

PORT CREDIT

SECONDARY SCHOOL

50TH ANNIVERSARY

1920 - 1970

This booklet is respectfully dedicated
to the memory of
Mr. H.A. Doupe
Principal of this school from 1919 to 1951

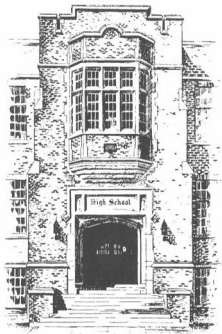
Acknowledgements

We would like to express our gratitude to all those who helped contribute to the publication of this booklet. To compile a history of our school from its beginning up to the present would have been a formidable undertaking if it had not been for the many people who assisted us. This list includes former and present students of the school, teachers, past and present principals, Mr. Wood, Mr. Scratch and Mr. Brown, and others. A special mention goes to Dave Biggs who helped with the photography and to Pam Kirkland who designed the cover. Also we would like to thank the members of the Peel County Board of Education for lending their support to this enterprise and the Mississauga Times for their assistance.

In closing we hope that this publication will revive fond memories of your association with Port Credit Secondary School.

"LUX NUMQUAM DESIT"

Editors:
Barbara Buemi
William Gray
Elizabeth Scott
Monica Stegmann
Mr. J. Sniderman



Do You Remember?

Do you remember:

- Getting stoned on apple cider that was fermented with raisins, at the football games?
- When students put lead bars into a certain English teacher's brief case?
- The old days when you would get high on coke and aspirin?
- The days when you took Agricultural Science and grew cabbages in the school yard?
- That, in the old days, the "school hearse" – a light breezy car hung with black curtains – carried the young hopefuls to their new school?
- that the old staff room was the change room for visiting boys athletic teams?
- when Mr. Munro's compasses were glued together? (He doesn't!)
- the day when Miss Rowley's Socrates was kidnapped?
- the football game when the top row of the bleachers collapsed?
- the day the record label was removed and "You ain't Nothing but a Hound Dog" was played, instead of "The Queen", as the national anthem?
- remember the day a teacher wore a woollen outfit to a football game on a rainy day and Port Credit featured the first mini-skirt although she promptly retreated into the school?

Literary

A PORT CREDIT BUS

I've ridden on a roller coaster
And stunted in a plane;
I've ridden on the rails beneath
The fastest moving train.

I've mounted bucking broncos,
Sailed ships on stormy seas,
And slid down sides of mountains
On a pair of flimsy skis.

These things no longer thrill me,
They fill me with disgust;
For I have started riding—
On a Port Credit bus! !

It's a tough and dangerous pastime
Where the weak ones have no show;
It's a cross between a hockey game
And a famous boxer's blow.

They crowd you at the bus stop,
They squeeze you at the door,
And anyone who hesitates—
They shove him to the floor!

They pack you in so tightly
You think your ribs will crack,
But the driver keeps on saying,
"Will you please move to the back! "

Though your senses start to reeling,
There's one thing you'll still hear—
The driver keeps on chanting,
"Will you please move to the rear? "

The bus is finally bulging
But they still come through the door,
People hanging from the ceiling,
Others lying on the floor!

A feather from a woman's hat
Tickles the tip of your nose,
While some 200 pounds or so
Is standing on your toes.

Someone's elbows in your ribs,
A hatpin jabs your eye,
And some poor helpless baby
Has started up to cry.

Your clothes are mussed and wrinkled,
You feel you are a wreck,
While a garlic-eating person
Is breathing down your neck.

You reach your destination,
The real fun then begins;
For it's twice as hard to get off
As it was getting in!

You finally reach the buzzer,
And boy, this can't beat—
You find the bus has carried you
A block on down the street.

When you finally reach your school room
Just a half-hour too late,
It takes — and I'm not kidding,
Five hours to recuperate!

So please Mr. King, if you want my ma's
support, make the buses bigger and better
and not quite so short!

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PRINCIPALS



PRINCIPALS – H. A. DOUPE (PORTRAIT)
LEFT TO RIGHT – J. A. BROWN, W. J. WOOD, E. J. SCRATCH



MR. H. A. DOUPE 1919-1961

HENRY ALVIN DOUPE

He was born on October 12, 1885, on a farm near St. Mary's, Ontario. His parents were of Irish pioneer stock and he was one of nine children.

He received his high school education at St. Mary's Collegiate Institute.

His teaching career began in a one-room rural school. Later he taught in Amherstburg and in Dresden, Ontario, where he met and married his wife, the former Phoebe Bartram.

From 1913 to 1919 he served as principal in the continuation school in Lucknow, a span which covered the years of the First World War. These were busy years spent in this small Scotch community, which saw many of its sons go off to war. There were board meetings to attend, the cadet corps to drill, and now a small family demanding some of his attention at home. In addition, he was superintendent of the Methodist Church Sunday School.

In the fall of 1919, H. A. D. came to Port Credit as principal of the rapidly growing continuation school. He had one assistant, Miss Louie Leggott, who came from London, Ontario. With such a slim staff there were many subjects to be taught at first, but later mathematics became his special field. He was noted for his very strict discipline, but many of his students remember a gentler nature and a keen sense of humor.

At this time he began studies leading to a Bachelor of Arts degree at the University of Toronto, where for several years he attended evening classes and summer courses. In June 1927 he received his Bachelor of Arts degree.

By September 1927 the school had evolved from a continuation to high school. Several new teachers joined the staff, and new subjects leading to

Senior Matriculation were now offered for the first time.

School colours were chosen – blue and gold. A competition for the design of a new school crest was held in the school, and a design was selected which bore the name of the school, and in a centre oval a facsimile of the old Port Credit lighthouse with its beacon shining forth. Underneath was the Latin inscription – “Lux Numquam Desit” (May the Light Never Fail) – contributed by Miss Muriel Sissons, head of the Classics Department.

On March 28, 1930, the new high school was officially opened and the old Forest Avenue School now became an elementary school once again.

Those students who went over into the new high school well remember the thrill of those first few weeks – the lovely new classrooms, the spotless labs, individual lockers for coats, books, gym suits, etc., the spacious auditorium in which the whole student body could now assemble for opening exercises and literary meetings, a cafeteria, a library and gymnasium complete with circular track. It seemed to be the ultimate in school design and architecture. It was no wonder that the fire, which was later to demolish it in part on October 18, 1956, came as a severe blow to teachers, students and graduates alike.

The years which followed showed a rapidly developing school area and a consequent need to enlarge the school. Work was begun in 1951 and completed in 1952. The 1952 edition of *The Log* was dedicated to the new wing.

