

Public Archives Are Safe And Accessible For The First Time

By JACK VAN DUSEN
Canadian Press Staff Writer
OTTAWA (CP)—Tons of federal records are being moved from basement and attic storage space across Ottawa to a modern, specially designed building in the capital's west end.

There a young Albertan and his staff are sorting the records, tabulating them and placing the useful ones for posterity in spacious fireproof storage rooms.

The public archives are in a safe and easily accessible home for the first time in the new records centre, opened last April. Since then director Abe Williams and his staff of 14 have cleared out 36,310 square feet of storage space throughout the city, and have moved thousands of dusty files to the new centre.

But some 500,000 square feet of storage space around the city remains to be cleared out, and this may take as long as two years.

EASY TO FIND

The basement of the new \$1,000,000 building is stacked with records awaiting filing.

The records are first dusted, fumigated in huge halls, cleared, numbered, and then stored in cubic foot cardboard boxes. The boxes are placed on 20 miles of steel shelves. Eventually the shelves will total 62 miles and there will be some 400,000 boxes.

"We picked the boxes and shelves over steel cabinets because they save 50 per cent in space, let alone the savings in cost," Mr. Williams said in an interview.

"The boxes, specially treated for fire resistance, weight about

30 pounds when filled. They're easy to handle and can be carried for inspection in "study rooms."

The 35-year-old graduate of the University of Alberta, a veteran of the Second World War, has been with the public archives since 1950. He studied in Washington and toured various Canadian government departments before taking over the records centre.

As head of the centre, he is custodian of the records of all government departments, crown agencies and corporations.

REFERENCE SERVICE

All dormant records—those not needed from day to day—will be kept in the building.

The centre will provide a reference service—loan files back to their owners when necessary; provide information from the files; and provide study rooms where administrators can go through the records of their departments.

A telephone call to the centre will produce information from records dating back to the 1800s in a matter of minutes. The centre has had 400 requests for information in the short time it has been open.

There are 35 huge file rooms, totaling about four acres. Every provision has been made against fire except that there is no sprinkler system.

"Water would do more harm to the records than fire," said Mr. Williams.

But each room has a huge steel door which would close automatically if fire broke out, isolating the flames.

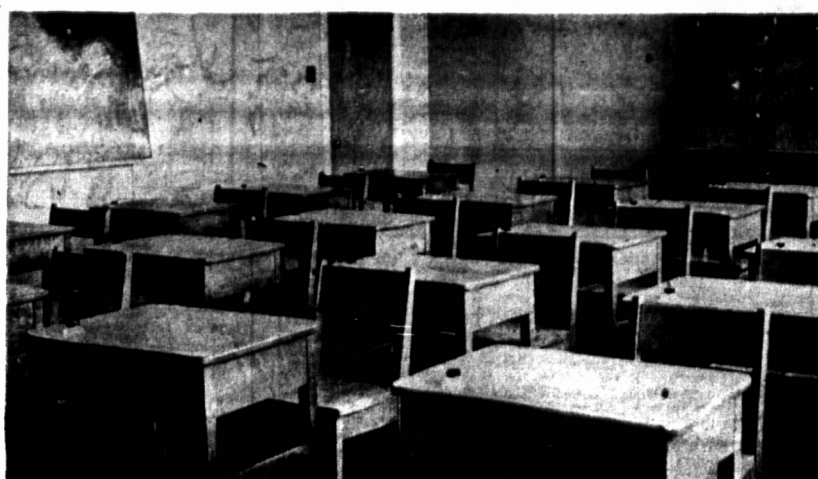
OFFICIAL OPENING TONIGHT, SOUTHPORT SCHOOL



THE DECORATING of the Christmas tree by the girls shown in the photo above is a history making event in that the girls are preparing for the first Christmas concert to be staged in the new auditorium of the Southport School.

The auditorium is built in the basement of the new building and will seat 200 people. It has modern stage and kitchen facilities and will be used for extra-curricular activities and for gatherings by the community.

The official opening of the school will take place in the auditorium this evening at 7:30. It will be followed immediately afterwards by the annual school concert.



