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The Land of Make Believe is for real. Walt Disney World, which opened last October, has made it so—with resort as well as amusement facilities on 27,000 acres in Orlando, Fla. The resort will include at least five hotels based on a national culture or architectural style. Shown here is the 1,050-room Contemporary Resort Hotel, designed by Welton Becket & Associates (for Walt Disney Production's WED Enterprises and U.S. Steel's USS Realty Development Division). The hotel is of modular steel construction; individual room units are delivered on site fully furnished, then plugged into a 14-story steel A-frame in a terraced arrangement. The resulting interior concourse includes a lobby, boutiques, social activity areas and a skyroom-level restaurant. A monorail runs through the hotel, connecting it to other Disney World areas, including the adjacent Magic Kingdom (amusement) section (plan, top). Three garden annexes provide 660 rooms.
AIRPORT WEDDING CAKE
Perfect for the traveling bride and groom is this tiered, round hotel under construction at Houston Airport (Sept. '69 issue). Owned by Host International, Inc., the 350-room hotel was designed by William E. Tabler Architects. The shape reflects the nearby terminal pods of the airport, but is higher—as high as airport regulations allow. The circular form, plate glass and specially insulated curtain walls help to control aircraft noise. A station at the lowest level of the hotel provides for an electronic train link with the terminal area. Facilities in the hotel include a coffee shop, private club, ballroom, private dining rooms, and 40,000 sq. ft. of rental space—topped by a revolving restaurant.

SCULPTURED CHAPEL
A modest beauty is the new Carmelite chapel at Valenciennes, France. Following the wishes of a late Mother of the convent, the chapel was designed as a sculpture symbolic of the modern church by a sculptor, Pierre Szekely. He designed the volumes and masses in close collaboration with architect Claude Guislain, who articulated them in structure, using brick, concrete, stone, pine and ironwork. The plan reflects convent life and was provided by a priest advisor.

CHILD CARE WITH STYLE
What was a Chinese restaurant has been remodeled into the West 80th Street Community Child Day Care Center in New York. Designed by architects Kaminsky & Shiffer, the renovation features a painted facade of vivid enamel colors, equally bright interiors and classroom walls of cork and chalkboard. The community raised the $250,000 required for the job and also contributed manual labor as painters, carpenters and concrete workers.

WELL-PLACED CURVES
La Grande Borne, a new city of curved buildings that twist in and around each other, has been rising at Grigny (Essonne), southeast of Paris. Designed by Architect E. Aillard, the development will have in its final stage 3,700 dwelling units in mostly three- and five-story buildings. Density on the 90-acre triangular site is only 40 units per acre. But the spread of low buildings reduces the interior spaces to intimate areas that contain the sounds of people walking, talking, and living there. The buildings are made with precast concrete panels, standardized to one size and finished with colorful mosaic. The city seems remote and self-contained, with only one point of entrance or exit.

(continued on page 9)
All patterns available in Amber, Brown, Olive, and White.

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OFFICE IN THE WOODS
The Barrett Daffin Figg headquarters, in Tallahassee, Fla., designed by the architectural/engineering firm of the same name, was selected a winner in the 1971 Prestressed Concrete Institute's award program. The prime criteria were excellence of design in using precast and prestressed concrete to achieve esthetic expression, function and economy. In addition, this structure was cited for its sensitive conciliation of site and structure. It has approximately 8,300 sq. ft. of usable office space, spanned by 12-in.-deep pretensioned joists, 20 ft. long. These bear on 3-ft. 9-in.-deep girders, up to 45 ft. long. The result is large, open, and flexible interior space. The exterior of the building is simple and low, shaded by surrounding trees. A brick-faced berm provides an anchor for the supporting columns and delineates a private walkway.

TRUSSED IN HEXAGONS
A new golf club for Hilton Head Island, N.C., is designed as a series of trusses, cut out and varied to receive light and modulate space. The main structure is 28 ft. high and sits on a grass-bermed podium. Below the shingled roof and slung around the columns that support the trusses are locker rooms, storage areas and kitchen facilities—all designed for expansion and with stucco interiors. The large trussed structure above contains a pro shop, lobby and restaurant. This area has glass between the columns and at the triangulated gable ends. The club occupies a pivotal position in the development that surrounds it and will be the center of two golf courses. The economical design is by architects Copelin & Lee.

BELLWETHER
The new $8-million headquarters for the Atmospheric Environment Service (Toronto) provides a backdrop for a huge sculpture by Ron Baird. The work is an abstract interpretation of a meteorological theme and is made of welded weathering steel with many parts that are activated by changes in weather. The building, by architects Boignon & Heinonen, brings together operations from eight city locations and includes observation domes, radar and a wind tunnel.

PHOTOS: P. 5 Walt Disney Productions. P. 6 (top left) Milstead Photography; (lower right) Buro Sybolt Voeten. P. 9 (top left) G. Wade Swicord; (lower left) © Realisation; (top right) Molitor.
Design on the grand scale with a Pilkington all-glass suspended assembly

At Madison in Wisconsin a Pilkington suspended all-glass assembly is used to glaze the entrance to the West Towne Mall Shopping precinct. 50 ft. wide by 26 ft. high, the lites are of 12mm "Armourfloat" and the vertical stiffening fins of 19mm "Armourfloat".

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THE DUCK AND THE SHED

FORUM: Mr. Venturi's article was a fascinating trip into the euphoria of duck design and shed decoration, particularly for one such as myself laboring under the apparent misconception that the task at hand is better shed design.

JOHN W. MULLLEN, III  
Architect

FORUM: We are used to looking up to the FORUM for the attention it has given in the past to urban, social and technical problems and for the high quality of the works selected for publication. We have also been concerned about the limited number of pages available to editorial matter and we have wished this great magazine—our magazine—better times. Now we are puzzled. If the FORUM is short of space how can it devote four of its precious pages to Mr. Venturi's boring and irrelevant rubbish illustrated by hot air blown-up photographs? And, how much longer will the public duck be force-fed with Mr. Venturi's self-glorification. Mutual criticism can be constructive and is welcome but there is something obscene—as our late friend Sybil would say—about a Robert Venturi attacking a Paul Rudolph. Or does Mr. Venturi see himself as a new Dalacroix challenging the established Ingres?

We like to believe that we are living in a free world where everybody is allowed to do his thing. If Robert Venturi's thing consists in installing plastic flowers on make-believe window sills pierced in false fronts surmounted by fake T.V. antennas, by all means let him do it. How-ever we beg the FORUM to consider that architects have present-ly enough trouble of their own without being invited to solve Mr. Venturi's problems.

New York, N. Y.  
PAUL F. DAMAZ  
Architect

FORUM: Brown and Venturi's stufing piece in the November issue serves at least to arouse us from complacency. It is good that they write, for in this way they help us overlook their lack of design talent. It does not help that they admit their building is ugly. We can see that.

They say Rudolph's building is irrelevant. They are wrong. In this age of man-made ugliness, Crawford Manor, while not a masterpiece, is relevant, while Guigno's is not only meaning-less, it is a bore.

CHARLES MONTOTT

The Frank Lloyd Wright Foundation  
Taliesin West  
Scottsdale, Ariz.

FORUM: Kudos to you for having the courage to run "Ugly and Ordinary Architecture, the Decorated Shed." What was said there and what Robert Venturi has said through all of his buildings, has for too long been pushed to the back of the bus by the heroes and scribes of funky architecture.

DARIO BANTI  
Architect

FORUM: Like so many theoreticians, Robert Venturi and Denise Scott Brown are refreshing and accurate in their criticism of today's work, but fall short of producing anything more satisfactory—either in theory or building.

I welcome their emphasis on image—too long obscured by the belief that a successful plan will somehow produce an appropriate appearance. But I question what sort of image they are trying to achieve, and by whom and how it will be perceived.

Regarding the Guild House, Venturi and Brown proudly asserts their intention to express "housing for the elderly" when I would have assumed they would want to express "home" to the elderly. For whom do they build and to whom do they speak? In any case it is difficult to imagine how their message can be read from the face of the building without being deci-phered first in print. The symbolism is literary, not visual. And I believe it is meaningful only to those who read architectural literature, not to those who see or use the building.

There are many associations that might suggest home to the elderly but I doubt if a commercial sign (appropriate to a 60 m.p.h. highway, not a city street) or an oversized column obscuring the doorway is helpful. Even the "fancy" ma-terial, which they correctly note might be a source of pride at the entry to one's building, is used "ironically" and thus negates that purpose. It ridicules the values of the inhabitants to a supposedly sophisticated group of outsiders—does it even the most sophisticated realize, just by looking, that the oversize double-hung windows are an amusing Pop Art type surprise?

The authors state that the perception of architecture is strongly influenced by past associations. Agreed. But I believe they have gone too far and forgotten that it is still perceived by the public. For all its faults, Crawford Manor at least produces some sensual pleasure in its soaring lines. Guild House is also satisfying to the senses in the orderly disposition of its windows. But this is something its designers never mention. Instead they point to a couple of crenela-tions, a barely visible white line and some already mentioned mis-cellanea which they must tell us is reminiscent of a palazzo (and therefore home?). It is fortunate that they write so well. At this rate, every building they produce will have to be accompanied by an essay.

Boston, Mass.  
JOAN E. GOODY  
Architect

FORUM: While we enjoyed your Technology article in the November issue, we wish to offer an important correction.

The first systems-built highrise in the U.S. (The Uptown Tower in Memphis, to the best of our knowledge. The 13-floor, 196-unit building was occupied in September 1971, and utilized the all-American (another unique feature!) Mah-LeMessurier System, invented by architectsWalk and Francis Mah and structural engineer William LeMessurier.

This system utilizes precast concrete structural components and offers the advantages spelled out in your Technology feature plus a most important feature: no special fabrication plant is required, thus avoiding the inflexibility, expense, and limited utility of forced shipments from a single, fixed installation. The nation's precasters, in the truest sense, are the fabricators for the Mah-LeMessurier System.

Incidentally, the Luther Towers construction cost was only $17.64 per gross square foot, including air conditioning, kitchen appliances, carpets, drapes, landscaping, and parking. Other Mah-LeMessurier System projects are under way about the country (two others are also occupied, and another two are very near completion), despite the fact that this unique system was introduced only 18 months ago.

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I wish we could have had Walter Gropius' reaction to this book which would have given him the unexpected pleasure of meeting an American art historian who, in this report on the early Bauhaus, has not just tried to regale his readers with conjectures and assumptions as has been done so often, but, instead, presents an extremely well documented, factual account of a very complicated part of artistic development during the first twenty years of this century. It shows the cultural humus which nourished Gropius' ideas and describes how he gradually pulled away from the early group of his friends and comrades-in-arms during the first安装ment he places the many threads of this development into the reader's hand for whom, gradually, a whole tapestry of colorful, contradictory, progressive and regressive personal contributions comes to life. His ability to discern between the living strands and those that were doomed to wither, his conscientious presentation of contemporary testimonies and the honesty with which these are put into their proper context, are in great contrast to the vague guesswork accorded the Bauhaus story in this country so far.

Mr. Francesco's reaction to this book which Mr. Francesco mentions as having been on the lips of many innovators for some time already had, however, very different meanings for different people. For Henry van de Velde, for instance, who had run the Kunstgewerbeschule in Weimar before Gropius, it had meant a building every part of which had been inspired, designed and supervised by himself. For Gropius it meant, on the other hand, a collaboration with other artists, craftsmen, technicians, engineers, etc., who, though hopefully imbued with the same spirit, were supposed to make independs-as any complementary contributions to the whole. To introduce and train such collaboration was the whole idea of the Bauhaus.

But, as Mr. Francesco is well aware, it must not be forgotten that Gropius, indeed, had not been asked to run the Kunstgewerbeschule in Weimar to create a new way of life, but, rather, to bring back the good old way of creating quality design for a culture with the traditional pride of the crafts organizations which felt endangered by the increasing industrialization of interior design items and in a weary and belligerent mood. I think Mr. Francesco unfortunates—as any American is bound to do—the politically powerful position of these organizations in the state legislatures of Germany. To incur their displeasure would have immediately choked off the meager financial means with which the Bauhaus had to sustain its program, and they had to be reassured again and again that their welfare was of overriding importance for the educational plans of the Bauhaus. To reveal to them that Gropius hoped to pull them out of their design doldrums by training the best of them to become modelmakers for industry would have been suicidal at that time. If historians find greater emphasis on craftwork in the Bauhaus reports of those early years than seems compatible with its later development, it is, in part, due to these circumstances. But Gropius' plan to wrest the student away from his total preoccupation with paper design and to bring him in direct contact with the materials of construction also played an important role. He believed throughout his life that the skills and discipline acquired by the mastery of a craft was not only the best preparation for any kind of activity connected with three-dimensional design, but also contributed to a person's inner harmony.

Gropius' ideas, however, did (continued on page 21)
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not always coincide with the vague, expressionistic bent of young Germans at that time, many of whom did not care to think of craft training as a preparation for participation in industrial design or in the production of prefabricated house-parts—thoughts which had occupied Gropius' mind even since 1910.

So, for outsiders, these two conflicting trends of craft-training, one as a means to an end and the other as an end in itself, were and still are difficult to understand because neither Gropius nor his faculty ever attempted to shorten the conflict by interfering and imposing their own convictions on the youthful romanticism or other privately held beliefs of the students. It was against the principles of the school to present young people with shortcuts to solutions that were not of their own making, and nobody tried to hasten the slow, inner growth that comes from personal experience and experimenting.

To explain this "hands-off" policy it might be interesting to mention that the faculty-council meetings—which were from the beginning attended by two student representatives—where all problems concerning the whole school were openly discussed, never came to decisions by majority vote. Whenever irreconcilable viewpoints persisted among faculty members or with the student representatives, Gropius did not try to blunt the issues by compromises, but let instead the opinions stand in stark contrast to be worked out by continuing experiments and discussions. Some of them never found a generally accepted solution while others resolved themselves by a gradual shift of opinion, thanks to new experiments and tests. Nothing was ever forced through for the sake of presenting a clear-cut majority decision because Gropius did not believe that that in itself could ever solve any problem in the realm of creative design.

All this has probably been best expressed in the famous letter by Paul Klee to Gropius: "I welcome the fact that forces so differently orientated are working together in our Bauhaus. I also approve the conflict between these forces if its effect is evidenced in the final accomplishment... In general there is no right or wrong; our work lives and develops through the interplay of opposing forces, just as in Nature the good and the bad work together productively in the long run."

Like Klee, Gropius loved the paradoxes of life, and saw in the contrasts that developed between the different protagonists always a source of stimulation. In short, the Bauhaus had as many truths as life itself.

The recurring question as to why no architectural department was ever formally added to the curriculum in Weimar must be sadly and simply explained by the extreme budget limitations imposed by the Weimar State Government. These became worse in the course of time, the more the hostile political forces gained in strength, until they succeeded in throttling the school altogether. Instead of being able to expand, Gropius had to think most often of scaling down. Even after the move to Dessau, acute financial troubles persisted; and in the diary I kept from 1924-1928 an often-mentioned topic is the discussions held among the faculty and with the mayor as to which of the workshops should be eliminated—the pottery workshop had indeed never moved to Dessau—to give the others a better financial chance. The weaving—as well as the metal workshop came near to being discontinued at one time, and the faculty members were asked to sacrifice some of their salary to keep things going. The weaving—as well as the metal workshop came near to being discontinued at one time, and the faculty members were asked to sacrifice some of their salary to keep things going. Only due to the extraordinary skill and speedy actions of the mayor of Dessau did it finally become possible to install an architectural department. In my diary notes I register the (continued on page 24)
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joyful relief Gropius felt at being able now to look for a congenial architect to head this department. Up to the time when Mr. Wiegner in his Bauhausbook revealed the financial side of the Bauhaus background, Gropius had never mentioned the actual figures to anybody because he was afraid that if they became known, possible sponsors in this and other countries might have asked why so much was needed to establish a similar school when the Bauhaus had done it on so little. He was definitely not of the opinion that abject poverty helps stimulate the creative person, and it was to his great chagrin that most of the students had to live on a starvation diet.

The greatest uncertainty for students of the movement exists in the assessment of the role of the painters and sculptors whom Gropius had brought in as guiding spirits of an institute ostensibly dedicated to the education of future craftsmen, designers and architects, an institute, moreover, which held the view that art as such cannot be taught. Gropius' persuasive power of bringing artists into influential contact with the Bauhaus students was Gropius' deeply felt conviction of the primary importance of the artist's vision for the whole of human concerns and endeavours. He believed that any new insight, gained by man about himself or the universe, ignites the imagination of the artist first and foremost, even before philosophical and scientific thought and discovery have caught up with it. It was this basic view of the creative process which secured the artist's position as long as he directed the school. It brought in the concern for individual artistic achievement and for the related arts of the stage and the dance, and it complemented and sent fresh impulses to the work of the majority of the students who were engaged in design and production in the workshops or in the study of architecture. While Gropius wanted to avoid at cost the turnout of 'art pro-tarians', people who squander their talents on futile attempts at 'great art' which was outside of their reach and who we thereby lost to those fields of creative work that they might have made significant contributions. To those who had nevertheless set their minds on coming painters the Bauhaus curriculum proved to be a veritable obstacle course, syphoning off most of them into other channels more commensurate with their talents. But those who persisted took their private chances with either one of the masters and eventually some of them proved painting to be the real vocation.

The ambivalent attitude of the students themselves toward workshops always was a cause for headaches for the director. Almost every year the students staged a revolt against any of them for their handling the workshop activities—except against Klees who was never attacked—and it took all Gropius' persuasive power to avoid permanent splits. But accepted this turmoil as a natural consequence of his try to reconcile groups of people, for the last century, who, for the last century, have been drifting apart into isolated spheres of work and who found it understandable to cooperate in the encounters about working schedules, financial considerations outside pressures and insidious disagreements.

One of the best parts of Francisco's book is his thorough treatment of Itten's course and the gradual estrangement that took place between him and Gropius when Itten began to give free rein to his obsession with the Mazdaznan and violated thereby the ft open research spirit which Gropius considered paramount for the school's development. Many years later when Itt had abandoned the extraneous
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For a brochure giving complete details, contact your local Owens-Corning representative. Or write: Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation, Energy Conservation Award Program, Fiberglas Tower, Toledo, Ohio 43659.

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Owens-Corning is offering awards to stimulate new designs and ideas for conserving energy. Special Steuben sculptures will go to the three architects or engineers who—according to a panel of independent judges—do the best job of designing buildings that don’t waste fuel. See our announcement in this magazine for details.
This year, THE ARCHITECTURAL FORUM celebrates its 80th anniversary. Congratulations on eight decades of publishing have been and are, coming in. All of us are grateful and appreciate them.

But, frankly, for a magazine generally considered to be “avant-garde” the prospect of having to celebrate an 80th birthday is almost shattering. So that we half decided to ignore the occasion.

THE ARCHITECTURAL FORUM is, of course, the best known U.S. magazine in its field—anywhere in the world. I would very much like to claim part of the credit for that fame; but having been at its helm for only three short months it is clear that I cannot. Many of those who deserve that credit are still actively contributing to the FORUM’s editorial insight, graphic approach, and overall quality. As with anything of real value, though, THE ARCHITECTURAL FORUM did not just happen in a day, a year, or even a few years! And it was those years with people like Howard Myers, George Nelson, Henry Wright, and Douglas Haskell that formed the magazine’s essence, while at the same time helping to shape architectural history.

These men were responsible for such extraordinary achievements as the first, historic issue on the work of Frank Lloyd Wright in January, 1938; the ensuing issues on Wright; the 1948 MEASURE issue which foresaw the problems now embraced by the term “Ecology”—and quite a few other editorial achievements. These FORUM publishers and editors not only set standards difficult to match today, they also showed an unflagging touch for selecting outstanding contributing editors and critics. People like Jane Jacobs and Walter McQuade (now a New York City Planning Commissioner); James Marston Fitch and Bernard Spring (now Dean of Architecture at CCNY); Paul Grotz, FORUM’s Art Director from 1937 to 1967, and now its Managing Editor; John Dixon, Senior Editor from 1965 until last month when P/A (showing excellent, if second-guess, judgement) finally lured him away; and Peter Blake, with FORUM 25 years and its editor since 1962.

So, while proud of having contributed these 80 years, and mindful of what enabled those contributions, our recent and present total concern, and energies, are directed to the next eight decades. This month, in celebration, we devote the FORUM to the world of architecture. It is a book of readings, views, issues, ideas, and people. People like those who have contributed to this special issue.

As a birthday gift from you, our readers, to us, I would ask the same: creative feedback, in addition to your continuing interest and support. This sort of dialogue will help us provide serious ideas and responsible opinion to all those who design and specify our environment; and provide a useful communications vehicle between those who supply the hardware, and those who provide the software.

So much for our 80th birthday. We’ll be getting back to you in 2052 A.D.

RICHARD W. SHAVER, Publisher

MOMA AS TEACHER

David Pearson, assistant professor of architecture at City College of New York, attended a recent conference. Here is his report:

Architectural Education USA—Issues, Ideas and People—A Conference to Explore Current Alternatives. These were the ambitious titles and goals of a conference held in mid-November at the New York Museum of Modern Art, with co-sponsorship by the Architectural League of New York. Unfortunately, the labels were apparently more impressive than the conference itself.

The major drawback was evident from the beginning. The panelists seemed more interested in talking about architecture than about architectural education, the real purpose of the gathering.

