

1959

# Windsor Ontario Report Progress Review 1955-1959

City of Windsor

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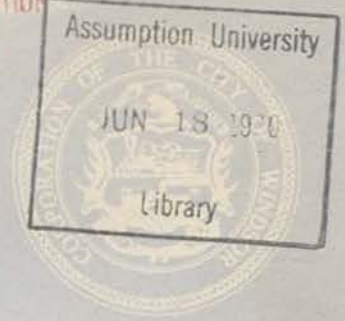
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INFORMATION  
FILE



# windsor ontario report



H.M.Y. BRITANNIA DOCKED AT DIEPPE GARDENS  
DOWNTOWN WINDSOR

PROGRESS REVIEW 1955-1959

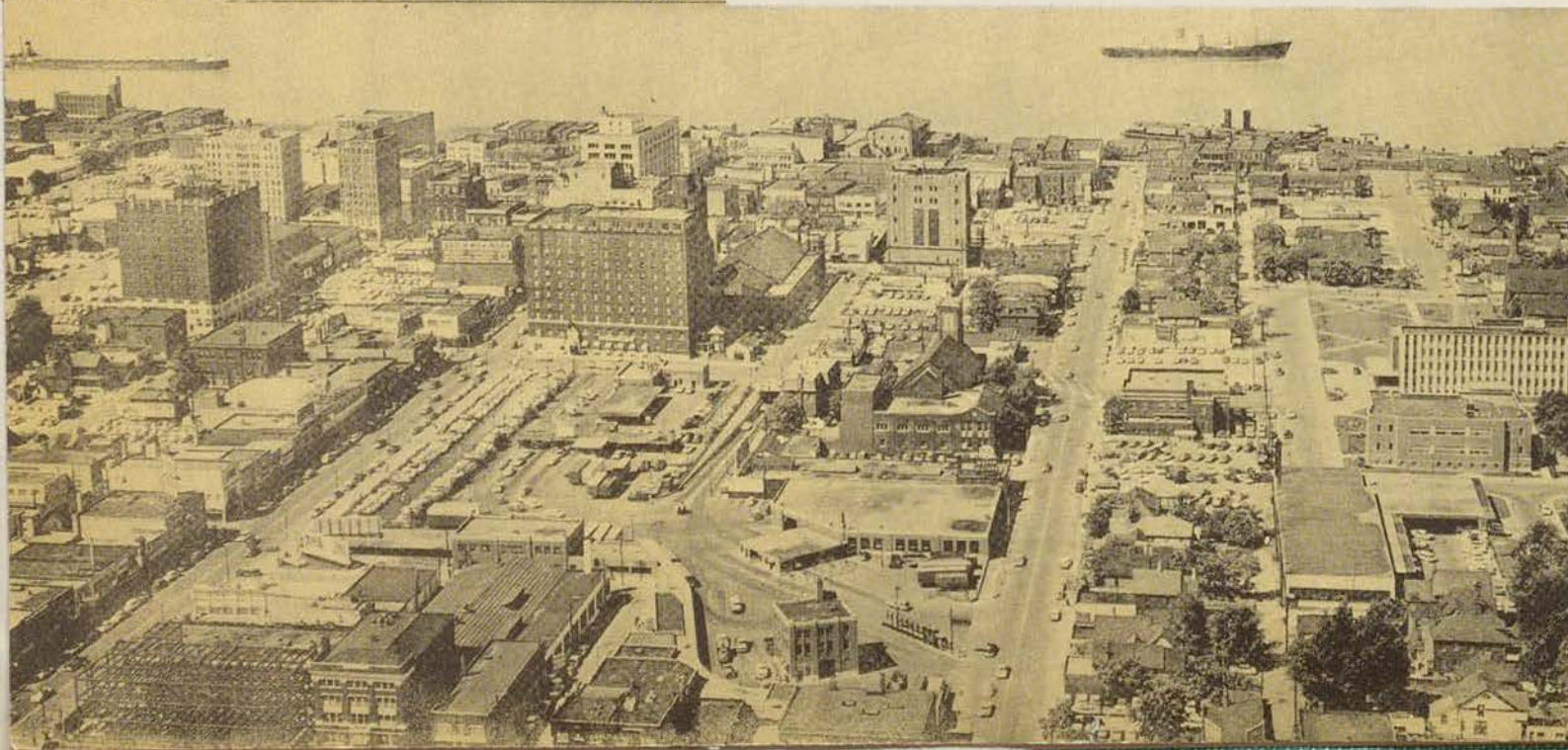
# to the people of windsor

This year, it was felt we should make a report to the people of Windsor informing them of municipal operations, past progress of the City and future developments.

During the past few years, some significant projects have been initiated such as: the building of Senior Citizens' homes, the first in Canada; the erection of a new City Hall that is both beautiful and practical; the riverfront development of Dieppe Gardens; commencement of the Cleary Auditorium and Memorial Convention Hall which will be opened in 1960; and our downtown redevelopment programme which will provide good housing accommodation in a former blighted area. On January 1st, 1959, the Council-Manager form of Municipal government was inaugurated and has proved most effective.

In planning for the future, we will be concerned mainly with further development of our downtown area, our sewer requirements, our potential as a St. Lawrence Seaway port, and further promotion of our industrial growth to ensure employment for our citizens.

MICHAEL PATRICK,  
Mayor.



GSR



WINDSOR CITY COUNCIL 1959-60

W. C. RIGGS

W. J. WHEELTON

M. L. BELANGER, M.P.P.

M. J. PATRICK  
Mayor

T. R. BROPHEY

MRS. C. H. MONTROSE

B. NEWMAN, M.P.

L. R. ROGERS

J. H. CHARLTON

E. R. COLTER  
City Manager

J. B. ADAMAC  
Clerk

W. J. FAIRLIE

O. M. STONEHOUSE

## major accomplishments 1955-59

Adoption of the Council-Manager form of municipal government.

The creation of the Metropolitan Health Unit.

The commencement of the City's first redevelopment programme.

Completion of poliomyelitis preventative inoculations to all school children 6 years to 17 years of age.

Completion of an urban renewal study of the City of Windsor.

The erection of a new City Hall, Police Garage, and Municipal Courts building.

The modernizing of rubbish and garbage disposal by the introduction of the sanitary landfill method.

The placing of Windsor fifth among Canadian cities in reducing the number of fatal traffic accidents in 1959.

The addition of 60 new hospital beds.

Construction of the Cleary Auditorium and Memorial Convention Hall.

Completion of Essex Court, a low-rental housing project.

Modernization of refuse collection by conversion from the open truck to the enclosed packer-type vehicle.

The acquisition and clearance of waterfront properties and the development of Dieppe Gardens.

Construction of the Jackson Park bandshell and bleachers.

The addition of Personnel, Planning, and Traffic Engineering departments to the civic administration.

The creation of approximately 10 miles of "one-way" streets to improve traffic flow.

The development of municipal off-street parking lots.

Construction of a new Branch Library on Seminole Street and an addition to Carnegie Library.

