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THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1946 SEP 24 AM 8:44
WASHINGTON, D. C.

NORTHWEST ARCHITECT

"The little lake with the long name in
Massachusetts is called: CHAUGH JOG
A GOG MAUGH CHAUGH A GOG
CHAUGH BUNA GUNCHA MAUGH
wherein the redmen intended: We own to
the middle of the lake on this side, you own
to the middle of the lake on the other side,
and both of us own the middle."

—From Carl Sandburg's
"The People, Yes"



“Ever try lifting 376 POUNDS?”

“I could take your order for a million barrels of Hawkeye Cement—but we couldn’t deliver a single barrel. And you’d be plenty surprised if we did.

“Don’t get me wrong. You’d get your Hawkeye Cement all right—delivered on time wherever you say. That’s an old Hawkeye custom. But there wouldn’t be a barrel in a carload—just 94-pound bags or perhaps only the cement itself, in bulk.

“I don’t know just how long ago it was that cement manufacturers stopped shipping their product in barrels, but it’s easy to see why. It saves money for buyers, saves space for shippers, saves time for everyone.

“Of course, to fully appreciate the advantage of bags over barrels you’d have to be one of the men who handle cement—with their hands. Ever try lifting 376 pounds?”

HAWKEYE PORTLAND CEMENT COMPANY
HUBBELL BUILDING • DES MOINES, IOWA





Northwest Architect

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1946

Number 3

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H. W. FRIDLUND, A.I.A., Editor

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Publication office, 2642 University Avenue, St. Paul 4, Minn.
Published six times during the year.

Highlights on the Housing Front

From July report of Wilson W. Wyatt National Housing Expediter.

CONSTRUCTION

- 496,000 dwelling units started in first 6 months of 1946 amount to more than two-fifths of the VEHP goal for the year.
- A total of 225,000 units completed in first 6 months of 1946.
- Year's goals for new permanent conventional homes and conversions revised upward on basis of better-than-expected production thus far. Goal for factory-built homes in 1946 sharply reduced because of time required to get production going. Total 1946 goal of 1,200,000 starts remains the same.
- New channeling order establishes national and local monthly priority quotas for housing.
- Under limitation order, \$946 million in nonhousing construction denied by CPA in period March 26 through July 18.
- Dollar value of housing construction put in place during July rose to \$355 million, two and one-half times that for January.

MATERIALS SUPPLY

- Increased production of many critical building materials, except foundry items which seasonally decline in hot weather:

LUMBER PRODUCTION in May exceeded 3 billion board feet, highest monthly output since August 1944.

JUNE BRICK PRODUCTION rose 11 per cent over May, 43 per cent over January.

OUTPUT OF ASPHALT ROOFING reached an all-time high of 6.45 million squares in June.

- Emergency priorities placed in effect for steel and iron for use in critical building materials.
- Premium-payment plans in operation for structural clay products, plywood, and paper liner for gypsum

board. Four more programs virtually ready: cast-iron soil pipe, convactor radiation, and two hardwood flooring premium-payment plans—one each for northern and southern producers.

- Materials set aside for housing priority holders expanded to include lavatories, sinks and water closets.
- Steps taken to increase nail supply, including establishment of production goals which manufacturers are pledged to meet, price increases, and release of Army-Navy surplus stocks.
- Large quantities of salvaged lumber expected soon from demolition of surplus military camps, now under way.

LABOR

- Work stoppages affecting housing program reach lowest point of year in July.
- Agreement reached with AFL Building Trades Department to use every effort to prevent stoppages and settle disputes affecting homebuilding. AFL advisory council appointed on housing program.
- Advisory council set up with CIO on matters affecting production by CIO workers.

OTHER ACTIVITIES

- Combined drive against black market in building materials initiated by NHA, OPA, Treasury and Justice Departments, with one OPA action involving 65 million board feet of lumber.
- 96 additional mayors' emergency housing committees formed since June 1, bring total to 428 committees now active.
- Total home-financing credit requirements for 1946 and 1947 estimated at \$29.9 billion, of which \$15.4 billion is needed for new housing being built under VEHP. Net increase in home financing debt, after repayments, estimated at \$15.2 billion by end of 1947.

"OR EQUAL"

BY JOHN W. DAWSON

It has been common practice for all of us to specify "as manufactured by the Ajax Mfg. Co., or equal." Maybe we say "approved equal," or even "as approved by the Architect." Whatever the language, the effect is that we set up the product of one manufacturer as a standard, and say we will accept anything that is equal to it.

