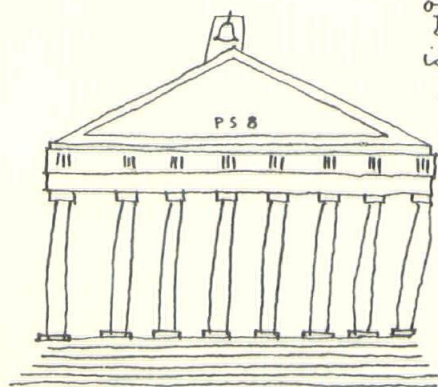


Gothic School:
The Little Red Cloisters



California School

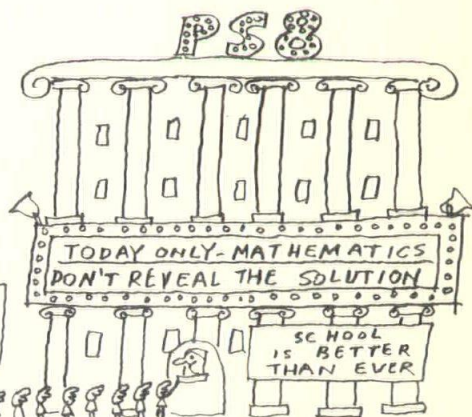


Greek Revival School
The Little Red Parthenon

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School Chariot



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APRIL, 1960

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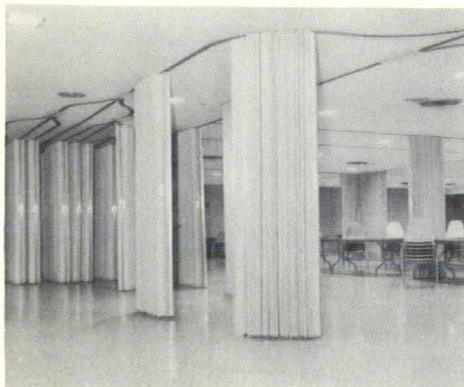
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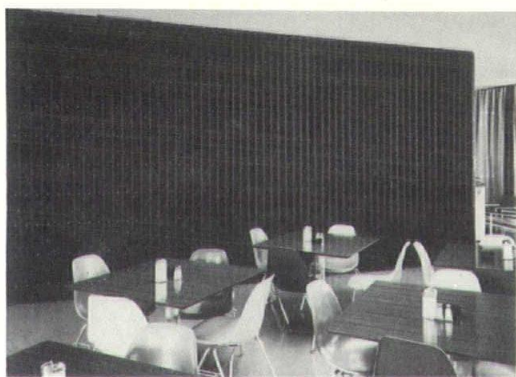
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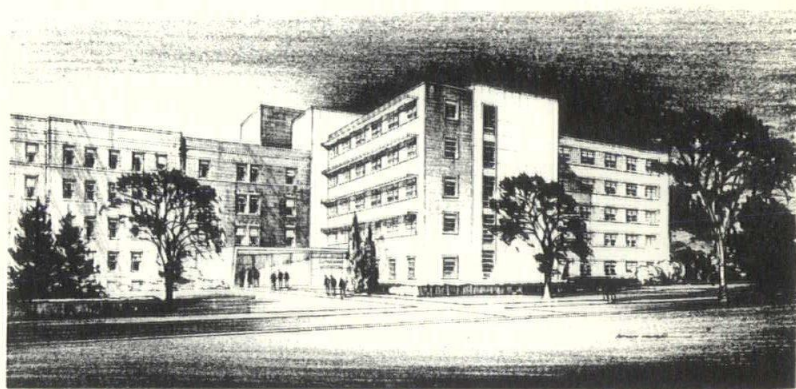
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SCHOOLS . . .

FACTS,

FADS,

FANCIES

AND FALLACIES

By M. Dwight Brown

Partner, Marshall & Brown, Architects-Engineers

Much has been said and written in recent months about school building design and costs. Many of the thousands of spoken and printed words have been critical of us, as architects, for designing "palaces" instead of "utilitarian" school buildings.

Some of the criticism, unfortunately, has been deserved. The greater amount of it has no validity, but neither has it been very effectively refuted by school administrators or our own profession.

Some waste is inevitable, in the vastness of our educational enterprise serving 40,000,000 children. When almost one-and-a-half million teacher-employees for these children and more than a twentieth of the total annual national construction cost is involved, extravagance will be present in isolated cases.

These isolated cases have been seized upon by the most vocal of the critics and enlarged upon out of all proportion. The facts should speak for themselves and properly presented, in context, they will.

Estimates for last year indicated total expenditures of around \$3,000,000,000 for school construction. During the next decade approximately the same annual average figure will be maintained—for a probable \$30,000,000,000 total.

In the Fall of 1958 the Office of Education estimated that 140,500 new classrooms were needed. Without the almost 70,000 classrooms built in 1957 this figure would have been well over 200,000. Normal building obso-

lescence, plus a constant increase in enrollment each fall sometimes makes us wonder if there's hope for anything better than just meeting the annual demand, let alone catching up with the backlog of needs.

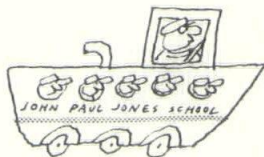
To help get the true picture of school needs and construction costs across to the taxpayers, we must remember that as architects we have no better friends than the public school administrators. The A.I.A. Committee for School Buildings and Educational Facilities is working constantly on the national level to maintain our generally excellent relations with educators.

At the same time, we must recognize our obligations to educators and school boards when it comes to such matters as planning for school bond campaigns. As anyone who has done even a minimal amount of school designs work knows, if the board fails to plan, they plan to fail in the bond election.

While the architect himself should not take an active part in the bond campaign, of course, he should offer advice to the board on timing, citizen participation, etc.

One of the most common mistakes made by school boards is to try to force statistics and complicated proposals down the voters' throats. While it's necessary that the board and committee chairmen have all of the facts at hand, too many statistics often confuse the public. A straight forward and unbiased presentation of the essential facts is all that is necessary.

