

Members of the State Board of Public Works go over last minute details finalizing the sale of the University of Maryland's Plant Research Farm to developer Shelton Zuckerman, standing in background. Also shown are Governor Harry Hughes, seated center; Louis Goldstein, seated left, State Comptroller, and William James, seated right, State Treasurer. Standing next to the Governor is W. Lamar Harris, Director, Maryland Agriculture Experiment Station.

#### Research farm

(Continued from Page D11) Plant Research Farm was given in 1968, when legislation was enacted which allowed the University to sell the land and to retain the funds for the improvement of agricultural

programs.

"The University has now developed an overall program that will improve its ability to support the State's agricultural needs, particularly in the area of research," said Dr. Frank L. Bentz, Jr., Vice President for Agricultural Affairs and Legislative Relations.

The University will be able to use the funds from the sale to greatly improve existing research facilities

and equipment and to purchase additional land,' explained Dr. Bentz.

"Maryland agriculture accounts for 14 percent of the gross state income - cash farm sales exceed \$800 million — and this move will allow the University to better serve the needs of agriculture in this State."

According to Dr. W. L. Harris, Director, Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station, the University worked with State and county officials in considering the optimum future development of the property. Approximately 307 acres of the site will be available for industrial and residential development. The property

will be eventually improved by over \$200 million with industrial and office developments and a planned residential community on approximately 60 acres. The remaining 12 acres of the site will be sold to Montgomery County to construct a new road through the property. The sale of the Plant Research Farm is subject to feasibility of sewer availability and proper zoning; however, it is believed that adequate sewer capacity and suitable zoning will be obtained.

Some of the major improvements expected in the programs of the Maryland Agricultural Experiment Station will include development of new research sites on the

Eastern Shore and Western Maryland; renovation and updating of existing facilities at research farms in other parts of the State: and construction of additional field laboratory facilities.

The planned projects are designed to greatly enhance the work of the Experiment Station, and will also strengthen the teaching and service programs in agriculture at the College Park Campus and the University of Maryland, Eastern Shore.



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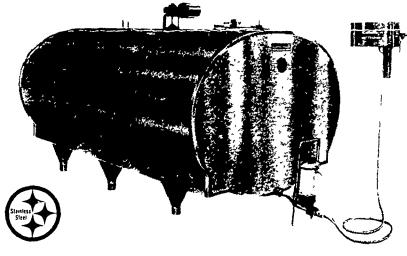
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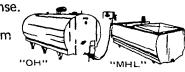
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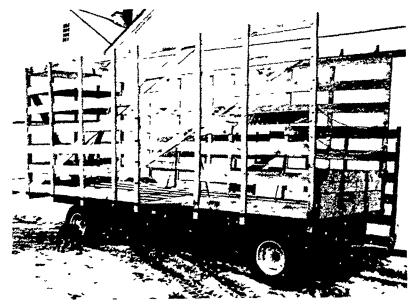
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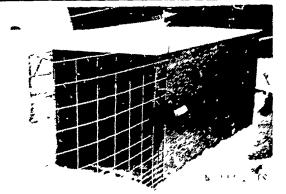
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