Most of the time this works well enough. We are dealing with people and products we know from experience. But sometimes this happens. We have a sizable job under construction, big enough so the order for Ajax material means something to a producer. One otherwise bright morning a personable young man shows up in our office and speaks as follows: "My name is Brown. I represent the Challenger Mfg. Co. You are acquainted with our company as a manufacturer of Gadgets, but perhaps you did not know that we are also large producers of Gookum, such as you have specified to be made by Ajax. As a matter of fact, we have been in that field for twenty-seven years, and produce more Gookum than Ajax does. Our original plant is in New Jersey and our sales have been in the East, but we have opened a new plant in Indiana and are now in a position to serve this territory. Our satisfied customers include the Durable Products Co., who use 500,000 pounds of Gookum every year in maintenance work in their numerous factories. Our product is accepted as meeting government specifications. We would like your approval for this job."

So what do we do? We have not the foggiest notion of how to set about finding out whether Challenger Gookum is equal to Ajax Gookum. We stall a little and try to cover our confusion, and in the end give our approval because we like Mr. Brown's looks, or because we can think of no good reason for turning him down.

The weakness of the specification lies in the fact that, while we thought we had established a standard by saying, "Ajax, or equal" we had in reality established no standard at all. Many of the products we specify are compounded from natural or organic materials, products such as paints, roofing materials, waterproofing, caulking, Portland cement. In all such and in many other materials, the product of any one manufacturer is not uniform. What do we mean to use as a standard, the best he ever produced or the average? Also some manufacturers change their formulae from time to time. What is our standard, the material he produced when we wrote the specification, and which he can no longer furnish, or the material he is producing when the job is ready for it?

We may say we will have samples of the Ajax and Challenger materials tested by a laboratory, but difficulties immediately arise. All materials have a wide variety of physical and chemical properties. Any liquid material, for example, has many measurable properties, such as color, specific gravity, chemical analysis, fineness of suspended solids, per cent of volatile mat-

ter, specific heat, thermal conductivity, thermal expansion, and many others. Also there is another kind of characteristics relative to usefulness, such as toughness, durability, color fastness, adhesive qualities and others. When the samples reach the laboratory our telephone rings and the lab man wants to know which of these several other possible tests we want run. We don't know.

There is a way we can improve our performance in these matters. If we use specifications which define our materials in terms of measurable physical and chemical properties or simulated use characteristics, it is then a simple matter to have a laboratory make tests when Mr. Brown asks for approval on a material we never heard of. It does not follow that we must launch on a program of testing everything. Most of the time our work will go along as it always has. But when the necessity of making a decision arises, the laboratory technique is available if needed.

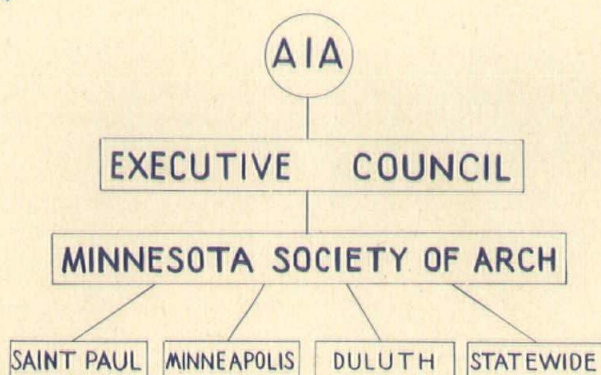
It is not expected that Architects could originate such specifications. It is a job demanding research and laboratory facilities far outside the Architect's scope. But many such specifications are available now. The American Society for Testing Materials now has excellent specifications for several materials, which are available at small cost for single copies. Others have been prepared by the Federal Government and the Bureau of Standards.

An example is sand for masonry mortar. We may specify clean, sharp sand, free from organic matter and clay, and well graded from coarse to fine. Every one of these characteristics is relative, and if we try to reject sand on the basis of this specification we may be in for an argument. Someone is going to be damaged, and he won't like it. A.S.T.M. has a good specification for mortar sand. It covers the gradation and clay by a test on standard sieves and the organic matter by a chemical reaction test. If a sand is suspected and tested and fails to meet the specification, there is nothing to argue about.

The use of standards will decrease the bulk of our specifications, as they may be included simply by reference. Manufacturers will not be offended or nonplussed at our use of standards. They are likely more familiar with them than we are. They should be, because in most cases they wrote them, and this is as it should be. It would be pointless to write a standard specification unless someone is ready to furnish material to meet it. It also would be foolish to write a standard specification for a material of such high grade that cost of production would make its use uneconomical.

