JUST YOUNGSTERS   By Henry Hurley, HHS Class of ’42

A group of us liked to go out to the park behind the high school to smoke during the lunch time. There were some old sheds there and that was where we would go, and the smoke would billow up. We always had to have a lookout, since Connie Dunn (Holten High Principal) would frequently come by and catch us in the act.

The high school building was parallel to Conant St. and since the land sloped off, there was a retaining wall. This provided another smoking area since we could hide behind it. One day, Mr Dunn caught us and said, “Henry, what would your father say if I sent you home and said you were smoking?” As we thought about this, we just crawled into our shirt collars, and he just let it go.

I lived in Hathorne and had to take the bus home. To catch it, we waited on the corner of Conant and Maple Streets in front of Michaelson’s store (Where CVS is today). If you were going to Danvers Port or Salem, the bus stop was in front of Nesson’s store, diagonally across the square.

One winter, there were big snow banks, and Roseanne Baker, a young lady with a good throwing arm threw a snowball at a boy waiting for the bus at Nesson’s from our stop at Michaelson’s. To do this, she had to lob this long throw over a bus. I don’t recall what happened, but she could really throw a snowball.