



Working on their paper pavilion are, from left, Barbara Culos, Claudine Jourdain and David Hagemoon, all 12-year-old students of Riverdale School. —David Donnelly photo

KIDS GET STUCK ON HABITAT PROJECT

By GEORGINA HAMMOND

Ninety elementary school children working with glue and paper are bound to create a little noise and confusion.

But Pierre Pilon can see beyond the bedlam and according to him, things are looking good.

The youngsters are constructing Habitat's paper pavilion in a Richmond warehouse and project manager Pilon says 112 of the modular papier mache units will be required. They'll be set up in front of the courthouse.

"Six should be completed a day," says Pilon "and so far, we're on schedule, but it's a cross-fingers situation."

Fifteen children are assigned to each shell, 11 working on construction, four on decoration. Construction is a simple repetition of newspaper, glue, newspaper — 10 layers altogether, and reinforced with heavy tape. Rubber rolled on in liquid form when the paper shell has dried waterproofs the structure, which is also fireproofed.

The construction is supervised by em-

ployees of the contractor who put the frames together so the papier-mache can be applied. The men spray glue from tanks on to the paper and keep track of the newspaper application. The children apply additional glue with paint brushes, particularly on to the rolled edges of each module.

Because it takes a day to dry each shell, decorating the interior is done on

modular constructed by a previous group of children.

Wednesday, children from Prince Charles and Riverdale schools in Surrey swarmed over the modules with buckets and glue and stacks of newspaper. Some, given the job of applying decorations, hunched inside, painting, cutting, gluing their mural on to what will be the pavilion's ceiling.



Hey — how about the hotel bills?

Canadian Press

OTTAWA—External Affairs Minister Allan MacEachen said Wednesday he expects foreign delegates to the United Nations Habitat conference in Vancouver this summer to pay their hotel bills.

He was replying in the Commons to Perrin Beatty (PC — Wellington-Grey-Dufferin-Waterloo) who said Stockholm hotel owners were left with many unpaid hotel bills after the 1972 UN environment conference there.

Beatty also asked what actions would be taken against diplomats who took advantage of their immunity to duck 5,516 charges, mainly parking and traffic violations, in Ottawa last year.

MacEachen said diplomats have traditional immunity in Canada as Canadian diplomats have immunity from prosecution abroad.

But a way should be found by diplomats here to conform with Canadian practices as Canadian diplomats are expected to act abroad, he added.

Riverdale students worked with patterns cut out at school and they used a revision of the paint-by-numbers style to apply the decorations to match the pre-determined design.

Pilon said the modular units making up the pavilion may be used after Habitat.

"Already we've had calls from teachers, parents and school principals asking for the shells decorated by their schools.

"Some are being considered for bus-stop shelters. The way they're being built, they should last a long time."

The children, he said, are having a ball with the construction and decorating.

"The work is both good and original. A credit to the school children and their teachers."

Pilon pointed to the many thank you notes received since the project began March 22. One directed to a worker supervising construction of the papier-mache shell read: "Thank you for being a nice instructor — even when you sprayed glue on my face."