



DOING AN INDIAN rain dance are members of the pre-school program. Leader Ron Skeffington, and leader in training Jock Garton lead the dance while young squaws and braves follow. Last Friday was Indian day at the Scout hall program.

Lack of jobs, students closes Manpower office

A lack of students looking for summer employment and job vacancies in Acton has made it necessary to discontinue the student counsellor program at the Manpower office.

Student placement officer Anita Wildman said the office, which is located in the Manpower centre above Halton Hills Credit Union, was open every Tuesday and Thursday with a student employment counsellor present. Although the office was busier during peak periods, May and June, things seemed to have slowed down for both those looking for employment and the jobs available.

Students are still able to visit the Acton office on

Friday to obtain a list of job vacancies and to phone the Georgetown and Brampton office where they can speak to a student counsellor.

The Manpower office still has a number of younger students looking for work. In many cases they have received casual or day work.

Mrs. Wildman said she could not say whether or not Acton's student unemployment has dropped. There was no office in Acton last year and Manpower has no figures to compare.

Mrs. Wildman said the office has had quite a number of enquiries concerning the government programs and grants, such as the Ontario Youth Employment Program, which are designed to

increase the number of students hired for the summer.

Community Services coordinator Terry Grubbe says she has not had many students come in looking for work this summer.

Mrs. Grubbe started last year to find jobs in the community and to place students in them. This year the response by students has been very low in comparison to last summer. The students who have been enquiring for work are those aged 13 to 15.

She has received a number of calls from residents who are still seeking babysitters. Most of these she has been able to help, but some of the students she contacts have already found summer work.



CHAD ROWSELL provides music at the pre-school playground Indian day. The children made the instruments, dressed in headdresses and were painted in war paint for the special event.



LYNDA BOWEN, left, helps Laura Walker get into the Indian mood the pre-school playground Indian day. Lynda and Laura are leaders for the Recreation program.

Milton Evangelist

Alternative schools vital need

Halton could be very close to launching a "heritage" school as an alternative to the public school system in this area.

That statement came after Milton resident and crusading Baptist-Evangelist minister Ken Campbell termed the Halton public school system as an "irresponsible monstrosity."

He charged that "despite increasing educational costs, there is an abandonment of provincial standards, and that by economical cudgel parents have been denied the right to choose education of their choice."

Rev. Campbell levelled his charges against the local public school system during a fiery speech denouncing the demotion of former Halton school principal Ron Kearns, at Emmanuel Baptist Church Sunday night.

The Oakville principal was earlier charged and arrested for a narcotics charge. He was later released after being found innocent of the charge.

The Halton School Board proceeded however, to demote Mr. Kearns from his position as principal to the place of teacher.

"His demotion without a hearing demonstrates the

frightening totalitarianism which threatens, as well, the job security of the finest educators whose responsiveness to parental concerns puts them out of step with the dictates of the self-serving bureaucrats..."

Speaking to a gathering of approximately 60 parents and youths, he stated "we have to be concerned about the destructive atmosphere run by politics and money."

Rev. Campbell said he preferred to have his children "physically molested rather than psychologically ruled through the Ontario public school system."

He went on to say that private schools are increasing and noted that in both British Columbia and Alberta, alternate schools to public schools are available.

Heritage schools, as he named one alternative, would be concerned with teaching students an educational philosophy based on traditional values of discipline, manners, morals, respect to parents and other similar values.

He added that heritage schools could become a part of the present system, using the co-operative efforts of parents and teachers.

He also offered the suggestion that parent-run schools should be allowed to operate "even if they don't meet

government standards required to receive operational funds."

According to Rev. Campbell, a questionnaire opinion survey distributed to 70,000 Halton region homes showed results that a "majority felt lacking in the Christian element in school."

Parents were told they should organize a meeting of more parents, if interested in an alternative schooling method, and he predicted should there be "sufficient" interest a day school would likely be opened for the fall of 1979.

"We start with awareness. This is what this evening is all about," he told the gathering. "It is to encourage parents to be parents."

Rev. Campbell is president of the Toronto based Renaissance International organization.

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LOVELL BROS. MODERN MEAT MARKET

Halton educators address Ontario's future principals

Halton educators are playing a key role in Sheridan College's principal's course.

The education program for 85 Ontario teachers who have been selected as potential future principals by school boards across Ontario runs 125 days at the Oakville campus.

A big part of the course are guest speakers and a good number are from Halton.

On July 14 Wally Watkins, the new principal of Acton High School was the guest speaker. Halton Board of Education's Director Em Lavender, Superintendent of Program Bruce Mather and Area Superintendent Wayne Burns, who will soon move over to Peel, have also spoken to the teachers.

Watkins dealt with ways to develop a positive school environment including the importance of treating children as individuals.

He explained a positive school environment can be created only when a school's teachers "respect the sanctity of the individual."

Watkins urged educators and teachers to remember each person is different and instruction must involve individualization. Individualization of instruction will encourage students to the limit of their ability. Watkins added it is important not to make demands on pupils

which are beyond their capabilities.

When he spoke on July 12 Lavender discussed the future of education and compared it to a canoe trip.

He described the journey of education as "exciting and dangerous" requiring energy, skill and togetherness.

Declining enrolment, denial of positions to bright, energetic teachers, decreasing financial resources and changing social attitudes were described as "white water and dangerous rocks" on the canoe trip.

Lavender said the quiet pool at the end of the journey has become a place of accountability to parents and the public. It is no longer a place for meditation, reflection and recreation.

4-H horse games

It was fun and games for eight Halton 4-H club members Sunday morning as they took part in a 4-H Games Show.

The day's events had been organized for both Halton and Caledon Horse Club members, but in the end, there were only eight Halton members who competed. The reduced numbers did little to dampen the riders' spirits. Horses and riders took

part in sack, potato and flag races and other activities. A water race, in which riders carried a full cup of water while manoeuvring horses through their various paces was disastrous for one small pony who proceeded to buck and shy away from the dripping water. His young owner hastily dropped the cup.

The two hours of games concluded with lunch.

He noted the educational journey is challenging, critical and full of pressure and the prospective principals should approach the future optimistically remembering there is nothing "fundamentally" wrong with education in Ontario.

Ontario's future education leaders should have positive attitudes about themselves and their environment, Lavender declared.

Education has been facing tough critics since the turn of the century but has never been as "vulnerable" as it is today, Burns told the group.

He emphasized management skills are as necessary in education as they are in big business.

Educators "shouldn't just be dodging the rocks," Burns declared.

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