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VOL. 5 AUGUST, 1953 NO. 1

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ON THE COVER
Elementary School for Farmington, N. H.

All Photos by Concord Photography Service
Concord, N. H.
Congratulations

The Trustees of the University of New Hampshire should be complimented in their intent to use the able services of state resident architects as opposed to out-of-state talent. There is of course no stigma to be placed on non-resident architects but it is indeed comforting to find that in their recent selection this institution has reaffirmed their confidence in “local” talent.

Education

It is a prime function of the architect to educate his clients to let him materialize his ideas. To be tolerant of the laymen’s views perhaps will do more to further the respect of the architect and his profession than to deliver ultimatums. If the architect be sensitive to the feelings and needs of his client obviously he will better interpret these needs into a satisfying solution.

In the final analysis building is a positive happy act—it is one of creating, not one of tearing down, for the most part it is the sheltering of people, their anxieties and laughter from the starkness of a dog-eat-dog nature.

If the N. E. architect is fully aware of the make-up of us creatures of this season-changing climate, if he understands that money up this-a-way is harder to come by than in other regions, that blessed spring, summer and fall can turn savagely into bitter winter, perhaps then he will understand that the Yankee shell is a sensible protection and that same Yankee expects a sensible solution to these other shells he builds about himself. Whether that architect’s solution be conceived in the progressive or conservative will always be a lively topic of discussion, but such solution should be disciplined to embody the Yankee’s conception of the sensible.

Objective

Our N. H. Chapter A. I. A. has extended invitations to all registered resident architects who are not members of the Chapter to attend the Annual Chapter Meeting. It is our intent to present to our fellow architect the objectives which the American Institute of Architects is striving to attain. Aside from the mutual benefits of common local problems, one of the common objectives is to present the public with the real contributions architects can make to society. It is obvious that the more architects interested in cementing public relations the better understood will be our services.

Several years ago Mr. Architect was inclined to wait for the public to knock on his door and in many cases he waited too long. Along with this solitary existence came the public’s identification that the architect was “queer,” dreamer and an expensive luxury to build. That anything could be farther from the truth has taken more than verbal denial, it has taken the proof of active participation in community projects, in Chapter attendance at work. This giving of one’s time for the good of the whole can be a chore, a drag and at times a nuisance, but by far outweighing these are the advantages of doing something progressive to help your fellow man.

BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR ARCHITECTS GRANTS
12 CERTIFICATES

The New Hampshire Board of Registration for Architects Granted Certificates to 12 local and out of state architects:

Roland J. Young Larchmont, New York
Edwin T. Steffan Boston, Massachusetts
Russell M. Peirce Newburyport, Massachusetts
Lester C. Gustin Winchester, Massachusetts
Roswell F. Barrett Southport, Connecticut
John A. Carter Nashua, New Hampshire
Warren H. Ashley West Hartford, Connecticut
Royal B. Wills Boston, Massachusetts
John C. Harkness Cambridge, Massachusetts
Francis B. Sellew Boston, Massachusetts
Barton V. Phinney Nashua, New Hampshire
Guy K. Wilson Durham, New Hampshire
Difficulties in financing mortgages are accompanying scattered slumps in new home construction across the nation, an Associated Press survey showed.

Home builders tend to blame the construction letdown on financing troubles. Experts disagree on whether it will be easier or harder to get a mortgage loan in the future.

Only in recent months has construction eased off in many cities. During the early months of 1953 the biggest construction boom in United States history rolled on almost unchecked.

A whopping sixteen billion dollars' worth of construction was listed for the first six months. That pace equaled the building rate of 1952, when total new construction reached record $33,500,000,000.

But in the first quarter of this year home building failed to hold its own. There were 45,000 new housing starts in the first three months of this year, compared to 246,500 in the same period last year.

**Second Quarter Down**

Second-quarter figures, released this week, showed privately owned housing starts were down by 3,800 units from May to June. There were 103,000 housing starts last month.

The Associated Press survey of twenty-two cities scattered from coast to coast showed thirteen of them are struggling with mortgage money troubles. Eleven cities said new home construction either is declining or heading for a drop.

Only seven cities said the money market is adequate. A meager three out of twenty-two reported construction still at boom levels.