In 1950 Mr. Doupe retired as principal and was succeeded by Mr. W. J. Wood, who had been on the staff for many years. In his new post as Supervisor of High Schools in the South Peel Area, he was still closely associated with P.C.H.S. until his complete retirement in June 1952. A farewell party and reunion of graduates was held at the close of the term and was attended by several hundred former students. A portrait of H.A.D., painted by Hilton Hassell, a former P.C.H.S. student, was presented to the school by the Board of Education on this occasion. This portrait was subsequently destroyed in the fire and another painted by the same artist. This portrait now hangs in the foyer of the new Port Credit Secondary School.

The years of retirement were happy ones for H.A.D. Now there was time to indulge his love for books and travel. Winters were spent at his son's home in California and summers at their summer home in Muskoka, where he and Mrs. Doupe enjoyed the rustic life. He followed with great interest the progress of education and the growth of new schools in the area. It was always a source of great delight to him to hear from former students and teachers, to meet them in the Village and to recall with them earlier days at P.C.H.S. This interest remained with him until his death on August 18, 1966.



MR. W. J. WOOD 1951-1955

W. J. WOOD

It was 1933 when I joined the staff of Port Credit High School. I had just turned 23 that summer and it was with some misgivings and considerable nervousness that I stood before my first class. However, after a few weeks things settled down and I became increasingly involved in the activities of the school. There were only 11 teachers and about 320 students.

Port Credit was a beautiful place to live and work at it was in a district of fruit orchards and market gardens on the one end and the picturesque Credit River and Lake Ontario on the other. Pollution had not yet been invented and the Queen Elizabeth Highway was still a country concession called Middle Road while street cars ran from the Long Branch loop to the Port Credit Post Office. The nearest other high schools were in Oakville, Brampton and Mimico.

As well as teaching Mathematics, Science, Physical Education and English, I coached football, gymnastics and track and field teams and managed the choir. Even then, school spirit at P.C.H.S. was something special and practically the whole school would turn out to cheer the teams. The football players supplied their own equipment for the most part: about all the school provided were the sweaters, courtesy of the B.A.A. The School Board paid for the balls. School dances were held in the old auditorium and just about everybody came. The place was always jammed and everybody had a good time.

When the war started in 1939 some of the older boys joined the armed forces. As time went on, more and more of the boys went directly from school into the Army, Navy or Air Force. I joined the Air Force in the fall of 1940 but didn't leave until the spring of 1941. I was away for 4 years, returning in September 1945. Many very fine boys that I had come to know so well lost their lives during the war. Two of them, Douglas Burgess and

Sydney Watson, have Port Credit High School scholarships named in their honour. Both of these boys played on football teams that I coached and I have always remembered them, and all the others, with deep affection and the satisfaction of knowing that we were friends.

In 1946 I was appointed Vice-Principal under Mr. Doupe (who had been principal since 1919) and in the next few years the school began to grow more rapidly, achieving an enrolment of about 500 around 1947. The area around Port Credit began to change as more people began to move from the City, and the orchards and the farms began to disappear.

It was about this time that Mr. Lankin came, and began the annual ritual of the formation of his wonderful choirs which still rank second to none among school choirs in Ontario. The school song was born as a result of a contest that was held among the students. The winning students were Marjorie Crimp, who wrote the words, and Rice Honeywell, who composed the music.

I was appointed principal in 1950 and the school population, growing rapidly now, doubled in the next six years. The year 1950-51 was a momentous one for me and, I think, for the school. It saw the first issue of **The Log** and the first Activity Banquet. The school teams enjoyed great success and the first two portables were built. The next year work was begun on what we thought was a tremendous new addition to the school: we all looked forward to having a second gymnasium, so that the boys and the girls would not have to take turns using the old one. There were also to be Home Economics rooms, shops for the boys, a real art room, and a completely new cafeteria with new tables which boys and girls were allowed to share.

The new addition was occupied about 1952, although workmen roamed the corridors until about Christmas. Many new teachers were added to the staff in the next three years and during this time the students raised enough money selling magazines to build a running track around the football field.

Twenty-three years after I began teaching at Port Credit High School I left, in 1956, to become principal of a new school, Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School, which the Board of Education had found necessary to build to relieve the serious overcrowding which was taking place at Port Credit.

At the present time I am a superintendant of a school in Scarborough, the fourth largest school system in Canada, where my duties, which extend from Kindergarten to Grade 13, require me to do most of my work in an office in the Board of Education building. However, I still live in Port Credit. Only seldom do I have an opportunity to talk to boys and girls in their schools but when I do I get the impression that they really haven't changed very much from the kids I used to teach in the old Port Credit High School. I hope to retire in 1972.



MR. E. C. SCRATCH 1955-1965

E. C. SCRATCH

Before coming to Port Credit Secondary School as principal in January 1956 I had had considerable experience in smaller secondary schools as principal. At Port Credit Secondary School I found 1000 students and a very large staff who were performing both as students and teachers very capably and, in the main, I spent a pleasant three months visiting in the classrooms and talking to the staff to become fully acquainted with the general situation. Going into September of the following year we were able to make a few changes in routine, one of which was a more extended lunch hour period.

During the fall term of this year a major portion of the school was burned and this required a dramatic re-adjustment of school routines. Students in Grades 9 and 10 stayed home on alternate days while portable classrooms were being built and the Commercial department was transferred first to two churches on Stavebank Road and later to the old school building on the South Service Road. During the winter and spring the front portion of the building was reconstructed and at the same time the Lorne Park Secondary School took off about 300 students from Port Credit Secondary School. The reconstructed Port Credit School accommodated about 700 students. During the period of the emergency there was a tremendous concern and enthusiasm among the student body and staff to do their best work under difficult circumstances and this was much appreciated.

During the period 1955-60 Port Credit football teams were enjoying great success, not only in the local league but in further play-off competition. This served as an incentive for good school spirit and for good accomplishment in all other areas of the school program.

As population in the Port Credit area increased it was seen that the school building on Forest Avenue was rapidly becoming inadequate. Also there was a growing necessity to provide facilities for vocational education. The decision was therefore made to build a new school on a site on Mineola Road to accommodate 1500 pupils. This was to be a composite school with three branches: Business and Commerce, Arts and Science, and Science, Technology and Trades. The new school was completed for opening in September 1963 but the academic portion was ready for occupancy in the previous May and therefore the school moved into the new building on one afternoon and evening. This was an interesting experience for staff and students to pack up books and equipment for moving, and to appear in a new school situation on the following morning with timetables functioning as usual and all things in their proper place. On the September opening of the new school the enrolment increased to 1400 students, a large number of whom were students from Lorne Park and Clarkson areas who came in for their vocational education. A valuable feature of the new school was the auditorium which made possible more extensive activities in drama and several remarkable performances were presented.

