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PROBLEM: When the HARTFORD ELECTRIC LIGHT COMPANY planned a new building in Simsbury, it wanted for its employees a washroom and locker room that would be sanitary, water proof and with a color scheme relaxing to the eye. At the same time, Hartford Electric wanted to accomplish this with economy of construction.

SOLUTION: Architect Louis Drakos found the logical solution. His recommendation: Spectra-Glaze as manufactured by Plasticrete. Here was the perfect answer... a glazed structural masonry wall that completely fulfilled the most exacting specifications. Spectra-Glaze is completely water proof, chemical resistant. It's dust-free, chip-resistant, stain resistant and permanent color qualities assure low-cost maintenance. And Spectra-Glaze comes in 18 standard colors and 28 special colors.
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COMING EVENTS

May 21-30
New Haven Green: Festival of Arts.

June 4-19
Museum of American Art, New Britain: Work of New Britain area artists and humorous sculpture by Howard Munce.

June 14-16
Yale Art Gallery, New Haven: General Tour at 3 p.m. Tuesday and 1 p.m. Thursday, conducted by Mrs. Iverson.

June 14-18
AIA Show, Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D.C.

June 19-July 19

June 23-26
Bridgeport: Seventeenth Annual Barnum Festival.

June 25-July 4
Norwich: Norwich Rose Arts Festival.

June 25-July 17
Essex Art Association Galleries, Essex: Art Exhibit and Artist Member Show.

June 27-July 1
New York Lamp and Home Furnishing Show, Hotel New Yorker, NYC.

June 28-July 1
AIA Show, Denver Hilton Hotel, Denver, Col.

June 29
Trinity College, Hartford: Carillon Concert.

July-September

July 9
Litchfield: Tour of Historic Homes.

July 14-16
Guilford Green: Guilford Handcrafts Exhibition.

July 14-August 7
Mystic Art Association, Mystic: Juried Regional Art Show.

August 8-12
Heat Transfer Conference and Exhibit, Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago.

August 14
Connecticut Architect is published every other month under the direction of the Connecticut Society of Architects, a chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and is the official publication of the Society.

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Seventy-five Cents a Copy  Four Dollars and Fifty Cents a Year
On April 22nd, CSA-AIA was seventy-two days old—and on that
day, an “information” meeting was held in Hartford to bring as many as
possible up to date on what has been happening in the organization in
Connecticut, in our Region, and in the nation.

Naturally, not all Connecticut architects could be there. Nearly one
hundred did attend, but for the several hundred of our colleagues who
did not, a brief resume seems appropriate.

Within the Society, the principal accomplishments of these beginning
months have been:

- Worthwhile programs and seminars are being prepared for every month,
  with summer meetings on the lighter side.
- A headquarters office has been established in Guilford, with full-time
  staffing and a most highly qualified Executive Director.
- Connecticut Architect magazine continues publication on its regular
  schedule for every architect in the state and for many members of
  the public as well. Significant efforts continue to improve both content
  and format in the months ahead.
- We are seriously seeking new members. Our objective is a maximum
  number of all registered architects in the state, so that all of us can
  enjoy common understandings and purposes, share our skills and knowl-
  edge, and act publicly as a unified, cohesive profession.
- The Annual Honor Awards program is well under way with judging
  scheduled for April 26th, so that winning designs may be exhibited at
  the New Haven Arts Festival.
- Work is going forward toward common objectives and better under-
  standing with public officials, the construction industry, and related
  design professionals, as well as educational institutions.
- The Women’s Architectural League has been actively planning the
  year’s social events and other activities of its own. The Annual Outing
  will be held on August 14th. All lady architects and architects’ ladies
  are welcomed as members of the League.
- Twenty-six committees and sub-committees devote their time and
talents to a like number of areas of interest. They are divided into
five commissions, with a Commissioner to oversee and correlate the
efforts of each:

  Commission on the Professional Society—Carrell S. McNulty, Jr.
  Commission on Education and Research—Carl R. Blanchard, Jr
  Commission on Professional Practice—Herman J. Goldbecker
  Commission on Architectural Design—Earl P. Carlin
  Commission on Public Affairs—Ralph T. Rowland

Please turn to page 28
The problem of designing both privacy and roominess on a building lot only ninety feet wide is not easy of solution. Add to this the fact that the lot slopes steeply to the rear with houses on each side built very close to property lines and the need for ingenuity is evident.

The design of Architect Sidney T. Miller for his own residence in Hamden produced an attractive and comfortable solution to this problem — a solution which has been proved satisfactory to both designer and owner in actual use. The horizontal lines and color of the house are compatible with both its site and its neighbors, but at the same time give the impression of being out in the country.

