

# OHIO ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARCHITECTS SOCIETY OF OHIO A REGION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, INC.

may

1963

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MAY, 1963

Volume XXI

Number 5

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#### COVER

The text for the feature article was prepared from information provided by David Schackne, Jr., Architect for the Columbus Board of Education and Myron T. Seifert, teacher at West High School, under the direction of Associate Editor, Robert R. Reeves, Jr., AIA, Columbus.

The cover picture shows the Fifth Street entrance lobby to the Columbus Board of Education Administration offices.



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Key personnel in the Royal York modernization program include (left to right): John F. Havens, president, Equitable Investment Corp.; John P. O'Connor, executive coordinator; Harry T. Kelly, vice president, York Apartments Corp.; and Richard V. Havens, president, Equitable Properties Corp.

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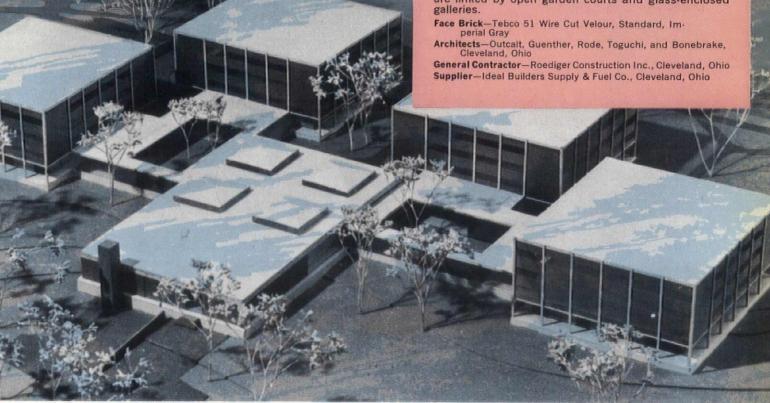


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#### A New Look At Schools By Douglas L. Sarbach

The following article was written and submitted to OHIO ARCHI-TECT by Douglas L. Sarbach. Mr. Sarbach is a fifth-year senior student of architecture at The Ohio State University. He is planning graduate work at Columbia University, specializing in education facilities design and planning.

Education today is being impaired, if not controlled by architects and designers of sixty years ago. The school buildings of 1900 were little more than a collection of one room schoolhouses with a central meeting area or auditorium. The classroom was the common denominator of all sizes of schools. The rooms were designed for about thirty students and a teacher. Each room was assigned either a grade, a subject or both. These schools are still in operation today. However, education has changed and the student has changed; but the school—very little.

Fifty years ago our society was basically agrarian. The one and two-room schoolhouses scattered around the countryside could adequately serve the people. There were fewer people and proportionately fewer students than today. A great many of them never going beyond grammar school.

The school year was confined to the winter months for purely economic reasons. Schools in urban settings were similar but somewhat larger.

As the population increased and as more students attended school for a longer period of time, architects and educators designed and built schools which were much broader in scope. Many classrooms were needed and more areas were added to provide instruction in music, physical education, manual training, and other courses familiar to us today. Communities spent more and more money to get bigger and better schools. This was considered to be the only solution to the communities' school building program. Too many schools are being built today

which are, disregarding architectural treatment, identical functionally to the schools of fifty years ago.

Our society today is not agrarian. We are living in an accelerated age of competition and revolution. Why is it that all of our institutions except education have kept pace with this revolution? It is not enough to become bigger and broader; education and school-house design must be realigned to a realistic viewpoint.

Few school boards have been willing to spend money for research on new and beter ways to teach. Therefore the burden has been on a few specialized organizations. In 1959 the Commission of the National Association of Secondary School Principals sought a reorganization of high schools. This was to include, among other things, a more diversified division of student assembly for instruction and a better utilization of new technology. The Educational Administration and Facilities Division of the Bureau of Educational Research at The Ohio State University has written a revolutionary education program for a future school in Charleston, West Virginia, Education for the educators and the architects is supplied by, among others, "The Nation's Schools" magazine and publications of The Educational Facilities Laboratories of the Ford Foundation.

