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A recent newspaper item said that the Phoenix Union High School Board of Trustees was going to have its $8,400-a-year architect prepare plans and specifications for schools. This action, it was suggested, would save greatly on the normal $240,000 architectural "fees" of a $4 million school.

Among the knowledgeable architects who figuratively hit the ceiling at such public nonsense was Francis W. Bricker, AIA. I quote here from the thoughtful letter he wrote me:

"I wonder if the high school district would be willing to wait the eight years it would require for the one architect to complete the plans which would have already cost them $67,200. Of course, when he had completed these plans they still couldn't build the school because they wouldn't have any foundations, piers, trusses, rigid frames, bond beams, or wall reinforcing purlins because they didn't have the structural engineer that the private architect would have had to retain out of his 6% fee.

"They wouldn't have any plumbing, heating or cooling because they didn't have a mechanical engineer. They would be at the mercy of the contractor for wiring, panels and equipment connections because they didn't have an electrical engineer, and they wouldn't have any outside utilities because they didn't have a civil engineer."

Mr. Bricker was suggesting that there is much more to planning a school than the architect. "The structural engineer's fee ranges from ¾% to 1%, the mechanical engineer about 1% and the electrical engineer about ¼%. This is for working drawings and specifications only, which leaves less than 2% of the 4% allotted for the architect to do all the preliminary studies, co-ordination, architectural planning and detailing, specification writing, specification reproduction and print — which would require 10 or 15 men a full year to complete. And as yet," Mr. Bricker continues, "the architect hasn't hired a civil engineer to plan, lay out and draw up the outside utilities."

As for the remaining 2% for supervision, Mr. Bricker says a job of this size would require four full-time field supervisors for the 18 months it would take for construction which would cost the private architect with his
overhead about $74,880. This leaves him $5,120 for miscellaneous expenses during construction such as his own time for meetings with the Board, instructions to the supervisors, fees for inspections by the mechanical and electrical engineers and reproduction of miscellaneous field details and letters, and hours of discussion on the telephone, etc.

Here's another point Mr. Bricker makes, that should cause every citizen to shudder at the prospect of new schools designed by a salaried architect who is a subordinate of a buildings supervisor, who is a subordinate of a system superintendent whose job, in turn, is at the mercy of the school board:

"I feel that there is merit to employing an architect in an advisory capacity to guide the board in its early planning," Mr. Bricker says, "but even if the school is willing to hire and pay all the other consultants, draftsmen and clerical help required, I think it is a mistake for a salaried architect to produce a new school. It will lack proper planning, originality and function because it will be a product of individuals on the Board of Education who are not trained in school planning. If the architect opposes them he stands a risk of losing his job so he may simply be a "yes" man and a detailer."

The validity of the last point seems to be borne out by the fact that in recent publicity, the proposed "plan" for new high schools features the name of Bill Swisher, the system's building supervisor, rather than of his employee, Architect Steve Glowaki.

Last December Arizona Architect carried David Sholder's answer to the Phoenix High School Board on their building supervisor's "new" design for do-it-yourself schools. So we, along with at least several architects, were amazed when a local construction magazine last month picked up the same story and gave it fresh play. Here are some of Mr. Bricker's observations on the home-made plan:

"I fail to see the economy that its backers claim, either in original construction cost or operation. All corridors are interior which will require additional lights, skylights, walls, insulation, acoustical treatment, and larger air conditioning to handle the extra area to be heated and cooled, light fixtures and a full capacity emergency power plant that will be absolutely necessary.

"The roof area has not been reduced and even the canting of this, plus roof drains, down spouts and horizontal drains to the storm sewers must be considered.
A building of this area, even if entirely fireproof, would have to be separated into small areas divided by "smoke doors" to prevent asphyxiation from smoke from possible "occupancy fires." It would also require a sprinkler system unless entirely of reinforced concrete construction.

"It will be necessary to keep either the refrigeration or ventilation system in operation at all times to maintain proper breathing air, temperature and humidity in both corridors and rooms."

Mr. Bricker finished with this thought: "Maybe esthetics are not important today, but I cannot believe the factory-like appearance and tunnel-like halls with interior rooms would contribute to the feeling of well-being and freedom for our children."

Phil Stitt in the May, 1959, Arizona Architect
NEW MEMBERS

GERALD B. BARU, new Associate member, attended Central High School and Junior College in Kansas City, going on to KU for his B.S. in Architectural Engineering. He's licensed to practice in Kansas and Missouri and is with Marshall and Brown.