During my years at Port Credit Secondary School I was constantly impressed with the very excellent desire of the students to perform well in their academic work and also by the enthusiasm with which they entered various activities. The school was, and continues to be, a warm and friendly place with staff and students having a good regard for each other and a high degree of co-operation.



MR. J. A. BROWN 1965-19

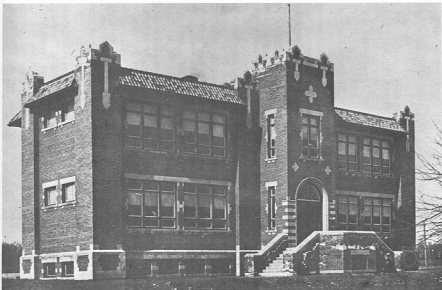
J. A. BROWN

It was in 1965 that I was appointed Vice Principal of Port Credit Secondary School and served in this capacity under Mr. Scratch for one year. This position was very different from a teaching position in that there was no longer the close relationship with students that had been possible as a teacher of a subject. However, at Port Credit Secondary School, I became closely associated with the Students' Council and the extra curricular activities that year. I remember very vividly taking part in a staff-student pushball game which certainly brought about much closer student-teacher contact in a physical way.

In my years as Principal since 1966, I have tried in many ways to keep this close relationship with the students of the school, and over the years many students have memories of meeting in discussion groups in the auditorium, library, or office. In nearly all cases their desire to contribute to the betterment of the school has been uppermost in their minds. From these discussions, key changes in curriculum, programme, and school procedures have come about. It is important to note that these changes have been part of a change in the whole educational community of North America and this school is only one of many which now allow for more student participation in all matters concerning the school. The regulations of the school, for example, now provide for a more relaxed atmosphere throughout the school building. No longer is there a staircase for down-traffic only, a special student entrance, or constant hall supervision. Senior students now may do independent study in the new library resource centre, which opened February 1, 1970, or relax in an open study area such as the cafeteria.

With all these changes, the most significant adjustment in the educational philosophy must be the greater stress on independent study. Port Credit students now are involved in helping each other through a system of tutorials; they are able to make a freer choice of subjects and to take entirely new courses, such as Film or Theatre Arts, Journalism, Marketing, and many others. Another new feature of the programme has been the introduction of course levels from remedial to advanced, allowing for the different interests and abilities of the young student.

Finally, one of the most gratifying results of my five years at Port Credit Secondary School has been the establishment of many lasting friendships with students, teachers and parents. In each year I have found that a constant quality of this school has been that of warmth and friendliness. It is my hope to remain at the school and to continue to promote not only this quality but to maintain the traditions of the past that have made Port Credit such a fine school.



FOREST AVENUE SCHOOL, 1919

HISTORY

The year that marked the end of the Great War (1918) also marked the formation of the fifth class (Grade Nine) at the Forest Avenue School which had been built the previous year. Miss Harris taught the first class of 24. The next year adequate provision was made for secondary education by the opening of a two room, Grade B Continuation School with Mr. H. A. Doupe as principal in the Forest Avenue School. All students paid tuition fees.

Prior to the formation of the Continuation School by the Port Credit Public School Board, students who had successfully passed their entrance examinations from this area proceeded to one of the High Schools in Brampton, Oakville or Parkdale. During the school year of 1920-21, through the supervision of Mr. Doupe, a Literary Society was formed and a field day inaugurated. During the first days of the Literary Society they bought the school piano with the proceeds of their play, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, baking sales and public lectures.

The first commencement was held in 1921. Two students graduated. The school enrolment, however, had more than doubled. There were sixty-seven students in class.

From 1922 to 1925 the school was affiliated with the Toronto Normal School as a practice school for teaching.

At this time, both the Continuation School and Public School ran on the same timetable. The duration of the lunch periods was such that the boys could skate during the winter down in the St. Lawrence Park.

In 1925, not in 1927 as is commonly believed, six rooms were added to the Forest Avenue School to cope with the growing student body. There were then three teachers and one hundred and three students.

The year 1927 was a big year for Port Credit. The school had its status changed, its governing body was changed, and it received a motto, crest and official school colours.

As a Continuation school Port Credit could provide Junior Matriculation and two or three Upper School subjects but these could not be used as credits for university. Port Credit became a High School and its staff was increased to five teachers. Royal blue and gold were chosen as the school colours and Miss Sissons contributed a motto, "Lux Numquam Desit", which translated means, "May the Light Never Fail". Taking his idea from this, the artist who designed the crest incorporated into it the old lighthouse which stood at the mouth of the Credit River.

The governing body of Forest Avenue Public and High School also



ROOM IV, FOREST AVENUE SCHOOL, MARCH 1919



FOREST AVENUE SCHOOL WITH ADDITION



MR. H. A. DOUPE 1927



CONTINUATION SCHOOL, 1920

continued

changed; the Public School Board was replaced by the Port Credit Board of Education.

(The Principal, Mr. Doupe, received his Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Toronto.)

In 1929 Upper School was extended to complete Senior Matriculation and a Commercial department under the direction of Mr. T. C. Reynolds was organized.

Port Credit's first major expansion accompanied the culmination of her first decade of existence. In 1929 some five acres of land, at an approximated one thousand dollars an acre, were bought on Forest Avenue east of the Forest Avenue School. By March of the following year the new High School opened for classes to two hundred and eighty-three students and nine teachers, almost ten times the number of those who entered the newly formed Continuation School in 1919. It was expected to cost approximately one hundred and seventy thousand dollars but in fact cost twenty thousand dollars more. (Our new Resource Centre cost one third again as much.) The building itself, according to the "Pharos", the year book put out by the first student body, was all that was hoped for and more.

"The building is fire proof throughout. It consists of ten classrooms, physics and chemistry laboratories, a library, one auditorium with a seating capacity of five hundred, a large gymnasium with adjoining apparatus and and instructors rooms. In the basement is a well equipped cafeteria with separate lunch rooms for boys and girls. The basement also contains two locker rooms with space for almost three hundred lockers and adjoining shower rooms. On the main floor, in addition to the library, auditorium and classrooms are the principal's office and lady teachers' room. . . . The building is, taking all in all, a truly up-to-date construction."

Unfortunately this fire proof school burned a quarter of a century later.

The year 1930 also saw the debut of the first Port Credit High School orchestra on April 11 at the annual Commencement and the At Home. It consisted of six members with guitar, a banjo, drums and three violins with one filling in as a soloist.

In 1931 the predecessor of the Senior Chorus, the Glee Club, was formed, as was the Dramatic Society. The next year Port Credit replaced the Literary society with the School Society. The latter lasted only about as long as its predecessor until it was replaced with the Students' Council, in 1942.

