

New Type of School Construction

Ryerson School, London, Ont., Illustrates an Important Development in Canadian School Architecture

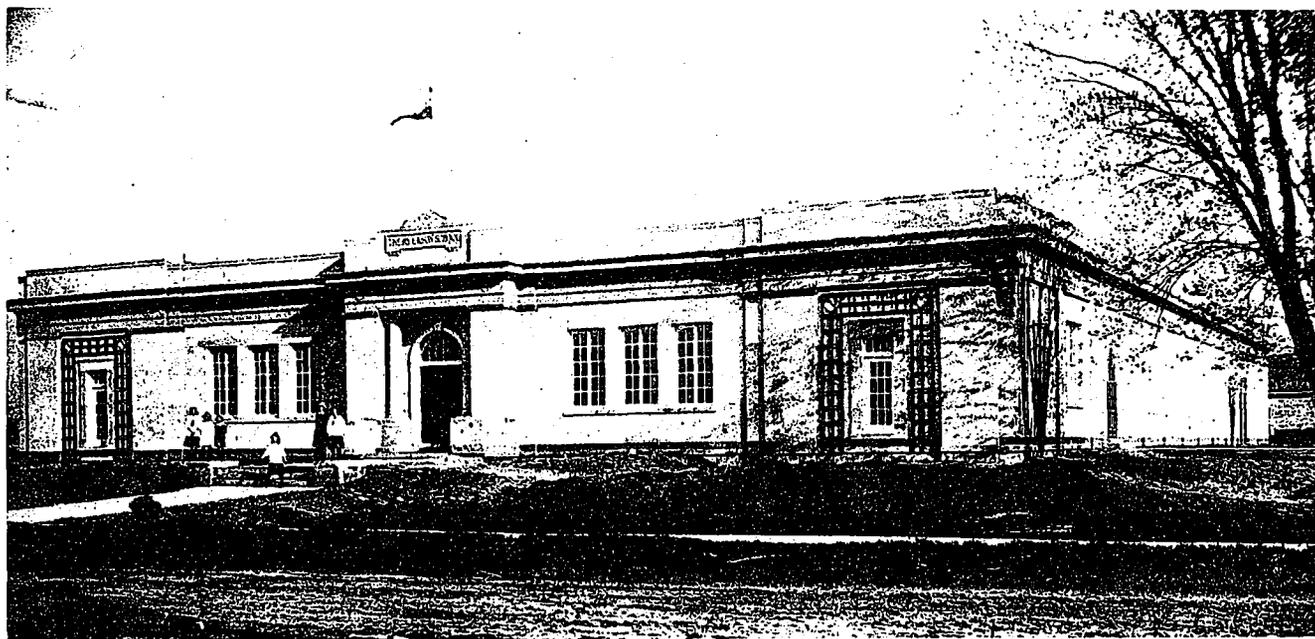
Watt and Blackwell, Architects; W. G. Murray, Associate.

THE Ryerson School is a distinct departure in school design for Canada, it being the first one-storey school building in Canada embodying the principles of modern construction as used in the larger cities of the United States. Of course there are many one-storey schools, but this one is entirely different and superior to the older ones on account of its up-to-date lighting and ventilation; one of the chief claims advanced in favor of this type is its lighting, nearly all the light is obtained from saw-tooth skylights, each one facing the north, ensuring an unvarying illumination, also avoiding glare and the light coming from above, as it gives all parts of the room even distribution of light without shadows. A strong feature in favor of such a

social centres in the near future, having all playgrounds under civic management, with trained supervisors. The auditorium is a rectangular room, connected on three sides by an arcade, giving the sense of an inner court in a classic mansion; here the children may listen to poetry, learn the art of interpretation, watch moving pictures of great events, etc., in the day time, and the grown people of the neighborhood come in at night for their club meetings, listen to lectures, and meet for social intercourse.

There are eight classrooms, all having concealed wardrobes, thoroughly ventilated, and equipped with umbrella holders and rubber racks, besides the usual equipment.

The manual training room has a large store-



RYERSON SCHOOL, LONDON, ONT.

WATT & BLACKWELL, ARCHITECTS; W. G. MURRAY, ASSOCIATED.

school is the emergency exit from each and every classroom at the ground level, and this feature is also a factor in the cost of building such schools, as it avoids the necessity for fire-proofing to a great extent. Each exit from classrooms has a panic bolt, which ensures sure exit in case of an emergency. The heating and ventilation is the most modern, as is also the plumbing throughout.

The plan is unique, the classrooms being grouped around a large auditorium, which can be utilized for school purposes in the day time, or for holding meetings and social functions by the community at night, thus making this school a true social centre; and it is the writer's belief that all Canadian schools will be planned as

room with several cupboards in it, and everything necessary for a modern carpenter shop; also an observation gallery, so that the pupils may watch their instructor in comfort.

The kindergarten is bright and cheery, has a separate entrance for the children, and is modern in every respect, even to the extent of having juvenile toilet fixtures for the "kiddies." Off the corridor to this room is a completely equipped nurses' room.

The domestic science room is complete with all equipment, and off same is a model dining-room, also a model bedroom, where children may be taught household duties.

The boiler room, fan room, etc., are placed in the central portion of the building, back of the