The standard specifications now available are valuable and useful, but limited in number. We can make good use of them immediately. If we wish, we can do more. By pooling our opinions and acting together we can establish contact with people who are in position to produce standard specifications in other fields and enlarge the scope of this useful device.

Joint Committee on Unification Makes Progress



Members of the recently organized Minnesota Architects Unification Committee established to work out ways and means of effecting unification of the architectural profession in Minnesota met recently at the Midway Club, Saint Paul, and considerable progress is evident from the following report presented by Paul Havens, Temporary Secretary:

The following organizations were represented by delegates and alternates as listed:

Minnesota Association of Architects—

Thomas F. Ellerbe
Louis C. Pinault

Minnesota Chapter—

Donald P. Setter, Delegate
Dale R. McEnary
H. W. Fridlund, Delegate
Stowell D. Leach, Alternate
Oscar T. Lang

St. Paul Chapter—

Eugene D. Corwin
Paul M. Havens
John W. Dawson, Alternate for E. Richard Cone.

The Committee held a lengthy discussion on the various types of organizations now in operation in Pennsylvania, Indiana, Ohio, Illinois, California, and Michigan. Mr. Havens submitted charts illustrating the various types of organizations in these states.

After much discussion it was unanimously agreed that an organizational setup according to the following chart would be most suitable for conditions in Minnesota. Significant reasons for adopting this form of organization are:

1. All qualified registered architects in Minnesota who wish to join and are accepted by a chapter would belong to a state organization similar to the present Minnesota association and also to the AIA.

2. The local autonomy of the present metropolitan units—Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth—would be maintained.

3. By the creation of a state-wide chapter embracing non-metropolitan architects, the state-wide men would have equal representation with the metropolitan architects at the AIA convention and at the Annual Meeting of the State Society and on the Executive Council of the State Society.

4. Because of the geographical distribution of the state-wide men, it is realized that the state-wide chapters could not function as an autonomous group except at the annual meeting. Consequently, the dues would be nominal—a dollar or two a year—and all such men would be invited to join the metropolitan chapters if they desired closer contact with fellow architects.

A sub-committee consisting of Havens, Setter, and Ellerbe was appointed to study further the problem and devise a charter and by-laws for the new organization to submit to the various interested groups.

It was unanimously recommended that the sub-committee seriously consider the following suggestions:

1. That all members would be permitted to become a member of any chapter in the State, as well as being a member of the state-wide organization.

2. That all chapters except the state-wide chapter establish non-resident dues.

3. That the organization be called the Minnesota Society of Architects.

4. That the organization be set up so that local chapters have the privilege of communicating with the AIA directly on affairs on the national level.

Paul M. Havens,
Secretary Pro Tempore

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The Function of the Architect

BRANSON VAN LEER GAMBER, F.A.I.A.
Practitioner, Detroit [Ed.]

THE architect holds a position of trust and responsibility, not only to his client, but to those with whom he works, and to the community. He is, first of all, an artist, but he is also realistic and practical. While he cannot know all the details of the many professions and types of business with which he comes in contact, he must be generally acquainted with their methods and activities.

He must be familiar with many phases of engineering, and should have a thorough knowledge of construction and of the use and adaptability of building materials and equipment. His broad training qualifies him to work intelligently and in harmony with landscape architects, interior decorators, craftsmen, and engineering and equipment specialists.

The architect will endeavor to learn all he can about his client, so that he may understand and more readily solve his problem. A thorough knowledge of facts and figures, of the client's preferences and prejudices, and of other relevant factors are required for thorough and mutual understanding between the architect and his client.

The architect should first visit the property. If none has been acquired, he will provide valuable assistance in selecting the proper site. He will give careful consideration to locality, orientation, soil conditions, drainage, and other matters relating to the particular problem.

During the preliminary study and preparation of sketches, frequent conferences are desirable and necessary to complete the understanding between owner and architect. After approval of preliminary sketches and estimates, working drawings and specifications are prepared. The same frequent interchange of ideas is important. The owner becomes familiar with the details of the proposed building, and the necessity for changes during construction is minimized. Accurate preliminary cost estimates are essential.

Careful attention is given to all phases of engineering involved and to the proper use of materials, with careful thought as to the maintenance, housing and operation of equipment, as well as to the aesthetic considerations. Building codes must be considered, and also other ordinances and regulations. The architect provides many features which contribute immeasurably to the successful operation of the building and to the owner's satisfaction.

