

There'll be NO CHANGE out of £30,000

When Monkstown's New Primary School is Built

WHY A NEW SCHOOL IS NEEDED

Everybody has heard about the "population explosion" . . . in the Parish of St. Patrick, Monkstown, the population growth — as shown by a census taken this Spring — makes it essential that we provide facilities for the education of no less than 1,500 children now under the age of seven.

More than 1,000 boys and girls of this Parish must attend schools outside the Parish . . . But it is the responsibility of the Parish to provide facilities for the primary education of every child living within its boundaries.

When the existing Blessed Oliver Plunkett School was built in 1929 its four rooms were adequate for the small school-going population — around 200. To-day it can cater only for boys up to the age of seven, and girls to ten. The site is not suitable for further development and a new location for a larger school had to be sought.

To delay in the construction of the new school would be wrongfully depriving the citizens of tomorrow of their elementary rights . . . to the education which can help to make them good citizens.

THE SCHOOL WE'RE BUILDING

We must build the best school within our means . . . the Department of Education is co-operating in this endeavour and has sanctioned a school of the most modern type. Each classroom is a separate unit with its own cloakroom facilities, grouped around an Assembly Hall which will provide accommodation for school and parish events.

The site is in Upper Monkstown with approaches from Monkstown Avenue, St. Patrick's Crescent and Dunedin Terrace. It covers 3½ acres, was purchased at a reasonable price, provides adequate room for a bright, airy school and plenty of play space.

The school's 16 classrooms — eight for boys, eight for girls — will provide teaching through all stages from Infants to 6th Standard. A cookery room will be provided for domestic economy classes. 720 children will be accommodated; no class will have more than 50 pupils.

The sketch elevation shown below gives the architect's impression of the finished school. It will be ready for its first pupils in 1966.

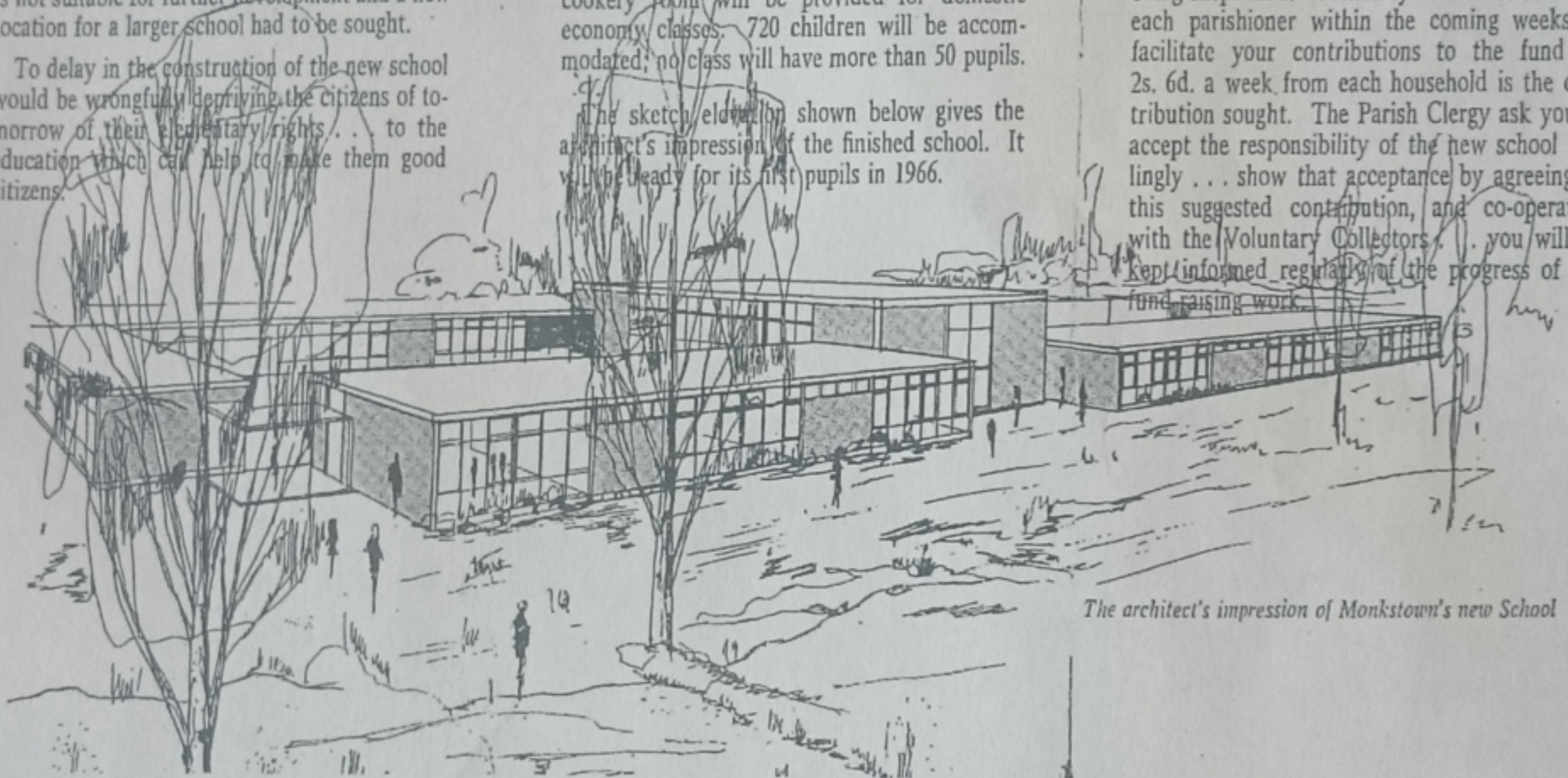
PAYING THE BILL

School-building costs approximately £4,000 a classroom; £3,000 for desks and essential equipment; the hall, £15,000; the site, £6,000. A loan must be raised to pay for the work, interest must be paid on the loan.

The Department of Education will pay five-sixths of the classroom cost, two-thirds of the cost of the hall. This leaves the Parish with a substantial — but not too burdensome — sum to raise.

Schools are a community responsibility within the Parish, therefore the responsibility for financing the project is with every Parishioner — not only parents. Because it is a duty which everyone shares, the cost does not fall heavily on anyone.

The Monthly Church Funds Collection is being suspended. Voluntary Collectors will visit each parishioner within the coming weeks to facilitate your contributions to the fund . . . 2s. 6d. a week from each household is the contribution sought. The Parish Clergy ask you to accept the responsibility of the new school willingly . . . show that acceptance by agreeing to this suggested contribution, and co-operating with the Voluntary Collectors . . . you will be kept informed regularly of the progress of the fund-raising work.



The architect's impression of Monkstown's new School