The heavily wooded site is on a hilltop, with a scenic view to the north. Only ninety feet in width, with a depth of two hundred feet, it has an earth covering over ledge rock. These factors, and consideration of the neighborhood, led to a one-story plan with a partial lower level.

The basic plan for the house is formed by four functional “boxes” between the two horizontal planes of floor and ceiling. These units are the four corners of the structure and enclose the kitchen and maid’s room; the library-guest suite; the master bedroom suite; and the children’s suite. The boxes also outline the “public” living areas between them — the entrance foyer, dining room, living room, and study. All of these areas surround and look out on the court which is the dominating core of the house.

This court has several functions which it performs effectively and attractively. Since the house is practically closed on three sides, a light source was needed in the center, and this need was translated into a brick-floored court with a translucent ceiling and roof. With a fountain in the floor and decorative planting, the court has an “outdoors” effect the year ‘round.

The court also takes care of circulation from one area to another,

Please turn to page 10
Library can serve as part of guest suite.

Living room from court.

Master bedroom.
Pool is focus of spacious court, dining room at end.

Skylight brightens kitchen.
thus eliminating the need for space consuming corridors, and serves as an intermediary between the private areas.

To emphasize the aspect of four enclosures, contrasting materials were employed. For the most part, the living areas have stained oak flooring and stained fir ceilings. The private spaces, however, are featured by carpeted floors and painted gypsum board ceilings.

Over the court, the ceiling is frosted glass panels and the roof is formed of corrugated plastic sections.

Major feature of the partial lower level is a recreation room for the children, reached by a circular stair from the library. There are also storage, utility and workshop rooms, and the balance of the basement is crawl space. There are three separate entrances to the basement areas.

Each room of the private areas has at least one floor-to-ceiling steel casement window. And each major living area – the living room, the dining room, and the study – has its own sliding glass door to the outside. In areas closed off from the interior court, such as the kitchen, skylights supply additional natural light.

Please turn to page 30
Most executives in most new plants like their new buildings because they feel a strong sense of identification through participating in the general planning. When their enthusiasm remains high for well over a year, and when employees like it, too—the building is a success. This is the way it is at Sargent & Company.

New Haven’s Long Wharf redevelopment area didn’t look like much when it was first staked out in 1960. Even after months of trucking in fill, it didn’t look very practical to people passing on the Connecticut Turnpike. But Douglas Orr had grasped the significance of the space and welcomed the challenge to give it utility in an attractive setting for the manufacture of architectural and residential hardware.

The Office of Douglas Orr, working with Pedersen and Tilney as associated architects, was charged with the assignment of condensing a multi-building, multi-story factory into a single story industrial structure with considerably less floor space. And have it capable of making more products, better and faster.

The old Sargent plant, new in 1864, was a model of factory construction. Its innovations included water for washing, as well as for manufacturing and fire fighting purposes, and “well ventilated water closets and thorough sewage.” Before it was built, an old shore resort hotel and several other buildings had to be demolished in what may have been New Haven’s first redevelopment project.

The site selected is on the shore of New Haven harbor. The original elevation was four feet, with water filtering over, under, around and through the area. What land there was consisted of an upper layer of organic silty clay over sand and silt. The clay, which is compressible, varied in thickness to a maximum depth of 45 feet. It was estimated that the land settlement under fill and building loads could range from one to five feet.

Two alternatives were considered. First, foundations could be
driven through the compressible material to a stable base. Second, the compressible material could be stabilized before construction by surcharge loading combined with sand drainage. It was decided that this was the more economical method.

More than 11,000 sand wells, ten inches in diameter and averaging forty feet deep, were sunk throughout the site. Then a four-foot layer of coarse sand was spread over the entire site, followed by a surcharge of a half million cubic yards of fill. This surcharge covered the site of the plant to a depth of 24 feet in the areas where the final loads would be the heaviest.

Stressing the essential flexibility of structure, Mr. Orr said: "The stabilization design of the building was based on floor loads up to 400 p/s/f. The foundation conditions indicated the desirability of keeping the dead loads as light as possible. And since residual settlement was expected to be in the range of four to six inches over a fifty year period, flexibility of structure was necessary.

"Materials for the walls, therefore, could not be rigid masonry which would crack even under slight variations in settlement. As a result of these conditions, steel framing and light-weight non-masonry wall covering were chosen to reduce dead loads and to permit, without damage, some slight variation in settlement over the building's 325,000 square feet. For purposes of siting and drainage, building floors were constructed at an elevation of fourteen feet with the general grade varying from eight to ten feet."