When the drawings and specifications are issued to contractors for proposals, the architect performs a most important service. As the owner's agent he examines and compares the bids, with due regard to what is involved in the selection of the contractor, the subcontractors, and those who will furnish materials and equipment. He advises and assists the owner in awarding contracts, and prepares the contract documents.

As construction proceeds the architect's duties are numerous. He carefully supervises the work, both in the field and in his office. Shop drawings from subcontractors and material supplies must be checked. Many detail drawings at large scale and full size are made and issued. Accurate progress records are kept

(Continued on Page 10)

TENTATIVE PROGRAM CENTRAL STATES DISTRICT AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Second Annual Meeting

Des Moines, Iowa

Hotel Fort Des Moines

October 11-12-13, 1946



FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

- 10:00 A.M. Registration.
- 12:30 P.M. Luncheon.
Address of Welcome—Hon. Robert D. Blue, Governor of Iowa.
Response—Mr. Leonard H. Bailey, Oklahoma Chapter.
- 2:00 P.M. Afternoon Session.
Address—"Trends in Availability and Cost of Building Materials and Labor," by Representative of F. W. Dodge Corp.
"New Building Materials"—A series of "Short Short Stories" on New Building Materials, by Representatives from the following industries: Light Metals, Plastics, Wood, Paint.
- 5:30 P.M. Cocktail Hour.
- 6:00 P.M. Special Dinner for Architects' Wives.
- 6:30 P.M. Dinner.
Toastmaster, Arthur Brayton, Secretary Des Moines Convention Bureau.
Address—"Small Hospitals and Medical Clinics," by Dr. Herman Smith, Hospital Consultant, Chicago.
- 9:00 P.M. Meeting of Regional Director and Chapter Officers.



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 12

- 10:00 A.M. Morning Session.
Agenda for Business Sessions of Central States District Meeting by Arthur W. Archer, Regional Director.
Business Session.
- 12:00 P.M. Special Luncheon for Architects' Wives.
- 12:30 P.M. Luncheon.
Address—"Heating and Air Conditioning," by Charles Leopold, Consulting Engineer.
- 2:30 P.M. Afternoon Session.
Business Session.
Report of Resolutions Committee.
Round Table Discussions.
- 6:00 P.M. Cocktail Hour and a Half.
- 7:30 P.M. Banquet with Architects' Wives.
Address—"Color in Modern Architecture," by Alden Dow, A. I. A. Architect.



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 13

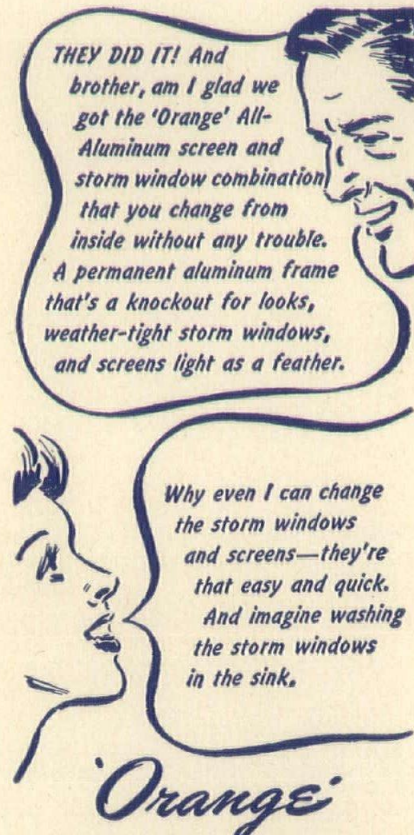
- 10:00 A.M. 1. Tours to points of interest in Des Moines.
2. Visit to Bankers Life Building.
3. Meeting at Iowa State College for men interested in Architectural Education.
- 11:00 A.M. 1. Church.
2. Barn Yard Golf at Walnut Woods State Park (near Des Moines).
- 1:00 P.M. Picnic at Shelter House, Walnut Woods State Park, with Architects' Wives.
- 2:30 P.M. Central States District Golf Tournament.

EXHIBITS

Exhibit of preliminary drawings of a few of the outstanding Postwar Projects in each of the States in the District.
Exhibit of New Postwar Building Materials.

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POSITION WANTED—Ex-service man attending classes in drafting at University of Minnesota Extension School desires full time position as apprentice under good architect. St. Paul area preferred, or Minneapolis. Married, two children, steady, temperate. Address, Franklin M. Fuller, 1095 E. Maryland Ave., St. Paul 6, Minn. TO. 6993.



