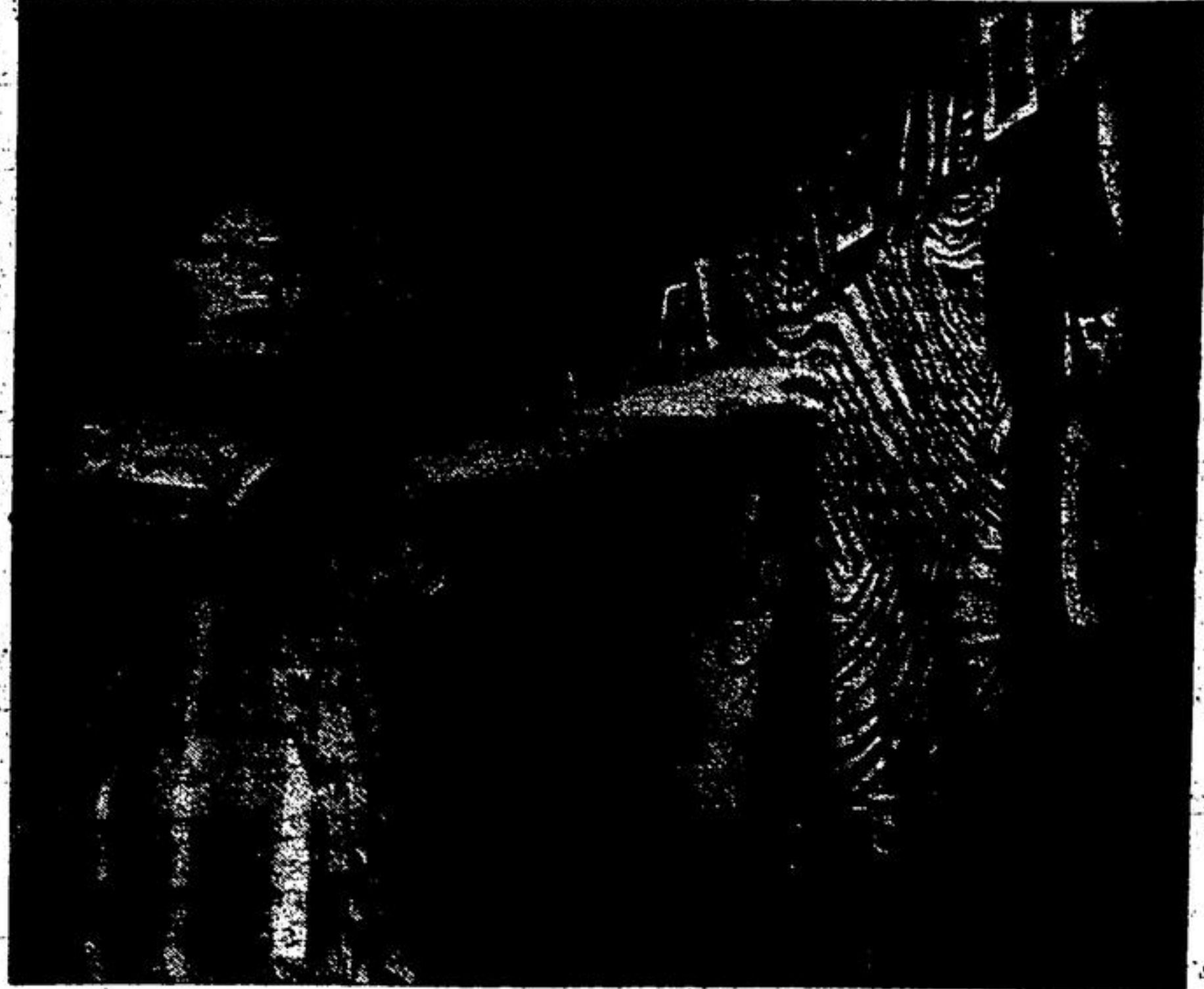


School Fashion Show Aids Junior Red Cross Make Study of French Language County School



Putting finishing touches on their fashion show sets are Deborah Moore, Howard Gas- kin and Robert Dubien.

Styles that may decorate dress shop windows in the 1980s and costumes from around the globe were paraded before George Kennedy public school parents and pupils in a fund-raising scheme which netted \$36 for the Junior Red Cross recently.

The creations were the work of Tom Hunter's Grade 5-6 class. Some pupils adapted their own or mom's dresses to fit the themes of the program but most were made from scratch with the help of Mrs. George Baker, of 33 Weber Drive.

An evening fashion show presented for parents brought \$16 in and a showing for the school the next day added \$20 to the Junior Red Cross coffers.

Mrs. Baker also gave those taking part some direction in modelling and arranged the program.