In designing the building, the overriding aim was to eliminate all obstacles which might interfere with the work flow. Wash rooms,
toilets and locker rooms were situated in centrally located mezzanines where they can be reached with minimum travel from the work areas.

The architects worked closely with John S. Martin, Sargent's plant facilities engineer, who represented the company's planning group comprised of Herman R. Giese, president; Stanley R. Cullen, vice president; Richard Wanner, works manager; and James Murdie, production control manager. One decision by this group set an unusual and far-sighted precedent. As a manufacturer of hardware, it would have been very simple, and relatively inexpensive, for Sargent to have supplied its own hardware. However, it was decided to purchase their hardware from the company's local distributor, Architectural Hardware Company of Hamden. The total contract came to $20,000, which, of course, included hardware not made by Sargent as well as their own.

Five years of planning, plus split second timing by the architects, engineers, builders and the company enabled the transfer of some 1000 pieces of manufacturing machinery to the new plant without any production delay. Each department operated in the old building until the last possible minute. When the movers stepped in to dismantle the equipment in a department, the employees left for a week of their annual vacation. When they reported back for work in the new building, everything was set up and ready to go.

The building is completely air conditioned. Two-hundred ton units serve the office areas and fourteen other units of 70 tons each regulate factory temperature. The factory units are suspended from the ceiling as part of the overall plan to reserve all floor space for productive elements.

Since the building is air conditioned and because of production layout, the factory building has no windows. Exterior walls are vertically ribbed Galbestos with a weather protective coating. The office building portion, which faces
the Connecticut Turnpike and New Haven harbor, has a metal and glass curtain wall. There is a projecting gray glass shade, or screen, to reduce heat from the sun and eliminate the need for blinds or drapes in the offices.

The general offices are well lighted and, although immediately adjacent to the factory, quiet and pleasant. An ingenious system of decorator colors separates the various departments and adds to the pleasant working environment. As in the factory, the office layout follows production flow with engineering being located at the northern end and shipping in the south. The offices occupy 38,500 square feet of space, sixty percent of which is devoted to open space for general use. Full provision has been made for any future expansion which may become necessary.

The 720-foot long building includes a factory area 480 feet wide with an office area 288 feet wide. Two parking lots accommodate 700 cars and the entire plant occupies approximately one-third of its 30-acre site.
Two factors in the factory were given special study. First, the floor had to bear heavy traffic. A specially hardened concrete, impervious to oil and dust-free, was specified to give the floor an extremely smooth surface of marble-like hardness. Dense concrete Kalman surfacing was used. Second, a noise absorbing ceiling was needed, and Porete gave both this and the insulation required for the air conditioned building.

The plant has its own waste reclamation system. A chemical waste treating plant renders harmless non-corrosive materials which are then released into the sewer. More potent corrosive waste waters are rendered chemically inactive in a neutralizing system which then discharges them into a settling pond. Their reuse of water has reduced by half the company's demand for fresh water, and completely eliminated the discharge of corrosive or tainted water into public waste systems or public waterways. Treatment details were designed by Lansley Laboratories which periodically demonstrate that the reused water is completely potable.

Another innovation is a plant-wide security system. Electronic monitoring terminates in a three-panel station in the security office. A guard can note immediately on a light-studded console when a door is opened. A light flashes and a horn sounds to attract his attention and pinpoint the location. The system reacts similarly to the start of a fire, the operation of the sprinkler system, and any malfunction of boilers or air conditioning units. Emergencies are detected at once, and in Mr. Orr's words, "in time to spell the difference between annoyance and disaster."

A 300-seat cafeteria and spacious canteen areas centrally located in the plant provide food service. The cafeteria doubles for a meeting room when needed. There is a well equipped first aid room, a store where employees may purchase Sargent products, and a training school room.

From a maintenance standpoint, the new plant has reduced manpower needs by half. Use of water, gas and fuel has been reduced substantially, but power use has increased. The net utilities bill is down.

Douglas Orr felt that the appearance of the plant from all angles was important. Its proximity to the Connecticut Turnpike and its key location in New Haven's new public facade put extra emphasis on its esthetic side. Care was taken in the building's design to eliminate roof-top protuberances that often mar the appearance of otherwise handsome buildings. He resisted, too, any temptation to erect
Profile

A half-century ago, J. Gerald Phelan became the first architect on the staff of Fletcher-Thompson, Inc., a small Bridgeport industrial engineering firm founded six years earlier. Today, as president of Fletcher-Thompson, he heads one of the 100 largest architectural firms in the nation.

