

NOTES FROM ACTON HIGH

By Mary Ann Freuler
 "A Travelogue of Greece". This was the topic of an assembly held last Wednesday afternoon. Rob Ellerby, treasurer of the Student Council, introduced Mr. Ken Ellis to the student body. Mr. Ellis is now employed as an English teacher at Acton High School and the students enjoyed learning about the adventures of one of our own staff members.

The slides showed many of the historical sites in that region. One picture which made a hit with the audience was one which Mr. Ellis entitled "The World's Largest Belly-button!" In many of the slides we were able to relate the place and statues to works studied in mythology which is part of the English course. After our speaker was thanked by Mary Ann Freuler, the assembly was adjourned.

Dofasco visit for grade 10s

By Rosemary Lowe
 On November 4, Mr. May's two grade ten geography classes visited Dofasco and did a brief urban study of Hamilton.

Mr. James Burns, the plant tour guide and general relations manager of Dofasco met us on arrival at 9.45 and handed out "goggles" and visitors' hard hats.

Because we had arrived very close to the change of several "rollers" in the rolling department, we started in the middle of the plant. Later we returned to the beginning of the plant process. The point of most interest seemed to be the pouring of the hot molten steel into ingot moulds.

Travelogue surprise

Three holes that's Troy

By Dianne Fisher
 Last Wednesday the students of Acton High went on a trip but never left the gym.

Mr. Ellis, our world-travelled English teacher, led us through the sites and scenes of Turkey and Greece by showing us his own pictures of the area. His slides depicted the climate, countryside and way of life of these countries. He told us all about the historical sites of Rome and Athens.

Speaker seeks school changes
 John Holt, whose writings have influenced educators across Canada and the United States, came to London Nov. 14 to speak to members of the Ontario Public School Men Teachers' Federation.

John Holt gained prominence in education circles through his books "How Children Learn", "How Children Fail" and "The Underachieving School." An underlying theme to be found in his works is the need for a more humanistic atmosphere in our school system, in which learning is a self-initiated and self-correcting process.

A child learns best what he wants to learn, says Holt, who would remove such obstacles as examinations, fixed curriculum and compulsory attendance. However, Mr. Holt also describes himself as an opportunist, who can put his ideas into practice now - and make them work.

A teacher himself, with a varied academic background which includes elementary and high school teaching and lecturing at teacher training colleges, Mr. Holt now acts as consultant to the Fayerweather School in Cambridge, Mass. Attending from Halton were Gary Bateman, Eric Balkind, Gil Playfair, John Gibbons, Dave Faulkner, Paul Davis, Doug Sharpe, Wayne Harrison, Bill Watt, Peter Phillips, Ray Shier, R. Kennedy, Wes Clow, Ron Cussons and Ron Dall.

Marshall (Understudy); Velasco, Barry Breen, Steve Van Fleet (Understudy); Telephone Man Bob Krul, Wayne Barnaby (Understudy); Delivery Man, Helen Woodhouse, Carol Masnieles (Understudy).

Dance Friday
 A successful dance was held at the High School last Friday evening. The music was supplied by three musicians, calling themselves Blitz Creek. Many thanks to Mr. Andrews, Mr. and Mrs. Ott and Mr. and Mrs. Burns, who devoted their time and served as chaperones for the evening.

The next dance is to be held Friday, November 27. It is a Saddle Hawkins dance, the theme being, "Sadie Goes Twin". Cheshire Cat will be playing.

Las Vegas Nite
 Las Vegas Nite is coming Nov. 20. Plan to spin the wheels and roll the dice that evening. Also, anyone caring to donate Canadian Tire money, please drop it off at the Physical Education office.