Throughout this period there was one unofficial day off in May for the opening baseball game in Toronto. It was traditional for students to start disappearing during the day until about half the school population was gone,

continued



PORT CREDIT HIGH SCHOOL, 1930



OUR FIRST ORCHESTRA, 1930



STAFF 1930



PORT CREDIT HIGH SCHOOL POPULATION, 1929

continued

either to the game or just gone. Ironically most of those who went to the game didn't see another game that year.

Within five years the school population increased by one hundred and it was reported in "The Port Credit News" that the school was over-crowded, that the cafeteria could not house all the students at once and that one class had over forty-eight students in it. At this time the staff earned \$125 a month.

In the mid-thirties courses in agriculture became available to the Lower School and "The Beacon", a semi-annual school paper was first produced to replace the defunct "Pharos" which had a short and not very varied career of its one issue.

Hallowe'en in 1936 at Port Credit took on a novel look as members of the Junior rugby team draped themselves in feminine apparel and showed the girls just how a fashion parade should be held.

Port Credit's High School again fell under the influence of the musical world as her second orchestra was formed in 1937 under Miss V. Mitchell and Mr. F. Bunt. It now had seven members, up one from the original.

With the advent of World War II Port Credit was momentarily jolted out of its routine as two students, Douglas Burgess and John Watson dropped out of the heavens in two "Tiger Moths". They were members of the Toronto Flying Club. They created havoc at the school as they swept down the street towards the front entrance at a very low altitude, then swooping up over it buzzing the school at lunch hour. It added a bit of colour to the day. Also with the war came the formation of the cadet corps which was to last twenty years. A bugle band was also formed, to the envy of the other schools as the St. Lawrence Starch works had donated the instruments. The following year cadets became compulsory at the school and the first inspec-

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MR. DOUPE TEACHING



MR. WOOD TEACHING



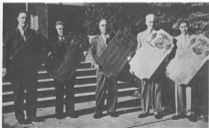
CADET CORPS BAND



SCHOOL POPULATION, 1944



STAFF 1951



LOCAL BUSINESSMEN DONATE PLAQUES TO P.C.H.S.



continued

tion was held.

Port Credit became very involved in the war effort in the first two years of the war. In 1940 the students of the Port Credit High School were responsible for the sale of War Savings Stamps and Certificates to the amount of \$5,128.00. During the same period through locally sponsored tea and cake sales, and the sale of waste paper \$153 was raised while different organizations within the school itself contributed \$175 to the "Evening Telegram's War Victim's Fund". Sewing and knitting groups contributed dozens of pairs of socks, mitts, quilts, sweaters and so on to the Red Cross. The students' Council was formed at this time to replace the School Society.

A new subject was offered to Grades twelve and thirteen boys in the early part of the forties to teach them to recognize the different types and nationalities of aircraft and the theory of frames and flight of planes.

The students held a night of entertainment on April 2 in 1943 to collect money for the "Aid to Russia Fund". At the same time, despite the other activities, Port Credit's academic standings did not drop as one paper stated that according to the released figures our school had one of the highest standings in the Province.

A student from Port Credit won a prize in the Victory Loan essay contest. Major General Cawthra-Elliott took the salute in the third annual inspection of Port Credit Cadets in the St. Lawrence Park.

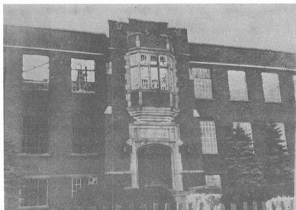
The War in 1942 began to have a greater direct effect on the school when, as there was a shortage of manpower on the farms, it was allowed that students might leave school as early as April to help out if they had maintained regular attendance at the school.

Mr. Doupe also laid down some new rules in 1942. If their studies suffered, students would have to improve or their participation in school athletics would be curtailed.

Two years later saw yet another school production make its try. The "High Light" was a monthly student paper that was produced under the direction of Miss Mary James and later Mr. F. F. Knight, a future vice-principal of the school. Vocational Guidance also became available and the next year (1945) a Guidance Office was opened and courses in Occupations commenced.

This year also saw another revival, so characteristic of Port Credit. The Camera Club re-emerged after lying dormant for eleven years. In 1946 the Douglas M. Burgess Memorial Scholarship was awarded for the first time. The following year there was a contest that a distinctive school song might be written, sponsored by the Students' Council. The version written by Marjory Crimp and Rice Honeywell was adopted and has been retained to

continued



EFFECTS OF FIRE, 1956



CADET INSPECTION



THIRD FLOOR KNOCKED DOWN BY FIRE

continued

this day. The eighth annual inspection of the Cadet Corps was considered one of their best up to that time.

In 1947 the South Peel High School District was formed. Port Credit, Cooksville and the Streetsville High Schools were placed under the new board.

Mr. Lankin came to the school at this point and fired the interest of the students in regard to vocal music. Mr. Lankin formed the Senior Chorus in his first year, the Junior Chorus in his second, and the Male Chorus in his third year; all of them are still active groups within the school.

During the period while the forties gave way to the fifties the St. Lawrence Starch re-equipped the High School band. Mr. Knight replaced Mr. V. K. Harshaw in 1949 as the Cadet Instructor. During the summer a number of the cadets used to go to a summer camp at Ipperwash. Platoons on occasion also represented Port Credit High School at Warriors' Day at the C.N.E. the boys trained after school in wireless training, range training, first aid and so on until they went on parade at the annual inspection, generally held about May 10th in the St. Lawrence Park. Mr. O. H. Howden took over from Mr. Knight and led the cadets for their last three years. Mr. W. J. Wood and Mr. W. F. Munro became Mr. Doupe's first vice-principals in the late forties while he later became the Supervising Principal for the new South Peel High School District. Mr. Wood then became our second Principal.

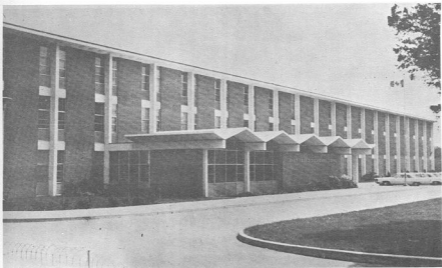
At this time a new wing was added to the old school as there were now twenty-three teachers and 675 students, almost three times the number which entered the school when it was new. When they built the new gym the builders forgot to put the windows in the south wall. It was knocked down and they made a second attempt.

Two trees in front of the school were planted to mark the ascension of our present queen, Elizabeth II, while the trees bordering the walk leading to the west entrance had been planted to mark the coronation of her father, George VI.

On several occasions the Grade twelve students made trips to Ottawa. On one such trip the train returning them was derailed and on another they met the leaders of all five political parties, Rt. Hon. St. Laurent, Rt. Hon. Diefenbaker, and the others.