46576

# your administration

In 1959 the Council-Manager form of government was inaugurated. It was an honour for me to have received the appointment as your City Manager and I consider it a public trust. I can only hope that I have fulfilled my duties and responsibilities during this first year in the manner expected of me.

The City of Windsor has a good staff and during the year employees of all grades have co-operated loyally in giving our citizens services in keeping with the funds available. If these services are to be maintained at a proper level, a real task lies ahead in finding ways by which they may be soundly financed.

This year has brought about better relations with our unions, a surplus in current financial operations, excellent co-operation and understanding between Council and the appointed officials, better relations with the press and with the public, realistic planning, and the beginning of a long-term financial plan for capital improvements.

As our citizens read this report, I am sure that questions about specific services will come to their minds. A letter, telephone call, or visit to City Hall will be most welcome.

It is with sincerity that I express my appreciation and thanks to City Council, the employees, the press and radio, and many others who have assisted in strengthening Windsor's civic administration.

Respectfully submitted,

E. R. COLTER,  
City Manager.

# fiscal report 1959

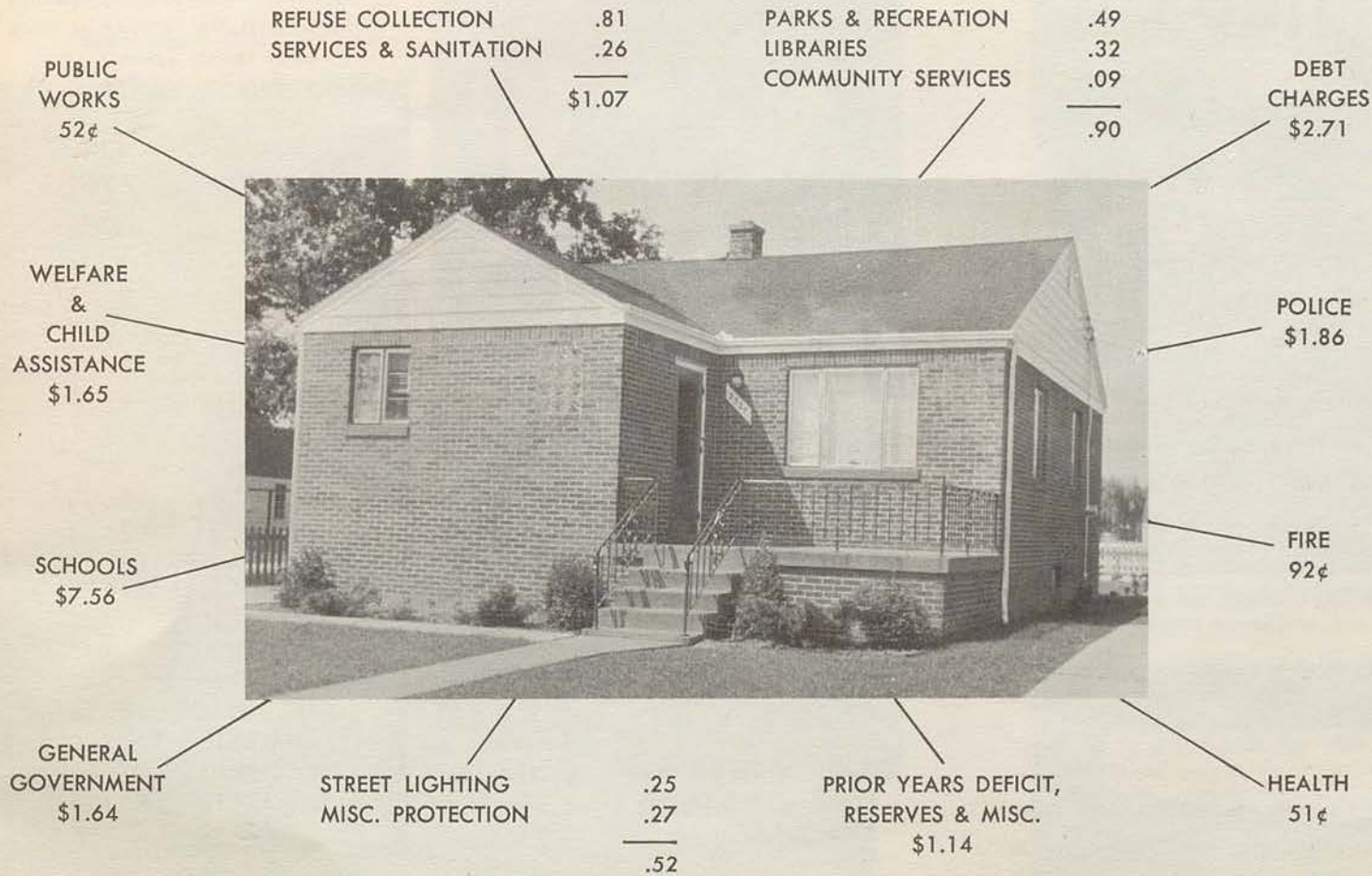
## WHERE THE MONEY CAME FROM

	AMOUNT	%
Revenue From Taxation .....	\$ 12,213,670.48	76.35
Licenses and Permits .....	341,750.00	2.14
Fines and Fees .....	213,500.00	1.33
Interest, Tax Penalties, etc. ....	109,000.00	.68
Contributions, Grants, Subsidies ..	2,171,501.12	13.58
Debenture Debt Charges Recovered ..	841,410.05	5.26
<b>Other:</b>		
Rents, Concessions, Franchises .....	24,027.00	.15
Service Charges .....	7,030.00	.04
Recreation & Community Services ..	61,200.00	.38
Miscellaneous .....	15,100.00	.09
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 15,998,188.65	100.00

## HOW THE MONEY WAS USED

General Government .....	\$ 1,443,609.72	9.02
Protection to Persons and Property ..	2,905,175.35	18.16
Public Works, Roads, Sanitation and Refuse Collection .....	1,410,259.28	8.82
Conservation of Health .....	452,599.00	2.83
Social Welfare .....	1,164,143.00	7.28
Child Assistance .....	290,540.00	1.82
Education .....	4,139,848.41	25.88
Recreation and Community Services ..	800,415.19	5.00
Debt Charges .....	2,382,558.87	14.89
Provision for Reserves .....	635,637.14	3.98
Deficit of Prior Year .....	172,509.69	1.07
<b>Other:</b>		
Capital Expend. From Current Funds ..	47,356.00	.29
Suburban Roads Commission .....	90,934.00	.57
Civil Defence .....	62,603.00	.39
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 15,998,188.65	100.00

# monthly costs of services



— NOTE THE LOW UNIT COST FOR HOMEOWNERS —

These are the monthly costs of essential services which your municipality is supplying together with debt retirement on the basis of the 1959 residential mill rate of 63.15 mills . . . If your property has an assessed valuation of \$3,900.00, you pay \$21.00 monthly for these indispensable services.

# 1959 A YEAR TO REMEMBER



Colourful floats symbolize the international friendship and understanding between the City of Windsor and her American neighbour.

