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It's the Law by Bernard Tomson

P/A Office Practice column on the legal aspects of architecture and engineering. This month's column supplements Tomson's Architectural & Engineering Law (Reinhold 1951) by reporting summaries of cases decided since publication of the book.

Chapter 9-Agreements with Owners

Pennsylvania. In re Stormer's Estate, 123 Atl. 2d 627 (1956). In a declaratory judgment proceeding to determine the liability of the executors of a deceased contractor to complete performance of a contract for construction of a municipal sewer system, held that the contract was not of such a personal nature as to be discharged by death of the contractor. Said the Court, building contracts generally do not involve a peculiar skill or ability on the part of the person who is to perform them, and hence do not terminate on the death of the contractor. The formation of the contract in this case was induced by the fact that decedent made the lowest bid and not by any peculiar ability or skill.

California. City of Susanville v. Lee C. Hess Co., 290 Pac. 2d 520 (1955). Where the City Council had passed a resolution declaring a contractor to be the lowest bidder and awarded to him the contract for the work, under the provisions of a local improvement act requiring the City to let the contract to the lowest responsible bidder, the contract was thereby complete, and, in the absence of fraud, mutual mistake, or some other ground for rescission, the City was without power to rescind its action and award the contract to the second lowest bidder.

Chapter 12—When Architect's or Engineer's Decision is Final

U. S.—United States v. United Enterprises, 226 F. 2d 359 (1955). In an action by the Government for benefit of and on behalf of a painting subcontractor, against the prime Government contractor for monies allegedly due under the subcontract and for extra work, held that under the terms of the subcontractor's agreement with the Government contractor, the subcontractor was bound by the decisions of the Government engineer as to what the prime contract required, and the engineer's interpretation of the contract was conclusive on the subcontractor. Thus, the engineer's determination that certain items of the prime contract did not include interior painting of certain buildings, was conclusively binding on the subcontractor.

Chapter 13—When Architect's or Engineer's Decision is not Final

California — Pacific Coast Builders v. Antioch Live Oak Unified School District, 300 Pac. 2d 309 (1956). A school district architect's opinion that the contractor should bear the cost of inspection was reviewable by the Courts, notwithstanding a contract provision making the architect's determination final, where the architect's decision was based upon an obvious misinterpretation of the contract.

Chapter 20-Right to Compensation

Iowa-S. D. & D. L. Cota Plastering Co. v. Moore, 77 N.W. 2d 475 (1956). In an action for foreclosure of a mechanic's lien, it was held that the evidence sustained a finding that there had been substantial compliance by the plaintiff with the agreement, under which it was to apply siding to the defendant's house, notwithstanding the defendant's contention that the coloring of the siding did not accord with the agreement. The Court stated that the rule of substantial performance is especially applicable to building construction or improvement contracts because the builder's material and labor cannot be returned to him; the Courts are forced to weigh, on the one hand, the harm to be done to the owner if he

is forced to accept and pay for a job that is not the job he contracted for and, on the other hand, the injustice to the builder and the unjust enrichment of the owner if trivial deviations from the contract will permit the owner to keep the fruits of the builder's efforts and material without compensation.

California-Martin v. Karsh, 298 Pac. 2d 635 (1956). In an action for breach of contract for the construction of a concrete warehouse, held that in the case of building contracts, especially where the owner has taken possession of the building and is enjoying the fruits of the contractor's work, no literal compliance with the contract in all details and no absence of all defects and imperfections is required to entitle the contractor to recovery on the contract, but he can have such recovery after substantial performance in good faith, if the deviations and imperfections do not substantially affect the usefulness of the building for the purposes for which it was intended, subject to an allowance for damages if the owner has suffered any by reason of the failure to perform strictly; and whether, in any case, defects and omissions are substantial or unimportant is generally a question of fact.

Miscellaneous: Liability of Architect to Surety on Contractor's Bond

Mississippi—State v. Malvaney, 72 So. 2d 424 (1954). An architect who, by the terms of the contract, was to require of the contractor evidence that payrolls and material bills had been paid before issuing the certificate of substantial completion, was held liable to the contractor's surety for negligence in issuing the certificate without requiring such evidence, with the result that the contractor collected retained payments and then defaulted, throwing the burden of completing the work and satisfying the claims upon the surety.



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6 Progressive Architecture

Mechanical Engineering Critique by William J. McGuinness

P/A Office Practice column on mechanical and electrical design and equipment, devoted this month to heating and cooling systems using piped water.

Strangely enough, it is possible for heating and cooling systems to be popular or unpopular, understood or misunderstood. Those who conduct research and endeavor to disseminate technical information find that news about mechanical improvements is very perishable. Frequently, systems are chosen on the basis of local experience or custom and without the advantage of published findings of centralized research, or the results of the experience of others on a national scale.

About a year ago, the Better Heating-Cooling Council was organized in New York to conduct a vigorous job of promoting a greater understanding of the good qualities of piped systems for heating and cooling, especially in residences. Now, fifty organizations that manufacture or install equipment for these systems participate in the work of the Council. For the first time in industry, installation contractors have joined manufacturers in promoting a technical program. The former are represented by The Mechanical Contractors Association of America and The National Association of Plumbing Contractors; both of these organizations being members of the new Council. Their influence will undoubtedly be felt in a more complete program which can include information on methods of installation as well as the selection of manufacturers' equipment. Architects can feel free to consult the Council on questions about the new systems that it promotes. Many architects believe that their professional position is better maintained when information comes from a national association instead of from a specific manufacturer or contractor.

The choice between a piped-water system and one using ducted air will, of course, be determined by the best findings concerning both processes. The Council feels that the architect should give increased consideration to the merits of piped systems and seek information which it is well prepared to give. Some of the advantages claimed are durability, suitability to the adjunct generation of domestic hot water, and a less bulky installation because of the use of pipes instead of ducts. The lastmentioned quality might seem most important in contemporary houses where heating or cooling should be delivered at perimital glass or walls.

The system illustrated on this page (its equipment made by Vulcan Radiator Company) typifies the kind of heating-cooling that is being endorsed and promoted by the Council. It combines both processes through baseboard units. A central chiller and a central boiler circulate chilled or heated water to the convectors, where there are two additions to the conventional baseboard scheme. A trough and plumbing drain catch and dispose of condensed moisture, and an air chamber below the base cabinet distributes fresh or recirculated air to induce flow of room air over the coil fins. A central fan in the boiler room delivers this air through three-in, flexible hoses. The convector and trough are made of rust resistant materials.



BULLETIN No. 1993

"Decay and Termite Damage in Houses"

Prepared by the DIVISION OF FOREST INSECT IN-VESTIGATIONS, Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine, Agricultural Research Administration; and the DIVISION OF FOREST PATHOLOGY, Bureau of Plant Industry, Soils, and Agricultural Engineering.



Worker Termites-Natural size

Worker Termite Greatly enlarged

(Excerpts-Exact Quotation)

"TERMITES are the most destructive of the insects that attack wood in houses. They eat the interior of the wood and may cause much damage before they are detected."

"Wood damaged by termites can be easily distinguished from decayed wood. Termites honeycomb the wood with definite tunnels; these are separated by thin partitions of sound, firm wood."

"Wood decay is caused by fungi, which are plants consisting of microscopic threads...

the decay fungi weaken or destroy the fiber. These cannot work fast at temperatures below 55 to 60°F., and not at all in dry wood. There is no such thing as

'dry rot'; decayed wood is often dry after it has rotted, but not while the decay is taking place."

"The decay fungi soften the wood and in the final stages cause it to shrink and crack or crumble."

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Manu	sulation Inc., 525 Bway., N. Y., N. Y. Dept. P-4 facturers of Scientific Multiple Aluminum In- ion, which retards Fungus Growth and Timber Rot.
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A water-conducting fungus attacked untreated oak piers of this 5 year old house and continued to decay sills, joists, and studs to a height of 6 ft.

USDA Photographs



General Conditions and Types of Specifications by Harry Terry*

P/A Office Practice article discussing general conditions for installation of Mechanical and Electrical work in buildings. Problems raised by "Open," "Bidder's Choice," and "Base Bid" specification types are discussed: problems which also arise to some extent in other sections of specifications.

Members of New York Association of Consulting Engineers, during the past thirty years, have each prepared their own supplementary Mechanical and Electrical General Conditions to be used with American Institute of Architects General Conditions for the Construction of Buildings. During the past two years a committee of NYACE has reviewed these Conditions of its members and compiled a set of Conditions representing the combined experience of its members.

These "Conditions" apply to specifications covering all mechanical trades —such as Heating, Plumbing, Air Conditioning, and Electrical Work specifications for which can be divided into three general classes:

1. The "Open" Specification, in which minimum standards of quality and performance are set forth, and any piece of equipment or material which complies with these minimum standards is acceptable. This type of specification is most commonly found in U. S. Government work.

2. The "Bidder's Choice" Specification, in which three or more brands of any given piece of equipment usually are named and described, the choice being left with the bidder. This is the most common of all types of specifications in use today, particularly on public work.

3. The "Base Bid" Specification, in which the various items of equipment are concisely described, their performance defined, and the manufacturer's name and catalog designation clearly set forth. In this type of specification the base bid includes only the articles specifically named, and if other brands of equipment are offered, they are included as an alternate proposal.

The Open Specification enables the specifying engineer to maintain complete impartiality between the various manufacturers and suppliers of equipment. This type of specification should present complete and comprehensive detail on each item. Specifications for a heating unit, for example, should include heat exchange, heating surface, entering and leaving air temperatures to establish the capacity characteristics and equally comprehensive details of the materials of the coil, the method of fabrication, the sealing of connections, as well as specific data on fins, tubes, headers, and tappings. Cabinet enclosures are similarly described. Motors required are described as to electrical characteristics, drive, speed, guards, and motor mount. Even greater detail may be set up for control apparatus.

Standard General Conditions must be written to cover all three types of specifications, and since so much choice may be left to a contractor, he must accept corresponding responsibility.

From the bidder's point of view, a loose specification does admit bargaining between various suppliers. However, since basic plans cannot be complete in detail, indeterminate items can be specifically defined only after the selection of equipment is approved by the specifying engineer.

From the craftsman's point of view, such a specification is most undesirable. The basic plans are necessarily lacking in detail. Detailed plans prepared by the manufacturer of the equipment are concerned only with the immediate problems of a particular piece of equipment. The foreman on the job and the clerk-of-works must fit the selected apparatus in the building without conflict between various trades.

From the owner's point of view, the major objection is that the lack of precise definition in specifications may result in numerous "extras" which often work a severe handicap in the manner of financing.

The Bidder's Choice Specification is an Open Specification which limits the contractor's choice of equipment to two or three brands, predetermined as acceptable to the designer. The objections raised to an Open Specification are present in this type of a specification, but they are more limited in scope and create proportionately less of a problem to all concerned. It is true that less technical detail and description are required than with an Open Specification, but it is also true that architectural plans and layouts must be prepared with enough latitude to allow for variations in equipment.

The Base Bid Specification-where each item of equipment is clearly defined as to quality, capacity, function, and performance, and specifically identified with the manufacturer's name, model number, catalog listing, and size designation-gives the bidder no choice of equipment under his base bid. All contractors bid on the named equipment, the only variable factors involved are quantities of miscellaneous supplies and quantities of labor. The architect and owner know exactly what will be received for a given cost. The kind or brand of equipment that will be used is not within the province of the contractor but rests jointly in the hands of the architect, engineers, and owner, where it rightfully belongs. If there are price differentials, the owner receives or pays the difference, as the case may be, if he chooses to accept alternate proposals. If the acceptance of an alternate will require design changes, extra costs on the part of other trades, or additional engineering, the costs of these changes can be established and a true evaluation can be made on the worth of an alternate proposal, prior to its acceptance by the owner.

The mechanical and electrical specifications prepared in New York City are of the three general class commented upon above, and the General Conditions for these specifications must of necessity be broad enough to apply to all three classes. Paragraph 2 of the General Conditions, therefore, frankly demands that "It is the intention of the Specifications and Drawings to call for finished work tested and ready for

^{*}Professional Engineer; Chairman, Public Relations Committee, New York Association of Consulting Engineers.

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General Conditions and Types of Specifications

operation . . . and that the Contractor has included the cost of all required items in his proposal, and that he will be responsible for the approved satisfactory functioning of the entire system without extra compensation."

The most vulgar objection to broad coverage specifications and General Conditions is sometimes expressed in the damning statement that such specifications contain "God Save Us All" clauses. However, any specification must be set up to protect the owner, the legitimate bidder, the supplier, the architect, and the engineer against unfair and unethical practices, including the following:

1. Failure of successful bidder to place orders promptly for the required equipment. One contractor out of twenty, instead of placing his order for equipment promptly, will indulge in shopping between the suppliers of various brands. He will play one against the other until, finally, the supplier who does obtain the order is more unfortunate than any of his competitors. First of all, he has had to cut his price to a point where he no longer has a profit. Second, his selling expense has doubled and sometimes tripled. Third, while all this shopping has been going on, time has been passing and delivery is invariably delayed. (In most cases, a manufacturer will not extend himself too much to expedite a nonprofit order.) This condition then provides a hand-made opportunity for the contractor to attempt a substitution, of course to his own advantage. If a substitution is not accepted, it's the engineer's responsibility to attempt justification of a job delay.

2. Increasing the engineer's cost of doing business. The technical performance and quality of substitute brands must be checked carefully for each unit offered for consideration, in order to determine if the units proposed will meet the minimum requirements of the specifications. This work is time consuming and therefore costly.

There has been nothing constructive accomplished with this byplay—for the engineer, the supplier, or the owner. As far as the contractor is concerned, job delay probably eats up any additional profit obtained through these manipulations of orders and specifications.

Another fallacious objection to tight specifications and General Conditions is that they require the bidder to accept responsibility for work for which the engineer has been paid and for which he should himself take the responsibility. This familiar objection has been advanced most strongly by wartime contractors. Their experience with the Corps of Engineers, which depended upon Renegotiation of Contracts to protect the Government from overcharging, has encouraged the practice of making a low bid and depending on extras to make the work profitable.

The failure of many architects and engineers to recognize the importance of insisting that owners be protected against such practices has resulted in a new clause in the New York City Housing Authority's standard contract with architects. It reads as follows:

"Responsibility of Architect. The Archiitect shall apply to the preparation of the plans and specifications the reasonable and proper skills, judgment, and care which are customary and normal to professional architectural practice, and shall be liable to the Local Authority for damages or losses resulting from failure to apply the above reasonable and proper skills, judgment, and care."

This clause makes it imperative that plans and specifications be such as will leave no opening for a contractor to charge the architect or engineer with accountability for errors and omissions, presumably to be paid for by the owner, without making the architect or engineer actually responsible for the cost to the owner of such errors and omissions.

Years of experience in all branches of construction show conclusively that the best contractors welcome a tight specification, provided it is enforced as rigidly as it is written. Such contractors will not deviate from or attempt to evade a well-written specification. When others do attempt to do so, the architect and engineer should be totally inflexible and insist on compliance with both the letter and intent of the contract specifications or be personally responsible for their failure to do so.



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PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE







history of techniques

Dear Editor: I have been reading with great interest the articles by Ada Louise Huxtable. PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE IN AMERICA. I congratulate her on her choice and analysis of material.

The National Trust interests itself in the preservation and maintenance of distinguished architecture of all periods, with no particular emphasis on any decade or century; at our recent annual meeting in Washington, an entire session was devoted to papers on industrial architecture, covering some aspects of the material which Mrs. Huxtable is so ably presenting in her series.

I think it is important that contemporary architects should be informed of the history of building techniques, just as it is important for antiquarians to be informed of the later developments that have taken place since the Colonial and Early Federal periods.

RICHARD H. HOWLAND, President National Trust for Historic Preservation Washington, D. C.

Dear Editor: At the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the Society of Architectural Historians, I had the pleasure of showing them the several projected articles for the series of historical studies you have added to PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE. I was asked to convey to you the warm congratulations of the Board for instituting this series which will serve to keep alive a realization of the continuing accomplishments of the architectural profession in America.

If I had any suggestion to make, it would be to add at least one page to each article! As I have had the pleasure of observing Mrs. Huxtable in her research work at Avery Library, in preparation for these articles, I have noted how much valuable information she assembled which could not be included in the articles because of space limitation. Increasing their size, I believe, would more than correspondingly augment their significance for architects and historians.

JAMES GROTE VEN DERPOOL, President Society of Architectural Historians New York, N. Y.

Dear Editor: Mrs. Huxtable's articles, PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE IN AMERICA, are attractive and very informative. I read those in the November and December issues.

I also read the Sullivan & Berlage article in November and I also found interesting the article in the December issue, "Check Lists for Environmental Control of Houses." The opening paragraph on the disregard by architects of air conditioning reminds me of the similar situation with respect to Pullman cars that were built in the 1920's (300 to 500 per year, after the cessation of building during World War I) with no thought of air conditioning, although it was then being introduced in theaters and other public buildings. Then, in the 1930's many millions of dollars were spent on the installation of air conditioning in these cars.

Some of the control items named bring a smile. For example, "Control of Sound" (par. 7, page 128), suggests "greatest possible distance from airports and heavily traveled airlanes." My own home is in the South Shore District underneath the eastern and southeastern airlanes from Midway Airport, the largest in the world in traffic volume. I hear airplanes overhead every few minutes. They are a development of the

(Continued on page 14)



POST's handy checklist can speed up your Drafting Room Checkup and serve as a reminder of possible places where you can increase drafting efficiency.

The trend to thorough equipment checkups

Stepped-up production in the plant almost always means stepped-up activity on the board. Unfortunately, there is rarely time to stop and take stock of what is happening to drafting room efficiency as the work load increases. It is often necessary to improvise with what you have, or hastily expand as the need occurs.

With the shortage of manpower obviously continuing, it is apparent that a careful, critical review of drafting methods and equipment can lead the way to greater productivity. Department heads in some companies are setting aside a specific time every year to completely analyze the drafting room. The trend is to planning additions, improvements and reorganizations during such checkup periods.

One way to pinpoint possible increases in productivity is to go, item by item, through a checkup-list showing every type of product used in a modern, wellequipped drafting room. Such a list is available from the Frederick Post Company. It covers equipment and supplies from A to Z and suggests where you can make improvements.

Here are some typical examples of what you might look for during a Checkup: Cutting down waste motion by using modern drafting tables and drafting machines; eliminating time-consuming methods by using special grid-lined sketch pads, templates and other devices; reducing fatigue and increasing comfort by installing newer equipment; saving space with up-to-date files, etc.

Whatever the need, a logical, wellplanned analysis of current and contemplated drafting operations is likely to unearth improvements.

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Practical assistance in making your checkup can be obtained from your POST supplier, who frequently helps make such efficiency surveys. He is experienced in all phases of drafting room operation and is a valuable source of ideas for everything from a major reorganization to producing hard-to-find supplies. Call your POST supplier and ask him about some of the techniques other companies use in surveying drafting room operations and boosting productivity. You will find his thinking a valuable addition to your own appraisals.

For more information and a POST checkup-list, write to the Reader Service Division of the Frederick Post Company, 3642 N. Avondale Ave., Chicago 18, Ill.



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p/a views

(Continued from page 13)

era in which we live—and the sound is disregarded. But the constant traffic of automobiles on boulevards is not specifically mentioned as a sound annoyance. Of course, air conditioning will close the windows and quiet will reign—the same improvement that was noticeable in railroad cars.

As a check list of things to consider and to look out for, Conklin's article appears to be very valuable. I note it is an advance chapter in his forthcoming book.

LOWELL M. GREENLAW Vice-President, General Counsel, Ret. The Pullman Company Chicago, Ill.

expansion considered

Dear Editor: I must commend your publication, and in order to take full advantage of the information shown in SELECTED DETAILS I have a query on detail of window wall, page 140, December 1956 issue. This shows a window wall for an Architects' Office Building by John B. Parkin Associates. The steel sash is welded to supporting mullions and columns, but seems there is no provision for expansion in the length of the wall. Surely the glass will loosen and leak?

As I assume this is a *good* detail, am I correct in thinking that this is not such a good detail after all? I would appreciate further information about this.

H. C. GREEN New York, N. Y.

Dear Editor: Actually, we have had no technical problem of expansion in our exterior window wall whatever, and the glass has not had a tendency to loosen. We did not make any provision for an expansion joint, even in the 180-ft length of the building; but I must admit, when you raised the question, that we re-examined both our detail and the perimeter of the building to see whether we had overlooked something. Our only problem has been the usual problem with

(Continued on page 16)

Alodized green globe atop Carnegie Institute symbolizes the world of knowledge below. Crafted by Overly in heavy sheet aluminum.

on the famous Carnegie Institute...



covers a world of learning

> Architect & Engineer: Charles M. & Edward Stotz Pittsburgh, Pa.

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Overly Manufacturing Company

Greensburg, Pennsylvania . Los Angeles 39, California



(Continued from page 14)

some heat-absorbing glasses; namely, that the glaziers, in setting some panes of glass, did not allow proper tolerance in their bedding and fitting in the metal frame to allow for expansion. The result has been a few isolated cracked pieces of glass on the exterior. This is confined only to the heat-absorbing glass which, of course does expand, but assumes no regular or characteristic pattern. One could, therefore, not attribute this to lack of expansion in the frames and, of the many thousands of pieces of glass, the number in question might be, in one year, some six to ten pieces. The

right where it belongs... IN THE CLASSROOM!

Mm Nn Oo Pp Qq Rr. Ss Tt L



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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, ALMA, KANSAS ARCHITECT: Thos. W. Williamson, Victor H. Loebsack & Associates, Topeka, Kansas junior I's at 5 ft increments around the building are frequent enough to allow the individual frames, I suspect, a little movement.

We have now used this basic detail on several other buildings with similarly happy results, but I rather think that if we were to have a clear run of 200 ft or more, we would have to detail adequate provision for expansion.

The wall is now going through its second winter, and while this one is relatively mild, last winter was somewhat more severe and we had temperature differentials between inside and out, on many occasions, of 60° or more, which I think is a fairly good test.

JOHN B. PARKIN Toronto, Canada

schedules in specs

Dear Editor: As a very interested reader of Ben John Small's column and one who has had the opportunity to wrestle with the problems he so informatively and wittily discusses, I am taking the liberty of writing this note.

In SPEC SMALL TALK in November 1956 P/A is mentioned the subject of the finish schedule and its inclusion in the specifications. I find this quite coincidental, as we have been trying to solve the problem of reducing the amount of work on the drawings (draftsman's time vs. a typist's) especially in view of the fact that the office I am connected with (Percival Goodman's) invariably requires quite extensive detailing.

We have gone a step furthernamely put all schedules (doors,

(Continued on page 20)

WHEN YOU CHANGE YOUR ADDRESS

Please report both new and old addresses directly to P/A five weeks before you move. The Post Office will not forward your magazine to the new address unless you pay extra postage. Avoid this needless expense by notifying us five weeks in advance.

PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE

Circulation Department

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Selecting an option in the specifications for this 180,000 square foot building, the construction company cut roof costs by thousands of dollars. By con-

structing 150,000 sq. ft. of the roof deck with precast insulating concrete slabs, or tiles 2' x 4' x 3", laid on bar joists spaced 4' on centers, they were able to eliminate all other insulation in that area. The "U" factor of the completed roof – a 4-ply, 20-year bonded roof – is .18 without a ceiling. Further cooling during hot weather is gained by flooding the roof with 3" of water.

The precast tiles were made by the local Permalite franchisee, Minnesota Perlite Corporation, using Permalite in a 1 to 6 mix. These tiles have a compressive strength of 400 psi, weigh less than 11 lbs./sq. ft., and take a superimposed load of 240 lbs./sq. ft., thus providing a very large safety factor. "K" factor of these tiles is .680, established by an independent testing laboratory. As the photo shows, the roof deck was laid during cold weather, and there were no delays ...job completed on schedule.

