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The American Institute of Architects elected Louis de Moll, FAIA, of Philadelphia to the office of first vice president and president-elect, by acclamation. The election was held during the AIA's 106th national convention.

William Marshall, Jr., FAIA, of Norfolk, Virginia, who will succeed to the presidency of the Institute in December, was elected during the 1973 AIA convention in San Francisco. De Moll will succeed Marshall in the office in December, 1975.

The AIA also elected a secretary, Hilliard T. Smith, Jr., FAIA, of Lake Worth, Florida, and three vice presidents: Elmer Botsai, FAIA, of San Francisco; Carl L. Bradley, FAIA, of Fort Wayne, Indiana, and John M. McGinty, of Houston.

De Moll is board chairman of Ballinger, Architects and Engineers, in Philadelphia. He has served as vice president of the Institute in 1972 and 1973; is currently chairman of the AIA Commission on Institute Affairs, and has chaired the Institute's Task Forces on Structure, Commissions, and Future Conventions. He was also chairman of the 1973 Convention Committee and of the national AIA Committee on Architecture for Commerce and Industry.

He was a member of numerous other national AIA committees and task forces and is a past president of the Philadelphia Chapter.

Hilliard Smith, who has been serving as the Institute's secretary since 1972, was re-elected to a second two-year term. He is a former regional director of the AIA, and a past president of the Florida Association AIA. He has served on many committees and task forces at the national, state, and chapter levels, and is currently a member of the national Labor Liaison and Advertising Task Forces.

Elmer Botsai is a partner in the San Francisco firm of Botsai, Overstreet Associates. He has served as treasurer of the Institute and of the AIA Foundation, chairman of the national Finance and Dues Structure Committees, and member of various national committees. He has been active in various groups concerned with the formulation and modification of building codes and regulations. Active in Institute affairs at the local and state, level, he has been a director of the California Council, AIA, and president of the Northern California Chapter.

Carl Bradley is vice president of Archonics Corporation, a firm with offices in Fort Wayne and Terre Haute. He is a former regional director of the Institute, and has served as chairman of its Commission Professional Practice and of Production Systems for Architects and Engineers. He has lectured on practice management at numerous universities and at meetings of professional groups.

John McGinty, a principal of The McGinty Partnership in Houston, is currently a vice president of the Institute. He has been appointed by the AIA president to coordinate the work of various Institute groups charged with implementation of the 1975 national convention. He has taught design at the University of Houston and Rice University; has served on numerous Houston Chapter and Texas Society of Architects committees, and is a past president of the Houston Chapter. He was a member of the AIA delegation to the USSR in 1973, and in 1967-68 was a White House Fellow and assistant to then – Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall.

It has become increasingly important that final payment to a contractor for a building project be made in such a manner that the project is free and unencumbered for a clean title. The costs involved in the delay of closing a mortgage are increasing every year and coupled with the exponential rise in building costs, make time of the essence for completion of the construction and time for closing the mortgage commitment.

For these reasons, the architect's role in the administration of construction projects has a dual function; to assure the client (1) that the physical development of the project reflects the intent of the building contract and (2) that payments are made properly, especially final payment. This paper will describe the steps in the procedure, the alternative, and the implications of the architect's participation in the final payment for a construction project.

It must first be assumed that the architect has administered the construction contract in strict compliance with Chapter 84 (Mechanics Lien Law) of the Florida Statutes. At the beginning of the project the owner, or the architect as his agent, has filed a Notice of Commencement with the County Clerk and has posted it on the project site. In response to this notice and during the course of the construction of the project, the owner, and the architect if he has been named as a recipient on the Notice of Commencement, will receive Notice to Owner from persons or firms (not in privity to the Owner) furnishing materials or services for the building project, placing the Owner on notice that, should they not receive payment for their work on the project, they will place liens on the Owner's property. Although these notices do not constitute liens, they do place liensors in privity with the Owner and set priority privileges. Laborers and persons and firms having contracts directly with the Owner are not required to serve notice as a prerequisite to recording claims of lien on the Owner's property. However, except laborers, the Owner is under no obligation to pay to any person not in privity with him from whom he has not received a notice. Laborers and those who have served Notice to Owner have the priority for payments by the Owner, or the court, should the claim for payment have to be determined by the courts. This priority also holds if the Owner requires the contractor to furnish a payment bond which exempts the Owner from many provisions of the lien law. Claims of lien must be recorded in the county clerk's office any time during the progress of the

AIA OFFICERS

Pictured are newly elected national officers of The American Institute of Architects who will begin 1 year terms in December, 1974. Left to right, Hilliard T. Smith, Jr., FAIA, of Lake Worth, Florida (Secretary), Elmer F. Botsai, FAIA, of San Francisco, California, John M. McGinty of Houston, Texas, Carl L. Bradley, FAIA, of Fort Wayne, Indiana (Vice-President), and Louis de Moll, FAIA, of Philadelphia, Pennsylvania (First Vice-President and President elect).
In conflicts, the architect's actions prior to the final payment can pave the way to a pleasant as well as an assured conclusion of the construction project.

