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Compton secondary school to be finished next month

Builders worked fast

Building the new Downs Secondary Modern School at Compton has created something of a record. The School will be handed over by the builders to the authority on June 14th, nearly three months before the first pupils are admitted.

"I think it is not only a record for Berkshire but for the whole country that a school should be completed and handed over months before the date of occupation," Mr. J. R. Plumridge, Divisional Officer, told Newbury Divisional Education Committee on Monday.

The builders started work on the school in February last year.

Mr. Plumridge said they would be able to push forward with the furnishing of the school and to start in earnest on the first day of term. In the last fortnight orders for minor equipment had been placed and some had already arrived. "Quite a noteworthy achievement," he summed up.

Room For 350

Replying to Mr. G. A. Kelly, the Divisional Officer said the Downs would be a two-form entry school with a nominal capacity of about 350. At the start there would be between 275 and 300 pupils but there would be a rise in this total in the following two years.

On Mrs. Showers' suggestion, congratulations will be sent to the builders as soon as the school is handed over.

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