Stanford University's school planning laboratory recently prepared a pamphlet on planning school bond campaigns to help committee chairmen avoid many pitfalls that have undermined previous campaigns. It should be required reading for all of us.



On the oft-discussed subject of increased school construction costs, we can take some pride in the fact that since 1940 these have risen only 150 per cent. In the same period, general construction costs rose 250 per cent, common labor 330 per cent and automobiles 200 per cent.

John Noble Richards, A.I.A. President, points out that the school cost figure has been held down by painstaking attention to the minute and detailed requirements of each individual school—and because of this meticulous attention, today's school structures are better and more lasting than those designed prior to World War II.

Leslie N. Boney, Jr., Chairman of the A.I.A. Committee for School Buildings mentioned above, recently stated: "As we contemplate school needs and costs, it is heartening to know that school construction is one of the best bargains we can buy today.

"Architects have had no small part in this most welcome and remarkable accomplishment. The structures themselves have been improved and are more in tune with the educational needs than ever before. Yet much criticism is directed at this professional man for planning of extravagances.

"To some, the architect is actually the evil in the picture. Here again this thought is due to a lack of understanding of the profession and its service. The experienced educator does not share this opinion, as he realizes that the architect above all others makes it possible for the teacher and student to use the structure successfully.

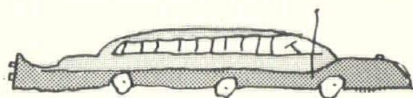
"The architect engages in extensive research and evaluation of materials and methods to determine the kind of space and equipment which the teacher and pupil needs, and he brings all of these matters into proper perspective with practical design and construction to meet a budget. This is no small job and yet based on construction taking approximately 10 per cent of the total educational dollar, the architect's service costs only .6 to .8 of one per cent in the total."

One place where many architects could help clear up some confusion in the layman's mind is in explaining and evaluating unit costs to school boards and other interested persons.

A.I.A. document D-101, the Architectural Area and Volume of Buildings, is the standard established and is the best available tool for computation, **if used by everyone**. Full value is given all of the area represented by those dimensions measured from the exterior faces of

exterior walls or from the center line of walls separating buildings. Covered porches, covered walkways and similar projections are figured at one-half value. Roof overhangs, pipe trenches, exterior terraces or steps, chimneys, etc. are not used in computing area under document D-101. All of us know of examples where roof overhang has been used to enhance apparent or claimed construction economies.

Other inaccuracies creep in when some items, whether or not they are in general construction price, are omitted from the square foot cost quotation. I read recently of a school let for \$6.25 per square foot cost on the basis of



Detroit School Bus

the construction contract. Later, however, the school district, from other funds, installed resilient floor covering, light fixtures in the classrooms, evaporative coolers, acoustical tile ceilings, cabinet work, chalkboards and tackboards! All of these items represented a minimum of 26 per cent increase in total cost, which should have been expressed in the square foot cost.

Another misleading factor is that site work and utilities are traditionally omitted by government agencies in their square foot quotations.

A recent article in the Wisconsin School Board NEWS gave this checklist for school boards in comparing unit price quotations:

1. Check the items included in unit costs given to you. Where an unusually low cost per cubic foot is quoted, check to see if cubage includes space under ground floor to bottom of footings (often five feet below floor slabs).

This would tend to produce a considerably lower price per cubic foot than would be the case if cubage was figured only to the bottom of the ground floor slab (as set out in Document D-101). Also realize that considerable attic space would tend to lower the unit price. Where cost per square foot quotations are made be sure to realize that large areas such as gymnasiums and shops, and also unfinished areas will produce lower unit costs than smaller, highly-finished areas. Also check to see if fixed equipment in laboratories, music rooms, shops, etc. and site development costs are included in the unit price.

2. Study the ratio between educational space and gross floor area. A building with a low square foot cost might still be wasteful of useful floor area. The state department of education feels that for high schools from 50 to 55 per cent, and for elementary schools from 55 to 60 per cent of gross area in educational space is proper.

Included in educational space in addition to class rooms are libraries, study halls, gymnasiums, shops and other special purpose rooms.

A school having in excess of these percentages could be poorly planned as well as one having lower percentages of educational space. Narrow corridors, minimal storage and office space might look good in the statistics by boosting the percentage of educational area but might make a very difficult school to administer.

3. Determine the number of square feet of gross area per pupil. Here again this statistic should be used with good judgment. For elementary schools 70 to 90 square feet per pupil is considered to be in line. For high schools the area is obviously somewhat greater because of special purpose facilities. Small high schools will require more square feet per pupil than larger schools. For enrollments of 400 and under, 125 to 150 square feet is usual, while this will drop to 110 to 125 square feet for high schools having over 400 students.

From this list of "tips" to school administrators and school boards planning new construction, we should realize that at least some of the public will no longer be fooled by misleading unit cost figure comparisons.

The A.I.A. unit cost computation is not perfect—any of us who work with it regularly are aware that variables such as soil conditions, climate, general site conditions, educational feasibility, quality of materials, strength of structures and maintenance costs can seldom if ever be comparable from one job to another. It is the **best**

method we have at hand, if properly used by all architects.

As for the space formulas set out by the Wisconsin school group in their checklist—from time to time educators are prone to play architect, using similar rules of thumb to settle such matters. R. Graham Jackson recently commented on this in an address to school administrators in Houston:

"Having settled these matters by resort to formula, the school administrator can return to administration, which is easier than leadership, and the architect can pursue photography or cosmetology, which is easier than architecture."

Jackson, in a mellower mood, also observed, "Architecture is something that most people are not aware of in a primary sense. It is confused often with nostalgia, sentimentality, and awe, because these are a few of its most blatant tools. A building is silent and still while its users talk and move. So sometimes we think we are reacting to the users rather than the building. Yet the community that has a great building, or even a good building, gradually becomes aware of that fact, although it may take years. Because we all move in a man-made world, these fine buildings, belonging to everyone, should yield a great personal reassurance of man's eventual success in whatever it is mankind is trying to do. "School houses offer a great opportunity for this. They belong to all of us and the children, who use them most, are a wonderfully aware and unprejudiced group. They are very responsive. Most of the man-made world into which they must grow up is harsh and ugly. If they can learn what is good by being sent to school in a pervasively good building, it is not too much to hope that they may form standards that will help improve some other surroundings which they will reach later.