The architect's first step starts with the payment bond which relieves the Owner of many obligations and assures an eventual resolution of claims and conflicts, the architect's actions prior to the final payment can pave the way to a pleasant as well as an assured conclusion of the construction project.

The architect's first step starts with the required the contractor to obtain a payment bond which relieves the Owner from the known lienors missing from the list by the architect.

Knowing his client's, Owner's obligations under the lien law, the architect is obliged to authorize payments in such a way to assure the smooth and complete conclusion of the construction function, that the Owner may conclude his financial arrangement without delays, and that the building can be promptly used as intended. Even when the Owner has required the contractor to obtain a payment bond which relieves the Owner of many obligations and assures an eventual resolution of claims and conflicts, the architect’s actions prior to the final payment can pave the way to a pleasant as well as an assured conclusion of the construction project.

The architect's first step starts with the payment bond which relieves the Owner of many obligations and assures an eventual resolution of claims and conflicts, the architect’s actions prior to the final payment can pave the way to a pleasant as well as an assured conclusion of the construction project.

The complications of payments can be avoided by the architect if he will give the contractor in advance of the final payment a list of the lienors who have given notice and request that the list be matched with releases of lien of waivers of lien, and duplicates of the signed payrolls of the last 90 days of construction. With these submitted with the contractor's affidavit, the Owner is assured that he is making no improper payment and the contractor’s affidavit cannot be a burden to the Owner. Neither can the Owner nor the surety, underwriting the payment bond, if any, claim dereliction on the part of the architect.

Should a lien be recorded against the Owner's property which is part of a dispute as to the validity of the lienor's claim, then the lien can be removed using one of three options:

1. Wait until the year has expired during which action must be taken in the courts, or force action in the courts with Owner's Notice of Contest of lien sent to the lienor and filed in the clerk's office. (If lienor does not respond in 60 days, the lien is extinguished automatically.)

2. The Owner can file in the Clerk’s office, a bond or deposit money equal to the amount demanded in the claim of lien, plus 6 per cent interest for three years, plus 100 dollars to apply on any court costs which might be incurred.

3. The Owner could satisfy the claim, valid or not, because it is small and the implications of delay and cloud on the property more costly to the Owner.

Many times the architect is partially responsible for disputes causing materialmen and subcontractors to resort to claims of lien. If an architect withholds payment from a contractor because of workmanship not of the specified excellence, and the contractor also refuses payment to the subcontractor involved for the same reason, a dispute must be resolved. If it is not resolved, at the time of final payment, there will be an unpaid subcontractor ready to exercise his lien rights to protect his interests. It is best to resolve these well in advance of final payment. If the architect provides the leadership in resolving the controversy, rather than solidifying positions, better relations and, probably better performance will result.

One important aspect to final payments, and especially reliable final payments satisfactory to all, must be mentioned – the architect’s final payment follows!
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Al Cordova of Tampa is learning architecture through the seat of his pants and building a reputation at the same time.

Sweat, patience, know-how, cardboard, glue and balsa wood were turned into a $100 prize-winning design and another rung in the ladder of an architectural career.

Cordova designed a soon-to-be-built Visitor’s Center near Interstate 75 as part of his senior design class at the University of Florida.

“I tried to make the building as clean and uncluttered as possible so the people would want to use it. It is open so the visitors can see into the building and know what they are getting,” Cordova said.

The soundness of the design and general concepts of the model accomplished those goals that is the opinion of the panel of eight architects judging Cordova’s best of the 33 projects in his class. All the students were given the same requirements – design a visitor’s center which could be built near Interstate 75 west of Gainesville for $15,000 with much of the labor donated.

Cordova said “real problems,” like designing the visitor’s center, helps a student become more competent than those who work strictly with theoretical requirements.

“The real problems make for a better understanding of architecture. I would have thought many of the problems thrown in theoretical design projects couldn’t be for real, but they are. In fact, the real ones are often worse,” Cordova said.

“I ran into overhanging power lines, ‘compleation’ from existing buildings, access and traffic patterns I would not have believed if this had not been a real project.

“You can’t really teach advanced design, you have to learn by doing it and having it critiqued. It gives you a chance to test innovative ways to cope with the problems,” he said.

The 28-year-old senior plans to enter graduate school after he receives his bachelors degree in June. If he is successful, the Tampa Bay area’s real problems will be a day-to-day activity.

A graduate design studio is working with the Tampa Bay Regional Planning Council to organize a comprehensive developmental plan for the five-county area. “I hope to work with the studio. It will be great experience when I go back to Tampa as an architect,” he said.