Each of the three sessions was conducted by a different moderator, chosen from a group of handpicked panelists that included Denise Scott Brown, Stanford Anderson, Emilio Ambasz, Jonathan Barnett, Kenneth Frampton, Colin Rowe, Robert Gutmann, Herbert Gans and Arthur Drexler. Assisting them as “critics” were two Canadian and two British representatives, who understandably found it difficult to deal with American problems on the basis of their experiences.

Each panel had prepared a paper on his (or her) special ideas and these were distributed, neatly packaged, to guests upon registration. Since there was little time to read the papers, it was not surprising that reactions were often far from the mark—especially as the panelists themselves needed frequent reminders to speak to the subject—education.

These and other problems seemed unnecessary. All of the panelists were of the same color and, except for Denise Scott Brown, the same sex. In fact, the conference provided a better international cross section than national—the furthest state represented, and students were conspicuously absent. The rotation of moderators gave an uncomfortable impression of fragmentation about the conference; there seemed to be no clear leadership. If, as some cynics
claim, the conference was set up to establish some of its participants as a sort of "New Guard" in architectural education, it should at least have been better organized.

Of the three sessions, the second displayed the most fire-works, complete with a token but loud protestation characterized by Mr. Eisenman (head of the MOMA Institute for Architecture and Urban Studies) as "Roman" [sic]. It was not until the next day, however, that truth was reached. After some attempt to organize a panel from the few who showed up, an open discussion was allowed for the last 45 minutes. In this, people were jumping up and down like jacks-in-the-box, on and off the stage, to speak. Although most remarks concerned the conference itself and, again, rarely education, they were nonetheless the most stimulating yet heard.

One member of the audience, John Lobell (a young teacher from Pratt) tried to start a discussion of the teaching role, but he failed. His was, and is, a plea from the hearts of many teachers today.

A final spontaneous speaker was William L. Porter, dean of the School of Architecture and Planning at MIT. He predicted that "architectural education will develop much more along the lines of the engineering schools." Sadly, this challenge ended the conference where it should have begun.

**UPS & DOWNS**

**BEAUTIFY AKRON**

Eugene Smith is an architect in Akron, Ohio, who cares about the visual environment. For three years, at his own expense, he took to the road criss-crossing the country giving slide shows and lectures to any groups willing to listen on the subjects of the billboard road show, electric and telephone poles vying for position on every corner, Main Streets whose main attraction is dairy queen neon, and other manifestations of urban ugliness.

Recently, at a political money-raising auction in Akron, Eugene Smith was the high bidder ($80) for one month's use of a prominent billboard, donated by the Naegele Outdoor Advertising Co. of Akron. Delighted with this opportunity for urging wider public

**STREET ART**

A 33-story tower rising on Times Square provides a new visual experience for billboard-weary New Yorkers. Artists Nassos Daphnis and Tania have created an 18-month art environment by painting the building in a slowly growing three-dimensional work of art that will ultimately reach a height of 400 feet.

So successful was the effort that New York's Board of Trade in December cited Arlen Realty and Development Corporation "for transforming a routine building construction site into a creative environment. . . ."

The frame is painted in very bright red, yellow, white and black stripes, unfolding gradually upward so that each day presents a whole new mural.

Tania's colorful triangles surround the pedestrian, with mylar ceilings and flashing white bulbs to bounce the colors around. Daphnis' forms above climb steadily upward. The hoist tower, with its vertical ribbons of red and blue, is just too good to be temporary. His art work will disappear, upon the building's completion, under the curtain wall.

Nassos Daphnis and Tania are founding members of the group known as City Walls, Inc., which has, to date, painted 20 walls around New York City.

**SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE**

Lest such prime urban space as that next to Chicago's new John Hancock Tower go "unimproved," a developer has stepped (continued on page 97)
I first met Dr. Richard Buckminster Fuller in a basement drafting room in the old Institute of Design, in Chicago, on a Saturday afternoon, in 1947. He was standing on top of a drafting table, kicking his heels and demonstrating some of the steps he had been practicing at the local bebop school; and he explained to me that the beat related, somehow, to a mathematical shorthand that he had just then developed to help him chart his excursions into the universe. He was then in his fifties, and spending a little bit of time on the side, boning up on his football-tackle skills by flinging himself down flights of basement stairs. The next time I saw Bucky he was lightly bandaged, and beaming.

Several years later, after I had become one of his innumerable "dear boys," I found myself with him and a couple of other friends in Red Square in Moscow, taking in the sights. He was, as always, radiant—but slightly more radiant this time than usual, because dozens of Soviet pedestrians were circling him, and beaming back at his beautiful, kind face. "They all know about my dome in Sokolniki Park, dear boy," he said. "They are so well informed—they know exactly what we are trying to do!" I did not have it in my heart to tell him that those beaming Soviets were circling him chiefly because they had never before seen a man with a thick, black rubber band holding up a pair of glasses—the rubber band circumnavigating the wearer's smooth head, equatorially.

In the years that followed, we met in many places—in his unbelievable dome at Expo 67, in Montreal, which Peter Ustinov calls Buckminster Cathedral; in a tacky restaurant at Logan Airport in Boston, with Bucky flying in at noon from Toronto and Trudeau, and leaving two hours later for Uzbekistan; or, more probably, Mars—a steak under his belt, and the memory in his mind and heart of half a dozen of this country's starry-eyed "kids" who had recognized him in the waiting room; and who, immediately, had offered him their minds and hearts.

That was about six months ago, after we had decided that the only fitting way to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the founding of this magazine was to devote an entire issue to Bucky. We were enthusiastic and slightly apprehensive at the same time: enthusiastic, because we were as mesmerized by him as everyone else is; slightly apprehensive, because we realized that not even Bucky could have all the answers to the problems of our time.

And then somebody said: "He doesn't have all the answers, but he sure is the only one who asks all the right questions!" And, at that point, we suddenly understood that this was precisely what Bucky was all about: he knew exactly how to ask all the right and pertinent and searching questions. Questions that demand and, therefore, generate significant answers. Questions of the sort that all architects and planners and environmentalists should be asking, and so few do.

That, of course, is what makes Bucky so enormously attractive to all of us, young, middle-aged and old alike. The young, it seems to me, are bored with people who have all the answers—to all the wrong questions. The middle-aged have become skeptical, from experience, about specialists—and Bucky is the generalist par excellence. And the old, in America, see in Bucky a wonderful affirmation of traditional virtues—the Yankee skipper, charting a new course in a new world: the adventurous American, respectful of the past, conscious of the present, but preoccupied with the future.

And, so, Bucky is the link that has been missing in recent years—the link between the American past and (hopefully) the American future. His life is a work of art; and what we have tried to do in this issue is to do justice to that life and that work.—Peter Blake.
"Here is Buckminster Fuller. The men of his family were preachers and lawyers who attacked the moral and social problems of a new world. The New England that burned witches, that prayed to a Jehovah God, that hoped all the while for Christianity, made of this son of theirs a young person capable of such intense suffering that he must, in self-defense, refer to the race of men as the human family and attack its problems to forget his own."

From the Chicago Evening Post, 1930.

At right: Fuller in his boat, "Intuition," off Bear Island, Maine.

PHOTOGRAPH: Jaime Snyder
"I am a perfectly ordinary man," R. Buckminster Fuller is apt to remark when introduced to a cheering audience as the phenomenal one-and-only Bucky Fuller.

Fuller insists that his da Vincian character is merely normal for man who, among all the creatures in nature, is designed not to be a specialist. Fish cannot walk, bears cannot fly, but man, by virtue of his conceptual mind, is able to extend himself, to take on wings or leave them at the airport, to adapt himself to the most diverse circumstances. And children ask questions about everything, Fuller points out. It is only gradually that their curiosity becomes stifled or narrowed into exclusive directions.

While Fuller is now recognized as a controversial innovator in many fields—as architect and engineer, as mathematician, scientist, philosopher and inventor, as lecturer, author, and scholar, as designer and poet—it is not so much as one of these, but as the whole to which they so richly contribute, that he is a mighty revolution. The Fullerian world is a world so new that it may take many generations to absorb it—if we are granted the time.

In each field there are those who proudly, jealously claim him as their own; yet there are those, who—precisely in their own field—repudiate him, while granting his genius in others.

Fuller is widely acknowledged and loved, yet he can still inspire a sort of resentment. One sees this reflected even among people who know little about him. In earlier years he could be dismissed as a crackpot dreamer. But as his mathematics bear more and more fruit in actual achievements, acclaimed throughout the world, it is no longer possible to discount him. Yet the reluctance to accept him remains. As with other great innovators of our time—Freud, Marx, Einstein—Buckminster Fuller is a threat. All vested interests, psychological or professional, are threatened by the uprooting innovation of his thought. In a world accustomed to or demanding of the shockingly novel it is surprising how many cannot accept the new. But for those who are free to live vitally in the present the glimpse of Fuller's horizon is intoxicating.

As an artist I claim that it is the artist in Fuller that dominates and permeates his world, giving radiance to every ingredient of his thought whether it concerns the recycling of waste or the metaphysical function of man in the universe. Every aspect is transformed by the magnitude and poetry of his concept.

To hear Fuller speak is, before all else, an esthetic experience. To follow the luminous progression of his thought, the startling leaps it takes when connecting widely divergent phenomena with the powerful cables of his conceptual grasp, is to be shocked, repeatedly, into new awareness while thrilling to the thought process itself. His talks are notoriously long because he cannot bear to stop before he has sketched-in some sense of full circle. What he has to say is always in a race against time, as each factor hinges on another, and all on a sense of totality which, when projected, is precisely the marvel of the experience.

Fuller's abstract formulations are not speculative games, feeding on themselves, but stem always from his penetrating perception of life. "The most poetic experiences of my life," he writes, "have been those moments of conceptual comprehension of some of the extraordinary generalized principles, and their complex interactions, that are apparently employed in the governance of universal evolution."

Fuller's relation to nature is profoundly felt and intimate—in an almost Saint Francisian sense. To hear him speak of a bird—its form, its pattern of behavior—"process bird" as he calls it; or of a tree, the principles of construction that combine to form this marvelous phenomenon, a tree—he becomes a tree in the describing—is to see him relate to the bird or the tree with an empathy, an identification such as an artist feels for the object of his attention and inspiration. Each focus of his wondering observance illuminates an abstract principle that finds its place in the vast order of interrelationships forming his inner world. He is able to carry the staggering quantity of knowledge he does, ready at any moment to be spontaneously summoned to mind, not merely because of his prodigious memory but because he has so extraordinary a clarity of concept that each item of knowledge has its place, and is immediately accessible to him when he needs it there.

Fuller draws from history as he does from nature, a fact not appreciated by some of his followers who tend to reject history, to consider it irrelevant or cancelled out by the new. With Fuller, history belongs to the present as part of an evolving process. When he says, "I am not a thing, a noun, I seem to be a verb, an evolutionary process," he places himself in the universe he knows—not, as most of us do, intellectually, but experientially, as a universe without stasis, an interrelating of processes and motions in which past, present, and future form a part. He recounts the history of man from the beginning, again and again, in the context of each subject he presents, pointing clairvoyantly to the future, not through any sort of mystical prophecy but through his empathetic grasp of its shape in evolution. So that every new idea he presents has inherently the density of history and the suggested shape of its continuance.

Within Fuller's life and thought I find two main focuses:

The core of his creative life, the pure realm of conceptual discovery and formulation which finds its most perfect expression in mathematics.

The application of his thought to life, to affecting it on the tiny speck of the universe on which he finds himself, Planet Earth.

All Fuller's inventions and designs are but fallout from these central concerns, seeds of his genius that fall in a particular place where he, himself, can scarcely pause; clues, they often are, to future possibilities too far in advance
of current technical know-how to be produced, but depending on predicted developments in which their time will come.

Fuller does not stop long at these because the application of his thought cannot be realized in fragmentary ways. The instrument for its full realization is in what he calls World Game.

I remember going with my husband to visit Fuller in Carbondale, Illinois, in 1968. Walking past the “Moo and Cackle” drive-in restaurant to a nondescript building divided, downstairs, between a hamburger place, a beauty salon and some very ordinary stores, we climbed a modest stairway, and walked down a long, barren corridor to a door at the end. On it was printed:

Inventory of World Resources
Human Trends and Needs
R. B. Fuller

For forty-five years Fuller has been carrying on a vast research. What he has compiled is “the most comprehensive information about the status of planet Earth, which includes all amounts and locations of physical resources on Earth, their rates of consumption and regeneration, as well as the metaphysical resources as represented by man’s ideas, concepts, and theories throughout history. It contains trends, known human needs, fundamental behavior characteristics as determined psychologically, anthropologically, ecologically and sociologically. It includes trends in population growth, population migration, birth and death rates, political events, trends and consequences, all socio-economic developments around the whole world.”

It includes weather patterns, crop patterns, global food production per year, etc, etc.

The concept of recycling waste, of putting to valuable use what is otherwise polluting, was inherent in Fuller’s thinking from the beginning. The idea of utilizing generative forces that are free and inexhaustible: the sun, the wind, the tides of the sea instead of spending the Earth’s already too-diminished supply of fossil fuels, is a typical outcome of Fuller’s research. (Gasoline would cost a billion dollars per gallon when measuring the time Nature takes to produce it.)

World Game is the fruit of this long research and the instrument for its utilization.

It is, first of all, a pool of global information to be continuously updated from every possible source. A new source, “Space Intelligence”, provides information from the satellites whose sensors pick up electro-magnetic and thermodynamic frequencies registering specific temperatures of metals, woods, furs, flesh, etc. Thus they can identify, and locate, every head of cattle on Earth, every crop of grain, and so on.

Yet no center of coordination for such global information exists!

World Game proposes to be this center as the framework for global planning, for eliminating the causes of poverty and war, and for protecting and restoring the ecological integrity of planet Earth to the degree this is possible.

Although, in principle, World Game can be played as it was for forty-five years by Fuller himself, without a computer, or, as he says, “longhand”, as its proper scale for coordinate use, it will need to employ a vast complex of high velocity digital computers with megabit capacities approaching four million bits each. These will be set up in conjunction with a map of the world visualized as the size of a football field, the dynaxmap being Fuller’s unique cartographic projection of the world without visible distortion, the continents projected continuously to form a one-world island in a one-world sea.

On this scale World Game was designed to occupy Fuller’s dome at Expo 67, commissioned by the United States government to be Fuller’s oeuvre both inside and out. As Fuller’s research had led him to predict that the United States would have reached its lowest point in world esteem by 1967 he thought World Game might be a redeeming gesture. But the government did not accept it.

Subsequently the state legislature of Illinois allocated $4,000,000 matching funds to construct World Game at Southern Illinois University, but the remaining $12,000,000 were not raised. It seems that we are not ready to pay toward a continuing instrument for peace what we spend every four hours on a war.

World Game has not yet been built.

The military of sovereign states utilize computerized war games, played according to von Neuman’s game theory of win-all-or-nothing, in order to determine strategies in projected situations of war. World Game, a game in which all or none must win, should ideally be an instrument for international cooperation to determine strategies for peace.

Players can be anyone from students to statesmen. The World Game center will seek to utilize the combined intelligence of the world’s best minds in all fields of thought and experience.

Players “will take simulated steps for the designed uses of resources—both virginal and pollutional—to transform the physical circumstances of life which are responsible for poverty, war, and ecological devastation.” Any play shown by the computers to lead in the direction of war, or to misuse of the Earth’s resources, or to the gain of one part of the world at the expense of another, will be invalidated. Players will not compete to win against each other but, in the case of opposing interests, they will not be yielding directly to one another but to the disinterested findings of the computers.

The premise of World Game is Fuller’s recognition that “Spaceship Earth” is most beautifully equipped to provide for all mankind with a sufficiency undreamed of by even the wealthiest of the past. The programs that will be selected as being “favorable for all humanity” will go far beyond man’s ignorant ways of assessing what he ‘can afford’. The computers will demonstrate that he can afford nothing short of the best, which is to make Spaceship Earth a successful environment of man.”
Fuller has invariably observed in the many fields of his research that "life tends to behave very well when it has the right environment" and badly when this is inimical to its needs. World Game aims at reforming—not people—(for which there might never be time, even were humanity not on the brink of disaster) but the environment in which they live.

Is there still time? Or has mankind already passed the point of no return in its squandering, pollution and destruction of this planet? Fuller admits it may have. At best, he warns, time is running out.

In effect, World Game may be thought of as a last-minute emergency measure to bypass politics and all the seemingly insurmountable human problems of ignorance, prejudice and conflict—ideological, racial, national—to bypass these, to put the facts before the whole world and to attempt to deal with them coherently.

Mankind has so far never attempted, in full consciousness, to take its collective destiny into its hands and shape it. Under the threat of extinction this is what Fuller urges that it do.

Is so grandiose an undertaking merely visionary and unrealistic? Rather, is it not less realistic to continue to think locally, to approach an inevitable end, divided against one another and paralyzed with inertia before the immensity of the task?

In recognizing the full scope of the job to be done Fuller has shown the beautiful audacity to take it on, without hesitation, totally. He has had the courage and energy to initiate it and has lent it substance with the scope of his vision and the practical contribution of his research.

Typical Fullerian concepts—such as "anticipatory design science", "more with lessing", synergy—contribute to the feasibility of World Game.

"More with lessing"—the accomplishment of ever more by means of metaphysical spending (intelligent use of principle) to achieve less material spending, is the very operating principle of the Game. "How much does this building weigh?" is a typically devastating question of Fuller's. Few structures make the grade in terms of economy, strength and lightness as demonstrated by his geodesic dome—an ultimate triumph of principle over matter.

Synergy, which is to energy what integration is to differentiation, is often the mysterious plus in a whole, beyond the sum of its parts, in terms of strength or energy. If man would act synergetically to better his world he might perform the miracle that is needed for its survival.

Although World Game has not yet been constructed physically, it already exists, in an important sense, as an attitude, a way of thinking. Today, throughout the country, there are World Game groups, mostly among young people, who find in it a promise of positive action to make over the world they have inherited, to fend off the doom that shadows their lives.

In the summer of 1969 Fuller gave a seminar on World Game at the New York Studio School.
where it was played for the first time by any group, though without the aid of computers. This was arranged in conjunction with Herbert Matter’s projected film on World Game. Fuller gave to it an extraordinary amount of his time considering the two-year-in-advance schedule he follows of work and travel. The seminar, under the excellent guidance of Edwin Schlossberg, included several students of art who were joined by a group of students majoring in sixteen different fields from universities throughout the country.

These young people brought their particular backgrounds of experience to bear on the reality of now and, as Fuller put it: “This was not merely an exercise nor a learning device but a process of discovery on the actual frontier to man’s future, a future with alternatives of unprecedented possibility or extinction.”

Confronting these alternatives students were inevitably led to think in terms of world strategy, that is, as world citizens. They each performed research, in some cases gathering information never documented before as, for example, the existence and location of every power line on the face of the earth. As power is the first step toward industrialization it is interesting that this information had not yet been assembled.

The transformation of these young people within two months was spectacular. Accustomed, in many cases, to expressing their dissatisfaction only through negative protest they now discovered a world of possibility to act on, a creditable basis for building.

The interrelating of students from different fields confirmed their confidence through the utilization of their particular skills, while extending their horizon through exchange with the others.

This learning, in collaboration, to grapple with present reality and possibly to affect it, created a dynamic I have rarely seen in any educational undertaking. It showed World Game to be one of the most radical innovations in education.

Of course the students had with them the very greatest of teachers. Fuller’s characteristic translation of abstract ideas into visual form through mathematical models, maps, charts made his concepts accessible and, in a special sense, to students of the visual arts. But it was particularly his presence, the first hand presentation of his ideas, that was important. This is not at all the same as their representation by others. I have seen World Game, in fact, the entire Fullerian world, disintegrate into pieces of tin, scrap iron and waste, quantities and statistics and costs when talked or written about by others. The magic is lost, the vision which makes of every part a manifestation of the whole.

When I think about Bucky Fuller I visualize him in the midst of this world he has created, inhabited by the geometric configurations which play so important a role in it; toward these—his very dear friends, especially his “old friend the tetrahedron”, (basic structural component of universe)—he shows the liveliest affection. And it is here, among these, that he lives. Though he flies from continent to continent—being almost as frequently off Spaceship Earth as on it—his life is not a restless one. It is quite still. The continuity of his thought is not disturbed by the shifting of his physical self. When he speaks he very often closes his eyes to gaze inwardly at this universe. His words project it to us and in relation to its immensity he appears quite small.

In fact this dauntless figure of Bucky in the midst of his enormous thought world, spending himself beyond the limits of mortal probability on his task, attempting to bring order to a chaotic world in critical condition—this figure cannot fail to move one in a human sense, even if the full import of his thought is not accepted nor enjoyed. For this modest, humorous but indomitable New Engander of seventy-six years is something of a miracle. A schedule of work and travel such as his would more than tax the physical capacities of the young and normally strong. The energy he spends and receives back from it is not to be rationally explained. But we know it to be an energy of love with the tool at its disposal of undoubtedly the greatest conceptual mind in the world today.
FORUM - JAN/FEB-1972

TIMETABLE:

Some recent weeks in the itinerary of a world citizen

April 21
Drive to New York City, New York
Stay: Beverly Hotel
Work on "Synergetic" Book with Ed Applewhite

April 23
Work on "Synergetics" Book with Ed Applewhite
7:00 p.m.