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OFFICE CAFETERIA .

il

LASTING BEAUTY

The busy office employees of the Socony Mobil Oil Co don't have to search Manhattan for a comfortable place to eat. They just ride the elevator down to this spaciou cafeteria in the basement of the new Socony Mobil Build ing. The handsome floor that contributes so much to the relaxing atmosphere is Armstrong Excelon Tile – in the softly shaded "Designers Series." Excelon was specified here for its wearing qualities, too. Durable and grease proof, it will keep its good looks for years, even around the counters where 1,300 people are served every day.

Socony Mobil Oil Company, N.Y.C., Employees' Cafeteria Architect: J. Gordon Carr & Associates

DEPARTMENT STORE . . . CLOTHING STORE

the flooring spec: Armstrong Excelon Tile

EASE OF MAINTENANCE

No matter how much it snows, or how much slush and dirt are tracked in, the smart Excelon Tile floor of Donaldson's new department store unit in the South dale shopping center outside Minneapolis never looks messy and unattractive. Dur-ing business hours, an occasional quick mopping wipes mud and water right off the smooth surface of Excelon Tile, without leaving a trace. After hours, regular maintenance is fast and economical.

Donaldson's, Southda'e, Edina, Minn. Architect: John Graham & Co., Seattle, Washington Interior: Alvin L. Weidt & Assoc., Minneapolis, Minn.





ECONOMY

The Bond Stores are famous for quality clothing at econ-omy prices. Bond management know the value of other kinds of economy, too. For their new Wilshire Blvd. store in Los Angeles, they wanted a fashionable floor as a background for modern merchandising displays. But because the floor area is so large, cost per square foot had to be kept down. Good looks and low cost combined to make this floor the ideal choice for this handsome interior.

Bond Clothing Store, Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles Stiles and Robert Clements, Architects and Engineers Interior: Burke, Kober and Nicolais

Armstrong Excelon Tile is a vinyl-asbestos floor that costs only a few cents more per sq. ft. than asphalt tile. A wide range of distinctive designs and colors makes Excelon Tile suitable for any interior. Exceptionally durable and dimensionally stable, it can be specified with confidence for heavy-traffic areas. The vinyl content of Excelon Tile makes it highly resistant to greases, oils and alkalis. It can be installed over any subfloor: suspended, on grade, or below grade.

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Cutaway view (left) shows interior of 50-amp, 2-pole common trip Duo-Guard Pushmatic. A common push button controls both poles simultaneously. These 2-pole, 120/240V AC units are available in 15-, 20-, 30-, 40- and 50-amp ratings... fit any BullDog Electri-Center[®].



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Bank of the Southwest, Houston Architect: Kenneth Franzheim Mechanical Engineers: H. E. Bovay, Jr., Consulting Engineers

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200-A

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Architects and Engineers : Skidmore, Owings & Merrill Photo: Ezra Stoller

D



LONGSPANS GIVE CLEAR SPAN OF 69 FT TO NEW MILWAUKEE BANK BUILDING

This attractive new bank building is the newest Milwaukee branch of the First Wisconsin National Bank. It embodies the latest developments in modern banking facilities —plenty of parking space, drive-in windows and afterhours depositories, among others.

An outstanding feature of the new building is its 69-ft interior clear span, made possible by the use of 70-ft Bethlehem Longspan Steel Joists. The lobby and banking area, uncluttered by columns or supporting walls, is believed to have the largest clear span of any bank building in Milwaukee.

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Citizens' Office, a branch of the First Wisconsin National Bank, at West Villard Ave. and 38th St., was designed by Edwin J. Krause, architect, of Milwaukee. General contractor: Kroening Engineering Co.; steel fabricator: Wisconsin Bridge & Iron Co.

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Archbishop Hoban High School, Akron, Ohio • Architects: Stickle & Associates, Cleveland Electrical Contractor: R. V. Uhl Electric Company, Akron.



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SIDING

Turn the page ... read the whole story 🔝



Twelve-Inch wide Insulite Lap Siding, with $10\frac{3}{4}''$ exposure, goes beautifully with any style or design. Half-inch thickness provides deep, beautiful shadow lines that accentuate the "long, low look" so popular in contemporary homes. Long lengths—8', 12' and 16'— mean less handling and waste. Vertical grooved panels on gable ends add an attractive touch. Grooved panels have shiplapped edges.

Board-and-batten design treatments made possible by Insulite Primed Siding in plain 4'x8' panels are trim and handsome. Grooved panels, too, make strikingly distinctive sidewalls. Grooves are $\frac{1}{16}''$ wide, spaced 8'' on center, and are fully prime coated for fast finish painting. Many other applications of Insulite Primed Siding include light commercial buildings, porch ceilings, and soffits.



No more paint blisters?



Flotation test apparatus in our research laboratory measures paint-blister-resistance. Sample in foreground is wood, painted two coats. Sample at back is Insulite Primed Siding, painted one coat. Both have been subjected to the same moisture-forcing treatment. Notice how paint on one specimen has blistered and failed while paint on Insulite Primed Siding shows no blistering or damage whatever. In addition, test homes built with Insulite Primed Siding have now weathered three full years in severe northern climate; and today show no trace of paint blistering.



This is important, stimulating news for architects—a basic building material in a radically improved new form. Man-made siding that looks like wood...works like wood...in ideal architectural sizes... without imperfections!

Physical properties and application features of this new material are, in many respects, spectacular. Insulite Primed Siding is delivered in sturdy cartons...every piece flat, straight and square. It saws and nails beautifully. It is factory primed on face, edges, ends, grooves; and back primed. Finish painting is therefore fast, simple and economical. Most important of all, Insulite Siding shows an amazing resistance to paint blistering.

Lumber dealers and building contractors are now receiving complete information on this product. Retail yard stocks will soon be available everywhere. Want technical data? Write us—Insulite, Minneapolis 2, Minn.

build better and save with



INSULITE, made of hardy Northern wood. Insulite Division of Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company, Minneapolis 2, Minnesota

INSULITE IS A REG. T.M. U.S. PAT. OFF



HORIZONTAL SIDING 12" wide; 8', 12', 16' long

VERTICAL GROOVED PANELS 4'x8' coverage

PLAIN PANELS 4'x8'

Here's what makes this siding revolutionary:

What it is: Insulite Primed Siding is a machinemade wood fiber board, $\frac{1}{2}$ " thick, with density of 36 lbs. per cu. ft. Has no internal grain to warp or twist; no surface grain to raise.

Development: Insulite Primed Siding has been developed by five years of research, pilot plant manufacture, laboratory and field testing. First test homes were built in 1954.

Easy to saw, easy to work. Cuts quick, clean with hand or power saw. Takes nails like wood.

Full coverage . . . no scantage. All dimensions are full and true. Grooved panels are $48\frac{3}{4}$ " wide, for 4' coverage with lap joint.

Reversible weather drip edges, on both long edges of Lap Siding, make water drip straight off, instead of flowing inward to wall.



CEILINGS THAT

For new construction ... for modernization of any type of structure ... here is continuous, crackproof coverage of any ceiling area. It is actually "continuous dry-wall" construction - with no perceptible seams - made possible by weatherproof Homasote in big sheets up to 8' x 14'.

The whole ceiling, whether one-layer, two-layer or more, literally floats - clear of all walls - free to expand or contract as a unit in either dimension.

It is hung from ceiling joists or rafters or collar beams. The supporting members need not be uniformly level at the bottom. It can be applied below old plaster ceiling.

Consider this ceiling method in any type of new construction of any size. Consider it for modernization - to lower a ceiling, to introduce indirect lighting or air-conditioning. Let us send you complete blueprint details and construction data. Kindly address your inquiry to Department D-16. *Patent applied for



One of a series appearing in FORTUNE and leading architectural magazines.



Lewin-Mathes' quality strikes a responsive accord.

high fidelity

Despite the large number of new customers for Lewin-Mathes Copper and Brass tube, pipe and rod in recent years, better than 90 per cent of our business comes from *repeat* customers. High fidelity of a rare order!

So long as we remain faithful to the highest standards of tolerance, temper and uniformity, we can expect our customers to remain loyal to Lewin-Mathes products. And as specialists—with a *completely integrated* plant designed specifically for the manufacture of tube, pipe and rod—it's in our own best interest to be *perfectionists*.

For the most fitting accompaniment to your plumbing, heating and air conditioning installations, specify...



FESCO impregnated roof



THE "TEST" CIRCLE

— Precision trimmed, carton-protected Fesco Board gives four-square corners and hairline joints, prevents depressions under felts and eliminates insulation "heat leaks."

Heat Transmission (U) Values





CARTONED — Convenient, 60 board foot cartons provide for ease of handling and storage, job-site protection. 1. U values are expressed in BTU/SQ. Ft./Hr./Degrees F temperature differential, still air inside and 15 MPH wind velocity outside.

2. Coefficients and procedures used for determining U values are in accordance with current edition of A.S.H.Y.E. Guide.

3. For suspended plaster ceiling section, air space between ceiling and deck assumed to be from $\frac{3}{4}$ " to 4".

Construction: Roof Deck Type		Without Ceiling Underside of Roof Exposed					With Metal Lath & Gypsum Perlite Plaster Ceiling			
and Thickness	Insulated with Fesco Board					Insulated with Fesco Board				
Fesco Thickness	21/2"	2"	11/2	1"	3/4"	3/4"	1"	11/2"	2"	21/2"
4" Concrete	.11	.14	.17	.22	.27	.19	.17	.14	.11	.10
6" Concrete	.11	.13	.16	.22	.26	.19	.16	.13	.11	.10
1" Wood	.10	.12	.15	.19	.22	.16	.15	.12	.10	.09
2" Wood	.09	.11	.12	.15	.17	.14	.12	.11	.09	.08
3" Wood	.08	.09	.11	.13	.14	.12	.11	.09	.08	.07
21/2" Gypsum Fiber Concrete over 1/2" Gypsum Board	.10	.11	.13	.16	.19	.15	.13	.11	.10	.08
21/2" Gypsum Fiber Concrete over 1" Rigid Ins. Board	.08	.09	.10	.12	.13	.11	.10	.09	.08	.07
2" Perlite Concrete (1:6) on Steel form	.08	.10	.11	.13	.15	.12	.11	.10	.08	.07
6" Hollow Core Precast Slab	.11	.13	.16	.20	.24	.18	.16	.13	.11	.09
Steel	.12	.14	.18	.24	.29	.21	.18	.14	.12	.10

deck insulation **BOARD**

compare it with any board, on any count

COMPARE FIRE HAZARDS — Rated Incombustible; Flame spread, only 20.5; smoke contribution, 0. Fesco Board's basic ingredient is Coralux perlite. Expanded and annealed at 1700°F it is incapable of burning.

COMPARE PERMANENCE — No rot, no fungus, no decay. Our basic expanded Coralux perlite ingredient is dielectric and chemically inert. It will not support organic life of any type.

COMPARE MOISTURE RESISTANCE — Only 1.5% absorption by volume @ 24 hours total immersion. Not only is the basic ingredient of Fesco impervious to moisture but the board is completely impregnated with a water repellant binder. Fesco has no capillary or wick-like attraction as do fibrous materials.

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COMPARE DIMENSIONAL STABILITY — Linear change at 100% RH at 10 days + 1/5 of 1%. Due to its low moisture absorption, and mineral composition, Fesco Board will not grow, shrink, curl.

COMPARE DURABILITY — Compression resistance is 174.8 PSI. Fesco Board is not damaged by normal installation and maintenance traffic.

COMPARE LAYING TIME — Convenient 24" x 36" size. Smaller, lighter, dimensionally stable sheets lay truer, faster.

COMPARE COST — No other board, at any price, can match Fesco Board's balanced combination of every job-required property.

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FESCO BOARD IS A REGISTERED TRADE-NAME





bright idea

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Specify MCLOUTH STAINLESS STEEL HIGHQUALITY SHEET AND STRIP for automobiles



MCLOUTH STEEL CORPORATION DETROIT, MICHIGAN MANUFACTURERS OF STAINLESS AND CARBON STEELS



Ch

Space-saving bench rim bath

K-725-E. With outlet at right, K-726-E.



First Quality Only Searching tests and inspections are made throughout every step of manufacture. The trim, low lines of the Minocqua bath have been given fresh selling appeal with the addition of a 4-inch bench rim.

Space-saving dimensions solve many problems caused by limited space available in today's homes, yet the Minocqua affords the convenience, comfort and safety of the full 5-foot length, slope end, flat bottom.

The sparkling, easy-to-clean enamel of the Minocqua—like that of all Kohler baths—is fused to a base of non-flexing iron, cast for strength and rigidity. The complete line of Kohler baths includes sizes and styles that permit various arrangements in bathrooms of any shape or size.

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Strong, yet light in weight.

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Clear, in transparent form, as optical glass.

The coupon below will bring you color samples and the names of sources of supply for building products and signs that incorporate PLEXIGLAS.

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	WASHINGTON SQUARE, PHILADELPHIA 5, PA.	Daylight Louver Panels	Signs and letters
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THUS THE HEAD			(P7-5)

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The Grant Folding Door *alone* combines the flexibility of fabric with the solidity of a 5/16" core. Designed by Paul McCobb, in cooperation with the nation's leading Sliding Hardware manufacturer, it is the only such door that has captured both the beauty of specially designed fabric and the durability of a natural door.

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Outstanding single source for sliding hardware.

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M-64



3 Penn Center, Philadelphia, Pa. Architects: Emery Roth & Sons-Contractor: Caldwell-Wingate Construction Co.

3 Penn Center: Custom Windows without the Premium of Custom Prices. Combination fixed and ventilator windows are adapted from a standard Lupton design. They're good-looking, maintenance-free, and unusually well suited for air conditioned buildings. See Section 17a/FLy in Sweet's for the full story.



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The LOWELL

Providing the modern luxury of a built-in lavatory comes easy with the Lowell. This distinctive vitreous china flat-rim model is styled for it. The modern slant-back design is both functional and handsome, lending itself ideally to convenient, attractive twin installations. It blends perfectly, installs easily, with tile as shown above, or with "plastic-covered" counter tops. Available in five Briggs Beautyware compatible colors or white, the Lowell is the "showpiece" of any modern bathroom!

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modern slant-back design for "built-in" luxury!

SPECIFICATIONS: • 22" length, 18" width • Model Number B-3500 HS • Deep 17" x $10\frac{1}{2}$ " bowl has maximum water capacity, twin concealed front overflows • T-8808-S fitting with aerator mounted • Jiffy Pop-up Drain with removable stopper • One-piece, leakproof, stainless steel molding (B-3085) available when required.



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Public School 220 (Edward Mandel School), Queens, N. Y.

Architect: William F. R. Ballard, AIA, New York, N. Y. General Contractor: Caristo Construction Corp., Brooklyn, N. Y. Aluminum Subcontractor: Cupples Products Corp., St. Louis, Mo.

PS 220

A new design approach for New York City public schools

The critical design decision in PS 220 was to employ an aluminum window wall system rather than the conventional 12" masonry spandrel with double-hung windows.

With first costs approximately equal, the decision to use curtain walls of Alcoa® Aluminum was a good one. It permitted use of flat-slab concrete construction without additional spandrel beams. This, with set-back columns, allowed heating ducts to be routed easily without sleeves or offsets. Wind loads could be transmitted directly to floor slabs through the aluminum mullions. Moreover, entire erection procedure was simplified, with one trade responsible for all exterior skin work, including flashing and calking.

Projecting vents in this window system form a continuous ribbon, conveniently located for hand operation. Vents and fixed lights can be safely cleaned from inside.

Alcoa works closely with qualified fabricators on the engineering and design of wall systems, but does not bid on these jobs. Alcoa architectural specialists are ready to work with you in the use of aluminum in building construction. For this assistance, call your nearest Alcoa sales office. Or write Aluminum Company of America, 1890-D Alcoa Building, Pittsburgh 19, Pennsylvania.





FIXED LOUVERS provide ventilation. Since they are made from aluminum, they will not rust, rot or warp.

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MULLIONS are first clipped to floor slabs. Preassembled sash units and aluminum panels are then inserted quickly from inside of building. Each unit is compact and light for fast, easy shipment, low-cost installation.

HANDSOME APPEARANCE combined with low maintenance, high structural strength and ease of installation make aluminum window walls a good feature for school architects to investigate.



SOMETHING NEW

ELECTRICAL FLEXIBILITY... WITHIN A BUILDING BUDGET Ceeo E/C Joists are designed for the dual function of (a) supporting the floor, (b) acting as electrical distribution ducts for underfloor wiring. They provide the most economical means of installing underfloor electrification. No extra concrete or reinforcement is required to assure a structurally sound floor...yet they also serve as concealed raceways for electrical wiring throughout the building. Patents pending.

New exclusive CECO Electro-Channel Steel Joist Construction for Underfloor Electrical Systems Saves Time . . . Saves Weight . . . Costs Less, Too

Building planners recognize the basic fact that in this "electrical age" buildings must be wired for the *future*. To provide only for today's requirements is not enough. Use of electrically-operated business machines and communication equipment is constantly increasing. But the question is: How to provide for future electrical flexibility at *lowest cost*? Ceco meets the issue with its new Electro-Channel Open Web Steel Joists. Now, for the first time, steel joist construction can provide an integral underfloor raceway system allowing complete electrical flexibility. These joists have the same structural properties as regular Ceco Shortspan Open-Web Steel Joists. But in the Electro-Channel Joists the conventional top chord is replaced by a specially shaped hollow section which serves both as the top chord of the joist and as an underfloor distribution duct for electrical circuits. For complete information on Ceco Electro-Channel Steel Joist Construction, consult your nearest Ceco office. Approved by the Underwriters' Laboratories for use with electrical header ducts and accessories as manufactured by General Electric, National Electric Products Corporation and Walker Bros.

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Wiring can be brought up through the floor at any point along the joists.

CECO STEEL PRODUCTS CORPORATION Offices, warehouses and fabricating plants in principal cities General Offices: 5601 West 26th Street, Chicago 50, Illinois

In construction products Ceco Engineering makes the big difference ... Steel Joists / Metal Roof Deck / Ceco-Meyer Steelforms/Concrete Reinforcing/ Windows, Screens and Doors / Metal Lath



"CREATIVE ENGINEERING" BY CECO-with a variety of building methods and products to meet any design problem. See CECO in the early planning stage for Steel or Concrete Joist Floor Systems-the most economical Underlioor Electrification -the widest line of Steel and Aluminum Windows and Curtainwalls. All will help you accomplish your design objectives. And CECO products and services assure quality construction on a tight budget.



FOAMGLAS IS VAPOR-PROOF—Cut a 1/4" thick slice from a FOAMGLAS sample. Hold it tightly to your lips and try to blow cigarette smoke through it. The smoke won't penetrate , , , proof that FOAMGLAS is its own positive vapor barrier.

Vapor can ruin ordinary insulations ... Prove to yourself that FOAMGLAS is vapor-proof!

Send for a sample and test it!

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FOAMGLAS is waterproof ... strong and rigid ... inorganic and incombustible ... lightweight



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Left—Wiley house, New Canaan, Conn. Philip C. Johnson, Architect. Photo by Ezra Stoller, N. Y.

> Right—Storage area in a Chicago factory building, floored 90 years ago in Northern Hard Maple.

Left — Multi-purpose gymnasium, Chambersburg, Pa., Senior High School, designed to serve six school districts. Lawrie and Green, Architects.

> Right—Lounge room, Country Club, Raleigh, N. C., Maple-floored throughout. Architect, Wm. Henley Deitrick, Inc.

Left — Spinning Room, Greenwood Textile Mills, Greenwood, S. C., Floor, Northern Hard Maple.

> Right — Langendorf United Bakeries, Inc., Seattle, Wash. Ultramodern throughout—and maple-floored, naturally!





90-to-1 favorite among nation's coaches.



The "foot-friendly" factory floor.

for sixty years, for nearly every use, for <u>every</u> good reason

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"Tougher than traffic" after 90 years!



Best of floors for finest of clubs.



Today's public preference for cheerful brightness emphasizes anew the tough, enduring, ageless beauty of Northern Hard Maple floors. What other floor, natural or synthetic, serves so many varied needs so well and so long? In the six typical areas pictured, MFMA Maple, you'll agree, is an eminently sound specification. It will serve for years with routine maintenance. Easy refinishing will bring out the "new floor" that's always waiting underneath. Available in wide variety of block patterns as well as the familiar strip. See Sweet's (Arch. 13j-MA) for full facts.



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makes plant space safer!

Guard industrial plants against fire hazards with low-cost Fenestra^{*} Fire Partition Panels. Made like a sandwich, with two galvanized 18-gauge steel Fenestra Panels on either side of four $\frac{1}{2}$ " layers of fire-resistant materials, this Fenestra Fire Partition is easy to assemble and erect. It can be moved to another location just as easily.

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Distinctive New Fenestra[®] window finish **needs no painting!**

Here's what you've been looking for in modern windows . . . distinctive appearance . . . lifetime corrosion resistance without painting . . . *plus* the strength of steel! The Fenestra FENLITE Process gives you all three of these important advantages. And it costs no more than an ordinary steel window with two-coat field painting.

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The FENLITE Process requires precision electronic control of every step in the process. The windows must be completely submerged in one dip in each bath! Fenestra's specially designed "milliondollar" plant—the only one of its kind in America —has been adapted to produce this exclusive new finish.

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Fenestra packages hollow metal door, frame and hardware units to save you up to \$100 per opening with this ... **NEW**

Look like costly custom-made doors, don't they? They're not. They're stock doors by Fenestra[®] with an installed cost about \$100 *less* per opening than you'd expect to pay!

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IDEA



REIDLAND SCHOOL, Paducah (Reidland), Ky., cost less to build because 134 Fenestra 13/4" Hollow Metal Flush Doors were used. Architect: G. Tandy & Lee Potter Smith, Paducah, Ky. Contractor: Erhart-Knopf Construction Co., Inc., Louisville, Ky.



FOR SCHOOL DOORS

nan with a screw driver can install it in minutes. Fenestra Hollow Metal Doors swing open smoothly. They close quietly because there's a sound-deadening naterial inside. You save, year after year, on mainteance because Fenestra Doors can't warp, swell, tick or splinter. They last a lifetime!

Illustrated are Fenestra's 13/4" Entrance Doors, 134" Flush Door and the NEW 134" Fen-Air Louvered Door for air-conditioned buildings-three of the many fine doors in Fenestra's complete line. Call your Fenestra representative for detailed information or mail the coupon below.

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Your Single Source of Supply for DOORS . WINDOWS . BUILDING PANELS

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keeping exterior stone and brick looking clean and new:



Ford Rotunda, Dearborn, Michigan

WATER ABSORPTION TESTS ON LIMESTONE BLOCKS

	Material	Period of Time Exposed to Weather	Percent of Absorption After 3 years, 8 months exposure to weather then totally immersed for 48 hours		
-	Limestone coated with "Super-Por-Seal with Silicone"	3 years, 8 months	.44%		
	Untreated Limestone	3 years, 8 months	3.18%		



WTMJ, Milwaukee, Wisconsin



University of Detroit Memorial Bldg., Detroit, Michigan Fine architectural structures too soon become begrimed and unsightly unless protection against weathering is provided at the time of construction. The problem, which is mainly the repelling of water, is greatest when the exterior surface is limestone, porous brick, concrete or stucco.

Discoloration of exterior masonry usually reaches such an advanced stage that sand-blasting, or steam-cleaning, is employed to restore a look of newness to the surface. And although this process rids the surface pores of dirt, it also opens up the pores still more, so that subsequent discoloration progresses even faster than before.

