

Public School Out Early

\$382,000 was debentured for the new addition to the Parkview Public School at last week's Haldimand Board of Education meeting. It was debentured for twenty years at 7.5%. The chairman of the Budget/Finance Committee, Mr. Garfield Disher, also reviewed the debenture position of the board covering the years 1968-1991. The board seems to have passed its highest point in debt requirement. This was in 1972.

Also at the meeting: Fred Ricker, chairman of the Management Committee, reported on enrolments in a summary report. He indicated that 58 pupils have left our county public schools since September 10. Since these pupils are all of compulsory age, it indicates a "moving out" of people from the county. The secondary school enrolment has declined by 228 pupils. This compares to 196 last year. It must be remembered that most of these pupils are not of compulsory school age. The board analyzed the reason for transferring of pupils and found no single pattern.

The committee also recommended approval of a semestered system which is being planned for the Caledonia High School. The principal of the school is presently discussing this matter with parents and pupils. The semestered time table will involve four subjects to be completed by mid-January and four more from mid-January to mid-June, giving a student a possible eight credits per year.

The Policy Committee presented a policy of the Modified School Year. The board recommended a program whereby the secondary schools would have 185 teaching days and 14 days for evaluation of pupil work, curriculum development and professional development of staff.

In the elementary schools there will be 190 instructional days with 7 days for pupil evaluation, curriculum development and professional development of staff. This has new features for the public school staff in that 7 days are permitted for the above purpose. In this plan the public school children will not attend school on the day following Labour Day in order to provide a day for staff meetings and planning. The secondary schools, however, will be in session on that day in order to provide the additional day at the end of the school year.

For June 1973, this means that pupils will attend for the last day on June 23. The last week of June will be spent for professional activity days of the staff. These days will be used for purpose of evalua-

tion, parent and student counselling, curriculum development, and staff development. On Monday June 25 some students will be attending their regular County Field Day. On June 26, the staff and the principal will evaluate pupil work of the year. On June 27 and 28 the staff will be involved in curriculum development under the supervision of the superintendents. On June 29 the staff will be at the school and the pupils may drop in at any time from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. to pick up their report cards and discuss it with their teacher. Any child not coming for his or her report card on June 29 will have the report card mailed at the end of that day.

It is expected that these days will be beneficial, in that curriculum which has been discussed by various committees through the year will be presented to all teachers and will, therefore, be in readiness for school opening in September.