"So give your architect a fair site, fair budget, and a good educational specification: he may improve your community the way nobody else can."
Amen.

Cartoons by Robert O. Blechman from the book "Schoolhouse" edited by Walter McQuade, (Simon & Schuster), courtesy Aluminum Company of America, Eggers and Higgins, Architects, and Walter McQuade.

AUTOMATED ARCHITECTURE

An Editorial

Two recent news items should cause all architects to take a long, hard look into the future and even, perhaps, evaluate the immediate present in terms of the electronic marvels pouring out of laboratories and research centers.

One article appeared in the real estate section of the Sunday Kansas City STAR and deals with the success story of a youthful Kansas City television producer-packager and part-time merchant builder, or vice versa. The story concerns the growth of his local television production company and a description of its Johnson County facilities. The young owner is proud as punch of an electronic machine that automatically writes scripts for his TV real estate promotion enterprizes.

The story goes on to say that this modern equipment "brings production of the program down to a precise science" since a coded chart dictates the selection of punched cards in the central office. These cards are then fed into the electronic scribe, which in turn operates an electric typewriter.

The script is automatically typed and all that has to be done manually is to fill in the name of the builder, price and similar data. The manufacturer says there is "one chance in 80,000 that the description of a particular house will be repeated," the article proudly claims.

Possibly one's first (and uncharitable) thought is that this explains a lot of things about the current mediocrity of TV fare; they've been using these things all along in New York and Hollywood—but understandably keeping it very quiet.

Another interesting point that immediately occurs to one in "the business" is about the frustrations this must be bringing to the entertainment unions. The story points out that it previously took one girl two days to turn out a half-hour script (and that's not slow), but on the two automated typewriters now at her command, she can turn out 20 shows in the same time. Ergo, should she perhaps be required to hold 20 union memberships (at ten per machine), or should a brand new organization be started for electronic scriptwriters? And if the decision should be for the latter, imagine the problems of holding a convention of the things, not to mention setting up picket lines.

Actually, the further implications of adding certain modifications and refinements to the mechanical scripters are even more horrifying to anyone in the creative fields. Machines and animals have already encroached on the fields of painting and sculpture. Personalized business correspondence is on the way out, as it is now possible to handle all of your routine business letters by jotting down several numbers, which call for coded ribbons to be fed into automatic typewriters. For around \$50.00, one can get a large disc made which, when used on a companion machine, will sign his name better than the original.

The second unsettling item, appearing only a few days ago, shows how fast a thing like this can develop. It was a report of a speech by Robert Foeller, director of the urban renewal section of ACTION, Inc. Addressing an urban renewal conference of the National Association of Homebuilders (note the organizational tie-up with the Kansas City operation), Mr. Foeller happily predicted that "homes of the future may be designed by a machine producing blueprints to follow wishes of housewives who push buttons to show what they want."

Consider the possibilities of a fully automatic plan writer and designer. If you've had the idea that school stock plans and package dealers are anathema to the principles of good design and a proper functioning of the architect-client relationship, this should be enough to send you to the psychiatrist's couch.

All you would need to go into business is a set of punched cards and an automatic plan writer electronically coupled with a mechanical drawing arrangement. The last item could undoubtedly be leased, so your initial investment should be minimal. One envisions the drafting room of the future, filled with earnest young housewives solemnly punching holes in IBM cards with a stylus . . . thus progress come to architectural design.

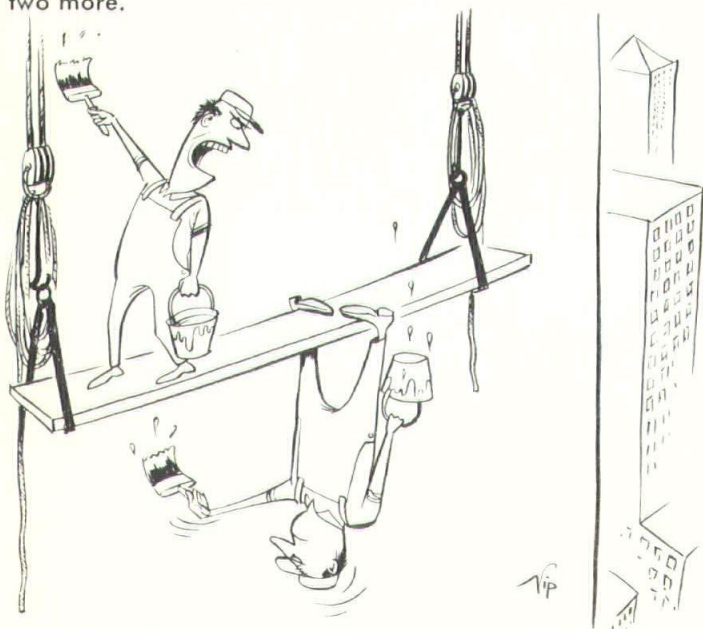
This reminds us of the story of one man's fight against machines. A professor at an Eastern university belonged briefly to one of the book clubs, wherein you're saved all of the decisions about authors, writing style, etc. as the books arrive promptly on the first of each month, payment due on the 15th. This learned gentlemen tried to resign from his "club" several times by letter and finally, by wire, but continued to receive both books and bills. The bills were on the familiar punch cards. After several months of this he finally punched several more holes in the bill with an ice pick and returned it without comment. Either he happened to hit the right combination to cancel his membership or the machine blew up

under the stress of coping with the alien holes—anyway, he received no more books or bills.

Aside from esthetic, site and design considerations, about the only thing that could trip you up in the field of design by punch card would be that one repeat in 80,000 admitted to by the manufacturer. While the odds against this happening are admittedly not bad, suppose four or five of the 80,000-unit cycles went by without a repeat and then they all came up at one time. This could be a little embarrassing, say, in a shopping center development where you found side-by-side a grocery supermarket, a bank and a doughnut shop of identical design, down to the light fixtures and plumbing.