ROBERT G. WESTVOLD, new Associate member, is also with the firm of Marshall and Brown. A 1950 graduate of K-State U with a B.S. in Architectural Engineering, he is licensed to practice in Missouri and Kansas.

The firm of Horner, Fennel and Horner is well represented this month by JOHN R. HORNER, A.I.A., top, and DWIGHT C. HORNER, A.I.A., bottom. Both Horners are new Corporate members of the Kansas City Chapter. They attended Wyandotte High School in Kansas City, Kansas, and received their architectural degrees from KU. Both are licensed to practice in Missouri and Kansas.
Anno Domini MCMLIX

The American Institute of Architects

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The Kansas City Chapter, A.I.A.

with this

Citation of Honor

As an obligation of good practice you have sought "to be of constructive service in civic affairs." You have given full measure, pressed down and running over, to this rule of professional conduct.

You have set an example to all chapters, by your self-sacrificing labors in KC/80, thus demonstrating in your own community, and to the nation, that the architect holds fast to an objective listed in the Institute's constitution:

"To be of ever-increasing service to society."

[Signatures]

Secretary

President
HIGHLIGHTS OF THE 1959
A. I. A. CONVENTION

By Angus McCallum, President
Kansas City Chapter, A.I.A.

There seems to be general agreement that the format of this year's convention was decidedly improved over previous years. The business meetings were brief and very much to the point; and the various panels and individual addresses were all of a high standard. Unlike previous years there were no simultaneous sessions, so that no conflict arose in deciding between which of two programs to attend.

Ed Stone, in his keynote address, undoubtedly ruffled a few feathers, particularly with a disparaging comment on designers whom he described as reduced to being dependent on the use of redwood for the esthetic character of their work. He introduced a sobering thought later in his talk with the statement of his definite conviction that post and lintle still showed great promise as a structural scheme as well as an element of design.

The outstanding address of the entire session was the "Critique" at the closing session given by Samuel T. Hurst, Dean of the School of Architecture and the Arts, Alabama Polytechnic Institute. By any standard this is a young man who gives promise to become an important figure in the profession in the years to come... he could have made of his address a relatively simple review of the activities of the convention with pleasant remarks and innocuous praise for the various participants. He chose, instead, to propound as serious an indictment of the profession as has ever been addressed to us by any qualified speaker. He developed a definition of architecture as "A social art for all men," and then went on to point out quite bluntly the many areas in which the profession is failing miserably in justifying this definition. He stated very baldly that we have, as a group, "retreated from greatness". We have deluded ourselves as to our own abilities and performance in our reliance on the myth of our lineal descent from the master builder of history... and have failed to grow to meet the scope of our responsibilities. We have fallen victim to our own public relations and have begun to judge our work and the work of our fellows not on its actual esthetic merit so much as on the basis of the space allotted to it in professional publications. We have, as a consequence, the Dean pointed out, developed for ourselves an equiv-
ocal status among our contemporaries . . . we have lost the courage to recognize that architecture requires a synthesis of philosophy and method. He concluded with a strongly framed challenge that we learn to understand what it is we are . . . and then translate this knowledge into a competent professional esthetic which will be intelligible and recognizable to the layman. From a standing ovation which some 500 or 600 architects gave Mr. Hurst at the conclusion of his address, we can only conclude that every one of us recognized the certain truths in what he had to say.

For the Kansas City Chapter delegation the most gratifying event of the week was the presentation of the Citation on Thursday morning. Frank Slezak, as President of the Chapter at the time the KC/80 project was initiated, John Murphy as Chairman of the Design Committee, and Phil Geissel of the City Plan Commission, joined your Chapter President in accepting the citation from John Noble Richards. An additional highlight was the telegram of congratulations addressed to the Chapter from Governor James T. Blair, Jr., which John Richards read to the convention at the conclusion of the presentation.

It was a source of no little pride to the delegates from the Chapter to discover the stature of our fellow member and Regional Director in Institute affairs. Lloyd Roark has certainly made for himself an enviable reputation as a serious and thoughtful representative to the Octagon and obviously commands a wide circle of friendship in the profession all over the country.

