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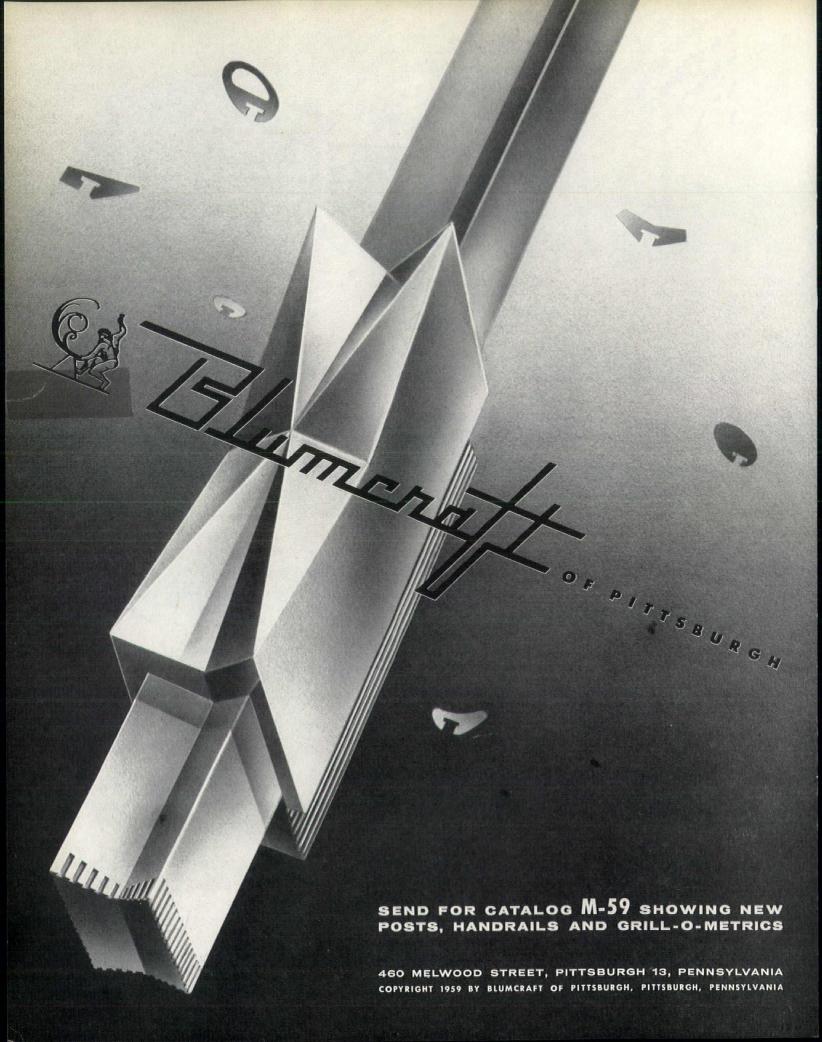
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AIA and AGC Presidents Conduct 'Summit Meeting'

Top officials of the American Institute of Architects and the Associated General Contractors of America held their first "summit meeting" in Washington, D. C., on July 17 to discuss strengthening the relationship between these two major organizations in the construction industry.

AGC President James W. Cawdrey of Seattle, Wash., expressed the hope that the same spirit of friendly cooperation between the AIA and AGC on the national level would prevail at the local level. He submitted several practical suggestions to facilitate better cooperation at the local level.

AIA President John Noble Richards of Toledo, Ohio, reemphasized the importance of close liason between the architect and the general contractor in order to eliminate misunderstandings and to secure the bene-

fits which result from understanding each other's work and problem.

The representatives discussed the merits of the single contract system, compared legislative policies and reviewed ways to get architects and general contractors to play an active role in redeveloping urban centers. Other subjects considered included retained percentages and scholarships.

The meeting was the first annual top level conference between the officers and key staff members of the two groups, and future meetings will provide an opporutnity to review yearly programs, discuss major problems, and combine efforts on subjects of mutual concern.

In addition to Mr. Richards and Mr. Cawdrey, others present at the meeting were George S. Wright of Albuquerque, N. M., cochairman of the National Joint Cooperative Committee for the AIA; Carl W. Olson of Lincoln, Neb., co-chairman of the National Joint Cooperative Committee for the AGC; AIA Executive Director Edmund R. Purves, and AGC Executive Director James D. Marshall.