Builders in almost every section of the country blame the home construction slowdown on financing difficulties. Contractors and promoters say banks and other institutions aren't interested in real estate loans because government and corporation bonds offer higher interest rates.
At the Annual Meeting last May, it was voted to have the retiring President make a written report of Chapter accomplishments during his administration together with recommendations for future action.

The volume of documents accumulated over the past two years, which it was necessary to review for this purpose, indicated that the Chapter has indeed been active. As with most organizations, the burden was carried principally by a few persons—members of the Executive Committee, the various committee chairmen and Editor of the New Hampshire Architect. Their hard work deserves recognition and would have accomplished more in terms of tangible results than it actually did, with a little wider participation and closer attention to business on the part of the members.

Chapter meetings on the whole have been of high quality. Dr. Pietro Belluschi, Dean of the M. I. T. School of Architecture, addressed us in November 1951 at the Manchester Country Club, on the occasion of a joint meeting with the M. I. T. Club of New Hampshire. The following February in Exeter, we learned about prestressed concrete from Victor Kjellman of the Portland Cement Association. In May 1952 we had another joint meeting in Manchester with the Associated General Contractors and the N. H. Society of Professional Engineers, with C. P. Street, Vice President of the A. G. C., as guest speaker. Douglass Haskell, Editor of Architectural Forum, headed the program at the Wentworth in August 1952. At the Winnisquam House in November 1952 we enjoyed an illustrated talk and demonstration of resilient flooring products by the Armstrong Cork Co. This meeting also marked the first special program for the ladies, with an illustrated discussion of interior decorating by Miss Barbara Standish. In February 1953 at the Millville Inn in Concord we heard Regional A. I. A. Director Philip D. Creer. The final meeting last May, at the Ragged Mountain Fish & Game Club, was entirely taken up with business.

Seven events stand out as memorable for one reason or another:

(1) Adoption by the Legislature of amendments to the Architects Registration Law, July 11, 1951. These were sponsored by the Chapter. They make it illegal to practice or offer practice as an architect unless registered, and prevent anyone from using the title "architect" unless registered.

(2) Publication by the N. H. State Department of Education in September 1952 "Guide for the Planning and Construction of School Buildings." Originating from a suggestion in "Architectopics," financed by the Department, supported by Commissioner Buley and guided by Administrator Paul Farnum, the book was authored by a team of educator school administrators and the following A. I. A. Chapter members. Huddleston, Hudson, Kiley, Magenau and Randlett.

(3) Establishment of an Architect's Scholarship Fund and adoption of Rules by the Chapter, February 21, 1952. This action followed many months of study and was followed by a long and still continued period of waiting for new fund contributions.

(4) Membership in the New England Regional Council of the American Institute of Architects, of which the By-Laws were adopted on February 21, 1952.

(5) Award of Emeritus Life Membership to Harry G. Forrest on August 22, 1952, in recognition of his service to the Chapter and its predecessor, the N. H. Society of Architects as Secretary for twelve years.

(6) Passage of several revisions to the By-Laws, at various times, raising the dues, clarifying requirements for Junior Associateship, providing for nomination of officers by a nominating committee, quarterly instead of monthly Treasurer's reports, and making the Scholarship Fund Committee a regular standing committee.

(Continued on page 12)
THE FARMINGTON SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN

The recently built elementary school building for Farmington, New Hampshire was part of a comprehensive school plan initiated in 1947. At that time, due to the foresight of James Hayer, Chairman of the School Board, Aurey King, Chairman of the School Building Committee, Kathleen Doliver, Norman Liberty, and others of the School Board and Building Committee, a comprehensive plan for the school facilities was developed which has proven very advantageous.

The project was initiated when it was contemplated to build a new high school building. During the course of selecting a suitable site for the high school, the need for community recreation facilities and the eventual need for additional elementary school facilities was also raised and became a major factor of consideration. The need for a comprehensive site and development study which included all of these facilities was suggested and adopted. As a result of this study, the site of a former abandoned and undesirable gravel bank was selected and developed as shown by the accompanying photographs. The former eye sore which restricted a natural development of residential streets was eliminated and planned to provide an ample area for high school, elementary school and recreational facilities in the heart of a new residential area.