The meeting of Chapter Presidents was held on the Monday preceding the formal opening of the convention. In a very busy three-hour session it was discovered that the Kansas City Chapter rates well above the average of the chapters throughout the country in almost every phase of chapter activities. The problems of meeting place and program interest, cocktail hours—pro and con, seem to be common to all of us; and although we continue to look for improvement in all of these areas, we can at least report that no other chapter seems to have discovered any real solutions to the problems either.

The Journal promises texts of all the speeches and panel discussions . . . the Memo has pretty thoroughly covered convention actions, so there remains very little else to report except social activities. There were, of course, no planned evening events. It can be reported that the entire Kansas City Chapter delegation proved equal to this challenge and managed among them to complete an exhaustive exploration of the Vieux Carre. Much to the surprise of many of us, a definite talent for community singing was discovered in the group.
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**Total** — 51

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SEND FOR CATALOG M-59 SHOWING NEW POSTS, HANDRAILS AND GRILL-O-METRICS

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DENNY DRAWS PORTRAIT
OF THE ARCHITECT

By Robert R. Denny, Henry J. Kaufman & Associates,
AIA Public Relations Counsel

In a recent Time magazine advertisement, a Florida architect was quoted as endorsing the contemporary house, skin-diving, and a leading brand of cigars.

The cigar maker who sponsored the ad joins a parade of national advertisers who have chosen the architect as a convenient and apparently desirable symbol of the “right kind of man” to specify, use, and otherwise consume their products.

That this list, during the past year, included several leading building industry manufacturers and trade groups is not particularly surprising, although such pleasant use of others’ television time and magazine space has been gratefully received. That it also included two leading tobacco companies and two national distillers was unexpected and, in several ways, is of especial interest.

Considering a series of these advertisements in juxtaposition produces a markedly aromatic portrait of the architect as drinker and smoker. One fears for his health. Nothing could be further from reality, of course. A number of architects of our acquaintance have given up smoking. However, we are not called upon to protest, because this is not the total contemporary image of the architect.

A best-selling movie appropriately labeled as architect its central figure, a clear-thinking protagonist of truth and justice who was called upon to persuade a murder jury to perform its duty. A play about the life of Sullivan is being readied for Broadway with the intriguing title of “The Jewel Box.”

The research division of a large midwestern newspaper has announced that (at least in its circulation area) the architect is joined only by the flag-rank military officer, the bishop, D.D., the medical specialist, the law partner of a prestige firm and one or two others in occupying the top “social status layer” of society.

Most important of all, a number of national publications are paying considerable editorial attention not only to the tangible results of the architect’s work but to the thinking of the man himself.

This recitation is neither designed to flatter the profession nor to seek credit for the national staff or ourselves, but to make a belated point. One prime objective of the national AIA public relations program during the past three years has been “to create public awareness and understanding of the architect as a professional person of bot
esthetic and economic worth to his community.”

Awareness is here. The public knows today that there is such a person as an architect and that he produces something which is apparently both interesting and worthy. This interest is being expressed by public media and a variety of businesses and groups without a vested interest in either architects or the building industry.

But realization of the objective cited in the foregoing depends upon the fulfillment of two conditions — awareness and understanding. The second must necessarily follow the first, but it is considerably harder to come by. To create public understanding of the architect as we are seeking it demands the best efforts of the profession at the national, regional, state, and chapter levels of its organization. From the individual practitioner it demands both professional competence and the assumption of individual responsibility to explain the profession and its work to his community.

It is our job in the national program to lend guidance to the overall effort, to continue working to create the kind of general public climate which makes chapter and individual efforts more fruitful, and to produce the material and tools which make the local work as effective as possible.

The relationship of this effort at the various levels of the AIA organization is not difficult to trace. For example, we were fortunate several months ago in being able to assist The Saturday Evening Post in preparing material for a major feature on religious architecture which was subsequently published under the title “Churches Go Modern.” The Post was generous not only in allowing us to reprint the article and distribute it widely but in letting us borrow its color photographs in producing a film entitled “A Place To Worship.” Thus, this project resulted in a lengthy and beautifully illustrated article in a leading national magazine, an attractive “handout” item for local use, and a film designed for showings to public groups in communities throughout the nation.

The manner in which just one AIA chapter, Florida South, utilized the package is a clear example of the working relationship of the program. The chapter officers sent out letters of invitation to hundreds of clergymen of all faiths in the Miami area. At a meeting attended by the clergymen and many prominent laymen, the film was shown to explain the planning of church architecture. Afterward, a panel of three clerics and three architects discussed the subject. In the words of one chapter officer, “more was accomplished in two hours to explain contemporary religious design and the viewpoints of the architect than all of us could have accomplished individually over a great length of time.”

