Exciting School Plans On Tap

By ROGER J. NISSLY

Take a tour of a new elementary school a few years from now and you will be sure not to recognize the old place.

Striking your eyes will be pie - slice - shape classrooms (there is already one local school with pentagon - shaped rooms), round rooms, corridorless corridors, air conditioning, carpeting on the floors, movable walls or no walls at all, and you might even notice that there are no desks in a few of the rooms (they may be temporarily stored out of sight).

All these things and more are being planned for five new elementary schools which are now on the drawing boards.

With final drawings still to be submitted by some of the architects, the Baltimore School Board will shortly put the plans for the schools up for builders' bids on contruction.

Not as radical in their design, but nevertheless providing badly needed modern facilities, are two new high schools which will be operating this September: Northern and Northwestern.

Northern, built at a cost of $4,474,000, opened during the past school year. Already with a large enrollment of 2,661 pupils for September, the school is expected to be slightly crowded and five additional classrooms are beeven developed in an unused area.

The high school will operate in September with 10th and 11th grade classes and a small eighth grade class.

* * *

NORTHWESTERN WILL open its doors for the first time in September after a cost of approximately $4,659,000.

Opening with a small core of students, this newest high school has a predicted initial enrollment of 1,350 10th and 11th graders.

Curriculum offerings at first will include college and non-college preparatory programs and business education.

Of course any mention of the city's newest schools must include the five buildings under construction at Coldspring Lane and Fall Rd. —the largest project ever built for the city of Baltimore —which will house 4,000 Poly-Western High School students.

Estimated to cost $13.5 million and to be completed in 1967, the complex includes: Western classrooms for 1,500 girls, a Poly shop building and classroom building for 2,500 boys, and separate buildings to house cafeteria-auditorium and gymnasium-swimming pool facilities.

* * *

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT (for School Facilities) Ambrose Chlada Jr. characterizes the difference between the new designs for the elementary and junior - senior high schools as the difference between "instant flexibility" and "adaptability."

For example, many walls between classrooms in the new high schools are "removable" while many are "movable' 'in the elementary schools, in Mr. Chlada's terms.

This means certain walls in the high schools can be removed for adaptability and for combining classes by a crew of men, but portable walls in the elementary schools can be moved by the teachers.

Where team teaching and the combining of classes for certain studies has been tried in recent years, the methods have proved successful, says Mr. Chlada, and the new schools will encourage this flexibility in the elementary schools, where it has been most effective.

The first school to present a large open space for teachers to work together with their students was Collington Square Elementary School 97, which contains five-sided classrooms and no corridors.

Opened in 1964, the school replaced corridors with large open spaces, each of which is in the center of a cluster of classrooms.

* * *

AT COLLINGTON t h e teachers have found that the large activity area in the center, knits a tighter bond between the students and teachers in a cluster — almost a school within a school concept.

And the teachers there have been able to form bold and flexible departures from the usual set curriculum to utilize their special interests and team teaching.

Much of the experience gained with the Collington experiment is being integrated into the planning of the city's new 24-classroom elementary schools.

* * *

ONE OF the most radical new schools, whose design by the architectural firm Tatar and Kelly has been accepted by the School Board, is Steuart Hill School, to be built in Southwest Baltimore.

The school will have four clusters of six classrooms — all six of which can be opened up into each other in a theatre - in - the - round effect. There are only a partial wall between the rooms, but noise will be kept to a minimum by carpeting.

The architects said the carpeting will cut out the 90 per cent of classroom noise that originates at the floor (with scraping desks and chairs), will be cleaner and cost less to maintain than tile floors.

It will also be the first school built with air conditioning. Each student will have his own portable board-type "desk" which can be used anywhere in the six classrooms or stored out of sight.

* * *

OTHER PLANS include the Furley and Woodholme Elementary Schools in Northeast Baltimore. The Furley School will have pie - slice-shaped classrooms, the centers of which can all be opened up for a theatre - in-the-round.

Woodholme will h a v e groups of eight classrooms set together — four of them with "movable" walls, and four with "removable" walls.

At the new James McHenry School, planned for 31 S. Schroeder St., two sets of six classrooms will be placed on either side of a large central area. Here different combinations of rooms can be opened up.

ANOTHER NEW concept will be tested at the Commodore John Rodgers School at Fayette and Chester Sts., when an addition is added there.

Between the old 20 - classroom building and the new 24-classroom addition will be built a gym, cafeteria and auditorium — a modern facility which will serve all 44 classrooms. The Rodgers School idea may serve as a future plan for bettering the facilities at other inner-city elementary schools.