April 24
Arrive Boston, Massachusetts
Dinner with Charles Haar
Stay: Somerset Club

April 25
Lecture at MIT, Kresge Auditorium, for charity to Margaret Fuller House.
Host: Robert Brown, President, "The Alliance"
99 Austin Street, Cambridge, Mass.
Stay: Somerset Club

April 26
Drive with Shoji Sadao to Upjohn Laboratories, New Haven, Connecticut—Meet with Mr. Greene.
Drive to New York City with Shoji.
Stay: Beverly Hotel

April 27
Fly via Shuttle from New York to Washington, D. C.
Meet with Harold Cohen, Washington, D. C.
Stay: Mayflower Hotel

April 28
Fly from Washington, D.C. to Hartford, Connecticut
Afternoon
Press Conference
Speak at Combustion Engineering Conferences at the Hotel Statler, Hartford, Connecticut
Host: Richard A. McCormack, Vice President—Field Sales
Stay: Windsor, Connecticut

April 29
Fly from Hartford to St. Louis, Missouri
Meet with East St. Louis Connect regarding "Old Man River" project
Fly from St. Louis to Carbondale, Illinois

April 30
Speak at B.I.U., for Committee for Future, Carbondale
Host: Alan Ludwig

May 1
Meet with Mr. Chuck Albertson and three Carbondale High School Students in Carbondale Office

May 2
Carbondale

May 3
Fly from Carbondale (Dr. & Mrs. Fuller) OZ 541
Arrive St. Louis, Missouri
Meet (by Parker Wheatley)
Appear on KMOX-TV (Channel 4) Taped Interview—"Eye on St. Louis" (Color show—wear colored shirt)
Host: Parker Wheatley
Stay:

May 4
Fly from St. Louis OZ 502
Arrive Milwaukee, Wisconsin
8:00 p.m.
Speak at the Opening of the Annual AIA Convention in Milwaukee
Host: Maynard Meyer
Maynard W. Meyer & Associates
Stay: Red Carpet Inn, Milwaukee

May 5
Participate in the AIA Convention
Host: Maynard Meyer
Stay: Red Carpet Inn, Milwaukee

May 6
Leave Milwaukee N. Central #54
Arrive New York City (La Guardia)
Stay: Hilton Hotel

May 7
Meet with Governor Rockefeller in the Green Room

10:50 a.m.
General Session in the Grand Ballroom (third floor)
Luncheon Speaker at Annual Governor's Conference on the Aging of New York City at the Hilton Hotel.
Host: Governor Rockefeller
James O'Malley
Stay: Hilton Hotel

May 8
Fly from New York City (Kennedy) Am #121
10:13 p.m.
Arrive Los Angeles, California
Stay: Pacific Palisades, California

May 9
Interview with Rosa Gutierrez, Free Lances Writer (at Allegro's)
Stay: Pacific Palisades

May 10
Fly from Los Angeles (via BF/W private plane)
Arrive Bishop, California
Speak at the California Scholarship Federation's Host or Students' Banquet in Bishop.
Host: Mrs. Robert Denham, Chairperson
Scholarship Banquet
Fly from Bishop (via BF/W private plane)
Arrive Los Angeles, California
Stay: Pacific Palisades, California

May 11
Fly from Los Angeles United #8 (steak ordered)
12:10 p.m.
Arrive New York City (Kennedy)
Meet Mrs. Fuller
Stay: International Inn

May 12
Fly from New York City (Kennedy) BOAC 2
9:50 p.m.
Arrive London, England

May 13
London

May 14
London

May 15
London—Marty Andrews' wedding (Flane—Elizabeth Scott)

May 16
London

May 17
London

May 18
London

May 19
London

May 20
Attend the Annual Dinner of the Architects Industry Group in London
Host: Stuart Bentley
Stay: S. I. U., Carbondale.

May 21
Fly from London BOAC 505
1:50 p.m.
Arrive New York City (Kennedy)
Drive to Manhattan Retreat House with representative of the Catholic Convention.
Stay: Ridgefield, Connecticut

May 22, 23
Meet with Monsignor Bor delon and speak at the Catholic Convention at the Manhattan Retreat House, Parkside Trail, Ridgefield, Connecticut. Drive from Ridgefield to New York City

May 24
Fly from New York City (La Guardia) AM 119
2:10 p.m.
Arrive St. Louis
5:20 p.m.
Leave St. Louis Delta 256
5:55 p.m.
Arrive Carbondale, Illinois

May 25
(Tentative) Meet with Group of Teaching Assistants in the Department of Secondary Education at S.I.U.
Host: Arthur L. Allman

May 26
Carbondale

May 27
Marilyn Hyland will pick up EF at the Dome
10:00 a.m.
Press and T.V. Interview informal Luncheon—University River Room, University Center
1:00 p.m.
Deliver the University Convention, S.I.U., Arena, Carbondale
2:00 p.m.
Informal Coffee Hour

May 28
Visit Brush School, 6th Grade, Carbondale. (Mrs. Vernin Stover will pick up EF at the Dome)
6:00 p.m.
Summary Speaker at "Alter nate 1971" Conference at S.I.U. (Children's Hour) near Arena, outside.
Host: James Sullivan

May 29
Fly from Carbondale
Air H. 122
11:20 a.m.
Arrive St. Louis, Missouri
12:15 p.m.
Meet with Mrs. Ful ler, St. Louis Delta 256
1:07 p.m.
Arrive Chicago, Illinois
O'Hare
2:00 p.m.
Leave Chicago No. Central 657
2:45 p.m.
Arrive Green Bay, Wisconsin
Stay: Beaumont Motor Inn

May 30
Lunch with Chancellor Edward Weidner at his home. Commencement Address at University of Wisconsin; Green Bay
Host: Thomas J. Birthingman, Coordinator, Paul Davies, Lectures and Fine Arts Program
6:10 p.m.
Fly from Green Bay No. Central 294
7:00 p.m.
Arrive Chicago, Illinois (O'Hare)
Stay: Sheraton Blackstone

May 31
Work with Ed Applewhite on "Synergetics" Host.
Stay: Sheraton Blackstone

June 1
Leave Chicago (Midway)
United 719
3:50 p.m.
Arrive Denver, Colorado
Herman Well will meet flight
5:30 p.m.
Press Conference at Brown Palace Hotel
6:00 p.m.
Attend Reception and Dinner in the Exhibition Hall at the Convention Complex with Ryan McGrath, Director of the American Association of Museums, Denver, Colorado
Stay: Brown Palace Hotel

June 2
Host: Eyrne M. McGrath, Director James M. Brown, President (introduce EF)
Jane Eyser American Association of Museums
1:30 p.m.
Interview KGA-TV
5:50 p.m.
Fly from Denver TWA 444
9:45 p.m.
Arrive St. Louis Missouri
9:55 p.m.
Leave St. Louis OZ 843
10:43 p.m.
Arrive Marion, Illinois

June 3
Work with Herman Wolf, Carbondale
3:00 p.m.
Meet with Herb Roan of S.I.U. Design Dept.

June 4
Interview with Anne Zim merman who is commissioned by S.I.U. to write "The Morris Years at S.I.U."
Carbondale

June 5

June 6
Interview with Jane F完成所有任务
June 5
Drive from Carbondale, Illinois to St. Louis, Missouri.
Day:

June 6
1:06 p.m. Leave St. Louis AM 308
Arrive Chicago, Illinois (O'Hare)
1:40 p.m. Leave Chicago AM 392
Arrive Carbondale, Illinois (O'Hare)
(Mr. & Mrs. Dwyer will be on same flight and will
drive BF to Royal York Hotel)
Also attend Reception and Buffet in Ontario Science Center
marking Canada's Centennial in 1967.

June 7
Deliver Opening Address (30 minutes at the 100th Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Manufacturers Association in Toronto)
Theme: "The Future is Now"
12:30 p.m. Luncheon Feature Speaker at "The Future is Now" Meeting (30-45 minutes)
Host: A. W. Sinclair, President
The Canadian Manufacturers' Association
Between 4:00 & 5:15 p.m.
Dinner with Prime Minister of Ontario, Mr. William Davis, and Ed Murphie.
Stay: Royal York Hotel

June 8
5:06 a.m.
Breakfast meeting with Ed Murphie and Marguerite McPherson at Royal York.
Kerry and Ed McPherson will also be present
12:00 noon Lunch with Henry Krush and Ed Fitzgerald at Royal York.
2:30 p.m. Visit Warner - Lambert Canada Ltd. to see the wall relief structure of the Thompson Air Ocean Protection in Room B.
Host: Mr. A. Z. Piraguy
Mr. Edouard, President
6:00 p.m. Reception in the Ballroom, join the Head Table Guests and the Prime Minister in Room A for Informal Reception before Dinner.
7:00 p.m. Head Table Guest at Annual Dinner, when Prime Minister Trudeau speaks, in the Canadian Room (black tie)
Stay: Royal York Hotel

June 9
11:56 a.m.
Leave Toronto Mohawk 146
Arrive Boston, Massachusetts
2:15 p.m.
Leave Boston NB 8
3:05 p.m. Drive to Mount Desert, Maine
8:00 p.m. Drive the Graduation Address at M. Desert Island High School.
Stay:

June 10
Visit Hinckley's Yacht Harbor, in Southwest Harbor, Maine.
Fly from Ellsworth, Maine to Ottawa, Ontario
(Tentative)
Speak to top officers in the Dept. of External Affairs in Ottawa

June 11


June 12
5:40 p.m. Leave Boston AM 168
Arrive St. Louis, Missouri
Drive to Edwardsville, Illinois
Stay: Holiday Inn

June 13
Room 104 of the Group 1 Building for robins.
2:00 p.m. Attend Southeastern Massachusetts University Inter Commencement Exercises
BF to receive Degree of Doctor of Fine Arts (honorary cause)
Host: Joseph Lee Driscoll, President
The Commonwealth of Massachusetts
Northampton State University
Attend President Driscoll's Reception in honor of degree recipients at 128 Chase Road

June 14
Fly with Herman Wolfe to New York City
Meet with Mr. John Martin, Chairman, Driscoll's Creatures of the Canadian Room
Stay: Fairfield, Connecticut

June 15
12:00 noon Leave New York (La Guardia) TWA 171
1:20 p.m. Arrive St. Louis, Missouri
2:25 p.m. Leave St. Louis TWA 56
7:05 p.m. Arrive New York City (La Guardia)
8:00 p.m. Attend Dinner at Ambassador Rooftop Apartments, 45 East 89th Street, New York
Stay: Beverly Hilton

June 16
Interview with Mrs. Anne Zimmerman
11:30 a.m. Interview with Mrs. Micheline Klaas, of the Southern Illinoisan, for article about future of Southern Illinois at the Dome.
2:45 p.m. Fly Charter Plane to St. Louis, Missouri
4:00 p.m. Fly from St. Louis TWA 56
7:05 p.m. Arrive New York City (La Guardia)
8:00 p.m. Attend Dinner at Ambassador Rooftop Apartments, 45 East 89th Street, New York
Stay: Beverly Hilton

June 17
Fly from New York to Fairfield, Conn.
Work with Ed Applewhite on "Synergetic" book
Stay: Fairfield, Connecticut

June 18
Fly from Fairfield to New York City
11:00 a.m. Breakfast meeting with Dr. Martin Meyerson and others.
At Beverly Hotel
Meet with Gerald Dickier, Ed Applewhite, and Mr. Whitehead of Doubleday.
Drive from New York to Fairfield, Conn.

June 19
Work with Ed Applewhite on "Synergetics" book in Fairfield
Stay: Fairfield, Conn.

June 20
Fly from Fairfield to New York City
12:45 p.m. Leave New York City (Kennedy) TWA 211 BF
2:29 p.m. Arrive Denver, Colorado
(Mrs. Fuller will join BF)
4:00 p.m. Leave Denver Rocky Mountain 100
4:45 p.m. Arrive Aspen, Colorado
Welcome party at Hotel Jerome.
Stay: The Aspen Meadows

June 21
Keynote Speaker at the International Design Conference in Aspen in the main tent
Title: "R.E.F.-1971"
Theme: "Paradox"
Host: Richard E. Farson, Dean
School of Design Colorado State University of the Arts
Stay: The Aspen Meadows

June 22
Aspen, Colorado
Stay: The Aspen Meadows

June 23
Leave Aspen
Aspen Airway 620
Arrive Denver, Colorado
11:25 a.m.
Leave Denver TWA 105
1:45 p.m.
Drive to Edwardsville, Illinois
Stay: Holiday Inn
AMU NOGUCHI: reminiscence of four decades

To me it was as yesterday; whenever and wherever I meet Bucky there is a continuation of friendship and mutual interest that started 42 years ago. The conversation and brightness of mind of course were always his, but what strikes me is the deepening of his thought, the never waning memory that seems ever more able to bring data to the proof.

What is even more impressive is the ever-youthful adventurousness of his thought. Brushing aside doubts and side issues that becloud and bemuse most others, he goes straight to the core of any problem, however absurd it might first appear. There is a shock to almost all his proposals, and it is only after reflection that one concedes that yes, ultimately, or possibly in the not too distant future, it may indeed be so.

I first met Mr. Fuller, as I used to call him, at Romany Marie's Tavern in the Village early in 1929. Some time later I got an old laundry room on top of a building on Madison Avenue and 29th Street with windows all around it. By then under Bucky's sway I painted the whole place silver, top, bottom, and sides, to the effect that one was almost blinded by the lack of shadows. There I made his portrait head in chromeplated bronze, also form without shadow.

I had been in Paris for two years prior to this with a Guggenheim Fellowship during which time I had come under the great influence of Constantin Brancusi, and was privileged to work part of the first year with him. But I should say that after returning to New York I was in a sense in revolt against his too-idealizing influence. Bucky was for me the truth of structure which circumvented questions of art. He taught me, but left me free to seek my own way.

My third great influence at that time was Martha Graham and her wonderfully emerging concepts of the dance. I made two heads of her. Indeed I made innumerable heads in those days. Bucky had a Dodge station wagon and we took to traveling together with my heads in back along with the model of his suspended Dymaxion House—to the Harvard Society of Contemporary Art directed then by Lincoln Kirstein and Edward Warburg, to the Arts Club in Chicago, etc.

Bucky was in a continuous state of dialectic creativity, giving talks in any kind of situation, before any kind of audience. In fact it did not seem to make too much difference how big the audience. He would talk to me as intently as to a throng, walking and talking everywhere—over the Brooklyn Bridge, over innumerable cups of coffee. Bucky drank everything with equal gusto and would often be in a state of wide awake euphoria for three days straight. Drink did not seem to effect him otherwise.

During the depth of the Depression we often shared quarters together. It might be more correct to say I was his guest, though he did not pay either for that matter. Various hotels like the Carlyle, for lack of customers, would simply give us a bare suite to occupy as we wished. We would move in with our air mattresses and a drawing board and that was it. The less the better was his credo. His Shelter magazine was produced under such circumstances.

Due also to the Depression, Bucky, together with Starling Burgess (the designer of the America Cup defender "Enterprise") was able to acquire a factory near Bridgeport, Connecticut, where they proceeded to build themselves a 36-foot boat and where Bucky resolved to revolutionize the automobile with his Dymaxion Car. I did the plaster models for this under his instruction. As is well-known, it had front-wheel traction with a third wheel behind for steering. Eminently rational as is a boat, it simply did not conform to land-based habits of mind.

Bucky's zest for life is part and parcel of his creativity. However, he has the capacity and resolution to come to grips in unknown hours and retreats of the mind to fathom new secrets from the universe. The first came with his jump-off into the Dymaxion World in 1927. During the War years he conceived and patented an omnidirectional geometry based on the hidden tetrahedron within a cube—a unity of two, from which came his geodesic domes.

His thinking which started out with much the American dream of material progress would seem inevitably to come to question the means by which this has come about. Bucky himself is without acquisitiveness excepting possibly with boats. Believing in man's essential rationality, Bucky remains the supreme optimist—there is a way out. This must be his great appeal to the young. He is a true believer, a prophet for our times. The ultimate machine is no machine—a little black box he calls it—no machine but the knowledge and control of the forces of nature that bind us all in mutual dependence.
I think it was the English historian A. L. Rowse who said that history's great tragedies had one thing in common—people who were involved in those tragedies never really knew what was happening to them.

Bucky Fuller's gift and, I think, his contribution is that he knows what's happening to us. He has a remarkable capacity to look over his shoulder at the whole of the human procession. To see where it has been. Where it's going. Where it gets its energy. What songs it marches to. What causes some people to drop out. And also what factors will enable the procession to reach its goals.

So Bucky is not a formal historian; but he thinks like an historian. He's not quite political scientist, but he knows the art of politics. He's not quite a seer, but he has many of the attributes of a seer. I think the same thing would hold true for any sphere of thought or activity that has to do with that procession.

He is liked by today's youth not because they can diagram exactly what he's saying but because they respond to his spirit.

I've watched him in many parts of the world. In the United States, speaking to businessmen, or to the kids, or the housewives, or the military planners, or to the scientists. I've watched him in the Soviet Union. And to me the fascinating thing is that it's not necessary to know what Bucky's talking about to understand what he's saying. It's not necessary to know precisely what he says to be moved by his message. You may not be able to pass the message along, but you can certainly pass along the effect of the message.

For example, several years ago at the Dartmouth Conference in Leningrad, we had a social evening with both the American and Russian delegations. Someone thought it might be nice to have a sort of intellectual gladiatorial contest. The Americans and Russians were to pit their champions against each other. And the nature of the contest was that each side would put up a man who could talk about the next century, what it would be like, what its challenges would be. The ground rules were 15 minutes for each presentation.

The Russian Academician E. K. Fyodorov spoke first. He told us what the population of the world would be, as the Russians saw it. He talked about the world's food supply, its resources, energy needs, and space exploration. He spoke 14 minutes and 50 seconds.

Bucky then entered the arena and spoke two hours. Characteristic, of course. The Russians, far from resenting the fact that he'd exceeded 15 minutes, didn't want him to stop. Fyodorov was entranced, even though his English was not equal to this. At the end, he leaned over to me and said, "I give up. Fuller wins."

This is amusing. But not really amusing. Because Bucky communicates not just through his words, but through his being. His confidence in the future comes through, even if his reasons for that confidence are not explicitly demonstrated. The fact that he is representative of the best that is in contemporary man comes through, even if the message is sometimes blurred. His command of historical experience and scientific knowledge comes through, even if the particulars can't be itemized. In all these respects, he epitomizes youth, genuineness, sincerity, knowledge, feeling, passion and, more than anything else, love.

Bucky makes love to his audience, and they love him back. The words he uses are much less important than the transmission of feeling. And any time a person can have a loving experience today, he knows what life is about.
INDIRA GANDHI:
A vision of unity amidst specialization

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi has been a close friend of Buckminster Fuller for many years.

With Buckminster Fuller, architecture has gained new meaning. Like others of his profession he deals with living and working spaces, but he is a path-finder in his obsession with the architecture of the universe. His innovations in the use of materials and shapes follow from his endeavour to understand what science and man can do to each other.

Every conversation with Buckminster Fuller is an exhilarating experience. He so clearly sees unity amidst specialisation that he can dismiss the pervasive feeling that technology is a tool-room of destruction; he reassures us that man can triumph over shortcomings for his mind and spirit are man's greatest resources.

I deem it a privilege to be associated with the plans of the Architectural Forum to honour Buckminster Fuller.

Calcutta, September 1, 1971.
"Buckminster Fuller—friend of the universe, bringer of happiness, liberator."

Ezra Pound, Spoleto, June 29, 1971

WILLIAM MARLIN:
The evolution and impact of a teacher

One evening last summer, Buckminster Fuller walked into a Chicago restaurant with some cardboards under his arm.

He asked the waiter for a good-size dinner plate and sat down with two associates who had flown in to work a few days on Synergetics, Fuller’s long awaited treatise on geometry.

Reaching into his coat, he pulled out a rather dull-edged pocketknife and a handful of hair pins. The perplexed waiter finally managed to produce the plate Fuller wanted. About nine inches in diameter. And he used it to trace circles on the cardboards. After cutting these out with great care, he folded the circles in half, the halves in thirds. He pushed, pulled and squeezed the folded forms and began putting them together with the hair pins.

Following this solemn, almost childlike ritual, Fuller happily held up an intriguing polyhedron of 14 faces. Six squares. Eight triangles. He passed it around. There was something strange about this structure he had made. It didn’t appear to be a “thing” at all. It had no outer surface. It wasn’t solid. The squares and triangles were modules of space bound by the configuration of folded cardboards. It was as if invisible forces coming from its center were being restrained by forces moving toward it. It was dynamic. And it was balanced. Not unlike the awfully fit 76-year-old scientist who had constructed it. With the patience of St. Francis preaching to the birds, Fuller explained that nature never works in ways you can’t model. And he had modeled the coordinate system of all nature. The vector equilibrium. It was rational. And about as abstract as the cardboard, pocketknife and hair pins he had used.

Fuller is the empirical pioneer of our century. He has never accepted anything secondhand. All his discoveries, his many prophecies over the years, his practical, patented inventions are based on his sustained study of human trends and an earnest effort to set in order the facts of human experience. The Universe—an aggregate of all experience in all time—is his minimum consideration. Sharing the generalized principles operating in the Universe is his minimum objective.

He says, “You aren’t going to follow me unless you realize I talk comprehensive. “I’m very used to something in science which says that if you get all your special cases listed, and you have them there all together, some patterns begin to show up. Then you do something else with them. Then something else. You’re liable to find, all of a sudden, something very fundamental running through it all. Something we call a generalized principle, holding true in every case. Now this is where I really begin. You’re going to go as large as the Universe and really get at the absolute fundamentals of what it is you are permitted to do by its laws. If you find out some of those things, you might really know something.”