In the new wing there was a wood shop run by Mr. Hogg and a metal shop run by Mr. Cuipa. These shops took a great deal of pressure off the Commercial department as it was the only four-year course so a great many students were in it. The present Commercial Director remembers teaching all boy classes shorthand, something they would never use but there was no choice.

continued



PORT CREDIT SECONDARY SCHOOL, 1963

continued

The early part of the decade also saw a drive for funds for the South Peel Hospital and the students of Port Credit got very involved as they canvassed the area. Box lunch auctions were held within the school. Girls would prepare two lunches while the boys would bid to eat with them.

At the dances, if live entertainment was not available, the students would rent a "wurlitzer" which would be comparable to the present day "juke box." On one occasion the machine broke down and the dancers danced to one record for about one hour and a half until one boy, as Mr. Wood called him, the greatest wurlitzer of them all, manually would flip records out and change them.

The Ski Club used to make weekly jaunts to Collingwood in the mid-fifties.

In 1955 some students were complaining that the Students' Council was badly in need of a new constitution. Because of the rising enrolment students felt there was a loss in the class relationship between the teacher and student.

Our cheerleaders appeared in the Grey Cup parade.

There was also a change in the administration at this time. Mr. Knight replaced Mr. Munro as vice-principal and Mr. Scratch replaced Mr. Wood as principal. Mr. Wood taught and led Port Credit High School for twenty-two years. He was now transferred as the principal to the new Gordon Graydon Memorial Secondary School. He was honoured at a special assembly where he and his wife were presented, by the students and staff, with a silver tea service and other gifts.

Through Wednesday night into the early part next morning on the 18th of October the "fire proof" old wing of the school burned. The building was gutted. Contrary to popular belief that students desire to "see the school burn", those at Port Credit felt a great loss when the building went up in smoke.

It is suspected that in the deep of the night a person or persons unknown



COMMERATION PLAQUES
IN THE HALLS OF PORT
CREDIT SECONDARY
SCHOOL IN HONOUR OF
OVER 400 STAFF AND
STUDENTS WHO ENLISTED
IN THE SERVICES

broke into the office. They stole the funds. They then maliciously tore down the office curtains and poured ditto fluid on them. Then they set them on fire. Needless to say school was dismissed for the rest of the week.

The next week school resumed. The upper levels, Grades eleven, twelve and thirteen came to school three days a week while the Grade nine and ten students came to school for the remainder of the week on shift. The Commercial department was in a sense "on its own". Miss F. M. Johnston had been the head of the department. The department was exiled to the basement of the two churches on Stavebank Road, St. Andrew's Presbyterian and Trinity Anglican Church. It remained here for six weeks.

The old Queen Elizabeth Public School, which had been condemned, was re-outfitted to handle the students. It had character. There was a rat, a large one, which would come out into the halls at lunch time and slither around, sliding on the polished floors. The boys would chase this rat while the girls screamed. Eventually it was caught and done away with but it was sufficiently honoured with an obituary in the "Phoenix", a paper put out monthly by the commercial department from January 1957 until the end of the school year. Mrs. Nicholson found that even with the great disturbances involved in the fire, the movings and the makeshift facilities the standards of this paper did not drop. There was also a feeling of co-operation between the staff and students. In order that the student body might enjoy some semblance of unity lunch breaks were extended so that the commercial students might rejoin the rest of the student body at Forest Avenue School. This in turn led to problems as boys would claim, on being late, that they were delayed at the level crossing at #10 by a long freight. Mrs. Nicholson got a timetable from the station.

Port Credit High School at this time became Port Credit Secondary School. There had been some talk in the early 50's to change the status of the school to a Collegiate but this was not followed through because of some minor technicalities.

In the school itself, however, the auditorium was divided into four classrooms and the basement and the lower two floors of the old school were once again utilized. The unsafe upper floor was knocked down and portables were built.

Even in the new wing things didn't move too smoothly. The Art room had one sink the size of a hand basin which jutted out into the aisle. If one ever cared to view the back part of the room as often as not he would see the tiles floating about the floor as the pipes in the wall behind periodically burst.

The Commercial Department returned to the school in the 1957-58 school year. The portables, however, housed some rats and gradually disintegrated. The Commercial Department again left the school, this time for

Gordon Graydon where they remained until the present school was built.

In 1959 cadets became a voluntary organization which was discontinued the next year because of the lack of interest on the part of the student body.

In 1960 Mr. Knight left Port Credit and Mr. Howden became the new vice-principal. Plans were proposed and drawn up for the building of an extension onto the old school in the early sixties. Because of a change in government policy, however, it was concluded that it would be more practical to construct a new school on Mineola Road.

Therefore \$166,000 was paid for the site of 15 acres. The school itself cost almost three million dollars and was built to accomodate 1500 students. There are twenty-four classrooms, twelve Technical Education Shops and drafting rooms, art rooms, music rooms, Business Education rooms, an auditorium, a library, a cafeteria and several offices for the administration, a medical, guidance and counselling rooms and for the different course directors.

The official opening of the school was held at 8:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 7, 1963. The address was given by the Honourable William G. Davis, the Minister of Education for the Province of Ontario.

The move to the new school was accompanied by the rekindling of interest in the school orchestra. Two were formed though later the strings section was abandoned. There had been some renewed interest in the band in 1954 but it wasn't until 1963 that a more lasting organization was formed.

At this time also the annual drive for funds for UNICEF was introduced.

Mr. J. A. Brown came to this school in 1965 to replace Mr. Howden as vice-principal. The next year he became our fourth and present principal.

Port Credit excelled in collecting funds for UNICEF and estblished new records for raising funds.

In 1965 students of Port Credit adopted a young African child, Thembinsina Gamma, and, annually, hold a fund-raising drive to defer her school costs and upkeep.

Computers were used in the processing of the Christmas reports in 1965 and were later used more extensively. A new school paper, The Tangent, was produced in 1966-67 and lasted longer than its successor, The Credit Account.

Mr. Brown's first vice-principal was Mr. N. Hodgson, and in January of 1967 Mr. J. Young came as an assistant vice-principal.

The Students' Council three years ago inaugurated a new tradition at Port Credit when they organized a Christmas Party for underprivileged children from Regent Park.

In May of 1968 two portables burned when accidentally set on fire by two children. This forced some classes into the cafeteria and the auditorium.



INSIDE RESOURCE CENTER



CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PARTY

Port Credit Secondary 1970

This year marks the 50th year of Port Credit's existence and a year of great change. Individual timetables have been introduced to allow a great variety of subjects to be brought to the students. With the introduction of these timetables, students are no longer required to take only those subjects belonging to their chosen stream but may mix and match technical, business and general subjects to their own requirements and desires. Although there was considerable confusion concerning timetabling in September, the complications were soon resolved. This stands as a formidable achievement when one considers that over 1600 unique timetables had to be prepared. Under this radically new system, boys are free to choose Home Economics as an option while girls may select drafting or auto mechanics, if they so prefer. In addition subjects are now taught in various levels; advanced, general, special, and remedial; thus enabling students to work with their peers in academic ability.