1959 will long be remembered by the people of Windsor as the year of the visit of Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Philip. The people of Windsor were proud to extend to Her Majesty, a joyous and heartfelt welcome.

Held for the first time in 1959, the International Freedom Festival further served to develop and strengthen the bond of mutual goodwill between the City of Windsor and Detroit.



July 3, 1959—The Royal Visit, a day to be long remembered.

A brilliant display of fireworks on the Detroit River provides a fitting climax to Festival activities.

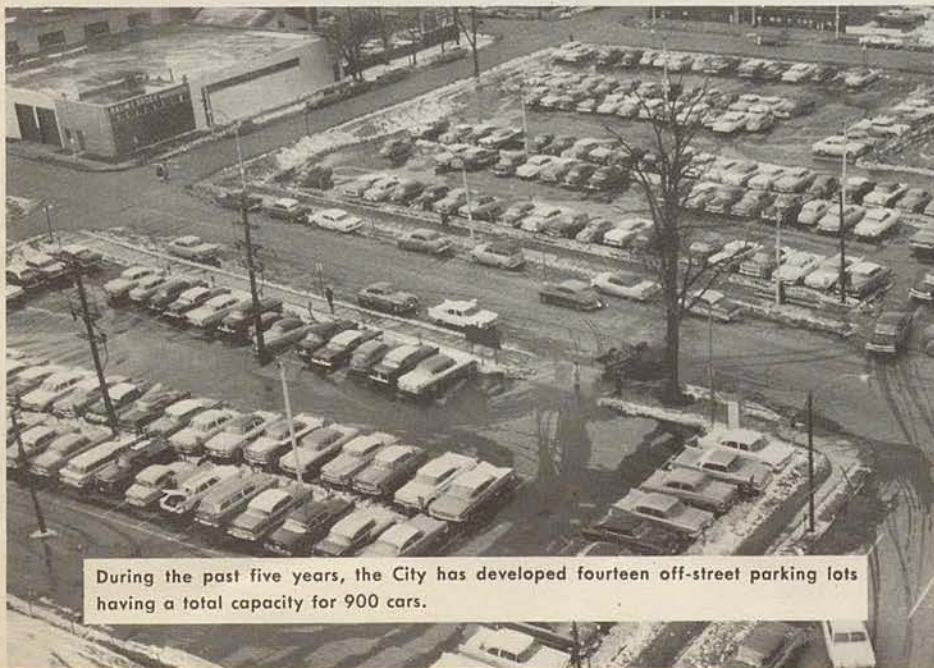


# Windsor an active city

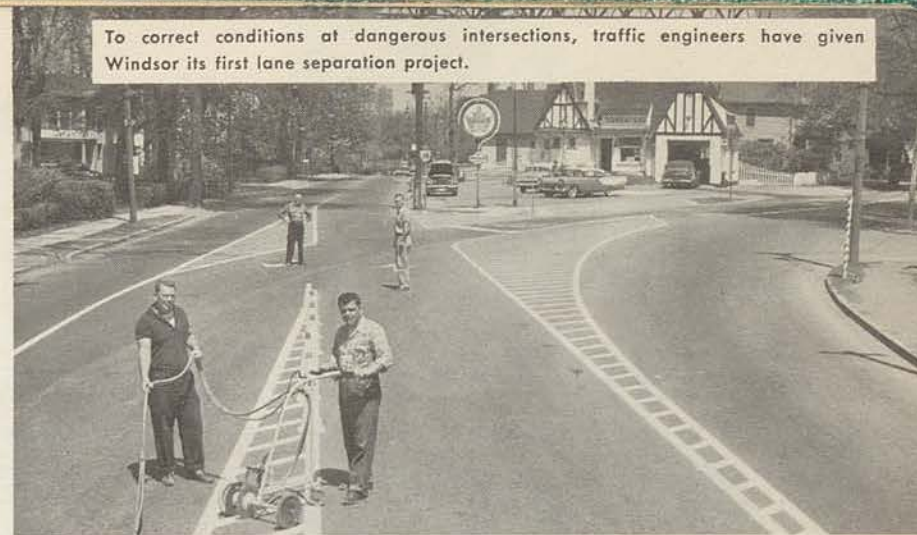
During the past 5 years, civic improvements have continued to reflect the efficiency of your city.

Street improvement programmes have resulted in the erection of some 2,277 new light units, the paving of 19 miles of city streets such as Parent and Central Avenues, the widening of Drouillard Road and the laying of 10,560 feet of new sewers.

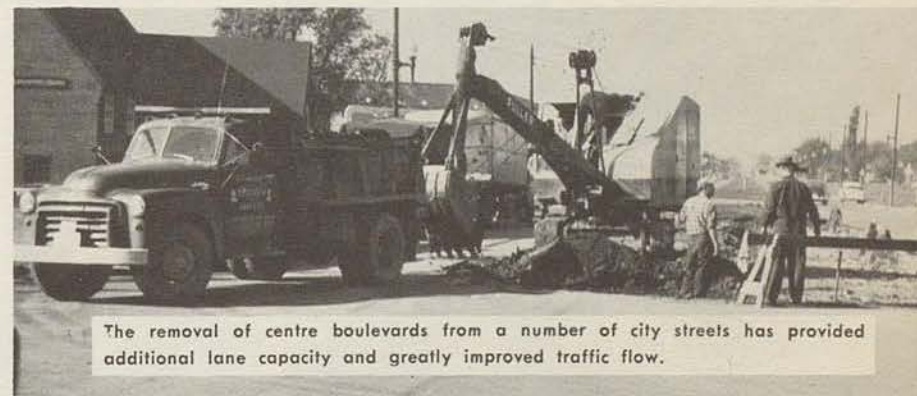
City streets are now safer and more efficient. A programme is now under way to replace the present street name and traffic signs by the retro-reflective type. "Yield" signs have been introduced at hazardous intersections, parking has been removed from one side of most residential streets and traffic flow has been improved by the introduction of 9½ miles of "one-way" streets. During the past 5 years, signal lights have been erected at 18 major intersections.



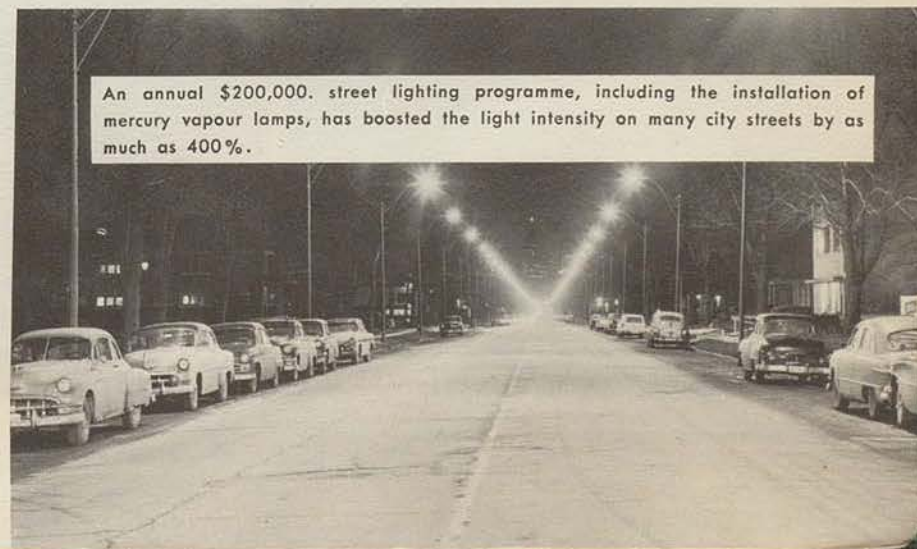
During the past five years, the City has developed fourteen off-street parking lots having a total capacity for 900 cars.