At the rate he is going, Al Cordova will be an architect with a reputation by the time he graduates.
The twentieth century may very possibly go down in history as the Age of Labels. For some reason, perhaps having to do with the peculiarly twentieth century phenomenon of grand-scale advertising, we feel more comfortable with ideas and things if we can put a label on them. The labels do not have to be particularly accurate either. Just short and easy to remember. Thus, we have such phenomena as “Early American” TV sets, “French Provincial” split-levels, and “Colonial” gasoline stations. Surely, the phenomenon of grand-scale advertising, so. Prior to that, architects and landscape gardeners, city planners and cabinet makers tried very hard to each do their own thing in the very best way they could, using the stylistic vernacular of their particular time.

No Demand

The furniture makers of the Baroque and Rococo periods, perhaps the most individualistic in history up to that time, would not have dreamed of equipping their villas and castles with an earlier historic style, say Egyptian, or Romanesque. For one thing, there was no demand for it. Their clients, who were mainly the aristocracy and wealthy merchants of the time, wanted only the latest designs and were not in the least interested in anything old-fashioned. Certainly, they used designs based on classical motifs, but the uses to which these motifs were put were entirely inventive and contemporary. How times have changed.

The problem of style particularly compounds the difficulties facing the owner interested in restoring a very old property, say 100 years old or more. Here, the number one problem is to execute the new construction in the same manner as it would have been done when the building was originally built. Unlike those of our own era, the moldings and doors, fire-places, wall finishes and hardware of these older houses must usually be selected from a fairly narrow range of designs which were in common usage in that place and time. And this is where our habit of labeling gets us in trouble. Most of the millwork and hardware and other items offered on the market today as “colonial” or “French provincial” or whatever are simply not going to be appropriate in these older houses. It takes a lot of shopping and custom-making to really do the job right.

Little Connection

If you will check the For Sale — Houses columns of the Sunday paper, you will see houses of every stylistic description. “French Provincial,” “Ranch Style,” “Colonial” are popular appellations. If you then get in your car and drive out to see the houses thus advertised, you will find precious little connection between the label used and the house it is used on. One dealer’s “French Provincial” looks more “Ranch Style” than another advertised as such. In truth, most of them will look pretty much alike; one story, steep roof with a break at the eaves, shuttered aluminium windows, across the front and a “Colonial” entrance, a style all too familiar to Louisians, since we see it in all our best (and worst) subdivisions. One wonders if, perhaps, we have not in fact created our own indigenous style, something which might be called Bayou Blighted. If, then, we are going to turn back on erstaz Spanish and Provincial and Colonial, what can we cleave to as an acceptable stylistic style? I would suggest something which might be called “good” architecture.

Good architecture is architectural design that does not depend on the trappings of fake styles for acceptance. It is an architecture which serves a purpose. It is designed to meet the living needs of a particular family on a particular piece of property in a particular region or area, for a particular budget. As such it cannot possibly look exactly like another house designed for totally different people, with differing requirements of family, property, local and budget, now can it?

Technologically Sound

Good architecture is technologically sound. That is to say it is built of materials and using construction techniques which are most practical, efficient, and economical for the job. The little cosmetic touches which spell “style” to today’s builders largely do not fit this definition. There is no practical reason for building a colonial cupola unless that is the most practical way to ventilate the roof (most of them do not) or unless you seriously intend to raise pigeons. Shutters are not a bad idea in our climate, but for heaven’s sake, let them be operative.

The last, and certainly the most important, requirement of good architecture is that it look good. It is relatively easy to design houses that will function well and that are structurally correct. But to mold all that into a structure that is well proportioned, in harmony with its site and its neighbors and interesting to the eye is very difficult, indeed. The design of good architecture is an art, and it is this art that separates the real from the spurious, the well-designed house from the run-of-the-mill. I suppose this is the real reason for our reliance on labels and tack-on stylistic ornaments. These are what we substitute in the market for art. Real art costs too much and is too difficult to achieve, so we kid ourselves into thinking that, if we can only select the right label that in itself will be sufficient.

But, it is not architecture.

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PPG: a Concern for the Future
Our Florida State Board of Architecture is a child of the Florida Legislature. It was created by Chapter 467 Florida Statute 1915. The only reason to justify the creation of a registration or licensing board (any of the 27 boards in Florida, including medicine, engineering, etc.) is to have a means of better guaranteeing the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of the state — not to “protect the status quo” of an established interest group. The five members that constitute the Florida State Board of Architecture are appointed by the governor and their terms are staggered. There are provisions for minimum qualifications contained in the Statute.

This Board maintains offices in Tallahassee, Florida, at 315 South Calhoun Street, telephone 904-488-6685. The Executive Secretary, Herbert Coon, Jr., is an architect. This is very important in terms of the nuances of his duties. Since the Board’s function is to “see to the protection of the citizens”, its priorities are to (A) monitor the education and experience of individual architects . . . (B) monitor the proper practice of the profession. Everything the Board does is directly related to some facet of (A) and/or (B) — except for the general category known as “administrivia.”

The Board’s activities are now organized into truly efficient routines; efficient for government that is. The reason I say “for government” is that typical practitioners just can’t comprehend the complexity of accomplishing apparently simple tasks in a hurry. Laws, budgets, government processes just don’t acknowledge civilian problems such as cost of delay or impatience of clients, etc. The point here is that impatience on whose part? The lack of apparent action on the Board’s part does not necessarily mean inefficiency on the Board’s part.