In connection with this study, as a part of the Federal Advanced Planning Program, a high school building for 350 pupils and a recreation building was also planned. This was estimated to cost a total of $350,000. Due to the lack of an immediate urgency and inadequate funds the high school and recreation building were tabled for future construction.

In the meantime the need for additional elementary school facilities became urgent. An elementary school unit was planned and built on this site in accordance with the original provisions of the site plan. This building included eight class rooms and an assembly room that can be converted to two more classrooms to provide an eventual ten room building. Each of these classrooms were planned with a direct egress to the adjacent play area on the lateral sides of the building. The adjacent recreation building will be used for assembly and indoor recreation when completed.

Development Plan of the school and recreational area. The recreation building is in the center at the bottom with the high school building and future extensions on the left. The elementary school building and future extensions on the right. Football, baseball and other facilities are located in the area as indicated.
Elementary school located on the former gravel bank area.

High School and Recreation building. The high school is planned complete with class rooms, science and home economic laboratories for 350 pupils. The recreation building is designed for use by both the community, the high school, and elementary school. It has a gym and auditorium, and locker rooms on the first floor. Shops, arts and crafts, dining, and lounge areas are on the ground floor.

Plan of elementary school building with eight classrooms and assembly room, featuring individual room entrances, cloak rooms and toilet facilities.

This building and the other facilities on the site have become a basic program for the comprehensive development and construction of the Farmington school facilities. This gives the school district a basis for setting up a school building budget. It serves as a nucleus for the extension of streets and the development of new residential area which has and will further help in the support of the school system by the additional tax realized thereby. By the foresight of the School Board and the use of proper comprehensive planning the frequent headaches, confusion, and additional expense resulting from inadequate planning has been eliminated in Farmington, New Hampshire.
The building was constructed with a concrete floor slab, concrete block partitions, concrete block exterior walls faced with brick, wood frame window wall, wood frame roof constructed with built up roofing, asphalt tile flooring, acoustical tile ceiling, oil hot water heating system, forced exhaust ventilation, individual room plumbing, incandescent lighting, and painting complete in various tints. This building was constructed at a cost of $113,141 by Ernest Sanders, Contractor and Builder, Alton, New Hampshire. The bulldozing of the gravel bank and general preparation of the site, construction of a driveway, new school equipment and fee brought the total cost to $135,000.
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(Continued from Page 6)

(7) Adoption of a new Chapter Schedule of Fees on May 21, 1953. This was the culmination of many months of intensive effort on the part of the Committee on Ethics and Fees which is still working to put the schedule in final shape following action by the A. I. A. Convention in June in Seattle on Document 177, "Basic Schedule of Architectural Services."

The Executive Committee spends a great deal of time attending to Chapter affairs, a few of which may be mentioned: Submitted a panel of names from which Governor Adams selected Stephen P. Tracy, A. I. A., as a member of the Architects' Board of Registration; held a hearing on charges of unprofessional conduct against a Chapter member and found the charges not supported by the facts; nominated Eric T. Huddleston for Fellowship in the A. I. A., to which he was subsequently elected; authorized purchase of a banner to "dress up" Chapter meetings and which made its first appearance at the May 1953 meeting; delegated three of its members to meet with officials of the State Department of Public Works & Highways, to learn of the latter's policies relative to architectural services and to develop better relations.

Your President in addition to being mixed up in all of the above, conducted a preliminary investigation of charges of unprofessional conduct from an outside chapter, resulting in the charges being dropped; advised a school board and a bank relative to procedure for selecting an architect; assisted the Professional Advisor of a design competition; spoke to the graduating class of St. Paul's School on "Architecture as a Career," participated in a panel discussion on "The Ideal Classroom," and was elected Secretary-Treasurer of the N. E. Regional Council.

The Chapter failed in some of the things it tried to do. These failures should be interpreted as recommendations for future action:

1. We took no positive action on "Resolution No. 1" of the Committee on Bidding Procedure, relative to lump sum bidding.

2. Our amendments to House Bill 72 relating to state public works procedures were

shanghaied after very able preparation by legal counsel working cooperatively with public officials, the A. G. C., the N. H. Society of Engineers and the Legislative Committee. With an extensive public works program coming up, it will be wise to observe carefully how the Department of Public Works & Highways operates under the legislation as it was passed.

