

Island enjoys record construction

The machine-gun rattle of electric drills and the monotonous thump, thump, thump of the pile driver echo through the city streets currently as Charlottetown, and in fact the entire Island, province is enjoying the greatest boom in building in history.

At least four projects valued at well over \$1,000,000 each are now well underway and another multi-million dollar structure, the new provincial building to house government offices, is slated to get underway in the fall.

With the beginning of this latest structure, total value of construction for structures started last year and continued this year as well as for buildings begun in 1963 will push hard at the \$16,000,000 mark.

Total over-all Island construction which includes new houses, wharf and harbor projects, will ultimately reach some \$30,000,000.



MEMORIAL BUILDING "TRULY NATIONAL IN SCOPE" SAYS FOUNDATION'S CHAIRMAN AND PRESIDENT

HUGE PROJECT RUNNING AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

\$5 million shrine rises in city

Canada's first memorial to the \$5,000,000 Fathers of Confederation Memorial Building, situated in the heart of Charlottetown, is progressing on schedule and portions of the building complex, particularly the theatre, will be ready for use by May.

Pigott Construction Company of Toronto and Montreal is the contracting firm for the project and local building superintendent is R. M. Rickard.

Mr. Rickard said last week, "we are slightly ahead of schedule."

Close to 300 men are employed on the project and most of these are carpenters. Mr. Rickard said a large number of carpenters is needed as most of the work at this stage calls for this type of tradesmen. Soon, stone masons and bricklayers will be needed. The stone will be brownish-grey sandstone from Wallace, N.S., similar to that in the Province Building, which itself will be renovated to match the exterior of the whole building complex.

Each day now the building can be seen rising higher and higher in its wall-off space in the old Market Square.

NATIONAL IN SCOPE

Commenting on the project, Dr. Frank MacKinnon, president of the memorial foundation, said "the project is truly national in scope."

"Undertaken by founders and directors who are a group of private citizens from different parts of Canada, the project is being financed by the federal and provincial governments and by private sources."

"After months of planning, the foundation sponsored a national architectural competition, paid for by a grant by the Canada Council. Architects from coast to coast entered and the competition was won by the Montreal firm of Affleck, Desbarats, Dimakopoulos, Lebersold and Sise.

"Awards to the winning firm were presented at a dinner in Ottawa in January, 1962, by Governor General Vanier, patron of the foundation. The address for the occasion was given by the then prime minister, Hon. John Diefenbaker.

"Blueprints were completed and the job was put out to public tender. Award winning contractors were the Pigott Construction Company.

"First sod for the building was turned last February by Premier Robert Stanfield of Nova Scotia, host of this year's

annual conference of Canadian premiers. Address for the occasion was delivered by Quebec Premier John Lesage.

PEARSON ACCEPTS

Dr. MacKinnon announced recently that Prime Minister Pearson has accepted the invitation of the foundation to lay the building cornerstone. "This will be next month or in September," he said, "depending on Mr. Pearson's schedule." Dr. MacKinnon said it is hoped that Queen Elizabeth will open the building in September of 1964.

According to Dr. MacKinnon, "with the opening of the new building, many cultural benefits for the people of the province will follow.

"The facilities will not only be most attractive to the thousands of visitors from all parts of Canada and to the casts of dra-

matic and musical groups that come, but will also be of enormous educational value to the young people growing up in this province.

"They will have the opportunities of seeing the best plays available, operas and musical presentations, also paintings, art objects and artifacts connected with the history of the province and Canada. It is hoped that the library will contain not only the general offerings of a library but a first class selection of Canadiana in history and public affairs.

"An effort is being made to secure books, paintings and articles of historical value. It is planned to have the interior decor and furnishings representative of the past."

Legion home set to open August 16

One of the finest Legion Homes in Canada is scheduled to be officially opened August 16 by the National President of the Royal Canadian Legion, Judge C.C. Sparing. It is the Charlottetown Branch building on Pownall Street flanked by Richmond and Grafton Streets.

When for construction of the project were set in motion at a mass meeting of members on February 22, 1962. A little over a month later a site was selected and work began almost immediately.

The \$225,000 structure is of full steel frame and brick construction with concrete floors. It rises three storeys containing 34 rooms, ranging from medium to large, and numerous other storage and closet areas.

