

ARTHUR STRINGER PUBLIC SCHOOL

The poet and novelist after whom this school has been named was born in Chatham, February 26, 1874 and came with his parents to London at ten years of age.

After completing Grade Eight, he enrolled at the Central Collegiate Institute. Already his literary talents showed signs of early bloom; at sixteen years of age he served as Editor-in-chief of the first magazine published by the school.

After graduation from the Collegiate, his love of learning led him to University College, Toronto, and from there to the University of Oxford. During the next several years he was engaged in editorial work, first with the Montreal Herald and later with the American Press Association.

In 1901 Mr. Stringer relinquished his editorial position for the freedom and independence of free-lance writing. Two years later he returned to his native Kent County where, for a number of years, with considerable success, he combined his writing activities with fruit farming.

Of all the Canadian writers of the period, he is regarded by some critics as "probably the most fully professional." He was a prolific writer in several fields — popular lyrics, poetic drama, movie scenarios and plays, more than a dozen books of poetry and nearly forty novels. The Literary History of Canada describes him as "one of the most competent and popular magazine writers of his day . . ."

At 76 years of age he died at Mountain Lakes, New Jersey. Despite his years of absence from Canada, the Board of Education takes pleasure in honouring the memory of one whose early literary skills were developed in our London schools.

FINANCIAL AND OTHER DATA

General Contract	\$649,900.
Site Improvement, Landscaping, Paving	\$ 44,000.
Building Cost	\$605,900.
Floor Area	33,080 sq. ft.
Building Cost Per Square Foot	\$ 18.31
Furniture and Equipment	\$ 20,000.
General Contractor	Ellis-Don Limited

PROGRAM

Program Chairman — MR. C. F. M. ROSS

30 October 1969

1. MUSIC London Public School Band
Directed by Mr. W. Telfer
 2. GOD SAVE THE QUEEN
 3. INVOCATION The Reverend H. J. E. Webb
St. Stephen's Anglican Church
 4. BAND SELECTIONS London Public School Band
 5. CHOIR SELECTIONS Arthur Stringer Public School Choir
Directed by Miss M. M. Walker
- "Child in the Orchard"
Words by Mr. Arthur Stringer
Music by Mr. Earle Terry
6. PRESENTATION OF KEY SYMBOLIC OF THE OFFICIAL OPENING
From Mr. D. Smith
Contractor
To Mr. R. D. Schoales
Architect
 7. ACCEPTANCE OF THE SCHOOL Mr. C. F. M. Ross
Vice-chairman, Board of Education
 8. DEDICATION OF THE SCHOOL The Reverend C. W. Seyffert
Glen Cairn Baptist Church
 9. GREETINGS FROM THE CITY OF LONDON Alderman A. B. Tapp
 10. ADDRESS AND OFFICIAL OPENING Mrs. W. A. Torney
Introduced by Mrs. H. Dorothy Smith
Chairman, Board of Education
Thanked by Mr. D. W. Reader
Associate Superintendent
 11. INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS Mr. C. F. M. Ross
Vice-chairman, Board of Education
 12. GREETINGS Mr. R. A. Stringer
 13. GREETINGS FROM THE ONTARIO PUBLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION
..... Mr. J. C. Harris, *Director*
 14. SPECIAL FEATURES Mr. H. J. McTaggart
Assistant Superintendent
 15. ANNOUNCEMENTS Mr. J. P. Crocker
Principal
 16. BENEDICTION Rabbi J. Rone
Or Shalom Congregation
 17. O CANADA

TOUR AND INSPECTION OF BUILDING REFRESHMENTS

Floral arrangements and corsages prepared by students of
Thames Secondary School Horticulture Class
Teacher, Mr. S. P. Morris