

# Middlesex Advertiser and County Gazette

BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ADVERTISER  
THE UXBRIDGE GAZETTE

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*The Old-Established*



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## THE COMPLETE STORE

Innovations at Messrs.  
Suters

OPEN NOW TO  
THE PUBLIC

**B**y the opening yesterday of the third section of Messrs. Suters great store at High-street, Uxbridge, the whole of the reconstruction and extension of the Old Bon Marche premises have now been completed.

The work has gone forward in three stages without the business of the establishment being interrupted in any way.

When Messrs. Suters acquired Bon Marche several years ago, the premises met the needs of Uxbridge at that time. The High-street maintained the characteristics of a country town although a change was foreshadowed, and in the intervening years there have been alterations and schemes for widening the High-street.

These are gradually materialising, and the replacement of the Bon Marche by the magnificent store measuring over 34,000 square feet is the outstanding landmark.

Eighteen months ago the first section of 15,000 square feet was completed. This was mid-way between the original premises facing the High-street and the second section, completed at the end of last year, with a frontage to the new road about to be constructed from Belmont-road to the new Transport Station.

The last section to be tackled meant the demolition of the original Bon Marche premises and the construction of the new building to link up with the two sections which had been put into use.

Local inhabitants will remember the speedy demolition early in February, when an army of housebreakers took possession at nine o'clock on Saturday evening and had the old block razed to the ground in a few days.

Within four months the new section has been erected, and now the complete store, new from one end to the other, is open for the use of the public.

As a piece of construction work it redounds to the credit of a local firm, Messrs. Fassnidge, Son and Norris, Ltd., and the architect, Mr. David Hartley, of Slough.

### Ingenious Lighting

In the planning of the building, Mr. Hartley has had an almost uncanny insight into the needs of the modern shopper. By an ingenious method of wells from the roof to the ground floor, and extensive lighting areas at the back and front of the building, merchandise bought in any part of the building can be inspected in natural light.

An innovation, too, that is new to Uxbridge, is the ramp up which perambulators may be taken without the necessity of lifting them up four or five stairs from the front ground floor to the rear section of the building. This is because of the ground floor level of the back section being about four feet higher than the front.

There are many other points about the architecture that stand out in this modern store; the centrally placed lift, the magnificent staircases—and, above all, the spaciousness.

The ground floor and first floor each measure 11,212 square feet, and the second floor 8,814 square feet. Patrons will specially note this spaciousness when they see a modern five-roomed bungalow in the furnishing department. In this a home is fully furnished. This bungalow seems in no way to diminish the available floor space for the display of furniture.

Another impression of the vastness of the store was given at yesterday's opening ceremony. On the first floor for the mannequin parade there was seating accommodation for five hundred people!