In the past three or four years there has been a beginning of a revolution in school design. Many communities have adopted one or two of the new concepts in education and have built accordingly. Each of these new schools is commended for their contribution to a totally new concept of schoolhouse design.

In Blackwell, Oklahoma a new high school offers the student and individualized program of study. Each student has a "home base" in the library center where he spends 40 to 50 per cent of his time in individual study.

At the Walt Whitman High School in Bethesda, Maryland, each special subject area is in a separate wing. The moveable partitions provide complete flexibility of teaching spaces. There may be small group instruction for 10 to 15 or larger group areas for 100 to 150 students. Changes may be made whenever the school desires and can be done over a weekend.

Team teaching and 20 minute time units have made Wayland Senior High School in Wayland, Mass, a totally efficient educational plant. Any size group may meet for a number of time units thus providing adaptability to present and future instruction scheduling.

A most significant effort in modern school design is at St. Mark's School of Texas, Dallas, Texas. "In addition to it's emphasis on independent work, St. Mark's . . . illustrates a number of other trends in secondary school design. Classrooms feature moveable desks, carpeting for noise control, and specially-lighted full-length chalkboards on wood-paneled walls. Teachers are provided with generous office and conference space. Fully-equipped teaching laboratories are supplemented by such special facilities as a shop, dark room, radio room, animal room, greenhouse, and even a weather station . . . The highly mechanized lecture room-auditorium includes a television studio from which live demonstrations can be broadcast over the school's closed circuit television hookup. A planetarium and observatory make the final bow to space age science teaching".1

New architectural materials and building techniques make possible infinite variations of design. The moveable partition, the geodesic dome, longspan joists, glare-proof glass and many others are available and well suited for modern schoolhouse design.

Modern technology can provide the school with full-range lighting control, air conditioning, television, electronic laboratories and many other devices.

There is no reason why any school built today should, in any way, be reminiscent of schools built 50 or even 10 years ago.

 "A Report from Educational Facilities Laboratories" p. 47.

#### BURCHARD ACCEPTS POSITION AT VPI

Charles Burchard has accepted the position of Dean of the College of Architecture at Virginia Polytechnic Institute. Burchard will maintain connections with a Cincinnati firm on a consulting basis after the appointment becomes effective January 1, 1964.

In a recent action the Court of Appeals refused to review a 1962 decision of a lower court which restored Burchard's certificate to practice architecture, after it had been revoked by the State Board of Examiners of Architecture.

#### RE: DAYTON COURTHOUSE

Mr. John Sullivan, Jr., A.I.A., Chairman Committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings Dayton Chapter, A.I.A. 402 Third National Bank Building Dayton 2, Ohio

Dear Mr. Sullivan:

Your article in the March issue of The Ohio Architect regarding the Court House in Dayton is very much appreciated. Being one of my own favorites, I am concerned to hear that a fresh wave of feeling against the building is in evidence. As you so well indicated, the gridiron of built-up Central Dayton excepting the river front, lacks any really green areas where people congregate in the course of their daily work. Any formal open-ness or break in the monotony of built-up blocks is an advantage, and why this handsome building replete with historical associations fails to convince some can be only answered, I presume, by the insensitive character of a goodly proportion of our fellow citizens.

I am hopeful that you may keep a constant pressure on local officials and leading citizens to view the venerable building on its **present** site as a most important element in the city's design. Any strength I can lend to your arguments are willingly offered.

Thanks again for your excellent article.

Robert C. Gaede, A.I.A. Chairman, Committee on Preservations of Historic Buildings Cleveland Chapter

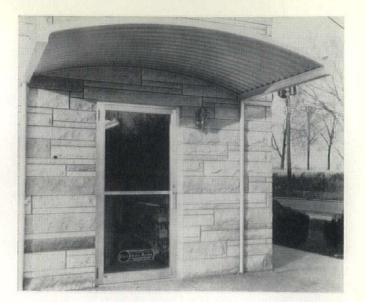
#### Architects Rooney and Musser Announce Opening Of New Firm

A new architectural firm opened in the Hancock Savings and Loan Bldg., S. Main and W. Sandusky Sts. Formed by James H. Rooney and Everett W. Musser, the firm will be known as Rooney and Musser, Architects.