The solution to the problem of discoloration lies in attacking the very root of the trouble. Discoloration is caused by rain washing down over exterior surfaces and carrying with it soot, grime and dust, depositing such material in the surface pores. When the water is repelled instead of absorbed, discoloration does not occur. But the problem is greater than would appear at first glance. It is not so much to find a colorless repellent that will repel water as it is to find a repellent that will *keep on* being effective over a period of years.

Truscon "Super-Por-Seal with Silicone" combines the weather resisting and water repellent features necessary to protect the finest types of construction materials. Limestone and other fine structural stones retain their natural appearance and beauty longer.

Spalling and discoloration are the common causes of unsightly appearance. A single coat of "Super-Por-Seal with Silicone" will help to maintain the dignity of appearance of fine structures for years. Absorbent types of surfaces, such as common red brick and mortar, are likewise protected against water and dirt absorption, as the surface pores are actually lined with repellent and chemical resistant "Super-Por-Seal with Silicone."

For details and specifications write TrusconLaboratories, Dept. P-7, Detroit 11, Michigan
NEW General Electric bulletin tells ... HOW YOU CAN SOLVE YOUR BALLAST HEATING PROBLEMS

Send for your free copy today

You as a lighting engineer, architect, contractor, fluorescent lamp user or fixture manufacturer and we as ballast manufacturers are concerned with the basic problem of ballast heating.

Overheating drastically reduces lighting efficiency, ballast life, and results in wasted lighting dollars for everyone. G-E ballast engineers have long recognized this problem and are working constantly to design ballasts that give more uniform heat dissipation and longer operating life.

Intensive research by General Electric engineers shows that the solution involves much more than a carefully designed ballast. Surveys of heating problems indicate many other trouble spots.

Some of these are: Improper ballast application... misuse of building insulation... poor lamp maintenance... improper fixture design.

The trend to higher fluorescent lighting levels and higher-output lamp sources in industrial and commercial applications is increasing daily. This means that it is more important to you than ever before to be provided with more dependable and economical ballast operation.

In this new illustrated bulletin, "Lets Talk About Ballast Heating," General Electric engineers have laid the facts on the table. They carefully describe, in simple, easy-to-read language, the causes of ballast

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overheating, the basic heat problem, and what happens to an overheated ballast. But, most important, they tell what **you** can do to help prevent overheating. To get your free copy just fill out the coupon and send it in. Your copy will be sent to you by return mail.

If you have a specific heating problem right now, why not contact your nearest General Electric ballast sales engineer? He'll be glad to answer your questions and tell you how General Electric longer-life ballasts can help you save lighting dollars.

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April 1957 87

Must a Fire Door

What about heat transmission?

Stopping flames is just one part of a fire door's job. For 500 F. heat will easily ignite many materials and cause fire to break out on the other side of a fire door even if the original flame and fire are stopped. This chart (right) proves the positive protection a Weldwood Fire Door offers against destructive, suffocating heat. This substantial margin of safety is due to Weldrok[®] – the exclusive incombustible core material of the Weldwood Fire Door (U.S. Pat. No. 2,593,050). Weldrok is a mineral material consisting of hydrous calcium silicates with asbestos fiber binding.

What about proven performance?

Just in the last 10 years, many thousands of Weldwood Fire Doors have been installed in all 48 states. Between them, these doors have lived through every conceivable adverse condition—fire, flood, slamming, storms, violence, and severe use. The Weldwood Fire Door always comes through! And this door is approved by Underwriters' Laboratories for all Class "B" (vertical shaft) and Class "C" (room and corridor partitions) openings. The Weldwood Fire Door is also approved by Factory Mutual Laboratories, New York City Board of Standards and Appeals, and Building Official Conference of America.

Blowtorch barrage! In laboratory tests up to 1700°F., the Weldwood Fire Door proved its superiority.





Chart shows true UL tests-not "averaged figures."

What about weight?

Weight has no part in stopping flames or heat. The Weldwood Fire Door gives vital protection from fire and heat, yet is 33% *lighter* than some other core fire doors. And that lighter weight means no hidden costs from sky-high shipping charges . . . simpler installation because the door is easier to handle and carry. One man can install the Weldwood Fire Door. No undue strain on hinges and door frames, either!

What about day-to-day use?

Even with bad luck, a fire is a once-in-a-lifetime event. Day-to-day performance is almost as vital. The Weldwood Fire Door — because its Weldrok core is completely inert and won't absorb water — will never warp, twist or get out of line. And that's a guarantee! Furthermore, in laboratory tests a Weldwood Fire Door was opened and closed 200,000 times. Then the same door was opened and slammed shut an additional 100,000 times. Even after this torture test, the Weldwood Fire Door still worked like new!

What about appearance?

The Weldwood Fire Door is as beautiful as it is practical. Choice hardwood veneers are a pleasure to look at, easy to maintain. Choose from regular stocks of Birch, Korina[®], Mahogany, Rift Oak, Walnut or any other wood, on special order. Veneers may be picked

be <u>only</u>"Fireproof"?

to match wood-paneled walls, if you wish. And doors are available in a *complete range* of sizes (up to $4' \ge 7'-$ two sizes larger than some other doors). UL approved vision panels of 10" $\ge 10"$ or 8" $\ge 12"$ available.

What about construction?

Compare the construction of the Weldwood Fire Door point by point:

- **1.** ³/₄" hardwood stiles treated with *Class* "A" fireproofing agent. Note UL label and individually registered guarantee number on the stile for your protection.
- 2. Incombustible Weldrok core. A material that needs no artificial fireproofing because it is *naturally* unburnable and incombustible. Won't char, deteriorate or "break down" either! This exclusive core material is dimensionally stable, strong, light in weight. Won't warp, shrink or swell.
- **3.** Handsome hardwood face veneer $\frac{1}{28}''$ thin. (Send coupon for complete proof why "thin" veneers are better.)
- Solid hardwood rails, treated with Class "A" fireproofing agent. Top rail is ¹/₂", bottom rail 1¹/₂" to permit trimming.
- **5.** Hardwood crossbanding. This $\frac{1}{16}''$ veneer is bonded to the core with a waterproof phenolic resin glue.

All underwriter approved types of hardware are easily installed if simple directions are followed. This has been proved over years of continuous use with complete satisfaction.

What about a guarantee?

This guarantee is given in writing with every Weldwood Fire Door installation: "United States Plywood



Corporation unconditionally guarantees, if properly installed, this Weldwood Fire Door against warping, twisting or manufacturing defects for the LIFE OF THE INSTALLATION. If any Weldwood Fire Door should fail to meet these standards, we will replace said door without charge, including all labor costs of hanging and refinishing involved"!



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CITY

M-DECKS Now Serve

Typical Installation of Mahon Long Span M-Deck with Acoustical Ceiling and Troffer Lighting in Rigid Frame Construction. In installations of this type, the Long Span M-Deck Sections and the Troffer Sections serve as the Structural Roof and the Acoustical Ceiling Combined.



ELECTRIFIED M-FLOORS

Mahon M-Floors provide electrical availability in every square foot of floor surface—safeguard buildings against electrical obsolescence in years to come,

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and aparts

Mahon Permanent Concrete Floor Forms in various types meet virtually any requirement in concrete floor slab construction over structural steel framing.



ACOUSTICAL and TROFFER FORMS

Provide an Effective Acoustical Ceiling with Recessed Troffer Lighting—Serve a Permanent Forms in Concrete Joist and Slab Construction of Floors and Roofs

as the Structural Unit, the Roof Deck and Interior Finish Material as Well



... Acoustical Treatment can also be Included in the Same Package!

Mahon Long Span M-Decks are ideal for combined roof-ceiling construction in such structures as auditoriums, armories, sports arenas, churches, and other types of buildings where exposed truss or rigid frame construction is employed.

An M-Deck is a structural roof and ceiling combined . . . its structural sections span from wall-to-wall or from truss-to-truss, eliminating the cluttered effect of roof purlins and producing a neat, continuous, flat metal ceiling surface—all of which can be acoustically treated. If recessed lighting is desired, Mahon Troffer Sections can be included in this type of roof-ceiling construction in any ratio to meet specific lighting requirements.

Mahon M-Deck Sections and Mahon Troffer Sections are roll-formed from galvanized, structural quality steel . . . they are permanent and indestructible. Exposed surfaces in roof-ceiling construction can be readily painted to match or harmonize with any interior decor.

All Mahon Long Span M-Deck Sections can be furnished with bottom metal perforated and sound absorbing material inserted to provide a highly effective acoustical ceiling . . . Noise Reduction Coefficients range up to .85 in Mahon Sections recommended for this use.

Some of these Mahon Sections do not appear in the current Sweet's Files. Why not have a Mahon sales engineer call and bring you up to date on new Mahon products now available for Floor, Roof, and Combined Roof-Ceiling Construction.

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ROLLING STEEL DOORS Standard Manually, Mechanically or Power Operated Rolling Steel Doors and Grilles. Underwriters' Labeled Automotic Closing Rolling Steel Fire Doors and Fire Shutters.

Architects: Mies van de Rohe & Philip Johnson Associate Architects: Kahn & Jacobs General Contractor: George A. Fuller Co. preview of the free-standing type enclosure by POMEROY designed specially for **375 PARK AVENUE** Numerous styles of Pomeroy custom-built Enclosures enhance prestige buildings recently completed and buildings presently under construction.

The low, free-standing enclosure sketched here will soon take its place with the other ultra efficient products selected for 375 Park Avenue. We are proud to be part of this building operation that represents another example of modern architectural achievement.

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THESE LOW COST WALLS STAY ECONOMICAL

Another Gold Bond ASBESTONE APPLICATION built to last 100 years ...or more!



Here's why Mr. L.V. Lacy, Vice President of Sordoni Construction Co., chose Gold Bond Corrugated ASBESTONE "400" for this Fast-Freight Terminal

"light weight — speedy erection — low cost — freedom from maintenance"

This Buffalo Fast-Freight Terminal for the Delaware, Lackawanna & Western Railroad Co. was built by Sordoni Construction Co. As Mr. Lacy of Sordoni Construction Co. puts it:

"Gold Bond Corrugated ASBESTONE "400" was a most practical material for the exterior walls of the warehouse, which is not heated, because of its light weight, speedy erection, low cost and freedom from maintenance." These are four of the most important points to consider when you specify building products for exterior walls or roofs.

Mr. Lacy's firm put 27,000 square feet of corrosion-resistant Corrugated ASBESTONE "400" on these sidewalls. The money that Gold Bond ASBESTONE "400" saved on the initial application was only the start. ASBESTONE "400" will save maintenance dollars every year and it actually grows stronger with age.

Does this Fast-Freight "400" story suggest a Gold Bond® Corrugated Asbestone use to you? Wherever you use it, you're getting strength and good looks for a lengthy lifetime. For further details, write Dept.PA -47, National Gypsum Company, P. O. Box 5257-B, New Orleans, La.

CORRUGATED ASBESTONE "400"

NATIONAL GYPSUM COMPANY





Modernizing in stucco?

low-cost expansion joint helps do the job 3 ways better





Here's a building being prepared for the application of exterior stucco. At this stage, Penmetal Expansion Joint (see arrow) had been applied to left side only.



Finished remodelling job. Arrow points to Expansion Joint in stucco. Decoratively patterned, this aperture breaks the flat wall expanse, enhances the appearance of the building.

LONGER LASTING

Stucco jobs keep their new look longer when the Penmetal Expansion Joint is applied for anticrack protection. A specially designed ground expands and contracts with any movement of stucco. This absorbs internal stresses and strains – greatly reduces the threat of cracking.

GREATER ECONOMY

Long-run savings on maintenance justify ten times over the small initial cost of a Penmetal Expansion Joint. What's more, the joint provides a work stop—no improvising, no special-order items. Saves time and labor, too; it's a one-piece joint and ground.

BETTER LOOKING

Many architects use the Expansion Joint to enhance the appearance of buildings. They have placed it in squares, rectangles, etc., to break the monotony of drab, flat, building sides. In this way, beauty plus crack resistance is achieved.

Planning to modernize in stucco? Then plan to take advantage of the many benefits of Penmetal's expansion joint. Also used for plastered walls and ceilings. Ask for details.

PENN METAL COMPANY, INC. General Sales Office:

40 Central Street, Boston 9, Mass. Plant: Parkersburg, W. Va. District Sales Offices: Boston, New York, Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Detroit, St. Louis, Dallas, Little Rock, Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Parkersburg







by George A. Sanderson

A three-day wingding last month launched the new Philadelphia Hotel Sheraton (to be shown fully in a later issue), designed by Architects Perry, Shaw, Hepburn & Dean with Mary Morrison Kennedy, Architect and Vice-President of decorating and architecture for the Sheraton Corporation of America.

In a way, it was hard to see the hotel for the luminaries. For, in addition to attending limitless parties — a Calypso band from Bermuda; Xavier Cugat; Meyer Davis-I found myself swimming in a sea of officialdom (Mayor Richardson Dilworth, of Philadelphia); filmdom (Zsa Zsa Gabor); TV-dom (Eddie Fisher);

PHILADELPHIA SHERATON OPENED

baseballdom (Mrs. Cornelius MacGillicuddy); and Sheraton Hotel Corporationdom (Ernest Henderson, President). Hostess for the formal dinner-dance (for Hungarian relief) was Mrs. Perle Mesta; and on hand were Ginger Rogers; Betsy Von Furstenberg; Martha Raye; Lefty Grove; Joe E. Brown; and Gypsy Rose Lee-to mention a few. We were once on the Steve Allen Show (Andrew Sisters); and two mornings, with Dave Garroway. The place was heaving; and it's quite a place.

Because of an unusually narrow site, the hotel has a three-story escalatorconnected lobby that is elegant, colorful,

and-perhaps most newsworthy-well endowed with the related arts. Carpets of the main lobby were designed by Anton Rerregier, who also did montage murals for Connie Mack Room; at the secondfloor level, a full-height mosaic wall mural by Gyorgy Kepes; bordering a floating stair, joining the two levels of the main ballroom, a room-height metaland-glass screen/sculpture by John Rhoden; Lumen Winter's murals on the walls of Town Room restaurant; Sally Swann Carr's life-size, wood-carved figurehead for Indian Queen Tavern; and on the walls of Pennsylvania Ballroom, murals by Francis Scott Bradford.

HOTEL AND STORE SCHEDULED FOR DENVER





A new hotel, department store, and underground parking garage—all units of Denver's Court House Square Development—are soon to be constructed within a short walk from the handsome Mile-High Center (foreground *left*) completed in 1955. Architects, as for the earlier building, are I. M. Pei & Associates for Webb & Knapp. The hotel (*above*) will contain 900 bedrooms and also provide ballroom and convention facilities. Its structure is to be of concrete with an exterior enclosure of precast mosaic frames serving as *brise-soleil*. The department store's structural frame will be of steel, using ribbed slab floors, and a skin enclosure of gold anodized aluminum panels with honeycomb core. Entrance to the store will be through a hyperbolic paraboloid concrete shell structure. The three elements, the 1200-car garage, department store, and hotel are to be interconnected underground.



ROBIE HOUSE TO BE DESTROYED?

Chicago citizens and groups who respect fine architecture are currently alarmed by threatened demolition of the Robie house, most famed example of Frank Lloyd Wright's early "prairie style." Chicago Theological Seminary has announced the house must go this spring to make way for a dormitory for married students, being designed by Holabird & Root. Protests from Chicago Chapter, AIA, from a Committee headed by Sculptor Milton Horn, from newspaper letterwriters, from signers of Seminary campus petitions, have been answered by Seminary President A. C. McGiffert, Jr., with statements that the site must be used, or another bought, for the new dormitory. He added that the house would be costly to restore and maintain (the Seminary bought it in 1926) and that it is not suited for use by the Seminary.

Those interested contact: Samuel A. Lichtmann, President, Chicago Chapter, AIA, 53 W. Jackson Blvd., Chicago 4, Ill.



Architects for the new campus development for Temple University, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, are Nolen & Swinburne. Immediate needs are for six new buildings—Chemistry (top, center, model photo); Biology (right of Chemistry building); Physics (left of Chemistry building); School of Business (center, bottom); Teachers College and Communications Center (bottom, right). All buildings of this first phase of the development will be fully air conditioned.

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News Bulletins

• Proposed amendment to bill before Subcommittee, H.R. 4660 (which would end lease-purchase program of Federal building and authorize expenditure of \$1.5 million for new building program through 1962), has dual purpose: to centralize authority over Federal building in GSA for greatest efficiency and economy while encouraging advice and consent of each agency on design of buildings it will inhabit; to direct Commission on Fine Arts to advise and consult with GSA in establishing high standards of design, style, and ornamentation. Amendment was designed by Representatives Henry S. Reuss (Wis.), and Frank Thompson, Jr. (N.J.)

• Albert C. Martin & Associates, Los Angeles architecturalengineering firm, has established two annual grants for advanced study in architecture at University of Southern California. Unusual aspect of award is extension of firm's facilities and personnel to aid students in design solutions. First winners are: Donald R. Brown, Los Angeles; Rudy L. Veland, Fontana, Calif. . . . School of Future Essay Contest awards—contributed by School Architects Frederic P. Wiedersum Associates, Long Island, N.Y.—will send top winners Betty Bodian, New York City, and Joseph J. Berke, Newark, N.J., on all-expenses paid trips to Paris and Mexico.

• Top prize project in international U.S.A. Tomorrow Manhattan Redevelopment Competition was submitted by firm of Katz, Waisman, Blumenkranz, Stein, Weber (Architects Associated) in collaboration with team from Pratt Institute. Pratt students and faculty members captured 2nd and 3rd prizes also for schemes developed as part of thesis. Winners shown in photo (below) are: (I. to r.) Joseph M. DeChiara, Patrick S. Raspante, Sidney L. Katz, Frank Pisani, Herbert Auerbach—part of 1st Prize team; 2nd Prize team: Theodore Hinz, Paul Sanzari, Olindo Grossi, William Breger (William Bodouva and Alfred Marchesani absent); 3rd Prize team: Breger, Arthur Wrubel, Marc Feldman, Maxwell Levinson (Marc Weissman, Gerald Rosen, John Deans, Ralph Lentsch, Arnold Horn, Norman Wax absent). Winning solution (right) provides elevated crosstown highway, mid-city



parking facilities, civic center, and exposition complex for fashion and industry. Areas adjacent to center are developed in parklike surroundings for commercial and housing purposes. Separation of pedestrians from motor traffic, ample thruway facilities, and parking were basic considerations.

 Summary of personal achievements at National Joint Conference on Church Architecture held in St. Louis, Feb. 26-28: Harold E. Wagoner, Philadelphia, Pa., was elected president of Church Architectural Guild of America; Guild's coveted Elbert M. Conover award was presented to Dr. William Kincaid Newman, lawyer, lecturer, and churchbuilding executive of New York, for outstanding contributions to better church design. Guild's Architectural Awards went to: Durham, Anderson & Freed, Seattle, Wash., for design of St. Elizabeth's Episcopal Church, Burien, Wash.; Lawrence, Saunders & Calogne, New Orleans, La., for design of Gretna Methodist Church, Gretna, La.; Alfred W. Johnson and William Sargeant, San Francisco, Calif., for alteration of First Presbyterian Church, Burlingame, Calif. . . . 1957 Lloyd Warren Fellowship-awarded to winner of design competition "An International Airport"—was presented to Robert P. Burns, Jr., Roxboro, N.C. . . . Franklin Chenault Watkins, Philadelphia artist, is 1957 winner of Philadelphia Art Alliance Medal of Achievement.

• Pereira & Luckman, co-ordinating architects for contemplated \$40-millions National Civic & Cultural Center in Washington, D.C., report that project is materializing rapidly while P/A's Frederick Gutheim reports from Washington



that "the plan still lacks a realistic foundation in the needs of this city of 1.5 million of people, in operating considerations, and in meeting international obligations." Centerwhich would be constructed with funds raised by public subscription—is envisioned as multipurpose structure housing auditoriums and halls of varying sizes for banquets, balls, and conventions as well as opera, music, theater and exhibitions, Tourist Information Center, parking and dining facilities. As yet, site has not been determined.

• First skyscraper of this generation in Buffalo, N.Y.—18story, curtain-wall structure designed by Emery Roth & Sons —will be built by Tishman Realty & Construction Company, Inc., starting late in year. . . When completed in 1960, new Union Carbide & Carbon Corporation Building (below) will be tallest office building on New York's rapidly changing Park Avenue and among largest in city. Architects are Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.



 Architectural historians note: Index of Historical Architecture—selection of 300 buildings in New York City deemed worthy of preservation-represents culmination of six-year survey by Municipal Art Society and Society of Architectural Historians. Condensed copies called New York Landmarks will be sold by MAS at \$2 each. . . . James Grote Van Derpool, librarian of Avery Architectural Library, Columbia University, has announced acquisition of 56 original drawings of Saint Patrick's Cathedral, designed by Architect James Renwick, Jr. Other original drawings in collection are largely of 19th Century and include work by A. J. Davis, Richard Upjohn, Detlef Lienau, Calvin Pollard, Martin Thompson, and James Renwick, Sr. . . . First printed book on architecture, De Re Aedificatoria, by 15th Century Architect Leon Battista Alberti, is currently on display at Robinson Hall, Harvard University, in exhibit of architectural books and drawings from 800 to 1800.

• For extensive activity in field of Industrial Design, New York City's Museum of Modern Art—represented by Museum Director Rene d'Harnoncourt—received La Rinacente's Grand International Compasso d'Oro Award for 1956 in formal ceremony held at Overseas Press Club, New York, Mar. 21.

• Jose Luis Sert, Professor of Architecture and Dean of Faculty of Design in Harvard University, was appointed to additional post as consultant for Harvard's own architectural and long-range planning problems. . . C. E. Silling, Architect, Charleston, W. Va., was named chairman of national committee on Modular Co-ordination, A62—which was organized under auspices of ASA.... IDI officers for 1957 are: George A. Beck, President; Robert E. Redmann, Executive Vice-President; Leon Gordon Miller, Treasurer; John S. Griswold, Secretary. Architect Richard Neutra is now honorary member.

• Construction Surveyors Institute will hold 31st Anniversary Conference in Washington, D.C., May 13-15. For reservations write: G. Szmak, Executive Secretary, CSI, 101 Park Ave., New York 17, N.Y. . . . "A New Century Beckons" will be theme of AIA Centennial Celebration Program to occur May 14-17, in Washington, D.C. . . . Architects' Tour to Japan, headed by Kenneth M. Nishimoto, AIA Pasadena Chapter, Calif., is set for Oct. 1957. Details to be announced.

• New racetrack designs for sites in New York and Caracas, Venezuela—by architectural firm of Arthur Froelich & Associates, Beverly Hills, Calif.—reflect individual consideration of environmental demands. Multitiered Aqueduct Racetrack (below) seats 21,000 persons and holds 65,000. Steelframe structure with cantilevered trusses exposed above



roof decking is sheathed in pre-cast concrete panels, brick, block masonry and serviced by 18 escalators, 10 elevators. Engineers: Stone & Webster Company. Hipodromo Nacional (above) is 52-building project including school for veterinaries, hospital, school for jockeys, dormitories, and cafeterias. Building seats 8500 and has capacity for 30,000. Multitiered concrete structure with cantilevered grandstands is topped by series of undulating thin-shell roofs. Interior walls are finished in block masonry and mosaic. To control heat and sun, enclosed areas are air conditioned while concrete grills and porcelain enamel louvers protect unshaded facades. Nine elevators and 16 escalators service project. Structural Engineer: Henry Layne; Pre-stressed Concrete Consultant: T. Y. Lin.