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When the source of the materials they sell was endangered, salesmen for the Hawkeye Portland Cement Company, Des Moines, Iowa, turned to with a will and lent a hand at a production plant, so much-needed binder could be made and shipped to fill orders.

Plant officials had scoured the area for help. Advertisements, word of mouth and diligent personal search had been of no avail in producing workers for the plant. Meantime, orders piled up and demand grew. Added to the difficulties was a shortage of boxcars, which had held up earlier shipments.

The salesmen in the area had to let up on order taking because their backlogs were so large that production and shipment could not catch up. Then a call went out to them for help at the producing end and they answered to a man. Reporting to the main plant, they were culled for physical qualifications and several of the older men had to be turned down. The remainder donned heavy-duty clothing, received training in safety measures and turned to.

According to G. F. Hetherington, Hawkeye president, the salesmen's efforts lifted the plant over the hump. J. C. Bennett, plant superintendent, reported the emergency workers were soft and tired easily because of their unfamiliarity with that kind of heavy work, but they kept at the job with a will and did the job assigned.

Those who helped move physically the orders they had previously only been concerned with statistically included Harold Jenkins, Chet Mullen and Al Thedens of Minnesota, "Skeeter" Albertson, Mike Brennan, William Denigan, James McConville, Phil Nelson and Lowell Perkins of Iowa and Dean Schneider of Nebraska. The men are all back in their territories after their two weeks' tour of duty with the production men and they say their experience with the plant end of the business has made them appreciate better the cement they handle on the order end.

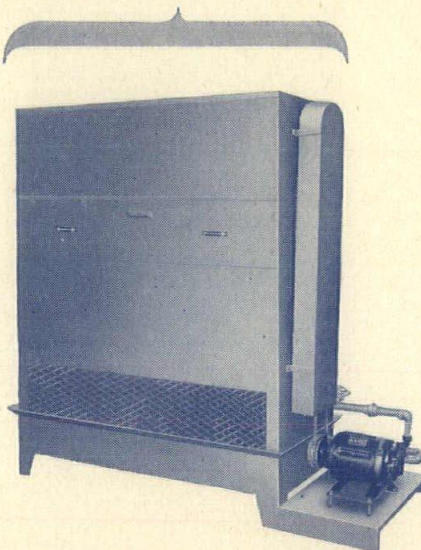
Minnesota Chapter A.I.A. Officers,

Directors and Committees for 1947

Following are the officers, directors and committees for the year of the Minnesota Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. Meetings of the Chapter are held on the third Thursday of each month at the Skylight Club, 1200 2nd Avenue South, Minneapolis.

Officers: President, G. W. Shiftet; 1st Vice President, Roy N. Thorshov; 2nd Vice President, R. Melander; Secretary, Stowell Leach; Treasurer, Clair Armstrong.

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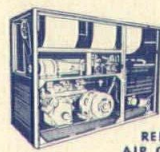
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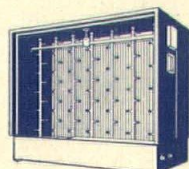
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Carney Company Adds Personnel

Increased production demands will be met through addition of three new executives to the staff of the Carney Company, Mankato, Minn., makers of cement and rockwool products, according to H. E. Carney, Jr., president.

Lawrence Morris, an army air forces veteran and University of Minnesota graduate, will be the new personnel director for the firm. William H. Scott, Carney's new chief mechanical engineer, was formerly plant engineer for a large rockwool company in the east and has had wide experience in engineering and production. Clayton Bowe, after 20 years' experience as a special accountant for a railroad; is the company's new chief accountant.

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(Continued from Page 6)

and the contractors' regular requests for payments must be checked and certificates issued. When changes are necessary, the architect prepares drawings and specification addenda and obtains estimates of cost. When approved by the owner, work orders are issued by the architect, and the amounts entered in his books.

As the building progresses, the architect approves materials, selects colors, inspects and approves equipment, selects hardware, lighting fixtures, and many other items—most often in company with the owner. He will guard against work stoppages or vexatious delays in so far as they are within his control.

He must check carefully to determine that all items of work have been satisfactorily completed, that all conditions and requirements of the contract have been fulfilled, and that all required certificates and guarantees are delivered to the owner. All required tests will be made, and the building will be ready for occupancy.

The architect's services, as outlined above, should result in a satisfied client, who possesses a building of which he is proud and which is an asset to the community.