There are many similar examples of intelligent use of AIA tools by local groups whose members are both willing and able to execute effective community relations programs. It is not my purpose here to catalog them, but rather to emphasize the ability of the practitioner to carry
his story to the public when and if he really wants to, and to convince vacillating members that it is both desirable and necessary to do it.

The national organization will shortly have a new series of local tools available for use by state and chapter groups and individuals in their communities. By early fall, there will be available a new color film for vocational guidance work by architects in local high schools and for use in the programs of community parent groups. A new family of low-cost literature, consisting of four booklets designed for distribution to various public audiences, is now available.

Being eulogized by the tobacco and distiller interests, as a symbol of the profession's penetration of public consciousness, is fine. But it will take the best all of us can produce to convert consciousness into understanding. If the job is good enough, it may even be possible to convert understanding into appreciation.

Reprinted from Chicago Construction News July 6, 1959

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K. U. EXTENSION CENTER ANNOUNCES REFRESHER COURSE FOR ENGINEERS

The University of Kansas Extension Center will offer a refresher course for engineer examinees beginning September 1. The course is designed to help those taking the state examinations in any field of engineering. James R. Bird, Coordinator-Instructor of Mathematics and Engineering, Kansas City, Mo., Junior College, is in charge of the sessions.

Each enrollee will receive a copy of the Missouri Manual of prior examinations and the Kansas Manual of sample examination questions which will serve as texts for the review.

The class will meet Tuesdays and Fridays, beginning September 1, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the K.U. Medical Center Clinic Building Auditorium, 39th and Rainbow Blvd.
U. S. ARCHITECTURAL EXHIBIT FOR MOSCOW SHOW

A 360 degree panoramic view of New York from a skyscraper at night and a photographic display of nearly 100 examples of American architecture is giving Russians a broad picture of the way Americans live, work, worship and play, in the American National Exhibition, which opened in Moscow July 25.

The architectural exhibit requires about 10,000 square feet of space and is made up chiefly of huge panels measuring twelve feet high by up to twenty-four long, architects Peter Blake and Julian Neski, who designed and assembled the show for the United States government, stated. An illusion of reality will be created by giant pictures on the panels, so that Russian visitors will have the impression that they are actually looking into the buildings themselves.

Walls surrounding the exhibit will feature some 57 stereo viewers, so that visitors can peep in to see a picture of a building, in typical sidewalk superintendent style. In the exhibit area itself sections will be devoted to cities and towns; suburbs and countryside; and embassies, consulates, hotels and office buildings designed abroad by American architects, according to Mr. Neski. A view of the late Frank Lloyd Wright's Taliesien in Wisconsin will introduce the part on suburbs and the country.

WELCOME TO NEW ADVERTISER

SKYLINES is always happy to welcome a new advertiser, as well as extending our continued appreciation to current advertisers (see page 23). Bunting Hardware Company will soon be joining the ranks of SKYLINES advertisers.

In line with their interest in SKYLINES, Mr. Frank Spink, Jr., announces that Wilbur E. Penno has been appointed Manager of Builders Hardware of the Bunting Hardware Company. Mr. Penno will be in charge of all industrial and residential sales of contract and shelf builders hardware in the Greater Kansas City area.

In addition to his responsibilities of contract hardware sales, Mr. Penno will supervise and direct the specification and detailing of large construction projects and residential housing development as pertaining to contract hardware requirements and will coordinate with and assist architects in the specification of finish hardware.

WILBUR E. PENNO
Chapter member, C. Bates Manning, vice chairman of the Joplin, Mo., zoning and planning commission, has designed a "new look" for downtown Joplin. The retouched aerial view on the opposite page shows how the plan would look if approved.

Featuring pedestrian malls and off-street parking improvements, Mr. Manning's plan has aroused considerable interest among Joplin residents, as well as getting fine newspaper coverage. An article by Mr. Manning on the Downtown Plan is scheduled for publication in the A.I.A. Journal.

The Joplin Globe for June 14 carried a story on the Manning plan and the following is taken from that article:

The proposed changes are superimposed over an aerial photograph taken of downtown Joplin recently, with Manning blocking out buildings which presently exist in the area proposed for offstreet parking.

