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AROUND BRITAIN

Bristol

Britain's first all-aluminium pre-fab schools - constructed to defeat the steel-shortage - are completed at Locklease Estate, Bristol, in a record nine months. Minister of Education, George Tomlinson, accompanied by the Mayor of Bristol, opens four of the schools which, together, will accommodate 2,000 children.

The cost works out at about £180 a place, admittedly high, says the Minister, but still comparing favourably with other types of primary schools.

London

Antis, an Alsatian (former mascot of an R.A.F. Squadron) comes to Olympia, London, to collect his reward for outstanding war service. Several times wounded, and the saviour of four lives, Antis receives from Field Marshal Earl Wavell the Dickins Bronze Medal, the Animal's V.C. As a puppy, he was found abandoned in a French chateau by a Czech airman. His certificate of gallantry (Earl Wavell tells him) is the first ever awarded to a foreign dog. Interesting to the onlookers but completely lost on Antis, who only understands Czech.

East Anglia

In the Fens, the swollen River Ouse again threatens villages and farmlands. Workers reinforce the dyke bank against floods, expected when high winds and spring tides form a barrier against the river as it empties into the Wash. Bulldozers are out at Stew Bridge and Magdalen as Catchment Board engineers organise 24-hour patrols of the banks, already plugged with thousands of tons of clay. The danger to homes was increased by breaches torn in the coast defences by gales a fortnight before. Shingle banks holding back the sea were swept away. Despite many willing hands, the task of re-fortification became impossible due to the uncovering of many sea mines.

London

Stoke Newington, London, and Health Minister, Aneurin Bevan, cuts the first turf of the new £187,000 Woodberry Down Health Centre, first of 162 similar centres planned. With L.G.C. President Owen, and Leader Haywood, the Minister sees a model of the centre, which brings under one roof child welfare, dental and natal clinics besides local health services. When completed, it will serve 18,000 people