Mr. Rooney and Mr. Musser were graduated in the 1958 class of the Ohio State University School of Architecture. Both Mr. Rooney and Mr. Musser were recipients of scholarships and awards for design and scholastic standing while attending the university.

Mr. Rooney is currently building consultant for the Findlay Board of Education. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Rooney, 730 W. Sandusky St. He, his wife, Connie, and their four children reside at 1231 Hurd Ave.

Mr. Musser, a native of Cincinnati, moved his wife, Margaret, and their two children to Findlay from that city recently.



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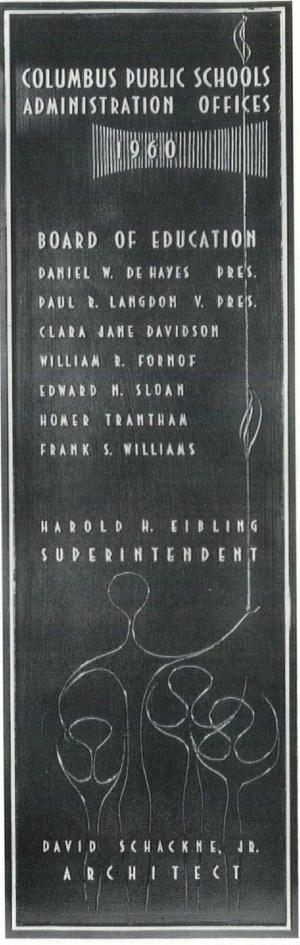
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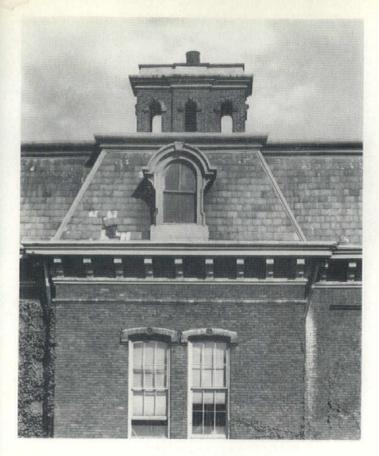
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A New Dimension

From A

Nostalgic Background





Partial view of the old Sullivant School constructed in 1871.

—all photos by Jack Hutton

Nearly 110 years ago the Columbus Board of Education purchased property at 270 East State Street, built a \$15,000 basement, and moved all of its high school classes into this new facility.

Thus began the story of 270 East State Street.

The second chapter in the story dates from 1870, when a handsome 19-room elementary school began to rise on this site. It was called Sullivant School in honor of Joseph Sullivant, a civic leader who served as president of the Columbus Board of Education 13 times, a record that still stands.

In October, 1871, workmen put the finishing touches on Sullivant School, a building which was destined to house the educational program of many of Columbus' foremost citizens.

The inimitable James Thurber was a Sullivant scholar from 1902 to 1907. In the same class were Banker Gwynne

Main entrance to the new administration offices of the Columbus Public Schools Board of Education.



MAY, 1963



Overall view of the Columbus downtown area with the Columbus Public School's Administration Building shown in the right foreground.

Demolition of the old Sullivant School Building near its completion.



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Huntington and Attorney Charles Waite. Actress Elsie Janis (nee Elsie Bierbower) also attended Sullivant School. By giving Elsie an opportunity to entertain classmates every Friday afternoon, Sullivant started a young lady on the path to stardom. Teachers recall that Artist George W. Bellows also was a student at Sullivant.

Hundreds of men and women who still live in Columbus claim Sullivant as their elementary-school alma mater. One of them is Daniel W. DeHayes, currently a member of the Columbus Board of Education.

A glowing chapter in the story of 270 East State Street was written between 1883 and 1923, when Sullivant School served as headquarters for the Columbus Normal School, training ground for many outstanding Columbus teachers.

The next chapter dates from 1923, when Sullivant School became the home of the Columbus Board of Education and its administrative staff. For a period of 38 years, until June 12, 1961, basic policies for the Columbus Public School were proposed, debated, and voted upon in the aging Sullivant building. During this period many educational problems that nettled parents, teachers, and pupils eventually found their way to Sullivant.