Fort Wayne UMA District Formed

It was announced by C. Dean Gaskill, President of the Unit Masonry Association and Sales Manager of the Spickelmier Division, Spickelmier Industries, Indianapolis, that a Fort Wayne UMA District had been formed under the Chairmanship of Roy Humbarger, General Dredging Company. The Fort Wayne District membership is composed of masonry material manufacturers, dealers,



Ft. Wayne UMA Committees: (seated, left to right) Jack Brand, Auburn Concrete Products Co.; Roy Humbarger, General Dredging Co.; Dale Pine, Bricklayers' Local No. 2; (standing, left to right) Gerald Carrington, mason contractor; William Rudolph, Old Fort Supply Co.; William Hagerman, general contractor; and C. A. Weaver, UMA Executive Director.

masonry contractors and suppliers. The Fort Wayne Bricklayers Union, under the leadership of Dale Pine, is also actively participating in the district organization.

Mr. Gaskill said that the purposes of the UMA are to promote and encourage efficiency in masonry construction, and to work and cooperate with architects, contractors and owners in solving the many complex problems facing the industry, as well as to encourage the use of masonry materials in new construction.

The Fort Wayne District Steering Committee membership is composed of the following: Roy Humbarger, Chairman, Jack Brand, Auburn Concrete Products Co., Dale Fine, Secretary, Local No. 2—Bricklayers Union, Gerald Carrington, Fort Wayne Masonry Contractor, William Rudolph, Old Fort Supply Corp., William Hagerman, Fort Wayne General Contractor and Melvin McDevitt, Fort Wayne Builders Supply Co. Dale Pine is Secretary-Treasurer of the Committee.

The Association maintains offices in Indianapolis at 525 East 38th Street. C. A. Weaver is the Executive Director.

Construction Contracts Set New Record

NEW YORK, Aug. 9 — Construction contracts in the first half of 1959 set a new all-time record for the period, with large increases in residential and non-residential building categories offsetting declines in heavy engineering, according to F. W. Dodge Corporation.

In a midyear review published in the Dodge monthly bulletin, Building Business, the Corporation's economists said that the most significant feature of the period was the strength showed by the private sector of the industry, which rose sharply despite a drop in government projects.

Noting that the Dodge seasonally adjusted index of contracts had risen to very high peaks in the middle of 1958, then declined in the winter, and is now rising again, the report said:

"The peak in the middle of 1958 was very largely the result of government stimulation of housing and highway activity as an antirecession measure. Perhaps the best feature of the first half of 1959 is that contracts have risen to almost the same level without the benefit of special government stimulants."

Other key developments noted in the review, which was written by Dodge vice president and economist George Cline Smith and associate economist Edwin W. Magee Jr., include:

1—A "phenomenal recovery" of contracts for factory buildings, after a slow start, with June contracts running 89 per cent ahead of June, 1958.

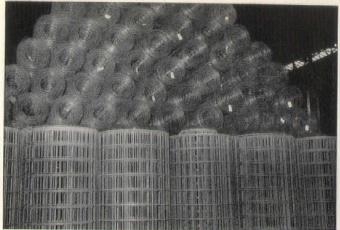
2—Continued strength in housing throughout the period, with no signs of a decline despite tightening money.

3—A fairly sharp drop in highway contracts below last year's levels, which was expected because of the large amount of activity last year in special anti-recession programs.

4—"Unexpected strength" in commercial buildings, with store buildings strong all through the first half and office buildings showing an upturn in the last two months.

Atlas Van-Lines, Inc., Chicago, has announced that it is inviting bids for the construction of its new Evansville, Indiana, headquarters.

The architect's drawings and plans for the \$180,000 building have been approved by Atlas' board of directors, and blueprints are now being drawn up by the architects, Hironimus-Knapp-Tarrants of Evansville.





