



**OFA AND THE DOME** — Shown here are Ogdensburg Free Academy, the OFA Golden Dome, and the school's football field. Construction work on the Ogdensburg School District's \$2.47 million renovation plan is largely on schedule, with the only delays caused by slow delivery of equipment. (Staff Photo)

# School District Faces Challenges

**BY WESLEY STITT  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS  
ENLARGED OGDENSBURG  
CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT**

I believe that this new decade offers exciting opportunities for all of us. It will truly be a period during which schools must reassess their own resources in an attempt to provide the best possible education for all students.

Declining enrollments and increasing costs are still the two major problems which confront most school districts, including the Ogdensburg District. I am quite confident, however, that our school personnel can successfully cope with these two issues. The local school district is indeed fortunate to still have eligibility under the 95-5 percent state aid formula.

The current construction project totaling \$2.47 million is well underway and when completed will cost the taxpayers a great deal less than the five percent that was originally predicted.

**Renovation Plan Proceeding**  
As has been reported to the Board of Education at several public meetings, we are very pleased with the progress which has been made with the construction project to date. The architects, working closely with the contractors, have done an exemplary job in cooperating to provide the finest operating procedures.

It should be noted that there are still many other areas which the district may wish to explore under the district's Aid Plan. Such plans would provide long-range cost savings for our District.

At the elementary level, the current construction project has addressed itself to the problem of declining enrollments with the addition of six new classrooms at Madill School in order to effect the subsequent closing of Washington School, thus ultimately saving considerable money for the district.

Work at Kennedy, Lincoln, and Sherman schools has centered on safety improvements, energy conservation, and modifications to accommodate the handicapped.

At the secondary level, the construction package focuses on the science area which will feature a new planetarium, a library media center, improvements in the auditorium and industrial arts facilities, and building alterations to accommodate the handicapped. The secondary administration has done an outstanding job structuring the project and academic program in order to effect the least possible interference with the instructional process.

Another priority at the secondary level will be the use of computer assisted instruction in all of the academic areas, with special emphasis on the regents competency tests and programs for the gifted and talented.

**Augsbury Donation**  
At this time, I wish to convey my very sincere thanks to Mr. and Mrs. Frank Augsbury for their most generous financial gift to the Ogdensburg School District. Their gift will certainly enhance the instructional quality of our present and future programs.

I believe that the generosity of the Augsbury family further underscores their love and concern for the quality of life that we can be proud of in the North Country.

During the month of December, the school district was notified that Doctors George and Julian Hyman were planning to give 20 acres of land near the John F. Kennedy School and the planned implementation of this new educational dimension is indeed welcome.

Dr. Jeffrey Doyle, local anesthesiologist, has long maintained an interest in astronomy. He feels very strongly about the future of space science and the effect it will have on the career plans of our students. Dr. Doyle's gift of a telescope and ancillary equipment will be used in conjunction with the district's plan to provide secondary students with one of the best space science programs in the North Country.

Thus, the Ogdensburg School District will continue to expand its educational offerings so that students will be challenged with a wide spectrum of courses. We are united in the hope that our students will be motivated to accept the challenges and opportunities which are provided. To this end, we gratefully accept and acknowledge the very generous support we have received from various sources throughout the North Country. We trust that our plans will fulfill the faith and dreams that have been placed with us.

## City Chamber More 'Optimistic'

Working with a 1980 budget of \$24,500, Edwin L. Dobisky, executive manager of the Greater Ogdensburg Chamber of Commerce, says the chamber is optimistic that it will accomplish several new goals for the coming year.

The following statement was submitted by executive manager Dobisky.

Our plans for this year are optimistic. Recently, the chamber has been occupied with the gathering of information and helping with city, county, state and members of the Ogdensburg Bridge and Port Authority in convincing St. Joe Zinc that Ogdensburg is the proper site for their future operations.

In addition, plans are already underway under the chairmanship of

Kenneth Cole for this year's Seaway Festival, and the chamber is expecting to take a very active part in the organizational details of this annual event.

In line with the normal functions of any Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Ogdensburg Chamber of Commerce is in the process of updating the data for which the chamber receives so many inquiries, such as a list of the fishing guides and motel and restaurant accommodations.

It will also be a function of the chamber this year to actively assist in promoting the Marina and Greenbelt projects, the newest additions to Ogdensburg's many attractions. The chamber is receiving daily inquiries

from out of town about our community and the chamber is happy to accept the responsibility of having information available to enable those who inquire about Ogdensburg.

The chamber is here not only to answer inquiries from away, but also to help local people with data, brochures and various literature which they may need.

Many times people in the community overlook the fact that the chamber is here to serve them.

Finally, the chamber is working on a program which optimistically, will instill in all our people an attitude which will prove to tourists and other visitors to Ogdensburg that we are a friendly city.

The main objective of this program will be to get our citizens to take that first step of friendly greeting when they see a stranger in the community who appears lost or in need of information.

## New Location, Sales Records For China Shop

BROCKVILLE, Ont.—The past year was good for the English China Shop, 39 King St. West, Brockville, in more ways than one.

Ray Binkosky, sales and promotion manager, said 1979 was a very good business year with sales up and noted that the shop's new location proved very satisfying.

According to Binkosky, the English China Shop moved two doors from 39 King St. West to its present location last February.

"We moved into a completely remodeled building and business here has been very good," Binkosky said.

Binkosky said that one of the biggest

items in 1979 was Bone China dinnerware and added that overall sales were good.

In speaking about 1980, Binkosky said the three fulltime employees and one part-time worker are looking forward to a good year and one which should not bring too many problems.

The English China Shop has been a part of Brockville for the past 40 years and is currently owned by Merv Brownlie.

In addition to its regular Canadian customers, Binkosky said that the English China Shop would like to thank all of its American customers for making 1979 a good year.

### ENGLISH CHINA SHOP ANNUAL SALE

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Up To 50% Off Every Item In Stock-Storewide

<p><b>ORREFORS</b> Swedish Crystal Barware-Giftware REG. \$10.50 to \$180.00</p> <p><b>ALL 1/2 PRICE</b></p>	<p><b>SPODE</b> DINNERWARE 9 Patterns In Stock</p> <p><b>30% OFF</b> Place Sets</p>
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<p><b>AYNSLEY</b> BONE CHINA DINNERWARE 9 Patterns To Choose From</p> <p><b>40% OFF</b> Place Sets</p>	<p><b>EVESHAM</b> Oven To Tableware English Porcelain Large Stock Of Serving Pieces</p> <p><b>30% OFF</b></p>
<p><b>ROYAL DOULTON</b> FIGURINES</p> <p><b>20% OFF</b></p>	<p><b>CHANCE GLASSWARE</b> Made In England</p> <p><b>1/2 Price</b></p>

**The English China Shop**

39 KING ST. W. BROCKVILLE, ONT.      440 KING ST. W. PRESCOTT, ONT.

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