Washington Report

by Frederick Gutheim



Building money, the housing-mortgage interest rate, the suspension of the lease-purchase program, and other Federal cuts in construction are probably the most significant items of news here this month. They all reflect the hard-money, anti-inflationary mood of the

Administration. Perhaps they reflect a central policy: but it is certainly not a policy that has been formulated in a fashion that will allow people concerned with building to attack it in any effective fashion. Indeed, there is still plenty of evidence that the Administration is construction-minded. The 1958 budget contains major increases in Federal construction projects. While this is an area in which forthcoming budget cuts will probably fall heavily, it is not expected to result in any economically significant drop in building activity. Economists here are impressed with the large volume of private nonresidential building. They point out there are no pockets of unemployment in the construction field. Even if the budget is cut substantially, the total of Federal expenditures for construction will probably exceed that of 1956. Those concerned with building, except commercial housing, can probably count on continued high rates of activity. And it remains to see how much housing will actually be hurt by tight-money policies.

On the heels of the proposed new Federal office building flanking Lafayette Square along Jackson Place, discussed in this column last month, comes now a new Executive Office building to be constructed on the site now occupied by the one-time State, War & Navy Building, just west of the White House. Since the war, this building has accommodated various parts of the expanded Executive Office-the Bureau of the Budget, Office of Defense Mobilization, Council of Economic Advisers, and similar Presidentially oriented agencies. The immediate office of the President is still located in the west wing of the White House, built for that purpose, and extensively remodelled and enlarged at the time the White House itself was comprehensively reconstructed a scant half-dozen years ago. A carefully directed campaign to substantiate the need for enlarged office space for these headquarters has been under way now for some months. More recently it was intensified by the release of a management engineering report recommending the replacement of the old State Building. The climax presumably will come when an Advisory Committee on Presidential Office Space, headed by Robert V. Fleming, a Washington banker and Eisenhower crony, renders its report this June.

All this is part of a single problem, wrapped up with other questions, such as the character of the official residence of the President of the United States. It is a problem that has been repeatedly explored during the last half-century, in which executive power and the activities of the President's office, in particular, have steadily and hugely expanded. Theodore Roosevelt cleared the White House itself of office work, and constructed the first executive office wing. To it, by "the compromise of 1903," were also removed the meetings of the cabinet. Taft doubled the size of the Presidential offices. Hoover increased them again. Franklin D. Roosevelt tripled the executive-office space, largely by means of an underground extension. Truman's alterations to the White House halted this line of expansion, and commenced the great development of executive offices in the Old State building across the street. The growth of Presidential offices under President Eisenhower has strained both the offices in the White House itself, and those in the what is now called the Executive Office Building.

These changes do not imply that the White House is now chiefly a residence. The President, his family, and their immediate servants occupy hardly a single floor (about as much space as a Park Avenue apartment). The rest of the building is given over to public dining and reception rooms, museum, and "palace" functions. There is little space for "living" here—as most of us understand that term. But there is little time for "living," either! When the President is in Washington, he is confined and his time is fully absorbed. The White House social obligations have been greatly increased in recent years, and the visits of foreign chiefs-of-state and political leaders have become vastly more significant. The Eisenhower pattern of living is gradually being understood and publicly accepted, and it is going to make it easier for future Presidents to use the compact and efficient White House apartments while they are working, and to get away to their chosen spots when they can find time to relax. (I suspect this is becoming a familiar living pattern for executives more than we recognize.)

All this means the White House is becoming a ceremonial residence. But it continues a residence for all that, and that character makes its demand on what is done with Jackson Place. How it affects the design of the proposed Executive Office building is less evident. Not enough consideration has been given the architectural value of what now stands there—a building probably more reviled than any other in Washington since its construction in 1888. It may be a compendium of architectural errors, comparable only to the old Trocadero or London's Albert Hall, but it is a revealing one. Henry Adams called it "Mr. Mullet's architectural infant asylum," but the granite pile epitomized the taste of that age. Past efforts to tear it down or modernize it have foundered and, on the whole, I think we would do well to leave it stand. This does not mean that the needs of the Executive Staff should be ignored. They can be accommodated in new buildings elsewhere. If it means they are farther from the President, there are resources of improved communication and transportation to fall back upon. Everyone cannot be in the throne room.

P/A News Survey



Photos: AIA

Winners in AIA's Ninth Annual Honor Awards Competition, to be cited for fine design next month at the AIA Convention in Washington, D. C., have been announced. The Jury—Roy F. Larson, Chairman; John Knox Shear; Alden B. Dow; Philip D. Creer; and James M. Hunter—made the following citations from the 344 submitted projects:

first honor awards

1 Office Building for Middlesex Mutual Building Trust, Waltham, Massachusetts. Anderson, Beckwith & Haible, Architects; Turner Construction Company, General Contractor.

2 Junior - Senior High School, Greenburgh, New York. Warren H. Ashley, Architect; Marchant & Minges, Engineers; Stewart M. Muller, Inc., General Contractor.

3 Architect's own house, New Canaan, Connecticut (*December 1956 P/A*). Eliot Noyes, Architect; Richard Kelly, Lighting Consultant; Borglum & Meek, Inc., Builder.

4 Brazos County Court House and Jail,

AIA NATIONAL HONOR Bryan, Texas. Caudill, Rowlett & Scott & Associates, Architects; W. E. Simpson, Company, Consulting Engineer; J. W. Hall, Jr., Mechanical Engineer; Caldwell & Caldwell, Landscape Architects; Knoll Associates, Inc., Interior Planning; A. P. Kasch & Sons, General Contractor.

5 St. Anselm's Priory for the Benedictine Fathers, Tokyo, Japan. Antonin Raymond & L. L. Rado, Architects-Engineers and Managers of Construction; Noemi Raymond, stained glass and Stations.
6 Chapel of the Holy Cross, Sedona, Arizona (October 1956 P/A). Anshen & Allen, Architects; Bernard T. Espellage, Bishop of Gallup, Owner; Keith Monroe, Sculptor; Robert D. Sewell, Civil-Structural Engineer; Earl & Grapp, Electrical-Mechanical Engineers; William C. Simpson Company, General Contractor.

awards of merit

Awards of Merit will be given to:

Edward B. Page (residence, Belvedere, California); Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (Wyeth Laboratories, Radnor, Pennsyl-

AWARDS ANNOUNC vania); Antonin Raymond & L. L. Rado (Memorial Hall for Japanese Steel Workers, Kyushu, Japan); R. B. O'Connor & W. H. Kilham, Jr.; Philip M. Chu, Associate in Charge (Tokeneke School, Darien, Connecticut); Golemon & Rolfe; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Consulting Architects (Medical Towers office building, Houston, Texas, June 1957 P/A); George Matsumoto (residence, Raleigh, North Carolina); John Carl Warnecke (Mark Thomas Inn additions); A. Quincy Jones & Frederick B. Emmons (residence, Los Angeles, California); Curtis & Davis (Our Lady of the Sea General Hospital, Golden Meadow, Louisiana, November 1956 P/A); A. Quincy Jones & Frederick B. Emmons (residence, Pacific Palisades, California); Stevens & Wilkinson (Rich's Department Store, Knoxville, Tennessee); A. G. Odell, Jr. (Wilson Junior High School, Charlotte, North Carolina, May 1957 P/A); Caudill, Rowlett & Scott (San Jacinto Elementary School, Liberty, Texas); and Paul Thiry (Northeast Branch Public Library, Seattle, Washington).

Financial News

by William Hurd Hillyer



Capital structure is more than ever a matter of attention for architects, now that physical structure is increasingly the result of monetary factors. Outstanding as an object of professional interest, financially, is the projected main building of The Chase Manhattan Bank

in New York's Wall Street district.

First thought would indicate that the operation of financing a hundred-odd-millions banking edifice by a seven-billions bank would be just a matter of that institution's drawing a series of official checks to cover labor and materials. Time was when a bank might elect such a course; today the procedure is not so simple.

At the outset of the enterprise, Chase Manhattan found itself owning, among other parcels, two extremely valuable pieces of real estate-its banking-office building at 18 Pine Street, which it now occupies, and the structure at 11 Broad Street used by the bank for clerical overflow. The first step was to sell 18 Pine to the Chemical Corn Exchange Bank and 11 Broad to J. P. Morgan, both for undisclosed (but presumably large) sums. With part of the funds thus realized, Chase Manhattan bought the old Mutual Life building at Cedar and Nassau for \$4,500,000 and proceeded to demolish it. This provided part of the land for the proposed building and plaza. As figures now stand (after a number of upward revisions) the new edifice with its \$16-millions site will cost \$121 millions, of which \$94 millions will go into building and plaza construction. Cost of furnishings and special facilities is estimated at \$11 millions.

The whole transaction is being handled by means of a holding company, The Chase Manhattan Realty Corporation. This company is a "wholly owned subsidiary" with \$5-millions authorized capital, the bank being sole stockholder. Chase's investment in the stock of the realty corporation represents its equity in the building. As of January 31, 1957, the realty holding company borrowed \$60 millions on first mortgage from the New York State Teachers Retirement Fund. The loan runs 30 years with customary amortization and bears 4% interest per annum. Under present tight money conditions, this is deemed a favorable arrangement for the bank. Since the loan is owed by the holding company it is not a direct obligation of the bank and does not appear as such on that institution's books. What does appear is the usual item of "Bank Premises and Fixtures" which includes branches and which will represent a book value of about \$70 millions.

Excavation for the foundation work of the 60-story tower was started January 29 and major contracts have been let, including those for structural steel. Completion of monetary arrangements for this huge project is regarded by bankers countrywide as an accolade upon the once-controversial realty-holding-company mortgage plan for financing the cost of a bank's own premises. The fact that pension funds are investing in such premises on so large a scale via first mortgage is regarded as significant of a trend that may loosen up the financing of much nonresidential construction. If the great State of New York and the country's second largest bank can find a 4% mortgage mutually profitable, trained observers reason, surely lesser but equally valid building enterprises need not lack liquid funds from the vast pension reservoir.

Analysis: Chase Manhattan plans to occupy, with its own clerical and executive force, approximately two-thirds of the new building's floor space. The cost of such occupancy will therefore be \$1,600,000 a year in interest alone. However, this sum is only 1/5th of 1% of the institution's capital funds, or 31/2% of its 1956 net earnings. The rental section of the building—some 20 floors—will shoulder an \$800,000 annual interest load which, taking similar situations as a criterion, it should be able easily to bear.

 Inflationary pressures are less minatory than a month ago, Guaranty Trust Company of New York reveals. That institution sees the curve of over-all activity as turning downward somewhat earlier than has been generally assumed. Such a conclusion is fostered by a rise in the number of business failures, a shrinkage in new orders for machine tools, uncertain textile conditions, capital expansion cutbacks, and a further decline in new housing starts. These windstraws, however, are seen by Wall Street as pointing to readjustment rather than depression. The financial district no longer shares Government's view that inflation is the country's number one menace.

Tight money, nevertheless, particularly in the mortgage field, is still a problem and shows no signs of loosening. "Fanny May" (Federal National Mortgage Association) is coming to the rescue with over a billion dollars this year embracing 96,000 loans—when Congress gives her the money—but even so huge a sum, officials warn, will not assure "full liquidity" for mortgage investments.

• Outlook for new school financing is sunlit by successful bond sales providing \$14 millions for such purposes in the week ended March 8. Interest yield ranged from 2.1% for the Rye, New York, school district issue to 3.80% for the longer maturities of Yuma, Arizona.

• Early estimates indicate that "gross national product" for 1957 will reach a level of \$425 billions, compared with \$412 billions for 1956, First National Bank in Dallas, Texas, discloses. Unless conditions change radically, this will mean a \$3.5 billions increase in commercial bank loans—and continued tight money. Efficient water pattern of Hobart revolving wash action.

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apartment houses: their new significance

Students of regional planning are agreed that the postwar phenomenon known as "the flight to the suburbs" is losing momentum, and its end is in the foreseeable future. Vacant land for single-family houses outside the cities is on the point of disappearing because of the speculations and successes of tract developers, voracious space requirements of industry, road-building programs, regional recreation areas, and other competitive demands. The disillusionment of so many families who did leave the cities in search of sunlight, fresh air, better school and civic facilities, relief from urban noise and traffic-when the very conditions they were escaping have crept up on them again-is serving to reduce the enthusiasm of those who have not yet ventured to move. Further, land prices in what were formerly rural and undeveloped suburban areas have risen immensely, the cost to tract developers has increased correspondingly, to the point where most families are being priced out of the market for new private homes. How then are the new increments of our exploding national population to be housed? Controlled multiple housing appears to be the only logical answer. Its successful attainment will to a large degree depend upon the architect's skilfulness and ingenuity. The examples on the following pages are representative of solutions within the current pattern of possibilities, from the viewpoints of design, financing, and land planning.

Since land costs within cities have always dictated high-rise and high-density housing, why are apartments a factor even more essential now than before? Most important of all, apartments are a major element of the solution to the problem of urban sprawl. City planners and redevelopment officials are realizing the political and economic importance of retaining a balanced leavening of income groups within the municipality—particularly including the middle-income families—as numerous housing units lost by slum clearance are being replaced by new housing. Finally, a large part of the population prefers apartments to private houses, and once costs bring well designed apartments within their reach through some feasible, universally available, and selfregulating mechanism of site and construction financing, the result will be overwhelming.

apartment houses: subsidized

The four projects shown here and the completed Philadelphia apartment house on the pages following are all being assisted by city, state, or federal funds. Principal objective in the planning of these buildings has been to achieve **livability** within the stringent design and budget limitations usually attached to subsidized multiple housing.

This project (below and right) designed for the New Brunswick, New Jersey, housing authority, will have 246 dwelling units. Service and community facilities are on the ground level. Enclosed elevator lobbies at each floor open onto exterior access galleries wide enough to be useful as fresh-air space for children and adults. Introduction of the galleries has also made cross ventilation possible for all the apartments. Decorative precast-concrete panels and sections of expanded-metal-mesh screening enclose the galleries. Alexander Merchant & Son, New Brunswick, and Turano-Gardner Associates, New York, are the Architects.



A similar solution with exterior galleries and their consequent benefits was developed for the Housing Authority of Stamford, Connecticut, with assistance from the Housing Division of the Connecticut State Depart-



ment of Public Works. Here the design of the gallery is further refined by the introduction of setbacks. Large families are accommodated in duplex units on the first two floors. These units are directly accessible from the ground level and so help to lighten the elevator load. William F. R. Ballard is the Architect for this moderate rental project.















This state-aided low-rent public housing project (*left* and *below*) encompasses 2000 dwellings in four self-contained neighborhood units. Of particular interest in these high-rise structures are the **extended central elevator lobbies** which provide **open-air** spaces for **community use** at every floor. Exteriors of the reinforced concrete structures will be enlivened with **brick of various texture and color** and a gay pattern of **multicolored metal panels** on the protective screening of the open-air lobbies. Architects for this New York City Housing Authority project are Katz, Waisman, Blumenkranz, Stein, Weber: Architects Associated.



The same architects have designed a co-operative apartment house (*below*) for middle-income families, a state-aided limited profit development made possible through New York's Mitchell-Lama law. The project is noteworthy as the first to introduce prefabrication techniques into multistory housing design. The structural frame is concrete. Wall panels are of lightweight precast concrete having integral exterior and interior finish. Color is introduced at slabs and dividing walls of private balconies.



apartment houses: subsidized

A quite limited area earmarked for housing on a site originally intended as a playground for the Philadelphia Department of Recreation dictated the height of this 16-story building. The project was designed for the Philadelphia Housing Authority, which specified provision of 120 dwelling units, community facilities for large meetings, kitchen, activity room, office for playground director, and toilets for playground users. "In the interest of economy and maximum amenity for the residents," write the architects, who are well acquainted with apartment house planning, "our approach was to provide the simplest possible form-in this instance a rectangular slab. Past experience had shown us the value of private terraces for apartment living. We felt that the extremely small maximum for room areas, imposed by public housing regulations, made the inclusion of adequate terraces even more desirable. Experience with the finished project has demonstrated the wisdom of this approach. The terraces get maximum use; they provide a safe outdoor recreational space for children and adults and effect cross ventilation for every apartment." Beyond private terraces, the architects have stressed the importance of well designed public spaces, and the introduction of color and ample sunlight. The lobby (acrosspage bottom) extends through the ground floor of the building and thus obtains natural light both from the street side and the playground. To heighten the effect of light and spaciousness, the walls are faced with three shades of pale-yellow terra-cotta tiles, the floor is gray-and-yellow terrazzo, and fluorescent lighting behind an eggcrate ceiling is employed. To counteract the effect of the small size of the rooms in the apartments, it was considered desirable to introduce large and continuous glass areas. This was achieved by using a reinforced-concrete flat-slab system, which also had the advantage of being the most economical since it provided finished floors and ceilings integral



with the slabs. Columns are set back from the outer wall and slabs are cantilevered. "Not only do these cantilevered slabs reduce the moments in the interior slabs, but an obvious economy results from shortening interior slabs and reducing the number of columns. The resultant elimination of spandrel beams at the cantilevered edges also effected considerable economy."







apartment houses: subsidized





Colors on the exterior of the building are two shades of warm brown—a light tan on the end walls and a chocolate brown on the spandrels of the long exterior walls. Color accents are provided by Mandarin-Red exterior doors to the terraces. In the apartments, a uniform lightbeige paint was used to make the rooms appear as spacious as possible; the trim is brown. Doors and trim in service areas are dark brown; in laundry and community rooms at the ground level (acrosspage top) they are dark green.



Philadelphia, Pennsylvania



Because of the wind-force factor, the slabs could not be cantilevered at the end walls. "Sufficient windresistance," continue the architects, "even beyond structural safety requirements, is necessary for buildings with rigid partitions, to obviate cracking or crushing of the partitions resisting wind loads where the frame is too flexible. If this point is not carefully considered, excessive maintenance will result. To provide the necessary rigidity in the transverse direction, rigid frames are located in the short end walls and at the stairs and elevators (48"-deep columns and 40"deep beams at the stairs, and 30"-deep columns and 22"-deep spandrels in the short end walls, which, with the masonry built into these walls, sufficiently increase the mass and rigidity). The wind forces are not critical



BALCONY SECTION 3/8"scale

in the longitudinal direction, and need no special provision." For lowest first cost, durability, and ease of maintenance, the following building materials were chosen: concrete, concrete block, brick, solid plaster for interior partitions, and steel sash. The heating system uses forced hot water regulated by outdoor-indoor thermostatic control. Lighting, except for illumination in lobby, is incandescent. Acoustical treatment, in the form of ceiling tiles, was limited to ground floor public spaces.

Architects for this apartment building were Roth & Fleisher, Philadelphia; Horace Fleisher, Landscape Architect for the playground; Severud-Elstad-Krueger, Structural Engineers; Charles S. Leopold, Mechanical Engineer; McCloskey & Co., General Contractor. Photos: Lawrence S. Williams

apartment houses: luxury

The scarcity of desirable sites for residential development, the price of land in highly developed urban areas, and constantly rising construction costs have practically excluded any privately financed multiple housing except luxury apartments. To secure the necessarily high rentals, these buildings must now include "extras" such as swimming pools, gardens, clubrooms, facilities for maid and food service—all beyond the traditional range of apartment-house amenities. Though both of the luxury buildings shown here are to be built in California, they are characteristic of conditions prevailing across the country.



The proposed Beverly Towers, a 22-story co-operative apartment project, will be located on a two-acre site in Beverly Hills. All apartments will be planned to meet the individual requirements of prospective owner-tenants. Glass panels or solid walls with an exterior facing of marble may be placed at any point within the stainless-steel grid which supports these exterior-wall materials. Three basement levels will provide shelter for two cars per family and 200 sq ft of fireproof storage space per apartment. In addition, owner-tenants will have available a 20' x 40' swimming pool, cabanas, a landscaped terrace, several ground floor shops, and a private club on the top floor. Of particular structural interest is the lift-slab construction, the first use of this system for so high a building. Economies resulting from the selection of lift-slab construction amount to \$250,000 and a saving in construction time of four months. Moreover, owing to the elimination of the usual heavy beams, the architects were able to secure two extra floors and yet remain within stipulated height limitations. Pereira & Luckman were the Architects. Model photo: Erwin Lang









Fundamental considerations in the design of this apartment building to be erected in Oakland, California, were view, privacy, spaciousness, and maximum flexibility of living areas. The curved form suggested by the irregular shape of the site affords a maximum of view frontage with a minimum of circulation. Each apartment looks over the surrounding parks and Lake Merritt; those on the higher floors view San Francisco Bay as well. Privacy for each unit is assured and space was left in back of the building for a garden. Fifteen prototype apartments have been developed to give prospective buyers a large selection from which to choose. If preferred, open space of any size may be purchased and subdivided to suit the particular requirements. A furred ceiling above the line of baths and kitchens will carry horizontal pipe runs, making it possible to vary the location and number of plumbing fixtures. "The main façade," write the architects, "has been treated as a random-patterned mosaic of glass and porcelainenameled panels in modular frames, thus providing flexibility in elevation as well as in plan." A twolevel garage, each level directly accessible from the exterior provides off-street parking for all owner-members of the co-operative. Architects are Confer & Willis; D. W. Anderson, Associate Architect.



apartment houses: luxury

"Sprawling suburbia, remote sites, and staff problems," write the architects, "have produced a situation where it is more economical for the wealthier, older couples with grown-up children to rent a comparatively expensive apartment in the city than retain their old homes in the suburbs." This building, the first of its kind to be erected in the post-war period, has since set a precedent for many such large luxury apartment houses in the city. Its site is a hillside left by the receding waters of Lake Ontario. The plan scheme, a compromise between the original design of two separate buildings linked by a glass foyer, now places the 75-room residential hotel in one leg of the Z-shaped structure, with apartments in the other two wings. Two lobbies are therefore provided on the ground floor (plan below); one with reception desk and parcel storage for the use of the hotel guests (acrosspage bottom), the other for the occupants of the apartments. A restaurant below the lobby





floor of the hotel affords indoor seating for 250 persons as well as a **broad**, **cantilevered terrace** (foreground acrosspage top) for outdoor dining. Parking for all residents is provided in a **three-level parking** garage directly opposite the entrance driveway. Apartments are for the most part oriented toward the com-















Toronto, Canada





manding view of the city and the lake to the southonly a few face west. Rooms are of generous dimensions and all of the one- to five-bedroom units have their private outdoor areas. Balconies are cantilevered 7'-0" from the column line and enclosed by translucent balustrades. These are of wired, cast glass-a material well suited for this purpose since it contributes a feeling of maximum security, is easily maintained, allows the sun to penetrate, yet provides an excellent wind break. The structural frame is of reinforced concrete-floors being of 5"-thick flat-plate construction. Exterior walls are faced with brick, interior walls with plaster. Finished floors are wood block on concrete. Casement-type windows have steel frames; fixed panels use 1/4" plate glass. Heat is supplied through built-in convectors from a forced hot-water high-pressure system. Provision has been made for fully recessed, individual air conditioners concealed from view on the exterior of the building by the balconies.