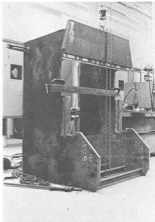
The Resource Centre was our most impressive achievement of 1970. Costing \$275,000, this modern extension provides an ideal environment for learning. Carpeting and 150 carrels provide the quiet and the individual studying facilities required for modern student research.

Already 11,868 books are in circulation and an expanded selection of audio-visual equipment is available including a "periodicals" section, 91 records, 243 filmstrips and 85 silent movies. One impressive statistic is that the book circulation has increased 83% in the past three years. Though, in just 20 days, 85 classes have made use of the centre, the atmosphere remains conducive to study.

At Port Credit students now have the opportunities to learn about prospective professions including journalism, Theatre Arts and Screen Education. These options, in company with Economics, Greek, Roman Drama, Space Science and Philosophy, have aroused a great deal of enthusiasm within the student body. This many social events were held at the school.

The Christmas Party for underprivileged children, now an annual tradition, was again a success. One hundred and fifty spirited children came to the school to enjoy Santa Clause, presents and entertainment.

The Drama Society's annual production this year, The Government Inspector, was another highlight. It has been acclaimed as the best in recent years and the performance was attended by noted Toronto broadcaster and critic Gordon Sinclair.



THE PHOTOS SHOW WORK BEING DONE ON A 35 TON PRESS BRAKE THAT WAS COMPLETED IN THE SHEETMETAL AND WELDING DEPARTMENT DURING SEPTEMBER '89. THIS JOINT PROJECT OF THE MECHANICAL, DRAFTING, MACHINE SHOP AND WELDING DEPARTMENTS AT P.C.S.S. IS PROBABLY THE LARGEST AND MOST COMPLEX MACHINE TOOL CONSTRUCTION AT A SECONDARY SCHOOL IN CANADA. THIS MACHINE IS NOW BEING USED IN THE SHEETMETAL SHOP FOR A VARIETY OF BENDING, FORMING AND PUNCHING OPERATIONS. IT IS AN UPSTROKING COMPRESSED AIR BRAKE THAT CAN BEND 1/8" THICK STEEL UP TO 62" IN LENGTH AND 1/4" PLATE UP TO 24" IN LENGTH. SOME 800 HOURS WERE REQUIRED TO DESIGN, MAKE, ERECT AND WELD THIS MODERN METAL WORKING MACHINE.

Student Polls - 1947 vs 1970

A popular misconception held by members of the older generation today is that there is a vast difference between the opinions of young people today and the youth of thirty years ago. Many refer to this as a "generation gap"; but have the attitudes of youth really changed? To answer this question a student poll was taken to compare today's answers with those of 1947.

In the major question of the recent poll, concerning the students' opinion of what was their most important subject, Mathematics received the honours. English followed closely and French and History came next. Other results varied from Drafting to Typing.

In a similar poll in February of 1947, the list of subjects, in order of importance was headed by English, followed by Mathematics, French, Chemistry, Physics, History and Latin. With over sixty subjects to choose from, today, it is impossible to narrow down the choice as accurately.

Due to the countless variety of songs, few were mentioned more than once. However the most popular song was "Bridge Over Troubled Waters" by Simon and Garfunkel. Others mentioned were "Let It Be", "Sounds of Silence" and "Yesterday".

Our predecessors chose hits such as "The Old Lamp Lighter", "Ole Buttermilk Sky" and "Boogie Woogie Blues" to answer this question.

With today's infinite selection of artists it was difficult to narrow down the field to one popular singer. Gordon Lightfoot ranked at the top of the list and was closely followed by the Beatles and Tom Jones. Honourable mention goes to Simon and Garfunkel, Johnny Cash and Led Zeppelin.

In 1947 there was no conflict whatsoever, Bing Crosby and Frank Sinatra were at their peak with over 65% of the votes cast, split between them.

In today's affluent world a popular sport is difficult to choose. Swimming, football and hockey, still, seemed to be preferred, each received approximately 21%. Skiing, basketball plus track and field continue to be popular also.

The only answer which received a major difference of opinion concerned the question as to whether a girl expects to be kissed on the first date. The rather interesting result of 1947 stated that the majority of the girls felt the appropriate time for such a move was the third night out. The boys, however, answered that they usually try the first but don't expect a response until the second, and if nothing happens after the sixth it is a lost cause. Today's replies stated that over 50% of both boys and girls expect it on the first date.

"What do you think of parking on the way home?" This was the big question in 1947. The girls replied overwhelmingly that they would if they were asked and the boys answered, also overwhelmingly that they would, if the girls so desired.

Therefore we are able to deduce, if nothing else, that it was generally permissible to park in 1947.

Surprisingly, the answers have not changed too much. (Perhaps our morals haven't deteriorated as much as everyone accuses.) The ratio of those who would to those who wouldn't is 2:1.

Among today's comments were such remarks as "aggressive" and even "slurp". Today as in the past it remains a matter of personal preference.

— From the results of the question, "Who should apologize after a fight?" there was a remarkable difference of opinion between students today and those in 1947. Twenty-three years ago, boys admitted that they should apologize but today's method is much more democratic. The students, in general, replied that the one in the wrong should do the apologizing. The most popular answer among the boys was that "both" should try to apologize, while among the fairer sex the reply "girls" was quite frequent.

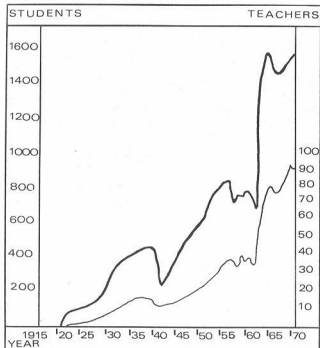
The typical answer, with regards to how one should act at the cinema, thirty years ago, was to hold hands. Nowadays the males are more aggressive or tend to reply, simply, "act naturally". The females, on the other hand, answered that one should go to the movies to watch a movie and their escort should act like a gentleman. Discounting one reply which read, "Ask her if she wants popcorn", the general attitude seems that today's couples like their partner to act like a mature adult.

