

# Hertfordshire Hemel Hempstead Gazette

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### REVOLUTIONARY NEW SCHOOL FOR HEMPSTEAD

#### "TECHNICAL HIGH" WILL HAVE OWN SWIMMING POOL

**T**HE Cavendish School—named after the Cavendish Laboratories at Cambridge University—is to open in September this year in the new buildings of the Warners End Secondary School. This will be the temporary home of the Cavendish—Hemel Hempstead's new and first Technical High School—until its own building is ready for occupation.

Completion of the new school buildings at an attractive site on Galley Hill, between Warners End and Gadebridge Road, should not be later than September, 1961.

The new head, Mr. A. H. Hayward, has already been appointed, and is spending several days a week making plans for the school and getting acquainted with Hemel Hempstead. Mr. Hayward, who is 36, comes here from Polebrook, near Peterborough, and was Head of the Science Department at Corby Grammar Technical School.

Many parents in this district have been wondering in the past few months what this new school will mean for their children, and how it will fit into the local education pattern.

#### NEW DEVELOPMENT

Parents whose children are immediately concerned, have been circularised with a description of the Cavendish and its facilities. As many more families will be interested as well, the "Gazette" is reporting on this completely new educational development for Hemel Hempstead.

It would, no doubt, be helpful to quote from a report by the County Education Officer speaking on technical high schools as far back as 1935.

He said: "In Hertfordshire it has been decided that technical high schools should recruit at the same age as for other selective schools from the upper intelligence range. It is, therefore, necessary to attach great importance to parental choice. Once it is seen by the parents that the future of an intelligent child is equally as assured in a technical high school as in a grammar school, we can satisfy the requirements of the Education Act and trust to the good sense of parents to make their decisions in the light of all the information we can give them."

It is obvious that the education authorities are most anxious that parents will regard the Cavendish in the same light as the existing grammar schools in the area.

One of the points stressed in connection with this school is that as many pupils as possible will be encouraged to stay to the age of 18 to benefit from the advanced education offered in the sixth form.

#### WIDE VARIETY

The aim of the Cavendish will be to provide a basic academic education to enable all those who can to proceed to universities, colleges of technology, to study for degrees, diplomas or other higher qualifications.

There will be no specialisation in the curriculum, at least up to the Ordinary Level of the General Certificate of Education, but a wide variety of subjects will be studied in order to provide a good general education.

The curriculum will only differ from that of the more traditional grammar schools in that Latin will be taught only as an alternative to a modern language, if a sufficient number of parents wish it, subject, however, to University entrance requirements in the future. More time will be devoted to English, Science and Mathematics.

General science will be studied in the first two years, and will include physics, chemistry and biology, with human physiology. In the third and subsequent years pupils will have a choice of two or three separate sciences, or general science and another modern language. The first modern language will be German to be studied by all pupils, but many will also study French.

#### RUSSIAN

For the ablest pupils, if their parents wish it, there will also be the opportunity of studying Russian from the third year onwards.

Some history and geography will be studied throughout the school, and all pupils will take mathematics at Ordinary Level of the G.C.E.

Practical subjects will be woodwork, metalwork—for which there will be access to engineering machines—and technical drawing, from the third year.

Housecraft and needlework are also on the school curriculum, although girls will certainly not be discouraged from taking the generally accepted "boy's subjects"—or vice versa.

On the musical side, Mr. Hayward is making plans for class singing, musical appreciation, and also arrangements will be made for those who wish to learn a musical instrument. He is looking forward to having a school choir and, later, an orchestra, and there will be regular coach-trips to the Ernest Read Children's Concerts at the Royal Festival Hall.

Physical education will include gymnastics, dancing, athletics, soccer, rugby, hockey, basketball,

netball, cricket, rounders, tennis and swimming.

An indoor swimming pool is to be built at the school.

The building itself will include a large assembly hall, gymnasium and dining room, also science laboratories, extensive engineering workshops and housecraft rooms, and the pool.

When the Cavendish opens this September it will have about 70 pupils, who are being selected by the County Entrance Examination at 11, as suitable for "Grammar School" education.

It will be a four-form entry school, in future years to take an entry of 120 11-year-old pupils, and will ultimately be housing 750 boys and girls.

#### UNIFORMS

One of Mr. Hayward's current problems is to decide on a school badge and colours, and the design for the school tie. He has the parents' pockets in mind in making a choice. The school colours will be purple and gold. The boys will wear purple blazers, white shirts and grey flannel trousers. The girls will wear fully pleated "Terylene" and wool grey skirts and white drip-dry blouses with their purple blazers.



Photo by: Studio One  
MR. A. H. HAYWARD