Polisher Does Many Jobs

The new Tennant Model 15 floor machine handles a myriad of floor cleaning and surfacing jobs with dispatch, is small but durable and easy to handle.

Made by the G. H. Tennant Company, 2530 Second St. No., Minneapolis 11, Minn., this machine's working zone is less than a foot high for prompt use under equipment, its motor is vertically balanced with a positive gear drive, it has a light rugged frame, adjustable handle and a control switch mounted in the hand grips which cuts out current when grips are released.

Included in the working tools for the machine is a side-polishing brush which works in flush with walls, a steel wire brush for heavy duty scrubbing, a tough scrubbing brush and steel-wool pad attachment. Accessories attach by means of a tip-on bayonet lock. Soap tank can be readily attached to the handle of the machine for continuous work. Brushes operate at 175 RPM.

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ACCORDING TO LAW

by George F. Anderson, Atty.

As a profession, my experience has been that Architects are among the most honorable. I have had hundreds of cases where the cost of a building was to be paid for upon certificates of the architect. This makes the architect the judge and jury, and you can appreciate what confidence and trust that reposes in him. Nevertheless, I only found one notable instance where the architect did not act fairly. In every other case he was too honest to be bought, too brave to be bluffed and too wise to be fooled. I can't say the same for doctors. I know of cases where doctors have operated when it was not necessary, where they have kept a patient running to their office when it was not necessary, where they have overcharged him, and many other things. I need not tell you this. Socialized medicine is in the atmosphere, and the doctors themselves have created the atmosphere. When it comes to lawyers and brokers—well I guess this is a good place to stop. Search your own conscience.

—“The Real Estate Advertiser.”

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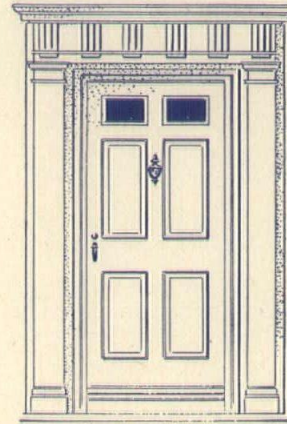
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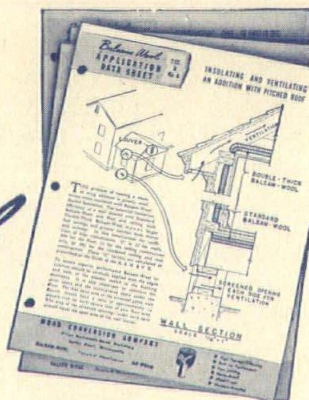
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(Continued from Page 8)

