

# Work begins on big Shipp centre

Scrapbook # 33

Aug. 23-78 HT

A unique ground-breaking ceremony planned for the Shipp Corporation's new executive centre may have been blown off course, but leasing arrangements for the building seem to be moving well.

Shipp is now negotiating with the Swift Canadian Co., which is considering taking the top two floors of the first of four office buildings in the centre.

Swift would make the building their Canadian corporate headquarters, if they move. Jack Harris, representing Swift, was on hand Thursday for the ground-breaking at Two Robert Speck Parkway, just across from city hall on the east side of Highway 10.

A former Mississauga resident and skydiver, Bill Cole, was scheduled to drop out of the sky to do the honors, but heavy winds forced him to abandon his plans. Mayor Ron Searle, Enid Speck, wife of the late mayor of the former town of Mississauga, and Shipp

Corporation's founder and chairman, Gordon Shipp, led the ceremony.

Harris says Swift may employ as many as 150 people, if it decides to settle in the \$20 million building. A life-time resident of the city, Harris says the intersection of Highway 10 and Burnhamthorpe Road will "truly be the hub of the city of Mississauga in the years to come. It's an absolutely ideal location," adds the former town planning board member, who announced his candidacy for mayor in 1976 and then later withdrew.

The Ontario Supreme Court has also leased 9,000 square feet in the building. Shipp spokesmen say that negotiations with several other major potential lessees are underway.

Two Robert Speck Parkway will be a 15-storey office facility of mirrored glass with 300,000 square feet of space. Occupancy is planned for September, 1979.



Times Photo by Debbie Sandersor

Taking part in the ground-breaking ceremonies for Shipp Corporation's executive centre are (from left) Shipp

Chairman Gordon Shipp, Enid Speck and Mayor Ron Searle.