters. Representatives were also present from the Duke of Devonshire chapter, and the John Milton and Earl of Glamis chapters from Milton.

The regent, Mrs. A. J. Buchanan, presided. Both the visiting ladies gave very interesting addresses. Mrs. M. Leitch moved a vote of thanks to all who contributed to the program. This was seconded by Miss Julie Lesiewicz and Mrs. Buchanan presented each with a bouquet of gladioli.

Delegates attending the fifth annual convention of the Rural Mail Carriers of Canada in Peterborough recently elected S. H. Webster of Acton secretary-treasurer.

A feature this year at Acton Fair will be the Halton County Jersey Show. The finest cattle of this breed will compete for the special prizes offered in the various classes.

BACK IN 1910

Taken from the issue of the Free Press, Thurs., September 1, 1910.

If the school bell did not bring particular joy to the small boy this morning, it surely must have lessened the anxiety of many mothers who have had a rather hard time keeping an eye on their young ones for the past two months. Anyway, school has reopened. Caretaker Coleman has been a busy man the past few days and has the school thoroughly clean from top to bottom. Every room has been scrubbed.

There have been several changes in the teaching staff. Principal Stewart is still at the helm with Miss B. Rowena Humphries of Guelph as assistant; Miss Bennett takes charge of the first department; Miss Daisy Nicklin, second department; Miss Ena Pearson, third; Miss Ruby Clark, fourth; and Miss Minnie Holmes, fifth. It is gratifying indeed that all members of the staff are residents of Acton with the exception of Miss Humphries.

To the Boy Scout movement, much interest has been attached from the first. But now that its work is to be under the direction of Sir R. Baden-Powell it will attract an even greater degree of attention. If we can have in our lads manliness, truthfulness, courtesy, personal honor and patriotism, we need not be worried about the next crop of men.

Mr. G. A. Black received a couple of copies of "Heiland Heather" from bunny Scotland this week. He considers this an omen of success in his launching into the auctioneering business.

Last Saturday, Georgetown witnessed a fast game of ball between their team and the Acton nine. It looked as if Acton had the game on ice until the eighth inning with a score of 4-1. Perhaps the Acton bunch thought the game was a cinch but if they did, they were badly mistaken. Georgetown "tightened up," tied the game up, and won in the tenth on a two-bagger by Roy Arnold, which brought in a man from second.

A. Russell was the winner of the \$5 bond at the weekly draw on Saturday.

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