Fuller does. And his life’s passion has been to “pass a line,” as the sailors say, so men can more readily tie into those fundamentals. That is why he has traveled two million miles, teaching, lecturing, consulting, always learning. That is why he has embraced and influenced so many areas of human activity. That is why he is described as a mathematician, philosopher, scientist, architect, engineer, cartographer, poet. He has discerned in universal process an integrity, economy, and ethic which know no boundaries, biases or prejudice, no specialized fields, no academic departments. They are all one. And because Fuller has succeeded in projecting much of the world into a new relationship with the Universe, students as well as heads of state now look to him for the larger perspective—the cosmic perspective—in which to see their problems and seek solutions. In the same way that he has discerned a structure, a basic grid, guiding all the interactions in the sub-atomic world, so has he disclosed an ethic to guide the world’s peoples in seeking shared solutions to the common problems facing them. More than any man alive, he represents both the mystery and the sublime certainty of universal order and teaches that ultimately what man does on Earth will be governed by the same ethic of the sub-atomic world and the cosmos. In this concerted effort to harness principle and apply it in human affairs, Fuller sees man’s mind having perhaps the highest function yet observed. He sees its drive to sort, select, integrate and give order. He sees life and consciousness closing in on the inanimate world and senses there is a complex but constant process structuring both mind and matter. In the Fuller Universe, the physical and the metaphysical converge in a common coordinate system. That system is the major revelation of Synergetics. It is not a system which dehumanizes man, but one which liberates him. It is not a system which divides, but one which unites. It is a system of values to benefit a world which has too long behaved and built as if no values are possible.

When Fuller put together the vector equilibrium model that evening in Chicago, letting others touch it, showing them how it was made, he was demonstrating that Nature’s clues are not abstract. They are modelable, comprehensible, and usable. He was demonstrating with utter simplicity something which is only now dawning on world society. That is, man is not only part of evolution. For the first time, he can structure, control, even improve upon its processes. For the first time—and, possibly, the last time—man can attain comprehensive success.

Fuller has a compelling innocence about such current crises as pollution, population growth and the so-called “urban problem.” But it is well-informed innocence.

As a student of trends, Fuller has observed that with respect to both natural and human resources pollution is only a resource out of place, doing damage precisely because its potential usefulness has not been harnessed. “We must redesign the use of the world’s total re-
sources in such a manner as to make those now engaged exclusively in the service of only 44 percent of humanity adequate to the effective service of 100 percent of humanity at higher standards of living despite a continually decreasing inventory," Fuller asserts. "For instance, all our metals are constantly being melted up and recirculated. Out of all the copper mined in all history, only 14 percent is not at present in an averagely recirculating 22-year cycle of use; and the 14 percent which is not in present recycling use is now in munitions ships at the bottom of the ocean. Sixty-five percent of all our steel is now made out of scrap. That is roughly the ratio of recirculating metal to new mine production in all of the metals categories. It is perfectly practical to think about taking the metals out of obsolete automobiles, taking all the two-ton automobiles off the road, melting them up and making twice as many higher performance one-ton automobiles from the same metal. You may say that you don't want more automobiles—that the parking problems are too great. In speaking of automobiles, I am speaking of a familiar industrial tool. I am not advocating more autos. I am simply considering the feasibility of the principles involved through which we can take care of twice as many people in a given function with a given obsolete scrap resource."

With a similar, refreshing insight, Fuller dismisses all the doomsaying about population, "I find that as industrialization increases, the population decreases. With industrialization, life expectancy increases. When that happens, families don't have to be large. In the last five years, the absolute number of babies has been less each year. The big bulge everyone's worried about occurred because all the people that used to die have not been dying, particularly at birth. This bulge is working up to a time when there will be a great, great many people who are very old. But the number coming in at the bottom is lessening very rapidly."

The big message here is that Malthus was wrong. If man's resources are properly managed, if his technology is applied in the direction of conscience, there can be enough for everybody. "Bare maximums," as Fuller puts it, of energy, food, shelter, medical care, education. In a world where scarcity has been sanctioned and abundance abused, a new day is dawning. There is no longer any excuse for scarcity. No longer any excuse for the fear, want and ignorance which have persisted in man's competition for what there was not enough of. The new day, in Fuller's vision of the global village, is one of cooperative enterprise by which mankind will break down the barriers dividing them in order to build the Earth.

Central to this is Fuller's long-evolved concept of design science, a fundamental alternative to political initiative. No referendum was held to permit Edison to invent the light bulb or the Wright brothers to fly. Einstein didn't have to campaign for the right to work out his relativity
theory. Nobody elected Henry Ford to mass-produce automobiles. And, of course, no one asked Fuller to remake the world.

In 1927, this is quite literally what he set out to do. He made a bargain with himself that he would look for the generalized principles operating in the Universe and turn those over to his fellow man.

In fulsome Fullerese he wrote, "Acutely aware of our being's limitations and acknowledging the infinite mystery of the a priori universe into which we are born but nevertheless searching for a conscious means of hopefully competent participation by humanity in its own evolutionary trending while employing only the unique advantages inhering exclusively to the individual who takes and maintains the economic initiative in the face of formidable physical capital and credit advantages of the massive corporations and political states and politically avoiding political ties and tactics while endeavoring by experiments and explorations to excite individuals' awareness and realization of humanity's higher potentials I seek through comprehensive anticipatory design science and its reductions to physical practices to reform the environment instead of trying to reform men being intent thereby to accomplish prototyped capabilities of doing more with less whereby in turn the wealth augmenting prospects of such design science regenerations will induce their spontaneous and economically successful industrial proliferation by world around services' managements all of which chain re-action provoking events will both permit and induce all humanity to realize full lasting economic and physical success plus enjoyment of all earth without one individual interfering with or being advantaged at the expense of another."

This 200-word, unpunctuated sentence really says it all. Comprehensive anticipatory design science. Reforming the environment instead of men. Doing more with less.

The validity of design science comes through when we realize that 44 percent of mankind is now benefiting from technological advance compared to less than 1 percent in 1900. This incredible increment in advantage stems from the accelerating effects of technology coming out of the last half of the 19th century, converging during World War I when, in Fuller's words, industry moved "from the track to the wireless, from the wire to the wireless, from visible structuring to invisible structuring in alloys."

He points out, "The integration of the new 20th century science and technology during World War I resulted in entirely unprecedented magnitudes of technical advantage gains accomplished in all the fundamental capabilities of the world's industrial networks. As a consequence of this major mobilization of industry, brought about through realizations of the long-suppressed scientific backlog, the industrial advantage subsequently accruing in the domestic economy, as by-products of the munitions industry, had so increased that by 1919 6 percent of humanity were enjoying the prevalently 'high' standard and ever-advancing physical advantages of the industrial network. By 1940, the percentage of the ever-increasing world population that had now come to enjoy high standard industrial advantage increased to 20 percent. As a consequence of the again extraordinary advances of technology during World War II, and in the post-World War II cold wars, we have now increased the numbers of those humans who are participating in the industrial network to 44 percent of the world's total population. The continually accelerating rates of increase in the number being served with ever-higher standards of industrialization has occurred despite the ever-more rapid increase in world population, concurrent with a continual decrease in the world metals per capita. The surprise rise in the number of people enjoying higher standards may only be accounted for by the fact that the increased ability of man and the increase in the number being served is an indirect consequence of our constantly doing more with less per given unit of resources, per given function.

"Doing constantly more with less came from the world of seaborne or airborne weapons. To persist as a 'winner' in the game of world armaments a constantly accelerating evolution must be regeneratively initiated in specific improvements in performances per pounds of physical resources and per hours of scientific and technical expertise invested in a given task in order to be supreme in carrying the greatest hitting power the greatest distance in the shortest time, with ever-increasing accuracy of aim and at ever-higher degrees of energy efficiency."

Fuller's sustained, impassioned plea for systems of "livingry" instead of weaponry are rooted in his rich Navy experience. In recent years, anything military or mechanistic has become practically immoral. But Fuller has never hesitated to look for the benign, beneficial fallout in Pentagon and NASA programs. As long as the resources, skill and insight of science and technology are preoccupied with preparing for war, that is where Fuller will seek it. He often reminds people that battleships had refrigerators 30 years before they were generally available. And the same can be said for almost any other basic improvement which we now take for granted.

Like most of Fuller's insights, the strategy of reforming the environment instead of reforming men had its origin on board ship. As a boy, he spent summers at the family home, Bear Island, in Penobscot Bay off Maine. There, working the cold currents every summer since, he has built up a fluid, nautical view of man. Sailors learn to negotiate distances in the path of least resistance. They build their ships to
accommodate change and maintain course despite any contingency. The ship does not change course by its bow, but by its rudder after most of the ship has gone by. The sailor can work his rudder in such a way to create a low pressure opposite the direction in which he swings it. The low pulls the stern over, and he's got the ship moving in the preferred direction. The bow may help keep the ship on course. But the rudder puts it there.

In a similar way, aircraft pilots mediate the motion of their planes by tiny trim tabs trailing out from the “stern” edges. Most of the plane has gone by. But what has remained constant is the pilot’s critical points of maneuver. These trim tabs are his option.

By working the rudder or trim tab, the sailor or pilot, with skill and timing, can obtain a forward edge on the fate of those on board.

In 1927, when Fuller was 32, he came into critical proximity with his fate.

Like four generations of male Fullers before him, he had gone to Harvard from his birthplace and boyhood home in Milton, Massachusetts. To the chagrin of his tradition-conscious family, he was expelled for general irresponsibility because kidding around seemed to make more sense than the curriculum.

He was exiled to a cotton mill in Quebec and did so well there, helping assemble new machinery, ever keeping notes, that his family decided he should re-enter Harvard. Again he was expelled. And although he held the Charles Eliot Norton Chair of Poetry there many years later, Fuller never took a degree. (He now has 26 honorary ones.)

In 1916, Fuller joined the Navy by offering his mother’s boat, the Wego, for sub-patrol duty off Maine. He became a boatswain, and was later recommended for special course work at Annapolis.

In 1917, Fuller married Anne Hewlett, daughter of a prominent New York architect, at Rock Hall, her family’s Long Island estate. It was the beginning of a beautiful relationship which has survived all the hard punches and empty pockets of leaner years when he was ignored.

When he came out of the Navy in 1919, Fuller went to work for Armour & Co. in New York. For a year, he worked in sales for a leading trucking firm. Their daughter Alexandra, born in 1918, was afflicted with polio and spinal meningitis and suffered tremendously until her death in 1922. During these years, Fuller was making about $50 a week, and most of that went to pay two nurses.

Alexandra’s death sent Fuller into something of an emotional tailspin. His father-in-law had developed a fibrous building block, and Fuller went to work setting up the Stockade Company to manufacture the new product. Between 1922 and 1927, when he was forced out by new ownership, Fuller built 240 buildings, set up five factories, and even invented the machinery that went into them. He also found himself playing the greatest poem ever known
Is one all poets have outgrown
The poetry, innate, untold,
Of being only four years old.
Still young enough to be a part
Of nature’s great impulsive heart.
Born comrade of bird, beast and tree
And unconscious as the bee,
And yet with lovely reason skilled
Each day new paradise to build.
Elate explorer of each sense,
Without dismay, without pretense,
In your unstained, transparent eyes
Life’s queer conundrums you accept
Your strange divinity still kept.
Being that now enthralls you,
All harmonious, unit, integral,
Will shed into perplexing bits—
Oh contradiction of the wits—
And life that puts all things in rhyme
May make you poet too, in time,
But there were days, oh tender elf,
When you were poetry itself.
—Christopher Morley, 1922
poker, going to all the right parties, and pandered to and parroting everyone's view but his own. Between bad luck and the bottle, not to mention his continued anguish over the lost child, Fuller seemed to be getting nowhere. He found himself in Chicago, where he had moved to supervise a factory in Joliet, and he became the father of a new daughter, Allegra.

As he recalls, "This precipitated my absolute determination to peel off. I had really been through a great deal. But I had gone into Harvard with high honors in physics. I had very rich boyhood experience with boats. In my Navy, I had looked into electronics, the chemistries and navigation. I had papers to command unlimited tonnage on the ocean. I could fly. But I had kept pushing things, trying them out. And it always seemed to come to a dead end. I decided I'd better call myself to account, with this new child to care for. Or get myself out of the way, because I was a mess."

Standing on Daniel Burnham's Chicago lakeshore, Fuller decided he had no right to do away with himself. Instead, he contemplated his own "no little plans" and entered his "trim tab lab." Fuller moved his family into a tenement on Belmont Street and, quite literally, stopped talking until he felt he knew what he could say for himself.

The neighborhood was not exactly Rock Hall or the Beaux Arts balls of New York. Capone gangsters lived nearby, and they cheerfully helped Anne with the garbage and grocery sacks while Fuller worked things out in silence, occasionally walking Allegra over to Lincoln Park. It's really presumptuous to try to figure out exactly what happened in Fuller's mind during this moratorium. But there is no doubt that with his resolve, considering subsequent evidence, he must have experienced an almost Augustinian reversal in outlook. He has said that he went back to thinking about all the things he had thought about and learned before he'd decided to "earn a living." He went back to being a child, with eyes open to see, to understand why.

"This is really where I started. I was not called an architect; I was not called anything. I was simply faced with the problem of organizing myself and really starting to use me. I had to educate myself in a great many ways to pursue such a course. But I found it's actually possible for an individual to make first moves, and that these will incite various others."

"So I said to myself, 'If this gets anywhere, it's going to take 50 years and unless you're willing to spend 50 years, don't touch it. Because it's too big and right. Don't flub this one, or you'll discourage a lot of others coming along.'"

"I said to myself, 'What can I do to help my fellow man without trespassing on him?'"

"Let's say you're looking at me. But I can see behind you. And a rock is tumbling downhill and it's going to hit you in the head. Let's say I divert it. You'd have been killed if I hadn't. You didn't even know you were going to be killed. You might say, 'Why did you do that? I wanted to die.' Well, I would say, 'Then jump out that window over there. There are many ways for you to die if that's what you really want.' But I want you to have the option of saying whether or not you want to die."

Out of Fuller's isolation came his first book, a privately published work called "4D"—after the 4th dimension in Einstein's theory. He also developed the first schematics for the Dymaxion House. By April of 1928, its design was complete and Fuller filed for a patent.

Rather extraordinary, this house. Fabricated industrially, deliverable anywhere in 24 hours, installed and serviced as a telephone would be, generating its own light, heat and power without outside utilities. A house eliminating drudgery, safe against all forms of weather, liberating time for education, amusement. A house as easily within reach of an average worker as the Model A, which had just come out.

A series of exhibits followed: the first, a private show at Chicago's Le Petit Gourmet restaurant; in April 1929, a two-week show at Marshall Field's; in May, a show at Harvard, where he exhibited at the Society for Contemporary Art.

There weren't many architects willing to listen to Fuller. One who did was Pierre Blouke, who had finished his studies in architecture at MIT after World War I and became very active in the Chicago Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The Chapter was asked to appoint a special committee to review home exhibitions, including one on the "House of the Future." Blouke wrote something about this show in a local paper and two days later, Fuller appeared at his office, "This chunky little fat boy, looked like a Buddha, walked in and asked if I'd seen what he'd been working on. I hadn't. He opened up his case and showed me the Dymaxion House. That's how our friendship started."

"He didn't have any money, and I had a car. So for two years we traveled around quite a bit with his house. In June of 1929, we drove down to St. Louis for the AIA Convention. I managed to get the house model on the convention floor, but only 30 or so of the architects stayed on to listen. One Harvard dean, must have been about 80, denounced Bucky's work in every possible way."

Fuller, in going to St. Louis, had intended to offer the house patent to the Institute. In reply, its Board passed a resolution, "Be it established that the American Institute of Architects establish itself on record as inherently opposed to any peas-in-a-pod-like reproducible designs." This is, of course, the same Institute which gave Fuller its Gold Medal in 1970, probably wishing it had accepted his patent.

In November 1929, Fuller moved his family back east, and he found himself spending most of his time in New York's Greenwich Village, while Anne and Allegra stayed out on Long
Island. He had met Isamu Noguchi, then a little-known genius who, having first studied medicine, was getting into sculpture. He'd been two years in Paris under Brancusi and had returned to New York and a studio at Carnegie Hall. Fuller became a fixture there, as he did most other places Noguchi moved to.

Day-long coffee breaks and interminable walks were the routine. The favorite watering hole was Romany Marie's Tavern, where the two first met. Romany Marie was a Rumanian gypsy who took to Fuller right away. She would give him free food just for being around. In return, he gave his first "public" lectures, talking to anyone who would listen. After nearly two years of silence, Fuller definitely had some ideas about the great things to be done in the world.

Noguchi has called those early Village days the time of Romany Marie and prophecy. Certainly, Fuller went on to be one of the more incorrigible gypsies of our day. And, as many people in many parts of the world know, he has never stopped talking.

In 1930, Fuller and Noguchi set out on a road tour. Fuller had a Dodge station wagon and his model of the Dymaxion House. Noguchi had done some superb heads, including one of Fuller and two of dancer Martha Graham. First, there was a show at the Yale architecture school; another show at Harvard; then they left for Chicago and an Arts Club exhibit.

Inez Cunningham, describing this show in the Chicago Evening Post, wrote perceptively of Fuller's house and the motivation behind it, "Mr. Fuller had a dream of freeing women and children from the housing problem, but on account of his particular quality of intellect, the dream had to filter through the mind and so became a philosophy. There was the heart and the mind—in other words, love and thought, but they had to be related to sense—to the outside world. Mr. Fuller, instead of looking to past experience, felt he had come to that state in our progress where mind must use matter, instead of matter using mind. This problem was not a problem for Boston or Detroit. It was cosmic. It was not a problem for 1930. It was for humanity in time."

Apparently quite a few people sensed the long-range significance of Fuller's concept. Forget the "architecture," or the look of it.

Writing in Fortune, Archibald MacLeish was especially prescient, "The construction problem is not a problem of more house for the money but of more housing for the money. The problem of design, in the modern low-cost house, is not an esthetic problem but an industrial problem. It is now past argument that the low-cost house of the future will be manufactured in whole, or in its parts, in central factories, and assembled at the site. It will be produced in something the same way as the automobile. And design will occupy the same relative position it occupies in the automobile industry. Design will dictate the form of the thousands of units..."
The Dymaxion Car, 1933, was conceived as a prototype of a combined land and air transport, first envisioned by Fuller in 1927.

Instead of the form of one. And the designer will necessarily consider not only the appearance and convenience and efficiency of the completed product but the feasibility of its production in mechanized plants and its distribution by modern transportation." That was 40 years ago.

During the depth of the Depression, Fuller and Noguchi often found themselves at New York hotels, like the Carlyle and Winthrop, which put them up for nothing. Fuller had sold a Navy life insurance policy to start up his Shelter magazine, which had been written and published all over New York, copy scattered about with air mattresses and sandwiches. The last issue came out as Roosevelt was elected, featuring a "conning tower" conference room for industrial executives which had instant call-up of data for high-level decision-making.

Though the magazine folded, the Depression gave Fuller a chance to buy a factory at Bridgeport, Connecticut in partnership with Starling Burgess, designer of The America Cup defender "Enterprise." Like Fuller's close friends Amelia Earhart (who flew the Atlantic in 1928) and Sir Charles Kingford-Smith (who flew the Pacific the same year), Burgess was also an aviator. He and Fuller went to work building a 36-foot boat and the first Dymaxion car. As you might expect from Fuller, being a good sailor and pilot, the technology and engineering of the car had far more to do with Lockheed than with River Rouge. It even looked like an airplane. Three wheels, including a rear one for steering. Front traction. It could turn in its own length and reach 120 miles per hour. Its one concession to Detroit was the stock V-8 Ford engine.

The first car was purchased by aviator Captain Alford Williams who had it driven, at Fuller's request, to the 1933 Chicago World's Fair where it was quite a hit until it was involved in a collision with a conventional auto. Not even the pictures of Amelia Earhart and Eleanor Roosevelt riding around in it rivaled the scare headlines in the Chicago press. Undaunted, Fuller spent an inheritance from his mother's estate to manufacture two more cars. One sold to a racing driver; the other to conductor Leopold Stokowski. Unfortunately, early European interest in the car was dampened by news of the collision, and Fuller went broke. He had, however, acquired quite a reputation in engineering circles, and he began work for Phelps Dodge Research, looking into the history of industrial and economic trends.

Building on some research he had done in 1931 in connection with the Pierce Foundation of the American Radiator Company, Fuller tooled up for production of a five-foot-square Dymaxion bathroom, formed of four die-stamped sections bolted together for assembly and then requiring only installation at the site. Phelps-Dodge turned out 12 of the prototypes before yielding to pressure from manufacturers of more conventional plumbing. Two of these were installed in the Long Island home of Fuller's close friend Christopher Morley, who was then writing
Kitty Foyle; two more in a Neutra-designed house in Rhode Island for John Nicholas Brown, former Secretary of the Navy.

To many people, including several in his own family, Fuller had always been something of an amusement. And the so-called “failure” of the Dymaxion House, car and bathroom did little to change this attitude. Coming from and marrying into a family where life was one constant amusement. And the so-called “failure” of the Dymaxion House, car and bathroom did little to change this attitude. Coming from and marrying into a family where life was one constant occurrence.

