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Table of Contents

Sub-Contractors Launch Association ................................ 6
New Hampshire Homes Selected ........................................ 7
New Locations .......................................................... 7
Building Codes ................................................................ 8-10-26
What's in a Name ........................................................ 12
Projects by Bradt, Littlefield and Williams .................... 14-22
Project by Leo P. Provost ............................................. 23-24

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A. I. A.
NORTHERN ASSOCIATION OF SUB-CONTRACTORS TO BE LAUNCHED OCTOBER 22

ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES TO HIGHLIGHT FINAL ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

The Northern Association of Sub-Contractors, an association embracing all the trades which normally work under a prime contractor, is to be launched at a meeting of the group to be held at the Hanover Inn, Hanover, N. H., on Thursday, October 22 at 6:30 P. M.

At a final organizational meeting attended by about 60 sub-contractors from New Hampshire and Vermont at the Hanover Inn, Tuesday night, September 22, a nominating committee was appointed to bring in a slate of officers for the new organization to be voted upon at the October meeting. The nominating committee is composed of six members, three from New Hampshire and three from Vermont.

Besides adopting a set of by-laws, the sub-contractors will elect a president, first vice-president, second vice-president, secretary and treasurer. Also to be elected is a chairman of the finance committee. The officers to be elected will also serve as the executive committee for the group.

A spokesman for the group stated that the board of directors will include the officers and nine others to be elected at the coming meeting. Under present plans, the president shall appoint a chairman, vice-chairman and members of all standing and special committees.

Included in the group interested in launching the new organization, along with the plumbing and heating contractors, electrical contractors, acoustical installers, roofing and sheet metal contractors, tile installers, painting contractors, and other serving under prime contractors.

Louis Towne, executive director of the Plumbing and Heating Wholesalers of New England, who has been associated with the building contract trade since 1926, was the guest speaker at the organizational meeting, and offered suggestions for the formation of the new association.

The major goals of the new association are:

1. To improve bidding conditions with general contractors.
2. To eliminate “bid shopping.”
3. To acquaint architects and engineers with the sub-contractors particular problems.
4. To give legal aid or advice to members in contractual matters.
5. To promote better public relations with general contractors through joint meetings with the Associated General Contractors.
6. To promote better understanding of sub-contractors problems by mutual discussions at regularly scheduled meetings.
7. To furnish advice on financing.

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NEW HAMPSHIRE HOMES SELECTED BY PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION FOR COLORED BROCHURE

An eight page brochure in color, entitled "Gracious Homes of Living Concrete" has been distributed nation-wide by the Portland Cement Association.

In choosing material for the colored brochure, Portland Cement Association selected two New Hampshire homes constructed of concrete masonry.

One of the colored photos is an exterior view of the home of Mr. and Mrs. Edward J. Roy of Manchester, while an interior view of the living room of Mr. and Mrs. Dante Donati of Bedford, shows many distinctive advantages offered by concrete masonry.

Both homes were designed by Alexander J. Majeski, AIA, of Bedford.

GEORGE J. KEHAS MOVES TO LARGER QUARTERS

George J. Kehas, well known manufacturers' representative, has moved his office from 30 Amherst street, Manchester, N. H., to 963 Elm street, effective as of October 1.

The new and larger quarters occupied by Mr. Kehas have a general office area, a work and preparation room, and a display room for the showing of samples and materials.

An invitation is extended to all old and new customers by Mr. Kehas to visit his new offices.

CARTER AND WOODRUFF IN NEW LOCATION

Carter and Woodruff, AIA, announce a change in the location of their offices in Nashua, from 27 Elm street to 1 Main street.

The change was effective September 1.

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BUILDING CODES

Below is from a talk by Richard Gewain, engineer for the NBFU of New York City, delivered to the Engineers Club of New England College at Henniker.

The NBFU is a nationwide association of capital stock insurance companies writing principally fire and allied lines of insurance, including windstorm and other extended features usually attached to a standard fire insurance policy. Among the factual, engineering and educational activities of the NBFU which have been carried on for many years is the activity of encouraging the adoption of suitable building laws in municipalities throughout the U. S. This activity has been carried on for 91 years.

The NBFU is not a regional but a national organization. Among it 220 or so member insurance companies there are 15 located in the six New England States, two of which are located here in New Hampshire. The companies are owned by stock holders scattered all over the country, thousands of whom live in New Hampshire. Funds of the companies set aside, in accordance with state laws to assure the payment of losses and to provide for the possibility of serious conflagrations, are invested in industry scattered all over the U. S., as well as in other types of investments. There must be millions of dollars of the companies funds invested in the State of New Hampshire. The business of the companies originates with local agents. All of you undoubtedly know personally local agents in your community. These agents represent insurance companies, members of the NBFU.