Four concrete bush-hammered pillars, supporting a triangular facade, mark the entrance. Double doors, south and north, provide easy access, and also allow for privacy for any special event that might be staged. The glass block front gives an air of color and light.

TWO-LEVEL FOYER

The foyer is on two levels and of terrazo floor construction. A memorial railing and table can be viewed from the lower level and from the upper level at inspection.

The railing is a memorial to four wars, South African, World Wars One and Two, and the



LEGIIONAIRES' NEW HOME COMPARES WITH NATION'S BEST

The Guardian

Second Section Charlottetown, P. E. I. July 19, 1963 Page 13

'Dream' becomes reality for parish council members

Korean conflict. On the south wall crests of the three services, Navy, Army and Air Force are linked to that of the Royal Canadian Legion.

The ground floor features a lounge and rooms for television viewers. There is a large games room and a number of card rooms. Boiler and storage facilities are also located on this level.

The main floor contains the administrative offices of the Branch, also a meeting room for the Ladies' Auxiliary with a small kitchen and facilities. Here too, are lounges and a billiard parlor.

A dream nearing realization today is the Basilica Youth Centre on Richmond street in Charlottetown.

The \$750,000 structure has its beginning in June 1962, and is scheduled for completion on July 31.

Fully equipped the project is expected to cost another \$50,000 for an \$800,000 total.

The three storey building is of brick, concrete block and steel construction. An impressive entrance gives an interesting split-level appearance.

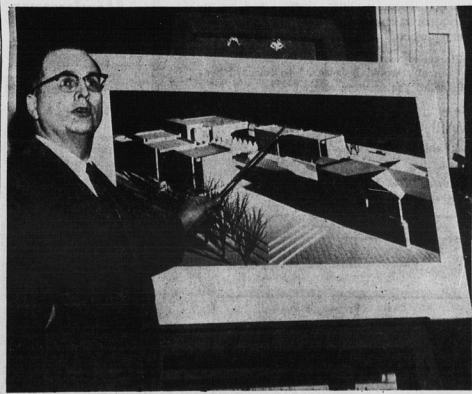
One of the features of this attractive youth centre is the 60 x 104 foot gymnasium - auditorium which will provide multiple uses for entertainment, relaxation and sports engagements. There is also a large stage 20 x 50 feet.

Among other conveniences are a cafeteria, adult and teenage lounges, Scout and Guide rooms and games rooms for darts, ping-pong etc. Youth appeal is further emphasized with a spacious library and canteen facilities.

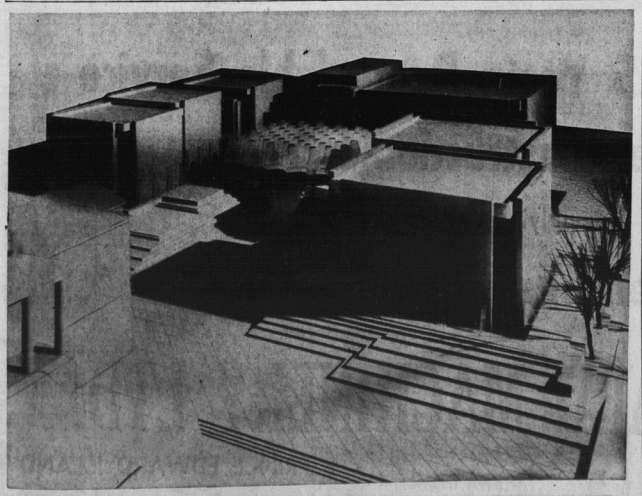
BUSINESS ATMOSPHERE

The building also provides a business atmosphere in its numerous committee rooms and a banquet hall adequately served by a fully equipped kitchen. A suite of offices will house a credit union and one end will be given over entirely for the use of the Knights of Columbus as their 'home'.

No specific date has been set as yet for the official opening but it is expected that it will take place early in September.



DR. MACKINNON EXPLAINS MODEL OF BUILDING



THIS MODEL SHOWS HOW CONFEDERATION MEMORIAL WILL LOOK WHEN COMPLETED



ST. DUNSTAN'S PARISH CENTER BRIGHTENS DOWNTOWN AREA OF CHTOWN