



FRIGID JANUARY temperatures haven't stopped Acton youngsters in the Y.M.C.A. youth club from enjoying their favorite sport. Of course they're able to do it in the heated confines of the Guelph Y.M.C.A. pool. Whether it's taking to

the water for the first time, just lounging around in the pool or diving like Becky Baxter (top right) there's lots of fun. Two groups of children take lessons in Guelph every Friday night.—(Staff Photo)



## Y.M.C.A. news and happenings

By Mary Debenham  
Y.M.C.A.  
Program Co-ordinator

The Ladies' Slim and Trim got off to an enthusiastic good start with all eager to lose or gain precious inches. Boy, what exercises can do! Just in case you missed the opening exercises, the ladies meet twice a week Mon. and Wed. at 8 p.m. in the M.Z. Bennett gym. Phone Mrs. Thelma Cooper 853-2485 for information.

As you might have seen or heard, we are starting a Judo Club. Members will meet Wednesdays at the high school from 7 to 9 p.m.

yourself what goes on at the 'Y' and it will be of interest to you, and will please your child.

Mrs. Dittich is back from her mission of mercy in Inuvik, and is ready to pick up her brushes and commence art classes on Sat. January 22 at 10 a.m. in the basement of the Library. Fee is \$8 for previous members, \$10 for new members. Please phone me if you are interested in joining. We can take another four children who are keen.

I believe there are still a few tickets left for Saturday Night's 'Y' Week Whirl Dance on Jan. 29. Hurry, these tickets are limited to 60 couples, and they are going fast.

## NOTES FROM ACTON HIGH

By Corie Maxwell  
Last week the students and staff of Acton High witnessed a different sort of assembly. This hour-long program, dealing with life style, was presented with the aid of nine musicians from the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra.

The concert began with the 20th century, then reverting to primitive man, thence through the Renaissance, baroque, classical, nationalism and revolution, expressionism and on to the year 2001.

It was a fast moving multimedia production, emphasizing the life style, the language, the politics and the dance, art and music of each period by using slide projectors, movies, a tape recorder and nine musicians from the Hamilton Philharmonic Orchestra. It was meant to stimulate students in history, art, literature, music and graphic arts, and we feel it did just that.

regular classes on April 12 and have a mini-school. Attendance would be compulsory and discussion groups and classes would be held, dealing with topics the students wished to know about. The announcement was made early since a lot of time will be needed for preparation of subjects and invitations to special speakers.

The grade 12 environmental science students have been studying human behavior. After having been stared at, having had your hair pulled or maybe your ear inspected, you may assume that these students have gone crazy.

In actual fact they are merely testing human reaction to various situations, and the reactions are varied, to say the least. The projects are of a diversified nature and the students have found human behavior a fascinating subject.

One industrious person even went so far as to fry bacon and eggs in the cafeteria, which wasn't exactly appreciated by the upper echelon.

## End of first semester: praise and criticism

By Corie Maxwell  
Today, Wednesday, marks the end of the first semester at Acton High. We are the second school in Halton County to operate under this system, the first being Lord Elgin in Burlington. Throughout the semester, students and teachers alike have been questioned by the numerous visitors to the school on the operation and practicability of such a system.

Every new method has its advantages and disadvantages and we found the opinions of both teachers and students to be of interest.

**Finds it hectic**  
Mr. Ken Willis, head of the English dept., thinks the semester has been very hectic for both staff and students. Since it is new, people must realize that one week in this year does not equal one week from last year. He has found that students think they have more time to complete (for example) a novel, and they don't realize that they can be expected to do more in a week in a given subject than last year. He also thinks that students must learn to utilize their free time even more than previously.

**Praises teachers**  
Ron Mailoux, grade 12 student, has been on a semester system previously at a high school in Windsor. He says "the programs there were similar to those offered at A.H. but they were less interesting. The teachers here make it worthwhile for a student to be present in classes. I don't think that we have enough time though, especially in the reading of novels. (English). It seems that the period of time for this is too short."

When November arrives and it is realized that the semester will end in two short months, it seems that the teachers all rush to find ways of marking us. This is the time that we are assigned three or four projects, all due in January. Since they all are due at once, school becomes hectic. I still like the hour periods though, since there is more time to

concentrate on one subject. I am looking forward to next semester.

