

## The Case For Compulsory Subjects

by Derek Bishop

The "Credit System," Ontario's approach to secondary school education, offers unlimited choice, at each grade level, to all pupils. It is the complete opposite of the Robart's Plan, which was highly structured.

It would appear, after four years of free choice, that a limited structure placed on the credit system would be wise. Twenty-seven

credits are required for the diploma, with the requirement of at least three credits from each of the four broad areas, Communications, Social Science, Applied Science, and Arts, laid down by the Ministry of Education.

The compulsory subjects are being considered at Hagersville Secondary School would fulfill most of the Ministry's require-

ments: English, History or Geography, Mathematics and Science in Year One; English, History or Geography, Mathematics or Science in Year Two; and English, and Mathematics or Science in Year Three. Add to this one course in a language at any time during the normal four years. This group of ten courses would fulfill the Communications and Applied Science minimum of three courses, and two thirds of the Social Science, leaving the Arts area open.

There should be no need to convince anyone about the need for English or Mathematics and Science courses in a compulsory system. These courses are the backbone of our daily lives. We cannot live socially, meeting and mixing with others, without using the English language to communicate our ideas orally and in writing. The basic concepts of mathematics and science are used daily, whether in the supermarket, the workshop, or the kitchen. Courses are offered in English, Mathematics and Science from the remedial to the advanced level of difficulty, so that each person's ability can be met. There would still be lots of choice.

The case for a History course is not hard to make. In particular, every student who attends any high school in Canada should be required to study a modern course in the history of Canada, including a working knowledge of the Federal, Provincial, and local Governments. Most of us find the latest moves in regional government confusing, to say the least, and the coming generation of voters should be well educated in the complex systems of government in Canada.

There is a growing apathy among Canadians, which is disturbing. Too often candidates for public office are unopposed and no vote is necessary. Several of the meetings for candidates of regional government had more candidates present than interested audience. We seem to be running the country by default, particularly when one looks at the voting statistics. Now that Ontario has extended the privilege of voting to eighteen-year-olds, it is more important than ever that our young people know what a responsibility they have been offered. If space permits next week, I will try to make a case for at least one geography course and one language course in each child's education.

## Cheapside U.C.W.

The U.C.W. of Cheapside United Church met at the Library in Selkirk on Thursday evening, with Mrs. George Abbott as hostess.

Mrs. Arvil Nie opened the meeting with a short poem on love. The theme was missions. Hymn 249, "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun" was sung. The roll call was answered with the name of a missionary and their place of work.

The minutes were read and approved, business dealt with, sympathy cards were signed by all to be sent to the bereaved families in the community. A treasurer's report and booth report was given.

Mrs. Harold Marshall gave an interesting talk on the study book on the chapter of education of India. Mrs. Merrill Nie was in charge of the worship service. Hymn No. 2 "Glory be to God the Father" was sung. The Scripture verses were taken from Matthew Chapters 15 and 28 with meditation on Christians and unbelievers. The meeting closed with hymn 256, "From Greenland's icy Mountain, and prayer."

Mrs. Melvin Bartlett and Mrs. Sam Murtland and hostess served a delicious lunch. Mrs. Abbott explained some of the work and privileges of the Library.

## Knights Of Columbus Executive Installed

On Tuesday, September 18, 1973, the Father William Fitzgerald Council Executive, 6091 of the Hagersville Knights of Columbus was installed as follows: G.K.: A.J. Pierroz; D.G.K.: Tom White; Chancellor: Ray Montague; Treas.: M. J. Coyne; Warden: Geo. Vervaeke; Rec.: Neil Anderson; Membership: Frank Dykstra; Fin. Sec.: Theo Dykstra; Trustees: Jim Feeney, Dr. N. Hushchilt, George Anderson;

Advocate: Mike Montague; Guards: Earl Winger, Ed. Kruis; Lecturer: Cor VanSchie.

The local Knights of Columbus belong to District 8 which includes Hamilton, Burlington, and Oakville. The installation was done by John Sutherland, District Deputy and Warden, Al Connolly, both of Hamilton.

The year's program under Tom White as Chairman includes the Founder's Day Dinner and Dance on Oct. 26 in Jarvis Hall.

## Past Noble Grands

by Evelyn Brown

The September meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Evelyn Brown with the president Mrs. Gladys Slater presiding. She opened with the poem, "A Quiet Place."

Mrs. Eileen Durant led in the devotional, choosing the "Parable of the Sower," followed by a reading, "God is No Economist."

Ten members answered the roll call. Mrs. Gertie Belbeck read the minutes and the treasurer report was given by the president in the absence of Mrs. Viola Smelser.

Mrs. Pearl Marr and Mrs. Clara Blundell expressed pleasure at being able to attend after

having been hospitalized.

Mrs. Fraisia Smith was the winner of the Mystery Prize. Mrs. Nellie Miller, Mrs. Florence Walker and Mrs. Gertie Belbeck contributed to the birthday box for September.

Mrs. Evelyn Brown showed slides of a tour to Alaska this past summer.

Lunch was served by Mrs. Eileen Durant and Mrs. Clara Blundell.

Mrs. Nellie Miller extended courtesy to those responsible for the evening.

Mrs. Edna Church will be hostess for the October meeting.



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