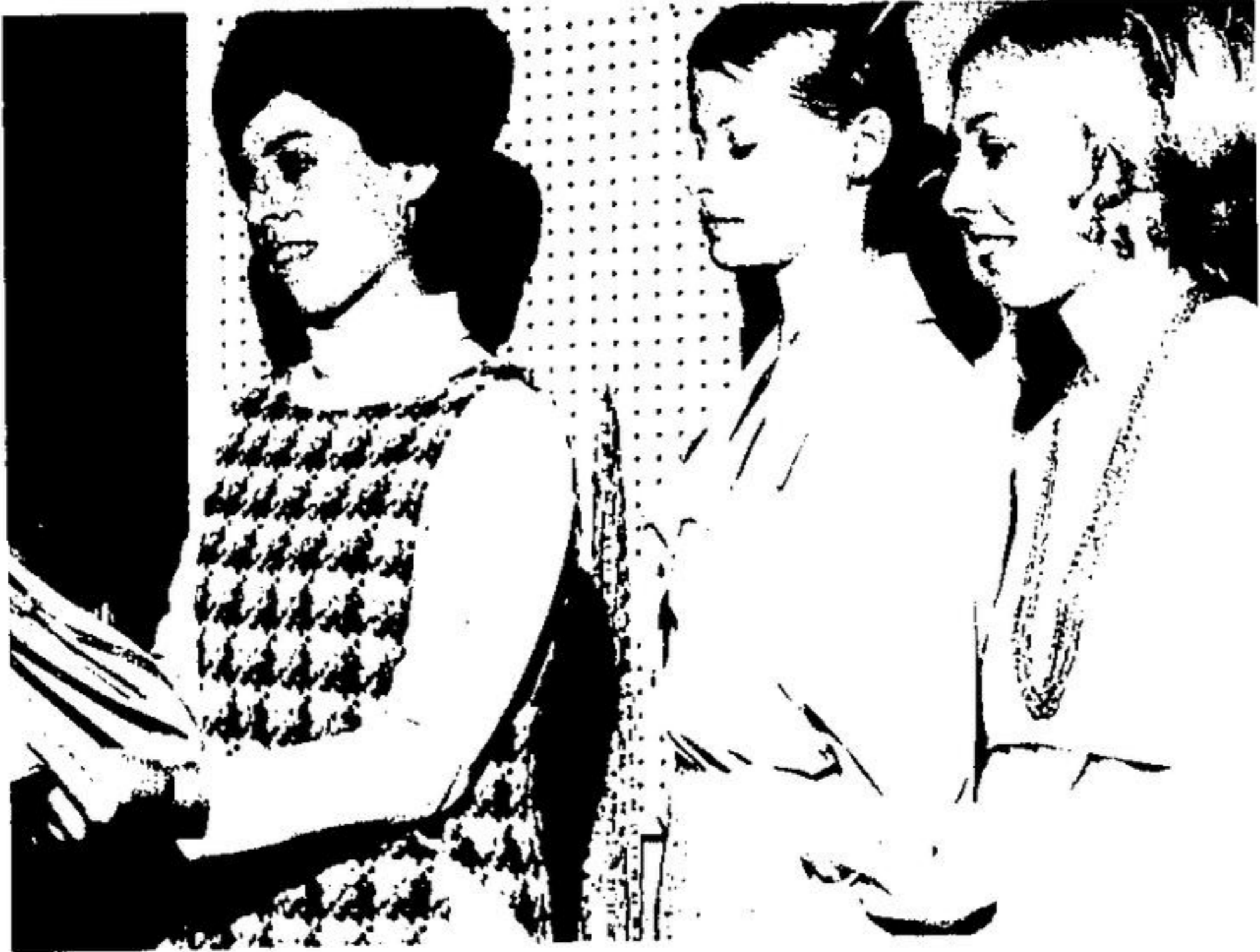
Afterwards we returned to the bus and Mr. Burns answered any extra questions while we removed our safety equipment.

Urban study
 The urban study in the afternoon, consisted of lunch on the Niagara Escarpment and a tour around Hamilton's subdivisions of interest.

Thanks to all who made our field trip possible: Mr. Burns, plant guide, Mrs. R. McGinn who helped chaperone, Mr. May, and the bus driver who was most cooperative about driving us all around the Hamilton area.



TEACHER KEN Ellis took high school students on a voyage to Greece and Turkey last week.—by film.—(Staff Photo)



ACTON DISTRICT High home economics teacher Sandra Fleischer shows dress making patterns to student teachers Virginia Toppings and Susan Stratton both of Toronto. Student teachers are visiting ADHS for the first time this year.—(Staff Photo)

Student teachers gain experience at ADHS

For the first time, student teachers from the Ontario College of Education are gaining classroom teaching experience at Acton District High School.

Susan Stratton and Virginia Toppings of Toronto, both Ryerson graduates, spent last week observing and practicing teaching home economics to students from grades nine to 12, under the eye of ADHS teacher Sandra Fleischer.

Ten weeks reserved throughout the one year OCE course are reserved for classroom observation and practice teaching. During the first two weeks, in September,

student teachers observe only but in ensuing weeks, they observe the first day and teach formal lessons the other four. Their work is evaluated and a report is made to the college.

Benefits of teaching
 Both Susan and Virginia feel practice teaching is an essential part of their course and elicit the sense of accomplishment gained from teaching a lesson themselves as a tremendous benefit.

"We can learn so much from our associate teacher too," Virginia added.

Mrs. Fleischer's classes are well disciplined and ready to learn, according to the two students.