WITHIN A FEW weeks the desks shown in the picture above will be fully occupied by busy students in the senior grades at the Southport School. This photo shows the interior of one of the new classrooms.

The two new classrooms were added to the school to relieve the over-crowding in the old school. The completion of the classrooms and the auditorium speaks highly of the initiative of the people of Southport.

The building of these additions was spearheaded by the Board of Trustees under the chairmanship of Ches Cooper and the Building Committee under the leadership of Earle Reardon.

Two Classrooms, Auditorium Added To Old School

The rapid growth of the village of Southport and vicinity in the past ten years is clearly indicated today with the official opening of the enlarged Southport School with its seating capacity of 125 children in comparison to the 22 children attending the old two room school a decade ago.

Realizing the urgent need for enlarged educational facilities the citizens of Southport in an energetic and enterprising community effort under the capable leadership of the Board of Trustees and a Building Committee have added two new classrooms and an auditorium to their school.

The building of these additions has just been completed and the official school opening will take place tonight in the auditorium at 7:30 in a ceremony presided over by Ches Cooper, Chairman of the Board of Trustees.

Among the guests attending the official opening will be Premier A.W. Matheson, Hon. Keir Clark, Minister of Education; Hon. Eugene Cullen, Minister of Agriculture; Neil A. Matheson, M.P. for Queens and a Southport resident; Dr. Lloyd Shaw, Deputy Minister of Education and Dr. J.P. Lantz.

The official opening will be followed by the School's annual Christmas concert.

For the past few years the teachers in the over-crowded three-room Southport School had been staggering their classes in order to teach all children. In July of this year the Southport people commenced work on the additions to the school with the contracting work being done by Lester Keizer and the designing by G. Keith Pickard.

Expenses were kept as low as possible and the Board of Trustees and Building Committee assisted by Mr. Keizer and Mr. Pickard purchased all the building materials.

The length of the school has been extended by 80 feet giving the school an over-all length of 180 feet and a width of the 30 feet. One of the new classrooms will be used immediately by the senior

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Invents Artificial Smog In Greenhouse To Study Perils

The march of science
By ALTON L. BLAKESLEE

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—A greenhouse for smog is working here for cleaner, smog-free air in cities.

The greenhouse collects and tests "crops" of automobile exhaust fumes, because these gases are part of the eye-irritating, nose-irritating components of the blight of smog.

The smog greenhouse is used in a scientific project at the Midwest Research Institute, a special study for the air pollution foundation in Los Angeles, 1,600 miles away.

There are several objectives, explains Dr. John T. Goodwin Jr., manager of the institute's chemistry division. Just how much do auto exhausts contribute to smog in Los Angeles and elsewhere? Are certain gases in exhausts particularly bad actors? And how good are devices, like carburetor cut-offs, in actually reducing the smog contribution for automobiles?

CAR ENGINE USED

In tests, exhaust fumes from an automobile engine, mixed with air to eliminate deadly carbon monoxide, are fed into the greenhouse. The engine can be run at different speeds on different fuels and at different efficiencies to affect the smog content.

Groups of volunteer students,

paid small fees, stay inside the greenhouse and report the physical effects, such as eye, throat and nose irritations, from the various "smogs." Chemical analyses of the greenhouse air are made also.

Auto fumes are blamed by some experts for causing 50 to 80 per cent of the noxious elements in smog in Los Angeles, under the peculiar conditions creating smog there.

Sunlight is thought to cause reactions among some of the exhaust gases, especially hydrocarbons and oxides of nitrogen, and create some of the unwelcome chemical components.

The greenhouse with exhaust fumes piped inside simulates the natural conditions. Tests to date "show that in a large chamber we can make smog like that in Los Angeles from auto exhausts," Dr. Goodwin said.

The greenhouse studies are more easily and accurately done here in smog-free Kansas City than in Los Angeles, for there's no naturally smoggy air which could enter the greenhouse.

A next step is to learn which elements in the exhaust fumes are worst in causing smog and irritations. A gas present only in small amounts might be worse than another created in larger amounts. This kind of knowledge can aid in development, and testing, of devices to reduce or eliminate the smog hazard from autos.