For almost a quarter-century, Gerry Phelan was the chief designer — essentially the only designer — at Fletcher-Thompson. Then he became president, and the firm grew under his leadership to the point where today he heads a design council of six, and a team of 17 architects.

J. G. Phelan was educated in the classic and traditional school of architecture, and his response to some of the modern schools that have come along — to stay, or go — in the last 50 years, has been conservative. But he has always been ready to accept new ideas if they would better serve his clients. His career with Fletcher-Thompson has been a record of success built upon a man with a new idea.

He was that “new idea” himself when he joined the organization — an architect on an engineering staff. He guided the firm into leadership in a new field, as one of the first of the total creative firms with fully integrated architectural and engineering staffs.

He gives extreme freedom to the other design principals in Fletcher-Thompson. While he is increasingly occupied with administration, all designs come under his critique as head of the design council, and he insists on good, functional architecture.

Perhaps the best example of Phelan’s success in building a firm which combines architectural creativity with practical, functional design, is the Church of the Ascension in Hamden, now in working drawings.

The 850-seat nave has only 17 rows of pews in a semi-circle, bringing the worshippers into full participation in the new liturgy. Its “escargot style” is strikingly contemporary. But its practical development of the functional requirements of the new liturgy is so natural that it preserves the traditional sense of serenity and familiarity which frees the worshipper from the individuality of the design to partake of the inspiration of the total relationship.

Taken by itself, the Church of the Ascension would be a notable work of any firm, but as the product of an organization with a close continuing association with Catholic architecture, it stands out as a testimony to the creative value of the client relationship Mr. Phelan...
has developed by attention to functional design.

However, the key to functionalism in Fletcher-Thompson designs is not the machine, but people, which may explain why they have been called on again and again to design buildings in which people function — schools, hospitals, religious institutions and others. This same element is evident in Fletcher-Thompson designs for industrial buildings — practical, functional designs for places where people work.

The importance of people in Mr. Phelan's approach to architecture was demonstrated warmly the night of April 14 when some 175 friends and associates gave him a dinner at the Algonquin Club (a Fletcher-Thompson design) in Bridgeport, to celebrate his fiftieth anniversary with the firm.

The people at Fletcher-Thompson had gotten together to endow an award in his name at his alma mater — Pratt Institute of Architecture — for an outstanding architectural student.

In accepting the award, Dean Orlindo Grossi noted the large number of Pratt graduates on the staff at Fletcher-Thompson and said, "some of us think his office is an annex to our school." The simple fact is that J. Gerald Phelan has always extended his "family" to include all with whom he comes in close contact — his fellow alumni at Pratt, where he is still president of the Architect '13 Club formed by his Pratt classmates, and his staff at Fletcher-Thompson.

In keeping with this concept, the Fletcher-Thompson people made the dinner a family affair, responding to the sense of close personal teamwork that has been an essential part of their approach to "total creative" design.

Other Connecticut architects took part in the Phelan Golden Anniversary. Richard L. Howland, president of the Connecticut Society of Architects, presented the good wishes of the Society to Past President Phelan, with an inscribed resolution adopted by the CSA-AIA.

Certificates were presented also by Stuart Tillinghast, A.I.A., as president of the Connecticut Building Congress, and William Vermeulen, P.E., president of the Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers. Mr. Phelan is a past director of the CSPE and is certified by the National Council of Architectural Engineers.

Bridgeport Mayor Hugh Curran was on hand to extend personal and official good wishes and demonstrated his appreciation for what

Please turn to page 20
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Phelan and his associates have contributed to the development of Bridgeport by staying for the entire evening – even though it was the night of a crucial party primary affecting his political future.

Others on hand included members of the State Architectural Registration Board, who came to express their respect and regard for Board President Phelan.

His reminiscences were typically unassuming, giving all credit to his wife Ruth and son John G. Phelan, Jr., executive vice president of Fletcher-Thompson, and to his Fletcher-Thompson associates.

Six years ago, when Fletcher-Thompson celebrated its 50th, Mr. Phelan said: “I have no desire to make headlines with what I do,” and the architects who create a better environment rarely do make headlines. Nevertheless, as Mayor Curran said, “Gerry Phelan’s influence in the nation and the city will be felt for years to come.”

Guided by his critical eye, Fletcher-Thompson has designed a major portion of the new Bridgeport, master-planned the development of Fairfield University creating the environment in which thousands of young students will spend their formative years, and...
designed the working areas for many of the firms that are leading Connecticut's industrial growth.