The very fact that the existing writing monster ("the only one in the U.S.") belongs to a merchant builder is cause for thought, in our opinion. Suppose he's already—no, of course not!

Perhaps we're only borrowing trouble. We're certainly not anti-automation, nor do we question that such machines promise comforts and conveniences for our future. Having the disadvantage of being just a little old fashioned in this fast age of space satellites and missiles, we still believe there are certain creative areas that Mr. Foeller, the homebuilders and the electronic wizards should leave alone—writing and architectural design are a couple of these areas; you may think of one or two more.



"If You'd Wait 'Till I Finish, We Could Lower It You Know."

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ARCHITECTURE IN THE 60's

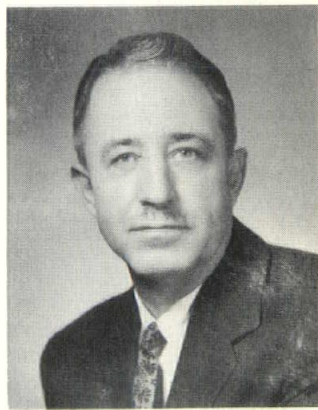
At the Friday luncheon of the Real Estate Board of Kansas City, Missouri, on March 25, three Chapter members participated in a panel presentation and discussion of what the next decade may bring in architectural design in this area. Following this, an open discussion of the KC/80 plan was held. The program was well received by the realtors and considerable interest in KC/80 was evidenced by those present. A digest of the remarks of the architectural panel follows. The panel was composed of J. David Miller, Hollis & Miller; John Murphy, Keene & Simpson & Murphy; and Louis Geis of Geis, Hunter & Ramos.



J. DAVID MILLER



JOHN MURPHY



LOUIS H. GEIS

MILLER—The magazines and papers all tell us that the "boom" of the 60's will bring phenomenal changes. Well, our horizons are expanding very rapidly.

Today, in our daily thinking, we include Cuba, Geneva, Bolivia, Brasilia, Berlin, and the implications these places have for us and our families personally. Tomorrow our thinking will include satellite (or Space Station) "Able" or "Charlie," or the welfare of the Astronauts that have been sent to the natural moon or to Venus.

How will all this affect us architecturally in the next ten years? We are already seeing what the space research laboratory is producing in new products for our surroundings—new luminous plastics, alloys, ceramics, electronic controls, computers to do the most difficult structural calculations and many others. Here's a new one—"Molecular electronics"—which will allow the control of light and heating thermostats by means of a command spoken into an intercom system.

Some of these new developments are already being used by the architects, and they can be seen daily. The upper floors of our new public library, for example, are sheathed in thin ceramic fired panels which would **not** have astounded the Chinese ceramic craftsmen of 2000 years ago, except that by a process similar to the lining of rocket firing chambers, this fantastically durable finish is applied to large panels of metal—giving a smooth, maintenance-free material that will resist weather and the accumulation of dust and grime.

In addition to new materials, I think there are other important changes just around the corner in the 60's.

1. I believe the Kansas City housewife is going to demand a new kind of housing—one that is suitable to the second half of the 20th Century—in short, a modern house equipped with larger windows, more efficient kitchens, better heating, cooling and dust and pollen filtering devices, and furnishings and yards that are comfortable and gracious, yet very easy to maintain.

2. Our schools—high schools in particular—are going to cost more per pupil than they have up to now. This is not only due to increased construction costs as we go from strike to strike, or from tax increase to tax increase, but will come from an ever-increasing emphasis on the individual students. Modern kids are pretty smart and as a group, they mature earlier—probably because of vitamins and better nutrition. To plan an educational program that will keep ahead of these kids and keep them on their toes it will be necessary to utilize the most advanced resources of television, of specialized shop and lab instruction, and a very close control—by means of small group consultations and discussions—of a student's relationship with his fellow students and the faculty. What kind of a building will this take?

It certainly is not the type of school we are building now. If we knew exactly what the educational program would be in ten or fifteen or twenty years, we could plan for it. But not knowing what is ahead, the only alternative is to plan and build schools with built-

in flexibility—movable partitions—so that entire room adjustments and arrangements can be made when necessary. Schools are being built this way now in Texas and California. I believe our Greater Kansas City schools are doing an excellent job, and I only regret that some of the advanced programs, such as the recent try at Classroom TV, can't quite get off the ground.

All of our buildings are going to become more pleasant, better illuminated and better color and sound conditioned. Individually, there will be many outstanding buildings. I only hope that those planning buildings (and here I mean clients and realtors as well as architects) will pay closer attention to how buildings relate to one another. We are witnessing now a renaissance of building in many parts of the city. I am thinking of one area in particular—along Broadway, from 31st Street south. I wonder how many of the building owners feel they would have done things a little differently, if they had only known what was going to be next door. In other words, it's developing into a mess. And one reason for this is the lack of communication between realtors and between architects. Think of how different things would look if there were some sort of master plan.

