



WHILE WESTERN ELECTRIC Company installers are placing equipment in the \$13.3 million long distance switching center in Plymouth, 20 switchmen from the Detroit metropolitan area are undergoing 10 weeks of classroom training and three weeks of on-the-job experience. Above, students who will later work in the new Plymouth 4-A toll center learn troubleshooting at the marker test board in the downtown Detroit long distance center. They are (left to right) William Fisher of Belleville, Phil Daley of Plymouth, and instructor Steve Koso of Dearborn Heights.

New Mich. Bell Installation Speeds Calls

A new Electronic Translator System (ETS) will be the "heart" of the new \$13.3 million long distance switching center now being installed adjacent to the Plymouth central office at Ann Arbor Road near Sheldon.

The new ETS is a solid state unit which automatically routes long distance calls, according to Robert E. Morrison, district plant manager at Plymouth.

One of the latest developments from the Bell Telephone Laboratories, ETS will perform the actual routing of long distance calls in microseconds (millionths of a second). This compares with the milliseconds (thousandths of a second) required to switch calls by the existing system that helped bring customer dialing of long distance calls.

THE PRESENT 4-A toll system as it is called in telephone terminology makes use of a card translator. It operates on a photo-mechanical basis with metal punched cards and photo-electric cells selecting the path a long distance call will travel.

The electronic translator, as a phone number is dialed, will decode and translate the digits and automatically check a preferred route and as many as five alternate routes in rapid succession, Morrison said.

An integral part of the ETS will be the stored program control unit, the so-called "brain" of the 4-A toll office. The stored program control unit uses a

"piggy-back" twister memory system. Magnetic tapes, compiled by computer and loaded into the memory unit, will retain all the data required to route long distance calls through a central office. ETS will be the first electronic translator ever used with electro-mechanical switching equipment, still the backbone of the nationwide direct dialing network.

IN ADDITION to being faster and more efficient in finding the best path over which a long distance call should move to its destination, ETS will permit improved maintenance procedures. Replacement parts will be packaged, plug-in units. Also, ETS has a larger capacity for growth and expansion than earlier 4-A toll systems.

Morrison said the Plymouth 4-A toll office will be one of the first in the country to use ETS. The first is scheduled to begin operation in Grand Rapids.

When completed, the Plymouth 4-A office will handle long distance dialing for an area extending from the down-river communities north into Oakland County, and from west Detroit exchanges to a point beyond Ann Arbor.

The Plymouth switching center will help improve long distance service throughout southeastern Michigan by taking some of the burden off the Detroit 4-A office.

By the early 1970s, the number of employees in the new

Plymouth 4-A office is expected to reach 600. There will be in addition to the 619 Michigan Bell employees now in Plymouth and the 700 Western Electric Company employees who work at Western Electric's Distributing Center on North Sheldon Road.

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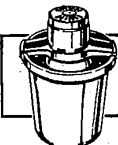


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Walnut stained wood tub with replica of the American eagle, see-thru lid. Polyethylene thermal liner, heavy duty motor. Cast aluminum dasher. Save 97.

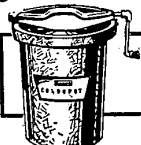
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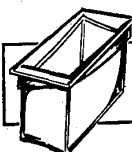


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Attractive glassware has beautifully textured easy to grip surface in "pebble" effect. Set contains 8 each of 15, 12, 8, 5-oz size. Blue or green.

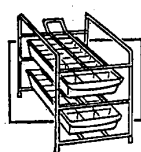
4/1.16 Ice Tea Glasses... 4 for 97c
Lido Beverage Set, reg. 2.79... 1.97
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Ice Cube Bin
4 1/2 x 11 1/2 x 6" HIGH

Reg. 1.49
97c

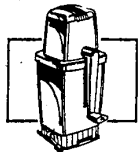
Holds 4 full trays of loose cubes. In compact plastic. Stores extra cubes.



Tray Stacker
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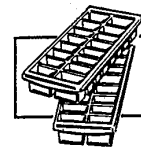
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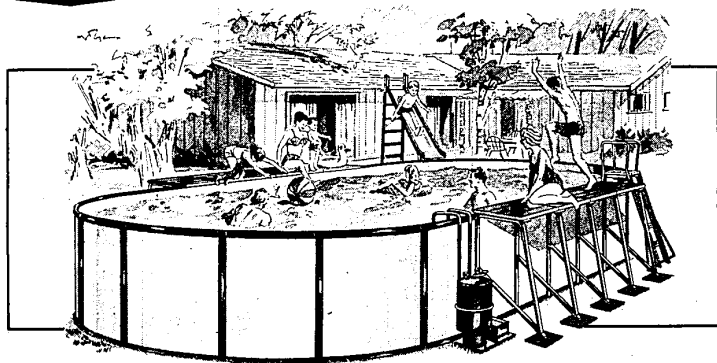
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