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VOL. 7 OCTOBER, 1955 NO. 3

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OUR COVER

Exterior View of The Keene Lutheran Chapel.
—Photos by Jack Teehan Photos Keene, N. H.
The President's Message

The financial disturbance attendant upon President Eisenhower's illness emphasizes the President's previous unselfish warning concerning the indispensible man. While he was referring to a political situation, parallel conditions can come to exist in all professional groups and fields of endeavor, including that of architecture.

Dominant personalities have frequently combined exceptional ability with great force of character. It is these people, in our profession, who have erected many of the milestones of progress in architecture. It is to the credit of architects that the merits of these outstanding men have been so often recognized while they are still active.

Some achievements in architecture have seemed to attain prominence by characteristics that are spectacular rather than inherently beautiful. While such structures often tend to modify the general field of design, architects do not rely on such directional arrows to determine their thinking. Their training, the opportunities that travel and architectural publications give to make comparisons, and the amount of competent discussion and criticism that is constantly forthcoming satisfactorily prevent the influence of any one source to dominate completely the field of design. There seems to be no evidence that independence of architectural thinking is diminishing, especially due to any single influence. With this condition prevailing continued progress in design lies ahead.
DETROIT—During the next ten years the American economy will pour some $600 billion into building materials and construction labor and services.

In the same period, somewhere in the neighborhood of 12,000,000 to 13,000,000 new housing units will be built.

These predictions were made at the annual Fall meeting of the Producers' Council, Inc., at the Hotel Statler here by George Cline Smith, economist for F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists. The Producers' Council is a national organization of manufacturers of building materials and equipment.

Dr. Smith told the audience he estimated that $450 billion would be spent for new construction in the coming decade, and that although adequate figures on the present level of maintenance and repair construction are not available, $150 billion seemed to be a minimum estimate for that category, making a total construction outlay of $600 billion.

"This forecast," Dr. Smith said, "is conservative. It does not anticipate any construction boom, but simply a normal growth in line with the expansion of the nation.

"The architect survives only if he does not classify himself as a business . . . he must not strive for quantity instead of quality. Don't be afraid to devote your time and love for years and years to a single building. Make an honest and beautiful thing out of it. It is better than having a big practice. Stick to the love of the thing you are doing, then we will have an architecture."

—Frank Lloyd Wright

Dates: Friday, November 11, Armistice Day. Saturday, November 12, Day of Brown-Harvard Game.
Place: Cambridge, Massachusetts.

PURPOSE AND PROGRAM OF SEMINARS

Discussion of planning of secondary schools as tools to education and instruments of community service.

I. How to Build Them:

A. To meet educational needs.
   1. Exploration of emerging educational programs and their influences on the planning of secondary schools and the design of teaching spaces.
   2. Comparative evaluation of various plan types ranging from the open "campus type" to the most compact "loft-type."
   3. Environmental requirements for good working conditions within the spaces of the school plant.

B. To meet the economic, social and climatic conditions of the New England Region.
   1. Consideration of the problem of building good schools under rising costs and increasing taxation.
   2. Exploration of the possibility for integrating within the school plant the growing communities' needs in parks and playgrounds, town meeting places and offices, branch libraries, etc., now separately housed or provided under separate budgets.
   3. Influences of the climate of the Northeastern United States on the design, construction, cost and use of schools.

II. Where to Build Them:

A. Consideration of the secondary school as a cultural and recreational center within the changing community structure.
   1. Requirements of good school sites in terms of location, size, and other characteristics.
   2. School districting in relation to city and regional planning requirements.
   These points will serve as a guide to the development of the program and the selection of the speakers.

TIMES OF MEETINGS

Friday, November 11, 1955.
Registration: 10 A. M.
Morning Seminar: 10:30 A. M. - 12:30 P. M.
Afternoon Seminar: 2 P. M. - 4:30 P. M.
Visit to Exhibition: 4:30 P. M. - 5:30 P. M.
Cocktails: 6:30 P. M. - 7 P. M.
Dinner Meeting: 7 P. M. - 9:30 P. M.

Saturday, November 12, 1955
Business Meeting of New England Regional Council: 8:30 A. M - 9:30 A. M.
Morning Seminar: 9:30 A. M. - 12 Noon.
Afternoon: Inspection tour to school plants or football game.
PROCEDURES FOR COST ANALYSIS TO BE FOLLOWED BY ARCHITECTS
FOR SCHOOL ISSUE IN DECEMBER

AREA—The area of each floor (including unfinished basement but excluding partially excavated areas, crawl spaces, etc.) is taken from exterior face of wall to exterior face of wall. All covered areas such as walkways, porches, etc., are taken as 1/2 area while overhangs are taken as 1/3 area.