Replying to an inquiry from the Saturday Evening Post, Marquand wrote, “On the rare times I have met him, there has been the same glitter in his eye which must have appeared in the eye of John the Baptist before he lost his head. He once told me that in his dream house, which stands on a pillar like a toadstool, it will be unnecessary to worry about trivial duties. If your shirt is dirty, you simply open a slot in the side of the wall, throw it in, and out it comes three minutes later washed and dried. I asked him if it would come out ironed. He said no, but that it was silly to have an ironed shirt. To my way of thinking, this single anecdote is illustrative of my cousin’s entire mental process. He has a great many bright ideas, any one of which if patented and marketed should make him a fortune, but the trouble is the shirts never come out pressed.”

The point is that Fuller never intended they should. What is a pressed shirt, anyway, but preoccupation with profit, which is one thing Fuller vowed he would never become involved in. For fundamental to his strategy of design, the science initiative is that it must operate independently of politics and the big corporations. He had faith that integrity and competence in design would eventually invite support.

In 1940, Christopher Morley invited himself to support Fuller and volunteered the proceeds from Kitty Foyle to any project Fuller might want to initiate.

Since 1938, when he left Phelps-Dodge, Fuller had been technical editor at Fortune and, in a special issue on American industrialization, his command of social and economic trends came through loud and clear: “The historical fact referred to under the word industrialization is a great change—a revolution—in the life of the individual. The process has not been merely mechanical, but organic and evolutionary. It has created a new kind of life, augmented and helterskeimagine.”

Fuller knew better than anyone else, of course, that the one industry which had seemingly escaped evolution was housing. With Morley’s backing, he designed the Dymaxion Deployment Unit, a corrugated steel grain bin of a house, in cooperation with Butler Manufacturing Company in Kansas City.

These were conceived as emergency shelters for remote wartime use and cost $1,500 complete and ready for occupancy. The peak output of grain bins at Butler was 1,000 a day, and it was planned to maintain a similar production schedule for the Deployment Units.

When the War broke out, these were already being shipped to many parts of the world by the Army Signal Corps which found them especially useful in Persia and Alaska—two of the more important jumping off points for Allied airmen. Production continued until 1942, when Roosevelt diverted all steel to weapons production.

Attention, however, could no longer be diverted from Buckminster Fuller. For it was becoming apparent that he was, more than a brilliant technician, a brilliant tactician as well. Not only had he designed a valuable end-product. He had designed it with the logistic of distribution in mind.

In 1942, Fuller became chief mechanical engineer of the Board of Economic Warfare. Throughout 1943, he gave two weekly three-hour lectures on geopolitics to indoctrination classes. During these years, he was also hard at work refining the principles of Synergetics and in March 1943 Life published the first of his Dymaxion maps—the Airocean World. It was the first of Fuller’s inventions to receive serious attention from other scientists and was the first cartographic projection ever accorded a U.S. patent.

The map was particularly important in that it was the first practical application of Synergetics. It represents a topological transformation between a sphere and the planes of a 20-face icosahedron. The map eliminates all visible distortion of the relative shapes and sizes of the geographical features. All the familiar maps, like the Mercator, have considerable distortion and breaks in the continental contours. In contrast, Fuller’s map shows one world-island in one world-ocean.

He notes, “When you transfer the projected data from the surface of a sphere to a plane, you have to break open the spherical skin in order to ‘peel’ it. There will be various angular cuts in the periphery of the skin when it is layed out flat, just as you take the skin off an animal. The openings along the edge are called sinuses. The sinuses on my map occur in the water. None of the cuts go into the land. Therefore, I am able to take all of the data off the earth globe and make it accurately available in the flat.” The Fuller map is a powerful conceptual tool for seeing the world whole but, to date, it isn’t hanging in any public schoolroom except, perhaps, as a curiosity item. As with so many other Fuller inventions, the map is being discovered by today’s university students who are strongly committed to the elimination of distortion, whether it is of the Mercator kind or that of political maneuvering.

In 1944—not unlike the present—Washington found itself assessing the problems of converting to a peacetime economy. Management and
A 1967 edition of the Dymaxion Map, first published in 1943. This version, the Sky-Ocean World, is an unpeeled icosahedron. The edge of each triangle equals 63° 26', 3,806 nautical miles, 6.5 jet hours, 14 conventional aircraft hours, or seven ship days.

The Wichita House, 1944, was a 6,000 pound, $6,400 dwelling machine designed for production on Beech Aircraft assembly lines. Eventual production volume was set at 500,000 houses per year, a figure which might interest both HUD and our unemployed aerospace engineers of today's "generation of peace."
labor were also concerned. The International Association of Machinists was worried that most of its members involved in plane production would lose their jobs. With the War ending, a serious housing shortage was foreseen.

This emergency forced cooperation between government, management and the unions, leading to support for Fuller’s Wichita House—a circular, $6,400 dwelling machine of aluminum alloy, stainless steel, and plastic with air conditioning, indirect lighting and such Thomas Jefferson-style gadgets as mechanical bureaus consisting of nine trays on a chain conveyor.

The Beech Aircraft Company, having a good record in labor relations, was chosen to manufacture the house in their Wichita plant. One of the more interesting and, certainly, relevant aspects was that the Wichita House was designed for mass production on airplane assembly lines. Fabricating its 200 parts was as efficient as turning out the 25,000 parts of a typical aircraft. The cost for shipping a crated house from Wichita to the farthest point in the nation was to have been only $100. So-called variations in “style” would have been, as Fortune described it, “as natural as those between a Piper Cub and a B-29.”

Unfortunately, the Wichita House fell to the same negative forces which had torpedoed Fuller’s earlier houses. He had learned from brutal experience with the Stockade Company and, later, from the architects’ general reaction to his first Dymaxion concepts, that the building industry was preoccupied with doing everything on a more-with-more basis, not with achieving a more nautical more-with-less efficiency. Yet, for society in general, having never experienced a totally new alternative in housing, heavier walls, like higher grocery stacks, like bigger cars, were symbols of status and security. Therefore, technology had never really made any fundamental improvement in housing since the development of the simple two-by-four and mass-produced nail. The Wichita House was a high benchmark in housing technology.

In 1947, working with the unfolding premises of Synergetics, Fuller made the breakthrough to his most famous discovery, the geodesic dome. Veritably, a countenance of principle.

He had been working quietly with Synergetics for years. Alone as a comprehensive thinker. Alone as a rationalist. Here was this intuition, this sense of nature’s own larger purpose and design. The big question was how to share this insight in a way that would benefit mankind.

The first industrial acceptance of the dome occurred in 1952 when the Ford Motor Company commissioned Fuller to design a 93-foot cover for its Dearborn, Michigan Rotunda.

This marked the first time anyone had ever come to Fuller with a job. It was a great Christmas present for a man who, in 1927, had suggested using the Graf Zeppelin to plant prefab towers like trees around the world.

Fuller remembers, “I found I could make a ten-deck building so light that it could be carried by zeppelin, suspended under its belly.”

The game plan was for the zeppelin to drop a bomb at the building site, lower the structure into the crater, then fly back home leaving the installation ready for occupancy.

Fuller had suggested that the first such “tree” be planted on the North Pole, trying to illustrate the increased mobility and worldwide migration of technologically emancipated peoples. It is not surprising that Fuller has since proposed immense tetrahedral cities to navigate oceans or spherical colonies floating high in the atmosphere. In Fuller’s view, such environmental controls—lightweight, mobile, efficient—are essential for the evolving race of world men. The thing is, of course, that most of us are quite accustomed to thinking in these terms, even though we may watch a satellite broadcast or fly regularly. This is why Fuller, for a long time, was considered a kind of H. G. Wells of housing. You either read him for amusement or just didn’t pay attention.

The acceptance of Fuller’s concepts was partially troubled in that they far preceded the technology needed for realization. He realized in 1927 that there is a more or less predictable rate at which alloys and plastics are developed and then worked into industrial practice. By 1952, however, the technological advantage of high-strength alloys existed—fallout from war-based research. The geodesic dome became technically feasible as well as conceptually valid.

The 1952 “payoff” was really no surprise to Fuller. “I made up my mind,” he recalls, “that if you really develop the tools and abilities and don’t waste any time or effort trying to persuade people to look at what you’re doing, and you find out whether your designs will work or not, that when and if they do work, someone will say, ‘What is that?’ And you will tell them. And the news of your invention will get around and in due course if what you have developed is needed in an emergency, the world will come to you for it.”

Ford Motor had the emergency. And Fuller was ready.

In 1953, the Marine Corps sent its representatives to North Carolina State College in Raleigh, where Fuller had been teaching off and on since the late Forties. The Marines, with an emergency of their own, needed lightweight, advance-base helicopter hangars, and the geodesic dome seemed just right.

James Fitzgibbon, now professor of architecture at Washington University in St. Louis, was one of the cadre of strong faculty support for Fuller at Raleigh and soon found himself vice president of a company Fuller set up to administer dome activity. Fuller himself was DC-6ing around the country, teaching and lecturing at many colleges and universities and would keep in touch with dome work in some now-infamous two-, three- and even four-hour phone calls. One Marine general had to issue an order to his officers not to phone Fuller, but to fly wherever
he might be. It seems the Marines had a very strict budget on almost everything but fuel. In 1954, all the conferences culminated in the first helicopter airlift of a geodesic hangar at Orphan's Hill near Raleigh. Fuller's prophecy of an air-deliverable architecture 27 years before came crashing in at 50 knots.

Meanwhile, the Cambridge, Massachusetts office, set up by Fuller under William Wainwright, had been working on geodesic enclosures for Air Force radar installations on the DEW line. After two years of severe testing at Lincoln Laboratories at MIT and atop Mt. Washington in New Hampshire, the first fiberglass and plastic radomes were installed in 1955. These were pieced together in the Arctic cold by Eskimos using numbered components. The average construction time per dome, just 14 hours. Ironically, when the Museum of Modern Art in New York exhibited one of the radomes later on, it took laborers one month to do the same job.

In 1956, the Commerce Department advised Fitzgibbon that it wanted a 100-foot dome for an international trade fair in Kabul. The company had 32 days to design, fabricate, deliver and install the structure. The parts, like so many CARE packages, were flown to Kabul in one DC-4 and erected in 48 hours by local, unskilled laborers who were absolutely mesmerized by what they had wrought. This same dome was later demounted and flown to New Delhi, Bangkok, Burma, Tokyo, the Philippines, to South America and Africa. The Marine Corps was not far off when it pronounced Fuller's invention as "the first basic improvement in mobile environment control in 2,600 years."

It is interesting to note that during these years comparatively few young people, out of all the university audiences Fuller spoke to, got involved in the work-a-day mechanics of dome construction. There were several stunning student projects done at Chicago's Institute of Design, where Fuller first taught on a full-time basis in 1947. And others at Black Mountain College in North Carolina, Minnesota, Cornell, and Princeton. Yet, the "young world" in which Fuller so steadfastly placed his faith just didn't seem all that interested in striking out on their own. For one thing, the dome was a patented invention. Fuller was adamant that the integrity of the concept be upheld, and he used to worry out loud that someone would use the dome to make Orange Crush stands. For another thing, of those young men who did work closely with Fuller on geodesic projects at the various schools, many developed an almost Oedipal relationship with him. To this day, there are those spreading the Fuller "word"—quite often without his knowledge—whose utterances have degenerated to philosophical parody to such an extent that you have to wonder whether being "with it" means forgetting anything you might ever have said for yourself. The biggest difference between Fuller and those who follow him is that too few have subjected themselves to the same self-examination and loneliness. Too few have made the big "peel off." And I mean this in terms of thought, not superficial changes in life-style.

Last Christmas, sitting in his little apartment outside Los Angeles, where he regularly spends the holidays, Fuller spoke very emphatically to a young man, "I realize you have this very big love and you want to do some very fine things with it. But I'm afraid you won't be able to do anything beneficial until you really start to think and get inside what's causing this love. You are going to have to think very clearly about basics and about what moves you can make to bring about changes in the things you see wrong. It doesn't do any good to get angry. And it doesn't do any good for you to sit here with me unless you can find in all this something of your own to say."

Fuller has been saying the same thing ever since he began his career as an itinerant teacher, leaving little bits of insight here and there, knowing well it might take decades for them to develop in the minds of others.

His old friend, the photographer and author Sam Rosenberg, believes that Fuller pursued students because they offered a path of least resistance. "Bucky's trouble has come from the fact that he has a special vocabulary and a special vision. When he went to the industrialists of this country and to people who make things, they rejected him and his great design concepts for one simple reason: he was premature. The technology of the country had not yet arrived at the point where it could utilize Bucky's vision. So Bucky had to stand still and dance from side to side in that peculiar shuffle of his for 25 years. But then, of course, he has always been a strategist, and he realized that while he was waiting he would have to bypass the industrial establishment. With his characteristic brilliance, he went to the universities. He found students who were not yet committed to an industrial process that Bucky knew was obsolete, and they were in a position to listen. "The effect of Bucky on students is electrifying. He is sort of a Pied Piper of the intellect. He brings to the world of scientific ideas an order and cosmological view which previously has only been found in the supernatural religions. The reason that many students responded to it is that Bucky gave them a religion and an order they did not get from the barren, materialistic science they were studying."

Professor Fitzgibbon notes, "I had always been deeply impressed with the depth and profundity of Fuller's own religious commitment, and there is a liturgy and rubric to his message—this geometry. People could hear him and go home to prepare toothpick and dried pea models of his structures—these beautiful little abstractions. And then hang them up."

In other words, part of his power is that his message, whatever one might interpret it to be, can be touched, held, contemplated. Not as an abstraction, but in a tactile sense.
You cannot understand Fuller’s significance today without recognizing this aspect of his appeal. The youth of the late Forties were not so unlike the youth of today in that they too sensed this spiritual undercurrent.

Like many great scientists, Fuller arrived at his results, not only by calculation and demonstration, but by intuition and inspiration as well. It is this quality in his work, more than any one thing he has said, more than any one thing he has built, which commends the affection, even the homage, of a generation not normally given to praising, let alone following, men in their seventies.

To follow Fuller is both an inspiring and exacting process. On one hand, you are projected into an entirely new relationship with the universe; on the other, you are projected into an entirely new relationship with yourself. This can be as unnerving as it is enlightening. Although Fuller touches many people deeply and has a habit of making people be at their best, he also tends to open up reservoirs of self-doubt which can only be overcome by serious, sustained self-examination and personal renewal. He has been called a “creator of creators” just because of this effect he has on people. If he has only one legacy to leave, this kind of thought process is perhaps the most durable. You cannot follow in the footsteps of a man like this. You can, with great dedication, only seek what he has sought. He is not an anchor, but a mast.

Niels Bohr, the great Danish physicist, once observed, “When it comes to atoms, language can be used only as in poetry. The poet too is not so concerned with describing facts as with creating images and mental connections.”

This is what Fuller has been doing with his domes, and his vector equilibrium models. He has been trying to create the very same images and mental connections Bohr talks about. The dome is empirical evidence of a universal structure; indeed, an ethic. Today, more and more young people are building domes. But for them it has become, more than something to live in, a kind of icon for a new philosophical age.

For the nearly half century that Fuller has been evolving the principles of Synergetics—his “omnirational comprehensive coordinate system of Universe”—we have been living in a quiet scientific revolution.

Man’s view of the Universe and his place in it has altered in a fundamental way. Interest has shifted from the study of parts to a study of organizational patterns by which parts assume order. Organization has become a third force, interweaving matter and energy, expressing itself in various levels of order. Steadily science has disclosed, from the illusive “quark” particles of the sub-atomic world to the mysterious quasars of the far cosmos, some as yet undefined coordinate system.

Synergetics reveals some powerful clues to the character of this coordinate system. If any of you say this is not the place to discuss mathematics and science, think of Synergetics as poetry or art. For one of Fuller’s more interesting contentions is his belief that Nature makes no distinction between what men call science and what they think of as art. His coordinate system offers a common language for them. And, if we look over many of the major art exhibitions of recent years, we will find—true to Fuller’s early thinking—engineers, biologists and physicists moving into new realms of subjective expression. We find greater numbers of artists, architects and poets becoming interested in the discoveries of modern science. This convergence is one of the happiest, if generally unrecognized, developments of recent years.

In this context of seeing the world whole, Synergetics becomes particularly compelling, for it is a studying of interrelationships and hidden strengths. The most fundamental concept in the Fuller Universe is synergy. A phenomenon first observed by chemists. Synergy means the behavior of whole systems unpredictable by any of their parts or sub-systems.

Synergy is an explanation of the mass attraction between bodies. It is an explanation of the increased strength of alloys. Fuller’s most-often-used example of this is chrome-nickel steel, “Its unprecedented structural stability at super high temperatures has made possible the jet engine—one of the reasons why the earth has swiftly shrunked. The primary constituents are chromium, nickel and iron. The subsidiary or minor constituents are carbon, manganese, etc. Iron at its highest commercially available tensile strength is 60,000 pounds per square inch; the chromium, 70,000 psi; the nickel, 80,000 psi. The sum of the strength of the carbon and manganese, etc., about 40,000 psi. I am going to say hypothetically that ‘a chain is as strong as the sum strength of all its links.’ That seems preposterous. To test it, I add 60,000 to 70,000, making 130,000 plus 80,000, making 210,000, and I add 40,000 more giving a total of 250,000 psi. But chrome-nickel steel has a strength of 350,000, very much higher, 40 percent higher. That is synergy.”

With synergy, there is energy. Like tension and compression, they coexist. Synergy refers to the integrative behavior of parts—the trend toward order. Energy refers to the differentiated behavior of parts—the trend toward disorder.

In the second law of thermodynamics, there is a quality called entropy, which is a measure of disorder. In this scale, the highest form of energy is considered to have the least disorder—the least entropy. Gravity is the highest form of energy because it has zero entropy. Fuller’s word for the trend toward order is syntropy.

In recent years, Fuller has applied the concept of synergy and that of syntropy to solving one of the most crucial problems facing mankind: the production and distribution of electrical energy. He has proposed a worldwide energy grid, spanning continents, hopping oceans, the whole thing tied into the power of tides.
Because tidal power is gravitational power, it would be the highest order of energy. And it would be virtually pollution-free.

The world’s total water power capacity has been estimated at three trillion watts. Only 8 percent of this potential has been harnessed. Africa, South America, Southeast Asia have the greatest potential but are also the most underdeveloped industrially. Because it is now technically feasible to transmit power over vast distances, it would be in the economic interest of all nations for the advanced states to cooperatively invest their skills and resources in harnessing this untapped reservoir of energy.

Fuller points out that tidal power offers the most exciting potentials. Such power is obtained by the filling and emptying of a bay or estuary which is dammed. The enclosed basin is allowed to fill and empty only during those brief but powerful low and high tide periods. Fuller and his associates have pinpointed many possible sites which would form the strategic energy-producing points in this lattice. By harnessing the tides, mankind could harness a perpetual source of sustenance, for energy is the basis of all wealth, and the basis of industrialization.

*Scientific American* has estimated the total tidal power at 64 billion watts—which is a mere 2 percent of the world’s total water power. Fuller has written, “This now feasible intercontinental network would integrate America, Asia and Europe and integrate the night and day, spherically cycling, shadow-and-light zones of Planet Earth and would occasion the 24-hour use of the now only 50 percent of the time used world around standby generator capacity whose 50 percent unused capacities heretofore were mandatorily required only for peakload servicing of local interconnected energy users. Such intercontinental network integration would overnight double the already-installed and in-use electric power generating capacity of our Planet.”

This is a good example of what Fuller calls “planetary planning.” But it is also a beautiful example of how the principles of synergy and syntropy can be put to work for man. The technology which would make such an energy grid possible would be positively benign. It would be practically invisible, generating abundant increments of increased economic success for all men and, inadvertently, generating the kind of international cooperation so basic to peace.

In this example, we can see how Fuller has made the connection between what he perceives to be the structural ethic of the Universe and the structure of mankind’s strategies for survival. This example also explains why Fuller’s significance comes through in an even more powerful way when we understand the evolution and unique discoveries of Synergetics, the structure of those universal energy processes which will ultimately determine what mankind can do.

The physicist Eddington observed, “From the point of view of the philosophy of science, the conception of entropy must be ranked as the great contribution of the 19th Century. It marked a reaction from the view that everything to which science pay attention is discovered by microscopic dissection. It provided an alternative standpoint in which the center of interest is shifted from the entities reached by analysis to the qualities possessed by the system as a whole. We often think that when we have completed our study of one, we know all about two, because one and one is two. We forget that we still have to make a study of ‘and’. That is to say, of organization.”

Eddington’s comment helps relate Fuller’s strategies to the context of scientific progress. In his thinking, synergy is the study of “and” in that “and” may behave in ways “one” and “one” did not. Just as entropy comes out of the 19th century as a powerful concept, so does synergy, in Fuller’s teachings become important for a world which must see its problems and plan its solutions in a wide perspective.

Mankind is imperiled as never before, not by inadequate resources but by inadequate attitudes. Common world problems have generated the need for a world language which will transcend the biases and fears of yesterday. A language, not of words, but of approach. In the exploration of space, in the stewardship of the oceans, in the distribution of food, in the exchange of information, nations must converge in a common effort. There can be no other way in a world where technology has stretched the spectrum of human experience, where technology has taken the telephone poles and village back fences into the sky and launched mankind into a new era of mobility and freedom.