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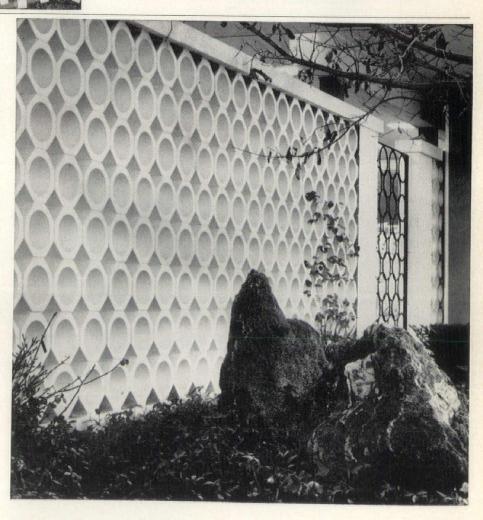
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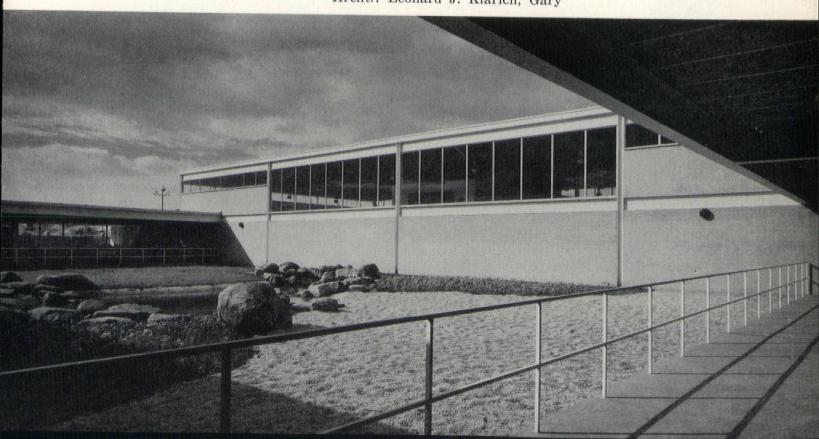


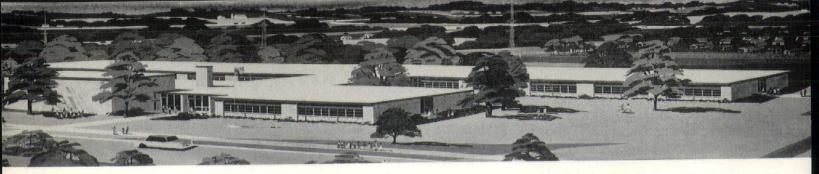
Education and Architecture

Indiana education—and architecture—have undergone vast improvements since the days of the almost forgotten 'little red school house'. From overcrowded country schools dotting the Hoosier countryside to large, well-designed modern centers of learning, education and architecture have worked together for the fuller enlightmnt of our youth.

As the back-to-school time approaches, THE INDIANA ARCHITECT salutes several results of this educator-architect cooperation. The schools on these pages were picked, not as the finest schools in the state, but rather as exemplifying the hallmark of Hoosier educational facilities.

(Below) GARNET SCHOOL, Gary Archt.: Leonard J. Klarich, Gary





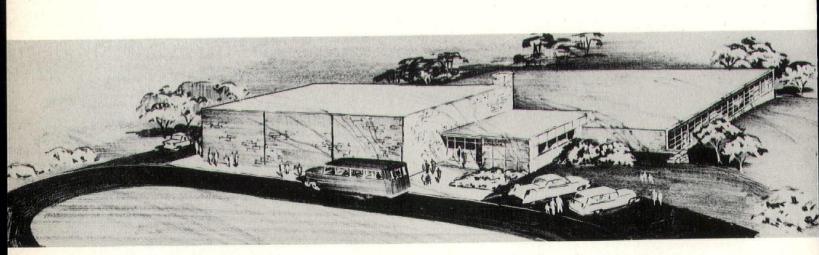
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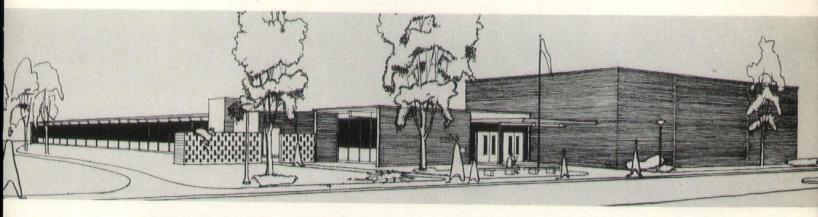
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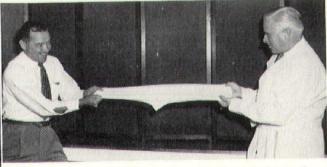
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Reduction of School Fires

(Reprinted by special permission,

METAL LATH NEWS, Vol. 23, No. 1)

School fires, unpopular as they are, manage to make headlines very easily. There is a big blaze. The flames and smoke take heavy tolls. And then the hospitals or morgues begin to fill up with little tykes or their remains.