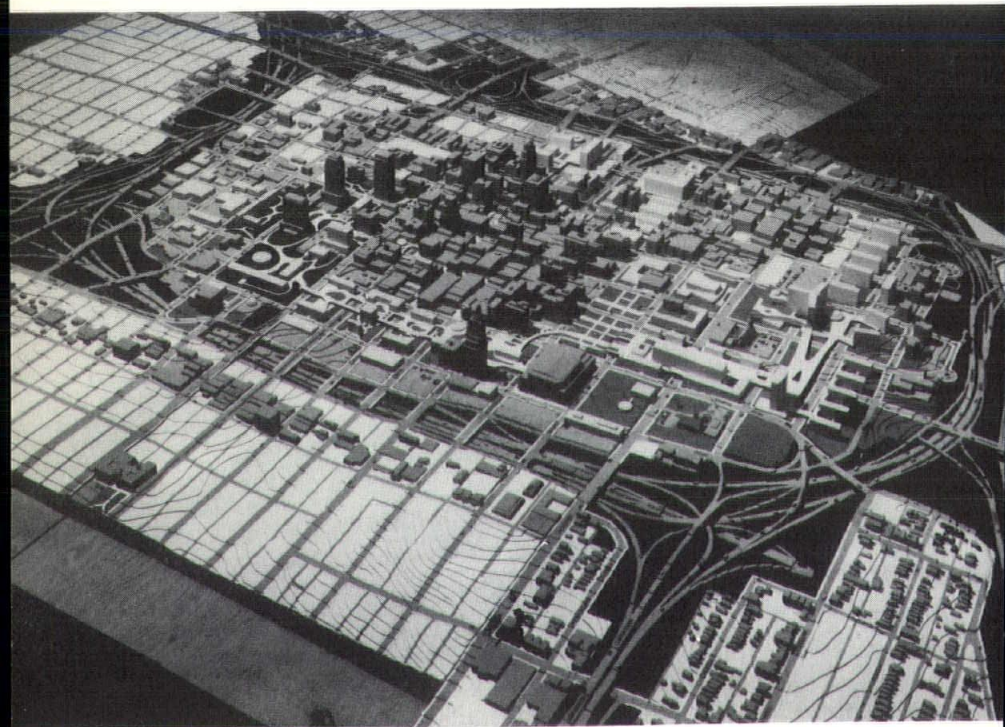
Such a Master Plan has already been prepared for the downtown core area in the KC/80 plan. It is not really complete enough to be a master plan, but it is enough of a significant preliminary start to rate national acclaim and a coveted award for the Kansas City Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at last year's national A.I.A. convention.

You are familiar with the plan, basically—that of utilizing the advanced circumferential freeway around the Downtown in attracting and dispersing the automobile quickly and easily—of surrounding the downtown retail district with ample parking facilities—of closing off 12 blocks of downtown streets (Walnut, Main, Eleventh, Twelfth) so that the pedestrian can shop in comfort—of the development of a civic center near the Court House, which would include a new museum, additional library and law office facilities, the Federal Office Building and accompanying information and attraction elements to assist conventioners and visitors to the city.

Let's not sell Kansas City short—we need this plan. Development of KC/80 is **not** primarily a tax situation that is going to strain the city budget more. It **is** primarily a matter of private enterprise and private development. Sometimes the architect feels like an optometrist with a bottle full of miracle eye drops; but we are forced to dispense them from the top of the Power and Light

Building, letting them drop to the streets below in the hope that some pedestrian will glance up and get an eyeful.

KC/80 is **not** a flimsy idea—it is not a dream. It is a permanent and well conceived plan which could bring orderly revitalization to the heart of our great Metropolitan area. And I believe we are going to see a start in the 60's on the development of this plan. This is our most significant goal!



KC/80

WAYNE WRIGHT PHOTO

MURPHY—"Designing the Second Kansas City." The city that I grew up in, the beautiful city by Kessler and other far-sighted planners, is a thing of the past.

A hundred years have passed and deterioration has claimed vast areas of the once beautiful urban scene. We must accomplish community redevelopment with the tools at hand. Urban renewal under the land clearance for redevelopment authority and slum clearance for expressway construction are two such tools—and valuable tools for the job if used wisely.

We are fortunate in having an excellent Plan Commission and Zoning Board in Kansas City. Without these and their fine technical staffs, redevelopment would indeed be a formidable job.

What we do now in the 60's will set the background for the lives of our grandchildren through the next 100 years—it is indeed a great challenge.

Through the problems of urban and sub-urban development in our metropolitan areas are inseparable, it is my understanding that we are to confine our remarks today to the Central City, so I shall try to direct my thoughts to the broad aspects of the architecture of the city.

Of all the problems inherent in this subject, possibly the development of a rapid mass transportation system is most imperative to insure future orderly growth.

As I see our problem, the task is to preserve the heart of the city which is the life blood of the entire metropolitan area; to preserve and expand the various governmental facilities; the financial center, the hotel and recreational center and the basic retail services best suited to downtown. In addition, our problem is to recreate a solid, full time self sustaining community of people within the Central City—a people who will call the area their home and who will constitute full time congregations of the churches, and, finally, who will not evacuate the city on Friday evening to leave it as a graveyard until the next Monday morning.

The architect will play a major role in the creation of this community environment which will make a full and pleasant life for those who live here. Our challenge is to create in the community an esthetic and practical unity of beauty, function and structure.

The creative architect will not do this alone; he can only do it with an enlightened client. You, the citizens are that client. Only your collective voice, your vote and your civic activity can set the machinery in motion.

Community renewal is a big job, sparked by its citizens, planned by the local government and translated into

reality by architects collaborating with planners, engineers and builders.

It must be backed by the best banking, realty and civic brains in the community. Only you, the citizen, can get the political recognition which is needed for the job at every level of government—local, regional, state and federal.

This massive rebuilding job is our generation's pioneering challenge. It will take great energy, imagination and dedication. And it will be thrilling and rewarding, both spiritually and financially.

We look forward with great anticipation to the 60's and our part in building the second Kansas City.

GEIS—Just as commercial and industrial design has kept pace with progress in merchandising and new methods, so should residential architecture reflect present day living in either single family or group accommodations. Certainly we are aware of the modern conveniences which make our homes so much more than a shelter to protect us from the elements. Imagine building a home today without insulation, central heating, electricity or modern plumbing facilities—yes, even without air conditioning. In the days when these facilities were not available, the resulting design of structures in which to live could not reflect their existence. Today, since we have these modern materials and machines, our designs should and do reflect their presence, and their use has dictated our residential environment.

I can remember, and I am sure that many of you can also, the day of the small parlor, which was used only when distinguished guests visited the home. Ours, like many of the others in our modest neighborhood, was not heated in winter, except when it was used to pay tribute to the honored guest.