French speaking residents of Halton county have been invited to a public meeting this week in Milton to elect four people to a special committee studying French language school instruction in the county. It will be chaired by Halton County Board of Education director, James Singleton.

The board has already appointed its three members to the seven man committee. Trustees Fred Bidwell of Burlington, Tom Watson of Acton and John Noble of Milton will form the board representation.

The committee will deal only with secondary school aspects of French instruction since most of the 400 French speaking students in Halton attend Holy Cross separate school in Georgetown.

The board has received 19 requests from French speaking parents about secondary school instruction in their native tongue — nine more than is required by provincial law to form a special advisory committee.

Currently, between 12 and 15 north Halton French speaking students attend De Charbonnel school in Toronto where they can get instruction in French.

The first problem of the committee will be to collect information about the problem in order to decide on alternatives open to them. If there are sufficient students in the county who want French instruction, it may be worthwhile to establish such a school.

Also, there is a possibility that a joint project with another county may be the answer to the problem.

"I have talked to the people in Georgetown," said Singleton. "They realize that things won't happen overnight and that people can't exist in this part of the country knowing only French."

"They are not looking for a complete French composite school but merely for ways to preserve their heritage and have a valid point when they suggest that French literature be substituted for the English literature that all high school students take."

Meanwhile, the board is taking a look at the entire program of French instruction through out county schools from early grades to the end of high school.

"The whole thing is up in the air," Singleton explains. "We haven't come to grips with the problem."

With the amalgamation of all county boards this year, the board has been occupied with standardizing all programs across the county.

At the moment, most schools in the county begin instruction in French at the Grade Seven level. If the board can solve more pressing matters by spring, it is possible that the

standardizing process can begin then. Otherwise, the board has indicated it is willing to keep the present system for another year in order to assess the situation. One major problem has been the transition from Grade Eight to Grade Nine in French instruction.

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Fashions of the future and from around the world are displayed by these George Kennedy Grade 5-6 girls, with Mrs. George Baker. In the front row from left are: Helen Young, Linda Allen, Christine Robinson, Gwen Maneely, Deborah Moore. Middle row: Marilyn Livingstone, Linda Graham, Pamela Bryan, Sandra Moore, Debbie Williams, Anne Smith. Third row, Stephanie Gorin, Deborah McMillan, Christine Grigg, Debra Dean, Mrs. Baker and Pam Proudfoot.

Hiring Teachers is Big Job for County Board

It's that time of year again — the time when countless boards of education across the province hold out pies in the sky for young and old teachers to replace resignations and fill new schools.

And Halton County Board of Education is no exception.

This year the board expects to have to hire about 145 new teachers for both elementary and secondary schools to handle the influx of 2000 new students.

But that won't even come close to handling the annual hiring problem when hundreds of teachers all across the province decide for one reason or another that it's time to move to another municipality.

Moves Expected

Education director, James Singleton said this week that of the 750 secondary school teachers now on staff, he expects at least 80 to move. Of the 1600 public school teachers, a total of 180 to 190 are expected to resign.

The reasons for the annual migration of teachers are many and varied.

In the case of young unmarried female teachers, the marriage hunting grounds in one area may not have proven fruitful so she moves on to greener pastures. In other cases, a young woman may retire to get married and raise a family.

Promotion in other municipalities is a major factor in the annual migration. Each year, teachers watch like hawks, the trade journals and newspapers advertisements for what looks like a better position at a higher rate of pay.

Nothing New

"This migration is not a new phenomenon," says Singleton. "It's been going on for years and we'll get our usual share of resignations."

The Halton Board, along with countless other Metro Toronto and area boards will make use of facilities at the Royal York Hotel in Toronto for hiring purposes.

These two days will not come close to filling the board's requirements and it will be until mid-April before the board has enough teachers.

Best Spots

One factor that makes the job somewhat easier is that once an offer is accepted, even verbally, there is no turning it down later for a better offer. If teachers were to jockey around for the best spots by giving tentative acceptance to several offers and then accepting the best, it would cost boards more money and the job of hiring would become similar to an auction.

The job of acquiring enough teachers to handle the county's growth rate of students also entails visiting six provincial teachers' colleges. The board sends a team to each college for one day in an attempt to woo young teachers to Halton.

Traditionally, the board, along with others, advertised in the Globe & Mail in Toronto since most prospective teachers refer to it for jobs.

Teachers will be needed to handle an expected 2,600 new students in Halton next year.

This year, there will be one hiring body set up to fill the needs for the whole county. The number of resignations seems larger this year because it is a collective figure for the entire county.

"There will always be a migration in the teaching profession," Singleton said. "When boards amalgamate, some have to lose some seniority in the process and some move on to greener pastures."

"It's natural that with amalgamation, the same size fish

in the small pond will become very small in the context of the huge county pond." The International Bantam Hockey Tournament starts this Saturday, March 15 in town.

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