The road the Board followed to 270 East State Street was long and winding. During the first 25 years of the Board's existence (from 1845 to about 1870), members took turns meeting in one another's homes. An occasional smoke or snack, and sometimes even a dinner, marked the social aspect of the meeting. Occasionally the Board met at schoolhouses and at times convened in the business office of a member.

During the 1870's and until 1886 the Board had its headquarters at City Hall, which was then located at State and Pearl Streets. From 1886 until 1890 offices of the Board were housed in the Park Street School Building, Park and Vine streets.

In 1890 the Board sensed a need for more commodious quarters and negotiated successfully for the purchase of the old Town Street M.E. Church, which stood on Town Street between Pearl and Third streets, for \$35,000.



View of the court yard on the east side of the new Columbus Board of Educa-

tion Administration Building. Joseph Falsetti was the sculptor.

An entire new front was constructed, the church auditorium was converted into a public school library, and the old Sunday School room in the basement was occupied by the supply department. Members of the Board of Education, administrative officials, and the clerk had offices on the first and second floors of the enlarged structure. The Board proudly held open house in its new quarters on January 12, 1892.

The Board moved again in 1912, this time to the Ohio National Bank Building at Town and High streets.

Finally, in October 1923, when Sullivant School became the headquarters of the Board and the school administration, the ultimate purpose of 270 East State Street was realized.

The old Sullivant School building is now but a fond memory. A sparkling new chapter in the story of 270 East State began to unfold on June 12, 1961, when the new School Administration Building was occupied.

Only one vestige of the past has been preserved. The great stone emblazoned SULLIVANT SCHOOL — 1870 has been lifted gently from its high niche in the old ivy-covered, red-brick building and carefully placed in a new wall of white glazed brick flecked with black and brown. The blending of the old stone with the new wall symbolizes the ceaseless blending of the old and new in education.

The administrative heart of the Columbus school system is now appropriately housed in a spirited, safe, up-todate office building, which speaks quietly but clearly of the fresh, competent, friendly atmosphere that permeates the Columbus Public Schools.

The new four-floor structure is reinforced concrete with a brick curtain wall. Slot windows dignify the interior spaces, minimize heat transfer, and lend a distinctive character to the exterior wall surfaces. The touch of blue glass in the fixed portion of the windows lends delight to a rather plain exterior and at the same time sets the discipline for the interior color scheme.

All materials used in the structure were chosen in relationship to each other. Designers began by choosing white glazed brick with delicate brown and black speckles. To this they added the contrast of coarse, sandblasted concrete; then, slick, machine-like, two-toned aluminum windows with blue glass inserts.

For the inside, designers specified



Close up of the window detail.

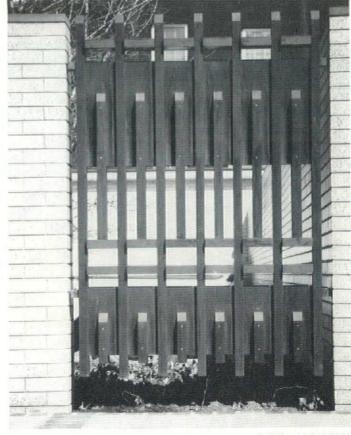
light gray-green walls; metal door frames painted black; cream-colored vinyl-asbestos floor tile accented with bits of brown and tan; brown, tan, and white tight-patterned carpeting; white acoustic tile ceilings; white plastic fluorescent lighting fixtures; off-white sheer draperies; and white plastic-topped desks.

For accent and change of pace, rich blue, citron, and orange vinyl wall covering was used in the lobbies and corridors. Elevator doors and metal stairs were painted light blue.

The overall color scheme employs black, white, and shades of gray. Overlayed on this scheme is a second scheme of brown and blue. These major and minor schemes are held together and accented by orange, which is supplemented with yellow-green. Some very minor color discord occurs purposely to provide a change of pace. All of this adds up to a vibrant and efficient environment in which 140 individuals can work as a team in transacting the vital day-to-day business of public education.

The structure that now stands as 270 East State Street honors more than a century of distinguished service. Moreover, it symbolizes the intellectual vigor of a city on the move . . . forward!