This is quite a contrast to present medium priced dwelling accommodations which are designed with as much modern know-how and use of up-to-date materials and conveniences as are economically possible, utilized to their fullest possible extent. With more open planning, we are living in all areas of our homes, at all times. Certainly during the 60's, we will see a definite trend toward the contemporary home. We, as architects, will admit that there are very few examples of good contemporary residential architecture in the Kansas City area, but there will be more and it will be of better and of a more pleasing design. We must bear in mind that

the traditional residential identities of design are symbols of an era and certainly were not developed to their final detail in less than a generation. (Editor's Note: For more on this subject, refer to Prof. Talbot Hamlin's article, "Architecture in Nineteen-Sixty?", in the March, 1960 SKYLINES.)

Here in Kansas City, as the internal activities of our homes change along with the times, so is the concept of housing neighborhood locations taking in a new area of environment. Through the years, housing near the central business district of Kansas City had deteriorated to the extent that large slum areas rapidly emerged on the downtown scene. These areas became so bad that people were afraid to be afoot after dark in certain parts of our city.

Through an instrument promoted by the Federal Government and fostered by our city government, large areas of ground have been cleared or are to be cleared of this blight and rescheduled for new use, to bring about a planned rehabilitation.

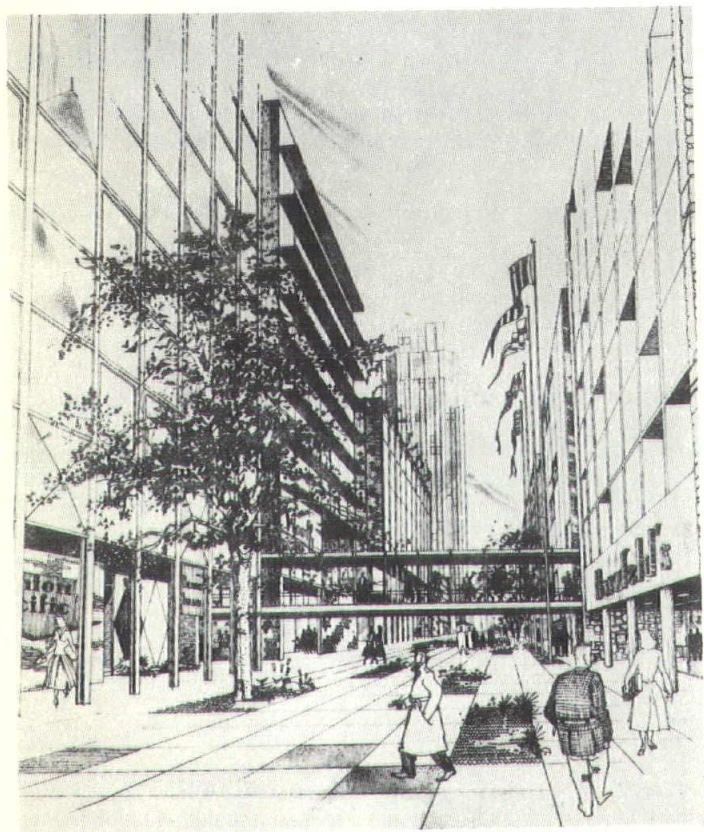
These areas are labeled for specific limits of utilization, so as to evolve a well planned and functional use of these valuable properties.

It was certainly no accident that the master plan, known as KC/80, was conceived to dovetail with the Land Clearance Program in order to take advantage of the opportunities afforded by the availability of funds to initiate these planned changes to the downtown scene. A great part of this change is in the area of housing accommodations. These blighted areas are fast becoming rehabilitated to better use and appearance, thus adding higher revenue producing property to our city tax rolls. We are rapidly adding to the downtown residential population, which in turn relieves the morning and evening traffic congestion caused by suburbia's rush to and from their places of downtown employment. It will become easier as time goes on for the employer to hire more desirable personnel, in that transportation becomes less and less of a problem for the worker.

I am sure you will agree that Quality Hill is taking on a new look, as are other residential areas now under construction, and surely you are eagerly awaiting the events of the next ten years—events which should result in accomplishing more than half of the plans for our downtown area. Additional housing facilities are being proposed on the east side of the central business district, which includes the Attucks project, as well as others.

All this fits into the KC/80 program and you can see that the housing part of the overall scheme seems to be far ahead of the other land use realities, with the exception of primary traffic facilities.

This Real Estate organization should stimulate its activities toward achieving the goals proposed by the KC/80 program. In this way we may all benefit by these accomplishments much sooner and have a more beautiful and efficient city of which we can be proud. 1980 may seem like a long time away, but when we think in terms of a city's comparatively slow development, the 20 years in which to accomplish the task at hand become all too few.



PROPOSED REDEVELOPMENT OF ELEVENTH STREET (PETTICOAT LANE) LOOKING EAST FROM MAIN. FROM THE KC/80 PROJECT OF THE KANSAS CITY CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS.

CHAPTER ADDS TWO MEMBERS EMERITUS

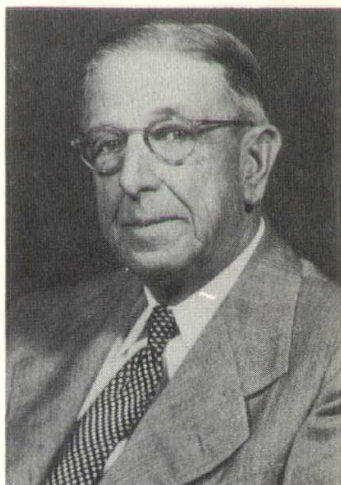
AIA headquarters has recently notified the Chapter that Arthur S. Keene, F.A.I.A., and Ernest O. Brostrom, A.I.A., have been elevated to members emeritus of the AIA.

Arthur S. Keene is one of the founders of Keene & Simpson & Murphy and Ernest Brostrom has for many years practiced under his own name.

Both of these members have long and outstanding records of service to the Chapter, the Institute and the profession of architecture in general and we congratulate them on this latest honor.

Mr. Keene and Mr. Brostrom join four other members emeritus of the Kansas City Chapter—Robert O. Boller, Hermitage, Mo.; George R. Eckel, St. Joseph; Eugene J. Stern, Mexico City and Courtland Van Brunt, FAIA.