The primary purpose of a building code is to protect the people of the community from serious and tragic losses from fire which would occur without code regulations. As shown clearly by experience, suitable laws are necessary to cause people to build buildings so that they will not present fire and explosion hazards to endanger the lives of tenants and occupants of the buildings or their neighbors, or unduly endanger the lives of firemen employed by the community to fight fires. According to the best available estimate about 800,000 building fires occur annually in the U. S. An annual number of deaths from building fires is not known, but the estimate of the total number of deaths from fires annually was in the range of 10,000 to 12,000 persons.

Often overlooked is the danger to firemen called by public duty to fight fires in buildings.

It is, of course, not economically possible to require all buildings to be built so that serious fires would not occur and no danger to life would be anticipated. The provisions of any code must be carefully balanced using fire engineering judgment so as to allow builders to build according to the desires of owners and the design inclinations of the architect using any method, style of architecture, materials or assemblies so long as they do not form a combination which presents an improper hazard to life from fire.

We consider that a building code must cover the following sixteen items if it is to accomplish properly its purpose of providing a reasonable degree of fire safety. Briefly they are:

1—Restrictions of wood frame and unprotected metal construction in congested business districts of cities to reduce the likelihood of serious spreading fires involving many buildings. This refers to the setting up of fire limits in which these types of construction will be limited.

2—Regulation of roof coverings. This is essential to avoid fires spreading from flying brands landing on roofs. Flying brands from fires involving wood frame construction or wood roofs or lumber yards have frequently started roof fires. In a recent case in a large city the burning of a four-story building of ordinary construction started some seventy other building fires from flying brands arising from the burning building and landing on other buildings up to about a mile away.

(Continued on Page 10)
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3—Limitations of heights of buildings, in relation principally to the type of construction, considering safety to life of occupants and the fact that in any building of such height that the fire department cannot fight effectively in upper stories from street level, the floors and other structural members must resist any ordinary fire in the building without collapsing.

4—Restriction of areas not only in relation to types of construction but also in relation to occupancy, sprinkler protection height and separation from other buildings. The larger the area of a building the greater the difficulty of fighting a fire in it and the greater the likelihood of a serious fire involving other nearby buildings.

5—Protection of exterior wall openings where windows expose or are exposed by other nearby buildings. A reasonable standard of protection to window openings is essential to provide a fire department with the opportunity to stop a fire from spreading from building to building.

6—Protection of stairs, elevators or other vertical openings. From the standpoint of safety to life of occupants from fire this is a most important matter. The large annual loss of life in upper stories of old buildings without such enclosures of vertical openings amply demonstrates the truth of this.

7—Protection of openings in fire walls—a necessary detail to make walls so that they will serve the intended purpose.

8—Thickness and fire resistance of exterior walls and fire walls. Fire resistance of fire walls and bearing walls is not alone sufficient, as such walls must have stability under fire conditions. Such stability cannot yet be specified in terms of performance as there are no test methods for measuring this property.

9—Chimneys, heat producing appliances, air conditioning and exhaust systems these are either important sources of fire or serve to spread smoke and fire through a building.

10—Standards for fire-resistance in construction, the importance of this has been shown in many fires involving buildings that were thought to be fire resistance but in actual fires suffered serious structural failures, indicating they did not have the required fire resistance.

11—Requirements for sprinklers and standpipes; Sprinklers have been shown by experience to justify sizeable increases in permissible area of buildings and are useful in making many buildings reasonably fire safe which would not otherwise be safe for the occupancy and type of construction.

12—Fire stops are important to the fire safety of wood frame buildings particularly and also to buildings of other types of construction.

13—Exit requirements are important to fire safety but accomplish life safety only as they are co-ordinated with other fire safety requirements.

(Continued on Page 26)
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WHAT'S IN A NAME?

A lot can happen in 34 years, particularly to a manufacturing firm that not only keeps up with the times but actually sets the pace in the development of many new products for the building trade.

A lot did happen to just such a well-known Cambridge firm ... so much so that the company has been obliged, however reluctantly, to change its name from California Stucco Products of New England, Inc. to California Products Corporation.

Changing a name that has become familiar to and respected by the trade is a ticklish job. The most serious factor of course is the temporary lapse of recognition until the new name is as familiar as the old. Secondly, there is the vast amount of changes to be made on records, labels, letterheads, and the like.

With all this in mind the change was made and the new name, California Products Corporation, while retaining a recognizable link with the old, is a more concise and accurate reflection of the company's present products and services ... a name that will retain its universality despite the innovations and additions that the future is expected to bring.

The California Products Corporation had its beginning in 1926 when Napoleon Bernier, president of the company, began manufacturing stucco under a franchise of the California Products Company of San Francisco. Stucco was being widely received at that time and franchises were being set up to service the entire country. In 1930, when the depression hit and the building business came to a standstill, Mr. Bernier bought up his franchise and became an independent producer of stucco. This is how the name California Stucco Products came to represent a firm that is strictly New England with all products manufactured in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Mr. Bernier, a man of vision coupled with inventive ability, carried on in stucco while looking into other fields. Before the war the company became a leading processor of Vermiculite, a mineral with remarkable insulating and soundproofing qualities. After the war, experimentation in the use of plastics in decorative finishes led to a line of latex paints and other related products for the building trade.