Fletcher-Thompson's current dollar volume of construction design is approximately $30-million a year, and much of that is going to reshape the face of Connecticut. Over the past ten years the firm's work has been about 35 percent industrial, 35 percent educational, 10 percent religious, 10 percent commercial, 5 percent hospitals and 5 percent other. This distribution reflects involvement in the total creative development of the state.

The design council coordinates the project teamwork at Fletcher-Thompson. The members of the council working with the president are A. D. Ciresi, A.I.A., P.E.; F. D. George, A.I.A.; R. H. Mutrux, A.I.A.; A. M. Shoemaker, R.A., P.E.; and Russell Mott.

Their team includes 17 architects, six of whom are also registered engineers; 12 other engineers; 20 architectural and engineering designers; 35 draftsmen; three specification writers; six field inspectors; and 17 administrative and clerical personnel.

This force of 110 people is engaged currently on a wide range of projects, ranging from the Church of the Ascension to the $25-million Lafayette Plaza redevelopment project on 15 acres in downtown Bridgeport. Fletcher-Thompson, working with Lathrop Douglass, F.A.I.A., of Greenwich, is the planning-architectural-engineering design team for the Central Bridgeport Development Corporation and the City of Bridgeport. The project includes a 150,000-square foot Sears department store; a 50,000-square foot Sears auto service center; a 70,000-square foot enclosed mall serving...
ABOVE: Guests at 50th Anniversary salute to J. Gerald Phelan. Left to right: Stuart Tillinghast, president, Connecticut Building Congress; William Vermeulen, president, Connecticut Society of Professional Engineers; Mr. Phelan; and Dean Orlando Grossi, Pratt Institute School of Architecture.

BELOW: Richard L. Howland, president of CSA-AIA, signs the Society's resolution commending J. Gerald Phelan for his service to architecture in Connecticut. Andrew S. Cohen, left, and Ralph T. Rowland, right, both CSA past presidents, look on.

Fairfield University, planned and designed by Fletcher-Thompson.

Fletcher-Thompson's President Phelan begins the next fifty years.

330,000 square feet of two-level retail floor space; a five-story 50,000-square foot office building; and a seven-story, 2,000-car parking garage.

Other current projects include the $6-million seven-story Interchurch Residences, Inc., housing for the elderly project in Bridgeport; the $2.5 million Security Treatment Center at Middletown for the State Penal and Mental Health Departments; a $1.5 million 800-student addition to Amity Regional High School in Woodbridge; a 600,000 square foot office-manufacturing-warehousing facility for the Milton Bradley Company in East Longmeadow, Massachusetts; a medical research building for the American Optical Company in Framingham, Massachusetts; a Retreat House for the Redemptorist Fathers in Long Branch, New Jersey; relocation of Seton Hall Preparatory School in Summit, New Jersey; and four more projects in the Trumbull Industrial Park.

These are a few of the projects that occupy the Phelan attention. He has much to look back on, but his gaze is focused ahead — new designs — new ideas — a more functionally creative tomorrow.
It's a rather intriguing bit of Yankee ingenuity—a round manhole cover has the only shape that won't fall through no matter which way it's turned.

Back in the twenties, manhole covers were square. But one day somebody who'd been thinking about it—somebody who spent a lot of time in manholes—pointed out the advantage of round ones. Seems he was getting nervous down there.

To any business dealing in progress, Yankee ingenuity like this is a precious commodity. In fact, our business was founded on it back in the quite 1870's.

That's when the world's first commercial switchboards were improvised in New Haven and Meriden with carriage bolts, teapot-cover handles and wire from ladies' bustles.

It's this kind of ingenuity that has made it possible to call anywhere in the continental United States any night after 8 p.m. (or any time at all on Sundays) for a dollar or less. Forty years ago that call would have cost eleven times as much.

But that was back when people working in manholes were still getting clobbered every so often by a square manhole cover.
The Architectural Registration Board met on April 15, 1966. The Board accepted with sincere regret the resignation of Hugh McK. Jones, Jr., A.I.A., who has diligently served the Board as Executive Secretary for a number of years. His dedicated service to the Board will be missed. The Board extended to him its sincere thanks for a job well done and wished him success in his new venture as Executive Director of the Connecticut Society of Architects, Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

At the meeting, the results of the recent examinations were graded and certificates of registration were granted to the following:

James M. Addiss, New Haven
Charles A. Ahlstrom, Hamden
Donald J. Baerman, New Haven
Richard R. Bergmann, Norwalk
Norbert J. Blum, Hamden
George E. Buchanan, Jr., Hartford
Jose M. Silva, New York, N.Y.
Thomas W. Brown, Jr., Boston, Mass.
Benjamin B. duPont, Pine Orchard
Paul V. Elsberry, Jr., New Haven
Hannibal Flores-Jenkins, Bloomfield
Robert T. Furey, Hazardville
Jack Gonchor, Brooklyn, N.Y.
Robert L. Wilson, Riverdale, N.Y.
Joseph A. Ceddo, Old Tappan, N.J.
James V. Cordasco, Parsippany, N.J.
Allan J. Dehar, Hamden
Gilbert E. B. Hoffman, New Haven
John M. Kenney, Middletown, N.Y.
Francis M. Roche, Lyme
Emile Vestuti, Baltimore, Md.
Richard L. Hughes III, West Hartford
Jerry W. Lunt, Middletown
Fabian H. McCarthy, Rye, N.Y.
Clifford Mitchell, Jr., Hartford
Gary N. Snyder, Trumbull
George A. Shelton, Milford

An agreement was reached by the Professional Engineers Board and the Architectural Registration Board and it is expected that an investigator will be employed shortly to serve both Boards. His duties will be to help all Building Inspectors throughout the state in the interpretation of the statutes concerning architectural and engineering practice and to investigate complaints throughout the state.

The new roster of Registered Engineers and the Revised Rules and Regulations of the Board have been distributed to all architects.

Howard J. Sullivan, Secretary

It's only human to be attracted by a very alluring bid when you buy air conditioning. The rocks may not show up 'til later.

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NEW SERVICES
AND
CHARGES GUIDE

The Connecticut Blue Book has been superseded with adoption of the new New England Regional Statement of Service and Charges of the Architect by the CSA-AIA Executive Committee. The new publication is now the recommended guide for use in Connecticut as well as in all New England.

The primary reason for the change is to have Connecticut's Regional Blue Book reflect the same information that is in the current AIA Contract Form B131. A thorough review of the book will show where certain information has been clarified, wording changed and various unnecessary items deleted. In essence, it is based on the Blue Book used by Connecticut architects for several years.

Section V of the old Blue Book has been revised completely into a much more concise and readable text. Section I of the old book has become Section VI in the new one and presents the aims and obligations of the architect in a most professional manner.

One major item is that of the fee schedule which is in the process of being revised and up-graded. Another three or four months will be needed to implement this project. Meanwhile, the schedule of fees which should be used is the one inserted in the back of the new book and date-stamped February 9, 1966.

It is intended to have the fee schedule printed on the back cover of the Regional Blue Book, rather than have it as a loose insert.

The CSA-AIA Executive Committee solicits architects' comments on the new Regional Blue Book. Write to: Hugh McK. Jones, Executive Director, Box 100, Guilford, Connecticut 06437.
ROCHE TO DESIGN ARTS CENTER

Kevin Roche has been chosen to design a new Creative Arts Center at Wesleyan University in Middletown.

With approximately 180,000 square feet of floor space, the center is the largest single structure scheduled to date in the University’s development program. It will include a core exhibition area; a 50,000 volume art, music and theater library; a 400-seat theater; a 500-seat recital hall; and an outdoor performance arena. Construction is scheduled to begin in 1967 and require about two years.

Roche is principal designer and a partner in the architectural firm of Eero Saarinen and Associates in Hamden. A graduate of the National University of Ireland, he also studied under Mies van der Rohe at Illinois Institute of Technology. In 1965, Roche was the winner of the Brunner Award from the National Institute of Arts and Letters.

NEW DEAN AT R.P.I.

Keith McPheeters has been named dean of the School of Architecture at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute. He succeeds George A. Dudley who has resigned to accept the post of dean of the new School of Architecture and Urban Planning at the University of California at Los Angeles.

A native of Oklahoma, McPheeters received his bachelor’s degree in architecture at Oklahoma State University. He also received a master of fine arts degree in architecture at Princeton University, where he was a teaching assistant. Before joining the University of Arkansas School of Architecture faculty, he taught at the University of Florida and at Auburn University.

Professionally, McPheeters has been associated with several architectural firms as draftsman, designer and consultant, and he has had his own practice in Fayetteville, Arkansas, since 1961.

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MAY-JUNE 1966
Progress

Continued from page 6

- General policy is established by the Executive Committee, consisting of the officers, the commissioners, and the following members:
  Edward E. Cherry
  David G. Grego
  Ray C. Ferguson
  Alton J. Hawley
  Jack H. Scheeter
  Cyril K. Smith, Jr.
  Harvey M. White

The Chapter is a part, not only of the national organization, but also of one of its subdivisions — the New England Region. Each Region nominates its Regional Director, who becomes one of the Institute's Directors. Our present Regional Director is Willis N. Mills, FAIA, who is also Chairman of the national Commission on Architectural Design, Chairman of the Task Force on Community Ugliness, and Advisor to the 1966 Honor Awards Jury. Mr. Mills addressed our meeting on April 22 and emphasized these points:

- The regional organization’s purposes are two-fold; one is to knit together the chapters of an area into an effective working unit, and the other is to facilitate “grass roots” government of the national organization.