Formidable Task Ahead For New NATO Secretary

By JOSEPH E. DYNAN

PARIS (AP)—Paul-Henri Spaak is one of the greatest living orators in the French language. He will need all his persuasiveness in the challenging post he will assume next spring—secretary general of NATO.

Spaak's job will be to weld into greater unity the 15-nation organization now expanding its sphere from the military to include also

economic and political international relations.

He will resign as Belgian foreign minister to take up his new duties in April. He will succeed Lord Ismay of Britain, NATO's first secretary general, who will retire.

Spaak is not the shrinking type. He held off accepting the NATO assignment until the organization's council agreed to give the post much more authority and prestige than Lord Ismay had. Spaak will be a combination administrator and moderator, with power to intervene in disputes among NATO members—the Cyprus case, for example.

RESEMBLES CHURCHILL

Nearly a generation younger than Sir Winston Churchill, Spaak vaguely resembles the British leader. Some of his admirers regard him as an even more moving orator than Churchill, whom he respects greatly.

On the floor of Parliament or at a rowdy mass meeting, Spaak is at his oratorical best. He can turn a crowd of suspicious hecklers into cheering enthusiasts with a well-placed quip or a brilliant phrase. He is able to switch from the highly emotional to a blast of sarcasm and incisive ridicule.

Known in his youth as the Firebrand of Belgium, he has mellowed into a moderate Socialist respected throughout the Western world as one of the rebuilders of western Europe.

YOUNGEST PREMIER

A native of Brussels, he will be 58 Jan. 25. In 1938 he became the youngest premier in Belgian history at 39. He had served previously as foreign minister, a post he has held so many years a friend once called him Belgium's "permanent foreign minister."

When the Nazis swept over the little country he fled to London where he helped set up the Belgian government in exile. At the end of the war he returned to his country's politics. He also plunged into the campaign to unify Europe and the Atlantic world. He worked hard in the United Nations, becoming first president of the General Assembly in 1946.

TO RELEASE JAP POWS

MOSCOW (Reuters)—All Japanese prisoners of war in the Soviet Union are being released under a decree of the presidium of the Supreme Soviet (parliament), the Soviet news agency Tass reported today.

Ask Christmas Supplies For U.N. Force In Egypt

By DAVE MCINTOSH

Canadian Press Staff Writer
ABU SUWEIR, Egypt (CP)—Urgent preparations are being made for Christmas at this hot and dusty base of the United Nations Emergency Force.

The 300-man Canadian unit as caterer to the force has asked UN headquarters in Cairo to supply Christmas goods.

But it is taking no chances. In case the UN doesn't come through, the Canadians plan to obtain decorations, turkey, candy, beer and cigars by rush plane from home.

The Canadians are in an embarrassing position in this regard because as suppliers for the UN force they don't want to dine better than other UN troops here on Christmas Day.

SWEDISH CHRISTMAS TREES

The Scandinavians are making special plans, too. The Swedes, for instance, have a ship en route to Egypt with Christmas trees.

Lt.-Col. G. K. Wade of Hanna, Alta, commander of the UN base here, said in an interview that welfare of the troops is vitally important because none is allowed outside the camp except on UN business.

One officer is already on his way back to Canada with a long list of welfare needs for Canadian troops—papers, magazines, books, films, cards and sports equipment of all kinds.

The Canadians are trying to arrange guided bus tours of Cairo, 35 miles away. Plans are being made for an outdoor theatre, cañon and barbershop. All these amenities are essential to morale because at the moment there is literally nothing for Canadian soldiers to do in their off-duty hours. There is not even any reading material.

BEST WISHES
TO THE PEOPLE OF SOUTHPORT
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NEW ADDITIONS TO THEIR SCHOOL!

WE WISH THEM EVERY SUCCESS

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RESIDENTS OF SOUTHPORT
ON THE CONSTRUCTION AND
OPENING OF THE NEW ADDITIONS
TO YOUR SCHOOL

It was a Pleasure for us to do the sheet metal work for the School.

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CONGRATULATIONS

To those who conceived, planned and worked for the additions to the

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It was our pleasure to share in this enterprise by supplying and installing the electrical fixtures.

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AUDITORIUM
OF THE SOUTHPORT SCHOOL

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—AND—
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To The People
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