To correct conditions at dangerous intersections, traffic engineers have given Windsor its first lane separation project.



The removal of centre boulevards from a number of city streets has provided additional lane capacity and greatly improved traffic flow.



An annual \$200,000. street lighting programme, including the installation of mercury vapour lamps, has boosted the light intensity on many city streets by as much as 400%.





A major improvement in refuse collection has been achieved by the replacement of the open truck by the more sanitary enclosed packer-type vehicle.



The modern sanitary land fill method of garbage disposal has now replaced incineration and unsightly dumping. The City's 80-acre landfill site will ultimately be developed as a municipal golf course.



One person operating this folding machine performs a task in 10 days, which, prior to mechanization, took 7 persons 25 days to complete.

## an active city continued

Windsor has greatly improved its financial position. In 1937, the City's debenture debt amounted to 34½ million dollars which was \$340 per capita. Through careful handling of your funds, our debt today has been reduced to 17 million dollars or \$140 per capita, in spite of the addition of 15 million dollars worth of civic buildings, recreational facilities, schools and parks.

The establishment of a Personnel Department in 1956 has resulted in improved calibre and effectiveness of civic employees. Changes in the operation of the Metropolitan General Hospital have converted an annual deficit into a balanced budget. An improved method of refuse collection and disposal has resulted in an annual saving of approximately \$84,000.



Training in rescue operation procedure represents an important part of your Civil Defence programme.



The use of modern radio equipment by seven civic departments has greatly increased the speed and flexibility of municipal services.

The people of Windsor have continued to display an active interest in municipal affairs. At the last municipal election, 46% of the electorate cast their ballot. Tax collections in Windsor have continued to show a high degree of citizen responsibility. In 1959, 96% of the current year's taxes had been paid.

A complete programme to ensure equitable assessments on all lands and buildings in the city was begun in March, 1959. This will be the first complete equalization of properties in Windsor.

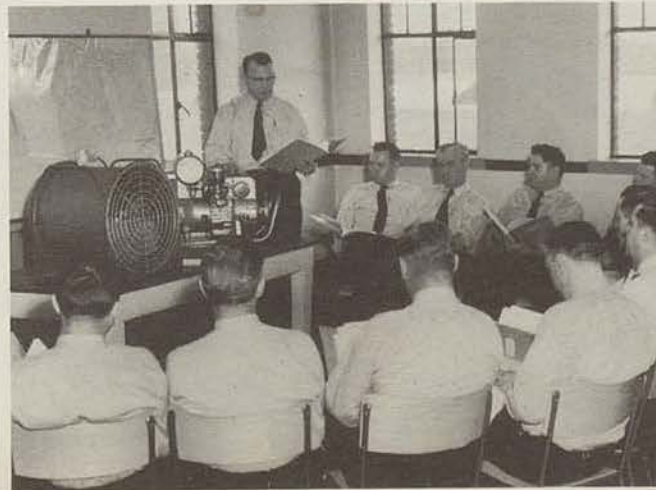
The per capita cost of garbage collection and disposal was \$5.78 in 1959, which, despite increasing labour costs, was a reduction over the preceding 4 years.

The City's 22 packer vehicles and 6 open trucks travelled 213,000 miles in 1959—an average of 850 miles per day, in the collection of refuse. Some 70,000 tons of garbage were buried at the City's landfill site. Approximately 4,890 cubic yards of snow were removed from city streets, 5,300 cubic yards of salt spread, 8,749 miles of streets washed, and 7,084 miles swept.

In the event of a disaster, a civil defence programme has been devised to ensure your safety. All hospitals have an emergency disaster plan and all schools are available to Civil Defence as welfare centres.



In maintaining street surfaces, the Public Works Department operates an Asphalt Plant producing 20,000 tons of paving material a year.



In-service instruction plays an important part in the training of civic employees for municipal work.

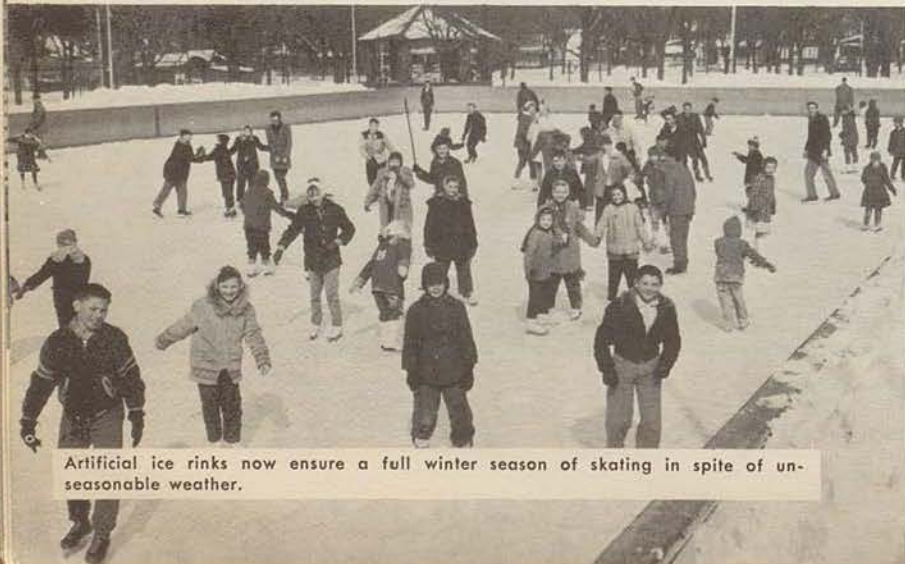


To ensure an adequate supply of water, the Windsor Utilities Commission maintains underground storage facilities having a capacity of 11 million gallons.

Swimming pools are an important part of the summer recreation programme. Three outdoor pools, 10 wading pools and 9 indoor pools are enjoyed by children of all ages.



The City has taken a leading role in the development of almost one mile of river-front lands for park purposes. Assumption Park is one of several presently used and enjoyed by the people of Windsor.



Artificial ice rinks now ensure a full winter season of skating in spite of unseasonable weather.

## a better place in wh

During the past five years, Windsor has become a better place to live and raise a family.

