

June 21, 1960

First Sod Turned On Separate School

**\$52,000 Project at Maidstone
To Provide Two Classrooms**

MAIDSTONE—Sod for this community's first school—a \$52,000 two-room separate school—was turned in a brief ceremony at the site on Highway 3.

Shepley Construction Company of Paquette has been awarded a \$46,200 contract to build the two-classroom unit northeast of St. Mary's Church. Also included will be a room for teachers and other normal facilities.

James T. Markham, chairman of the Maidstone-Sandwich South Area Separate School Board, said furnishings would boost the cost to \$52,000.

This brings to four the number of two-room schools to be constructed in Sandwich South Twp. this year. The other three are being built by the public school area board.

The new school, designated

as R.C.S.S.S. No. 5, Sandwich South, will not be named until it is blessed by the bishop.

When completed it will give the board four schools. It was an alternative to an addition to No. 7, Sandwich South, a two-room unit on Highway 3 near Oldcastle.

The other two schools under the board's jurisdiction are the three-room No. 2, Maidstone, near Pleasant Park, and the No. 8, Maidstone, at Six Corners, also three rooms. Formerly No. 8, Maidstone, was also No. 5, Sandwich South.

The three existing schools gave the board eight classrooms with approximately 325 pupils.

Officiating at the ceremony was Mr. Markham.

St. Mary's To Become 8 Rooms

**New Project
Alternative
To School Repairs**

MAIDSTONE—What started out as the two-room St. Mary's separate school here three years ago is likely soon to be an eight-classroom building.

The school was built by the combined R.C.S.S. 2 and 8, Maidstone Twp. and 5 and 7, Sandwich South Twp. and the addition will replace two of the existing schools. It will make St. Mary's a virtual central school.

A special meeting of ratepayers from the four school sections approved the building program, which may cost from \$120,000 to \$150,000, as an alternative to repairing two other schools.

The two requiring repairs or replacement are S.S. No. 7, Sandwich South, the two-room St. Malachy School on Highway 3 between Oldcastle and Maidstone, and S.S. No. 8, Maidstone, two rooms plus annex at the Six Corners.

Thomas J. Mullin, board secretary-treasurer, said the two schools were repaired in 1951 and now the issue is whether or not it is advisable to spend more money on them.

The architectural firm of J. P. Thomson Associates of Windsor has been retained to draw sketch plans. Various approvals are still required from governing bodies.

When the addition is built, the number of schools in the area will be reduced from four to two. The older one still occupied will be No. 2 in Maidstone, Sacred Heart on Con. 6, Maidstone, just off Highway 98.

Ratepayers voted 40-25 in favor of the school addition.

The two-room St. Mary's School was built in 1960 by Shepley Construction Co. at a contract price of \$46,200. At that time it was not expected to grow at the rate now indicated. What is now known as St. Malachy School was originally St. Mary's but the name was changed when the new school was built near St. Mary's Church.

MAIDSTONE — A Tecumseh contractor, H. T. Reaume, has been awarded a \$96,000 contract to add six rooms to the currently

two-room St. Mary's Separate School.

The award was made by the combined RCSS Nos. 2 and 8, Maidstone Twp., and 5 and 7, Sandwich South Twp. The addition, five classrooms and a playroom, will replace two old schools now operated by the area board.

The contractor expects to complete the work by the end of the year.

Reaume's bid, well within estimates, was the lowest of 11 received by the board and considered with the architect, J. P. Thomson Associates.

Four of the extra rooms will form one wing on St. Mary's School—built only three years ago—and the other two will form another wing. This provides for a central heating plant which will require an extension to service the extra space.

The two schools to be replaced are: S.S. No. 7, Sandwich South, the two-room St. Malachy School on Highway 3, between Oldcastle and Maidstone; S.S. No. 8, Maidstone, two rooms, plus annex at Six Corners.

Only one other school is under control of the combined school board. This is Sacred Heart, in Maidstone Twp., on Con. 6 just off Highway 98.

The alternative to the additions at St. Mary's was extensive repairs of the two schools now to be closed. Ratepayers in the area favored the construction program.

Jan 27, 1967

Public Speaking Contest Held in Maidstone

Twelve pupils of Grades 7 and 8, St. Mary's School, Maidstone, held their Public Speaking Contest, sponsored by the Ontario School Trustees' and Ratepayers' Association, Friday, January 27, in the Parish Hall.