Service by a Board Member requires two commitments; first, to be available to the profession for explaining, expediting and participating in all meetings. Continuity and unemotional consistency are very important. There are many otherwise really good professionals who just don’t manage to always be in their chairs with their minds on the problem at hand. You say . . . unreasonable to ask? I say . . . maybe — but Archie Parrish gave that kind of service for over 18 years. Harry Burns has done it for 12 years. A board member’s second commitment is to apply compassionate common sense to the deliberation. The function of the Board is to upgrade, monitor, lead, watch and encourage; not to chop, cut, stomp or bellow!

The Florida State Board of Architecture (FSBA) is supported entirely from registration fees paid by Architects. There is absolutely no tax money (from other than architects) that is in any way used by this Board. The Board rents its office space, pays its help, pays all operating expense and pays actual travel expense plus regular state rate per diem to its members. In addition, members draw $20.00 per day salary for the days they are in official meetings.

There are 1868 architects registered in Florida who live in Florida. There are 2051 architects registered in Florida who reside in one of the other 49 states or 6 territories. There may be one or two architects registered in Florida who reside outside of our country. Registration is $25.00 per year. In addition, if an architect practices as a legal entity other than as an individual (partnership or corporation), this practicing entity must likewise be certified by the FSBA. Certification fee is $75.00. The reason for the fee is the ligh legal cost to the FSBA for cautiously and completely checking the details of this entity.

For instance, our citizens must be able to sue this foreign entity in court for damage without undue complications. We must be able to assure the citizens of our state that they have been protected to the extent of the law.

All these fees add up to about $120,000.00 per year. The exam process (in and out) amounts to another $30,000/year. The cost of operating the services, maintaining records, doing diligently what the laws of Florida require, takes the services of the Executive Director and three full-time workers. Total budget (which must be submitted through the State budget process) is $146,000.00 per year. This surplus difference has been accumulating in a trust fund managed by the State Trust Officer.

The FSBA cannot touch the money in this fund, except by approved budget amendment by the budget commission, even though all funds in it constitute residual from registration money paid by the architects in our State. Policy of FSBA is to hold this trust fund at one year’s budget ($146,000). Should it get larger, the registration fees would be reduced the following year. There is no rational of “making money or empire building of any kind” as a result of the registration process. On the other hand if we had no trust, and if the FSBA should run out of money, there would be no legal way to get any and we should be forced to terminate our personnel thus abrogating our legal responsibilities. Therefore, caution must be our by-word.

By the state constitution (actually by omission from the Federal constitution) and historically by States rights, the governors and State governments are responsible for the health, welfare and safety of the people of the State. This responsibility passes down to the State Boards, but cannot be abrogated in favor of a national directive. So any and all activities or regulative policies of a national group become consenting as far as individual states are concerned. In the face of this, the compelling need for reasonable uniformity led to lose consent/ing conferences . . . which in turn led to a national council forum, and, finally, to the formation of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards (NCARB).

As capable architects through the years applied their sense of organization and logical design to the development of this National Council, the NCARB first took on the job of writing and directing a national examination. Then a national file
of architects who applied to have their professional dossier prepared suggested the necessity of models for individual State Law designs . . . and so into the present. Now NCARB maintains dossiers called Blue Covers on 15,000 certificate holding architects. National offices are at the Octagon (the A.I.A. Headquarters in Washington). The Staff numbers 20. The Evaluation of the records of individual architects is made by Sam Balen, A.I.A. Executive Secretary is Hayden Mims. There is a board of directors, officers, and many committees who each year address themselves to various problems of practice as these problems are identified throughout our nation. NCARB finances itself by receiving dues from each of the 50 State Boards of Architecture and six territorial Boards of Architecture. In addition, a large part of NCARB's income is from the examination and from the processing of Blue Covers. (The Cover in which the individual dossier is assembled.)

Prior to the blue cover process, a registered architect in one state might gain registration in another state by direct negotiation. The problem was always one of the State Board in the receiving state exercising due diligence in protecting the citizens of that state from the possibility of an unqualified man being permitted to practice. This required time-consuming investigations. NCARB now has been organized to accomplish this investigative process nationwide, as an extension of the Blue Cover process. Now, most states will accept applications for reciprocity licensing only via the NCARB Blue Cover process. This has allowed each state to reduce its cost of "investigation" while improving the resulting procedures. Again . . . the Blue Cover is only a dossier containing factual information about a Professional Architect. It is updated each year directly from him and his home state. An individual State Board still deserves the right to turn down an application.

The opportunity to practice architecture in a state is a privilege granted by the citizens as represented by their governor — not a right of an individual. The State Boards want the people in the state to have the opportunity to hire the very best — so there is no desire to "keep potentially good practitioners out . . . only the sworn duty to try diligently to prevent unqualified persons from entering the profession in the state". There is right of legal recourse against the ruling of a board should an individual feel aggrieved; however, there is also legal and moral commitment by the board members to exercise due diligence in protection of health, welfare and safety of the citizens.