Everybody fervently hopes such tragedies will not occur, yet we seem destined to have more school fires—even though the most recent ones should have taught us a lesson.

What sort of lesson has been taught us which we do not seem to apply fully? Actually, there are several; however, one important one centers around the phrase "do not build to burn."

Many children seem attracted toward matches. Older students may try to take time for a smoke. Housekeeping practices may be poor. Construction materials in a building may be such as to spread an initial small fire. In any event, school fires must be reckoned with by school officials.

SCHOOL BOARD OFFICIALS ROLE

School board members are constantly on the alert attempting to spare their own particular educational institution from a catastrophic school fire. Working with the utmost wisdom and, usually, a limited budget, these people consistently attempt to spend wisely the dollars on hand. After all, overseeing a school system is frequently a large operation — one which has to take into account many of the elements of big business.

Keeping this responsibility in mind, school board members find that they have to gain a working knowledge of many phases of the operation, maintenance, and construction of schools. Knowing that this is a super-human task, they must, out of necessity, rely upon the sincere advice of the architect in seeking their objective of fire-safe schools.

ARCHITECT'S ROLE

The architect, working closely with the school board, is cognizant of its budget problems. In fact, many times, the architect may be a tax-paying citizen of the community in which his proposed school building is to be erected. He or members of his staff may have children attending school.

When board members request from the architect information relating to the design, construction, or remodeling of school buildings, they lean very strongly upon his knowledge. They want his most suitable suggestions — keeping in mind the budget. They want the building to be practical in every sense. Of course, this practicability includes fire safety — meaning the protection of human lives. At this point, the knowledge of building products with their inherent capabilities or incapabilities becomes a prime factor — and the architect has the knowledge to make schools fire-safe.

Oftentimes, the policy and direction of the school board is influenced strongly by members of the community at hand. If the people living in this community have a keen desire for more adequate educational facilities, this attitude will be reflected in the board's decisions. On the other hand, a lackadaisical community attitude leaves the board without specific direction. Facilities or policies could continue to improve, or the trend could go in an adverse direction.

From the community, board members hope for an awareness of their task; some appreciation for their efforts; and a confidence in their decisions. The community, by its attitude, can lend encouragement in making schools fire-safe.

EDITORIAL COMMENTS

Since this country's most recent school fire conflagration, a multitude of copy has been written concerning school fires — the causes of these fires — and the elimination of the causes.

In the March issue of the American School Board Journal, Chicago Fire Commissioner Robert J. Quinn, after investigating the tragic December school fire stated that, "I firmly believe that we cannot judge expenditures for fire safety merely in terms of dollars and cents. If improvements save one life, they will have paid for themselves many times over."

U. S. News & World Report magazine stated December 1958 that, "Many schools are 'fire traps'. Even some that conform to building codes and 'pass inspection' may not be really safe."

An editorial in the January 29 edition of **Engineering News-Record** magazine stated that, "Steps should be taken immediately to rectify this dangerous situation."

An editorial in **Fire Engineering** magazine for February stated that, "As each day goes by with deficiencies left uncorrected, we increase the chances of another tragedy occuring as we debate the issues."

In March, Indiana Architect magazine stated that, "The American Institute of Architects called for a national conference with the hope of meeting with agencies and authorities on school safety."

Building Construction Illustrated magazine for January indicated that, "All walls enclosing stairs should be of non-combustible materials."

A chart displayed in **Newsweek** magazine for April 6 indicated that of the schools in eight major cities they surveyed, only two cities made it a point to enclose the stairwells in the schools.

The May issue of Charette architectural magazine reported a recent meeting of the Pittsburgh Chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute. In speaking about "Fire Protection in Schools" at this meeting, R. C. Monath, Design Engineer with Rust Engineering and a member of the Society of Fire Protection Engineers, indicated that, "Exit stairs should be self ventilated, enclosed, and broad."

These comments were extracted from a few of the many magazines and newspapers which are striving for better school construction.