Manning also superimposed drawings of two structures which have been recommended as part of a proposed civic center to be built over a large area in the vicinity of Memorial hall and the Junior college.

A building which might be a city hall has been shown on the retouched photograph to take the place of two service stations between Joplin and Wall avenues on the north side of Seventh street, while another which might be a new federal post office is shown in the lower left hand corner, which would be the 700 block on Joplin avenue.
As proposed by the planning commission, all buildings south of the First National Motor bank would be removed to provide parking space for 420 cars, and buildings would be removed on Virginia avenue from a point south of Fifth street to Seventh street to provide space for 220 cars.

The plan has not, as yet, been given consideration by the city council, although it was transmitted to that group by the zoning and planning commission several weeks ago.

In discussing the photograph and proposed plan, Manning had this to say:

"Down the middle of Main street, from Fourth to Seventh, automobile traffic has been removed and the area paved with a pattern in scale with pedestrian use. Shelters have been provided for shoppers, and trees, flowers and shrubbery have been added to capture that contact with nature that man must have about him for his comfort and existence.

"In a second glance at the photograph, the plan has the appeal of making the downtown area appear much larger than it does when driving down its present streets. It takes on a more metropolitan air. It seems to expand into areas where a lot of things could be happening. It suggests crowds, action, parades, festivity and lots of people. This is the spirit of downtown Joplin that must be recaptured to make the heart of the city beat strong again, full of the human vitality that built the city originally.

"This spaciousness, accomplished by opening up areas within the city, has an emotional quality not unlike that created by Rockefeller Plaza in New York City and squares and plazas in other cities.

"It is an invitation to walk freely without the boredom of narrow, uninteresting streets and the actual hazard of being bumped by a car occasionally. It suggests people instead of cars, human activities and special ceremonies such as the unveiling of statues and meeting people, eating out of doors, being in the center of things.

"The sort of center of activity where people would instinctively gather for important occasions, like a Fiesta; on New Year's eve; for a centennial parade; and where you might expect to see everybody in town if you stood there long enough.

"The Civic Center Plaza would provide a change of pace from the downtown activity. A place of peace and quiet, for sitting comfortably for a moment, even lying on the grass for a while, perhaps. The city planning commission's recommended plan is a nucleus for providing space for this complex of activities.
"There is nothing spectacular about the plan. There is no unusual public expense involved. The offstreet parking can be accomplished by the sale of revenue bonds to the merchants and landowners who will benefit financially from the improvement.

"The creation of the pedestrian mall would be a responsibility of the individual merchant and businessman. In turn, the civic center and its public buildings can only be accomplished by a desire on the part of each citizen to help create a center of efficient and pleasing civic administration.

"The next step in the accomplishment of such a plan as is shown in the photograph is a careful and complete analysis of the traffic and offstreet parking problems of the city to determine the actual amount of parking space needed to enable its citizens to get to and from their businesses and entertainment with the utmost ease and convenience.

"Such a survey will show how much space is needed for shoppers, businessmen, workers, civic administrators, loading and unloading, and those seeking entertainment and amusement. This survey should include not only the downtown area, but the South Joplin area, Seventh street and Range Line, as well. "With such a survey, St. Joseph recently has added 450 downtown parking spaces; Sedalia is completing the last of 350 new spaces, and Columbia is just starting work on 500 additional parking places for its residents and visitors.

"With the collaborative effort of the city administration, Chamber of Commerce, Real Estate Board and other interested groups and individuals, Joplin can launch this much needed public improvement in the very near future."

Although not mentioned by Manning, the city council has, on previous occasions, discussed with various firms the feasibility of a traffic survey of the city to determine parking and traffic control needs. No action has been taken, however.

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NEW PUBLICATIONS
FROM THE A. I. A.

The four leaflets shown above are recent publications of the American Institute of Architects, seen for the first time at the New Orleans Convention. They cover the meaning of architecture, residential design, commercial buildings and school construction.

The following are ways in which the pamphlets can be utilized by Chapters and individual architects:

1. Display them prominently in reception rooms and Chapter offices—let visitors help themselves.
2. Have architect speakers distribute them to their audiences after lectures and film presentations.
3. Mail them to community leaders, local officials, newspaper editors and business men.
4. Enclose them with your correspondence and invoices—they are designed to fit regular No. 10 envelopes.

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