On the international situation, NCARB is attempting to establish a process for verifying equal education, equal competence, and ethical qualities for applying architects in some foreign countries. Each country presents a different problem. So far, NCARB has drawn a reciprocity agreement with the Royal Association of British Architects, and the National Association of Australian Architects.

These agreements make it possible for qualifying individuals from these countries to have an NCARB Blue Cover. This cover must still be accepted by a specific State Board in order for the holder to be able to practice in that specific State. NCARB is working with a number of other countries and there will be additional agreements for reciprocity. The one country, Canada, which seems a most logical target for reciprocity seems also to have rather severe internal problems; there is not yet reciprocity between the provinces of Canada. This may take time, but progress is being made.

The record keeping capabilities of NCARB and the State Boards, the increasing efficiency of inter-communication among the State Boards as the boards get more and more competent executive secretaries, and the migratory tendency of architects, are all encouraging architects to get an NCARB certification — young architects realize its importance. Practitioners work at broadening the scope of their operations. Practitioners should appreciate the problems of paper work and sensitive management in this connection. Practitioners should also know that currently in any other profession, this reciprocity would be much more difficult or even impossible. NCARB and the individual state boards are dedicated to making the process easier. To this end the national annual convention is a time of resolving individual differences, without violating the State rights principles. In session, the discussion is deliberately concerned with better service to the individual state boards, the public and the individual architects — in that order. There is discussion of trends, requirements, and developments in the profession.

The National Council of Engineer examiners has essentially a parallel operation. It might be interesting to observe here that the National Council of State Boards of Landscape Architecture is now in the formative stage. This group is following somewhat the organization processes and forms of NCARB. This is good. The planners and interior decorators are emerging as professions. Perhaps they, too, will generally follow the NCARB track. Much later — perhaps ten years from now, parallel processes will make interfacing of the professions much easier and more effective.

The formal educational and experience process which a high school student follows to emerge years later as a fully registered architect — serving our society in the creation of an acceptable environment, is at best a long, tedious, nurturing one. The single most important thing this student can learn is represented by the word synergi sm, that is, learning the planning process by using, and recombining basic systems in ever-increasing complexity thus creating a "whole" which exceeds the sum of the parts to help solve the environmental requirements of man in an orderly, effective manner. Basic comprehension in many disciplines become necessary parts of this process, so these "tools" can be encompassed into the total in a sensitive manner. While the schools have designed many programs of systematic exposure of the student to successive sets of controlled conditions, thereby stimulating learning, the true pragmatic process requires that the student also be able to separate possible projects from those not practically possible. This part of the educational process we call practical experience. This practical experience record, is required for admission to take the examination for registration. Learning to lead, inspire and gain the confidence of people within the systems of construction is an absolutely necessary ingredient in the total planning process, if a student is to make viable contributions to our society.
Finally, his leadership role in the planning process, his ability and sensitivity in handling people, that is, selling himself and his leadership, should be a very important part of his training. The seven demands on his time to fulfill the curriculum leave very little time to expose himself on campus in the “learned leadership” role. It is significant that there are very few student architects who become presidents of classes or elected student leaders compared to students about equal competence in other fields of study. If we concede that the ability to lead is a learned response to stimuli, that is, the opportunity to participate in campus activities and being looked upon by ones peers as a leader, then we must agree that this important aspect of architectural training is less structured (and perhaps considerably less effective) than the more formalized disciplines like structural engineering, or delineation.

There should be a continued study of the accomplishments of those students who stay on in school for extended study. It would seem that improved opportunity to develop leadership capability might generate a graduate student who would be likely to progress as a potential leader in our society, and, in proportion to his technical competence, might help to create the manifestation of a modern Plato’s Republic. The actual present situation seems to suggest that often the architectural student finds it very difficult to assume the level of leadership in our society commensurate with his learned level of capability to perform architectural skills. This phenomena is not peculiar to architects, but suggests generally less sensitivity to the consensus of fellow citizens on social or political problems than some other professional groups who have perhaps developed greater capability to detect consensus but really might have less ability to formulate worthwhile goals after they were elected leaders. It would seem desirable to remedy this situation by adjusting the curriculum, a task which is anything but easy!

A very great percentage of architectural practitioners have been teachers. The instinct and desire to teach seems very strong in the academically more competent students and many of these young men do move directly into teaching. If this takes place before the registration process is complete, these men have an atypical process with which to contend. They have various levels of success. The time lapse before they take the examination is extended and the pass-fail consequences are much greater. Assuming they finally pass, (and most architectural faculty should be licensed), there seems to be much less academic acknowledgement than that gained by “more degrees” or writing a book. Those who really want to make teaching a career seem to have serious problems growing in a current meaningful experience area while at the same time going up the academic ladder, getting registered, staying current and vital and meeting classes and simulating young sharp minds to be sharper!