In 1959, city-sponsored recreation programmes were conducted during the winter months for some 8,000 boys and girls. Outdoor artificial ice rinks at Lanspeary and Memorial Parks have further added to the winter recreation facilities.

During the summer, 25 playgrounds staffed by 40 competent supervisors, provided activities for 494,690 participants with a daily attendance of 8,111 persons. Eight swimming pools provided daily average attendance of 1,355 children and adults. Some 1,371 children were taught to swim at morning classes. Other recreational services provided are figure skating, pee wee baseball, basketball, tennis and senior citizens' activities.

Park expansion has continued during the past 5 years, the highlight of the programme being the development of Dieppe Gardens. Further park development is being undertaken by the extension of Alexander Park and the clearing of the 100 acre park in Ojibway.



Community Centres provide recreation for all ages in a wide variety of activities, such as dancing, drama, art, hobby crafts and card parties.

# which to live

In 1959, your library sponsored Young Canada Book Week. During this period, library activities reached some 6,794 children who were encouraged to read through contests, book quizzes, story hours, book talks and film and puppet shows. In 1957 a complete children's library was provided at the Carnegie Library.

Improvements in school facilities have continued to keep pace with increasing enrolments. In 1959, the Board of Education added 4 rooms to the Marlborough Public School, 12 rooms to the W. F. Herman Collegiate Institute, and established a High School of Commerce in the former Harry E. Guppy School.

Over the past 5 years, the Separate School Board constructed 84 new class rooms, including the replacement of St. Angela School.

The Western Ontario Institute of Technology, established in 1958, offers technical training for 140 students.

Since 1958, the enrolment at Assumption University of Windsor has increased by 100%. During the 1959-60 term, 1,109 full-time and 323 part-time students were from the City of Windsor.



Outdoor entertainment in pleasant surroundings has been made possible by the erection of a modern bandshell in Jackson Park.



These young ladies were the winners of the Young Canada Book Week competition held throughout the City libraries.



The new 16-room St. Francis Separate School replaced a building that was constructed in 1905.

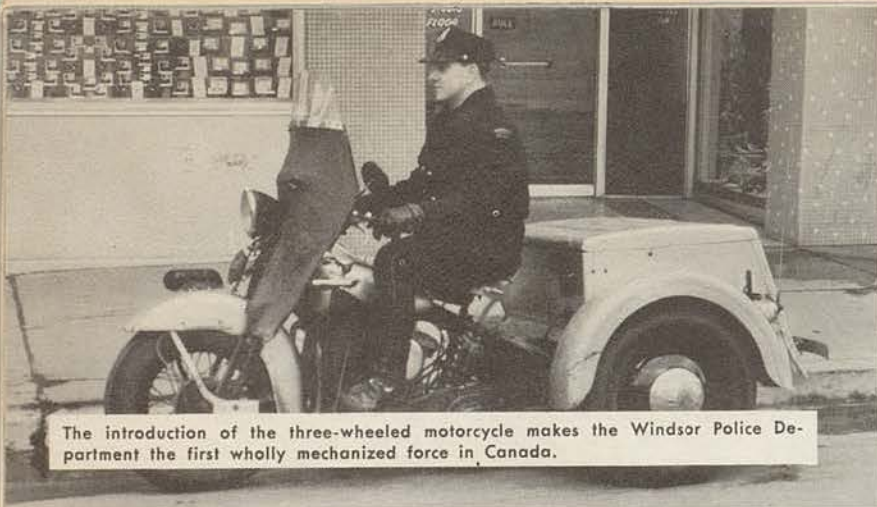


"Windsor Schools Excel."

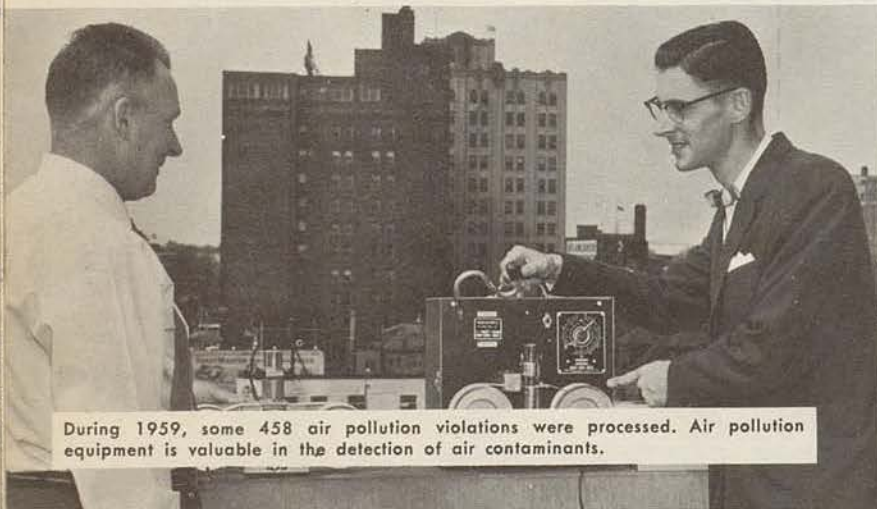
The W. F. Herman Collegiate is one of the 27 school buildings maintained by the Board of Education.



Young drivers have an opportunity to display their skills in the annual city-sponsored soap-box derby.



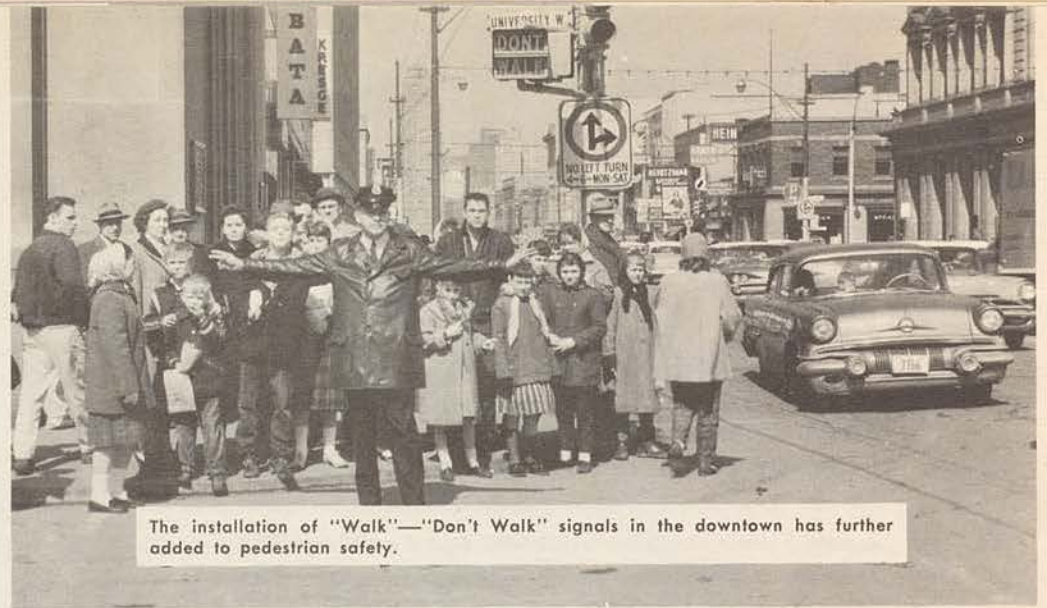
The introduction of the three-wheeled motorcycle makes the Windsor Police Department the first wholly mechanized force in Canada.