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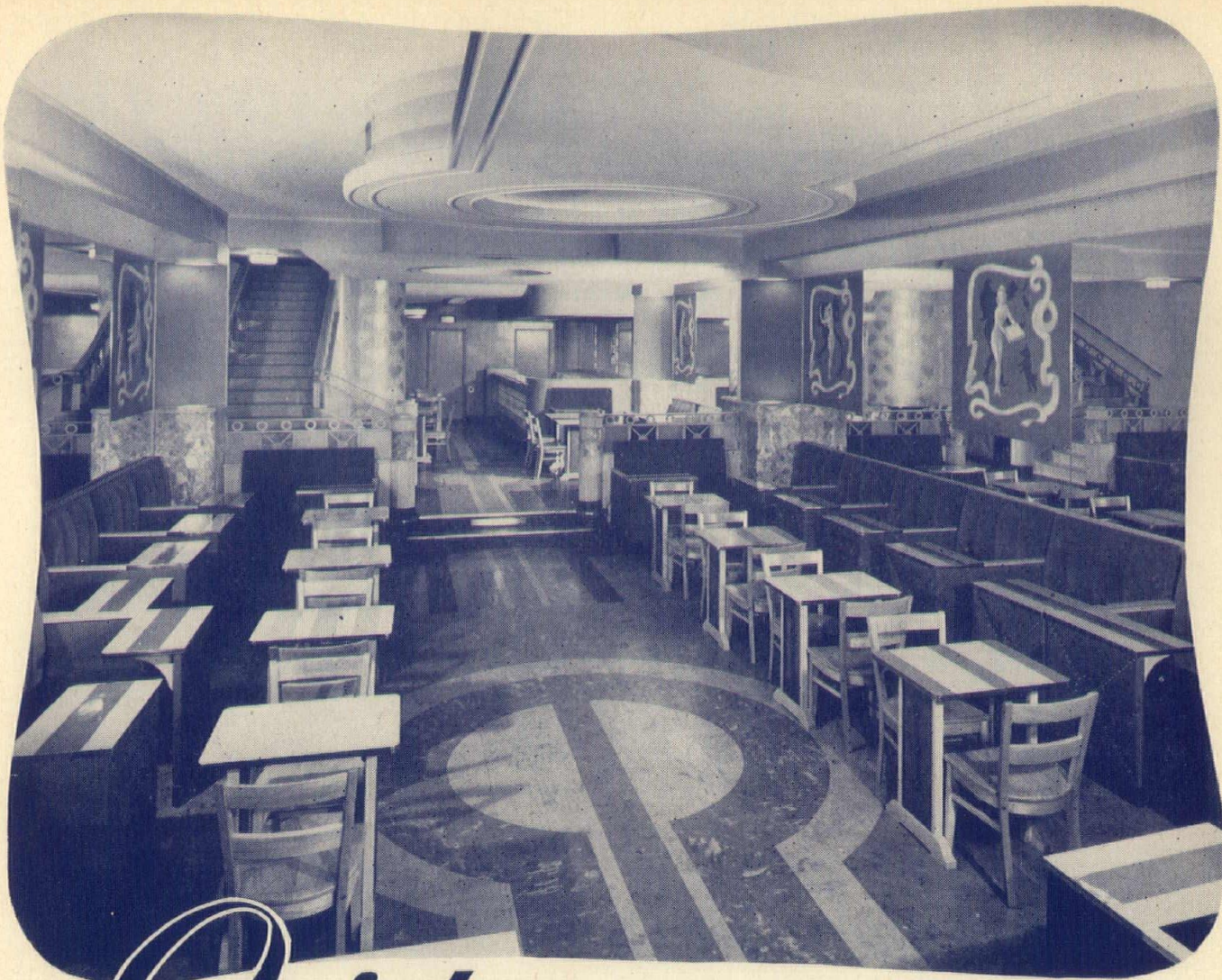
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Construction of Multiple-Units

James R. Edmunds, Jr., President of The American Institute of Architects, has urged veterans' organizations to support the construction industry in its efforts to bring about an increased output of scarce building materials and equipment.

"The architectural profession is fully aware of the gravity of the housing shortage and is eager to expedite residential construction in every practical way," Edmunds said, "but we believe that the desired results can be obtained more quickly by removing the obstacles to full production of materials than by merely cutting down on the volume of nonhousing construction, as some veterans' organizations have recommended.

"We agree that nonessential industrial and commercial building which requires materials needed for low-cost homes should be deferred while the scarcity continues. However, the cure lies in producing more materials, because the supply of some building products is too low to meet housing requirements alone.

"Building product manufacturers state that their low rate of production is due to inadequate ceiling prices, raw materials shortages, or lack of plant labor. In some cases, all three causes apply. Relief must come in large part from the Federal government, inasmuch as the government is maintaining a large degree of control over manufacturers and their suppliers.

"Increasing the output of materials not only would permit more homes to be built but also would quickly make possible a larger amount of nonhousing construction which normally exceeds housing by a wide margin in dollar value.

"Many thousands of veterans will depend on industrial and commercial building for peacetime employment, and thousands of other veterans need new buildings in which to start up or expand their own business ventures.

"Housing must come first, by and large, but we must make it possible for all kinds of construction to proceed before we can have any guarantee of full employment and high national income."

At least 10 per cent more new housing accommodations can be provided during the period of materials shortages for veterans if greater emphasis is placed on the construction of multiple-unit housing built for rent.

"In general, the available supply of brick and tile, soil pipe, roofing, heating equipment and other scarce building products will go further and provide more badly needed housing units if used for these rental projects," Edmunds said.

"The number of multiple-unit dwellings and apartment buildings started since the first of the year has been well below the actual need of veterans, and there are no signs that the situation is improving. Inasmuch as the shortage of materials is expected to continue at least six months or more, there is need to build as many units as possible with the available supply in the meanwhile.

"Various surveys have shown that most veterans with modest incomes, which includes the great majority, would much rather rent a home than buy one at this time, either because they are not sure where they will want to settle down eventually or for some other reason. More than half of all families normally live in rented accommodations, either from choice or necessity, and the proportion of renters among veterans undoubtedly would be even greater if they could exercise a free choice.

