



LOUISIANA ARCHITECT

JULY

1962

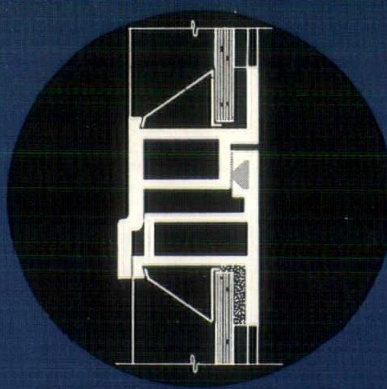
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LOUISIANA ARCHITECT

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VOLUME I NUMBER 9 1962

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COVER: For this month's cover design, John Schaeffer chose a view of the structural steel frame of the residence he has under construction. Acting as owner-builder, and utilizing the design by Baton Rouge Architect James E. Hand, Schaeffer looks forward eagerly to producing creative graphic art in the third-level studio of the completed house—situated on his cattle farm in a wooded area off Tiger Bend Road in Baton Rouge and representing an unusual approach in residential design.

DIRECTORS—IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT: W. J. Evans; **BATON ROUGE CHAPTER:** John Bani, Clifton C. Lasseigne; **NEW ORLEANS CHAPTER:** Murvan M. Maxwell, C. L. Olschner, F. V. von Osthoff, August Perez III; **SHREVEPORT CHAPTER:** Pierce Meletch; **SOUTHWEST LOUISIANA CHAPTER:** John M. Gabriel; **CENTRAL LOUISIANA CHAPTER:** Walter Price; **SOUTH LOUISIANA CHAPTER:** Manny Veltin; **MONROE CHAPTER:** Roy Johns.



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PATIENCE

LAA members are still reeling from the news that the Governor found it necessary to veto House Bill 325 which would have strengthened the architects law.

Comments from across the state have ranged from discouragement to plain unadulterated shock. In one stroke of the pen, the chief executive nullified countless hours of work, reams of printing, long distance calls, telegrams, trips and bundles of mail.

The Governor's veto message to the House of Representatives gave the one year experience requirement as the reason for his action. It is probably needless and fruitless to reaffirm the necessity for such a provision. The fact that over 40 states require three years, and that our three neighboring states are balking at granting reciprocal licenses to Louisiana architects because of the absence of this standard . . . the emphatic admission of educators that good architects cannot be made fully competent in the classroom . . . all of these reasons have fallen on hundreds of deaf ears before and certainly nothing has happened to drastically alter this attitude.

It is important, however, to look at the total picture. How does the veto affect the profession and the AIA in Louisiana? The profession of architecture is an old profession. It did not attain its status overnight. Improvement of laws which regulate and strengthen the profession will come with time and patience.

It is true that some states have achieved encouraging success in this direction. But in every case, these states have had strong associations for many years.

Louisiana architects have practiced under the same law essentially since 1910. Another two years won't make a great deal of difference.

As to the effect on the LAA, all members can take pride in the knowledge that their coordinated efforts steered—not one bill, but actually eight bills in one package—through the difficult legislative maze.

Rest assured that the effort has not been totally in vain. Your state association has gained prominence and recognition. When opposition was voiced to the subpoena powers expressed in the bill, the speaker of the Senate said to the objecting Senator, "I think you must be wrong . . . where's the executive director of the Architects Association? Let's ask him" . . . and the speaker walked to the Senate rail to confer with the LAA staff member. This happened while the Senate was in session.

After the House sustained the veto, a Southwest Louisiana lawmaker offered a quip in his vibrant French accent. Perhaps his words and promise can best conclude this reflection. He said, "Ma fran, there's nothing like a veto to make you muh-ture."

PRUDENCE

In discussing the senatorial defeat of the Designers Bill with the attorney for the proponents, he pointedly remarked, "Don't forget to credit us for unifying LAA."

He inferred that the designers group had never anticipated for one moment that architects would join hands to effectively fight any bill. These people had good reason to think as they did. They remembered too well the year 1958 when they allied with another organization to change the architects law, and the only opposition they faced was a handful of architects with no organized strategy nor coordinated effort.

With no adequate means of communication in 1958, architects simply did not know what was going on in Baton Rouge. In fact, many architects are still finding out what really did happen in that session.

