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PUBLISHER
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OUR COVER

Front View of John H. Beamis Residence at Somersworth, N. H.

Photos by Rivers Camera Shop
Dover, N. H.
The President's Message

SPRING

The snow-drop flowers have passed away until next spring; five pixy kittens are scampering around the barn floor; black-fly season is here again! All this and more is repeated in much the same way every Spring, and yet it's new every time.

THANKS

There is no requirement in our Chapter By-laws which requires an out-going President to pass posies around, yet because I've received outstanding help from these people I wish to express my appreciation at this time.

The enthusiasm and cooperation of the entire membership, officers and directors has been of immeasurable help as has been the help of committee workers.

The work and friendship with the New Hampshire-Vermont Association of General Contractors has been rewarding to both our Chapter and theirs and should be a strong foundation upon which to grow in mutual understanding.

Good relations with the New Hampshire Society of Engineers should continue and growth here will include more than professional understanding.

HOPE

It is hoped that the future of the Chapter will continue to include the strong emphasis of positive thinking and doing which is evident now. It is necessary that those trusted with a program acknowledge the existence of the pessimist but allocate the negative thinking its proper place.

To the next President, new officers and directors may your terms of office be a pleasure and help to yourselves, the Chapter and all those with whom you will work.

[Signature]
American Institute Receives Public Relations Award

The American Institute of Architects has been awarded a national Certificate of Public Relations Achievement by the American Association of Public Relations. The award, in recognition of "the high merit of its public relations program," was presented to Anson B. Campbell and Walter M. Megronigle of Ketchum, Inc., public relations counsel for the AIA. Mr. Campbell is the AIA account executive and Mr. Megronigle is manager of the Public Relations Division of Ketchum, Inc.

The presentation was made on April 22 in the ballroom of the Warwick Hotel in Philadelphia as a feature of the A. P. R. A. annual convention.

Organizations in all parts of the United States and in practically every field of social and commercial activity vied for the awards, the "Oscars" of the public relations profession. The AIA won its award in the professional association category. The entry will be made a part of the new "Archives of Public Relations" in the Library of Congress in Washington, D. C.

Some of the other recipients of citations in other categories were: The National Broadcasting Company; Business Week Magazine; General Mills, Inc.; Firestone Tire and Rubber; American Can Company; Bethlehem Steel; B. F. Goodrich; Owens-Corning Fiberglass; Kellogg Company; Supermarkets Institute, Inc.; Columbia University; Encyclopedia Britannica; Union Pacific Railroad; Crosley Broadcasting Company; C. A. R. E., Inc. and the Republic of Liberia.

Develop New Construction Method

University of Michigan architects and scientists have developed a two-story building so simple it can be erected, altered and demounted by workers equipped only with wrenches. The trick is to use diagonal steel struts to spread the weight of the roof, take load off the inside and exterior walls and concentrate it on widely-spaced columns.

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PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT: Various offices of the Federal Housing Administration, in the states of Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont. Positions with similar duties in other government agencies in the same area may also be filled from this list.

APPOINTMENTS: Appointments made as a result of this examination will be "Career-conditional" appointments.

WHAT TO FILE:

1. CARE FULLLY 5001-AN.

2. FORM 57. USE THE NEAREST MOUTH AND YEAR, AS ACCURATELY AS POSSIBLE.

3. FORM BS WITH THE DOCUMENTARY PROOF REQUIRED THERETO, IF YOU ARE CLAIMING VETERAN PREFERENCE. FOR THE FORM IS REQUIRED IN YOUR CASE (SEE VETERAN PREFERENCE PARAGRAPH IN GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR EXAMINATION FORM 57-7, REVISED).

Applicants must file a separate application for each type of position, for which they wish to be considered. Applicants should state the title of the examination for which they are applying and the lowest salary they are willing to accept.

WHERE TO FILE: Application forms must be sent to the Executive Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, Federal Housing Administration, 27 State Street, Bangor, Maine.

TIME LIMIT FOR FILING: Applications will be accepted by the Executive Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners until the needs of the service are met.

WHERE TO OBTAIN FURTHER INFORMATION: Application forms can be obtained from:

1. The Executive Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, Federal Housing Administration, 27 State Street, Bangor, Maine.

2. The First U. S. Civil Service Region, Post Office and Courthouse Building, Boston 9, Massachusetts, or,

3. You may ask at any post-office for these forms or information as to the nearest post-office where they may be obtained.
BOSTON — New Hampshire contract awards for future construction in March were 105 per cent above February, but 6 per cent below March 1954, at $8,135,000, according to Dodge Reports totals. The first quarter figure was 49 per cent below last year at $17,810,000, reported James A. Harding, district manager of W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists.

More detailed March comparisons show nonresidential awards up 100 per cent over February, and up 10 per cent over March 1954, at $4,338,000; residential, up 8 per cent over February, but down 29 per cent from March 1954, at $1,563,000; and heavy engineering, up 121 per cent over February, but down 82 per cent from March 1954, at $2,234,000.