Among the seven elementary schools opening this September will be the George Street Elementary School, George and Brunt Sts.

All of its 25 classrooms have been built facing out from the side of the building which overlooks grassy Perkins Square.

Projected high schools and their estimated dates of completion include: Walbrook (1968), Lake Clifton (1969), Southwestern (1970) and an addition to Patterson (1967).

In the future, Mr. Chlada believes, more of the unique concepts and architecture will be seen in the plans for schools "since we have a school Superintendent (Dr. Laurence G. Paquin) who is interested in architecture."

One pet plan still probable is a high-rise high school to house both City and Eastern in the Inner Harbor Project, which Dr. Paquin introduced recently as the ideal contribution for his department to make to the project.

New course at Forest Park

The first job-oriented curriculum aimed at a specific occupation will be offered this September at a non-vocational high school.

The school which pioneered the new curriculum is Forest Park High School, and the course it has formulated will prepare students for a career in dental laboratory technology.

Trainees for well-paying jobs as dental technicians will be taught in a complete dental laboratory to be built and equipped at the school.

Students from all parts of the city will be able to prepare themselves for this occupation at Forest Park.

The curriculum will include training for development of the necessary skills; related technical science, theory and math; technical sketching and carving; work - study opportunities and regular high school studies.

The course is being offered as part of the Job Preparatory Curriculum by the Vocational Division of the Baltimore City Public Schools, 3 E. 25th St.

THE DEPARTMENT is accepting applications from ninth graders who are 15 years or older, with average grades or better in academic work and special aptitudes in mechanical and artistic areas.

Helping to guide in the planning of the curriculum were:

The Baltimore Dental Society, the City Health Department, Maryland Dental Association, Maryland State Dental Laboratory Guild and the University of Maryland Dental School.

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PETITE DEMONSTRATOR—Mrs. Genevieve Hawkins, a C. and P. Telephone Co. teller at the Mondawmin Office, demonstrates the newest fashion in home telephones, the digit dial

Push-button phones

Do you hear a different dial tone on your telephone? If not, the chances are that you soon will. The Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company announced that is is converting its offices to handle the new Touch - Tone service and the new dial tone is a necessary part of this conversion.

On Touch - Tone telephones, ten pus - buttons replace the dial. The buttons are arranged in three rows of three buttons each with an "O" - Operator button centered beneath.

The C and P says that Touch - Tone dialing is Twice as fast as rotary dialing, and that less mistakes are made in calling numbers.

One of the first offices in the Baltimore area to be changed to Touch - Tone was the Brooklyn Office (Elgin 5) followed shortly by a number of other offices. The last offices changed in Baltimore were the North 9 (669) and Park 8 (728) exchanges near the end of February. At present, there are over 35,000 Touch - Tone subscribers in the state in 59 localities.

WEST BALTIMORE, the Center, Longwood, and Wilkens exchanges will be equipped with Touch - Tone service about mid - summer, as will East Baltimore, the Orleans, Dickens, Eastern, and Peabody exchanges. The entire downtown area will be equipped soon afterward, in late summer.

The long range program to convert all offices to the new service will require a number of years. The Company said, however, that about 80 percent of the Baltimore Metropolitan area will enjoy the benefits of Touch-Tone service by the end of 1966.

One operating feature of Touch - Tone allows different tones to be transmitted over the line without disconnection of the call. This is different from dial service in that an attempt to dial after a call has been established could cause a disconnection. While this is a service of the future, a housewife could use these different tones to turn on her oven or house lights or air conditioner even though she is miles away from home.

Businesses, of course, can make even greater use of this service. A travelling executive could dictate his work into a machine thousands of miles away at any hour, simply by telephoning his home office. Or, a merchant could check a purchaster's credit by calling a centralized credit bureau, keying in a code and receiving the answer immediately regarding that particular customer's credit rating.

These, of course, are but a few of the future uses for Touch - Tone service. The Company advises that anyone who wishes additional information Touch - Tone in his area may get it by calling the Business Office, 539-9900.

Radio program urges youths stay in school

Aware of the unemployment problem of minority groups in depressed areas, Lever Brothers Company pioneered a special series of sponsored radio programs on colored and Spanish language stations in its plant and headquarter cities. The objective of these programs is to persuade teenagers to stay in school and complete their educations so that they may be better qualified when seeking employment.

The programs were launched without fanfare on Sept. 21, 1964, in Baltimore, New York, Chicago, St. Louis and Los Angeles. The youth in New York's large Puerto Rican community began a week later at the station's request.

