

AES HEADQUARTERS OPENED

On October 29, 1971, under cloudless skies an outdoor ceremony was held in Toronto at which the new headquarters building of the Atmospheric Environment Service (formerly Canadian Meteorological Service) was officially opened in front of a large gathering of invited guests. A special platform was set up at the front of the new building at 4905 Dufferin Street where, flanked by two scarlet-coated RCMP constables, the official party and special guests assembled.

The main speaker, the Honourable Jack Davis, Minister of the Department of the Environment, was introduced by the Honourable Arthur Laing, Minister of the Department of Public Works. Mr. Davis, in his remarks, drew attention to the vastness of Canada and the excellent work carried out by the national weather service in obtaining observations and providing services across the country. In the future, increasing emphasis, he said, would be placed on measuring and monitoring the quality of the air in order to ensure the protection of the atmospheric environment. Other highlights of the program were an official ribbon cutting and plaque unveiling by the two Ministers; the presentation of the Ceremonial Scissors to Mr. Davis by Irving Boigon representing the consulting architects and musical numbers provided by the North York Concert Band. A presentation of two Centennial Plaques was made by Mr. J.R.H. Noble, Assistant Deputy Minister, Atmospheric Environment Service. These were to Mr. Davis and to Mr. George Brown, one of the most senior employees of the AES, who joined the Service in 1930. Mr. Brown accepted the plaque on behalf of all former and present employees of the Atmospheric Environment Service. A tour of the building and a reception followed the ceremony.

The official opening and dedication of the building was one of several events held during the week of October 24, in conjunction with the opening of the building and the 100th anniversary of the "Met" Service. Among other events was a three-day international scientific symposium on October 26 - 28, a banquet on the evening of October 27, and an "Open House" for the general public on October 30 and 31. The latter event was an outstanding success during which an estimated 10 thousand people toured the building viewing the displays and equipment which had been set up for the occasion.

One of the highlights of the new Atmospheric Environment Service's headquarters is the modern 294 seat auditorium.

The appointments of the auditorium include upholstered chairs, broadloom, draperies and ceiling tile which produce excellent acoustics. An 80 watt amplifier in the public address system driving a speaker horn cluster produces equal volume anywhere in the auditorium. There are eight microphone jacks strategically located throughout the auditorium, all of which can be individually controlled from the projection booth. A tape recorder can be patched into play-back or record proceedings. Multiple chalkboard facilities are available.

Projection facilities are quite versatile. A motorized 12 foot screen is centered over the chalkboard for front projection and there is a 6½ foot square screen on either side for rear-screen projection. In the projection booth is a 16 mm sound projector with the audio patched into the public address system and a 35 mm slide projector. Both these items are theatre type arc projectors. Two standard slide projectors are mounted for use on the rear screens and an overhead projector is also available. A custom-built lectern includes remote controls for all slide projectors.

Translation facilities are available which will handle two languages. Eventually, a four language system will be installed.

Wiring is installed for originating TV programs in the auditorium or for distributing TV programs to it.

The new auditorium is a very modern, attractive, comfortable, and versatile facility.



A PHOTOGRAPHIC CALENDAR
OCTOBER 25-31, 1971

Wine and Cheese – October 25



The Symposium – October 26-28



The Banquet – October 27



The Dedication – October 29



The Open House – October 30–31



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