

Nearing Completion

Rosedale Lighting Draws Nationwide Attention

Rosedale School's \$18,000 classroom lighting project, embodying the most modern developments in natural and artificial illumination, will be largely completed when school opens Sept. 12, Dr. Darrell B. Harmon, director of the State Health Department division of educational services, has announced.

The project has attracted nationwide attention, Dr. Harmon reported. The Toledo, Ohio, school system has asked specifications to design a classroom along the lines used in Austin, and Kensington School in Baltimore, the first in the nation to use glass blocks in lighting, is remodeling according to Dr. Harmon's methods.

The State Health Department, co-operating with the Austin public school system in the project, has received inquiries from school architects and educators throughout the nation and from Bolivia. Interest of manufacturers of light blocks, school desks and lighting systems has been such that they have donated equipment, specially designed by Dr. Harmon, and in some cases paid for its installation, reducing actual cost of the project.

The Rosedale project includes four school rooms, redecorated for maximum lighting benefits, Dr. Harmon explained. The other four classrooms in the building have been left as originally planned.

Dr. Harmon's pride is a first grade classroom, designed to include the most modern features. One is a new light green chalk board, especially designed by Dr. Harmon after two year's research, exactly balanced for all eye defects. Glass transoms, which cause glares, have been replaced with "louvres," ventilator type structures.

The walls are light turquoise blue and yellow. Yellow drapes with a gray flower design will hang from either side of the glass block windows. The windows, consisting of glass blocks designed to diffuse light and a clear vision strip so the children can see out, reach the ceiling of the room and eliminate much of the glare and uneven lighting found in old-style classrooms.

The gray figure in the drapes is

carried out in the woodwork. Woven from fibre-glass, the drapes will be fire-proof, Dr. Harmon said. Artificial lighting will consist of a luminous indirect fluorescent system made of translucent white plastic, and four continuous rows will extend across the ceiling.

It will take 1920 watts and furnish two-and-a-half times as much light as the former 3,000 watt incandescent system, Dr. Harmon explained. Work tables of white birch with individual posture chairs have been provided for the children and the teacher's desk will be in match-

ing materials. Every desk will be placed for maximum lighting benefits for the individual child, Dr. Harmon said.

The desks, donated by the manufacturers, are handmade. Material and labor shortages have delayed their arrival until Oct. 1.

Another room is decorated in two shades of green and equipped with three continuous rows of fluorescent lighting and special equipment to spread light.

Dr. Harmon pointed to the economy of the system which, with 1680 watts, gives exactly twice as much light as the former fixtures which consumed 3,000 watts.

The room has specially designed desks, adjustable to the child's size and tasks.

The other rooms include these features and others which are the results of seven years research by the State Health Department. They demonstrate the latest methods in lighting and design, Dr. Harmon said.

Even before completion the project has attracted nationwide attention, and Dr. Harmon will discuss it before the St. Louis Electrical Board of Trade Sept. 24. The principles it embodies were discussed at the American Institute of Architects annual convention in Miami earlier in the summer.

It has been developed through research into the visual and developmental factors in schoolchild health problems, Dr. Harmon explained.

Manufacturers who cooperated with the project by designing special equipment and appliances totaling almost \$14,000 are: Owens Illinois Glass Company, which donated glassblock and \$1,000 for installation costs; National Chemical and Manufacturing Company which made special paint and paid for labor involved in decorating the classrooms; American Seating Company, Grand Rapids, who made all equipment by hand according to special design; Weber-Costello Company, who developed special chalkboards for the project; F. W. Wakefield Brass Company and Day-Brite Lighting, who assembled lighting equipment; and Page, Southerland, Page, local architects, who donated their services.

Army To Check Russians Urged

TOKYO, Aug. 31.—(UP—House Military Affairs Committee members recommended here Saturday a strong and modern military force in the Pacific and Alaskan areas which would be adequate to handle any Russian provocation.

The committee, which has been inspecting Pacific bases, expressed its views after a three-hour closed session with the officers of General Douglas MacArthur's staff at a luncheon with MacArthur.

Acting Chairman John E. Sheridan (D-Pa) declined to comment specifically on what he was told by MacArthur's staff or by officers at other bases, but he informed the press that "after what I've heard I wouldn't even give the Russians the index to the atomic bomb."

Rep. Dewey Short (R-Mo) and Robert L. F. Sikes (D-Fla) bluntly charged Russia with trying to influence the Japanese and said the Soviets wanted to get Americans out of Japan.

Short declared "there's imminent danger of another Pearl Harbor in Korea, Trieste or Alaska. We cannot afford to take any chances. While we traditionally are not aggressors we cannot afford to risk being caught unawares again."

Concerned by what they had learned during the first half of the Pacific tour, committee members

Arrival