- Through regional participation, individual member and chapter problems and needs can be effectively dealt with at the national level.

- The Regional Council, consisting of the region’s chapter presidents and presided over by the Regional Director, meets frequently for effective communication and to deal with problems as they arise.

- The Annual Regional Convention encourages individual member participation and meets regional needs for action, inspiration, and in-service training. This year, the Regional Convention will be held at Sturbridge Village, Massachusetts, on October 7, 8 and 9.

It is important for architects to understand that individual participation in national and even international affairs is possible outside the hierarchy of Institute officialdom. Eight members of the Connecticut Society are now serving on important national committees. Our Vice President, Richard S. Sharpe, recently returned from his second visit to South America on Institute business, expressed these views:

- No member need lack an outlet for his energies and enthusiasms for any phase of his professional interests. He need only make his desires known to his chapter's officers to be put in touch with the chairman of the appropriate chapter committee.

- His own experience on the Committee on International Relations has been extremely satisfying. It has involved personal acquaintance with many Latin American architects, including one who is president of his country. He feels that his committee’s efforts have had results in cementing international relations which rival those of branches of the federal government, and mentioned with pride the contributions of another AIA group toward resolving border problems along the Rio Grande River last year.

- Participation in national committee work is available to any member. It can be professionally broadening and rich in personal satisfaction.

Our meeting of April 22 was particularly illuminated by the remarks of the national Vice President of the Institute, Robert L. Durham, FAIA. In his eloquent presentation on Institute functions at the national level, Mr. Durham made the following points:

- The practice of Architecture has changed spectacularly in recent decades. The unaffiliated practitioner of an earlier time would today be hard put to maintain professional standards but for the work of AIA and its components.
• The AIA's purpose is to unite all—architects, employees, wives, and others—in the bonds of fellowship toward the realization of common goals. This is a recent concept compared with the earlier idea of "principals only," which is out of step with the contemporary situation.
• One of the new architectural responsibilities is that of recognizing the importance of community needs over the desires of an individual client.
• To conserve its strength, the Institute has to be careful not to attempt doing what is already being well done locally. For example, Philadelphia already has an excellent Continuing Education Program going. And in Chicago, seven architects are working with seven lawyers to develop standards for effective court room design, a much needed program.
• Forty-six staff members at the Octagon are paid out of members' dues. The staff is superlative, being composed mostly of eager, young architects, each of whom would be a credit to the office of any practicing member. It is divided into four Departments: Institute Services, Professional Services, Public Services, and Business Management.
• A major concern of the Institute is that all architects be able to make a reasonable living. This involves adequate fees, improvement of the demand for professional services, and more efficient production of these services.
• Better public information has been effectively fostered by national and regional press seminars, films for general use, filmstrips for high school and vocational use, and publications for practitioner-guidance in this field.
• Regarding the frequent query, "Why does it cost so much to belong to the AIA?", Mr. Durham compared it with union dues which are usually much higher but are paid in smaller installments. He pointed out that the annual budget of $1,836,000, divided by about 18,000 members, amounts to over $100 each, although each one pays less than half that for corporate dues. Thanks to various investments and sales of materials, the dues paid return "double your money back" in services of all types.
• Beyond this, employers pay "supplemental" dues, based on FICA taxes, which are used for new, non-recurring special projects. The resulting $100,000 had to be used last year for the most promising among $345,000 worth of projects.
• The need is to integrate the chapters' strengths into a national entity. Besides the bi-weekly MEMO, the monthly AIA Journal helps in the effort and makes available to all the best information extant on a great variety of subjects.
• The "War on Ugliness" is the Institute's greatest public effort to date and the most successful.
• A task force is studying intensely the burgeoning need for architectural technicians, with major efforts directed at the expanding junior colleges in the nation.
• The basic effort of the Institute can be embodied in the phrase, "better design, better capability, better demand."

Thus, briefly, the functions of the local, regional and national organizations were presented. The purposes of the meeting and this outline of it were threefold:
• That those corporate members of AIA who have been members in name only will come to have some feeling of pride in their organization and realize that it doesn't go just by itself.
• That uncommitted members of the old CSA will come to feel that the Institute is really worthwhile and be moved to become corporate members, thus participating in and supporting national as well as state efforts in behalf of their profession.
• That non-member architects will be sufficiently impressed with the Institute's accomplishments and this new chapter's intentions to apply for membership.