The increased awareness of these social synergies is one of the most exciting and reassuring aspects of life in our times. Despite political inertia, despite still-prevalent ignorance, want and fear, there is a healthy option for man in the coordinated management of his resources.

Fuller’s Navy experience gave him the first insights into universal structure. “One day in 1917, I was standing on the deck of my ship looking back at the wake. It was all white with all the bubbles. I began wondering how many bubbles were back there. A bubble is a sphere, and my mathematics teacher had taught us that to make a sphere you have to use pi. Then she taught us that pi is an irrational number. I began wondering how nature makes a sphere. I said to myself, ‘To how many places does nature carry pi out before she gets frustrated and decides to fudge a bubble?’ I concluded that nature would never work in such a way and that she has a different system for coordinating her various undertakings. I didn’t see any circumstance in which nature was working without models. In all chemistry, there are only beautiful whole numbers. Nothing irrational. So I said, ‘Nature is working in a very simple way, but man’s been messing things up by not working in a very simple way.’”

In 1905, when Fuller was ten, Einstein had written his epochal equation E equals Mc^2, mak-
ing the speed of light man's universal benchmark. The long-venerated Newtonian cosmos was shattered. "At rest" was no longer the reality of natural process. What this implied was that everything, which is to say every process—physics has found no "things"—is an eternal state of becoming. Kepler's cosmic harmonies were not the repose of inertia but the repose of action. This high-power view of matter and energy supplanted the static geometry of Copernicus, Kepler and Newton with a dynamic concept. Points and particles no longer existed—only processes. Lines were replaced by vectors, which are descriptive of energy events.

What Fuller calls the "ghostly Greek geometry" could not describe the realities of an energetic, Einsteinian Universe. Vectors could.

Fuller began looking for the patterns in which these energy events interact. He knew that such interactions occur because of the phenomenon of mass attraction. Due to the phenomenon of precession, however, these interactions occur at other than 180 degrees. As energy events move into closer physical proximity, the angular effect becomes stronger. Fuller thought of the triangle as three energy events moving into critical proximity. Because of precession, they would be deflected towards or away from each other in other than 180-degree directions. No straight lines and no parallels. Such angular deflections suggested a triangular patterning in nature. A lattice composed of vectors.

In looking for nature's basic geometry, Fuller remembered that scientific experiment had proven that no two lines can go through the same point at once. Neither, he supposed, could two vectors. These would tend to overlap.

In the triangular patterning of energy interactions, the angularly deflected vectors would tend to describe, not a triangular plane, but a very flat spiral—an open but unstable triangle.

To create stability, which means creating structure, Fuller found he could stabilize a vector interaction by combining two of these open triangles and make, synergistically, a stable vector-edge tetrahedron with four triangular faces.

Therefore, one and one is four. And the meaning of Eddington's study of "and" becomes more pertinent.

"Mathematically, there are some very important concepts about the tetrahedron," Fuller notes. "It is made up of four triangles. The angles of each are interstabilized. Each of the separate angles, originally amorphous, becomes stable. The triangle is the fundamental structure, but it takes two functions—the positive and the negative—to make a structure. The tetrahedron is the simplest known structure.

Further, Fuller saw that when you take equal diameter spheres, six of these pack most compactly around one on a flat surface. He also saw that twelve spheres pack most compactly around one in space.

In 1944, Fuller wrote, "It will be found that the number of spheres in any complete layer around any nuclear group of layers always term-

"The third layer's number of 92 is comprised of the number three multiplied by itself with the digit two as suffix. This third layer is the outmost of the symmetrically unique nuclear system patterns and may be identified with the 92 unique atomic patterns, and with the 92nd element, uranium.

"Because of its three inner layers of 12 plus 42 plus 92, which equals 146, the number of neutrons in uranium, plus the twoness value characterizing the outer layer of 92, we get 146 plus 92 equals uranium 238. The geometrical form thus 'most compactly' developed is not that of a composite sphere, but is always a polyhedron of 14 faces, comprised of six squares and eight triangles and twelve points, extending in tangential radius from the original 12 spheres surrounding the nucleus."

This polyhedron is the vector equilibrium, so-called because the radial vectors are restrained and balanced by the circumferential vectors. "The concentric push-pull interchange between outwardly pushing wave propagation and inwardly pulling gravitational coherence."

Fuller identified the number of layers around a central sphere with waves of energy—"waveform vectors"—some of these radiational (entropic), some gravitational (syntropic).

He wrote, "The volumetric measurement of any one wave is determined by the square of the radius multiplied by the nuclear ten plus two. Neatly packaged, this reads 10^7 plus 2. It seems to relate to Einstein's E equals Mc^2, where c is the speed of radiation multiplied by itself. And to the gravity formula of Newton which expresses the second power of radial proximity between entities in mass attraction."

Bear in mind that these insights came crashing in usually in the dead of night during the very late Thirties and early Forties. All the while Fuller was involved in Kansas City, in Washington and in Wichita, the pursuit of Synergetic principles—on the backs of envelopes, menus, hotel paper—was one constant in all his toings and froings. He learned to travel very light, perhaps to approach more easily the speed of it. It is highly doubtful that a stationary Bucky Fuller—content with making some respectable mark in his native Massachusetts—could ever have come up with so all-motion a system.

Fuller further revealed that by removing the center sphere from the vector equilibrium's compact cluster, the other spheres closed in to form an icosahedron—12 vertexes, 20 faces, 30 edges. Removing the center sphere from the icosahedron, the others closed in to form an octahedron—6 vertexes, 8 faces, 12 edges. Removing another, the remaining spheres closed in to form Fuller's "good friend tetrahedron"—4 faces, 6 edges, 4 vertexes. He saw there could be nothing more compact or more stable. It became the

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minimum structure of the Fuller Universe.

What this says is that all energy transformations appear to be different phases of the same configuration of forces, not unlike the recycled themes in a Mozart symphony. These transformations—from the tetrahedron, to the octahedron, to the icosahedron—were, for Fuller, “the least-effort structural systems in nature.” Increasingly, he saw that nature’s coordinate systems was sublimely rational, always economical, and never arbitrary.

Using the tetrahedron as his minimum module, Fuller took its volume as one; the octahedron’s as four; and the icosahedron’s as 20. He equated this minimum unit volume with the four identical triangular surfaces. Four became his common denominator. This way, the ratio of faces to volume for the tetrahedron was one; for the octahedron, two; for the icosahedron, five.

Fuller wrote, “Of the three fundamental structures, the tetrahedron contains the least volume with the most surface and is therefore the strongest structure per unit of volume. Whereas the icosahedron gives the most volume with the least surface and, though least strong, is stable and gives the most efficient volume per units of invested structure.”

The observation was really the genesis of the geodesic dome. Fuller concluded, with a somewhat unsettling certainty “to develop the triangular icosahedron as the fundamental volume controlling device of man.”

This 60-degree coordinate system shatters the cube as the basic building block of nature. Synergetics assigns a unit volume of one to the tetrahedron. And a unit volume of three to the cube. In an interesting maneuver, Fuller divided the unit volume of the vector equilibrium, which is 20, by the cube’s unit volume of 3, yielding 6.665 . . . . Planck’s Constant. He has concluded that this irrational number must have been the needed fudge factor to correct the fallacy that the cube is minimum structure. If Fuller is correct, the right angle is through. So are many courses and concepts in architectural history, chemistry and physics.

You may not happen to believe a word of this. The important thing, however, is that Fuller has evolved a thoroughly rational way to understand and, yes, model universal process. As science and society have moved from studying parts to studying wholes, both have needed a tool to conceptualize reality in all its dimensions. Mere calculation, like mere analysis, is not ultimately beneficial unless it can lead to synthesis. Synergetics supplies a tool to conceptualize such a synthesis.

Two years ago, in his celebrated Nehru Memorial Lecture in New Delhi, Fuller explained, “When a century ago electro-magnetics introduced completely invisible energy behaviors, scientists were unable to explain their discoveries conceptually. When experiments disclosed energy behaviors of $n^4$ and $n^5$, the scientists concluded that the XYZ geometrical coordinate system’s inability to provide a conceptual model
of more than $n^4$ suggested that nature's fourth and fifth dimensions needed no models because they said nature is coordinating only mathematically abstract formulations. Synergetics discloses that nature is coordinating with the tetrahedron as volumetric unity, which uses only one-third the volume of space employed by the cube. It becomes possible to make fourth and fifth dimensional models. Thus, conceptually returns to reunite the sciences and humanities."

The social implications of Fuller's discoveries take on tremendous importance, for the gap between science and society has been one of the most grievous aspects of 20th century life. Science is held responsible for wars, pollution—even our crisis of the spirit. Cities are said to be dying because billions are spent on killing people instead of improving their environment. Technicians are condemned for moral neutrality as they piece together the engines of war and pollution, rarely measuring the social impact of the projects they are part of.

Reading all the articles announcing Armageddon, you would think we are approaching Samuel Butler's Erewhon, that "idyllic" society which, hating machines, put them all in museums and went back to farming. But technology is not the outlaw. Mankind must assess and act on the trends which lead to crisis—preventing, not just managing, the results of what Fuller calls our "cosmic nearsightedness." He insists that Universe is the ultimate technology, that man must discern and employ its principles, that our acquisitive society, confusing expediency with progress, is the real outlaw.

Certainly, technology has been much abused. And much maligned. But it has also been the basis of man's increased economic success. A century ago, over one quarter of all farm land was given over to raising feed for plow horses. Technology replaced the plow horse and, since then, more and more people are eating. The so-called Green Revolution did not sprout from somebody's thumb. It too is a product of technology. As a result, even such underdeveloped countries as India are becoming self-sufficient in the staple grains.

Such "bumper crops" are dividends of doing more with less. When copper is scrapped, it is recycled at a higher level of efficiency. The first telephone wires carried one message; later on, thousands. Now microwave relays are information from point to point in seconds. Computers and satellites are becoming more compact even as work loads increase. Technology is trending toward the miniature, and Fuller is quite convinced that as it reaches its true fulfillment, it will completely disappear. Automation would free us to think, trout fish, or travel. Spare time would be productively used. Abundance would assure altruism. The meek wouldn't have to worry about inheriting the earth. Everyone would be eating. Or maybe rereading "Myth of the Machine."

One example of doing more with less is the harnessing of tides, the basis of Fuller's proposed energy grid. Another is atomic fusion which will, when researched and perfected, harness deuterium from the one and a half billion cubic kilometers of ocean water around the world. If only one percent of that were used, atomic fusion would release 500,000 times the energy of the Earth's initial supply of fossil fuels. Fusion research promises to be formidably expensive but, here again, its long-range preferability calls for international cooperation. No one nation or ideology has a premium on the world's fast-depleting supply of fossil fuels. The universe doesn't recognize our biases or boundaries, our fiscal years or five-year plans. There is only one accounting system—nature's.

Fuller reminds us that saying technology is bad is like saying the hydrogen atom is bad. "Like the hydrogen atom, man is born to be a success," he commonly says.

There is plenty of evidence that Fuller may indeed have correctly perceived the nature of universal structure.

Chemists were the first to see tetrahedron structuring in molecules. Van't Hoff first discovered it in carbon—a basic constituent of life. This occurred in 1885. In the 1930s, Linus Pauling found that metals are also tetrahedronally structured. During the Fifties, physicists disclosed a staggering array of sub-atomic particles. Fuller's early efforts to achieve maximum strength with minimum material were acknowledged as somehow relating to the sub-atomic interrelationships being disclosed. In 1963, virologists announced that the mathematical principles mediating the structure of the viral protein shells were also explained by Synergetics; in particular, Fuller's formula $10^f_2$ plus 2. Moreover, when nuclear physicists began investigating viral structure with X-rays, patterns very much like Fuller's geodesic domes emerged.

One of the world's leading geometers, H.S.M. Coxeter of the University of Toronto, has confirmed Fuller's insights. He has written a paper called "Virus Macromolecules and Geodesic Domes," which is part of a book entitled the "Spectrum of Mathematics" to be published by the University of Auckland, New Zealand.

In this Coxeter writes, "In 1955, Fuller built a dome as bachelor officers quarters for the U.S. Air Force in Korea. This seems to be the shape of the Reovirus. His 31-foot geodesic sphere at the top of Mt. Washington in New Hampshire is like the herpes virus and the varicella (chicken pox). His U.S. pavilion in Kabul is like Adenovirus. His radome on the arctic DEW line is like infectious canine hepatitis virus."

So far, there are no records of domes being contagious. However, Coxeter has also studied the formula $10^f_2$ plus 2 and comments, "If this remains valid for greater values of $f$, I regard..."
it as a remarkable discovery. The whole infinite lattice of points is of such complexity, one would not expect its ramifications to satisfy such an elegantly simple rule.” Late in 1970, Professor Coxeter acknowledged it is true, and his proof will appear in a paper called “Polyhedral Numbers” in the Festschrift Edition of Boston University’s Philosophy of Science series. Whether or not Fuller is right is quite beside the point. There are many unique discoveries of Synergetics which will long bear the burden of proof.

What should be remembered is that science learned long ago that whenever an unexpected simplification appears, it may well define a point from which to glimpse the wider connections, thus opening up, as Fuller has put it, “new ranges of cosmic comprehension.”

Cosmic comprehension does not imply certainty of the truth. In 1927—the year of Fuller’s “peel off”—Werner Heisenberg, the German physicist, stated that man alters truth in the very process of measuring it. This Indeterminacy Principle, while recognizing an ultimate truth in the Universe, also recognized that man, despite improved technology and instrumentation, could only narrow the gap between the known and the unknown.

Newton’s cosmos once was held to be absolute. Now, Newton is only a special case of Einstein. And Einstein, a special case of quantum theory. What is next? It doesn’t really matter. What matters is that, increasingly, an ordered structure in the Universe is being revealed. In the process of measuring the Universe, science—perhaps due to that increment of uncertainty Heisenberg spoke of—has discerned not a cosmos of chaos but a cosmos which prefers order.

Research in the Fifties and up to the present time has substantiated this view. Particle physics demonstrated that nature is not symmetrical. The concept of parity had held that any physical reaction, yielding certain results, could be reversed to yield the original configuration of particles. In 1956, it was discovered that this did not hold. Physical reactions, when reversed, yielded entirely different particles. The mirror image of a symmetrical Universe was shattered. It was seen that nature did have a preferred direction. Not a direction toward annihilation and chaos, but one toward evolution and order. As George Steiner, science writer for New Yorker, put it recently, the grid of the world has a preferred direction. And so has man’s sense of himself.

In this schematic, there is no disorder or order. No symmetry or asymmetry. No black or white. No past or present. No all or nothing. Like the tetrahedron, octahedron and icosahedron, these “opposites” are manifestations of the same force. What has seemed chaotic to man—whoever he looks into the electron microscope or into city slums—may be the external evidence of a more subtle ordering at work. There is no longer another side of the tracks.

What physicists have described as Time’s Arrow can be thought of as Fuller’s Vector—that velocity times mass description of events. In the rhythmic cycling of the Universe, there is no past, no now, no future. For Fuller, they are all one.

“It is one of those strange facts of experience,” he ponders, “that when we try to think into the future, our thoughts jump backwards. It may well be that nature has some fundamental law by which opening up what we call ‘future’ also automatically opens up the past in equal degree. Time is not linear, but probably consists of omni-directional wave propagations. Because every action has both a reaction and a resultant, every ‘now’ must have a ‘past’ and a dawning ‘future.’”

Mankind does not think into the past. We spiral into it on ever higher levels of order. T. S. Eliot, even before Heisenberg, had noted that man alters the past in the process of studying it. Which is also what Fuller seems to be saying. As man views the past, he must—because of evolution—think of the past in a way that the past never thought of itself. As Fuller has said, “The very consequence of awareness is to impose the phenomenon time upon an eternal Universe.”

I believe that Fuller’s long-range significance, beyond his many prophecies and practical inventions, rests with this grand synthesis he has communicated.

Fifty years ago, he foresaw that the gold standard would ultimately be abandoned in deference to energy and intellect as the real constituents of wealth. In the Thirties, he foresaw the advent of new energy sources from within the atom and delineated its potential for world society.

He foresaw in 1927 the revolution in communications and transportation which would transcend geography and release man into a new sense of place—the whole Earth catalog of options for social advancement.

In all this, he foresaw the common world consciousness which, despite national and political bias, has emerged as a natural fallout from the many crises all men face.

Fuller’s vision, his lasting faith in the human community, does more than inspire. It informs. And it is, itself, a vital resource which must be carefully studied and applied in seeking innovative, integral solutions to the problems of both scarcity and abundance.

It is not surprising that Fuller has become strongly identified with the revival of spiritualism—especially among the young. For him, the concept of God is implicit in the order and integrity of the Universe and, by seeking a modifiable structure, he has sought to share its rationality, as well as its mystery, with man. "I think you are going to have coming out of the many crises all men face.

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ity and integrity making such discoveries that they themselves wouldn't even think of trying to persuade you. These people will avoid pros- etyzing, but more gradually their ranks will be joined by more and more scientists, and we are going to get to the point where a very large number of individuals will begin to recognize an integrity of Universe and an integrity of the total experience of life that will be of the order apparently experienced by the first great men, such as Christ.

“No one will be asked to believe anything. Everybody will make firsthand discoveries. What has been thought of as atheism is really just an evasion. It wasn't a declaration of againstness, not something against religion, but there seemed to be nothing else to take its place.”

Perhaps Fuller’s greatest appeal stems from his having shown that there is something to take its place. Having overcome the Cartesian pre- conceptions of the past, he has projected mankind into a more intimate and affirmative relationship with the forces of nature.

It is really only natural that Fuller considers intuition, competence and integrity the three most important words in his vocabulary. If you look into the eyes of the people who hear him, you can sense their understanding of his hopeful message. In a period of nihilism, his kind of good news may seem somewhat naive. Yet, despite what he calls the “negative inertias” of our time, he has managed to arouse and sustain a moral energy among men which is basic to realizing human possibilities.

Two years ago, Fuller returned to the same Chicago slum where he had cloistered himself in 1927. The “Young Lords,” a militant gang of Puerto Ricans, had invited him to speak about the problems of renewing their deteriorated neighborhood. Typically, however, he soon had them thinking about renewing themselves. Something he had gone through a good deal of pain to do years before.

“Society is full of this horrible thing, fear,” he told them. “And when society is fearful, it gets panicky and does stupid things. So don’t do things just to defy or make people fearful. Do things to give them confidence. Don’t do things which invite opposition. Do things which invite support. Try to think clearly, and you will find answers for your problems. Very shortly, society will be in enough trouble to want them.”

Perhaps Fuller was thinking of that time when he was himself afraid, that time when he set out on his search for truth against a world given to teaching lies and preaching deceit. He has come to personify that vital search and he has given it a structure as logical as the molecular language physics and biology are revealing. Perhaps, as the biophysicist Lancelot Law Whyte said several years ago, this new structure awaits a Newton to display its empirical power. And a Lucretius to sing the philosophical emancipation it promises. Fuller, at least, will not have to wait. He has already seen the new age.
“Humanity owes a great deal to Professor Buckminster Fuller, the distinguished architect, inventor and philosopher, who dedicated himself to the improvement of the living conditions of his fellow men. He has covered thousands of miles traveling all over the world, giving lectures before scientists and scholars, and explaining his visions for a new era in which technology will defeat scarcity, and will create a race of world men whose allegiance will be universal.”

His Beatitude The President of the Republic of Cyprus, Archbishop Makarios, in a statement prepared for this issue of The Architectural Forum.

PHOTOGRAPH: Charles Eames.
GEODESIC DOMES
The rationale and the reality
BY DON L. RICHTER

Back in August 1951, when the ARCHITECTURAL FORUM described Bucky Fuller's geodesic concept in detail, I was privileged to be working with him as director of prototyping for the Fuller Research Foundation. Since then, my independent researches in geodesic systems for Kaiser Aluminum, the R. C. Mahon Company and Temcor have convinced me that geodesic has far more going for it than is generally recognized. In fact, I believe that it will be one of the principal architectural forms of the future.

Many architects and designers, of course, already recognize the basic beauty and efficiency of the geodesic dome. Now, however, as conservation of materials and energy resources grows in importance, a better understanding of geodesic geometry will help in the wise and purposeful use of geodesic building systems.

The use of geodesic geometry for spherical dome structures was originated by Bucky Fuller, but geodesic geometry has also been used in the design of transmission towers and aircraft fuselages — a fact that is not so widely known. You see, the basic definition of a "geodesic line" is "the shortest line that can be drawn between two points on a surface"—any surface. The geodesic line on a flat plane is a straight line. On a cylindrical surface, the geodesic line can be a straight line along its length, or it can be a circle or a spiral around the cylinder. The geodesic, or shortest, line between any two points on a sphere is a great circle—that is, a circle of maximum radius. The equator, for instance, is a great circle, while all other latitude lines are lesser circles—i.e., of smaller radius. This concept has been made familiar by ships and airplanes that follow "great circle routes," since they are the shortest distances between embarkation and destination.

Similarly, if all other factors are equal, a structural framing geometry that follows geodesic lines would automatically have the shortest possible lengths of members. It would also be the most efficient generalized structural system.