**Likes change**  
Mr. Boris Shean, Business and Commerce, likes the semester system for a number of reasons. He thinks that a subject is not as dragged out if there is a change after four months (which applies in most cases). Fewer but longer classes are advantageous since you teach less people during one semester and this offers a better opportunity of getting to know the students. He also feels that subjects and teaching methods are more easily applied in sixty minutes rather than forty minutes.

It is possibly disadvantageous though, to have one subject in the first semester and then to go through two consecutive semesters without studying the same subject. This is one year between courses, but studies have shown that this is not a very big problem.

**No marks ready**  
Ann Whatnough, grade 13 student, feels that one great disadvantage for the graduating grade 13's is the question of marks. When applying for entrance into a University, marks are usually available by February, under the old system. Right now, when students are just starting the second semester in February, there are no complete marks available, which means that one cannot be accepted by a University at that time.

Other than this, Anne likes the hour-long classes with one subject for only one half of the year. She also thinks it is good for aggressive students, since they are able to complete high school in four years instead of five.

**Problem of involvement**  
Mr. Bruce Andrews, Physical Education teacher, feels that teachers don't get to know the student body until the second half of the year on this system and this results in a problem of involvement, especially in sports. The subject material seems to be cramped into a short space of time, which is not enough to complete the full course and therefore some parts have had to be eliminated. The work is hard for teachers and it certainly keeps Mr. Andrews very busy. One aspect of this system that Mr. Andrews feels could be detrimental is that students could go as long as one year without taking Phys. Ed. again.

On the other hand, Mr. Andrews enjoys having one subject for one hour each day, five days a week. The students

that he teaches each semester he gets to know better; also a student is able to finish one course quicker. Mr. Andrews is generally pleased with the system.

**More accomplished**  
Judy Thibodeau, grade 11 student, feels that with only four or five subjects per semester, a student is not flooded with as much homework as previously. She likes being marked on a day-to-day basis, rather than having exams, because like many other students, the nervousness and tenseness of writing an exam quite often pulls one's mark down. She thinks that a student can get to know a teacher better, also, with the one hour classes, more is accomplished. She raises only one objection and that is, if a subject does not interest her, an hour long class can become boring.

Judy likes the system and she has found that her marks are higher this year than last year.

## Cancel classes

Night school registrations were way down for the second session of classes, and new and repeat courses offered had to be cancelled.

The first part of the year was very successful.

January courses were announced by flyers and an advertisement in Halton Education News.

## Choraliers executive set

New officers for Acton Legion Choraliers are president Vic Patrick, secretary Al Turner, treasurer-historian Jim Higgins, librarians Tinny Masales and Len Mitchell, quarter-masters Hugh O'Rourke and Gil Malcolm. Pianist is Dave Harris and conductor Ted Hansen.

HEAVY drifting on highways in the Orangeville area forced cancellation of the Acton-Orangeville bantam game here last night.

**FROM LOVELL BROS. MEAT MARKET**

Boneless Prime Rib Roast	\$1.39 lb.
Lean Shoulder Roast	85¢ lb.
Tender Blade & Short Rib Roast	95¢ lb.
Lean Ground Chuck	85¢ lb.
Lean Stewing Beef	99¢ lb.
Fresh Small Link Sausage	69¢ lb.
Maple Leaf Sliced Side Bacon	75¢ lb.

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# What we mean by "Together we're both stronger."

First, let's set the stage. And, let's start with you. You grow up. You set certain goals for yourself. And then, after some time, along come the little 'y's. And with them, a whole new set of goals. A home, a car, maybe a cottage. You want the good things. And, seeing that you work hard for your money, why not?

But, where do we fit in? Well, we feel two heads are better than one. We figure if two people set out to achieve the same goals, they might come a little sooner. And easier.

You see, we're in the money business. We invest money to make

money, so that we can lend you money. But all of it isn't worth a plugged nickel if somebody doesn't use it, or our services, or our facilities.

No, we're not trying to talk you into a loan or a deposit. It's not like that. We feel these things will come naturally with what we have to offer. And that offer is this: a working partnership in achieving goals. Your goals, and our goals. Let's call it something like, 'You & Sons. We know you work hard for your money. We understand things don't come easy. For any of us.

And that's what we mean by "You and the Commerce. Together we're both stronger." Because together, we are.

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