3. An abortive experience with the Registration Board over three cases of possible violations to the law, resulted in unsatisfactory action on two of them and showed the need for better provisions in the law for investigation and enforcement.

4. We failed to raise anything for the Scholarship Fund beyond the two or three initial contributions. Financial encouragement for architectural students should be sought among our own members, from the building and building materials industries and from outsiders with money to spare for worthy enterprises.

5. Although total membership in the Chapter increased from 40 in May 1951 to 45 a year later and to 49 in May 1952, there are still too many architects and draftsmen in the state who remain untouched by the benefits of participating in A. I. A. activities, including some of the members themselves. These reluctant dragons should somehow be brought into the fold.

If one can be happy though thrifty, it is fun to be an architect. It is more fun if one can belong to the A. I. A. It is still more fun to be an officer in the local A. I. A. Chapter. I congratulate the new officers and commend them to you as deserving of your best possible support.

Heaven never helps the man who will not act.—Sophocles

To talk of architecture is a joke, till you can build a chimney that won't smoke.

—J. R. Planche
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OUT OF THE ASHES

We can, in this age of ours, boast of having seen more destruction wrought upon the works of man, than any generation since Noah. The great loss of architectural treasures in the two World Wars, leaves scars upon the earth that seem unhealable. Yet, it was from the ashes of one such great calamity, The Great Fire of London in 1666, that one of the world's greatest architects, Sir Christopher Wren, built a new Architecture, and gave to the world new treasures, some of which have been turned to dust again by the fury of fires and bombs.

Wren had been commissioned, just before the Fire, to rebuild "Old St. Pauls," which was in need of extensive repair work, so extensive that Wren's original plans called for practically rebuilding the whole structure. But "Old St. Pauls" was destroyed by the Fire, and after a few years of bickering with high state and church officials, the new St. Pauls was started. In the rebuilding of St. Pauls, Wren's great ambition was to use this, his unique opportunity, to erect a church which should last, not for a time, but forever; and he determined, accordingly, not to be dependent for his fame on another's work, but to lay foundations for himself. The new St. Pauls would not use any part of the old building, but would be new in every respect. When Wren's preliminary sketches were approved and accepted, he was given authority to make any alterations which were "not of an essential character." One does not know whether to admire most his audacity or his ingenuity in evolving the Cathedral he built out of the plan he was authorized to build from, but we can be thankful for the change.

Rushed and harried architects of today might well wonder at the greatness of Wren. While he carried to a successful finish, the great Cathedral of St. Pauls, great if it had been his only work, he, at the same time, was rebuilding thirty-odd city churches, in no two of which were the designs of either church or spire duplicated. During the time, he was constantly nagged and persued with a spite and bitterness which is almost incredible. The Building Committee of St. Pauls continually interfered in small matters, which his technical and artistic knowledge was better fitted than theirs to decide upon.

Finally, in the year 1718, the eighty-sixth year of his age, and the forty-ninth of his office as Architect for St. Pauls, Wren's commission was suspended and he retired. One every year, this venerable old man was carried to St. Pauls to spend the day, to sit beneath the great dome, contemplating the work which in spite of hinderance, had been all his own.

EIGHTEEN ENGINEERS RECEIVE CERTIFICATES OF REGISTRATION

The New Hampshire Board of Registration for Professional Engineers Granted Certificates to 18 local and out of state engineers:

Philip Morrill
Frank Perry
Clarence W. Jones
David C. Miller
Bernard P. Rines
Phillip W. Pease
Richard P. Smith
Donald Stockwell
Donald I. Manter
Fred J. Ravens, Jr.
John G. Tholke, III
Donald W. Brous
Paul L. DeRochemont
William Davis
Henry J. Joyal
Harry Barker
R. Gabriel Karolyi
Edwin B. Cobb

Derry, New Hampshire
Hopedale, Massachusetts
Hudson, New Hampshire
Boston, Massachusetts
Durham, New Hampshire
Nashua, New Hampshire
Salem Depot, New Hampshire
Amherst, New Hampshire
Manchester, New Hampshire
Norwood, Massachusetts
West Roxbury, Massachusetts
Manchester, New Hampshire
Portsmouth, New Hampshire
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