Architects for this Toronto apartment were Page & Steele, Toronto; Peter Dickinson was Partner-in-Charge-of-Design; Edwin Kay, Landscape Design; Hooper & Yolles, Structural Engineers; J. A. Norton, Mechanical Engineer; Roxborough Electric, Electrical Engineers; L. S. Yolles, General Contractor. Photos: Hugh Robertson, A.R.P.S.-Panda

apartment houses: co-operative

An extraordinary legal device called "Horizontal Property Law," in existence in many South American and European countries, made possible this huge cooperative in Cuba. "Under this law," states Dr. Nestor Moreno, one of the attorneys instrumental in carrying out the enabling legal arrangements, "each apartment unit becomes an individually and completely owned parcel of real property inscribed in the land registry. The proprietor, beyond owning his own unit, is joint owner of the common facilities, such as land, lobbies, stairs, elevators, swimming pool, and other similar adjuncts. According to this statute, the building can be planned to house apartments, offices, stores, or other space utilization. Any combination may be arranged, but it must be clearly delineated in the planning stages." In contrast to the U.S. co-operative system under which "ownership" means owning stock in a building corporation and under which an apartment, as only part of an entity, cannot be independently mortgaged or sold, the horizontal-property law permits individual long-term financing and unhampered sale. Dr. Moreno feels that a similar system would provide the necessary stimulus to U.S. apartment house construction and open the way to badly needed middle-income housing in urban centers. Slum clearance, he suggests, could with this system be conducted by private interests and would no longer depend on governmental action. The introduction of the horizontal-property law would also present new opportunities to architects, ranging from largescale planning to the detailed design of individual units.

"Edificio Focsa" (shown on these pages) covers an entire block in the Vedado section of Havana. The

T.

penthouse level



typual apartment floor











site is near the seashore and close to transportation and hotel facilities. In addition to the 373 apartments within this huge structure, other occupants include TV studios, shops, offices, and parking areas in the four stories below the grade level, as well as a bankers' club with independent entrance and separate elevators located in the five-story tower structure, "Twenty



different models," state the architects, "all containing the same number of apartments, distributed among one to eight blocks and from 10 to 30 stories in heights, were compared for appearance, view, privacy, cost of building, and maintenance." The single structure finally selected, now completed and in use, covers barely 22% of the site and incorporates many design innovations. Most ingenious is the solution of one special requirement: the separation of services from the owners' areas. This has been achieved by providing three elevator halls for every four floors. Two of the



three halls are for the apartment owners, one for service. "Completely separate entrances, elevators, halls, and stairs," write the designers, "make it physically impossible for servants and delivery personnel to meet the owners. This system provides two other advantages. In reducing by half the number of owners' elevators otherwise required, the number of servants' elevators to one fourth, the cost of elevators is considerably diminished both for installation and operation. And by making the ceiling height of the halls 2'-6" lower than that of the apartments, access to light, view, and cross ventilation is provided through the rear façade of the wings. With such a device, 45% of this façade is free of obstruction from the halls." Garbage is collected through the service halls, at night, and carried by special elevator to a storage silo.

apartment houses: co-operative

For stability, rigidity, and low cost, reinforced concrete was chosen as the structural material. Horizontal and vertical elements in the structure, as well as the building's plan and its own weight provide the necessary rigidity. Bearing walls serve also as partitions between apartment units. Windows are the glass-jalousy type, tested to withstand hurricane conditions and driving rains.

Responsible for the design and construction of this building were: Architects Ernesto Gómez Sampera & Martin Dominguez; Civil Engineer Bartolomé Bestard; Manuel Padrón—all members of the firm Proyectos, Obras y Construcciones, S. A. Consultants were: Structural Engineers Sáenz-Cancio-Martin; Electrical Engineer Fernando Meneses; Mechanical Engineer Gustavo Bequer. Photos: Alexandre Georges

Materials & Methods

construction

Structure: foundation, frame, floors, and roof: reinforced concrete: portland cement-Lone Star Cement Corporation; reinforcement-Internationale Crediet Handels-Vereeniging, Rotterdam; walls: concrete block-POCSA, Havana; roof: tower curtain walls: porcelain-enamel panels-Texlite Inc. Wall Surfacing: exterior and interior: cement plaster on concrete block-Lone Star Cement Corporation; rest rooms, toilets: gypsum plaster-U.S. Gypsum Company. Floor Surfacing: Terrazzo-Luis Mion, S. A., Havana. Ceiling Surfacing: gypsum plaster and gypsum board-U.S. Gypsum Company. Roof Surfacing: thin concrete slabs over slag; slabs covered with Calendrite—George M. Callender & Company, London; solid roofing asphalt-Texas Company. Roof Drainage: gutters & downspouts: lead; asbestos cement-Perduit, Havana: iron-San Jose, Havana. Partitions: interior: concrete block-POCSA, Havana; toilets: marble-Cabal y Cia, Havana, Windows: jalousies-Kelleher Company; glass: heat absorbing, green tint-Union Comerciale Glaceries Belges, Belgium; storefronts: aluminum extrusions and glass-Sioux Metal Products; skylights: glass block. Doors: interior: wood veneer, spiral core-Constructora Cubana de Placarol, Havana; entrance: sliding aluminum and glass doors-Sioux Metal Products; automatic door operators-The Stanley Works. Hardware: lock sets: aluminum finish-Schlage Lock Company; hinges: cadmium, metal pin-The Stanley Works; casement: aluminum-Visitaire, Havana; steel panic exit-POCSA, Havana. Paint & Stain: exterior-The Glidden Company: interior-The Sherwin Williams Company.

equipment

Equipment: kitchen ranges and water heaters-General Electric Company: wood cabinets-POCSA, Havana; telephone intercom. - Telefonbaund Normalzeit, Frankfurt; plastictreated sheet surfacing-Plasticrom, Havana. Elevators: hoisting equipment, cabs, doors-Otis Elevator Company. Lighting Fixtures: living area-Lamparas Quesada, Havana; lobby area-POCSA, Havana. Electric Distribution: service entrance switch-BullDog Electric Products Company; multibreaker-Cutler-Hammer, Inc.; panelboards: POCSA, Havana; wire-Phelps Dodge Corporation; conduit-General Electric Company; emergency generating plant-Allis-Chalmers, Buda Division; multiple TV antenna-Jerrold Electronics Corporation. Plumbing & Sanitary: water closets, bidets, tubs, lavatories, and shower controls-Briggs Manufacturing Company; medicine cabinets, chrome accessories-The F. H. Lawson Company; copper pipe-Anaconda Wire & Cable Company; water supply system—Fairbanks, Morse & Company and Lancaster Pump & Manufacturing Company; water-conditioning equipment for swimming pool-Cochrane Corporation.








apartment house air conditioning

by William J. McGuinness*

Designs for new apartment buildings are reflecting a growing inclination among tenants to expect air conditioning. In the past several years, window units have dotted the façades of countless apartment houses. Very effective and still the most inexpensive and adaptable method of adding this facility to modern living in existing structures, window units are now being produced in phenomenal quantities. One brochure¹ refers to 52 manufacturers and over 300 models: consumer information is given on 36 characteristics of these units. This movement has not been without its problems. The installation of units in all major rooms of an existing apartment building can add 30 percent or more to the electrical load. Very few existing houses, not planned for air conditioning, can make this addition without serious or dangerous overloading. This trend in power increase for air conditioners and other electrical devices has given rise recently to the founding of the National Adequate Wiring Bureau whose surveys have revealed fantastically inadequate conditions in wiring. It is safe to say that almost all existing apartment houses need major increases in wiring before window units may be added in all apartments.

The question arises whether proposed buildings should be planned for window units, or for a more integral scheme. Functionally, the window unit encroaches on the natural use of the window and is not always architecturally attractive either within or outside the building (Figures 1, 2A, and 3). The use of wall units (Figures 1, 2B, and 4) has solved a good many problems for the apartment-house owner. They are self-sufficient, requiring only an electrical connection and an outside grill. The electrical connection is best placed in a concealed position and assigned specifically to the unit, Major

 Chairman Department of Structural Design, School of Architecture, Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, N. Y.
¹ "Specifications of 1956, Room-Window Air Conditioners," April 1956 Refrigerating Engineering. rooms often have a large glass area or several windows together. Thus the cooling device can be placed below one window and conventional heating units below the others. In a recently completed apartment building at 35 Park Avenue, New York, designed by Architects Sylvan & Robert L. Bien, conditioner cabinets and convector cabinets were made to match. John Campagna, representing the owning corporation, reports good experience with these wall units, which were manufactured by Amic (Figures 4 and 5). This method places control of room temperature in the hands of the tenant—and this appears to be the trend of most new systems. Unlike central systems (Figure 10), room units may be turned off when the tenant is out, thus saving him electrical expense. The central system would have to keep operating for all apartments and this unnecessarily high expense would be



Figure 1—schematic illustration of an air-cooled refrigeration cycle. This self-contained cooling system forms the basis for methods A—window units, B—wall units, and C —cabinets with self-contained cooling (details acrosspage). Note, in each case, the need for a large outdoor grill to admit and discharge the cooling air.



B.

charged to the tenant. Campagna finds that repairs can be made on wall units in less than the full time of one mechanic. Service contracts for this function are also possible. Two special controls are suggested: one prevents the conditioner from operating inadvertantly in freezing weather, thus precluding freeze-ups; the other prevents the heating and cooling from operating at the same time. Manufacturers active in the production of wall units are Lewyt, Amic, General Electric, and Chrysler.

Because heating units also require space below windows, a number of manufacturers have combined heating and cooling functions, using interconnecting controls. The principles involved are illustrated (Figure 2C). Hot water or steam can be circulated through convectors or finned coils placed in the same air stream as the cooling coil, Sometimes the location of runouts requires that the cabinet extend to the nearest exterior column. As in all air-cooled systems, a large outside grill is needed. The first application of this kind of climate control to apartment houses is now being installed at 136 East 56th Street, New York, for which Emery Roth & Sons were the architects. Samuel Rudin, project owner, states that this system allows the tenant full control and makes possible heating. cooling, dehumidification, air exhaust, and fresh air intake for ventilation. American-Standard units (Figure 6) are supplied with steam from a conventional vacuum system served by two boilers in the basement. Register and controls are on top of the cabinets, which are elevated above the floor. Easy cleaning below, clean appearance for the front of cabinet, effective routing of air to the glass surface, and ease of access to controls are claimed as advantages.

Another example of the preceding method will be found in the new Harrison Park Apartments, East Orange, New Jersey, designed by Architect Romolo Bottelli, Jr. There, the use of Carrier units



Figure 3—window unit, method A. Flush-front room air conditioner measures 15½" deep and 17" high. Has five control settings to provide combinations of cooling, ventilation, exhaust, dehumidification, and filtering. Three-quarter ton model has current consumption of only 7.5 amps. Photo: courtesy Amana

Figure 4—through-the-wall unit, method B. Adjustments include variable cooling, control of outdoor ventilating air, and possibility of exhaust. Only required connection is electricity. Photo: courtesy Amic Figure 5—outside grill for a through-the-wall unit (exterior part of installation shown in Figure 4) represents kind of grill necessary for any air-cooled conditioner using method A, B, or C.









Figure 6—cabinet unit elevated above floor and adapted to heating, method C. Hexagonal unions at right of installation are for steam connections. When swung back in position, compressor, condenser, and condenser fan are in the wall. Cabinet section, protruding in room, houses cooling coil, heating coil, circulating fan, and controls. Photo: courtesy American-Standard Figure 8—heating and cooling medium from central source, method D. Over-all depth of this unit is only 9". Recirculating air intake is concealed in toe space. Access to controls is in top panel of cabinet. Photo: courtesy Trane



at windows (Figure 7) includes heating by means of circulated hot water, centrally heated in the building. These units also condition the air with all of the usual control and air-handling possibilities. Special attention has been given to the conditioning of the halls and lobby. A separate central system with duct distribution cools and dehumidifies air for delivery to the halls, placing them under a slight pressure. This pressure, maintained with warmed air in winter, causes a slight flow of air into the apartment, effectively preventing odors and humidity from drifting into the halls. Everyone familiar with the stuffiness and typical odor of interior halls of apartment buildings, will appreciate this feature. Kitchens and baths are exhausted directly outdoors to assure further the directional flow of air from hall to apartment, to kitchen or bath, and then outdoors.

A great reduction in the size of the outside grill can be made if, instead of using the air cooling principle, a central chiller is used supplying chilled water to the cabinets at each window (Figure 9). At 10 East End Avenue, New York, such a system is supplied with hot water by two boilers in the basement. At the same location, there is a central chiller of 400-ton capacity, disposing its heat to a cooling tower. Lobbies are conditioned by Trane units similar to those in rooms, but of a type concealed in furred ceilings. The cabinet units are somewhat simpler in this method. There is no need for compressor, condenser coil, or condenser fan. This makes for less maintenance in the apartment and puts equipment in a centralized location. The employment of an operating engineer is, of course, required. A single-finned coil at the cabinet utilizes either hot water or chilled water; both are supplied by the management at correct temperatures for the ratings of the units (Figure 8). Baths and kitchens are exhausted separately, to the roof. Plumbing drains are necessary to dispose of the condensation collected in

dehumidifying room air. Runouts collect at a drainage stack next to the water pipes (hot or cold depending on the season) at the nearest column. It may be seen that coils and water distribution pipes double for both warm and chilled water, permitting considerable economy over other types of central systems. Fresh-air admixture and exhaust ventilation are taken care of through an outside grill, which is small because it does not have to handle the additional air for condenser cooling. Controls are just as sensitive in this method as in others, in spite of a remote source of chilling, because variable speed fans make it possible to increase or reduce the cooling to be pulled off the coils. Three rates are available in this particular system. Architect for 10 East End Avenue was H. I. Feldman; owner and builder, Stanley R. Broff.

Conventional central cooling schemes (Figure 10) have not been commonly used in apartments. In seeking reasons why they are less used in apartment houses than in office buildings, one might



Figure 9—cabinet housing a fan and finned coils which use either hot or chilled water from central source, method D. Schematic drawing shows essential connections. Central cooling reduces outside grill to size only large enough for ventilating air. Data: courtesy Trane list a number of possible reasons. Ceiling heights are usually greater in offices and suspended ceilings hide ductwork without serious loss of headroom. Costs of installing and maintaining the central equipment of this system are undoubtedly higher than in other schemes. All supply ducts must be protected against vapor condensation. In some buildings, air conditioning may be optional for tenants and this is difficult with ducted air. Controlling each apartment is not easy without expensive devices such as motorized dampers and special tempering coils. Shutting off the air flow to a number of apartments seriously disturbs the balance of air flow to remaining apartments, because a group of apartments is commonly supplied by a central fan of fixed output. Finally, control of the system is in the jurisdiction of the owner's staff, a situation that can be just one more item for tenant and owner to disagree over.

The proper selection of conditioners and integral heating coils for output is an engineering problem. In spite of their



Figure 10—central air conditioning and ducts, method E. Shifting the cooling function to a central chiller and the air handling to conditioners at individual floor levels comprises classic central-station air conditioning. Although standard for office buildings, this system is currently not popular for apartment houses.

adjustibility, they cannot be moved into the room and used like a TV set. Small units of 1/3 and 1/2 hp have not been used widely in apartment houses. Many houses use one hp in living rooms and 3/4 hp in bedrooms. Horsepower and tonnage are about numerically equal, so that these numbers may be read as tons. Tonnages up to 11/2 and even 21/2 have been used in living rooms. Kitchens and baths are cooled by air from adjacent rooms flowing to their exhaust fans. Adjunct heating coils for a room usually produce heat in a range from 3000 to 18,000 Btu per hr. They should be sized just as carefully as cadiators or convectors are always sized for residential use.

Comparison of cost and other qualities is difficult since there is no distinct separation between "good" and "bad" methods. Obviously, the choice depends on the kind of tenancy, ownership, and location. In absolute cost the several systems probably follow the sequence in which they have been described here, window units being least and central air conditioning most; each case, however, must be individually considered. Intangible costs such as the effect on other parts of the structure and comparative maintenance rates must be carefully studied. In any case, air conditioning brings a distinct increase in power load and maintenance responsibility which must be considered thoroughly. Offering the tenant an option of choice or rejection of air conditioning is usually difficult and needs special study. Not unimportant is the interpretation of the equipment as "real property" or "chattels." Integral units would probably be the former and could be offered for inclusion in mortgage valuation. Window units might, under certain circumstances, fall into the latter category and not be included. Substituting fixed glass for operable windows has not been as universal as might appear. Emergency shutdown of the system or optional disuse in a given apartment might make normal window arrangements highly desirable.





location architects landscape architect San Francisco, California Wurster, Bernardi & Emmons Douglas Baylis

There is much more to this extraordinary house than a first glance reveals. The program itself was exceptional: a home and work place for a couple in their 60's with varied interests—one is a painter and writer, the other is a violinist who also keeps in close touch with business. Jointly, they concern themselves with the graphic and plastic arts and own an extensive collection of paintings and sculpture.

Translated into terms of plan requirements, this meant the need for separate work spaces where each could receive visitors independently, and design of the entire house for optimum display of the art collection. To complicate the problem of providing the desired privacy, the site is an in-town corner lot with busy bordering streets.

To solve the latter problem, fenced gardens, adjoining all main rooms, both screen against the streets and provide inviting outdoor extensions of interior areas. The husband's and wife's workrooms are at opposite ends of the house. Eleven-ft-high ceilings, with bayed window elements concentrated and arranged vertically, leave as much interior wall space as is feasible for the hanging of paintings.

Structure is wood frame, with cedar shingles on the exterior, vertical painted redwood or plaster on interior walls; doors are flush veneer. A hot-water ceilingpanel system heats the house. Decorator was Beth Armstrong; General Contractor, Jacks & Irvine.









The entrance passage (above) borders the south living garden; obscured-glass screen at left shields the bedroom garden. The bayed window occurs in the living room (below), where walls are of painted, vertically applied 1''x6'' flush-joint redwood.

Photos: Roger Sturtevant





The two main bedrooms open to their own fenced garden (right). Except for the pair of glazed doors in each major room, all window areas are of fixed glass, and ventilation is achieved through louvered vents, with concealed, drop-in panels.

Assisting the gallery aspect of the house is an unusually wide hallway (below), lighted from overhead plastic skylights.





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THERMONIC TEACH

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This skeleton Capital-consisting of

Government Palace, a Presidential Resi

dence, an Hotel, and a Chapel-will

serve as provisional headquarters for the

Brazilian President while the new Capi-

tal is being built. Situated in the State of Goyas, near the site of "Brazilia," the

group of buildings will later become the

nucleus of a tourist center in the new

Capital, with the Presidential Residence

to be used as a sort of Blair House for distinguished visitors. Ground was brok-

en last January by President Kubitschek;

buildings scheduled for occupancy in 1958.

ter of the group, will be between a spacious esplanade, suitable for State

functions, and an artificial lake. Raised

a full story height from the ground, it

is to be entered from a broad ramp.

Architect:

The Government Palace, in the cen-

of the esplanade, completes the scheme.

Oscar Niemeyer

Offices for the President and his staff, conference rooms for Cabinet meetings, and halls for State Receptions will occupy one and a half floors of the rectangular building, which is planned approximately 200'x300' in area. The roof will be given over to a garden, with some sheltered lounging facilities. The long main facades of the building will be accented by abstract "caryatids," each an integral part of the reinforced-concrete frame. Well to the right of the Palace will be the Presidential Residence, all on one floor and planned around formal and private patios. The Hotel (to the left) is to be seven stories high and will house Presidential assistants and other administrative personnel. A Chapel, in the lower right-hand corner

bridgehead to "Brazilia"

Ana

136 Progressive Architecture

The Government Palace (acrosspage and below right), showing the sculptured columns facing the esplanade. The semi-cylindrical structure at right of the access ramp is a Presidential Tribune. Photos: Flavio Damm









Sketches for the Chapel (left and below) indicate a plan that is reminiscent of the nautilis shell. The building's sculptural form will add visual interest to the esplanade.



bridgehead to "Brazilia"

PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE IN AMERICA

EADS BRIDGE—1868-74 St. Louis, Missouri James B. Eads, Designer-Engineer



American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc.











James B. Eads

The architecture of the 20th Century owes one of its lasting debts to engineering of the 19th Century. While the Vietorians sought the meaning of building in ornament and style, we find it today in structure and form. Their engineers, more often than their architects, were the form-givers; and in such utilitarian structures as James Eads' St. Louis Bridge, Victorian engineering-architecture reached its most expressive and influential level.

The Eads Bridge was much more than a gateway to the West

and a link in the railroad conquest of the Continent. A steelarch bridge of unprecedented span, it was the most daring and original structure of its kind in its day. The design was unique, the material was new, and the methods were unproved. The vision and courage of a pioneer like Eads are hard to grasp after history has accepted his hard-won progress. In this bridge, Eads employed practices many years ahead of his time: the use of hollow, tubular-steel chord members in the first such span ever built almost entirely of steel; the introduction to the United States of the pneumatic-caisson method of founding piers and abutments, with improvements and at depths never before attempted; the analysis and solution of new problems of stress and erection; and the initiation of requirements for structural steel for which no standards yet existed. So novel was the undertaking, that every piece of Andrew Carnegie's steel used in the bridge had to be individually checked-the source of spectacular disputes between Carnegie and Eads. With all of this, Eads also created a work of art. The St. Louis Bridge has survived the test of time in its engineering and in its esthetics, both of which remain outstandingly satisfactory today.

No description of the bridge could tell the story of its innovations better than an account of its erection. Three arches of 502 feet, 520 feet, and 502 feet were constructed, with piers and abutments of stone, at a cost of about \$61/2 millions. Because of the dangerous, shifting quality of the Mississippi river bed, Eads understood that only the use of pneumatic caissons sunk to bedrock, 95 feet below the surface, would make a firm foundation possible. The difficulties and disasters encountered during the sinking and building of the piers and abutments (1869-1871) sound like the plot of a dime novel. The men were icebound in winter; a tornado struck in spring. Working inside the caissons, in unknown and untested conditions, was extremely hazardous. Oil lamps gave off heavy, sooty smoke, candles burned rapidly, and if fire started, the compressed air made it almost impossible to extinguish. But the most mysterious and dreadful effect was the new "caisson disease"-still little known or understood-which claimed the lives of a dozen men, while a floating hospital under the supervision of Eads' personal physician was in permanent attendance.

The problems of the superstructure were equally great. An explosion wrecked the steel-rolling mill, delaying production. It seemed impossible to produce parts to meet Eads' rigid specifications. The steel staves took months to make in acceptable and uniform quality; a year passed before the material for the anchor bolts was satisfactory; more than six months went by in unsuccessful attempts to make the brace bars; and a total of two and a half years was spent trying to roll steel couplings for the tubes, with wrought iron finally substituted as a compromise.

The climax of the drama was reached with the joining of the arches. These were cantilevered from the piers to meet in mid-span with the structure self-supporting as the work progressed-the first practical use of this method on a large scale. A loan of a half-million dollars depended on closing the first span by September 19, 1873. Unseasonably warm weather caused such expansion of the metal that it was impossible to insert the connecting tubes as planned. Even the dramatic application of an "ice poultice" failed. Finally, an adjustable tube was used, shortened before insertion and then screwed out again to the proper length. On September 17, the span was successfully closed. The other two spans followed and the roadways were finished shortly after. The bridge was officially opened on July 4, 1874, its bold and graceful arches marking one more milestone in the progress of American building. ADA LOUISE HUXTABLE

Suggestions and information from John A. Kouwenhoven and Missouri Historical Society are gratefully acknowledged.





office building

location architects associate-in-charge Silsbee, Texas George Pierce—Abel B. Pierce E. J. Goodwin, Jr.

office building

This efficient office building for Kirby Lumber Company has won a remarkable number of design distinctions. First recognized with an Award Citation in P/A's Second Annual Design Awards Program, it later received Medal of Honor in the Houston Chapter, AIA, Honor Awards Program and also Honor Award in Texas Society of Architects' "Architecture 1956" exhibition.

