# 49,000 county students return to school

## Enrolments stable at both public and separate boards

Simcoe County students will trudge back to the classroom in less than two weeks, with both the he estimates a jump over public and separate boards of education projecting almost the same enrolment they had in 1974-75.

In many parts of Ontario, the number of students is dropping, leaving teachers and their boards with tough budgetary problems to face. But this area, despite a birth rate that has been falling since the mid-sixties, is holding its own with a slow but steady migration of people from metropolitan areas to the south.

Sid Owens, superintendent of planning with the Simcoe County Board to be just about static." of Education, said The board will be 102 students at the Barrie this year, since a

27,924, but admits "we might not even get that." At the secondary level, last year of 576 students to 15,295, but in area three, taking in North Simcoe, he expects only 29 more students to enrol.

All the growth, he said, is taking place in the south half of the county the part closest to Toronto, within commuting distance.

At the elementary level, he expects to see a drop in enrolment in area 3, from 4,724 to 4,630. Frank Macdonald, director of the Simcoe

said in an interview that "we expect the enrolment Monday that he is operating three new predicting an increase of portable classrooms in

### of the county, but holding said "we can never be its own or shrinking sure." County teachers

have no contract

be completed until "some kindergarten registra-

As with the public last year and he foresees

board, the separate an increase in September

board's enrolment is based on registrations

growing in the south end last spring, but again, he

There is not talk of a contract. walkout, but one problem hanging over the heads of Ontario Secondary School members of the Sincoe County Board Education is that counterparts, have been County Roman Catholic teachers will be returning to the classroom in agreement with the board

the city is not expected to

The local branch of the Teachers Federation, and their elementary school unable to reach Separate School Board, September without a on a pay scale for 1975-76.

Macdonald noted that

tions jumped 15 per cent



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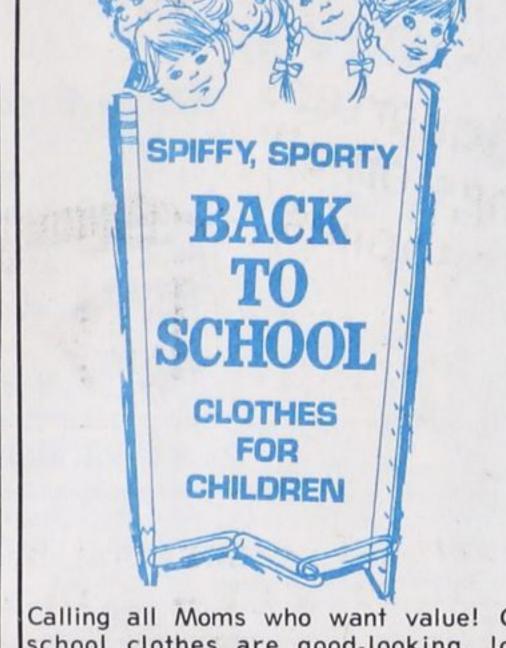
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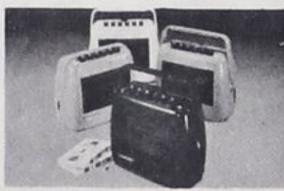
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