CUBAGE—Height is measured (on a flat roof building) from the underside of the lowest slab in contact with the ground to the top of the roof deck. On pitched-roof buildings the same method is followed except that the highest point is that midway between roof ridge and wall plate or heel of the truss. Chimneys, dormers and similar projections are ignored. Unless parapet walls exceed 4 feet in height above roof deck and foundation walls exceed 3 feet in depth below lowest floor slab they are ignored. Where they exceed these figures the actual cube of the additional wall is added to total cubage. Garages and unfinished basements are taken as full cube while all covered areas such as walkways, porches, etc., are taken as 1/2 cube.

COST—Exclude all architectural and engineering fees, cost of land, paving, walks, landscaping, caissons, piling and other special foundation costs, movable furnishings and equipment.

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Manchester, New Hampshire
He was a graduate of Lawrence High school in 1921 and attended Wentworth institute and Tufts university. He started as an architect in Manchester in 1923.

He was director of the Salem Cooperative bank, a trustee of the Public Library here and a member of the Greater Lawrence Chamber of Commerce and the Kiwanis club in that city. He was also a member of the advisory board of the Salvation Army in Lawrence.

His professional associations included membership on the board of directors of the Massachusetts Association of Architects, the American Institute of Architects, the Boston Society of Civil Engineers, the New Hampshire chapter, AIA.

Active in Masonic circles, Mr. Pratt was a member of Spicket lodge, F and AM, the New Hampshire Consistory, Bektash Temple in Concord, the Merrimack Valley Shrine club and the Indian Head Shrine in Nashua.

He was a member of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Universalist, in Lawrence. He was also a director of the Massachusetts Universalist Investment fund.

Members of the family include his wife, Mrs. Anne Woodbury Pratt and a daughter, Diann E. Pratt.

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**NEW HAMPSHIRE ARCHITECT SCHEDULE 1955**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Architect</th>
<th>Date Due</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alfred T. Granger Associates</td>
<td>November 1, 1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carl E. Peterson</td>
<td>December 1, 1955</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Holbrook</td>
<td>January 1, 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hudson &amp; Ingram</td>
<td>February 1, 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Koehler &amp; Isaak</td>
<td>March 1, 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tracy &amp; Hildreth</td>
<td>April 1, 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dirsa &amp; Lampron</td>
<td>May 1, 1956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lyford &amp; Magenau</td>
<td>June 1, 1956</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The Symbols

Good church symbolism is something more than mere decoration. It is to help provide an atmosphere of reverence and worship in a sacred place, to teach by the visual method, and to lead the mind of the worshipper away from the things of the world to those of the spirit. The beautiful and meaningful symbols in our church are the product of the combined efforts of Mr. John R. Holbrook, our architect, and Mr. L. Owen Meserve, Jr., Staff Interior Designer at Sprague and Carleton, Inc.

The exterior proportions of the building itself are symbolic. The nave, or main part, resembling an ark or ship in which the faithful find safe passage for the journey through life, and the pylon (tower) symbolizing God as our source of power and protection.

The pylon cross, placed in the position of importance, reminds us that it is the business of the Christian Church, as Christ has commanded us, to proclaim His cross to the ends of the earth.

The small crosses on the door recall to the believer the sacrifice of His Savior, by virtue of which the Christian enters into the presence of God.

Upon entering the building, one is struck with the simplicity and beauty of the lobby. This room sets the mood for worship. Eight symbolic woodcuts comprise the room’s entire furnishings. The three woodcuts in the center of the West wall represent the three Persons of the Blessed Trinity: The Hand of Blessing representing God the Father; The Crown of Thorns, God the Son; The Dove, God the Holy Spirit.

To the left of these symbols are ancient emblems of the Church’s mission. The Cross and Crown is a reminder of the Church’s central message, that men receive the crown of everlasting life only through the cross of Christ. The Cross and Lamp is emblematic of the Church’s mission to bring the lamp of Christian knowledge to all who enter its doors.

A grouping of three symbols adorn the East wall. The Crossed Keys in the center symbolize The Church, to which Christ, our Lord, has given the keys to eternal life. The symbols on either side of the center emblem stand for the two Sacraments administered by the Church, the Sacraments of Holy Communion and of Holy Baptism.

The interior plan of the chapel is also significant. The beautiful Baptismal Fountain is at the entrance of the chapel, since it is through the Sacrament that children enter the Kingdom of our Heavenly Father. The main aisle is symbolic of the pathway of life through which all must walk before coming into the full presence of God. Who is, of course, symbolized in the Altar.