Detail of exterior wooden grill.



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View of the stairway leading from the basement to the east lobby.

View of the Board room from the public seating area.



MAY, 1963



Assembly room, seating capacity of 280 people.

View of the office complex.



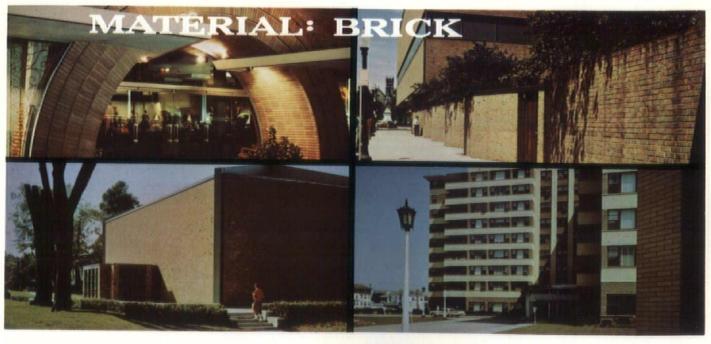
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## **SUBJECT**

# ESTHETICS: DESIGN FLEXIBILITY

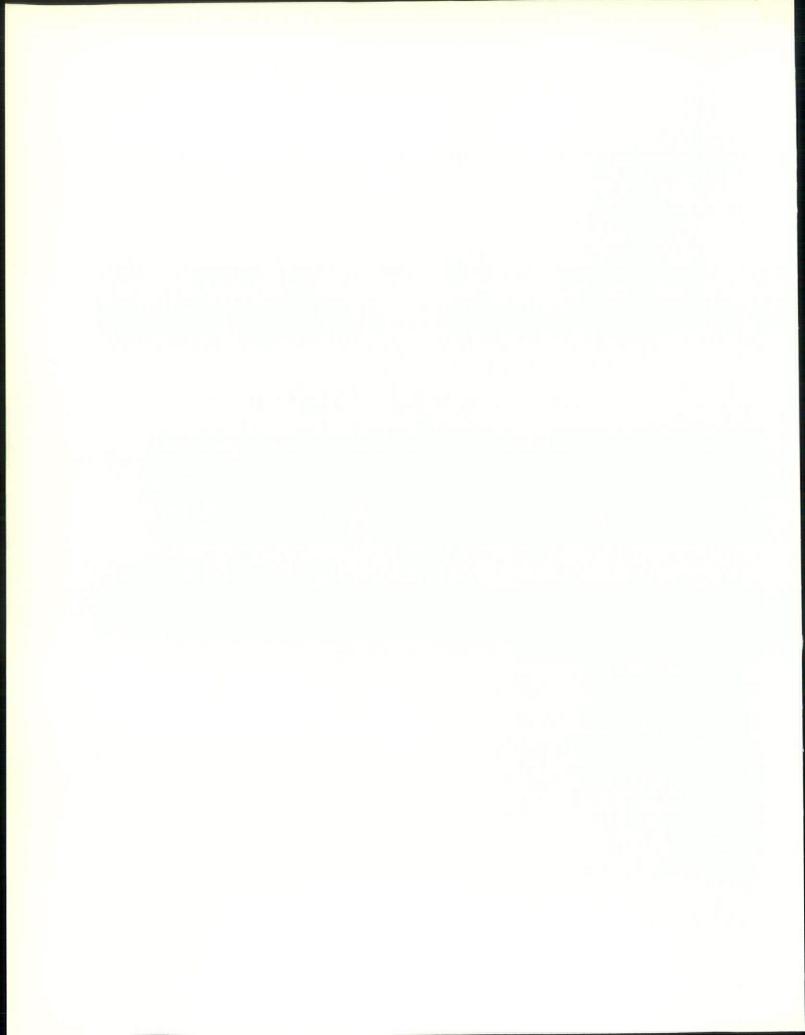
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#### Dayton Chapter Awards Banquet Honors Kempton And Koepnick



Sculptor Robert C. Kcepnick and Architect Ralph C. Kempton proudly display their certificates of recognition presented to them by the Dayton Chapter, AIA.