Designed to serve management, accounting, engineering, and personnel departments, it adjoins the lumber mill. Organized around a landscaped courtyard, it has three approaches—the main entrance, to the north; a covered walk, to the rear, connecting with covered parking space; and a protected series of outdoor aisles (toward the mill and employes' parking area) where employes line up to receive their paychecks. Special requirements included a drafting room and map-conference room for the Forestry Department, and a business-conference room. For details of entrance canopy, see SELECTED DETAIL. East and west walls of the steel-framed building are largely of hollow brick masonry; north and south walls consist of glazed aluminum grids with porcelain-enameled steel panels. The roof is a flat, concrete, lift slab. Acoustical plaster or tile is used on ceilings; flooring is vinyl-asbestos tile. The airconditioned building is heated by forcedcirculation hot water. H. E. Bovay, Jr. was Consulting Engineer; W. S. Bellows Construction Company, General Contractor,











Exceptional natural light and a sense of spaciousness are afforded by the central, planted courtyard (below and acrosspage). Artificial lighting is fluorescent, in recessed, surface mounted, or 4'x4' pendant, louvered fixtures. A covered walk (left) leads from the office building back to a covered parking dock (above left). Photos: F. W. Selders



aluminum stressed-skin dome

Early this year an all-aluminum stressedskin dome—the first structure of its kind ever built—was erected on the island of Hawaii. This dome, designed by engineers of the Product Development Department of the Kaiser Aluminum & Chemical Corporation, was built especially for use as an auditorium—for conventions and entertainment purposes at Kaiser's Hawaiian Village Hotel.

Its design involves the creation of a spherical structure through the use of diamond-shaped aluminum panels geometrically arranged and bolted together at contiguous edges to form a rigid shell. Each panel is curved inward and its short diagonal length is strengthened by the addition of an aluminum strut. Panels and struts, when combined, make a unit of great strength; 575 of these were geometrically grouped to form a dome having a floor diameter of 145 ft and a height of 49 ft 6 in.

Buckminster Fuller's fundamental work with geodesic structures unquestionably provided the inspiration for this structural concept. In this design, however, both the skin and the struts work concurrently to carry load and to resist wind forces; each assumes approximately 50 percent of the responsibility. Although without interior support, this clear-span structure can withstand loads of over 100 psf. Structural tests indicate that the dome can stand up under wind pressures twice greater than those caused by a hurricane.

erection procedure

A portable mast, made of structural steel

and 96 ft tall, was set up in the center of the dome's concrete foundation. Around this mast was assembled a section of panels which, when the dome was completed, constituted the uppermost portion of the dome. This section was first lifted a sufficient height off the ground to allow another perimeter of panels to be installed. This larger section was in turn lifted, a third set of panels installed, and so on until all panels were in place.

The dome was then anchored to 25 concrete piers spaced around the circumference of the floor. Anchorage was accomplished through the use of aluminum struts, each of which has a pinend connection at its concrete pier to allow for a three-in, change in diameter —the regular expansion and contraction of the metal dome.





After aluminum sheet was sheared into diamond-shaped panels, a press brake was used to make 12 bends (six from either end) in each unit. Appearance of panels before flanges were formed at edges (left).

Delivered to job site, panels were removed from trucks and asssembled into proper categories (below and right).



Kaiser Aluminum Photos: Werner Stoy



Castings of various shapes were used on the inside of the dome to join the diamond-shaped panels together where their corners converged. These were fastened to the panels with Huckbolt fasteners, special aluminum bolts which provide a permanent high-strength union. The same type of bolt was used to fasten the panels together along their edges.

A synthetic-rubber compound sealing material was used to calk the cracks between the panels and to make the dome waterproof. A 50-sq ft cover protected opening was left at the top of the dome to aid ventilation. This opening has a permanent cover, made up of five diamond-shaped panels, which is raised three in, above the dome itself.

The precision with which the dome was designed and constructed is indicated by the fact that the complete dome "settled" only 3/4 in. after all rigging had been cut loose.

Actual erection time (hoisting and installation) required but 20 working hours by a crew of 38 men. Anchorage, removal of mast and rigging, and weatherproofing were completed within a few days after erection.

fabrication

Panels, struts, and castings were fabricated at a Kaiser plant near San Francisco and then shipped to the job site. Templets were used to assure precise drilling of bolt holes in the 0.081 in. slightly less than 1/16 in.—aluminum sheet of the panels. After drilling, sheets were sheared into diamond-shaped panels of 10 basic sizes. Their lengths—long Intermediate stages in assembly and erection of dome. Work crews line up base struts prior to anchoring to 25 concrete piers around circumference of dome (below).



Crane lifts 96-ft portable mast into place. Section of panels, forming upper portion of dome, is assembled and bolted together first (below and right).









View of completed dome after base struts were anchored and portable mast removed. Struts were painted pink; panels remained unpainted. Interior of dome shows geometric pattern, formed by panels, and many tie lines used during erection. Portable mast is still in position (left).

Typical panel and full-size section through flange (above).

diagonal—vary from 106 in. to 150 in.; widths range from 65 in. to 82 in. Each panel has a total of 12 bends, six from either end, made by press break—which give curvature to the unit in addition to an interesting pattern. Around the edge of each is a 3³/₄ in. flange for the purpose of bolting panels together; bolt holes are spaced six in, on center. To facilitate erection, each panel was color coded by a small dab of paint to denote its proportions. Gage of struts is 0.156 in.—slightly more than $\frac{1}{8}$ in. Each strut is U-shaped and is two in, wide and $3\frac{1}{2}$ in. deep. Lengths vary from 62 in. to 79 in.—three in. less than the width of the panel.

cost

According to Kaiser Aluminum's engineers, an aluminum stressed-skin dome is lower in cost than conventional structures built for the same purpose. Factors such as size, location, and use naturally will affect the cost of future domes; however, it is estimated that the cost to erect elsewhere the same shell as at Hawaii Village would be approximately \$4.00 or less per sq ft.

occupancy

This dome will serve as a completely equipped auditorium with a seating capacity of over 1800. Structures of this type, however, have many other uses some of which are aircraft hangars, sports

arenas, field houses, convention halls, and so on. It is reported that Mayor Morrison of New Orleans has expressed keen interest in the possibility of having such a dome structure with a capacity of 17,000 people to be erected as a sports arena in a community-center type of development that his city is planning.

Bolt, Beranek & Newman, Cambridge, Massachusetts, have been retained as acoustical consultants for the Kaiser Dome. Their preliminary report indicates that the dome presents no unusual acoustical problems and that the curved panels provide better acoustics than a smooth spherical surface. Acoustical material will be applied to only one-third of the interior surface and will be placed directly on the panels, thereby retaining their geometic pattern.

The dome was erected by Terminal Steel Company, Honolulu, T. H., under supervision of Kaiser Aluminum's engineers.

Individual panel is added to dome (above left). Workman at top is lining up holes with star-shaped gusset casting, beneath panels, and driving drift pin to hold panel in place until bolted.

Star-shaped gusset castings were used where six panels converged (above center). Dome contains 175 of these castings which are 161/2 in. in diameter. One of 1150 hub castings used where three panels are joined (above right).



weatherproof the dome (below).

rotary movement of dome (right).









odor control in air conditioning:

Chemical sensibility is primitive; the most lowly of animals possess it-long before they develop brain, nervous system, eyes, ears, nose, or mouth, When the paramecium encounters water that is chemically contaminated, he dodges it just as if he had bumped into an obstacle. In 1883, W. H. Pollock observed that seaanemones rapidly and beautifully expand if a little meat juice is added to their water. It might be taste or it might be smell, but in such primitive creatures we can only be sure that their behavior is changed by chemicals introduced into their environment. As we rise through the different classes of animal life, we find that there is a gradual but immense development of the chemical senses, characterized by the following features:

1. Reduction of the sensitive area. Whereas protozoa are apparently sensitive over their entire body, man can taste only with the tongue and less delicately with parts of the palate. Furthermore, he can smell only with two small interior surfaces—each about two sq cm in area —on either side of the nose. The change from whole body sensitivity to local sensitivity can be followed through most of its stages in different kinds of living animals.

2. Sensations become progressively more sharply defined. As we ascend the scale we find that in moths, ants, and bees, taste and smell are both highly developed and distinct; the original chemical sense has differentiated. In man, taste and smell are separate sensations and are stimulated in different but narrowly restricted areas of the body.

G. H. Parker has pointed out that in man the two surfaces sensitive to smell are anatomically invertebrate in character, since they resemble the skin of the sea-anemone. It is as if we preserve to this day a trace of our sea-inhabiting invertebrate ancestors.

For man, the act of smelling is a simple enough process. To experience smell, it is necessary that particles—perhaps molecules—of the odorant material be present in the air that he breathes. In normal breathing, the main airstream passes through the nose but not the olfactory receptor surfaces high up in the nose.



Volatile aroma of coffee bean, precipitated on surface of chilled mercury, develops a consistent pattern. Bean is floating in center of liquid.

photo by Joseph Breitenbach



Lab equipment assembled to recreate a specific odor condition. Technician is capturing a volatile odor in beaker for further examination.

1--the sense of smell*

Eddy currents are formed, however, and some of these swirl to the olfactory receptors. When smell is faintly sensed, the immediate reaction is to sniff in order to increase the intensity of the smell and to savor it to the full. W. Ogle has shown that the mechanism of the sniff forces air higher through the nose where it freely contacts the olfactory receptors. Those receptors contain the ends of a large number of nerve fibers, and as soon as the area is stimulated by contact with odorous air, tiny discontinuous electric currents pass along the nerve fibers -first to the olfactory bulb and then to the cortex or surface of the brain. What happens then is so far conjectural. These electrical impulses are not dissimilar in character, whether they are started by the sight of a light, by the sound of a violin, or by the smell of a rose. The ultimate sensation is determined by the location of that part of the brain that is stimulated.

The great majority of people can smell the same smells, usually at about the same dilution, and for the most part they like and dislike the same smells. When coffee is being made in the kitchen, its aroma is clearly noticeable in the bedrooms. Is there any chemical test that would respond to the quantities of furfuryl mercaptan, diacetyl, and acetylpropionyl present in the bedroom air? There is not, but the ordinary person detects them effortlessly. Some people, who use sense of smell every day as a part of their work, can confidently detect differences of five percent in the strength (concentration) of an odor. We should recognize that we have in our noses a finer chemical detector and discriminator than any evolved by the best chemist.

Two primary needs of man, as of every other animal—nutrition and reproduction —were both at one time served by smell. Our way of life has altered and we smell our way neither to the butcher's nor to the altar. Despite our neglect of it, the sense of smell still lives strong within



Researchers make odor comparison tests to determine effectiveness of odor counteractant using a multistimulator olfactometer.



Test of various types of deodorizing and air freshening equipment. Technician checks spray head used for large volumes of air such as found in industrial exhaust systems.

^{*} This discussion, presented here in greatly reduced form, has been taken from a series of articles that appeared in The Export Review of the British Drug & Chemical Industries during 1955, written by R. W. Moncrieff.

us and sometimes it gives us a sharp reminder. We all know of some scent that takes us back to a childhood scene.

Smell has a third function: one of warning. To smell a bad smell is an extremely painful experience and the act of withdrawal is as quick and certain as if the hand had been burned or the foot bitten. People who tamper with warning systems are inviting all sorts of trouble. If the warning signal were eliminated, but not the condition that gave rise to this strangled warning, then dangerous situations might follow. This is a consideration to be borne in mind when we consider methods that are available for deodorization.

What can account for likes and dislikes? Most people like the smell of flowers, most like the smell of a mild cheese; however, let that cheese odor appear in an egg and they will detest it. The smell of onions on a steak may be pleasant, but the same smell on the breath of a companion may be horrible. The truth is that the brain does more than take information from the ends of the receptors and give a straight report on it; it minimizes some of the evidence, exaggerates other parts, lines it up with previous experience, takes a dozen other factors into account and finally comes out with the answer "I like" or "I dislike."

Deodorants of many kinds have been in common use for a long time. Earth is one of the best-certainly the most plentiful-and it was probably its liberal use as such that made early days of civilization at all tolerable. As soon as the nomadic stage was passed, and particularly as soon as people began to live in large groups, troublesome odor problems must have arisen.

Chemical deodorants and disinfectants have become more and more widely used. Formalin is used for swabbing hospitals while oxidizing agents such as the permanganates, the hypochlorites, and hydrogen

peroxide have become household commodities. All such agents are intended for direct application to the source of the malodor. When the source is known and when it is accessible and can be treated without harm by an oxidizing agent or disinfectant-type deodorant, such agents are extremely effective. Their attack on the malodor is directed at the source; there is, though, one disadvantage from which most contact deodorants suffer -they are strongly odorous themselves. We have become so familiar with them and have associated them for so long with the clean, fresh smell of aseptic conditions, that many people have come not to be offended by them. Nowadays, powerful bactericides that have only a light odor are available and these may be expected to replace gradually the strong smelling disinfectants that have been used in the past.

Quite a variety of chemicals have been used for deodorizing. Some of them are primarily bactericides. For example, formaldehyde used for swabbing is a most effective deodorant. The ease of preservation of protein specimens in formalin is a sure indication that it inhibits bacterial action. It is to be found in some air fresheners, too, but its inclusion in these seems to be undesirable.

Sometimes metallic salts are used for deodorant action. Aluminum chloride has been used to remove the taste and odor from petroleum stock material which is to be used medicinally. Aluminum salts are widely used too for antiperspiration creams, although the main function of aluminum chloride or aluminum sulphate in these is to prevent sweating.

Chlorophyll is one of the most interesting recruits to the ranks of deodorants. Although it possesses powerful antiodorant properties, the mechanism or mechanisms, whereby it exercises these properties are not yet fully understood.

Although smells are fleeting and elusive,

there is one way of catching them and holding them for future reference. That is by absorption. Most odorants either in solution or in vapor form can be absorbed onto the surface of active carbon or silica gel or alumina.

In preceding paragraphs, the destruction of odors by materials or contact deodorants has been discussed. There are, though, many odors that are less easily treated. It is not appropriate to pour some disinfectant on the cooking cabbage, nor to freshen the air by spraying disinfectant in a lounge in which a lot of people have been drinking and smoking. Devices which have been prepared to meet this need are known as space deodorants. In the main, they comprise the wick and spray types for house use, and fan blowers, spraying, and atomizing equipment for industrial, restaurant, institutional kitchen, etc., uses.

When the way in which air fresheners work is discussed, three ways likely to be put forward are: by masking, by anesthetization, and by odor pairing. The third-odor pairing-has much more to commend it: air fresheners of this type consist of a large number of odorant chemicals, which have been chosen so that one of them will "pair" or neutralize any bad smell. For any one of a large number of malodors, there will be a neutralizing "pair" for it in the freshener. Oil of juniper and cologne water, for example, neutralize the smell of camphor. Other examples of these are: cedarwood and rubber; rubber and wax; wax and balsam of Tolu; paraffin and rubber.

While the wick bottle is adequate for an ordinary living room, kitchen, hall, or bathroom, something larger is required for large rooms such as restaurants, cocktail bars, etc. For the latter, another method which has made good headway in the United States is an air freshener that may suitably be in the form of a firm gel in the air-conditioning system.

2--application of the Airkem method

The primary reason that outside air is introduced into air-conditioning systems is to dilute disagreeable odors. Contrary to popular opinion, outdoor air is not free —it must be cleaned, cooled or heated, and have moisture added or removed. Since thousands of cubic feet of treated air are forced through the exhaust outlets of air-conditioning systems, use of outside air should be as carefully considered as power, materials, labor, or any other expense.

Outside air entering an air-conditioning system costs approximately \$200/1000 cfm/yr to condition. In the process of being circulated this air comes in contact with minute traces of odor-in ducts, on clothes of occupants, on furniture, and elsewhere. Despite the most rigorous cleaning methods, sufficient odors may be present to become offensive. As soon as an odor concentration of one or two ppm has been reached, it becomes necessary to exhaust it, unless a counteractant such as Airkem is introduced to combat the malodor. Airkem is a liquid complex of a group of materials, including essential oils and the chlorophyll complex as commercially extracted from green plant material. When this liquid is evaporated, its vapors are introduced into the supply air-stream of the air-conditioning system.

Several types of evaporating or dispensing equipment have been developed to utilize effectively this liquid complex with the many types and sizes of airconditioning systems in current use. One piece of equipment,¹ especially designed for attachment to packaged air-conditioning units, (say $1\frac{1}{2}$, 3, and 5 tons) has no motor or moving parts and does not interfere with the regular operation of the air conditioning. Efficient evaporative surface and damper control permits a metered amount of the liquid to be vaporized and circulated throughout the space

treated by the air-conditioning equipment. A continuous flow of room air enters the unit through adjustable louvers and is then drawn over the vaporizing surface. A reservoir and a wick-floatation device keep the wicking surface supplied with fresh emulsion at all times and surface evaporation permits it to enter the air in a vapor state. This air stream is drawn into the air-conditioning unit and thoroughly dispersed in the recirculated odorous room air by a centrifugal fan. Treated conditioned aid is then distributed throughout the area by fan action of the air-conditioning unit. Amount of air to be treated may be controlled by adjustment arm; capacity of the reservoir is 11/2 gal. Under normal usage the unit will require only routine servicing and liquid replacement once each month.

For air-conditioned spaces requiring up to 20 tons, a larger system is available consisting of three principal components: vaporizer cabinet, pump and storage unit, and controlling device (Figure 1). The vaporizer cabinet, a square metal box that holds a balsa evaporating cartridge (in effect a wood-wicking surface), is mounted on the outside wall of an airconditioning system in which a small opening has been cut. This component permits air to be drawn off the evaporating surface, since air movement is treated by suction from the air-conditioning system fan. By this method the liquid complex is introduced into the air-conditioning system's makeup chamber, or plenum chamber. The procedure is automatic as long as the air-conditioning fans operate. A pump-tube assembly, mounted on the storage tank, is activated by a solenoid to supply the odor counteractant to the vaporizer. Whenever an electric impulse is delivered to this unit, it pumps a measured amount of odor counteractant up a supply tube which sprays it on the balsa evaporating cartridge. The resultant vapor is drawn into the air stream by

the suction created by the air-conditioning system fan. The controller is a timing device which delivers an electric impulse activating the pumping assembly. By the simple expedient of increasing or decreasing the frequency of this action, by manually setting the controller, one can introduce any predetermined amount of vapor into an air-conditioning system. Thus, if a building engineer or superintendent suddenly finds he requires more odor counteractant-to eliminate the odor of paint, for example-he can step up the controller setting to effect the necessary odor counteraction. Conversely, he can decrease or completely turn off this process when it is not required. By the addition of a time clock one can further mechanize this procedure by scheduling odor counteraction during peak odor levels. A good example of this would be a restaurant which would require odor counteraction and air freshening principally during meal hours. By setting the time clock to co-ordinate with these peak odor hours, this entire process becomes fully automatic.

The Airkem method works by odor counteraction or odor neutralization (as described in Part 1 of this article). When most odors are combined in groups of two or more, their individual characteristics are no longer as readily distinguished by the olfactory receptors in the nose. Frequently the combined perception effect is a significantly lower odor level than that of each of the constituent odors in the mixture. In other words, mixtures of odors can be controlled to result in a diminishing of the total odor intensity and perception. This may be analogous to a situation in which a disc with red, vellow, and blue stripes, when rapidly spun, appears only as gray. All colors are still present, but in combination they are counteracted, neutralized, or eliminated and the eye sees only a gray or "colored" disc. This same principle oper-

¹ Airkem Wikfloat Vaporizer.

Cooling season	1200 hours @ average 1/2 max. load		
Heating season	3000 hours @ 70% fuel efficiency		
Cooling equipment, installed	\$300 per ton		
Heating equipment, installed	\$ 2.50 per 1000 Btu		
Power cost	\$.02 per kwh		
Fuel cost	\$.11 per gallon		
Airkem equipment, installed	\$150 to \$350 per 1000 cfm of outside air reduction		

TABLE I: POSSIBLE SAVINGS (TYPICAL)

savings in operating costs

To condition 1000 cfm outdoor air per year, the costs are:	
Power-21/2 tons x 1/2 load x 10 hrs x 120 days x 2¢ x 1 kw	\$ 30.00
Fuel-1/2 gal/hr x 14 hrs 215 days x 11¢ gal	165.00
Water pumping, air circulating, and miscellaneous operating	20.00
	\$215.00

Cost of Airkem for one year on basis of 1000 cfm reduction in outside air (varies with the rate of odor generation in the particular space). \$75.00 to \$125.00 \$90.00 to \$140.00

The initial cost of equipment to accomplish the saving indicated above will vary between \$150 and \$350, depending on the size of the air-conditioning system.

ates entirely independent of and is unrelated to masking, anesthetization, and fatigue.

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In addition to counteracting odors, this method performs another definite function by adding a note of freshness to indoor air. Just as tap water, placed for a period of time in a glass becomes stale and vitiated, so does air become stale after it has been allowed to stay indoors. Airkem adds ingredients which one associates with outdoor freshness; such materials, including the chlorophyll complex, are put into the air in minute quantities. Thus unpleasant odors are counteracted and a note of freshness is introduced to the recirculated air. Odors tend to be absorbed on surfaces generally—especially on carpets, drapes, walls, and the coils and duct surfaces of air-conditioning systems. The deodorant vapors also go to these surfaces and apparently have the ability to displace the odorous molecules.

When properly installed, there is no objectionable deposit of deodorant on the air-conditioning surfaces. The vapor does not tend to condense out and most of the active ingredients become a true molecular dispersion. Madison Square Garden, in New York, has vaporized thousands of gallons of deodorant into its air-conditioning system over a period of five years and yet no deposit of Airkem has been detected on the duct linings. This is an unusual test because the concentration put through these ducts to take care of circuses, rodeos, horse shows, etc., exceeds by many times that used in conventional air-conditioning systems. Tobacco-smoke odor is unlike most of the other occupancy odors. Freshly formed smoke may be fairly agreeable to many persons. Once the solid smoke particles have separated out and been deposited on rugs, draperies, ducts, and cooling coil surfaces, however, they undergo further chemical changes which make them most obnoxious.

In some systems the air-conditioning load for heating and cooling the outside air may be as high as 30 to 50 percent of the total load. Hence, the air-conditioning system which reduces its outdoor intake to a minimum approaches the most economical use, and requires less installed



Figure 1—cutaway view of counteractant and air freshener equipment—Model AE Osmetrol —shows adaptation of central air-conditioning or air-circulating system. Equipment used for control of food odors that would have contaminated apparel and stationery areas of Thalhimers, Richmond, Va.

tonnage and heating equipment. Savings of from 10 to 35 percent of the total heating and cooling costs can be realized by reclaiming some of the conditioned air which will otherwise be wasted. The possible reductions in the cost of operating air-conditioning equipment will, in most cases, more than offset the cost of the liquid complex and result in a further net reduction in the heating and cooling costs.

One gallon of the liquid costs from \$6.00 to \$7.25 depending on the quantities purchased; one gallon, however, is sufficient to treat 30,000,000 cu ft of malodorous air. The possible savings that may be considered typical for a wide section of the U.S. are indicated (*Table I*).

Installation of odor counteractant equipment for restaurant of the Hotel Commodore, New York.







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How Do You Specify and Approve Paint Material?

by Harold J. Rosen

This column was inaugurated on the premise that we could furnish the architect and the specifications writer with the latest authoritative information on materials and methods to be used in the writing of architectural specifications. In this issue, however, I propose to turn the tables and ask you, architect or specifications writer, for information.

The question is simply this: How do you specify and approve paint materials? This is a loaded question; so before you leap to a quick reply permit me to bring you up to date on several methods that are used today, but which are not entirely satisfactory.