The cross has the place of prominence over the Altar because it has been from the beginning the chief sign of all things Christian. The empty cross, without the figure of our Lord, is used, because it is the risen, living, glorified Christ whom we worship.

As one leaves the chapel on his homeward way, his head lifted in confidence and exultation, he sees another cross in the oaken grillwork above him. Here is his reminder that his worship is not finished, that the week has just begun, that God would be worshipped with his entire life.
THE West Keene Chapel
LUTHERAN

John R. Holbrook A.I.A., Architect
Keene, N. H.

F. L. Gallagher, Mechanical Engineer
Manchester, N. H.

T. H. & E. J. Bergeron, Contractor
Keene, N. H.

FLOOR PLAN

SCALE
The problem of designing a combined church and educational wing for a new and fast growing congregation whose funds are limited requires the excellent cooperation and understanding which the Architect had with the Church Representatives.

Complete freedom in the choice of design and the selection of materials was given to the Architect from the very start of the project. The materials used are humble ones and the use of exposed laminated wood beams, oak louvers and grille at the front and rear of the Chapel with the stone baptismal font in the Narthex set the tone of and for worship.

The design of the pews, altar and pulpit, which were done by the architect, has maintained this feeling of simplicity.

The exterior walls are water struck brick and the entrance pylon is black structural clay tile. The windows are projected aluminum and fixed wood.

The interior walls are cinder concrete blocks, laid in stack bond and regular bond, painted with alkyd resin paint.

The floors are vinyl asbestos and asphalt tile.

The ceilings are exposed wood in the chapel and acoustical tile in all other parts.

The heating system is forced hot water with baseboard radiation with three zones, one for the chapel, one for the office and toilets and one for the educational wing.

(Continued on Page 14)
The lighting for the chapel is controlled by two rheostats which operate the main lights in the nave and the spot lights in the chapel.

Sub-Contractors were:
- Electrical—Philip D. Moran, Keene.
- Painting—Couture Bros., Inc., Turners Falls, Mass.
- Concrete Blocks — Arthur Whitcomb, Inc., Keene.
- Bricks—Densmore Brick Co., Lebanon.
- Roofing—Brattleboro Roofing & Sheet Metal Co., Inc., Brattleboro, Vt.
- Plumbing—Harlan E. Sterling, Keene.
- Glazing—Pittsburgh Plate Glass Co., Keene.
- Folding Door—Lawrence Plate Glass Co., Lawrence, Mass.

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John D. Betley, A. I. A., Manchester
Architect

Harvey Construction Co., Inc., Manchester
General Contractor

The new home for the American Legion, Sweeney Post No. 2, recently completed is of modern design, well adapted to its site and incorporates the latest conveniences for the comfort and safety of Legion members and friends, and other organizations who may use the new auditorium and its facilities.

The building is of masonry and reinforced concrete construction. Red brick exterior walls with buff bricks pleasantly accenting the windows makes this unique in masonry construction. Complete air conditioning is one of the many features of this new building.

Excellent use of the site enables the entrance of the main auditorium to be at the first floor level, thus separating it from the entrance to the Post lounge which is at the basement level.

The canopied hour glass—east entrance leads through a spacious lobby directly into the main auditorium. The buff brick sidewalls, acoustical ceiling and hard maple floor, make the auditorium equally well suited for either conventions and meetings or for dancing. Glass enclosed flag cases for the proper display of the Post’s regimental colors enhance the dark mahogany of the stage wall.

The canopied west entrance is highlighted by a recessed grouping of red, white and blue panels. Above the canopied entrance and also recessed is a large bronze circular emblem of the American Legion, which was donated to the new home by a member of the Post, Edward T. McShane.

-the west entrance leads through a colorful lobby into the main lounge. Here, indirect cove lighting, plywood panelled walls, asphalt tiled floor and acoustical tile ceiling lend a pleasing and comfortable atmosphere to Legion Post members and guests.

The basement comprises the lounge, billiard room and bar; kitchen facilities and large dining room; ladies auxiliary room, offices, rest rooms, storage spaces, a television viewing room and a recreation room.

On the first floor, is the lobby and auditorium; a wide stage flanked by a kitchen and store room; rest rooms, check room and ticket booth.

The mezzanine has two dressing rooms for the use of stage productions; and a drum corps room and coat room for the use of Legion members.

Participating in construction were:
Electrical—John J. Reilly, Manchester.
Roofing—A. W. Therrien Co., Manchester.
Plastering—Francis P. Connor & Son, Inc., Nashua.

(Continued on Page 20)
Harvey Construction Co., Inc.

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Sweeney Post—
(Continued from Page 16)

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