On April 27 the Dayton Chapter, AIA honored Architect Ralph C. Kempton and Sculptor Robert C. Koepnick for their contributions to the advancement of architecture in Dayton and the State of Ohio. Mr. Kempton has served more than 30 years as Executive Secretary to the State Board of Examiners of Architects, Mr. Koepnick is a noted sculptor in Ohio.

More than 60 architects and wives

attended this second Annual Awards Banquet at the Dayton Art Institute. Among special guests present were Mr. and Mrs. Orvillle H. Bauer of Toledo. Mr. Bauer is president of the Architects Society of Ohio.

The featured speaker was Mr. Phillip Adams, Director of the Cincinnati Art Museum, who delivered a sparkling commentary on archaeology.



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Lively conversation dominated the social hour for Architects and their

wives, preceding the Dayton Chapter second Annual Awards Banquet.

-photos by Rollyn Puterbauch



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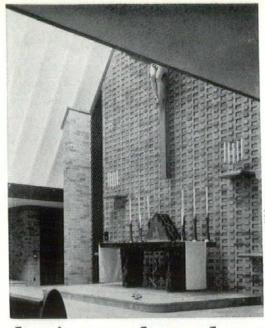
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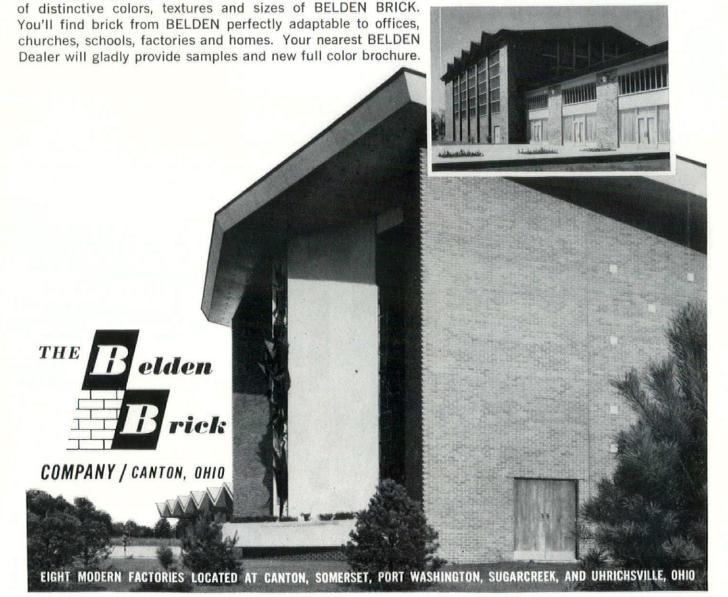
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- The architect indicated that he would inspect the job frequently and would expect to notify the salesman if something appeared wrong. (At this point, the salesman noted that there are no "bashful" architects).
- · The architect struck the salesman as fair, courteous, knowledgeable and realistic. He gratefully accepted new product literature, designed by the manufacturer to provide latest thinking on application methods and material properties.
- And he posed several problems for the salesman in the belief that research and development by the salesman's company might contribute to his own future.

All this was an idealistic kind of dream, the salesman thought later. But sometimes it happens.

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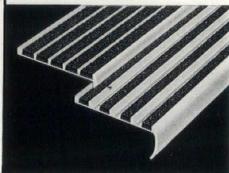
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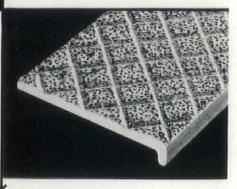
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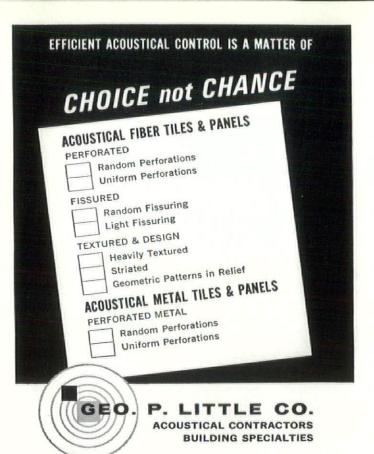


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#### **OBITUARY**

On Saturday, April 21st, Prof. J. Ralph Shank passed away, at his home, 1812 Bedford Road, Columbus, Ohio. He was Professor of Civil Engineering at Ohio State University for 41 years, having retired in 1958.