The remaining questions are more easily compared as listed below:

Q.	Are you planning post secondary education?			
A.	1947	Yes 38%	No 50%	Undecided 12%
	1970	84%	10%	6%
Q.	Would you like current event discussions at school?			
A.	1947	64%	33%	3%
	1970	60%	34%	6%
Q.	Will there be a world war within the next quarter century?			
A.	1947	79%	17%	4%
	1970	35%	49%	16%
Q.	Should scientists share discoveries (splitting of atoms)?			
A.	1947	67%	30%	3%
	1970	69%	20%	11%
Q.	Are you in favor of the present school system?			
	1947	22%	67%	11%
	1970	59%	36%	5%
Q.	For boys only: Are you in favor of longer skirts?			
A.	1947	14%	74%	12%
	1970	13%	83%	4%
Q.	Is it permissible for him to be late for a date?			
A.	1947 Yes — 10 minutes			
	1970 Yes			
Q.	Do you think your date should talk with your parents before dates?			
A.	1947 Yes, if time permits			
	1970 1/2 said yes, 1/2 said no.			

From a one-room school with twenty-four students Port Credit Secondary School has grown to a modern school with 1600 students and over ninety teachers. Over the years our school has not only become a respected place of learning, but also a vital part of the surrounding community held in high esteem. We are sure that present and future students will continue to bring honour to themselves and our school just as students have been for the past fifty years.

Growth Chart



Colloquium

Although unrecognisable to older Port Creditites, under its relatively new title, the United Nations Club has been actively involved in various model U.N. General Assemblies, Security Councils and Canadian Parliaments. The club is a member of a larger student organization – the Inter-Collegiate Council for Halton and Peel Counties, which is the general overseer for, at this point, four major events in the year. These four events take place in various schools of the area on a rotation system.

In 1966, the Model Parliament was an event to be remembered with Marc Johnson, son of the late Daniel Johnson, premier of Quebec, in attendance as a delegate.

The next year our horizons expanded to General Assembly Seminars held at the University of Toronto and University of Waterloo. Although the club was still small, Port Credit made an excellent showing with a delegate from Port Credit as Prime Minister and several others as cabinet members in the Parliament held at Bramalea. As a first, this was an all-student run function, a tradition which has been carried on.

In 1967 our school was the host for the Model Parliament, requiring an exhaustive effort by the now flourishing membership. At the annual General Assembly Port Credit received the best delegate and delegation awards along with several honourable mentions.

In the following year, with the increased popularity of the club in the school, we again hosted a function – this time the Model General Assembly. That year we were present at five United Nations General Assemblies held throughout Ontario, one Security Council, one Model Parliament, and a new addition – a Model Constitutional Conference.

This year the club is carrying on the distinctive tradition of the Colloquium at Port Credit with attendance at various functions throughout the area. At the Model Parliament, members from our club have been chosen as Speaker, Deputy Speaker and one of the opposition leaders.

The Band

In 1964 under the drumstick of Mr. H. Haakman what one may call a semi-band, semi-orchestra was established with the introduction of brass and woodwind classes to supplement the string orchestra. The ensemble played at commencements and music nights entertaining everyone with the novelty of the production. The end of the 1965-66 year was the last for string instruction in the school and the instrumental ensemble became a band in a true sense of the word.

The following year there was a change of conductorship to Mr. G. Beynon. With the enthusiasm of our new leader we ventured out of the school in an exchange trip with Kennedy High School in Windsor. There was also a Junior Band established for the younger grades.

The next year we undertook the challenge of the competition in the Kiwanis Music Festival and won First Award in the class "B" band competition. Joining with the senior chorus we went on an exchange with Fairport High School in Rochester, New York.

This year after standing rigours of individual auditions the members of the Senior Band have reached new heights of musical perfection.

The Choir

"Our goal, as the largest society in the school, is to build up an enviable reputation for good choral work. But above all, our Chorus hopes to give pleasure to everyone concerned."

"Believe it or not, it is a pleasure always, to work with young people." (Mr. Lankin, 1970)

The history of choral music in Port Credit Secondary School reaches back to the formation of the Glee Club in 1931. The present Chorus is heir to a tradition begun, in September 1948, with the coming of Mr. Lankin, for 22 years the primary moving force in the musical programme and present Head of the Music Department at P.C.S.S.

The Chorus organized in 1948. Classes were large and early efforts proved successful. The senior Chorus was followed by a Male Chorus (1949) and Junior Chorus (1952). In this tradition in the production of operettas as "Trial by Jury", in 1950, "April Shower", in 1952, and "Convicts Capers" in 1954; a first place standing in Kiwanis and Peel Festivals of 1955; a recital with the Toronto Symphony Orchestra in 1961; form recitals given with the Mendelssohn Choir as audience, excursions to localities in the United States and Canada; singing at Annual Commencements and assemblies; and the Spring Concert, an annual since 1947.

The evaluation of the progress of the Chorus' quality is a slow process for objectivity in hearing a Chorus can come only over a period of several years. A record of a chorus, made in the mid fifties, may not be heard and appraised impartially until the late sixties. However, with the justification of the past and quality of the present chorus, Mr. Lankin has "always been proud" as head of a chorus with a repertoire ranging from Latin religious music to folk and rock music, and pieces from the course of study of one of the finest music programmes in Southern Ontario.

Port Credit Sportsmanship

Live Horse,
Dead Horse,
Sick Horse,
Stiff!

Rip 'em up
Cut 'em up
What's the diff?

Humorous, Tumourous
Blood galore
Port Credit High School
Evermore!

The Boys' Athletic Association

The Boys' Athletic Association is one of the oldest organizations in the Port Credit system, enjoying overwhelming support by the student body year after year. To-day as in the past, it is representatives of our athletic associations who most often visit other schools in the name of P.C.S.S. and those representatives continue, as they always have, to uphold the image of P.C.S.S. The B.A.A. has existed, in some form or other since the inception of Port Credit High, and has amassed a proud history of athletic achievement.

The spirit and will to win that Credit is noted for was evident during teams contests against their arch rivals from Etobicoke, Long Branch and Mimico. This spirit was especially evident in 1929 when, after having an undefeated season, Port Credit met Etobicoke in the final. Port Credit lost this game but only by a slim margin of two points. The score was 12-10 for Etobicoke. This was really quite a feat as Port Credit's line was much lighter than that of the Etobicoke team and, only by determined tackling in the pinches, was Port Credit able to hold the score down as low as they did.

Domination of their division came to be a habit of the rugby teams in the 1930's and undefeated seasons were all the vogue. The first three years of the decade produced three very tough rugby teams.

Each team came up with an undefeated season and participated in either the finals or semi-finals at the end of the season. These teams could win the big games especially when they were needed.

With 1936 came the organization of a house league for rugby and the advent of a junior football team that, under the coaching of Mr. W. J. Wood, was to remain at the top of its division in the T.D.I.A.A. during regular season play, only to lose the final game by a score of 2-1, to East York. In 1938 Port Credit was without a senior team because of a lack of talent and a junior team that consisted almost wholly of rookies. This same team, under the direction of Mr. Wood, in 1939 gave an excellent account of themselves. East York was but one of their victims. They must have been rather distressed to lose two games in the same month to Port Credit, the first by a score of 17-1 and the second by a shocking 41-0 tally.