Chores compulsory

Acton visitors form opinions on free school

By Brad Timbers
 On Tuesday morning, November 3, the first half of the grade eleven "Man and Society" class travelled to Hillsburgh to visit Everdale. It is a community school just west of Acton.

In this school, students and staff do not have to attend school regularly; there are no compulsory classes and attendance is up to the individual. The school itself consists of a big farm house, a barn, toy shops, and dormitories for boys and girls. The entire community is situated on 100 acres of land. Chores are the only compulsory activities. These include: feeding pigs and cleaning out the pens, milking cows and washing dishes.

Make choices
 Everdale is not an "establishment-type" of school. Students dress the way they want to, wear their hair at a length of their own choice, and have freedom of language. There is no curfew except for the younger students who can not leave the property after 3.15 p.m. The age of the students attending Everdale ranges from 10 to 19. The students from Acton High School took a tour through the various buildings. They visited the toy shop where wooden toys are manufactured from scratch. They looked at the classrooms in the barn, they also passed by the pig pens and the auto shop.

Lacks perfection
 With a new guide, the students looked around the dormitories which weren't in perfect order. After going back to the house, everybody made themselves comfortable in the meeting room and discussed the advantages and disadvantages of Everdale. After half an hour, Acton's

students divided up into two groups and toured the entire area questioning several of Everdale's students. They compared Acton High School to the free school and talked about Acton in general.

Accustomed to school
 When Everdale first opened, many people were against the free school. The health and fire departments were informed about the place in order to stop the school from operating. However, that was five years ago. By now, everyone is more or less used to the idea of a free school.

When the students of Acton District High School were ready to leave, a Schneider's meat truck came and delayed departure for an extra four minutes.

Students hike on Bruce Trail

The highlight of the 12-mile hike along the Bruce Trail on Saturday was an opportunity to study the Dufferin Quarry site. Exclamations of awe were heard as students peered over the edge of the hundred acre pit to see pebbles drop into the pools of water 70 feet below. The quarry equipment, especially the antique steam shovel, proved to be fascinating for many of the boys.

Along the Bruce Trail between Speyside and Acton, students discovered a stream with a picturesque waterfall, as well as two streams that disappeared underground for a short distance. One student, intrigued by the limestone caverns, intends to return and explore the Speyside area soon in the future.

The marathon chaperone hikers were Mr. May and Mr. Brees.

No human hands

Sweet field trip to sugar refinery

By Bob Smith
 On November 2 the grade 12 geography class went on a real "sweet" field trip. This trip was to the Redpath Sugar Refinery in Toronto.

We were shown a film on the basic procedure of processing raw sugar cane. Then we were split into three groups in order to tour the plant. We started our tour by seeing the storage shed for 80,000 tons of raw sugar, then we saw a few million pounds of processed sugar in storage or in the process of being packaged.

Look-nohands
 The entire process is automated — no human hands touch the sugar. Next we saw the actual refining and purifying

processes. The process is very complex and computers are used because of the complexity. Also in the plant are workshops to maintain equipment. The plant itself is self sustaining — it makes its own electricity and other necessities to maintain a large factory.

There's more
 I wish I had more space and time to explain the process and the tour.

I would like to conclude by saying that it was a most interesting tour and a most enjoyable evening. Planning and arrangements were made by the Grade 12 "Ideas Committee" and Mr. Black, our Geography teacher.

CNIB boards will merge

A merger between Halton and Peel County Boards of the Canadian National Institute for the Blind will become effective Jan. 1, 1971, it was decided at an inaugural meeting.

The following officers were elected: Chairman E. R. Hoover, first vice-president Wilson Fraser, second vice-president Mrs. A. R. Coulter, treasurer R. P. DiCola, secretary Mrs. Barbara Gates and member of the executive committee H. G. McKillop.

Elected to the board from Halton County are Mrs. R. E. Austen, Mrs. Allan Clements, Mrs. A. R. Coulter, Miss E. Dick, R. P. DiCola, W. J. Doherty, Murray Fisher, E. R. Hoover, Mrs. M. E. Kerr, Mrs. T. H. Marshall, H. G. McKillop, J. Ross McKindley, J. M. Robertson, Mrs. Tom Shields and G. F. Thompson.



ADHS GRADE 12 Geography students Toronto last week along with teacher Keith Black.

Visit schools

School board members visited Acton school Tuesday, and then joined a meeting to discuss "community" schools, which stress continuity between all grades.

Good response for UNICEF

Money collected on Halloween night in the special UNICEF boxes hasn't all been totalled yet. The Y Men report the effort was again very successful, with Acton children happily sharing their Halloween good fortune with others.

They expect the total might be the highest ever. The amount raised at the Walkathon has not been determined yet as pledges must be collected by the 149 participants.

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