Certainly, tenures as a condition of employment must somehow be kept from becoming tenure — a mind conditioner! Some categories into which people fall include:

A. The young man who teaches a few years — is exciting to the student — does some very fine work while on the faculty then leaves to become a highly successful practitioner.

B. The older successful, acknowledged professional, who returns to teach and is a vital exciting leader of young men. He and these young students in teams often make very fine contributions in the state.

C. Young men who really want to teach. They stay in the system often in spite of financial and locational disadvantages. Some manage to climb up the academic educational management ladder. Some grow by just being really fine academically-oriented teachers. Some combine teaching with specialty like acoustics or planning. This specialty, they sell essentially as a part of a total architectural service. That is, they serve in their special expertise area generally by the hour, for a practicing architect. A few, a very few, have a terrible time keeping the world from passing them by. The professor really owes it to the teachers to first acknowledge, then actually help these teachers maintain their “brain muscle tone” by folding them into current — real problems. There will be all manner of

With the above as preamble, and in line with the purposes of NCARB, there exists an accrediting body known as the National Architectural Accreditation Board. This board is jointly supported by National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, the American Institute of Architects, and the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture. The accrediting Board maintains offices in the Octagon. It has a highly competent executive secretary and staff. Members are appointed by the three supportive organizations. These members in teams visit schools of Architecture and accredit those schools that maintain adequate standards that indicate that graduated students can be expected to serve our society in a professional capability. The curriculum however places severe requirements on his scientific competence. This results from the requirements that he be schooled in structural engineering, mechanical engineering, surveying, electrical engineering and air conditioning. There are also projects in acoustics and physics. In some schools many of these courses are given by the school of engineering, so the competition here is severe. At the other end of the talent scale, the art courses are just as demanding. So... this student must be above all else — a hardworking, dedicated, intelligent person. His talents must cover a broad range. (see diagram)
reactions to the above statement. Suffice to say, I have lived through two complete explosions where the profession complained so strongly to the educational leadership that rules were passed at the University which made it almost impossible for a tenured teacher to keep participating in the ongoing private sector! Each time, we lost good teachers and damaged the profession.

I have lived through one very severe experience where one of our top educational leaders became so busy with his outside work that his full time education job was very neglected.

The problem is serious — really warrants deep consideration if we want the very best total situation in our State.

In recent years the architectural leadership throughout Florida has been very close to the FSBA in philosophy. There have been many joint meetings. The major ideas and and directions of state boards have been reviewed the professional leadership. This has been particularly fortunate in:

A. Passage of the corporate practice laws: Prior to 1969 architects could legally practice only as individuals, or in partnerships where all the partners were either registered architects, registered professional engineers, or registered landscape architects. This situation essentially denied architects the business opportunities inherent in the corporate structure. These opportunities had to do with the accumulation of an estate. Since changing this law, architects have the opportunity to manage the business of the profession as a business, yet they remain professionally responsible for the profession! The FSBA now concerns itself with the professional only, while other general laws cover the business practice.

B. Florida has in recent years been most fortunate in that the educational leadership in the state has, been very active in the professional Architectural Field. This has led to more and more practitioners actually visiting and/or teaching at the schools. Out of this activity has come the formal establishment of an Architectural Guild at each school. These Guild Chapters have officers and sponsor programs aimed at cementing ever stronger the link between students and practitioners.

C. The FSBA by formal action has, for the last five years, retained Arnold Butt, A.I.A. Architect the head of Department of Architecture, University of Florida and successively, the head of the School of Architects, University of Miami, (for past two years, Ralph Warburton A.I.A. has had this position), as educational advisors. These school heads have been able from this experience to offer a meaningful refresher course to State Board examiners on the examination as well as reflect this experience in the school teaching programs. This has greatly benefited the profession. Conversely this close relationship has generated exceptionally fine support by the profession of the schools. The profession has been very active in urging the University of Florida and University of Miami administrations to give "College status" to the school of architecture, and to provide necessary capital outlay for increasing the capacity in these facilities. Progress at the University of Miami includes designation of Ralph Warburton A.I.A. as Associate Dean. The University of Miami has also committed itself to "a full" school status as enrollment increases. The University of Florida administration is attempting to find a Dean for the College of Arts and Architecture who is a registered architect.

For years our architectural leaders and our engineering leaders have been great friends done business together, socialized, or done civic work harmoniously. The minute they sat across the table and began discussing these two laws . . . and what was architecture or what was engineering, they became true antagonists. As a result, the transgressors on each side were aggressively attacked in court by the attorneys for the other board. Much time, much money, and much thought was used by each board attacking the very few unethical men in the other profession. Meanwhile the joint professional problems were receiving little serious joint effort.

