

Thick Clouds Of Smoke

At 1.30 this afternoon, the fire had spread toward the northwest side of the building and flames could occasionally be seen shooting out of the roof. Thick clouds of dirty grey smoke poured out in a constant billowing screen.

Hundreds of school children were lined up across the street, shouting and screaming with mixed emotions as the fire seemed to progress despite the firemen's concerted efforts.

At least two ladders were thrown up against the old building.

School classes had been scheduled to resume at 1.15 p.m., school officials said.

While the fire was in progress, the staff of the Separate School

Board was hurriedly piling valuable office machinery into the center of office quarters and covering it with tarpaulins supplied by the Fire Department.

Inside the school, streams of water were pouring down the west stairs onto the main floor, testifying to the huge quantities of water being thrown against the flames.

Fortunately, the fire broke out during the noon hour, when the school was virtually empty of teachers and pupils. The 20-room school accommodated 800 children.

The building is valued at about \$200,000. Inspector C. A. Latour of the Separate Schools said it would cost upward of \$400,000 to replace.

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