The broadcasts are presented five days a week (Monday through Friday, at intervals each day). They are heard in the late afternoon after school hours when teen listening is usually at its highest.

The station program officials themselves produce the programs and select the talent and guests who appear on them. At this point the programs are twenty-one months old, and the results have been promising in both teenage and adult response.

Youngsters formerly lacking direction and with low hopes for their futures are learning that others do care and are ready to help them shape their futures, and are responding.

They like not being talked down to or told what to do, but rather what assistance, guidance and educational and social facilities are ready and willing to help them.

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At CALVERT... ability alone counts!

By GEORGE W. COLLINS

IMPLEMENTORS — Jack M. McGlasson, Maryland area manager (seated), check production reports with W. J. deRubertis, (left) area personnel manager and Dan P. Hardin, assistant area manager. they form team which demands strict adherence to firm's policies in terms of employment, recruiting, promotion and privileges.

Eight miles to the south of Baltimore is an industrial complex which has a vital impact on the economic life of the city.

Nestled in the quiet suburb of Relay, purpose of the firm is "converting grain into fine whiskies" and for 33 years it has been doing just that, having become a key link of the largest whiskey distilling company in the world.

Calvert, one of seven arms of the Joseph E. Segram & Sons, Inc., which reaches into the distilled spirits market around the world, was opened in August, 1933.

Eight hundred Marylanders — mostly Baltimoreans —earn more than $5 million annually at Calvert which pours millions of dollars into the hopper for Federal and State taxes.

A sister plant is the Four Roses Distillery, located in Dundalk employs 500 to 700 persons and contributes a staggering sum to the local and national tax structure.

* * *

A VISITOR to the neatly-trimmed 'campus' of Calvert is left with two distinct impressions.

First he is awed by the maze of technology, science, automation, and know-how which have taken place in the industry.

While being guided through the sprawling development dedicated to the production of "quality products in the highest tradition of private enterprise." a visitor couldn't resist the nostalgic urge to compare this efficient and modern complex with the primitive methods of yesteryear.

It's like comparing the horse and buggy age with one which has produced Gemini 9. There isn't any comparison.

The second — and more lasting impression — is the life and essence given a document contained in a grey brochure carrying an embossed seal which says "President of the United States."

"Joint Statement on Plans For Progress," says the label on the brochure.

It is an agreement between President Lyndon B. Johnson, his Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity and the corporation's 36-year-old president, Edgar Bronfman.

In essence it says that when it comes to matters of employment, promotion, recruitment, and privileges, Calvert will consider ability and potential ability alone.

* * *

SIGNIFICANTLY, IT didn't just happen yesterday, as these statements by President Johnson and Mr. Bronfman indicate.

"Dear Mr. Bronfman," wrote President Johnson Sept. 11, 1964:

"It was a pleasure to have you at the White House on August 5, and to welcome your company into the Plans For Progress Program:

"I am particularly glad to join with your firm in this agreement because your participation was voluntary and represents a recognition of the importance that American industry attaches to these problems.

"Your leadership will, I am sure, awaken an answering response from members of your organization and help to bring about improved economic opportunity for all our citizens."

* * *

FOUR DAYS later Mr. Bronfman dispatched this message from his New York office to all branches of the firm:

"As you have read, your company has been pleased, and I personally have had the privilege, to affirm directly with President Johnson that Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc., and its affiliated companies will fully support and implement a 'Plan For Progress' with the President's Committee on Equal Employment Opportunity.

"This is a good and significant step. Yet the company takes some pride in pointing out that the statement is but a formal re-affirmation of policies which Joseph E. Seagram & Sons, Inc., has followed from its inception.

"We have always hired qualified personnel irrespective of race, color or creed. Frankly, your company is foremost in our industry in this regard.

"In some areas such practice has, indeed, shattered precedent. We feel that our record is a good one.

"We intend to keep moving forward, to continue expanding fair employment practice into all areas of our corporate life.

"This Joint Statement with the President of the United States thus should add but new impetus to what we have long regarded as our basic philosophy."

* * *

LAST WEEK this writer viewed close-up every department of Calvert's operation—beginning with the incoming grain cars and ending with the out going cars laden with finished products destined for points all around the globe.

The implementation of this philosophy of the "Statement of Plans For Progress" was in bold evidence.