To illustrate this point, four commonly used basic framing systems for dome structures have been designed and computer-analyzed. In order to compare these systems fairly, all four domes were made as nearly equal as their individual geometries would permit. All four sample domes have the same base diameter, the same spherical radius, and the same number of gusset, or nodal, points interconnected by struts following their four different geometries: Schwedler, Lattice, Lamella, and Geodesic. (Figures 1-4)

Figure 1 is the plan view geometry for the Schwedler (or "radial rib") dome. You will notice that the Schwedler dome has a group of frame members extending from the base tension ring to the apex in great circle arcs. The base ring and the three concentric inner rings are lesser circles. Virtually all of the commonly used nongeodesic dome frame systems have a number of lesser circles in concentric rings, as shown in Figures 1, 2 and 3. In Figure 1, diagonal framing members that are required to stabilize the dome have been shown as dashed lines. These diagonals make this dome geometry a completely triangulated three-dimensional space truss.

The plan view of the Lattice geometry dome is illustrated in Figure 2. In this configuration, framing struts that follow intersecting, spiral-like patterns connect the base ring to the concentric inner rings and the apex of the dome. None of the framing lines in the Lattice dome follows a great circle arc.

A typical Lamella geometry is shown in Figure 3. Notice that this geometry also has horizontal lesser circles concentric with the base ring. The Lamella dome has an advantage over the previous two systems, in that the clutter of members intersecting at the apex has been reduced. The triangles formed between rings and struts are also more nearly equal in size.

The final geometry illustrated is the Geodesic dome shown in Figure 4. Notice that Geodesic geometry does not employ concentric lesser circles. This is the key feature to look for in determining whether the dome geometry is truly geodesic. The great circle arcs in the Geodesic dome extend from the base ring on one side of the dome to a corresponding point on the other side. The space truss formed by the three sets of intersecting great circles yields surprisingly uniform, almost equilateral, triangles.

Although other geometric configurations and variations have been studied, these four basic types are the most representative. For our computer analysis of the four types, the following equalizing criteria were used:

1. All domes are the same overall size; that is, 100 feet in diameter and in spherical radius, and all are 14 ft. high.
2. All domes have 61 nodes (strut-connections).
3. All four are completely triangulated space-truss configurations.
4. All domes have their own tension ring and are supported vertically at each of the base-ring nodal points.
5. All strut connections are pin-connected.
6. All domes are assumed to be fabricated of six-in. outside-diameter aluminum tubing.
7. All dome frames have the same total weight: 10,000 pounds of aluminum. Since each dome requires a different amount of tubing, the tube wall thickness was adjusted to hold the 10,000-pound weight limit.
8. All loads are assumed to be vertical and are distributed over the nodal points.
9. Two loading conditions were assumed: symmetrical and unbalanced. The first is a uniform vertical load over the total surface. The second (unbalanced) is a full load on one side and a half load on the other side of the dome.
10. All structures were designed in accordance with the allowable stress established by the Aluminum Association for alloy 6061-T6.
To illustrate the importance of a completely triangulated space truss configuration, the radial rib dome shown in Figure 1 was also analyzed without the dashed diagonals. For this dome to support any loads at all, it was necessary to assume that all joints were rigidly connected.

The results of our computer analysis are shown on Table I. Although the Schwedler dome without diagonals looks rather good under uniform symmetrical load, the unbalanced loading condition is far more important in simulating actual field conditions. Under such conditions, the Schwedler dome without diagonals would only support 12 psf on one-half the dome, with 6 pounds distributed over the other one-half. By adding the diagonals to the Schwedler dome, its strength is more than doubled to 28 psf on the high load side. This increase in strength was accomplished without increasing the weight over the 10,000-pound limit.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DOME TYPES</th>
<th>SCHWEDLER radial rib</th>
<th>LATTICE figure 2</th>
<th>LAMELLA figure 3</th>
<th>GEODESIC figure 4</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>w/o diagonals</td>
<td>w/ diagonals</td>
<td>w/o diagonals</td>
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<td>w/ diagonals</td>
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<tr>
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<td>10,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>number of radial points</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>61</td>
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<td>max. uniform load psf evenly distributed</td>
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<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>45</td>
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<td>max. unbalanced load psf right side</td>
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<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>psf left side</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>relative strength with unbalanced load</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inches deflection with unbalanced load of 12 psf and 6 psf</td>
<td>17 1/4</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>%</td>
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</table>

The Schwedler dome will support 30 psf under the unbalanced condition; and the Lamella, 60 psf. The Geodesic configuration will support a full 45 psf, either as a symmetrical load over the total surface or as a non-symmetrical loading of 40 psf on one side and 20 psf on the other.

We are now manufacturing three types of domes employing Geodesic great-circle geometry at Temcor: Crystogon structures, Polyframe Domes and the Geodesic Dome proper, each of which has its own unique applications.

Crystogon Domes employ triangular panels of clear acrylic secured to a framework of extruded aluminum alloy. The transparent or translucent panels are non-structural and in fact must not receive stresses from the aluminum frame. The low deflection of the geodesic configuration, as noted in Table I, is particularly important in this regard.

The Polyframe Dome is widely used for storage tank covers and special structures like the "big igloo" described below. This dome employs wide-flange beams of extruded aluminum covered with flat, triangular aluminum panels. As with the Crystogon, the non-structural panels are designed to provide protective covering only and do not contribute to the strength of the dome frame.

The advantages of the Polyframe for tank covering are obvious when one considers that a concrete cover for a typical 135-ft-diameter tank weighs about 460 tons. A steel cover for the same size tank weighs about 150 tons. But a Polyframe Dome weighs only 17 tons—just 3.7 percent of the concrete and 11 percent of the steel one.

A highly unusual application of the Polyframe Dome is the U. S. Navy's new South Pole station, now under construction by Navy Seabees during the brief Antarctic summer. Scheduled for completion by February 1, the dome will be 50 ft. high and 164 ft. in diameter. This "big igloo" will serve as a giant weather break to keep snow away from three buildings inside, which will serve as crew's quarters, science headquarters and communications center for Operation Deep Freeze.

Designed to overcome the twin problems of wind-exposure and heavy snow loads that have nearly destroyed the present station (now buried under 50 feet of snow), the Polyframe Dome will be unheated. Heat escaping from the three interior buildings will be vented through an opening at the top of the dome; and a large blower will pump in cold outside air to keep the average temperature at 0°F. Maintaining a sub-freezing temperature will prevent the three buildings inside from sinking into melting snow.

This Polyframe Dome was designed to withstand 125-mph winds and snow loads of 120 psf. A structure of such shape and strength is expected to postpone the eventual crushing and disappearance of the station under heavy snow drift for at least 10 to 15 years.

Since transportation is one of the most critical
factors in implementing Operation Deep Freeze, the Polyframe design offers the additional advantages of light weight and prefabricated, modular construction. Components had to be sized to fit the 8½ by 8½ by 36-foot cargo holds of the Hercules LC-130 aircraft that transported the "big igloo" the last 900 miles from McMurdo Station, on the edge of the Antarctica, to the South Pole.

An interesting sidelight is that the new station is being built a quarter of a mile "upstream" of the pole to allow for the inexorable drift of the polar ice cap toward South America. The station will be exactly atop the South Pole in an estimated five years; and will have moved a quarter of a mile "downstream" in another five.

The Temcor Geodesic Dome, unlike the Crystogon and Polyframe Domes, is used in most architectural applications and employs my patented concept using structural panels with the space truss. The three-dimensional framing efficiency of the space truss has been utilized by bracing diamond-shaped aluminum panels with tubular struts of extruded aluminum. Each panel with its strut forms a tetrahedron. The several hundred tetrahedrons that comprise the typical dome are joined together at the four corners with forged aluminum gusset-and-hub fittings to form a space truss that follows Fuller's geodesic geometry.

Combining geodesic geometry with the structural panel and the space truss results in a building that is exceptionally lightweight and extraordinarily strong. Although the weight of the dome is only 2½ psf, it is designed for 40 psf (four feet of snow) and 125-mph winds. Temcor Geodesic Domes have easily withstood the hurricanes of Florida and Guam Island, the snows of Alaska and the earthquakes of California.

Because of the construction efficiencies made possible by geodesic principles, Temcor can fabricate the aluminum panels and other dome components at its Torrance manufacturing plant and—as in the case of the "big igloo"—transport a 150- or 200-foot clear-span dome by rail, ship or air to job sites anywhere in the world. Once on location, Temcor domes are erected at safe ground level by successively bolting rings of diamond-shaped panels and struts together around the base of a lifting tower. The dome is hoisted up the tower as the assembly of each ring is completed. After the dome is totally assembled, hoisted and secured to previously prepared supports, the lifting tower is removed and the top opening closed with additional panels, a cupola ventilator or a skylight. The dome is then sealed and made ready for closure walls and interior treatment.

Judging by the rapidly growing numbers of Geodesic Dome installations—installations that now span the hemispheres from North America, Europe and the Orient to South America and the South Pole—it would seem that the reality of geodesics is at last beginning to approach the dreams of Bucky Fuller.
JAPANESE TOWER

Originally envisioned as a two-mile-high observation point, this 8,000 ft., semi-guyed alternative was proposed when real estate and money problems blocked the more ambitious scheme. Three tetrahedral structures at the base of the tripod-shaped mast were designed as anchorages for the guys stabilizing the lower tower sections and were to contain revenue-producing facilities, including housing, offices, shopping and a stadium. Unfortunately, the project was dropped because its backers decided it wasn't worth building something shorter than Mt. Fuji.

Participating in the study were Shoji Sadao, who has run Fuller's architectural office in Cambridge, Massachusetts since 1964; Geometrics, Inc., also in Cambridge; and Simpson, Gum­bertz & Heger, Inc., consulting engineers.
HARLEM

Here is Fuller's Instant Slum Clearance Project conceived for Esquire in the mid-60s. His solution was to clear as little as possible. Instead, he proposed 15 widely spaced "Skyrise" towers, each consisting of 100 circular living decks, cable-suspended from a central mast. Fuller suggested planting the tree-like towers in the back alleys of Harlem. Planned to house 110,000 families, these were intended to help relieve congestion on the ground, thus enabling the community to recycle itself as parks and rehabilitated neighborhoods. The towers featured spiral vehicular ramps and highway connectors 10 stories up, all on the apparent assumption Skyrise congestion would never occur.
EAST ST. LOUIS

"Old Man River," a dome-covered moon crater of a city for 9,000 families, was conceived by Fuller late in 1970 for the East St. Louis Riverfront Development Commission. Beneath the 1,000-ft. high half-mile diameter dome, garden apartments for a broad housing mix will be deployed over the sloping outer surfaces of the crater. A close-grained complex of civic, cultural, educational, commercial and light industrial facilities is to be contained inside. The transparent dome will hover 30 feet above ground, allowing access from all directions while opening the city to the vast parklands to be developed along the Mississippi. All work on the project has been personally funded by Fuller, who has met frequently with various community representatives ranging from planners and highway engineers to monsignors and militant blacks. Despite the decay and despair of this nonstop ghetto, East St. Louis has enthusiastically endorsed "Old Man River." Research on its technological and social aspects is underway with a team of experts from Washington University in St. Louis and Howard University in Washington.
In a refreshing (not to mention realistic) move, the Government of Ontario decided to halt construction of the Spadina Expressway. Fuller's proposal is to recycle the cleared 46-acre site as a linear urban development astride a rapid transit extension to downtown Toronto. Its principal features are a climate-controlled environment, the integration of housing with parking and rapid transit, and a broad range of options for personal and community activity. The 4,000 apartment and maisonette units, together with 250,000 square feet of commercial, office and institutional space, will take the form of a series of low hills and broad valleys which will provide an inviting physical and visual access between those neighborhoods partially bisected by the site. The Spadina project embodies a low-profile, compact and intensely human answer to the scourge of urban crowding and ad hoc development.

The proposal has been developed by Fuller & Sado, Inc.
TETRAHEDRAL CITY

A "floating triangular atoll," Fuller's tetrahedral city was commissioned by Japanese financier Matsutaro Shoriki. In this picture, the city has been "beached" inland, with Mt. Fuji competing in the background. Its 200-story open-truss structure would house a million people or roughly 300,000 families in 2,000-sq.-ft. terrace apartments. These were conceived as tray-like receptacles where owners could "plug in" their trailers, houseboats or other "mobile environment controls." About half the apartment space could be used for gardening or recreation. Moreover, families could "peel off" with ease, taking their house along but leaving the terrace behind. All the high-technology machinery would have been integral with the structure, as would the transit system interconnecting commercial, cultural and community centers, each with its hanging gardens and cool lagoons. On land, the interior of the city would contain a vast park, sunlit through broad openings every 50th floor. At sea, the interior would shelter a great harbor for the largest vessels. Its foundations—hollow sections of reinforced concrete, 200 feet deep—would go below the level of ocean turbulence, providing stability during earthquakes and storms, and enabling it to navigate the seas or rest at anchor. Wherever the city might be at any given time, it would have been accessible by jet because the outer edges of its triangular base—two miles to a side—would have provided aircraft carrier style landing strips. Fuller envisions that flotillas of such cities will enable man to deploy and converge in large numbers over the Earth's surface without further ruination of our land resources. The heat of the city's atomic reactors would desalinate ocean water, wastes would be recycled, whole communities as well as individuals could circumnavigate the planet as casually as making a phone call. This habitat for the Ancient Mariner offers everything but an albatross.

Fuller & Sado, Inc. were project architects.
TRITON CITY

Two kinds of floating neighborhoods were designed to lay at anchor in the waters off America's larger metropolitan areas. One is a series of four to six "rafts," each holding 1,000 people; the other, a crystal-like, tetrahedral platform for 3,500 to 6,500, enough to support an elementary school, supermarket, stores and services. Three to six of these "neighborhoods" would make a new town in town, rather off town, and another platform would be added to accommodate a high school, and commercial, recreational and civic functions. Three to seven of these new towns would make a new city of 90,000 to 125,000 people who would then presumably endorse still other platforms containing a community college or a government center. The Triton City components, engineered for steel or concrete, are megastructures. The single framework of each neighborhood would make it, in effect, a complete building. Infill modules for apartments, classrooms, stores and offices would be prefabricated and plugged in or replaced without disturbing the overall city framework. It is feasible to engineer floating structures of 20 stories for waters only 25 to 30 feet deep. And the Triton study offers an option by design to the high-density decay of our waterfront cities.

The project was conducted by the Triton Foundation; Dr. R. Buckminster Fuller, President; and directed by Peter Floyd of Geometrics, Inc. and Shoji Sadao of Fuller & Sadao, Inc.
...It also seems clear
That an increasing number of young,
Or young-minded people
Are beginning
To share my awareness
That total holocaust
Is now being ignominiously induced
By the world's preoccupation with
Exclusively political palliatives
Which are inherently shortsighted
And applicable only
To the emergency-dramatized local aspects
Of the greater and unrecognized
Evolutionary problems
With which human life
Aboard our planet is beset.
For evolution is apparently intent
That life in Universe
Must survive.
Biological life
Is syntropic
Because it sorts and selects
Unique chemical elements
From out of their randomly received
Time and locality of reception
As celestial imports;
Or from out of their random occurrence
As terrestrial resources—fresh or waste—
Anywhere around our Earth's biosphere,
And reassorts those elements
In orderly molecular structures
Or as orderly organs
Of ever-increasing magnitude.
Thus effectively reversing
The entropic behaviors
Of purely physical phenomena
Which give off energy
In ever more random,
Expansive and disorderly ways.
For human life contains the weightless
Omnipowerful, omniscient
Metaphysical intellect
Which alone can comprehend,
Sort out, select,
Integrate, co-ordinate and cohere.
forward with plans for a new building that will contain, simply, almost everything. The $100-million complex, called Water Tower Plaza, will include a 63-story apartment and office tower above an 11-story shopping and office center.

The developer is the Urban Investment and Development Co. Loeb! Schlossman Bennett & Dart and C. F. Murphy Associates were the associated architects and engineers.

The complex is designed as a spectacle. A grand lobby, encased in glass and soaring above Chicago's prestigious Michigan Avenue, will provide entrance to the complex, linking the boulevard with interior spaces that include a series of malls and atria. An escalator will connect the lobby with the second floor, where a central atrium rises six stories from a promenade 300 ft. long. Stores, including Lord & Taylor and Marshall Field, will occupy the ground and atrium floors.

Above the stores will be two floors of office space, especially designed for firms wanting large open spaces. Starting with the twelfth floor is a hotel. The hotel and apartment residents can enjoy a pool and health club planned for the floor between them. Apartment units, of various configurations, will occupy the top 40 floors of the building.

SHARING THE SHARDS

Some cities will do anything to sneak a meal. Which is what Chicago has done in plowing under Adler & Sullivan's Old Stock Exchange in favor of a more profitable office tower and plaza. Soon to follow will be more court fights over the Monadnock, Rookery and Reliance—the few remaining masterworks of the Chicago School. There appears to be no limit to the appetites of Chicago's street-sauntering speculators, one of whom had the nerve to say, "You know, it takes a real estate man to look at property with a fresh eye!"

What they have refused to look at with a fresh eye is the problem of making historic preservation pay in economic terms. Uniquely, only the preservationists spoke realistically and imaginatively to this issue during the long Stock Exchange battle.

True to form, developers of the La Salle Street property are gleeful about cashing in on the Sullivan fragments. The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York wanted the graceful Stock Exchange arch as an entrance to its new American wing facing Central Park.

Mayor Richard Daley, however, longtime conductor of The Big Train Depot, wants it for Grant Park, that sometime green expanse of Daniel Burnham's bordering Lake Michigan.

In telling the Metropolitan to go find its own landmark, official Chicago has apparently opted for archeology—if not architecture—telling Richard Miller, that tireless young La Salle Street lawyer who is president of the Chicago Landmarks Preservation Council, said recently, "City Hall is beginning to sense the enormity of what they have done in permitting this great masterpiece to be wrecked, but they are reacting strangely. They asked the wrecker to take his sign down as if all the world didn't know what was going on."

Stairs are going for $5,000 a flight. It's no telling how much door knobs and elevator grilles will pay. There's nothing like a built-in write-off for your salvage expenses. One is reminded of the Romans who used Greek statues for ballast in their ships.

AIA AWARDS FOR 1972

The AIA has announced this year's awards to be presented in Houston at the annual convention in May:

• The Gold Medal—to Pietro Belluschi, designer of more than 1,000 buildings in the course of 46 years in architecture. One of the most influential U.S. architects, especially in the 30's and 40's, Belluschi is generally credited with the development of the truly indigenous, modern Northwest Architecture in the United States. After designing some of the best houses and churches of their time, Belluschi became Dean of MIT's School of Architecture and Planning in 1930, retired 15 years later, only to resume a wide-ranging architectural practice.

• The Firm Award—to Caudill Rowlett Scott, architects, plan-
nners and engineers, of Houston, Tex., for “continuing collaboration among individuals of the firm as the principal force in consistently producing distinguished architecture.”

- The Allied Professions Medal—to Ian L. McHarg, landscape architect, planner, and author of Design With Nature, for “exposing a sensitive and positive response to the environment.”

- Industrial Arts Medal—to Charles Eames, designer, architect, producer of documentary films. Best known for his molded plywood chair, developed with Eero Saarinen during the early 1940s, he also produced innumerable plastic and metal chairs (and other furniture) ever since World War II. The AIA awarded Eames the Craftsmanship Medal in 1957.

- Fine Arts Medal—to George Rickey, sculptor, whose skills, according to Time magazine, “have produced whole families of curiously moving metal sculptures that gnomb and gimbal in the wind, slicing segments of time like pendulums, or spinning until the sunlight splinters into a spectral blur.”

EXTENSION VS RESTORATION

The AIA, to the dismay of Architect of the Capitol George M. White, has once again firmly pronounced that the West Central Front of the nation’s Capitol in Washington should be strengthened and restored in its original setting, and not extended, as originally proposed by the late J. George Stewart when he was Architect of the Capitol (Mar. ’71 p. 27).

The Institute, noting that the West Front is the last remaining original facade of the Capitol, asks for restoration of the wall and endorses the conclusions of the Praeger-Kavanaugh-Waterbury engineering report, which says that restoration is not only feasible and safe, but will also make the wall beautiful, displace no one during reconstruction period, and cost no more than $15 million (as opposed to $45 million for the extension). Mr. White doubts this, and recently told the Senate Appropriations Committee so. While admitting it is desirable to preserve the original facade, he insists that the building has to be extended for needed office space.

The special AIA task force, after conducting a space-needs study of the House of Representatives, indicated that any West Front extension would not even begin to meet House space requirements.

HOUSING

ALLOWANCES FOR HOUSING

In a radical departure from current practices, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) has decided to launch an experimental program of housing allowances for the poor. The money will go directly to poor families, who must seek housing on the open market. Traditionally, HUD has channeled its funds into subsidies for builders and developers or to landlords as rent subsidies, although other federal agencies have tried similar programs.

The program is scheduled to start in the first of six metropolitan areas (chosen but not yet released) this spring. It will reach 1,000 families in each, will continue for three years at least and cost $10 million each year. The conditions for a family’s participation are that it need decent housing and that it pay a reasonable percentage of its income for it. The government will provide counseling services and the cost differences with either money or vouchers, similar to food stamps but for housing.

The housing allowances were provided for in the Housing Act of 1970 and Congress has appropriated the money. If the experimental program is successful, they could result in a whole new housing policy at HUD. A spokesman indicated the new approach may eliminate the stigma for the poor, use existing housing more efficiently, and shield the government from attacks it is pushing too hard for desegregation and dispersal of low-income family housing.

PLANNING

NEW TOWN OUT OF TOWN

Arcosanti, Paolo Soleri’s new town for 3,000 people, will rise on a mesa in north central Arizona. Compact, multi-layered, three-dimensional, it will be the first urban environment designed according to the principles of arcology. The high density, experimental city, 75 miles from Phoenix, is being built by students under Soleri’s optimistic direction.