The editors furnish the words, statistics, tabulations, charts, graphs, etc. — however, they cannot carry the ball all the way.

TRUTH OF THE MATTER

School construction cannot be considered strictly a taxation matter, The reason is simple. Lives are at stake — lives of individuals who have implicit trust in their elders using correct judgement in their interest!

Most of us have never experienced the shrill cries or the outright hysterical screams of persons trapped in a burning, smokefilled building. We hope never to be standing in the middle of such a holocaust.

FACTORS INVOLVED

This agony can be avoided generally by following correct fire safety practices backed up by fire-resistant building materials. The two elements cannot be discounted — neither human nature nor proper materials of construction.

REVEALING STATISTICS

In a booklet entitled, "School Fires" published by the National Fire Protection Association, Boston, Massachusetts, there is indicated a wealth of statistics relating to the various aspects of school fire studies. The following table, printed with the permission of the (Continued on Page 16)



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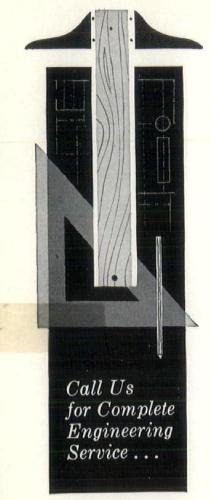
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Reduction of School Fires

(Continued from Page 14)

NFPA, helps to answer two common questions. They are: Where do school fires originate? What are the danger areas?

ROOMS WHERE FIRE ORIGINATED

ROOMS WHERE FIRE ORIG		
	No.	Per
	Fires	Cent
Students' Areas		36.5
Classrooms		
Workshops		
Auditorium, Chapel		
Laboratories		
Dormitories		
Gymnasiums		
Living Rooms		
Washrooms		
Office		
Library, Reading Rooms		
Studio		
Service Areas		34.1
Basement	87	
Boiler Room	51	
Closet	25	
Storeroom	19	
Kitchen	. 15	
Waste Chute	. 6	
Locker		
Coal Bin		
Organ Blower Room		
Outside		12.4
Roof		
Yard		
Garage, Barn		
Outbuildings		
Domestic's Quarter		
Miscellaneous Known	7.5	16.5
Attic, Roof Space		
Hallways		
Belfry, Towers		3
Projection Room		7
Partitions		
Chimney		3 / /
Elevator Well		
Annex		
Others		
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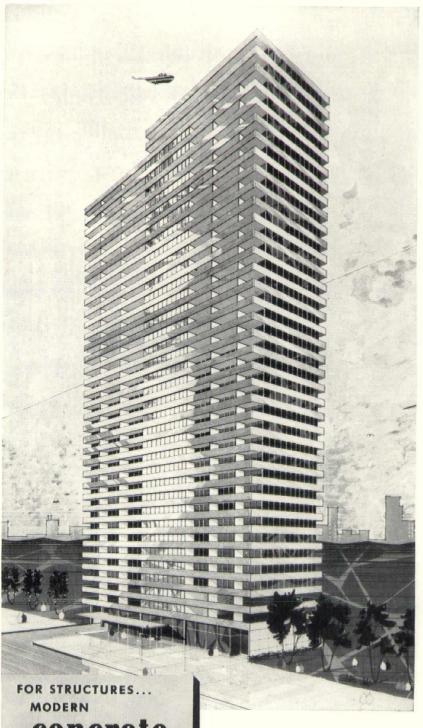
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Newspaper Articles Worth Reading...

Evidence of Waste Offered by Gerosa

Controller Lawrence E. Gerosa declared yesterday that recent test bidding on school construction had upheld one element of his charge of waste and extrav-

agance in that field. He said the bidding experiment had been conducted at his request with the consent of the construction bureau of the Board of Education. It involved bids on aluminum windows and wall design for Public School 296 in

Each of the eight contractors submitting bids was asked to add or subtract an amount estimated to cover the cost of masonry walls. In each instance there was a deduction credit of \$70,000 to \$80,000 for use of brick walls rather than metal skin walls.

Mr. Gerosa, who has contended that masonry rather than metal should be used in school-wall construction, said the Planet Construction Company of this city had been the low bidder with \$2,472,000 for aluminum walls and \$2,402,000 if masonry were (Reprinted from New York World-Telegram
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