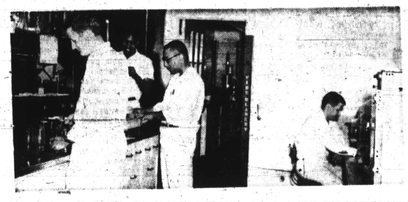
Production of the numerous brands manufactured by the plant begins in the distillery, naturally.

Rail Cars laden with golden grain, arrive at the

(Continued on Page B-12)

SCIENTIFIC APPROACH — Alfred F. Walden, distillery supervisor (in white) checks distilling operation through a bank of electronic consoles. A Hampton Institute graduate, he supervises work of Distillery Workers' Union operators George W. Ebeman (left) and Harold Williams.

ENGINEERS — Plotting future expansion and deciding on engineering needs to support the massive operation at Calvert are from left, M. P. Sheldon, plant engineer; Frank O. Wright, management training engineering supervisor; and Mr. McGlasson.



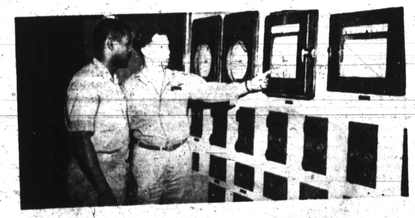
THEY PASS ON QUALITY — Chemist (from left) Willard L. Wright, Isiah A. Rasbury, and electrical engineer Vernon R. Dorkins, and chemist Alan G. Day conduct tests to control quality of new raw material and the final products made by Calvert. Messrs. Rasbury, and Dorkins, graduates of Morgan College and Howard University, respectively, are gunning for management level positions within the firm.

THE DISTAFF SIDE, — Miss Barbara Ann Massey, secretary to chief chemist Fred N. Pezzano, keeps track of the paper work involved in the quality control operations.

TRAFFIC COPS — Whether shipments are made by land, sea, or air, it is the responsibility of the Traffic Department to keep tabs. Doing just that are John E. Wardlow (seated) and Fred O. Mullich.

HE HAS THE MESSAGE — Curtis W. Douglass, of 26 years service, is a member of the Teamsters Union and official messenger who uses a two-way radio-equipped car while dispatching messages from Calvert to all points in the city.

HE FEEDS THEM — Wallace B. Pompey, chef, carries the responsibility of assuring balanced meals for Calvert employees who use the cafeteria which he has headed for 24 years. He is conferring with Mrs. Kathryn M. Vermillian, salad specialist, in preparation of a day's meal.

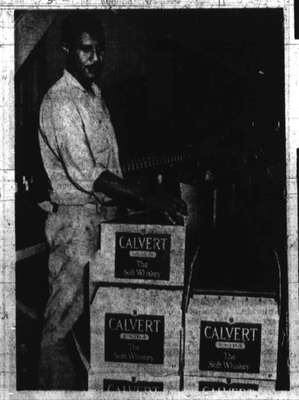


FIREMEN? — Yes, automation has reached this area of operation too at Calvert as assistant fireman James R. Smith, left, gets pointers from fireman Russell S. Leard, who is responsible for controlling the incredible poundage of steam required for distilling the "finest whiskies."

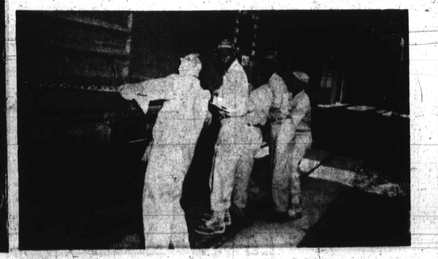
SECURITY CONSCIOUS — Security of any industrial complex similar to Calvert is a must. Its security and safety rest in the hands of 10 patrolmen who, like Winfro T. Walker (above), keep close check on persons entering and leaving the premises.

CHECKERS — Shippers Harry M. Shore, Ira T. Williams, and Eugene Marsh (left to right) check finished products as they are fed into a train car via conveyor belt.

UNIQUE CRAFTSMAN — Apprentice Cooper trainee Carlton E. Matthews checks tightness of barrel hoops as department supervisor Robert Wittwer watches. A member of the Cooper's Union, Mr. Matthews is one of the first such apprentices in the industry.



FINISHED PRODUCT — Jerome S. Burton, former Carver High School basketball star, inspects cases which flow off assembly line. He is a Bottling Machine Operator and a member of the Distillery Workers' Union, one of 10 unions in the plant.



HEAVE HO — The unloading team of Frank L. Michaels, Edward Wilson, John A. Barton, Raymond A. Dailey and James Mobley tug at door of loaded grain car in preparation for unloading the cargo into storage bins. All are members of Distillery Workers Union.