BUT, in 1962, architects stood vigil for several weeks. When the Senate committee gave a critical 5 to 4 favorable report to the bill, efforts were many times intensified. Every senator was "worked."

Senator B. H. Rogers says on the day following the committee hearing, the Senate was evenly divided on the bill with a good possibility that it would pass.

Reports from the chapters indicated excellent attendance records at emergency meetings. Architects from the several chapters circulated through the Capital City continuously.

One young Central Louisiana architect was asked by the writer—"As a one-man office, how can you afford to stay away for two and three days at a time?" (He virtually camped in Baton Rouge for two weeks.) His reply was, "When I'm away from my office, I lose time, money, and part of my practice, but if this bill passes, I will lose part of my profession."

During the long fight, members conceded that it was more important to kill HB898 than to enact HB325.

While the architect's bill would help regulate the profession, it would not create more work nor extend the influence of architects.

On the other hand, HB898 would tend to grant status to a non-professional group. In short order (and after a few legislative sessions) the public would find difficulty in differentiating between an architect and a designer. The status the designers stood to gain would be at the expense of architects.

The architects based their attack on principle and while that *modus operandi* is not always appealing to some, it must be relied on by a profession which is based on principle. IT WORKED.



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SENATE VOTE ON HB 898

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BIRTHDAY GREETINGS

The experience of the LAA Group Plan during its
first year in operation is presently being charted.
Look for a report soon.

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THE LAA RECEIVED TWO AWARDS at the Baton Rouge Advertising Club's 1962 edition of Ad Awards Night held recently. Louisiana Architect Magazine received an award in the Direct Mail category (top certificate), while the Standards of Service and Practice document won a certificate for its effectiveness in Organization/Company Public Relations.

NEWS, NOTES, QUOTES

Southern Building Code Congress Set

The Annual Conference of the Southern Building Code Congress will be held in Clearwater, Florida, on November 10 through 14, Hubert N. Carraway, newly elected Executive Director, has announced. Carraway succeeds the late M. L. Clement.

The new Executive Director is an architect by profession and a former A.I.A. member. At the recent annual meeting of the Greater New Orleans Code Committee, Carraway served as guest speaker and urged architects to become more interested in the subject of building codes—stressing their importance to the architect's everyday practice.

The Octagon arranges to have a member of its Committee on Safety in Buildings in attendance at the Southern Building Code group's annual meetings, as well as similar meetings of other model building code organizations.

Murvan "Scotty" Maxwell, committee member and current president of the New Orleans A.I.A. Chapter, represented the Octagon at its meeting last year in Shreveport, Louisiana, and is assigned to again represent the A.I.A. during the Clearwater, Florida, Convention. The Southern Code Meeting overlaps the Gulf States Regional Conference. Thus Scotty and his wife, Edith, will not be on the regional cruise to the Bahamas in mid-November.

If you have any recommendations for proposed revisions to the Southern Standard Building Code and/or its two supplements, Part II Gas, and Part III, Plumbing, to be printed in October, contact Carraway, Brown-Marx Building, Birmingham, Alabama.

Report on Aesthetic Meet

A report to the National AIA Board by the Design Committee of the New York Chapter on the First Conference on Aesthetic Re-

sponsibility labels the conference a success in many ways.

The goal of the Conference was to place the architect in the community at large as a responsible, contributing member, taking the leadership in the fight against ugliness; and to achieve the widest possible publicity for this effort.

The general response to the conference exceeded all of our expectations.

We were cast as hosts to the cultural community eager to participate and listen, for a change, to a wide variety of opinions on our role in the community.

The architect was shown as a responsible, articulate, and aesthetically conscious human being with humility. The orderly pattern and the exciting quality of the conference itself proved his ability to create with discipline.

Press coverage was not only much larger than we expected, but unusually enthusiastic and cordial. At the end of the first panel there was a rush to the telephones which brought more representatives in during the day. In addition, most newspapers had city desk representatives that left before lunch in order to write early reports, and many other press representatives came and went during the day.

The enthusiasm for the conference and grasp of our aims are reflected in editorials such as that which appeared in the *New York Times*:

"The only effective weapon against the unpleasantness of our urban environment is an increasing number of people who care . . . The most remarkable thing about the conference, in this age of ugliness, is the fact that it took place at all."