During 1959, some 458 air pollution violations were processed. Air pollution equipment is valuable in the detection of air contaminants.



To ensure safety in new construction, as well as in existing structures, some 1200 inspections were made by the city's building department in 1959.



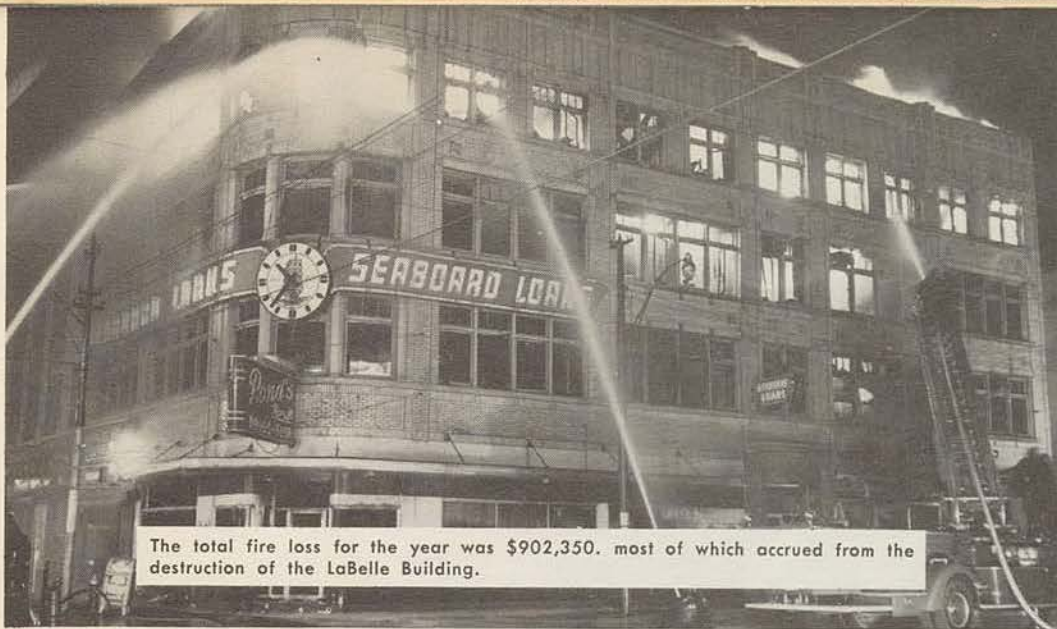
The installation of "Walk"—"Don't Walk" signals in the downtown has further added to pedestrian safety.

## a healthier and

During the past 5 years, Windsor has become a healthier and safer city. Salk vaccine was used in Windsor for the first time on March 31, 1955. During the year, your Board of Health administered 2 doses to 8,400 children in Windsor and Riverside. By the fall of 1959, 95% of the school children had been inoculated against poliomyelitis.

The great advance made in the prevention of communicable diseases was given dramatic portrayal in our City in 1959 with the cessation of the need to use the Fred Adams hospital as an isolation unit. The same progress is evident in the treatment of tuberculosis. Some 92 beds previously used for the treatment of tuberculosis patients will now be available for general purposes as a part of the I.O.D.E. Memorial Hospital.

In 1959 your Fire Department responded to 1,094 alarms, and 57 emergency calls were received by the Department's rescue squad. Two persons died as a result of fire and 31 were injured.

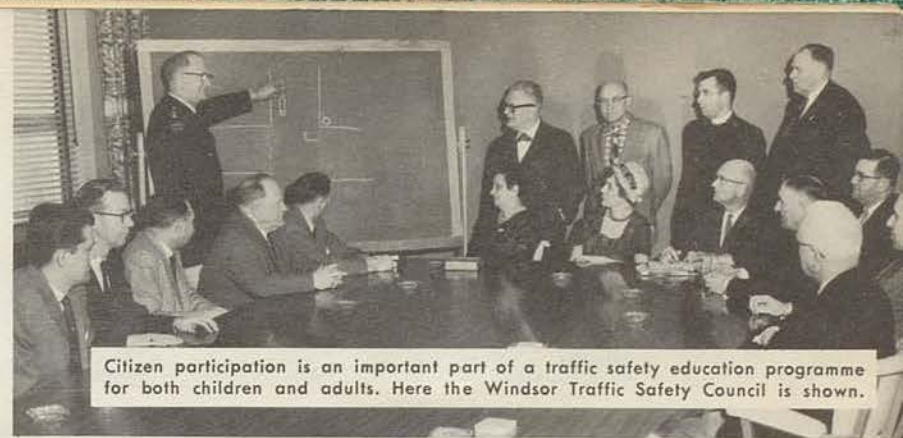


The total fire loss for the year was \$902,350. most of which accrued from the destruction of the LaBelle Building.

## safer city

From the reputation of having had the worst traffic accident record 10 years ago, in 1959, your city had one of the best. Windsor received recognition for this accomplishment in the form of a National Safety Award having placed fifth among Canadian cities in reducing the number of fatal accidents. In 1949, with 29,000 registered motor vehicles in the city, there were 3,900 reported accidents, 504 persons injured, and 26 fatalities. In 1959, with over twice the number of vehicles, accidents have been reduced by 1,750, injuries by 65 and fatalities by 19.

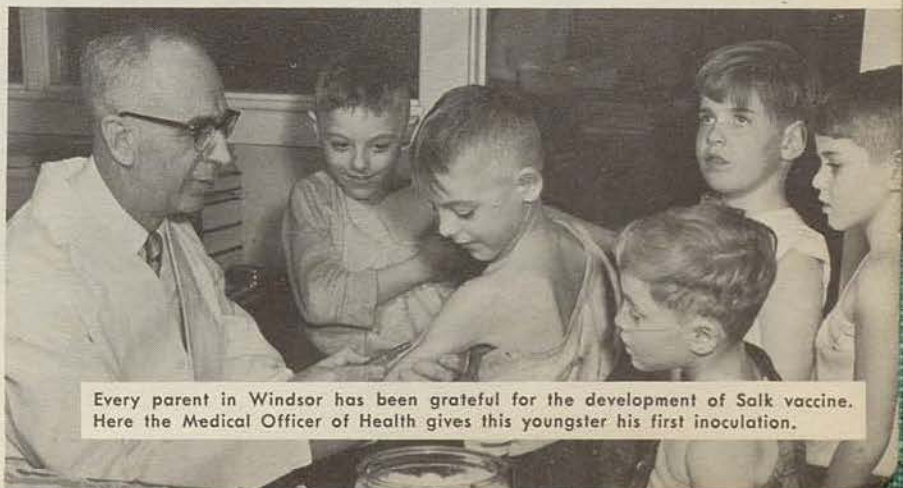
For your protection, some 257 policemen patrolled many miles of city streets in 1959. In the past 10 years, the department has been completely reorganized and its equipment modernized. To expedite calls, all police vehicles are equipped with a "Quick-Call" radio selector communication system having instant contact with Police Headquarters.