In previous years, before the advent of alkyd emulsions, latex paints, polyvinyl acetates, acrylics (and perhaps others by the time this article gets into print), about all we had to deal with in specifying paints was a lead-and-oil paint. Many specifications of that era spelled out the exact proportions to be used in formulating paints. For example, for a primer on exterior wood, one might specify as follows:

White lead	0 pounds
Raw linseed oil	9 gallons
Drier	1/2 pint
For a finish coat on exterior	wood, the
specification might read as fol	llows:

White lead		.100 pounds
Raw linseed	l oil	3 gallons
Drier		1/2 pint

Then to insure that you were getting what you specified, you watched the painter measure out and mix the ingredients on the job.

However, the paint industry has come a long way since the days of lead and oil paints, and the architect and specifications writer have not been able to keep pace with these developments. The formulation of paints is a science today, and one must possess a knowledge of chemistry to understand its ramifications.

The paint manufacturers are constantly improving their products through research, and even today's brand changes as new resins, solvents, and plasticizers are discovered.

How then does the specifications writer specify these new paints and approve them? If he specifies Manufacturers A, B, and C (or equal) and the contractor submits Manufacturer D, how does he determine that Manufacturer D is "or equal"? For that matter, how can he equate Manufacturers A, B, and C in the same specifications?

In public work, a specifications writer might use Federal-Specifications paints as criteria, but if these paints are not tested in accordance with these specifications how does he know what he is getting? If you cannot afford to test the paints in accordance with these Federal Specifications and will therefore accept affidavits, you are again on shaky ground because the affidavits are not aways attested to by the proper people. Most manufacturers make their own standard brands and only make paint in accordance with Federal Specifications when large quantities are involved. So if your project requires a small amount of paint, it may be difficult to get Federal-Specifications paints manufactured.

In institutional work, where purchasing agents buy paint for maintenance purposes, some have tried to develop specifications based on washability of the paints. The awards on paint materials are made not necessarily on low bids but on the basis of longevity of the paints based on the number of washings as against the price.

We cannot close our specifications to a limited few manufacturers. It may be that we have personal knowledge that some manufacturer's paint materials are unacceptable, and we may specifically exclude these, or veto them if they are submitted. But there are so many manufacturers of paint that one cannot possibly know them all and arbitrarily disapprove of a paint bearing the name of an unknown manufacturer, unless one has specific information. Yet, how can you approve the brand offered?

Recently a paint-specifications guide entitled "A Modern Guide to Paint Specifications," prepared by the Painting and Decorating Contractors of America, came to my attention. The very problem which I have posed here is unanswered in this guide. While a comprehensive specification on painting has been developed, the paragraph on paint materails is left to the Architect.

For example, on materials, this specifications guide reads as follows:

"Recommendation of specific material for fulfilling the intention of the Architect is not considered a function of these recommendations. This data should be obtained by the Architect from the Paint Manufacturers who generously supply any and all necessary information on this subject."

The foreword to this particular painting guide states that "no proprietary brands of materials have been stipulated in the preparation of these specifications."

I do not wish to single out these specifications as an example, but I believe that had a satisfactory system been developed, it would have been incorporated in that guide.

Inasmuch as apparently there is no satisfactory method of specifying and approving paint materials, I am putting the question to you. How do you specify and approve paint materials? We propose to put the question to leading architectural firms, paint manufacturers, and other interested parties. Perhaps if we all put our heads together we can be instrumental in formulating a policy on the specifying and approving of paint materials. We plan to publish the results of this inquiry in this column at a later date.

p/a selected detail





OFFICE BUILDING, Sillsbee, Tex. George Pierce & Abel B. Pierce, Architects

p/a selected detail



NEWS AGENCY, New York, N. Y. Hansen & Thuesen Inc., Designers



FORMICA surfaced furniture is still basic for all types of institutional use. But a newer Formica development is causing architects, decorators, contractors and operators to take a long look. It's the dollars and sense story of how attractive Formica wall surfaces cut maintenance, increase economy.

Every inch of wall area in this picture is Formica that was applied on-the-job with our new Fast Dry contact adhesive. There are many ways Formica can be applied to walls in full sheets, random width strips or pieces of all shapes and sizes. Formica has a new Custom Design Service for providing suggestions for layout of any sizable wall area. Your local Formica representative will be glad to discuss this new service with you.

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Seeing is believing. If this wash-off identification is not on the surface, it's not FORMICA.
New Merchandise Mart showroom of Laverne, Inc., displays the firm's textiles. wall coverings, and jurniture in a handsome interior designed by Estelle and Erwine Laverne. Elements combine to achieve a quality of light: white-on-white canvas "Patina" wall covering. glass partitions, white overall carpeting. Thirty-threefoot "Marbalia" mural. monumental Piranesi mural, and a wall of sliding fabric panels, luminously backlighted, dramatize the chiarascuro effect. (See p. 166 for more Market News.)



Louise Sloane

retail shops

Sharply contrasted in concept and in execution, yet unified in their purpose-to serve the retail customer-are the two New York shops that we show on the following pages. Designers Hansen & Thuesen created for Hotaling's News Agency a crisp, vividly colorful showcase that calls out to the passerby to enter and browse among the foreign-language newspapers, magazines, and books for sale within. Designer Finn Juhl, in remodeling the first floor of Georg Jensen, Inc., devised a richly subtle background for the hundreds of pieces of silverware, porcelain, and allied accessories that gleam and glitter throughout the space. Both shops reflect their respective designers' sensitivity to the emotional quality of the merchandise on display: Hansen & Thuesen choosing bold geometric lines, brilliant lighting, and such frankly contemporary materials as steel, Micarta, and Plexiglas to convey the excitement of news from foreign lands; while Juhl selects the patina of rare woods, gentle curves, soft diffused lighting, and floating ceiling panels of velvety fabric to emphasize the elegant character of Jensen's wares. Yet each shop design has been thought through functionally and practically. In the Hansen & Thuesen shop, the fixture units (see SELECTED DETAIL) are designed for maximum display in minimum space, and arranged both for self-service customer ease and watchful visibility by the sales attendant. The Juhl design provides necessary flexibility for frequently changing display requirements through a free-standing shelving system supported overhead by a suspended wood grid.





client location designers associate designer lighting consultant

Hotaling's News Agency, Inc. New York, New York Hansen & Thuesen, Inc. Granville Ackermann Robert Finkelstein

Contributing to the international atmosphere: world maps showing the time in major capitals, colorful blown-up names of publications in many languages. Unobstructed street window affords full view from the outside. Horizontal grid 10" below ceiling conceals wiring, carries signs, ties together vertical metal poles. Photos: Ben Schnall

p/a interior design data

retail shops

data

Color Plan: White walls, medium gray poles, light gray shelves, all showwood walnut with oil finish. Top end panels in fixtures are charcoal gray, lower panels in a variety of colors harmonizing with ceiling signs. Signs are of transparent and opaque Plexiglas and lacquered-enamel masonite in 17 different colors.

cabinetwork

All: designed by Hansen & Thuesen/ axecuted by Jaff Bros. Woodworks, Inc., 41-43 37 St., Long Island City I, N. Y.

equipment

Air Conditioning: Carrier Corporation, Syracuse, N. Y.

lighting

Ceiling Fixtures: Century Lighting, Inc., 521 W. 43 St., New York, N. Y.

walls, ceiling, flooring

Walls: painted flat white. Ceiling: acoustical tile. Floor: "Nairon Custom Tile"/Congoleum-Nairn, Inc., Kearny, N. J.

accessories

World Maps and Signs: Display Corporation of New York, 253 W. 64 St., New York, N. Y.



p/a interior design data

retail shops

client location designer Georg Jensen, Inc. New York, New York Finn Juhl





Overhead grill of teak, carried to ceiling by metal straps, provides support for flexible display units as well as for snap-on accent lights which may be moved about at will. Display units have interchangeable wood panels attached to metal uprights, bracket-supported glass shelves. Photos: Louis Reens data

Color Plan: Dominant color is the teakwood, used for display tables, backgrounds, and overhead grid. In freestanding and wall-hung cases, panels are of lacquered, Black Bog Oak and Japanese Bast, all in natural finish. Walls are painted off-white, flooring is black and white, ceiling fabric panels are white.

cabinetwork, lighting

All: designed by Finn Juhl. Cabinetwork: executed by Bovirke, Co-

penhagen, Denmark. Lighting: Louie Poulsen & Co. A/S, Copenhagen, Denmark.

fabrics

Ceiling Panels: fireproofed white cotton duvetyne/ Maharam Fabrics Corp., 130 W. 46 St., New York, N. Y.

flooring

Floor: vinyl-tile/ Robbins Floor Products, Inc., Tuscumbia, Ala.





Chicago Market Survey

The consistently increasing work of the architect in areas of interior design has electrified the atmosphere of the Chicago home-furnishings market, with "the importance of the architect as interior designer" a topic for panel discussions, humorously pointed dramatic sketches, and focal point of much manufacturers' sales literature. Furniture, floor-and-wall covering, and appliance suppliers are deeply conscious of the desirability of the architect-customer, and are slanting their design and selling efforts to appeal to the architect market.

Outstanding example of a supplier's

provision for both the esthetic and practical needs of the customer is Amtico's effective new showroom, designed by Paul MacAlister & Associates in the Merchandise Mart. In a compact 33x18-ft space, the designer has managed to show six different, installed, sample floors; the company's entire diversified assortment of patterns, grades, and colors; and has devised a "Color Scheme Planner" for presenting co-ordinated color schemes. The Planner is composed of three revolving triangular columns, each face carrying eleven separate color schemes, permitting a total of 99 color schemes, to be read from top to bottom. Along one wall, a wing-form display of small samples is specially lighted to avoid hilation and to permit true reading of color.

The Upholstery Leather Group's 1957 exhibit introduces both a new upholstery leather, and a lightweight leather suitable for draperies, curtains, shades, folding doors. In its fourteen room settings by members of the American Institute of Decorators, markedly architectural use of leather has been made—in an acoustical ceiling, as a wall covering, for a room divider, for screens, as facing for a storage-wall (see acrosspage).





U-arrangement permits display, sales reception, and office areas around central traffic aisle. Owens-Corning Fiberglas acoustical hung ceiling; Lightolier recessed flush lighting; wallpapers by Denst & Soderlund, Bassett & Vollum.





Prize-winning architectural design in 1956 competition, acoustical ceiling by Dave Zeese, combines five shades of leather woven with 1-inch wooden dowels. Setting designed by William Pahlmann; furniture by Jens Risom Designs, Inc., New York, N. Y.

Oiled-walnut beams frame leather in two tones of yellow and white, and in gold, for ceiling and shade wall. Chairs are competition designs, the pair in oiled walnut with brass ferrules designed by Kwok Wai Lau; the turquoise-lacquered chair with sculptured back and seat molded in one piece of leather designed by Robert B. J. Biggins. Antique Persian brass piece serves both as cocktail table and lighting fixture. Setting designed by Marian Heuer; furniture by S. J. Campbell

Co., Chicago, Ill.



Stationary screen, framed in white metal, uses four leather panels ranging from light beige to chocolate brown, stands against a wall of white pecky cypress. Adjacent wall is gold-colored burlap, chair in vermilion leather, vermilion Venini hanging light. Setting designed by Marius Perrin; furniture by Erwin-Lambeth Furniture Co., Thomasville, N. C.





Leather window shades, in mustard yellow and gray, have cutout snowflake motif (competition design by Betty Cooke). Floor cushions, armless chair, and console table are all leathercovered, in yellow, gray, white, kumquat. Floor is V-joint ebony, walls are by Murals, Inc., Jamaican-weave covering in white. Setting designed by John Wisner; furniture by Arch Gordon Company, Chicago, Ill.

Chicago Market Survey

furniture highlights





Contour chair: designed by Alf Svensson/ steel-tube construction/ foam-rubber no-sagspring seat and back/ adjusts to reclining position/ wood frame in teak, walnut, or black finish/ 28¹/₂" wide, 31" deep, 16" seat, 40³/₄" back/ retail: \$149 in top-grade fabric/ Dux, Inc., 390 Ninth St., San Francisco 3, Calif.

Occasional Chair: designed by Edward J. Wormley/ of laminated natural ash, formed of "X" members/ round, down-filled, back cushion over cane back/ retail: \$440, cover furnished/ Dunbar Furniture Co., Berne, Ind.

Bel Canto Chair: designed by J. Gordon Perlmutter/ floating seat, leather-upholstered in sculptured walnut frame/ Shearman Brothers Co., Jamestown, N. Y.





Low Round Table: designed by Charles Eames/ white plastic top, gray vinyl edge, base and shaft of black-lacquered steel tubing, top of star-shaped base of polished aluminum/ 16" high, 36" diam./ Herman Miller Furniture Co., Zeeland, Mich.

Side Chair: designed by Gio Ponti/ walnut frame in fluid, unbroken line, slim seat and back upholstery/ M. Singer & Sons, New York, N. Y.



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Aerial view of the new Maine State Office Building with the Capitol building at the rear.

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Here's an interior view showing a small part of the installation of Gold Seal Inlaid Linoleum. Actually, about 3½ acres of floor space are covered with this ½" burlap-backed "Veltone."

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FLOORS AND WALLS



Editor's Note: Items starred are particularly noteworthy, due to immediate and widespread interest in their contents, to the conciseness and clarity with which information is presented, to announcement of a new, important product, or to some other factor which makes them especially valuable. Unnumbered items to be obtained directly from manufacturer.

air and temperature control

108. Copper Tube Panel Grids, 28-p. guide to installation and design of residential radiant heating system using preformed, copper tube panel grids. Discusses principles of radiant panel heating; explains advantages of new system with flexible center spacing that simplifies adaptation to any plan arrangement. Diagrams suggest variety of grid designs for floor and ceiling as well as methods of indicating grid layout in drawings. Gives installation procedure with photo illustrations. Charts, drawings. The American Brass Co., Waterbury 20, Conn.

109. Trane Centravac, 56-p. data book on automatic hermetic centrifugal water chiller for air-conditioning and process systems. Discusses features, controls, and installation of unit composed of two-stage motor-driven centrifugal compressor, shelfand-tube type evaporator and condenser of similar construction. Numerous photos, drawings, and diagrams illustrate components and operation of system. Outlines selection procedure; offers charts of dimensions, capacity ratings, water pressure drops. The Trane Co., La Crosse, Wis.

110. Agitair High Pressure Terminals, 16-p. catalog brochure on series of highpressure terminals used with conventional diffusers for control and distribution of air in high-velocity systems. Gives background data on high-velocity air distribution and function of components; shows terminals for single-, dual-, and perimeterduct applications with data to facilitate The tremendous growth in popularity of glass-wall construction and the use of sliding glass doors has created a demand for these doors in a wider variety of types, sizes, and materials. Among the few major firms in this country manufacturing both steel and aluminum frames, Arcadia Metal Products offers three basic lines of sliding doors in stock and custom sizes. Full information for architects on these lines is presented in the new Arcadia Sliding Door Catalog.

In addition to conventional sliding doors, the catalog features custom models to permit greater mobility, wider openings, pocket installations, and use with post-and-beam construction. Details, specifications, and table of stock sizes for each line—single and double-glazed standard aluminum, standard steel, and heavy-duty aluminum doors—are grouped for easy reference. Photos show outstanding features including doubleseal wool-pile weatherstripping at head section, jamb, interlocker, and sill; contemporary-styled hardware. Installation details are provided in final section. Example shown on cover was designed by Cliff May with architects Higgens & Root for the Lane Publishing Company, Menlo Park, Calif.

395. Arcadia Sliding Door Catalog, 16-p. Arcadia Metal Products, 801 S. Acacia Ave., Fullerton, Calif. R. C.

selection. Charts, photos, diagrams, specifications. Air Devices Inc., 185 Madison Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

111. LoLine Cooling Towers, 16-p. brochure presenting data on compact rectangular cooling towers for industrial air conditioning, Photos show structural and mechanical features; large interior views explain operation of propeller-type fan housed in redwood frame. Special fold-out section of drawings shows tower dimensions and elevations; supporting steel and foundation arrangements for single and multiple cell towers with concrete or wood basins. Typical cross sections, engineering data, specifications. J. F. Pritchard & Co., 4625 Roanoke Pkwy, Kansas City 12, Mo.

construction

Typical Lumber Designs, AIA 19-B, 16-p. 1957 edition of handbook listing large variety of lumber designs using Teco structural connections. Designs range from basic types of trussed rafters and heavy roof trusses to highway structures and farm buildings. Provides: data on spans, depths, spacings, and loads; descriptions; outline drawings; instructions for ordering complete information on any design listed. Request from: Timber Engineering Co., 1319 18 St., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

270. Steel Joist Bridging, AIA 13-G, 16-p. synopsis of tests made on short-span open-web joists to determine most effective type of bridging. Presents charts compiled from results of three series of tests along with observations and conclusions. Drawings, diagrams, and photos illustrate report. Steel Joist Institute, Dupont Circle Bldg., 1346 Connecticut Ave., N.W., Washington 6, D. C.

271. Fireplaces of Stone, AIA 22-A-2, 22-p. publication showing examples of

stone fireplaces for homes selected by Building Stone Institute. Photos indicate wide range of stone types used in fireplaces designed for contemporary or traditional surroundings. Building Stone Institute, 1696 Summer St., Stamford, Conn.

272. Milcor Metal Trim, AIA 20-B-1, 20-p. catalog illustrating types of interior steel trim for various installations. Features standard wall units for window openings consisting of head and jamb sections, window stools, and convector enclosure panels; gives full data and installation details. Includes sections on plastered-in and clipped-on bases, picture molds, fillet molds, and blackboard trim. Provides installation details for each unit. Photos, specifications, dimensions. Inland Steel Products Co., 4143 W. Burnham St., Milwaukee 1, Wis.

273. Glass for Construction, AIA 26-A, 28-p. booklet providing data on special glass types for architectural applications. Covers tempered plate glass windows and doors, shatterproof glass, insulating glass, transparent mirrors; also patterned, frosted, heat-absorbing, and wire glass. Describes physical properties; suggests installation methods. Gives chart of standard sizes and designs in plate glass windows; table of dimensions and varied patterns in obscure glass. Photos, drawings, specifications. Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co., Toledo 3, Ohio.

274. Micro-Match Flooring, 4-p. folder containing information on pre-sanded oak strip flooring supplied in long uniform lengths and double-widths to eliminate problem of matching odd pieces. Color photos show precision tongue and groove connections of strips that form integral finished floor over conventional subflooring, concrete slabs, or joists. Illustrates two available oak grades. Specifications. Miller Brothers Co., Inc., Johnson City, Tenn.

275. Davidson Architectural Porcelain, AIA-17-A, 20-p. reference catalog with data on porcelain-enamel panels for commercial and institutional buildings. Section on curtain walls provides details and elevations showing installation of single and double-wall panels via mechanical connections. Section on facing panels shows clip attachment for screw connections and gasket-type joints. Gives typical trim and opening details. Illustrates variety of panel surface patterns and channel letter designs. Photos and drawings show: installation of decorative facing panels and louver inserts; exterior remodeling job; installation of checkeredpanel pylon. Davidson Enamel Products, Inc., 1104 E. Kibby St., Lima, Ohio.

276. Mills Movable Walls, AIA

35-H-6, 68-p. catalog featuring series * of modular movable metal partitions designed for office and factory interiors. Details construction features and application of three incombustible, acoustical partition types. Perspective drawings suggest applications using alternate jamb, head, and base details. Covers installations for particular room requirements; details for wall linings and railings. Also, catalogs accessories: transoms, louvers, bookcases, sliding doors, hardware, electrical outlets -giving details for installation. Photos, drawings, specifications, exploded views. The Mills Co., 993 Wayside Rd., Cleveland 10, Ohio.

doors and windows

393. DuraFlex Thresholds, AIA-14 ★ B, 4-p. folder and inserts introducing two-piece triple-seal threshold for buildings of all types. Sketches show how flexible plastic strip, arched in aluminum base, springs tight against bottom of door to insure effective weather protection; point out vinyl strips along bottom edges of threshold that give additional protection. Provides installation details, list of standard sizes, drawings of standard shapes. The DuraFlex Co., 3500 N.W. 52 St., Miami, Fla.

394. Pyrodor Package Units, AIA-16-A, 24-p. catalog of standard UL approved frame and hardware package units for ready installation. Shows construction features of incombustible, flush metal doors with solid mineral core; gives chart of models available. Provides installation details, sections, and elevations for frames installed with transoms or sidelights. Photos show designs of standard hardware for panic exits, residential doors, and doors in public buildings. Specifications, charts, drawings. Dusing and Hunt, Inc., Dept. P, Lake St., Leroy, N.Y.

electrical equipment, lighting

485. Interior Lighting Design Data, 52-p. manual intended as basic reference book for architects and engineers designing interior lighting installations. Describes footcandle levels required for such seeing tasks as drafting, bookkeeping, and machine operating; levels are assigned to specific interior areas of all conceivable types from armories and airplanes to textile mills. Also, suggests methods of calculating light quantities as well as selecting lighting systems, maintenance factors, and locations for luminaires. Provides tabulated textbook data on room indexes and coefficients of utilization in addition to series of charts that facilitate computations. Westinghouse Lamp Div., Bloomfield, N. J.

486. Milcor Celluflor, 16-p. booklet containing information on cellular steel subfloor which serves as both electrical duct system and lateral reinforcement in concrete slab construction. Lists advantages in economy and flexibility; provides formulas, charts, and tables for determining proper gage and form of steel sections for different loads, spans, and bearing requirements. Construction details show typical applications at critical points. Drawings, specifications. Inland Steel Products Co., 4139 W. Burnham St., Milwaukee 1, Wis.

487. Power Distribution Library, file folder containing first two of series of tab-indexed bulletins on planning loadcenter systems for industrial power distribution. First brochure covers fundamentals of system, circuit arrangement, size and location of substations, equipment. Second bulletin covers short-circuit protection. Photos, diagrams. General Electric Co., Schenectady 5, N.Y.

488. Modular Lighting Systems, AIA-31-F, 12-p. pamphlet discussing features of modular ceiling lighting systems and pendant lighting units. Describes and illustrates systems designed to coordinate acrylic diffusers, suspended acoustical baffles, sprinklers, air diffusers, and movable partitions. Photos show actual installations; drawings explain assemblies. Catalog section shows variety of pendant lamp designs; includes engineering data. The Wakefield Co., Vermilion, Ohio.

finishers and protectors

521. Stop Rust, 32-p. four-color booklet with sample charts showing wide range of available colors for rust-preventive coatings used in industrial applications. Discusses advantages of use and physical characteristics of primers, long and short oil coatings, machinery finishes, and special heat-resistant, chemical-resistant coatings as well as sealers and floor coatings. Gives instructions for mixing, thinning, and application. Rust-Oleum Corp., Evanston, III.

641. Shock and Vibration Control, 4-p. report reviewing basic principles of vibration isolation and shock absorption, with suggestions for their practical application. Classifies vibrations according to origin, which may be directly from machine or indirectly through foundations and walls. Provides formulas and graphs for determining individual problems. T. R. Finn & Co., Inc., 200 Central Ave., Hawthorne, N. J.

insulation (thermal, acoustical)

642. Styrofoam Insulation, AIA 37-B, 16-p. folder enclosing separate detail sheets which illustrate variety of applications for polystyrene, plastic-foam insulation. Clearly drawn details show rigid-type material used to insulate wood and metal windows, masonry-wall door opening, perimeter heating ducts, slabs and foundation walls. Also includes listing of thermal, physical, and water-resistant properties; specification sheet; ordering data. The Dow Chemical Co., Midland, Mich.