Formal announcement of the new status of the two was made at the April Chapter meeting.



Arthur S. Keene, FAIA, new member emeritus of the Kansas City Chapter. Mr. Ernest Brostrom's photograph was not available.

AIA CONVENTION CITIES NAMED

If you are one who likes to plan ahead, the recent announcement from the Octagon on the convention cities for the next seven years should be of interest.

As everyone should know by now, the 1960 convention will be held in San Francisco, April 18-22. Future meetings will be in Philadelphia (1961); Dallas (1962); Miami Beach (1963); St. Louis (1964); Denver (1965); Detroit (1966) and Portland, Oregon (1967).

The turnout from the Kansas City Chapter for the St. Louis convention four years hence should be a big one—and perhaps by 1968 or so we'll be ready to bid for the convention in Kansas City.

F.D.R. MEMORIAL COMPETITION

The Franklin Delano Roosevelt Memorial Commission has announced a competition for a memorial to the late President, to be located in West Potomac Park in Washington, D.C. The competition will be held in two stages. The first stage is open to all registered architects who are residents of the U.S., or to associations of landscape architects, sculptors, painters, or others, provided that each such association includes a registered architect and that all of the members are residents of the U.S. Participation in the second stage is limited to six competitors or associations selected by the Jury of Award in the first stage. Registration forms and further information on the competition are available from Mr. Edward N. Bacon, F.D.R. Memorial Competition, Room 108, Tariff Commission Building, 7th and E Streets, N.W., Washington 25, D.C. Competitors must register by April 25.

FOLMER SCHOOL STOCK PLAN

On the next two pages we reproduce the bill passed in the New York State Assembly, sponsored by Mr. Folmer, amending the existing education law of that state to provide for the use of stock plans in future school building.

While the bill, in its present form, does not make the use of stock plans compulsory per se, the joker may be found in lines 6 and 7, where the budget director's approval is required. It could be a short step to complete socialization of school architecture in the Empire State.

The bill, as of this writing, had not passed the upper house (Senate), but opponents are not very optimistic about it being killed there.

A factor that we should keep in mind here in the Midwest is that New York State is looked to by many other states as the leader in matter of educational and other legislation. We may now expect the school stock plan idea to be revived in other states. It is interesting that research by the New York State Chapter, the Pennsylvania Chapter and the Octagon staff documented case after case of states adopting some form of school stock plan legislation, becoming disenchanted with the idea after varying periods of use and then abandoning it. This information was made available to legislators and others in New York interested in the legislation. Logic, as such, appears to receive short shrift in certain of today's legislative bodies.

After you have read the bill, we would be interested in hearing your thoughts on the matter.

STATE OF NEW YORK

No. 4391

Int. 4187

IN ASSEMBLY

February 16, 1960

Introduced by Mr. FOLMER—read once and referred to the
Committee on Ways and Means

AN ACT

To amend the education law, in relation to the preparation or
acquisition of plans and specifications which school districts
at their option may adopt

*The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and
Assembly, do enact as follows:*

- 1 Section 1. Article nine of the education law is hereby amended
2 by inserting therein a new section, to be section four hundred
3 eight-a, to read as follows:
- 4 § 408-a. *Plans and specifications for construction of new school*
5 *buildings. 1. The superintendent of public works, after consulta-*
6 *tion with the commissioner of education and subject to the approval*
7 *of the director of the budget, shall promptly prepare or acquire*
8 *as many master sets of complete plans and specifications for the*
9 *construction of new school buildings and appurtenant facilities as*
10 *shall be sufficient to provide at least six different master sets each*
11 *for elementary, junior high and high schools, based on the number*

EXPLANATION — Matter in *italics* is new; matter in brackets [] is old law to be omitted.

1 of pupils to be accommodated therein. Such plans and specifications
2 shall be prepared so as to provide adequate classrooms and other
3 necessary space and facilities at the lowest cost consistent with
4 sound construction principles and practices, and the attainment of
5 educational objectives, and shall provide for heating, ventilation,
6 lighting, sanitation and health, fire and accident protection ade-
7 quate to maintain healthful, safe, and comfortable conditions
8 therein. Such plans and specifications shall be so prepared that
9 any possible future addition to any such school building may be
10 economically effectuated. In addition, the superintendent of public
11 works shall, as often as he deems advisable but at least annually,
12 review such master sets and, after consultation with the commis-
13 sioner of education, and subject to approval of the director of the
14 budget, may revise or cancel any of such sets or prepare new sets.

15 2. The commissioner shall cause duplicates of such master plans
16 and specifications to be made, and he shall furnish the same
17 to any school district making a request therefor for a reasonable
18 charge sufficient to cover the cost of reproducing such plans and
19 specifications.

20 3. Plans and specifications prepared and furnished pursuant
21 to the provisions of this section may be adopted and used in any
22 school district as the plans and specifications for the construction
23 of any new school building or appurtenant facility hereafter to be
24 erected.

25 4. Nothing herein contained shall preclude any school district
26 from retaining an architect and/or engineer in connection with the
27 use of such master plans and specifications.

28 § 2. This act shall take effect immediately.