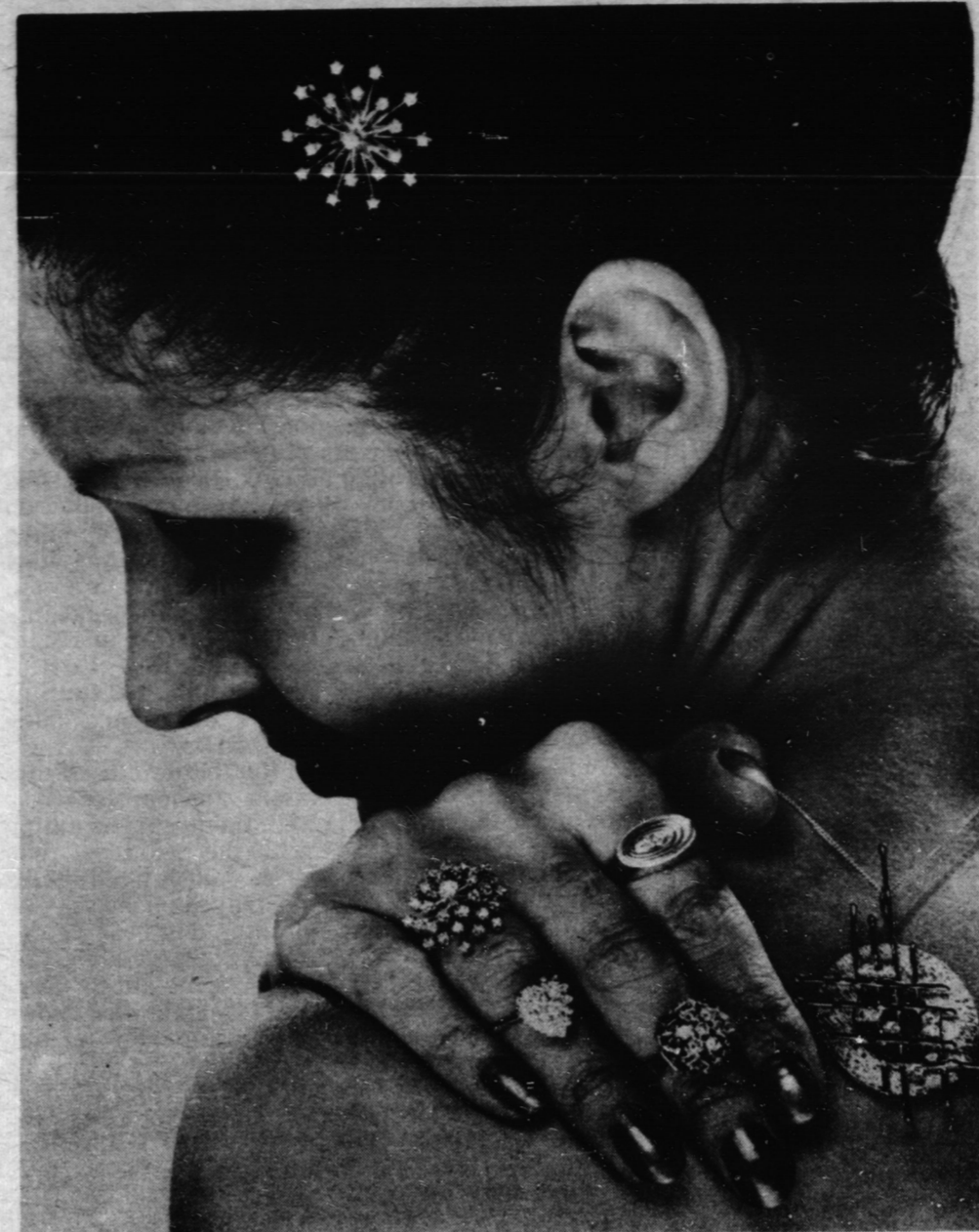
This arrangement pertains to the public schools only, as the secondary schools already have these days for such activities.

The Property Committee reported favourable progress at the Parkview School. Various items which had been included in the budget were discussed and approved such as Basketball back stops

in various public schools, drapery at the Caledonia High School, and boiler replacement at the Seneca Central School. New intercom systems are to be installed at the Northview Public School, Hagersville, and Dunnville Central School.

Chairman Duxbury reported that the Dunnville Secondary School has received a bequest from the Estate of the late Hattie E. Hellyer which will provide scholarship money for able students. Miss Hellyer stated in her will that the needs of students were also to be considered. The amount of the bequest is \$70,000 and is to be administered by the Chairman of the Scholarship Fund Committee, the Chairman of the Board, and the Principal of the Dunnville Secondary School. The Board was pleased that a citizen had considered leaving resources to people - in this case, students in her community.

Principalships effective as of September 1, 1973 are as follows: Douglas Copeland, principal of Walpole North transferred to Parkview Public School, Hagersville; Sydney Frances, principal of Jarvis Public School, transferred to Walpole North; Roger Mackereeth, principal of Parkview transferred to Jarvis.



Diamonds have appealed through the centuries, especially to those with April birthdates as diamond is their birthstone. Any piece in this selection of diamond jewellery would make an April birthday extra special.



The Chinese have an ancient proverb which says, "Dig a well before you are thirsty," and they dug many wells. Some were from 1,000 to 1,500 feet deep.

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