Here are but a few of the products so well-known in New England and now gaining fame nationally and abroad: a complete line of fine latex paints, Allwall for interior surfaces; Plexicolor for exterior surfaces, Micafil and Caspro Vermiculite Insulation — the loose-fill, do-it-yourself insulation for homeowners or builders; Plexichrome — non-staining color coating for asphalt tennis courts; Caspro Orostone — a durable stone and plastic finish in an unlimited color range; Weld-O-Bond — a bonding agent for concrete or plaster; Caspro Silicone — a water-repellant coating for bricks or masonry; California Stucco — for interior or exterior surfaces in many colors.

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose, by any other name would smell as sweet." California Stucco Products of New England becomes California Products Corporation.
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GROUND FLOOR PLAN
Brantwood Camp, for underprivileged boys, is situated in Peterboro, and is run by St. Marks School, Southboro, Mass.

The Plot Plan is a long range one, and not all the buildings are in place as yet. However, several "A" frame shacks, the cooks' shack, the addition to headquarters, and the infirmary are complete: and "Wayside," toilet and shower facilities is going up this winter.
BRANTWOOD CAMP

Top — Plot Plan
Left — Infirmary
Above — Proposed "Wayside"
Driftwood Motel, located on Route 3, Laconia, N. H., is situated in a picturesque setting on the shore of Paugus Bay. A wide, pleasant porch for guests overlooks the bay, and each motel unit has exit to the porch or parking area.

The units, some of which are kitchenette type, are spacious, and tastefully and comfortably furnished.

The architect, Leo P. Provost, and the contractor, Winston P. Titus, completed this 12 unit motel in two and one half months, to give the owner the advantage of securing business during the summer tourist season.

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Manchester, N. H.
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Parapets are needed to prevent fire spreading over dividing walls from roof to roof. They also serve as a shield to firemen fighting fires from roofs of adjoining building.

Quality of materials and workmanship is a general item, important because fire resistance and fire protection are to a large extent dependant on quality of materials and workmanship.

An administrative set-up for proper enforcement is equally as important as what the building code contains. The success of a building code depends upon a high standard of enforcement with proper backing from the municipal administration.

A building code, of course, has other purposes besides control of fire hazards, but these other factors are all minor in importance as compared to the primary purpose of controlling fire hazards. For example in New Hampshire last year, how many cases were there structural failure or collapse of buildings, either during construction or after occupancy, occurred endangering life? There are a few cases over the country, but for every one there must be not less than a thousand fires which presented possibilities of serious danger to life.

An activity of the NBFU in which you will be interested is the survey of fire defenses and physical conditions of cities to determine the possibility of serious spreading fires and conflagrations, and to lay the fire protection engineering ground work upon which the municipality may build its fire department and water supply facilities, and provide codes and regulations to control construction and regulate fire hazards. A schedule has been worked out for grading cities using recognized standards against which the facilities and equipment of the city, its structural conditions and its laws are measured.

In many instances you will encounter one of four model building codes depending on the location in the U.S. The three codes other than the NBC are the Southern Standard Code, Uniform Building Code and BOCA code.

The Southern code is the one that covers the closest to the standard used in grading cities. For the many cities which desire a recommended code which they can adopt and which fully meets the requirements for standard control of fire hazards in buildings the NBFU has for fifty-four years published a recommended building code. The latest edition is the 1955 Golden Anniversary Edition with December 1957 Amendments. An abbreviated form of the code is available for communities whose needs can be cared for by one less extensive. The code is a product of many years experience in building code writing and enforcement, experience with hundreds of adoptions, experiences of specialists in all branches of fire protection and building construction. Nationally recognized standards are used.

On items which may properly vary with local conditions from a standard intended for use nationwide, this code sets its provisions at such a point as to be appropriate for adoption in any area of the country that is, at approximately the minimum for the needs of any part of the country. Those sections of the country which have special local conditions, such as heavy snowfall, exceptionally high winds or earthquakes, we expected to increase the requirements according to the local needs.

Whether or not the NBC is used in your particular community we believe you will find it a handy reference. Our code is not copyrighted and we are happy to have anyone use any portion of our recommended code in any way the user may desire.

We are sincerely desirous of being of assistance to building officials, architects, engineers in their handling of local problems, we present our recommendation and our recommended codes on the basis of our many years of experience as fire protection engineering specialists. The services of the National Board and of local inspection bureaus of the National Board being directed more particularly to the larger cities and of the inspection Bureau such as New Hampshire Board of Underwriters in Concord, are rendered as public service without charge.
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