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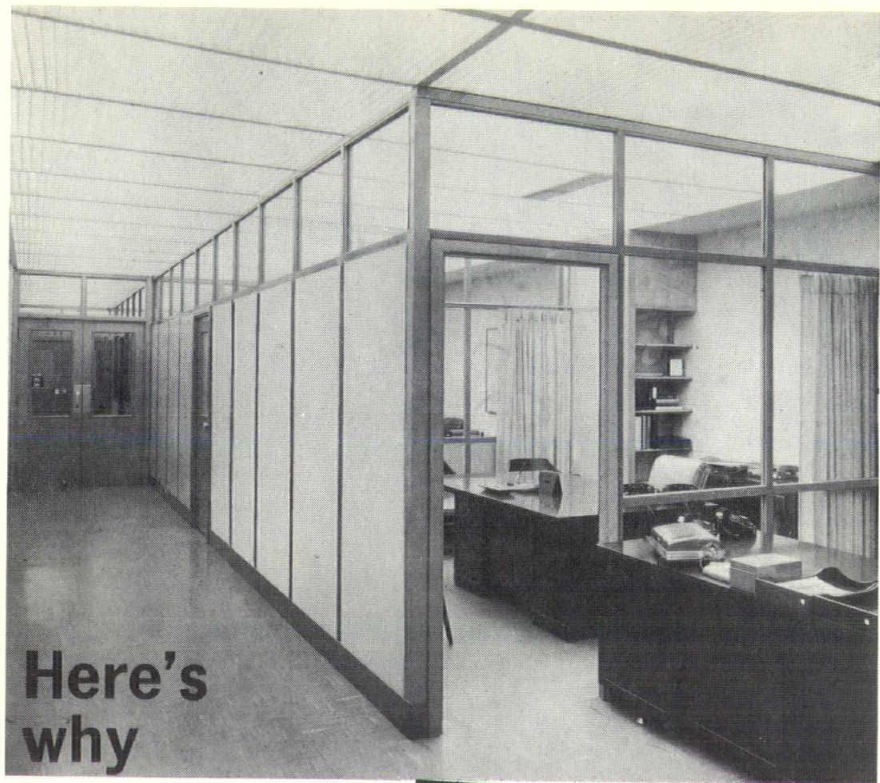
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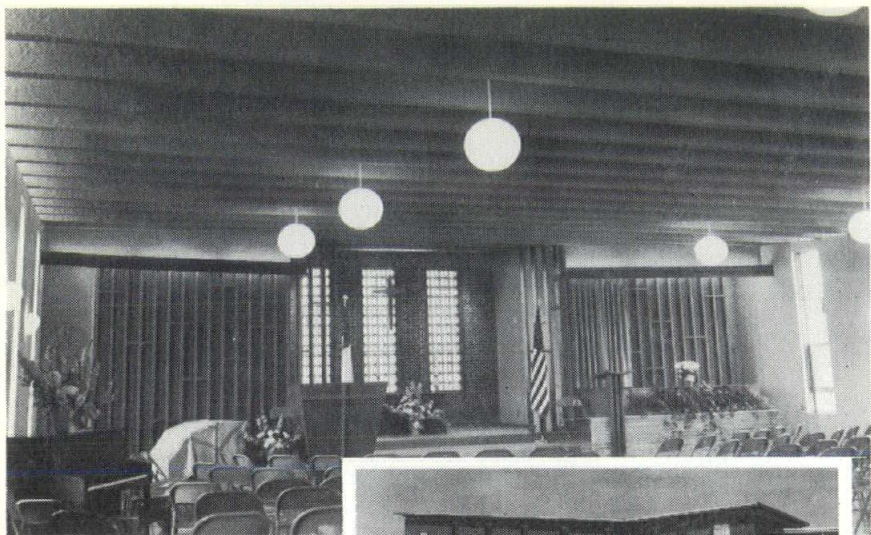


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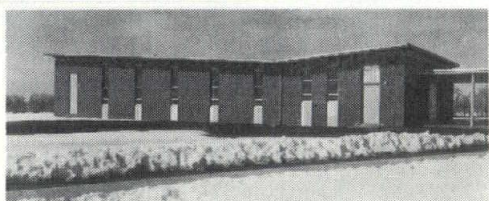


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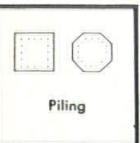
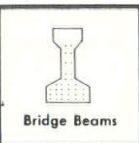
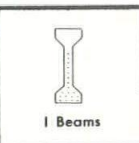
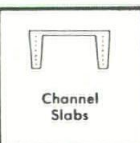
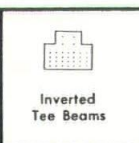
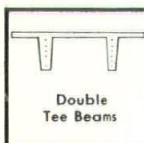
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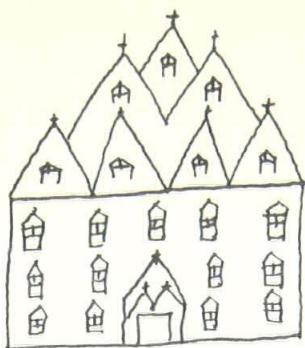
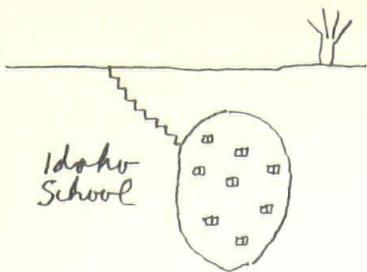
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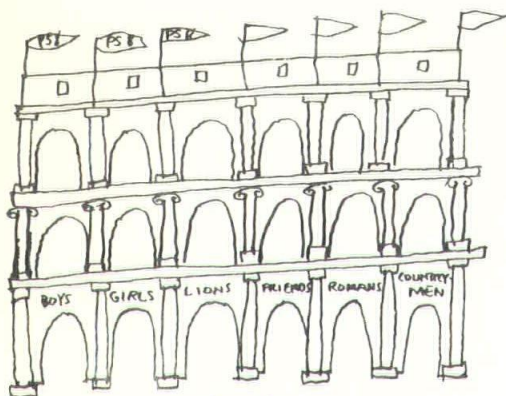
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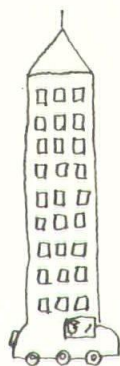
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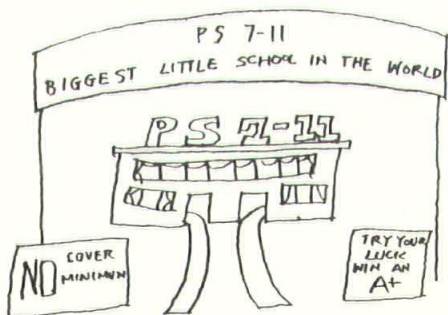
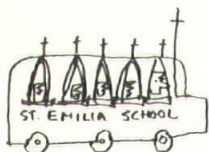
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