Participants were Tim Beaudette who chose as his topic, "The Great River"; Sylvia O'Neil, "Red Cross"; Lawrence Kennette, "The Honey Bee"; Gerald Eyraud, "Stamp Collecting"; Erika Kolbrich, "The Solar System"; George Molnar, "Vaccination"; Deborah Palencar, "Life Beyond the Earth"; Lana Jobin, "Nursing"; Mary Plamondon, "Manpower Retaining"; Joyce McLean, "Citizens of Canada"; Ronald Bissonnette, "The Great Fire of London"; and Cathy Seguin, "Canada".

These pupils are to be commended on their efforts and each one deserved to be a winner but regulations require the judges to select only three winners; namely, first, Erika Kolbrich; second, Sylvia O'Neil, and third, Gerald Eyraud. Judges were Mr. Furlong and Mr. Charrette, teachers of the Essex District High School, and Mrs. Jas. Markham, of Maidstone. Erika will represent this district in the Elementary School Contests, also her name will be engraved on the school plaque presented each year to the winner, by the Catholic Women's League. The contestants were awarded prizes by the School Board and St. Mary's Parish Council of the Catholic Women's League, Maidstone.

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There were nine speakers who competed in the Oratorical contest in St. Mary's School on Wednesday night. Veronica Mogyrody, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Mogyrody was the winner of first prize. Patricia Ann McLean, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Emmett McLean, was second and Catherine Bellaire, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Orville Bellaire, was third. Others competing were Marjorie Maitre, Mary Lynne Allen, Barbara Lauzon, Patricia Molnar, Nevla Apauasicwicz, and Jacqueline Wellwood. Veronica Mogyrody placed third in the contest on Thursday night at Amherstburg. Congratulations to all contestants.

School jobs near end Maidstone additions in final stages

MAIDSTONE — Work is slated to be complete early next year on two Maidstone Township separate school additions.

Work is in the final stages on the five-room project at St. William's, Emeryville, and the four-room addition at St. Mary's, Maidstone, should be finished by early March.

Total cost of the two projects is slightly more than \$280,000. Scofan Contractors and Precision Builders are the general contractors. Both are Windsor firms.

Plans for the St. Mary's addition were drawn by J. P. Thomson Associates. They include a new library, kindergarten room, playroom and classroom.

The St. William's extension was designed by William J. Hilliker. Four classrooms and a library are being added to the south side of the school.

Both projects are necessary because of increased enrolment. They are designed to blend with existing architecture.

The classrooms at St. William's will accommodate an

overflow of students and provide kindergarten facilities. The library will include audio-visual equipment, study carrels, reference area and work rooms.

The St. Mary's library will have both reference room and work area. The playroom will include dressing rooms and a stage.

The projects will be financed through long-term debentures.

Apr 22, 1968

St. Mary's

4-room school wing opened at Maidstone

MAIDSTONE—The four-room addition to St. Mary's Separate School was officially opened Sunday night with R. J. Ryan of Windsor, area superintendent of separate schools, as guest speaker.

The \$180,000 project was designed by J. P. Thomson Associates and constructed by Precision Builders Windsor Ltd.

Mr. Ryan said the educational picture is a "rapidly changing one" and stressed the necessity for "better teaching facilities and improved programs."

He was joined in the dedication ceremony by board chairman Geoffrey Cainen, school principal John Armaly and board members James Markham, Charles Quinlan, Domenic Bissonnette and Sylvestre McGuire Jr.

A kindergarten, general purpose room, library and

general classroom were added. Mr. Cainen said they will "enable the school to provide the finest facilities" for children.

He said future plans call for the area adjacent the school to be asphalted and the play area at the rear to be filled and graded.

Mr. Cainen disclosed that the board has purchased an additional two acres of property to allow enlarged outdoor play area.

The school now has a total of classrooms plus a physical training centre. Enrollment is near 325.

Parents who attended Sunday night's program were taken on a tour of facilities.

Apr 1968

Additions Completed To St. Mary's, Maidstone

The Board of Trustees announce the completion of additions to St. Mary's Separate School, Maidstone and cordially invites parents and ratepayers to the official opening on Sunday, April 21st, 1968. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. visitors may tour the school, and are asked to attend the opening ceremonies beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Added to existing facilities were a Kindergarten room, classroom, library, and General Purpose (Gymnasium) room. The teachers' lounge also was expanded and improved. The school now has a total of ten classrooms and a very well equipped physical training centre. The library is gradually being provided with books and material to serve as a study and work area.

Asphalt paving around the sides of the school, and on driveways, filling and grading the large playing area at the rear of the school will be completed as soon as ground conditions are suitable. Part of the school expansion included the purchase of property, about two acres, to allow enlarged outdoor play areas.