Citizen participation is an important part of a traffic safety education programme for both children and adults. Here the Windsor Traffic Safety Council is shown.



Sanitary inspectors operating under the Board of Health periodically inspect some 2300 businesses serving the public and check food, milk, and water supplies daily.



Every parent in Windsor has been grateful for the development of Salk vaccine. Here the Medical Officer of Health gives this youngster his first inoculation.

# CHANGING FACE OF WINDSOR

During the past 5 years, community progress has been reflected in the construction of a number of new buildings which have altered the face of the city. In 1959 alone, 1,413 building permits were issued, the total value of construction amounting to five and one-half million dollars. This progress is indicative of increased optimism in the future of Windsor.

The spiritual growth of the city is evident in the construction of a number of fine new churches.

With the completion of the Cleary Auditorium and Memorial Convention Hall, this magnificent, multi-purpose building will provide new fields of endeavour and entertainment for the people of Windsor.



The erection of this modern office building, in the city's downtown is indicative of healthy commercial growth.

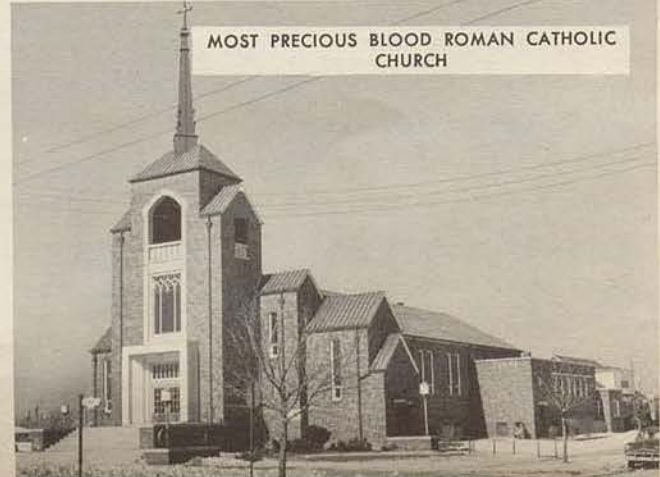
PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH



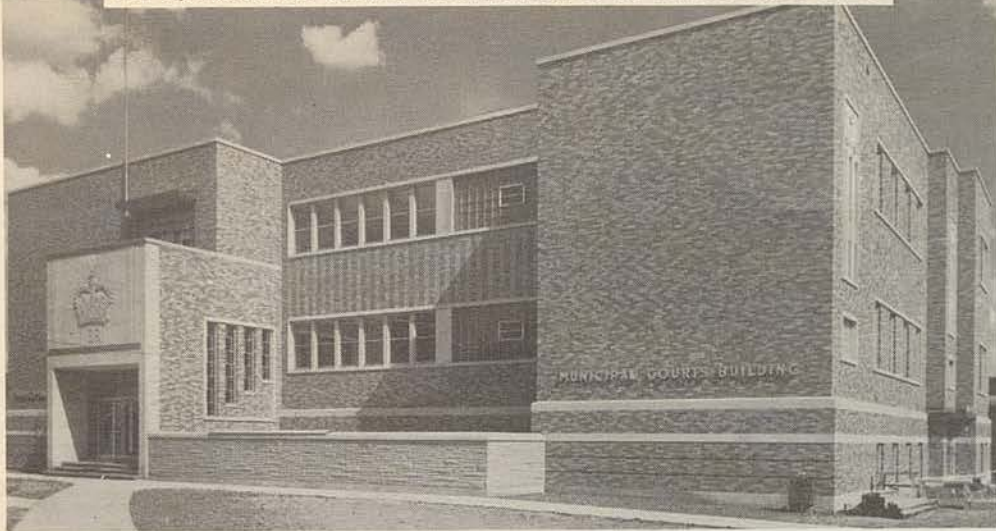
KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



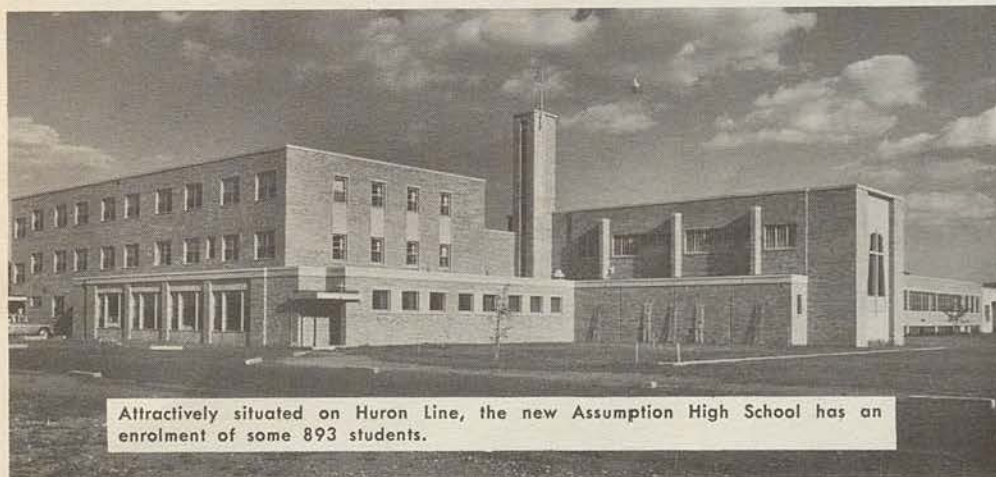
MOST PRECIOUS BLOOD ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH



The new Municipal Courts Building, situated in the attractively landscaped City Hall Square, provides pleasant, modern facilities for the administration of justice.



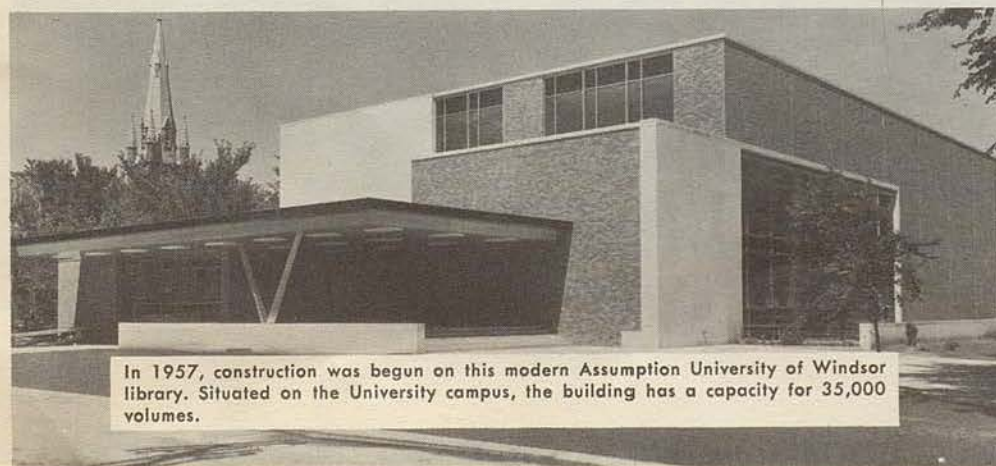
Windsor's new international airport is one of the most modern of its kind, both in appearance and facilities.