John Crosby, in his syndicated column, wrote similarly:

" . . . and the most important single fact to come out of that conference was the fact that it was held at all . . . Of Course, it'll be maybe another decade or so before we get around to acting on it, but I am greatly encouraged that we've got Beauty . . . in . . . the talking stage, at least."

Letter from Lester Haas Convention Chairman

I know you have been completely snowed under with the Legislature—I just hope you will soon be free enough to pitch in on the LAA Convention because we are making real progress, and I am extremely enthusiastic about the theme and the response from my Committee Chairmen.

Bill Evans has come up with a superb theme: "Refreshment"—he is contacting the very finest educators in the country from whom we hope to get a good panel to orientate us on what is being taught to the architectural students and to bring us down to date on new thinking processes, etc. In conjunction with this, we hope to tie in a school project to be given simultaneously at all three architectural schools with a judgment here at the Convention. This will broaden our scope of interest and should also add tremendously to the value of our theme and overall program.

We also hope to tie in a judgment of the Louisiana submissions of the Gulf States Regional awards and if we can arrange it—and I think we can—we hope to give prizes in these two categories: possibly a good portion of the Gulf States Cruise expense.

Charles Randall has accepted the responsibility of broadening his Committee to include not only "Arrangements" but "Attendance," and he will need recommendations from you for top men in each of the Chapters to serve with him on this Attendance Committee. Will you kindly submit recommendations, similar to those that you made for Louis Moossy, direct to Charles Randall, 1404-C Beck Building, Shreveport.

We have had pretty good response from the letters I wrote for the Exhibits Committee: only four have not replied, and I will rewrite them today.

Wrap up this Legislature and let's get started on something worthwhile!

ROSTER ISSUE

Response from advertisers to the roster issue of Louisiana Architect planned for August has been good; however, several additional ads are needed to cover costs of this special edition.

The issue will include an up-to-date roster of AIA members in the Gulf States Region of the AIA. The five states included in this Region are Louisiana, Mississippi, Arkansas, Alabama and Tennessee.

Please keep in mind that this particular issue of this publication will be used throughout the year.

Reserve your advertising space immediately. Rates are as follows:

Full page\$150

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Eighth page 25

On a first come first served basis, ads will be placed next to the chapter requested.

Mr. Wayne Stoffle, President
Louisiana Architects Association
Capitol House Hotel
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Dear Wayne:

While it is disappointing that the Governor vetoed HB325, I feel that, for the first time, the architects of Louisiana have really worked as an organized group and should not be discouraged by this setback.

It was far more important to the profession to be able to defeat the Residential Designers' bill—and the Interior Decorators' bill—and this was accomplished through the coordinated efforts of many individual architects and every chapter in the state.

This coordination was made possible by the efficient and aggressive action of the Louisiana Architects Association.

Our congratulations to you and

the LAA staff for a job well done!
Enclosed is our contribution.

Sincerely,

Ralph Bodman

AIA FORMS

Orders for AIA forms have already been received by LAA headquarters. The forms, however, won't be available until August 1.

Every LAA firm will receive a catalog of available forms in late July. In addition to free forms, the following will be offered: A-101, A-107, A-111, A-201, A-310, A-311, A-401, A-411, B-131, B-211, and B-311.

LAA will also keep on hand D-301 Plate Filing Systems, E-301 Standard Filing Systems and Handbooks of Architectural Practice.

There is a good possibility that special forms will be developed for use in Louisiana where no existing national forms suffice.

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NEWS, NOTES, QUOTES

Senator Requests Magazine

Gentlemen:

Recently you forwarded to me your current issue of the Louisiana Architect, in which was found pictures surrounding the Louisiana Legislature.

It seems that my office has misplaced this issue of your magazine and I would appreciate very much you making another available to me if at all possible.

I regret very much the veto of the Architects Bill, of which I was one of the co-authors.

With kindest regards and best wishes, I am,

Very truly yours,

L. D. NAPPER, MEMBER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

One-Third of Deficit Erased

At press time, LAA Headquarters had received a total of \$815 in contributions and pledges as a result of President Stoffle's appeal to the membership for supplementary funds to erase a \$2,500 deficit resulting from heavy legislative expenses.

By unanimous vote, the LAA Board of Governors on June 24, instructed the president to appeal to the membership for individual or firm donations. In his appeal, Stoffle listed the accomplishments of the LAA during the first half of 1962. He said a dollar value could not be assigned to any of the accomplishments but pointed out their importance.