Football returned again, to Credit as a succession of light but fast teams were coached to success by Mr. Munro. Though they were light compared to their opponents and both juniors and seniors had to play on a senior team again, due to a lack of players, Mr. Munro's teams finished on top in many of their contests. By running plays designed to confuse their opponents and take full advantage of Port Credit's superior speed, the teams came up with some great showings which vividly displayed the traditional fighting spirit of Port Credit teams.

Basketball came more to the forefront of the sports scene at Port Credit. During this period of time, though our teams possibly weren't the greatest in the world, they were still strongly supported. Luck, however, just wasn't with our teams in the latter part of the 40's. We were even forced to default a game because weather conditions prevented our teams from getting to Brampton for the contest.

One highlight of this particular team's season, in 1947, had to be the game which was played in Maple Leaf Gardens against Mimico.

Port Credit, in the 50's, rose to new heights in football circles as our teams repeatedly advanced to the T.D.I.A.A. finals, on several occasions emerging victorious.

Having played their first game at Varsity Stadium, in 1950, the next six years the Warriors, under the direction of Nick Volpe, frequently revisited that playing field, and finally brought home the championship in 1956, a formidable achievement repeated before the end of that decade.

But it wasn't just the senior teams which stood out at Port Credit. The junior football teams produced some fine seasons and also, on occasion, advanced to the T.D.I.A.A. playoffs though they were never quite able to make it to the final.

Spirit was at a new all time high at Port Credit during the 50's and with more people participating in sports great things had to happen. Track and field became a more important area and some very strong teams appeared on the competitive scene.

The 1960's may well be called the years of change and growth at P.C.S.S. The Toronto Township schools split from the T.D.I.A.A. and formed their own association (T.T.S.S.A.A.). This was subsequently changed to M.S.S.A.A. when the Town of Mississauga was incorporated in 1968 and then, to the Peel County Secondary School Athletic Association when the county board was established January 1, 1969. The tremendous growth of this area saw the number of P.C.S.S.A. Association schools increase from five to the present day fourteen, with new schools being added each year.

As the association has expanded the scope of athletic competition enlarged. Minor sports such as wrestling, golf, tennis, badminton, volleyball, and gymnastics became integral parts of the inter-school athletic programme. The opening of the new school in 1963, provided outstanding indoor and outdoor facilities to accommodate all aspects of the athletic programme.

Port Credit's reputation for athletic excellence grew with the area. The 1960's saw P.C.S.S. produce some of the finest athletes in the long history of the school. Football remained the number one spectacle aided by excellent players. Four out of the past five years they have qualified for the finals, only to lose the championship game, every one by less than a single touchdown.

In 1964 wrestling was introduced as an inter-school activity. Since that time, outstanding competitors have won the majority of the weight class championships for Credit.

The basketball highlight of the 60's took place in 1968. In that year the Warriors won the M.S.S.A.A. championship.

During the 60's a multitude of school records were set in track and field. Port Credit was also well represented in T.D.I.A.A. and O.F.S.S.A.A. competition. Track athletics brought many honours to Credit.

The first 50 years have passed, and the Physical Education Department and coaches are looking forward to many more years of athletic enjoyment at P.C.S.S.

TORONTO DAILY STAR, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 1942

At The Feet Of A Grid "Gamaliel"



Though they didn't know it, because they had won four straight, these Port Credit High Schoolers were their season "Gamaliel" at the hands and feet of Vaughan Rd. golden pathway at Oakwood stadium. But Coach Frank Murray, ever kinder himself at the next attention he's getting on, by gesture and advisory finger, he talks to his charges between periods. Few study periods had the country's youth wearing the devoted expressions to be observed in this picture, we'll guess just from memory.





JUNIOR RUGBY CHAMPS 1939



SENIOR CHAMPS 1944



THE GOVERNMENT INSPECTOR 1970



PRIDE AND PREJUDICE 1960

Dramatic Society

Although the Port Credit Secondary School's Drama Society was not officially formed until 1931, drama had always played a part in school life since its beginning in 1920. Many skits, scenes from Shakespeare, and even full-length plays such as *Midsummer Night's Dream* were presented throughout the twenties. Proceeds from this play enabled the school to purchase a piano. Upon its official formation in 1931, activities of the Drama Society increased, and as many as four short plays were staged each year. Under the direction of Miss Sissons and Mr. W. J. Wood some of the more outstanding successes of the thirties included *Taming of the Shrew*, *The Man in the Stage Box*, and *The Merchant of Venice*, all of which played to full houses.

From their resources the Drama Society was able to contribute \$150.00 to the War Victims Fund.

In 1946, direction of the Drama Society's productions was undertaken by Miss P. R. Detenbeck, a post she held till 1956. *The Imaginary Invalid*, by Moliere, was the 1946 production. In January of 1948 *The Ghost Train*, a three-act mystery, was presented, and Miss E. L. Carscallen organized the make-up for this production. In 1956 Mr. Roy Schatz took over direction of the Society's productions. Unfortunately, that same year, all our costumes and props were destroyed in the fire.

Most notable productions during the fifties were *Pride and Prejudice* in 1951; three plays in 1953 including Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, *The Happy Journey* by Thornton Wilder, and *Thirty Minutes in the Street*. In 1953 the Drama Society entered the Simpson's Collegiate Drama Festival for the first time and its entry was *Thirty Minutes in the Street*. Peggy Baker received the best actress award and Miss Detenbeck was selected as the best director. The following year the Drama Society presented *Stage Door* with a huge cast of over thirty.

Upon moving to the new school in 1963 Mr. K. Thomson took over the role as director and chief staff-advisor. Since then, the Drama Society has developed into one of the most tightly-organized and professional drama groups of its kind. In 1967-68 the Drama Society scored another success, presenting Eugene Ionesco's theatre of the absurd, *Rhinoceros*, an exceedingly difficult play with a large cast and numerous sets. The following year Jean Giraudoux's *Madwoman of Chaillot* was presented, and boasted of the largest cast and most extravagant sets in the history of the Drama Society.

This year the Drama Society presented *The Government Inspector* by Nikolai Gogol, a production which has set new standards for high school drama. The play was one of the most professional and critically acclaimed productions ever performed in the school. Some 125 students were involved.

At Port Credit the standard of production and the level of acting has improved over the years. The Drama Society has always challenged the ability of the students who were involved. In our 50th year we can look back over the years with thanks to the many who contributed talent, skill and hard work to make the Drama Society an integral part of the fabric of Port Credit Secondary School.