"The responsibility for encouraging construction of more rental housing falls jointly on private building and financing institutions and on the government which is playing so active a part in the home building program today. One possible solution is to allocate a definite share of the scarce materials for rental housing, but it is to be hoped that some easier and more acceptable solution can be devised.

"If it can be established that low rent ceilings have been a factor in discouraging construction of rental housing, steps undoubtedly can be taken to give owners of such properties greater assurance that they will not be required to rent newly built units at a loss."

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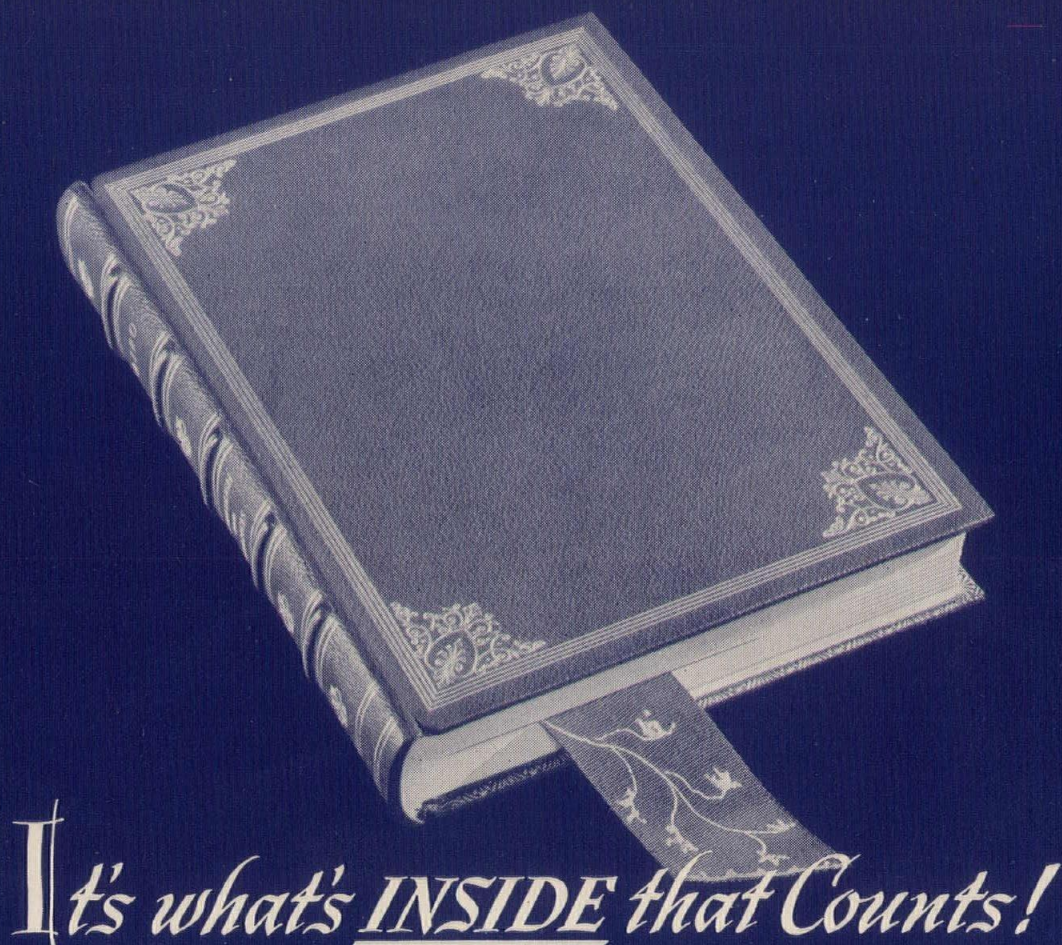
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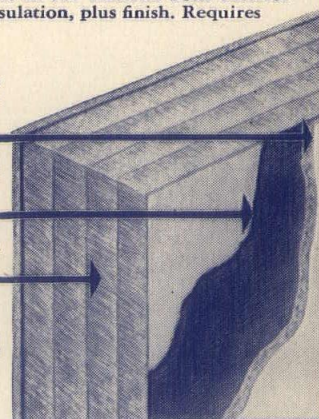
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$\frac{1}{8}$ " cement-asbestos surface for exterior and interior finish.

Water and vapor-resistant bituminous adhesive bonds both exterior and interior surface to cane fibre core.

Celotex cane fibre insulation core.

Color: Warm grey.
Sizes: 4' wide x 4', 6', 8', 10' or 12' long in thicknesses of $\frac{1}{8}$ ", $1-9/16$ " and 2".



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