He will be remembered as a sincere, earnest, and friendly instructor who for several years had the responsibility of indoctrinating the architectural students at Ohio State into the mysteries of structural steel and reinforced concrete.

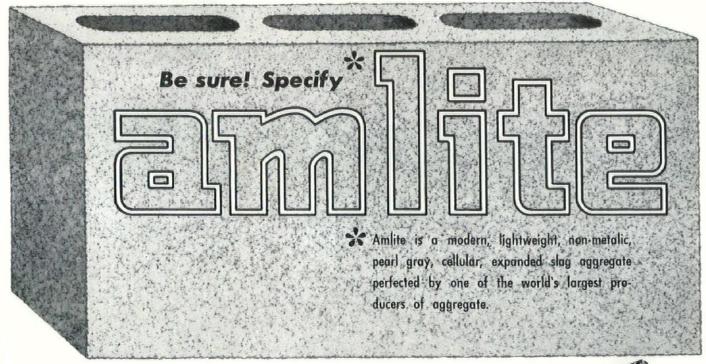
He was a teacher of wide interests and extended his activities in many circles. He was a member of First Community Church, Masonic Lodge, Kiwanis Club, Triangle Fraternity, The Ohio Society of Professional Engineers, and several other technical organizations.

#### PARKING LOT TEMPLATE OFFERED

Maintenance Inc., Wooster, Ohio, announces its 1953 series of parking lot templates is now available free from that company and its Jennite J-16 distributors.

Originally prepared in 1959, these are reviewed annually and revised to meet changing parking conditions. This new set includes 6 different plans.

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# precast balconies

a.i.a. file: 4-a

Precasting simplifies design and construc-

tion of balconies. Five towers, each with 24 floors of apartments, are included in the huge James Whitcomb Riley Center in Indianapolis, Indiana. Each apartment (studio, one- or two-bedroom) will have its own sun terrace.

suggested precast concrete balconies as an alternate to cast-in-place balconies. benefits they expect from The architectural firm, Perkins and Will, precasting on this project are: The principal

- 1. Rapid forming of the main structure. 2. Reduction of dead load by casting balconies in lightweight concrete. (Structural frame is conventional-weight concrete.)
- 3. Quality control in the casting yard assures durability for the exposed concrete

Installation and connection details are balcony components.

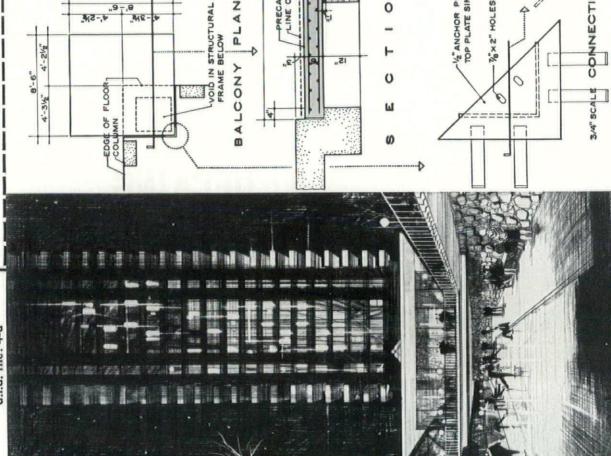
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50 West Broad Street, Columbus 15, Ohio

A national organization to improve and extend the uses of concrete

Architects: Perkins and Will, Chicago, Illinois



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8-6"

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PLAN

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4'-212

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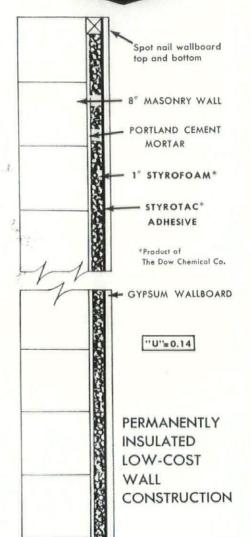
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