

LOUISVILLE FEDERAL RESERVE BRANCH
OPENS NEW STRUCTURE

The Louisville Branch Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis moved into a new building at Fifth and Liberty Streets late in May.

The new building of contemporary design, constructed of buff Indiana limestone, rests on a base of polished black granite. A modular grid of stone contains aluminum sash, panels of stone, and louvers for air conditioning. Vertical stone fins protect the east and west glass areas from the sun during the hottest part of the day. A landscaped area predominantly ilex and azaleas, along the Fifth Street facade serves as a natural buffer between the street and main banking room.

Opening ceremonies were celebrated the second week of June, beginning with employee family night June 10. A flag raising and ribbon cutting ceremony was held June 12 preceding a joint meeting of the boards of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis and the branch boards at Little Rock and Memphis in addition to the one at Louisville.

J. L. Robertson, Member Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System, Washington, D. C. performed the ribbon cutting ceremony after remarks from P. B. McBride and D. C. Johns, chairman and president respectively of the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis, and a response from Bruce Hoblitzell, Mayor of Louisville. Officiating at the opening ceremony was D. L. Henry, Manager of the Louisville Branch, assisted by D. F. Cocks, chairman of the Louisville Branch Board.

On Friday, June 13, an open house was held, to which all banks in the Louisville Federal Reserve Branch zone were invited.

The new building located in the northwest section of the central business district has three street exposures and covers 28,000 square feet. Gross area is 126,000 square feet divided into a basement and three-story structure with a service and mechanical tower core of five stories. Cost of the building, including machinery and equipment, was \$3,900,000.00.

Floor layouts and departmental arrangements have been designed for maximum efficiency of operation and security requirements. Careful consideration has been given to employee facilities in order to provide working conditions conducive to morale and efficiency. The main entrance to the building is on Fifth Street, with automotive traffic entrance on Armory Place. Off street parking for 36 cars is provided in the basement. Loading and unloading of valuables is accomplished in a security court with doors remotely controlled by a guard behind bullet resistant glass.

Although numerous safeguards were incorporated in the building to provide maximum security, the large plate glass windows and doors on the first floor and 230 odd other windows in the building impart a feeling of warmth and friendliness. The cheerful atmosphere is further enhanced inside the building by the combination of terrazzo and vinyl asbestos floors, Roman travertine marble interspersed with wood paneling, painted and fabric covered walls, and contemporary furniture.

The architectural firm of Russell Mullgardt Schwarz Van Hoefen of St. Louis designed the building while construction was handled by the F. W. Owens Company of Louisville.