Attractively situated on Huron Line, the new Assumption High School has an enrolment of some 893 students.



Built in 1955, the Windsor Utilities Commission office is conveniently located in the downtown area.



In 1957, construction was begun on this modern Assumption University of Windsor library. Situated on the University campus, the building has a capacity for 35,000 volumes.



The Windsor Medical Office is illustrative of the new buildings that have enhanced the appearance of Ouellette Avenue.



# CHANGING FACE OF WINDSOR

BEFORE



In 1903, the old Central School was purchased and served as the city hall for 54 years.

BEFORE



An unsightly mixture of commercial and industrial buildings characterized the riverfront at the foot of Ouellette Ave.

BEFORE



In 1958 the south side of Pitt Street was occupied by a number of blighted commercial structures.

AFTER



In contrast, this site is now occupied by the new City Hall. Completed in 1958, this accomplishment has stimulated renewed civic pride.

AFTER



In contrast, the site has been developed in the form of the attractively landscaped Dieppe Gardens.

AFTER



In contrast, this site is now occupied by an attractive 4-storey addition to the Federal Building.

# PRIDE IN PROGRESS

Windsor takes pride in her position as the fifth ranking manufacturing City in Canada and the fact that its workers produced the highest value per capita of manufactured goods in the nation. The Greater Windsor Industrial Commission, supported by the metropolitan member municipalities, promotes the development of new industries and encourages expansion of existing industries. The total budget of the Commission in 1959 was \$47,900 of which the City of Windsor contributed \$26,750. Diversification of industry has been one of the major aims of the Commission as exemplified by these plants which have established or expanded within the last five years.

CHRYSLER CORPORATION OF CANADA LTD.



HIRAM WALKER & SONS LTD.  
Distillers and bottlers



LEWIS-HOWE CO.  
Patent medicines



AMERICAN STANDARD PRODUCTS (CANADA) LIMITED  
Heating, ventilating, air conditioning and  
other like equipment

# PRIDE IN PROGRESS



DUPLATE CANADA LIMITED  
Safety glass



RINSHED-MASON CO. OF CANADA LTD.  
Paints and varnishes



RYAN BUILDERS SUPPLIES LTD.  
Pre-cast concrete products



BEAUTY COUNSELORS OF CANADA LTD.  
Cosmetics



STANDARD PRODUCTS (CANADA) LTD.  
Metal mouldings and stampings



CARLING BREWERIES LTD.

# WHAT'S AHEAD IN 1960

The construction of an 84-bed addition to the Metropolitan General Hospital.

The construction of a new swimming pool at Prince Road Park in co-operation with the Rotary Club.

The expenditure of \$770,000 on street improvements.

Continuation of a programme involving the complete re-assessment of land and buildings throughout the City.

Construction to begin on a new Home for the Aged.

The introduction of a special voters' list for residents of Windsor who are neither tenants nor owners.

The adoption of a new By-law for the City based on the National Building Code.

The introduction of uniform and nationally adopted traffic control devices.

Construction of recreation facilities including a Field House and soft-ball diamond in Jackson Park.

Continuation of a Street Lighting modernization programme.

The renovation of the Peabody Bridge.

Continued expansion and development of park areas.

The Jackson Park field house will provide much-needed storage space for playground equipment, also shower and locker facilities.



When completed phase 1 of Windsor's first Redevelopment Area will contain 150 dwelling units situated in a park-like surrounding.



In 1959, a decision was made to proceed with plans for a 162-bed Home for the Aged in the west end of the city.



148578

744188

# INFORMATION ON MUNICIPAL SERVICES

ADMINISTRATION . . . . .	City Manager . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
ASSESSMENTS . . . . .	Assessment Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
BUILDING PERMITS AND INSPECTION . . . . .	Building Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
CITY CLERK . . . . .	City Clerk . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
CIVIL DEFENCE . . . . .	Civil Defence Department . . . . .	711 Ouellette Avenue . . . . .	CL 4-6471
CLEARLY AUDITORIUM . . . . .	Auditorium and Convention Hall . . . . .	201 Riverside Drive West . . . . .	CL 3-4697
FAMILY COURT . . . . .	Juvenile and Family Court Department . . . . .	Municipal Courts Building, City Hall Square . . . . .	CL 4-6422
FIRE . . . . .	Fire Department . . . . .	254 Pitt Street East . . . . .	CL 4-5121
INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION . . . . .	Commission Office . . . . .	369 Pelissier Street . . . . .	CL 6-2697
LEGAL . . . . .	Legal Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
LICENSES . . . . .	Clerk's Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
LIGHT AND WATER . . . . .	Utilities Commission . . . . .	727 Ouellette Avenue . . . . .	CL 2-3601
MARKET . . . . .	Public Market . . . . .	195 McDougall Street . . . . .	CL 3-7875
METROPOLITAN HEALTH UNIT . . . . .	Metropolitan Health Building . . . . .	2090 Wyandotte Street East . . . . .	CL 6-3416
PARKING FINES . . . . .	Traffic Office, Garage, Police . . . . .	City Hall Square . . . . .	CL 4-4321
PARKS, PERMITS, PICNICS, ETC. . . . .	Parks Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
POLICE . . . . .	Police Department . . . . .	135 Park Street East . . . . .	CL 4-4321
PROPERTY, LAND SALES . . . . .	Property Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
PUBLIC SCHOOLS . . . . .	Administrative Offices . . . . .	451 Park Street West . . . . .	CL 6-7831
PURCHASING . . . . .	Purchasing Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
RECREATION PROGRAMMES . . . . .	Recreation Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
REFUSE COLLECTION . . . . .	Public Works Sanitation Division . . . . .	1269 Mercer Street . . . . .	CL 4-3769
SEPARATE SCHOOLS . . . . .	Administrative Offices . . . . .	707 Tuscarora Street . . . . .	CL 4-4311
SEWERS, STREET, ETC., MAINTENANCE . . . . .	Public Works Maintenance Division . . . . .	1579 Elsmere Avenue . . . . .	CL 4-1588
SEWER BLOCKAGE AND TREE ROOTS . . . . .		(*If No Answer Call CL 4-5121) . . . . .	* CL 2-0112
TAXES . . . . .	Tax Department . . . . .	City Hall . . . . .	CL 3-4631
TRAFFIC LIGHTS AND SIGNS . . . . .	Traffic Engineering Department . . . . .	521 McDougall Street . . . . .	CL 4-6406
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