Anyone interested in roughing it at the site, and not adverse to hard work and flies, can apply to join a six-week workshop. Many schools give hour-credit for participation. Fees are $30 a week (plus $11 board). The workshops run concurrently from February to November, excluding August. Write Paolo Soleri, Cosanti Foundation, 9459 Doubletree Road, Scottsdale, Ariz. 85253.

THE CREATIVE CLIENT

How do you make going to the library fun for children? A team from the Los Angeles office of Caudill, Rowlett, Scott, which is designing an elementary school for Columbus, Ind., decided to ask their clients—fourth, fifth and sixth graders. Answer: Simple. You swoop in from the floor above on a spiral slide. “They specified a spiral slide so that’s what we’ve given them,” said Paul Kennon who heads the design team. In fact, “a tunnel of love where bigger people can go to kiss their girls” got translated into the plans as a 30-ft.-long tunnel, 8 ft. high, connecting a learning area and dining room and another which will tunnel between school and playground.

Columbus, Ind., no stranger to excellent architecture, will have its new elementary school in a year. And the kids will have much of what they asked for. Tomorrow the robots!!

ACADEME

CHARGES DISMISSED

President Derek Bok and the Fellows of Harvard College have cancelled grievance proceedings against Graduate School of Design Dean Maurice D. Kilbridge (Nov. issue). The formal charges, brought by Professors Isaacs, Nash and Vigier, asked that the dean be dismissed for a formidable list of reasons; among them, violating rights of faculty to academic freedom, fairness and due process. Dean Kilbridge, who denied all charges, had asked the Harvard Corporation to dismiss the grievances without prejudice.

SCHOLARS & FELLOWS

Some grants available in the field of architecture:

- Rotch Traveling Scholarship. Applicants must be American citizens under 31 years old on March 10, 1972, whose architectural record includes some study or experience in Massachusetts. Stipend for 1972 is $8,500. For details, write Hugh A. Stubbins, Jr., Rotch Traveling Scholarship Committee, 1033 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge, Mass. 02138, before March 9, 1972.

- Cornell University. One full fellowship for a graduate student in the field of history of architecture and urban development will be awarded in May for study beginning September, for an M. A. or Ph.D. degree. The award is around $5,000. Deadline for applications is March 1, 1972. For details, write Dean Kermit C. Parsons, College of Architecture, Cornell U., Ithaca, N. Y. 14850. Also available from Cornell are several assistantships paying tuition, fees and a $2,700 stipend with 15 hours of teaching weekly.

PHOTOGRAPHS: Page 48 (right) Joel Peter Witkin. Page 97 (top, right) Ron Nielsen.
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This month's Product Review concentrates on movable and fixed partitions and miscellaneous office equipment.

**OFFICE COMPONENTS**

Westinghouse Electric Corp. has introduced a new system of integrated modular components for office layouts called the Westinghouse ASD Group. The system maximizes the available floor space by using vertical panels on which to hang files, cabinets and other components. The group includes freestanding partitions, a wide variety of work surfaces (including desks, files, cabinets, shelves, drawing boards, wardrobes, tackboards, etc.), and numerous accessories. On an average the system costs $6 to $8 per sq. ft. for an average office renovation, says the company; changes may be made at any time with standard office maintenance personnel. Components may be hung at any level, at one-in. increments; a coin may be used to loosen the cap on a panel joint to change, add, or remove panels. The only tools required to arrange the ASD Group are a wrench, a phillips screwdriver and a coin (quarter).

**MOVABLE PARTITIONS**

Four stud systems provide Ultrawall movable partitions with independent erection of each side and individually removable panels. All four stud systems can be used in the same installation. Available in ceiling, cornice or bank-rail height, the partition system fits all standard ceiling grid modules. The prefinished panels of incombustible gypsum board and four simple components (ceiling runner, floor runner, panel and stud) allow fast installation and easy relocation. U.S. Gypsum Co., manufacturer.

**OFFICE LANDSCAPE LINE**

Modern Partitions has developed a new system of panels and components to fit office landscape plans. Color coordination, flexibility and simplicity characterize the system, called Modern Office Modules. Included with panels are hanging cabinets and work surfaces that may be arranged to suit function. Panel surfaces are available in three solid colors, walnut or teak wood grains and five nylon carpet colors. There are over 50 compatible components. The panels, with extruded aluminum top and side rails, are connected by an almost invisible polyallomer hinge that is easily inserted or removed through the side rail. The side rails also all have recessed slots to accept all office hanging components, which include 12 work surfaces, in level or sloping versions, with or without drawers, etc.; open and closed steel shelving; cabinets; and file drawers. Tables are also available.

**OFFICE MODULES**

TRM (Task Response Modules) is a new set of furnishings planned for open plan executive and administrative offices. The units are of basic wood construction with walnut the standard finish, but other woods available. The modules include desk units with or without open or closed storage space on top, storage cabinets, posts and panels for conference room assembly, extended desk tops, circular and rectangular tables and wardrobe units. Each unit has provisions for concealed attachments; the central desk unit has an overhead pre-wired fluorescent lighting unit concealed above a grid; the desk niche will receive a wall-hung phone and intercom unit and the desk has three outlets. TRM is manufactured and distributed by Eppinger Furniture, Inc.

**FOLDAWAY TABLET**

A new tablet foldaway arm assembly that can be attached to any GF 40/4 chair is offered by the General Fireproofing Co. Suitable for classroom instruction, business training or general meetings, the arm may be attached without special tools and comes with a plastic laminate writing surface that is available in many colors. When the writing tablet is not in use, the arm assembly becomes an arm rest.

(continued on page 106)
Knoll au Louvre
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**DESIGN...**

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PRODUCT REVIEW

(continued from page 104)

**CEILING SYSTEM**

A fully integrated 5-ft.-sq. flat modular ceiling system has been developed by Armstrong Cork Co. Called Armstrong Symmetry Luminaire, the system provides acoustical control, lighting and air distribution and flexibility for rearrangement, says the company. Within each module there are three rectangular openings, nominally 20 in. by 60 in. These are defined by cross tees and a main runner and can be filled interchangeably with either a light fixture or an acoustical board. The cross tees may easily be shifted without additional hardware and can also be rotated 90 deg. System air bars may be substituted for the cross tees at any point.

On Readers Service Card, circle 106.

**ACOUSTIC ROOM**

The unitized Ecklosure is a new, completely self-contained acoustic room, manufactured by Eckel Industries, Inc. Designed for in-plant use where a quiet area is needed in the midst of noise, the room provides an average sound reduction of 38 db. Fully portable, the enclosure may be lifted and moved by a fork lift without any disassembly. The room is about a 7-ft. cube; the walls and ceiling are 3 in. thick; the ventilation system is silenced; and the steel floor has a vinyl covering. The 1/4-in. safety glass windows allow views on all sides; there are concealed electrical and lighting systems, plus telephone and power inlets.

On Readers Service Card, circle 107.

**PLEXIGLASS MIRROR**

A new image-reflecting acrylic plastic sheet has been developed by Rohm and Haas Co. Named Plexiglass Mirror, the material is vacuum-metalized on its back surface with aluminum, which is protected by a tough opaque coating. The plexiglass has the image-reflecting characteristics of plate glass, but can be strip-heated and bent to fit around corners and can also be cut into an endless number of shapes. It has more breakage resistance than glass mirrors, is less than one-half as heavy, and is easier to install and assemble, says the company. It is available in a wide range of colors. Suited for a variety of architectural uses, the new mirror also lends itself to signs, industrial and commercial displays, and graphics.

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(continued on page 108)
ARCHITECTS SPECIFY PORCENA, WALL-HUNG SANYMETALS BECAUSE....

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AFTER THE PLANNERS

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PRODUCT REVIEW

(continued from page 106)

COMPONENT DESKS

The 6000 Desk Line, recently introduced by InterRoyal Corp., is a complete line of office furniture in which the tops, backs, legs and pedestals are interchangeable units. Designed for every employment level, from clerk to executive, the system is easily adaptable to changing office situations. Pedestals come in four configurations and can be bolted to any 6000 surface, allowing an almost unlimited range of file and drawer combinations. There are 21 different top sizes, various desk heights and credenza models, open and closed bookcases, and round and rectangular tables.

DESK AND CREDENZA

The JG Furniture Co. has introduced a new line of office furniture that includes this desk and credenza, both designed by John Nance. The credenza is 70 in. long and 19 in. high with Etruscan metal top, sides and a modesty panel. The drawer fronts and Plinth base are of high pressure black laminate. The low pedestal desk, of the same length, but 36 in. high, has a surface of top grain leather. The pedestals are available with two boxes over the files, file over file, box and file, 3 boxes or hinged door units.

INTERLOCKING CHAIRS

A new line of upholstered oak chairs makes lounge furnishings as versatile as modular units, says the manufacturer, Nemshoff Chairs, Inc. Called Intra-Loc, the line consists of a basic chair and table unit. The chair unit has a foam-upholstered back and seat and they can be locked together to form armchairs, sofas or settees. Tables can be inserted at arm or seat height. The joints are easily accomplished with an allen-style wrench and the groupings are easily disassembled.

CONTOUR CHAIRS

All-Steel Equipment Inc. has announced the new 100 series circumfluent contour chairs, with 10 models that include swivel tilt with and without arms, conference non-tilt with a memory return, or fixed bases. There are also side chairs. All models come in a choice of brushed, mirror or colored chrome bases and an array of textured fabrics and expanded vinyls.
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**PRODUCT REVIEW**

(continued from page 108)

**STORAGE FILES**

Fullspace, a movable storage and filing system, has improved design with black vinyl handles, handle plates and decorator trim added to its wood styling. The system was the first storage system to eliminate all but one floating aisle to cut storage space requirements, while maintaining storage capacity. The single aisle can be opened up between any of the movable storage units to provide access to stored materials. A choice of shelf finishes are available and there are other finish options. The system was developed and is marketed by Lundia, Myers Industries, Inc.

On Readers Service Card, circle 113.

**MASTER FILE**

A file for architects, engineers and other offices having to work with large-scale documents has been introduced by Plan Hold Corp. Called Masterfile, the system provides vertical file space for 1,000 vellums and requires two-thirds the floor space of conventional flat files with the same capacity. One Masterfile installation reportedly replaced up to 40 flat drawers and cut space requirements in half.

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**LATERAL FILE**

Mosler-Harbor (American-Standard Co.) introduces the Lateral File, a two-level file that accepts either letter or legal folders. The unit is desk high (28 in.) and comes in three widths: 30, 36 and 41.5 in. A combination door pull/label holder is safety recessed. The interlock system prevents one tray from opening while the other is extended. The openings are 10% in. high. The files come in several models and a range of colors.

On Readers Service Card, circle 115.

**drawer SLIDE**

A new, heavy-duty progressive action slide for heavy drawers (in desks, store fixtures, etc.) has been introduced by Grant Pulley & Hardware Co. Model 525 boasts full extension, total ball bearing motion and a positive mechanical stop. It needs only ½ in. side space, yet will support loads up to 150 lb. with little or no deflection. Available in either standard resale packaging or in bulk production packages, the unit comes in stock sizes from 12 in. to 30 in.

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**DOORWAY NOTES**

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The first major improvement in Fire Doors since 1952!

Our new Class “A” rated fire door is the first important advance in fire door construction since the introduction of the composite door in 1952. It opens and closes fast enough to be used wherever you’d use a conventional door . . . so you need only one wherever you previously needed both a fire door and an industrial door. Because we supply the vertical casings, door, and hardware as one “package” — ready to install — on-site construction is drastically reduced.

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DOOR

On Readers Service Card, Circle 355
READERS SERVICE FILE

PRODUCT LITERATURE

To order material described, circle indicated number on self-addressed Reader Service Card, facing page 110.

AUDIO/VISUAL COMMUNICATIONS

BATHROOM FITTINGS
New dimensions in acrylic technology, architectural applications, modular bathrooms, chairs and tables, sinks, sculptured mural, lighting fixtures are shown in a brochure from Swedlow. On Readers Service Card, circle 201.

COATINGS/SEALANTS
Handsomely illustrated full-color booklet is a guide to stains and staining. Answers basic questions on types of stains, interior & exterior. Application techniques, hints for better results. Concise, easy to read and well illustrated. Samuel Cabot, Inc. On Readers Service Card, circle 202.

DOORS
A new selection of solid and hollow core doors described in a brochure from Marlite. These doors are designed for high-traffic areas and are illustrated in a large variety of colors, patterns and textures. On Readers Service Card, circle 203.

Industrial and cold-storage doors, manual and power-operated, with galvanized steel, aluminum or Kayon (TR) plastic skins, over urethane cores. Clark Door Co. On Readers Service Card, circle 205.


Extra-heavy reinforced steel doors suitable for nuclear reactors, pumping stations, and soundproof rooms are described in a brochure from Presray Corporation. On Readers Service Card, circle 207.

DRINKING FOUNTAINS
A 24-page catalog illustrates drinking fountains, plumbing fixtures trim; and includes drawings, special application data from the Halsey W. Taylor Co. On Readers Service Card, circle 208.

FENCING
All you need to know about cyclone fencing is described in a new, fully illustrated catalog from U.S. Steel. On Readers Service Card, circle 209.

FLOOR COVERING
Complete catalog file in true color reproduction is available for LATCO featuring specialty and popular mosaic tile such as: Venetico, Valencia, Granada, Candysticks, many others. Latco Products. On Readers Service Card, circle 210.

FLOORING
A colorful four-page catalog from Stonhard describes abrasion and chemical resistant flooring for industrial installations. On Readers Service Card, circle 211.

Iceless “ice skating.” The manufacturers of this vinyl-plastic surfacing material, Vinyl Plastic Inc., claim it is possible. This material can be stored in arenas, auditoriums, and schools, etc. On Readers Service Card, circle 212.

The Johnson Rubber Company has released their 1972 catalog detailing a complete line of rubber stair treads, carpet edging, bumper guards, and miscellaneous components. On Readers Service Card, circle 213.

Tile, 100 patterns and 160 colors are illustrated in the 1972 brochure from Flomany-Sparton. New matte glazes are shown. On Readers Service Card, circle 214.

The 1972 full-color catalog of resilient flooring products is now available from Azrock. On Readers Service Card, circle 215.

FORMS & SURFACES
A new type of bronze casting, reinforced with fiberglass, accurately reproduces the beauty of sculptured metals. This new material is suitable for walls, doors and furniture. A number of architectural applications are included in a brochure from Forms & Surfaces. On Readers Service Card, circle 216.

FURNISHINGS

Form 16-page catalog with information on LCN Door Closers. Includes surface-mounted, overhead, concealed, and floor models. LCN Closers. On Readers Service Card, circle 218.

Lippincott Inc. is exclusively devoted to working with artists. We provide complete facilities for fabrication and installation of large, permanent sculpture. Architecturally scaled works executed for some of America’s foremost artists may be viewed at our ten acre field in North Haven.

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George Sugarman: “Trio”
Aluminum, painted yellow
32 L. x 10½ H. x 13½ W.
FURNITURE
The new Openscape office is attractively described in a 32-page color booklet from Interroyal. A selection of landscaped office arrangements, and possibilities within given areas are shown. On Readers Service Card, circle 219.

GLASS
Twelve pages of innovative uses of glass. This new brochure has been produced by ASG Industries, Inc. On Readers Service Card, circle 221.
Useful information on Pilkington Glass Products is contained in an informative, interesting brochure. On Readers Service Card, circle 222.

HOSPITAL EQUIPMENT
Commercial compactor. Waste and refuse compactor systems are described in an eight-page brochure from Tony Teem Inc. On Readers Service Card, circle 223.

OFFICE EQUIPMENT
A colorful brochure is available from the Plan Hold Corporation which shows the semi-automatic features of the new Designer II Drawing Table. On Readers Service Card, circle 224.

Power Guide Div. of Lundia Myers Industries Corporation offers a booklet describing their motorized mobile storage systems. On Readers Service Card, circle 225.

PLUMBING
The 1972 Elkay line of drinking fountains and sinks for commercial installation is described in a new brochure. On Readers Service Card, circle 226.
A new line of all-fiberglass baths and shower stalls, which come in a wide range of colors, are shown in attractive settings in a colorful brochure from Universal-Rundle. On Readers Service Card, circle 227.

ROOFING
Colorfully illustrated brochures show patterns and installation techniques for a wide range of traditional and contemporary clay tiles. French Roofing Tiles. On Readers Service Card, circle 228.
New extruded aluminum fascia system provides fast permanent installation of a water dam for roofing. This new, easily installed system will withstand high winds, hide building irregularities, and comes in a variety of colors. Available from Silbrico. On Readers Service Card, circle 229.

WALLS/LAMINATES
A useful guide to the insulating, fireproofing and roof deck materials produced by W. R. Grace & Co. is now available. In addition to product description, the brochure contains addresses of local sales offices. On Readers Service Card, circle 230.

SECURITY
An eight-page brochure describing a complete line of doors for freight elevators, conveyors, and dumbwaiters is now available from Security Fire-door Company. On Readers Service Card, circle 231.
The Kane Manufacturing Company has released a 28-page book on metal-screened doors and windows, together with diagrams and installation information. Special emphasis is given to energy-absorbing screens for detention and protection. On Readers Service Card, circle 232.

TILE
A new catalog has been released by American Olean, containing their complete line of tiles and accessories for 1972. Installation procedures and diagrams. On Readers Service Card, circle 233.

WALLS
A continuous cork wall system using $\frac{1}{4}$" natural cork. It is described in a colorful four-page brochure from the manufacturers, Walton Corkwood. On Readers Service Card, circle 234.

WALLS/LAMINATES
A color guide from U. S. Gypsum shows six standard colors for Wall Matrix. Additionally, it is available in white. By adding aggregate of a second color, a two-tone effect may be obtained. On Readers Service Card, circle 235.

A 16-page booklet detailing construction and performance of custom-engineered windows for new construction and replacement is available from DeVal. On Readers Service Card, circle 236.

WASTE COLLECTION
A pneumatic waste collection system is explained and illustrated in a brochure from ECI Air Flyte Corporation. On Readers Service Card, circle 237.

WATER COOLERS
The most popular Run Roc water coolers are illustrated in the new 1972 Western Drinking Fountain catalog. Plastic, stainless steel, and stone drinking fountains shown. On Readers Service Card, circle 238.

WINDS
A 16-page booklet detailing construction and performance of custom-engineered windows for new construction and replacement is available from DeVal. On Readers Service Card, circle 239.

MISCELLANEOUS
A line of wall-mounted ashtrays and matching litter baskets, for public areas, are colorfully illustrated in a brochure from Lawson. On Readers Service Card, circle 240.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES
Lippincott—fabricators of sculptures for many leading artists—offers an illustrated folder showing completed sculptures and work in progress. On Readers Service Card, circle 241.
BRUETON'S 4 BASIC SHAPES MULTIPLY INTO THOUSANDS

Take these four classic geometric shapes: round, square, rectangular and our exclusive new triangular stock.

Translate into STAINLESS STEEL, BRONZE or BRASS. Into a hundred table widths, a hundred different lengths and heights. Combine with glass, marble or fine woods.

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"WHISK THE DIRT OFF YOUR CARPET WITH A RAG"
SAYS FIBRE MANUFACTURER . . . . .

And you'd better believe it.

Because in our 28 years no Institute or any kind of expert has ever been able to prove ther is any other way of removing it.

The two easy ways to whisk it off with a rag are (1) the method we taught the airlines and they have been using all these years—mops, and now the method we have invented for some of the new carpets when you can't whisk it off any other way—the ARGONAUT.

You can make this mythical machine from any good single disc floor machine by using a special pad holder brush. We furnish the ARGOSHEEN to dissolve the soil and the spots—all kinds including tar, grease, coffee, etc., as you go . . . and the thirsty cotton pads to blot up the dirty solution and even rinse and dry—really dry—in moments. You end up with a pile of dirty pads for the washing machine.

SEE WHAT DELTA AIRLINES SAYS ABOUT ARGOSHEEN, AND THEY'VE USED IT EXCLUSIVELY AND SYSTEMWIDE FOR 19 YEARS. Cleaning carpet is part of the daily routine accomplished in many cities in Delta's system. The major portion of this cleaning is done in Atlanta, where Delta has 268 arrivals and departures daily. Between flights, cleaning crews under the supervision of Mr. Gus Armes, sweep out the planes with ARGOSHEEN dampened mops, removing spots and letter in one operation. When planes come into the jet base for mechanical checks, thorough cleaning is done under the supervision of Mrs. Bessie Davis. Mr. Armes agrees with Mrs. Davis who says:

"We have everything imaginable spilled and tracked on our carpets. Of all the stains, including ketchup, food seasoning, whisky, wine, whole pots of coffee, ramp grease and tar, lipstick and every type food stain, I have never found a spot ARGOSHEEN would not take up."

After the soil is dissolved with ARGOSHEEN, it is blotted up with mops leaving the planes spotless and beautiful. In our opinion the perfection of these planes when they leave the hangar could not be surpassed!

Your carpets deserve the best-ARGOSHEEN, solving problems everywhere from restaurants, hospitals, schools to 18 airlines. Like to see what it's all about? Send $12. with your letterhead for enough to clean several rooms, and see why so many designers are selling (even giving) ARGOSHEEN to their clients—because it cuts down on complaints so drastically.

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