Stoffle said overspending was experienced in printing, postage, and telephone budgets.

Some contributions have been made by firms, some by individual members, while the members of two chapters have elected to assess themselves and have made single chapter contributions.

Among the accomplishments listed by Stoffle were: Defeat of the Designer's Bill; the killing of HB 674, the Interior Decorator's Bill,

and its companion in the Senate, SB 184; Amendment of Section 13 of Contractors Licensing Law in HB 787 which shifts policing of unlicensed contractors from architect to contractor; Steering of HB 325 through the House Committee, the House vote, Senate Committee

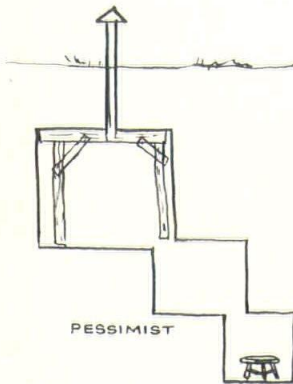
and Senate vote; Publication of a Statement of Service and Practice with recommended fee schedule; Help to firms needing employees and help to people needing work through LAA Employment Reference Service; Publication of LOUISIANA ARCHITECT magazine.



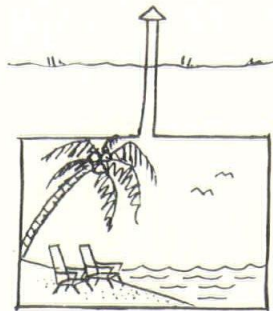
RELAXATION BY THE SEA—Two young vacationing couples enjoy the sea and sand on a quiet, secluded beach in the Bahamas. The sea is always refreshing for a dip and cool breezes from the ocean bless the islands throughout the year. Architects from the Gulf States Region will cruise to Nassau, Bahamas in November for the 12th Gulf States Regional Conference. Reservations are encouraged.

SHELTERS A LA MODE

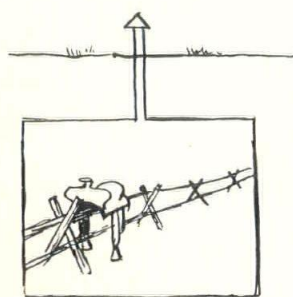
Reproductions from Sheltersville in recent issues have prompted a Baton Rouge Chapter member to submit these renditions. "Shelters with personality" have prompted such comment, readers are invited to submit originals for future issues.



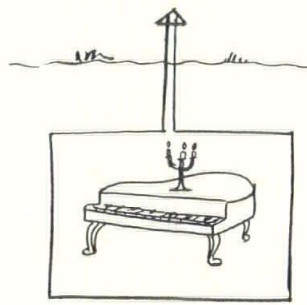
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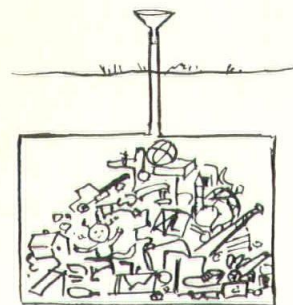
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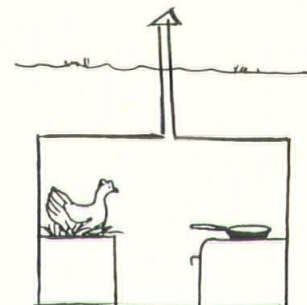
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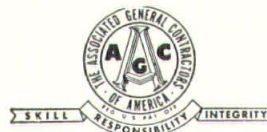
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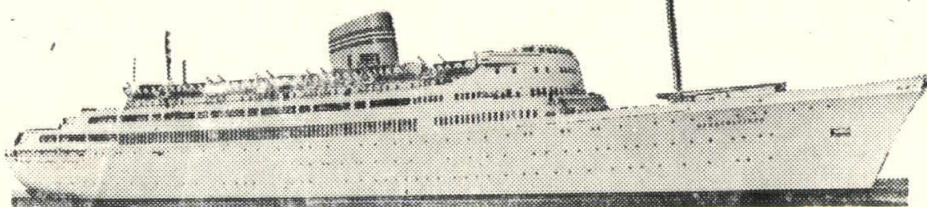
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Charleston, S.C.	8 A.M. Nov. 14	

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