First quarter awards compared with last year show nonresidential, up 69 per cent, at $10,742,000; residential up 3 per cent at $3,458,000; but heavy engineering, own 86 per cent at $3,610,000.

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Methods of combatting bureaucratic encroachment were discussed by members of the AIA Committee on the Architect and Government during a recent Washington meeting. It was decided that the existing file of chapter reports on the subject that is maintained at AIA headquarters should be carefully categorized and cross-indexed for easier use in combatting encroachment in its various forms; and that a concerted effort be made to collect all available case histories from the chapters to add to that file.

To ascertain what procedures are currently used at state and local levels in procuring architectural services for public work, a survey is to be undertaken. Purpose of the committee's program is to make possible an up-to-date and complete file which will be available to any chapter upon request. This, of course, can be accomplished only if chapters comply with the committee's request to send in reports of how such situations have been handled in their own areas. Eventually it is hoped to compile a comprehensive manual on the subject of bureaucratic encroachment.

In other actions the committee endorsed a bill known as the "Anti-Government Competition Act" (S. 1003) proposed by Senator McClellan (D. Ark.); reaffirmed the Institute's present policy encouraging AIA participation and leadership in representative construction industry groups. Furthermore, it recommended that there should be a focal point for construction activities in the government such as an Office of Public Works Coordinator. (In his State of the Union message, Eisenhower proposed the setting up of such an office in the Executive Office of the President.

New England Contracts Awarded

BOSTON — New England attained the highest March, and the highest first three months figures in history, in contract awards for future construction. Although the March figure was 10 per cent below February, it was 3 per cent over March 1954, at $135,874,000, according to Dodge Report totals. The first three month record was 42 per cent above last year, at $379,056,000, reported James A. Harding, district manager of F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists.

A further analysis shows March non-residential awards up 55 per cent over February, and up 56 per cent over March 1954, at $53,190,000; residential, up 4 per cent over February, but down 20 per cent from March 1954, at $44,760,000; heavy engineering, down 56 per cent from February, and down 9 per cent from March 1954, at $37,924,000.

First quarter awards showed non-residential totals up 45 per cent over last year, at $116,453,000; residential down 1 per cent, at $112,870,000; but heavy engineering, up 105 per cent, at $149,733,000.
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This presentation consists in three houses identifiable as three distinct steps toward a truly contemporary approach to residential architecture; contemporary in this instance being interpreted as the fullest utilization of present day methods and materials, ideally resulting in a building which is not a machine for living, but neither is it a counterpart of life in a different period.

Having no Louis Sullivan to dun a "form ever follows function" doctrine in the minds of clients or Frank Lloyd Wright productions to visually illustrate the efficacy of such a doctrine, we are forced to take midget steps before we can take giant steps. Thus, the three houses shown here.

STEP NO. 1—A house at Rollinsford, New Hampshire for Mr. and Mrs. Granville Watson, Francis Q. Adams, General Contractor, Dover, New Hampshire.

This could be called a ranch house with a New England accent, retaining the cupola and the dovecote along with the long, low silhouette, roof overhangs, plain chimney, planting box and above average fenestration areas.

In plan a most comfortable house, taking full advantage of view and sunlight with maximum privacy.

STEP NO. 2.—A house at Somersworth, New Hampshire for Mr. and Mrs. John H. Beamis, Raymond Le Houllier, General Contractor, Somersworth, New Hampshire.

A steep, narrow lot, zoning restrictions and space requirements were primary factors for this house. Added to these was the location in a settled residential area where the houses were mainly built more...
han thirty years ago. The carport and
orch flanking the garage were natural
outgrowths of the need for breadth, and
under the circumstances, quite economical.

During the construction period we were
afforded some amusement by the rumors
that they were building a new store in the
middle of a residential area.

An interesting and livable house well
adapted to the terrain and its surround-
ings.

STEP NO. 3—A house at Dover Point,
New Hampshire for Mr. and Mrs. Ray-
mond M. Hamilton, Malcolm H. Mac-
Dougall, General Contractor, Newfields,
New Hampshire.

A happy blending of materials and
methods resulting in a house with a
spacious feeling and extremely comfort-
able. The exposed roof structure, and

triple duty roof planks enhance the spa-
ciousness yet are truly economical.

This house, although not in any way
extreme, is a prime example of the argu-
ment that with careful choice of materials
and methods residential construction costs
can be lowered considerably. The house
was completed in January of this year
and the total cost per square foot, includ-
ing architect's fees, was only $9.55,
against an area average for houses of
this size and quality of conventional con-
struction of from $12.00 to $14.00 per
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Edwin I. Kimball of Newmarket was the
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Orcutt and Marston         August 1, 1955
John D. Betley             September 1, 1955
Maurice E. Witmer          October 1, 1955
Alfred T. Granger Associates November 1, 1955
Carl E. Peterson           December 1, 1955

March 16, 1955

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