What has become known as The Florida Joint Resolution between the Florida State Board of Architects and Florida State Board of Engineer Examiners was written. This resolution was built on a very few basic foundation stones:

1. For the FSBA to discipline and engineer, required the FSBA to go into court. For the Florida State Board of Engineer Examiners (FSBEE) to discipline an architect required the FSBEE to go to court. On the other hand, each by law could discipline his own merely by calling him into a board meeting, hearing the evidence and deciding on a punishment. So the first foundation stone is that each board agreed that it would receive evidence and seriously investigate and adjudicate this evidence when such was brought. Each acknowledged the sincerity of the other and agreed to abide by the findings and disposition of the case by the other board.

2. The second foundation stone was that a person was actually registered as a professional, and essentially licensed to sell to the public that which he could show by reason of education and experience his competency to deliver. If he sealed a work product which he could not technically explain, he was in truth committing an unprofessional act. For this he could and should be disciplined by the board that granted him professional status in the beginning. There is no way for a professional to seal a work product which he cannot personally check for technical accuracy and safety and yet maintain he has this right because he has been granted the right by a board! Such use of his seal is unprofessional act!

3. The third building stone is that the boards would meet in joint session in January of each year in an effort to continue improving relations. At these meetings joint problems are discussed.

4. The fourth building stone is that proposed changes in the laws would be discussed so there would be no surprise to either board at the legislature.

This resolution has now been adopted in a number of other states; however in some states, as much as $25,000 per year is still being spent between the two boards of that state attacking the other’s "renegades."
Practitioners View, Continued

The most immediate result of the joint resolution was that the two executive secretaries investigate mutual problems together. They talked to the alleged transgressor together. We found that a very small group in each profession was doing most of the transgressing. When these few problems were handled, the entire state scene quieted down. We have to other problems.

One of the most pressing joint problems is that of helping the building department officials do their job better — by helping them resolve the overlapping professional problems and otherwise assist them to promote a better quality of service. This whole subject matter is one in which the joint boards could truly render a service state-wide, which would be right in the line of their assignment to protect the health, welfare and safety of the citizens.

There should be a state-wide conference by members of the joint boards and the building inspector’s leadership. The subject matter should be wide, but should particularly address itself to how to bring up the quality of service at the bottom of the scale, rather than being so concerned about proper division at the top of the scale.

There is one difference in the FSBA rules and the FSBEE rules which will continue to cause a “nettling”: the FSBA rule very specifically states that buildings built in Florida must be sealed by an architect registered in Florida. They further state that all plans must be created under the direct supervision of the architect. FSBA Rules go so far as to require a registered architect in full attendance in any office which practices architecture. Thus no brance offices unless this process is met! This wording leaves no room for hedging on responsibility.

The engineers’ current policy provides that a professional engineer registered in Florida may “review” another’s work and write a letter qualifying his review. Then permits may be processed and the structure built. This situation needs a deep-think session between the professions to consider bringing the variance into concert. Perhaps it can be resolved; however, the current practice seems to be inconsistent across the state.

**Directions — Trends or Drifts**

The twenty to forty professional years an architect is privileged to practice is also, obviously, the time frame in which he takes his part of the profession from an older man — carries it through his own life — and at the end — hands it to a young man. The architectural profession has been nurtured and preserved by the diligent work of many professionals through many generations. It comes to this generation a well defined discipline. It comes to this generation with a wonderful, expanding role. This generation’s link in the chain might well include:

A much more integrated system of connecting education and practice. Perhaps a student could look forward to a total system starting with FSBA sponsored monitored positive counseling in high school.

The FSBA might appoint a career teacher in each school of architecture in the state to a continuing relationship with the FSBA as career consultants to students. The FSBA — would undertake to make them experts in the subject matter.

These men would be privileged to attend and participate in some FSBA meetings, and some NCARB meetings. They would receive all NCARB and FSBA information concerning the education and experience requirements. They would have use of a secretary at the FSBA office. This secretary would identify counselors in each high school and provide accurate information as directed by the career consultants to these high schools counselors. All records and mail-outs would be handled by arrangements with the University of Florida Computer Center. The first record would come when a student enrolled in specific architecture courses in the junior colleges or at the universities. An initial letter would be sent giving him basic information and alerting him to the existence of the career consultants. The students would be followed by the computer report on course work — and/or by the secretary. His course selection and general progress would be advised on/or monitored by the career consultants or his appointed counselors. When he became a third year student (either enrolling initially in one of the Universities in the State having schools of architecture or attending one of the many junior colleges or one of the other State Universities or coming from out of state) he would have had the best chance of making his time to that point count!

Sometime during his first semester in Architecture School, the career consultant would interview him, get basic information, and start the file that will become NCARB blue cover. Each year thereafter, his progress would be monitored and he would be career counseled once a year. His summer activity would be evaluated at the time.

On graduation, the career counselor and the executive secretary of the FSBA would consult and certify to his future NCARB file:

A. He graduated from and accredited school.

B. He accumulated some number of months of acceptable experience.

This graduate would go over his plans for externship with the career counselor. His requirements would be identified, and a plan jointly developed for his externship. The graduate would be responsible for keeping in touch for monitoring purposes with the career counselor (current address, employer, etc.). On completing externship the graduate would file for State Board Examination. On passing, that fact only would be entered in his computer record, along with the other information, part of which is now collected by the pre-examination questionnaire.