I urge those of you who were not able to attend the meeting to give membership serious consideration. We need each other!
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Maxwell Moore has been named to the Connecticut State Commission on the Arts. A graduate of the Yale School of Architecture, he is a partner in the architectural firm of Moore and Salsbury in West Hartford.

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Narrow Lot
Continued from page 10

The exterior of the house is finished with painted, vertical cedar siding, laid flush. The sliding doors from the living room open on a large deck which provides a viewpoint over the countryside. A smaller deck is reached from the dining room and also serves as the outside entrance to the kitchen.

Landscaping has been kept to indigenous shrubs and ground cover plants to achieve a sensitive blending of natural surroundings with the structure.

The forced hot air heating, installed by the Leeper Company of New Haven, is separated into three zones for controlled comfort. Provision was also made for later addition of warm weather air conditioning.

John C. Martin served as structural engineering consultant on the design, and the builder was Ibsen Bros. Inc. of North Haven.

The residence of Architect Miller reflects a well-planned design for a limited physical site and the result creates a unique effect.

SIDNEY T. MILLER graduated from Yale University with Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Architecture degrees. Following association with several architectural offices in the New Haven area, he established his own practice this year.
ARCHITECTS TO SHARE YALE POST

James Frazer Stirling of London and Robert Venturi of Philadelphia will be the first incumbents of the new Charlotte Shepherd Davenport chair in the Yale School of Art and Architecture. Stirling will be the Davenport professor for the spring term and Venturi for the fall term of the academic year. The chair was established in 1965 in the bequest of the late Professor Shepherd Stevens, a member of the Yale architecture faculty from 1920 to 1947.

A native of Glasgow, Stirling received his professional education at Liverpool University of Architecture, and has been in private practice since 1956. He is characterized as a great architectural designer as well as a famous thinker by the Chairman of the Yale Department of Architecture, Professor Charles W. Moore.

Venturi received both bachelor's and master's degrees in arts from Princeton University and also studied at the American Academy in Rome under a Rome Prize Fellowship. In practice, he was associated with Oscar Stonorov, Eero Saarinen, and Louis Kahn. Professor Moore says of him: "Venturi is one of the world's leading architectural intellectuals as well as a superb designer."

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Continued from page 15

an identifying sign on the roof. The roof is without the usual excrescences that so often appear on factory roofs. A simple dignified sign bearing only the name "Sargent" is located at the entrance to the parking area, away from the building. Over the entrance are the words "Sargent Architectural Hardware."

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Hubbard, Lawless & Osborne did the engineering assignment, and Henry Pfisterer was structural engineering consultant. General contractor was W. J. Megin, Inc.

Commenting on the building, Sargent Vice President Stanley Cullen said: "We have now the ideal manufacturing plant for our products. It is well designed from both functional and esthetic aspects. We are able to research, design, engineer and produce in a well integrated structure made specifically for our purpose. The architect did an outstanding job of giving us what we wanted, and even things we did not know we wanted until he convinced us."

DOUGLAS ORR, Yale University, BFA and MFA in Architecture, is a Fellow of The American Institute of Architects and a past president of AIA. An Academician of the National Academy of Design, he is an Honorary Corresponding Member of the Royal Institute of British Architects and served as Vice Chairman of the Commission on Renovation of the White House (1948-52) and of the President's Advisory Commission on Presidential Office Space (1956-57). Engaged in the practice of architecture since 1926, he has received numerous honors and has been responsible for many outstanding buildings.

WM. F. PEDERSEN is a graduate of Harvard, Chairman of the Committee on Housing Design in the New York Chapter, AIA, and a past Chairman on Housing of the American Institute of Architects. A Trustee of the National Institute for Architectural Education, he and his associates were winners in a competition for a memorial for Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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May-June 1966
CSA-AIA FAMILY PICNIC

The annual family picnic of the Connecticut Society of Architects, Chapter of AIA will be held on Sunday, August 14, 1966, at the Pinecrest Country Club, Shelton, Connecticut.

Serving is from 11 a.m. on, and swimming and other recreational facilities are available for use by everyone at the outing.

Mrs. Joseph J. Slovack, 362 Long Hill Avenue, Shelton, is chairman of the event which is sponsored by the Women's Architectural League.

HHK MOVES

Hirsch ' Hammerberg ' Kaestle, Architects, have moved to offices in a new building of their own design. The new location is One Prospect Street, New Britain. They were located formerly in the New Britain Trust Building, 259 Main Street.

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