The newly registered architect would now have in his NCARB computer file, as properly certified by the executive secretary of FSBA the record required for NCARB Blue Cover. He could then get his NCARB certificate merely by application and fee payment to NCARB.

Note — The above presumes that by the time this system is functioning, the record of ALL architects registered in any state would be on computer tape, maintained by NCARB. Those who have current blue covers would have recorded extra information. Any state board
would be able to get instant recall on any registered architect by computer terminal — or overnight report by other electronic means.

The experience record of the newly registered architect would continue to be monitored and recorded similarly to present NCARB system.

As this professional architect grows, his first commitment to the profession would be to join the Architectural Guild in support of his School of Architecture. He would be an active member of this guild as long as he is in practice. The one duty of the guild is to serve as a vehicle in channeling assistance and support of all the practitioners for the School of Architecture. This help is divided into:

A. Bringing the practicing group back to the school for current teaching experience sharing.
B. Supporting and encouraging students through big brother (Guild) activity, summer work, etc.
C. Relating professionally with the teachers so that the teachers are encouraged to participate in real projects, getting real pay for real contributions!

The writing seems to be on the wall concerning continuing education. I believe that within ten years all professions will by law be required to have some annual formal/refresher study or continuing education. If this is true, it will have to be handled by the State Board — NCARB system in association with the societies. This might take the form of another joint board created from A.I.A., NCARB and ACSA to design the programs, then monitor these thru the State Boards. The State Boards keep accurate legal records and have hard legal authority.

If this comes to pass, the only reasonable way to manage the actual teaching will be through the Schools of Architecture, using the National Architectural Accrediting Board (NAAB) contract and the State Board secretaries. The computer record system, the computer notification process and the computer record of registration will all come into play. The system will no doubt follow the Army Reserve Officer system of points for required and elective courses.

This occurrence will also bring the practitioner closer to the Schools. The system will be efficient, fast with strong support from the profession and strong leadership in the schools. Accomplishment of required points — certified by the Executive Secretary of the State Board would be a prerequisite to re-registration each year. Monitoring all this cross notification to states where registration is by reciprocity — the resulting domino effect — notification of registrants — warnings, etc. for 50,000 professionals with 120,000 registrations in 50 states and 6 territories is something to contemplate, but it will most likely be on us in five years! When the system becomes as routine as pictured above, almost all these architects will apply and have an NCARB file. This will make them even more mobile ... but our profession will be serving our society in a most efficient and effective manner!

At the other end of the scale, the joint boards must concern themselves immediately with the quality of service as manifest by the quality of the permit documents being presented to building departments. Building department officials now have all the work they can do. They do not have time to stop the process and wait on state boards to “look at” situations. They are under the gun by municipal attorneys not to risk legal action unless there is good clear cause.

In their assignment ... certainly the “welfare” aspect suggests upgrading. If a good planning session with the building officials could be arranged, a system embodying some of the following might emerge:

FSBA and FSBEE would appoint one representative practicing in the jurisdiction of each building department in our state. These two men — one architect and one engineer — would act as a minute man committee to “look” at any problem when they were called by the head of that building department. If the problem related to an architect then the minute man architect would call the executive secretary of FSBA and suggest he review the situation. If the problem related to an engineer, the minute man engineer member would call the executive secretary of the FSBEE, who would then look at the situation. At this point the minute man committee would be through! The executive secretaries would take over. Further, the building permit process would not stop. There would be no hold up — no liability, yet the boards could gradually clean up the problem areas. In a few years things would be immeasurably better.

Side benefits would include:
A. More team spirit between the professionals and the building officials.
B. A greater understanding for each other.
C. Development of a statewide group of professionals who would relate much better with their State Boards than now.
D. No extra cost to the building department.

In closing — if I have learned one thing ... it is that ... most professionals are sincerely trying to behave ethically. When they don't, in most cases, a simple straight-forward discussion will cause them to correct their actions. They will benefit by having the discussion. The very few who are dishonest will transgress more than once ... it is worth the effort for the first time to be a warning.

As Board Members, our function is to monitor — lead — and encourage the upgrading of architectural service to the citizens of Florida ... to be diligent in the protection of the health, welfare and safety of the citizens of our State.
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"Grant me the self-awareness to know honestly what I am, what I can do, and what I cannot; have contract, neither stifling their development nor exalting myself at their expense;

Grant me the judgment to channel my energies into those avenues which best utilize my abilities and do not require talents which I do not possess;

Grant me the wisdom cheerfully to admit error and learn from my experiences, that I may grow and develop and avoid repetition of mistakes;

Grant me the humility to learn from others, even though they be younger, less experienced, or of humbler station then I;

Grant me the courage to make decisions whenever they are necessary and to avoid rashness when they are not;

Grant me the sensitivity to judge the reactions of others that I may modify my actions to meet the needs of those affected;

Grant me the consideration to recognize the worth of each individual, and to respect all those with whom I