643. Perforated Metal Sheets for Sound Control, 6-p. nontechnical bulletin describing application of perforated-metal sheets for acoustical treatment of ceilings, side walls, and enclosures. Isometric drawings show panels of perforated metal and sound-absorbent blankets supported by aluminum-grid ceiling system or fixed to wall with metal-molding caps and spring clips. Illustrates variety of three-dimensional patterns that strengthen sheet material and suggest exciting design possibilities. Diamond Mfg. Co., Wyoming, Pa. (Continued on page 174)

 PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE, 430 Park Avenue, New York 22, N. Y.
 I should like a copy of each piece of Manufacturers' Literature circled. We request students to send their inquiries directly to the manufacturers.

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p/a manufacturers' literature

(Continued from page 173)

specialized equipment

853. Built-in Refrigerator-Freezer, 8 p. brochure describing self-supporting, onepiece refrigerating unit with shell-type condenser, Discusses procedure for built-in installation with diagrammatic illustrations; gives data on electrical connections, cabinet construction, and operation. Dimensions, specifications, photos. Preway, Inc., Wisconsin Rapids, Wis.

854. Steel Kitchens, 20-p. catalog containing information on a wide variety of model sinks, cabinets, and special sink equipment. Features titanium-porcelain, acid-resisting steel sink and cabinet combinations; base cabinets; cabinets with lighting; corner cabinets; micarta covered sink tops; double faucets with aerator and automatic diverter spray. Eljer Div. of The Murray Corporation of America, Three Gateway Center, Pittsburgh 22, Pa.

855. Curtis Kitchens, 24-p. catalog brochure illustrating range of wood cabinets and closets for designing attractive contemporary kitchens. Illustrates several complete kitchens stressing color variety in natural wood or painted effects. Shows selection of storage units with pull-out trays, swinging doors, and spinning shelves as well as storage walls and island units. Scale outline drawing of wall and base cabinets facilitate kitchen planning. Photos. Curtis Companies Service Bureau, Clinton, Iowa.

856. Methods for Plant Layout, 44-p. catalog showing materials and methods for making plant layouts or scale models without preliminary drafting. Describes twodimensional system using grid sheets, templates, and tapes to create layout from which blueprints are made in usual manner. Drawings show available replicas of piping sections with brass-pin connections; pumps; compressors; ladders and stairs; laboratory furniture; refinery equipment and even scale figures for building miniature assembly lines and fully equipped model plants to facilitate visualization. F. Ward Harman Associates, Halesite, Long Island, N. Y.

857. Gold Nugget Grating, 8-p. bulletin featuring new heavy-duty grating with projection welded connections for sidewalks, loading docks, fire escapes, or factory flooring. Stresses homogenous design using Ibeams and secondary load bars in diamond pattern. Illustrates methods of fastening gratings to supports without drilling. Also shows triple-joint design employed in stair treads. Provides safe-loading tables, dimensions, specifications, photos. The Globe Co., 4000 S. Princeton Ave., Chicago 9, Ill.

858. Nuclear Research Reactors, 12-p. bulletin containing data on three nuclear (Continued on page 178)



THE CEILING: FORESTONE

President's Office Western Conference of Teamsters Union Seattle, Washington General Contractor: John Lindsay Acoustical Contractor: Elliott Bay Lumber Company

Economical Forestone is available through the following Simpson Certified Acoustical Contractors:

ALABAMA Badham Insulation Co., Birmingham Stokes Incorporated, Mobile

- ARIZONA Fiberglas Engineering & Supply, Phoenix Hall Insulation & Tile Co., Tucson ARKANSAS
- ck Hendershott Company, Little Rock
- Buck Hendershott Company, Little Rock CALIFORNIA Coast Insulating Products, Los Angeles Cramer Acoustics, Fresno and San Francisco John K. Haas Company, San Diego H. W. Rivett Company, Sacramento COLORADO Construction Specialties Company, Denver

CONNECTICUT Wilson Construction Company, Hartford FLORIDA

- Anning-Johnson Company, Miami Anning-Johnson Company, Tampa
- GEORGIA Anning-Johnson Company, Atlanta The Linoleum & Shade Shop, Inc., Savannah
- IDAHO
- HO Fiberglas Engineering & Supply, Boise Idaho Acoustical & Building Specialties Co., Boise
- ILLINOIS General Acoustics Company, Chicago George S. Grimmett & Co., Champaign, Decatur, Mattoon and Springfield
- INDIANA The Baldus Company, Inc., Fort Wayne E. F. Marburger & Son, Inc., Indianapolis Parkinson Brothers, Evansville

Control Parkinson Bround's, Evansville IOWA Lamoreaux and Assoc., Inc., Marshalltown KANSAS Ecoff & Co., Wichita KENTUCKY Atlas Plaster & Supply Company, Louisville

- Atias Plaster & Supply Company, Louisin COUISIANA King & Co., Inc., New Orleans MARYLAND Lloyd E. Mitchell, Inc., Baltimore MASSACHUSETTS Acoustical Contractors, Inc., Brighton
- MICHIGAN Detroit Acoustical Contracting Co., Detroit Grand Rapids Acoustical Co., Grand Rapids and Lansing
- MINNESOTA
- Dale Tile Company, Minneapolis **MISSISSIPPI** Stokes Incorporated, Greenwood Stokes Incorporated, Jackson
- MISSOURI
- Hamilton Company, Inc., St. Li B. J. Lutz, Inc., Kansas City Midwest Services, Inc., Joplin St. Louis NEBRASKA
- NEBRASKA Kelley Asbestos Products Co., Omaha NEW JERSEY Connor & Company, Inc., Kenilworth Kane Acoustical Company, Inc., Fairview NEW MEXICO Fibergias Engineering & Supply, Albuergue

Albuquerque



- NEW YORK The Cronin Acoustical Co., Stony Point Davis Acoustical Corp., Albany Davis-Fetch & Company, Inc., Buffalo and
- Davis-Fetch & Company, Inc., Buffalo and Jamestown Robert J. Harder, Inc., Lynbrook, L. I. James A. Phillips, Inc., New York Rochester Davis-Fetch Corp., Ithaca and Rochester NORTH CAROLINA The Bonitz Insulation Co., Greensboro and Goldsboro Bost Building Equipment Co., Charlotte OHIO

- Bost Building Equipment Co., Charlotte OHIO Acoustical Contracting & Supply Corp., Cleveland Cincinnati Floor Company, Cincinnati Riethmiller Acoustic Company, Columbus OKLAHOMA Denman Floors Company, Oklahoma City Harold C. Parker & Company, Oklahoma City Harold C. Parker & Company, Oklahoma City Midwest Marble & Tile Company, Tulsa OREGON
- OREGON
- Commercial Tile Company, Eugene R. L. Elfstrom Company, Salem Johnson Acoustical & Supply Co., Portland
- Johnson Acoustical & Supply Co., Pol PENNSYLVANIA Acousti-craft, Inc., Philadelphia Standard Floor Company, Pittsburgh SOUTH CAROLINA Bonitz Insulation Co., Columbia TENNESSEE Alexander Marble & Tile Company M

- Alexander Marble & Tile Company, Memphis Anning-Johnson Company, Knoxville Nelson Baird Company, Inc., Nashville TEXAS
- Blue Diamond Company, Dallas Builders Service Company, Fort Worth Collins Roofing & Sheet Metal Company,
- Collins Rooming & Sneet Wetal Company, Odessa General Supply Company, Inc., Houston Houser Resilient Floors Co., El Paso Raymond Rambo Materials Co., Corpus Christi Rufus A. Walker & Co., San Antonio Stanford Engineering Company, Abilene
- UTAH Utah Pioneer Corporation, Salt Lake City
- VIRGINIA Anning-Johnson Company, Alexandria Manson-Smith Company, Inc., Norfolk and Richmond

- Elliott Bay Lumber Company, Seattle Fiberglas Engineering & Supply, Spokane WEST VIRGINIA
- Asbestos & Insulating Co., Charleston WISCONSIN Building Service, Inc., Appleton and Milwaukee
- WYOMING Construction Specialties Company, Casper
- CANADA F. Drexel Company Limited, Calgary, Alberta, Vancouver and Victoria, B. C. Hancock Lumber Ltd., Edmonton, Alberta
- HAWAII Hawaii Builders Supply Company, Limited,

Honolulu

The Contractors above also install these other Simpson acoustical materials: Hollokore-drilled Perforated Tile-standard and scatter drilled, Acoustical Roof Slab, Fissured Mineral Tile, Metal Acoustical Units, Perforated Hardboard, Perforated Cement Asbestos Board.



Inexpensive acoustical treatment can be attractive, too!

Study this picture. This room is sound-conditioned with the wonder-material of the acoustical industry—Forestone fissured woodfiber acoustical tile.

You'll notice that there are no mechanical-appearing holes drilled all over the ceiling. Forestone catches noise in its hundreds of beautifully-formed *fissures* instead. Yet, because it is made of woodfiber, Forestone costs no more than popular thicknesses of perforated tile.

Forestone is available in $12'' \ge 12''$ and $24'' \ge 24''$ tiles; as ceiling board to fit $24'' \ge 24''$ and $24'' \ge 48''$ exposed grid suspension systems; and in $12'' \ge 23\frac{3}{4}''$ tiles for exposed Z and T suspension systems, with access to utilities.

Now, Forestone is also available in center-scored 12" x 24" tiles with tongue-and-groove joints, flanged for easy stapling or nailing.

When planning your next building, if beauty and economy are important, specify Forestone. For further information call your nearest Simpson Certified Acoustical Contractor today. (See contractors listed on opposite page.)



FISSURED WOODFIBER ACOUSTICAL TILE



SIMPSON LOGGING COMPANY SHELTON, WASHINGTON

AC-73



KAWNEER a single source for a complete metal wall system

analysis, engineering, fabrication, installation

ANALYSIS AND ENGINEERING—Kawneer engineers will translate your architectural metal wall design in terms of factory fabricated units that will speed erection of your building, and assure client satisfaction. You gain the know-how Kawneer has accumulated through 50 years of architectural metals experience.

FABRICATION — Kawneer has extensive fabricating facilities available for application to your job. These modern facilities and production techniques allow Kawneer to give the most effective execution to your metal wall requirements . . . regardless of the blend of expression and function you may have in your design. Porcelain faced aluminum, stainless steel, colored Alumilite finished aluminum, insulated mullions for condensation and heat control, operating or fixed sash . . . whatever you demand, Kawneer can supply in its metal wall system.

INSTALLATION—Kawneer metal wall contracts are usually direct subcontracts with architect, general contractor or owner. This places complete responsibility for fabrication and erection with one responsible firm. This responsibility allows tight control over anchoring devices, sealing methods and materials, and expansion provisions... control that assures you and your client complete satisfaction. Since Kawneer has this control, an effective and adequate guarantee is provided at no extra cost.



Guarantee Mutual Life Co., Omaha, Nebraska, Architect: Leo A. Daly Co. Contractor: Peter Kiewit Sons' Co.



Geigy Chemical Co., Greenburg, N. Y. Architect: Skidmore, Owings & Merrill. Contractor: Vermilya Brown Co.



Equitable Life Building, San Francisco, California. Architect: Loubet & Glynn. Contractor: Dinwiddle Construction Company.

IF YOU ARE PLANNING construction that calls for metal wall, any Kawneer district office or the home office in Niles, Michigan, will be pleased to discuss the advantages and characteristics of Kawneer's complete metal wall system with you.



p/a manufacturers' literature

(Continued from page 174)

reactors available to industrial, educational, and research organizations. Cutaway drawings show features of: highly flexible swimming pool reactor; heavy-water reactor for large-volume projects; nuclear test reactor for precision industri-al process experiments. Provides diagrams showing internal mechanisms; tables of reactor characteristics; full descriptions. General Electric, Apparatus Sales Division, Schenectady 5, N. Y.

Compound Diffraction Projector, 24-p. handbook offering complete data on public address loudspeaker system operating on diffraction principle. Analyzes limitations of commonly used sound equipment; gives thorough description of components, performance, and application of system utilizing two coaxial horns for high-quality projection of voice and music. Outlines method for making sound surveys; discusses public address requirements for



MILITARY PERSONNEL RECORDS CENTER. U. S. DEPT. OF DEFENSE, ST. LOUIS . ARCHITECTS, HELLMUTH, OBATA & KASSABAUM, INC. PLUMBING CONTRACTOR, THOS. J. SHEEHAN

1,340,000 sq. ft. of floor space functionally planned

The architects spent months of patient study and intensive research and planning. The result is a highly integrated structure, with modern conveniences and appointments throughout.

Halsey Taylor drinking water equipment was specified to afford cool water for all employees. The Halsey W. Taylor Co., Warren, Ohio.



Cooler shown has mechanical dual controls, stainless steel top. Wall Fountain shown, as well as cooler, is typical of complete Halsey Taylor line.

ENGINEERED THE BEST





See Sweet's or write for catalog

auditoriums, stadiums, and large interior rooms, with reference to basic acoustical principles. Text is illustrated with numerous diagrams, graphs, and photos. In-cludes architect's specifications. Electro-Voice, 404 Carroll St., Buchanan, Mich. 35¢

surfacing materials

955. Chalkboards for Schools, 8-p. publication exhibiting line of chalkboards, corkboards, and aluminum frames for schoolrooms. Introduces plastic-faced, curved chalkboard designed to reduce eye fatigue, arm strain, and glare. Also shows porcelain-enamel surface chalkboard which won't chip, warp, break, or shatter. Offers tabulated data on various board compositions. Full size details for recessed or surfacemounted boards and aluminum trim. Photos, specifications. New York Standard Blackboard Co., Inc., 225 Broadway, New York 7, N.Y.

956. Marlite Wall and Ceiling Panels, AIA 23-L (15551), 8-p. bulletin illustrating plastic-finished interior surfacing material. Shows panels in solid colors, with tile scoring, in eight wood finishes, and in five marble patterns; gives description and dimensions for each type. Also includes data on T&G hollow-core paneling available in solid colors and wood fin-ishes. Marsh Wall Products, Inc., Dover, Ohio.

Mahogany Grain Patterns, 32-p. booklet illustrating 40 varieties of mahogany veneer in natural color reproductions. Gives detailed description and standard plate numbers useful for specification and selection. Data covers origin and development of various configurations; includes a glossary of pertinent terms. Special sections show effects obtained by matching pieces. Available only on direct order from Mahogany Assoc., Inc., 666 Lake Shore Drive, Chicago 11, III. \$1.

interior furnishings

66. Post Furniture for the Drafting Room, 16-p. bulletin on wood and steel furnishings for architectural offices. Shows standard sections for inter-locking, built-up filing cabinets; also illustrates tracing files, drafting tables, and chairs. Dimensions and description for each piece of equipment. Frederick Post Co., 3650 N. Avondale Ave.. Chicago 90, Ill.

Dunbar Book of Contemporary Furniture, 208-p. catalog of Edward Wormley's contemporary furniture designs has been issued in handsome book form. Photos in black and white as well as imaginative color plates display capacious sofas with sculptured wood supports; chairs for all occasions-open-work, wood-cradled desk chairs, plump lounge chairs, long-legged side chairs; flip-top, drop-leaf, expandable tables in myriad forms; cabinets doubling as bars, bookcases, or room dividers. Ordering data is tabulated in final section with pictorial recapitulation of items. Request directly from Dunbar Furniture Corp. of Indiana, Berne, Ind. \$12.50.

A-71

COLOR-FUSED, HEAT-STRENGTHENED POLISHED PLATE GLASS for curtain walls and





BBEY·OWENS·FORD a Great Name in Glass

TOLEDO 3, OHIO

SEE VITROLUX DISPLAY IN THE LIBBEY . OWENS . FORD BOOTH NO. 77 AT A.I.A. CENTENNIAL CONVENTION.

other facing applications

Enduring, True-Toned Colors. Vitreous color is fused to the back surface of clear plate glass. The rich, true color is transmitted to the surface undiminished, unchanged.

Practical, Low-Cost Maintenance. The polished glass surface is non-porous, non-absorbing-practically self-cleaning. Offers high resistance to corrosion and weathering.

For colorful buildings of distinctive character, VITROLUX is the answer.

VITROLUX is made of heat-strengthened polished plate glass. Vitreous color, fire-fused to the back surface, becomes an integral part of the glass. The VITROLUX color is sunfast, enduring-offers the same natural resistance to weathering, crazing and checking inherent in quality glass.

Many curtain wall manufacturers offer framing systems into which VITROLUX is installed much the same as glazing with plate glass. Because VITROLUX is heat-strengthened, all edgework, pattern cutting or drilling of holes must be done at the factory before fabrication.

Dimensions-Thickness: $\frac{1}{4}''$ plus $\frac{1}{64}''$ minus $\frac{1}{32}''$. Standard maximum size is 48" x 84". Maximum size for special orders is 60" x 84".

Ask your L.O.F Distributor for descriptive folder (he's listed under "Glass" in phone book yellow pages), or write Libbey Owens Ford Glass Company, 608 Madison Avenue, Toledo 3, Ohio.

colors as identified in the Manual, subject to manufacturing limitations

o. 4FE, Silver Gray	No. N, Gunmetal	No. 5LE, Cinnamon	No. 5PO, Chocolate
15LG, Colonial Blue	No. 21LI, Jade Green	No. 22ML, Charcoal	No. 23GE, Sage Green

*Keyed to the Container Corporation of America's Color Harmony Manual

your visiting facts and

figures department



Kewanee Boilers are advertised regularly to your clients in national publications.

Your

man

EWANEE



Singly and in battery Kewanee Type C Steel Boilers have won a reputation for high capacity and efficiency—within a minimum floor space since introduction in 1928.

• Your mechanical equipment specifications can only be as good as the information behind them. Knowing this, your Kewanee man is data-conscious. He keeps you armed with boiler facts and figures...sees that you have an up-to-date catalog... is fast to supply specific information you request.

He can intelligently assume this responsibility because he is a qualified boiler specialist. He knows boiler problems—and answers—from years of experience. Also, he maintains close contact with engineering experts at Kewanee Boiler Division —can keep you abreast of latest applications in the field.

His competence keeps pace with the famed performance of Kewanee Boilers themselves—dependable, efficient models from residential 70,000 Btu units to industrial boilers carrying a 651 h.p. rating. And he is quickly available from a nearby Kewanee Branch Office in the coast-to-coast network.

AMERICAN-STANDARD, KEWANEE BOILER DIVISION, 101 Franklin Street, Kewanee, Illinois.





For column-to-column treatment, trim wall-hung units with standard prefabricated enclosures, accessories and shelving are "tailored" to fit building modules.



For pleasing corner assemblies, a wall-hung Modular Weathermaster unit with prefabricated cabinet and run-out enclosure is both attractive and economical.



For harmony with custom interiors, a decorative furred-in arrangement with base unit, inlet panel and discharge grille matches any interior treatment.



*

For a clean, continuous appearance, two wellproportioned Weathermaster base units separated by a filler piece look good, make future partitioning easy.



*

For floor-fed services, a pedestal arrangement attractively conceals air and water risers. This method of distribution eliminates the need for furred-in risers.



For modern, all-glass buildings, a "foot-high" col umn-to-column arrangement is extremely flexible and blends well with modern architecture and furnishings.

p/a products

air and temperature control

Heat Pump Weathermaker: new packaged heat pump for year-round residential and commercial air conditioning is designed to cut initial and operating costs as well as reduce required floor area. Pump, utilizing outdoor air or water as heat source, can be installed in attic, basement, or closet. Two-piece unit with exterior-mounted air intake eliminates interior ductwork normally used to supply air for heat production. Air-source heat pump may deliver nearly 3 units of heat energy per electrical work unit; using water, pump may deliver as much as 5, 6, or 7 units. Heat pumps now available in 5-hp models will eventually appear in other popular sizes. Carrier Corp., Syracuse 1, N. Y.

Electric Radiator: completely automatic electric steam convector is said to combine advantages of electric heater and ordinary steam radiator: eliminates fan noise, air blast, and dried, burned, or overheated air; requires no liquid or exposed heating element. Radiators, housed in baked-enamel shell, are equipped with thermostat and pilot light. Six models for free-standing or recessed installation are available, ranging in size from 16" x 20" to 64" x 24". All units are 6" deep and operate on 230v; capacities range from 650w to 3000w. Spartan Electric Radiator Corp., 52-55 74 St. Maspeth 78, N. Y.

Airtherm Air Conditioner: in new buildings, multiroom central-system air-conditioning unit provides individual-room control of heating and cooling without ductwork; in old buildings, unit is adaptable to existing wet-heat systems. New units feature: quiet operation; one-piece front panel for recessed installation; single-unit motor and fan assembly. Concealed or cabinet-type models installed at floor or ceiling are available in four series ranging from ½-ton to 2-ton capacity, at 160 to 600 cfm. Airtherm Mfg. Co., 745 S. Spring St., St. Louis, Mo.

construction

Ray-O-Lite Panels: translucent reinforced plastic panel awnings and patio coverings are engineered to provide louvered ventilation and soft diffused light. Shatterproof, weatherproof panels do not require painting and are available in 10 integral colors. Panels may be supported by simple aluminum frame to complement contemporary-styled homes. Ray-O-Lite Corporation of America, 316 Peachtree St., N.E., Atlanta, Ga.

doors and windows

Bi-Folding Door Hardware: new hardware sets for bi-folding wood wardrobe doors permit center-hinged panels to fold together against jamb, giving full access to interior. Hardware sets consist of door aligner—secured at bottom of center panels to eliminate bottom guide track;

2

N

nylon pivots and guides; heavy-gage adjustable steel brackets; header guide track. Packaged sets for two- and four-door openings can be used on doors from ¾" to 1%" thick. The Stanley Works, New Britain, Conn.

finishers and protectors

Spred Stipple-Texture: new ready-to-use multipurpose latex paint with micronized silica particles is especially formulated for stippling or texturing wall surfaces in single paint application. Paint is also recommended for hiding minor surface imperfections and filling masonry block pores. Applied by brush or roller, new paint provides durable base for finish coats. Product is available in eight color shades. The Glidden Co., Cleveland, Ohio.

insulation (thermal, acoustical)

Acoustical Sidewall Panels: for industrial sound control problems, long-strand woodfiber sidewall panels mounted inside or outside framing girts are claimed to have inherent sound-absorbing properties. Noncombustible panels interlock in vertical tongue-and-groove connection. Panels

(Continued on page 190)



Complete Catalog on Request—No Obligation or See Sweet's 1957, Sec. 18e/La

LCN CLOSERS, INC., PRINCETON, ILLINOIS

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MODERN DOOR CONTROL BY LON . CLOSER CONCEALED IN DOOR

EDISON JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL, SIOUX FALLS, SOUTH DAKOTA LCN CLOSERS, INC., PRINCETON, ILLINOIS Construction Details on Opposite Page





On James Sales Elementary School, Tacoma, Washington

Fir plywood roof deck helps save \$3,300°°



Summary of installed costs per M sq. ft. Based on actual suppliers' quotations and time records where available and on Walker's Estimator's Handbook where not:

- 2. Estimated cost as built but using all new sheathing with no salvage
- from concrete forms \$187 3. Estimated cost all new sheathing
- with 2 x 4 blocking at panel edges . **\$206** 4. Estimated cost 2 x 6 T & G decking . **\$291**

*169.00 per M "as built" cost represents \$122.00 per M savings over estimated cost of 2 x 6 T&G decking. On this basis, savings on entire job total \$3,300.00.

To eliminate 2 x 4 blocking, metal "H" clips were used at unsupported panel edges. Two clips were used for each span. (Clips were responsible for approx. \$20 per M of savings; see table above).



JAMES SALES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL; Tacoma, Washington ARCHITECTS: Lea, Pearson and Richards CONTRACTOR: Nelson Construction Company STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS: Smith and Murray

5 ways Fir Plywood builds better schools



 Strong, rigid, easy-toapply wall and roof sheathing.



markedly superior construction is this new U-shaped, 1-story reinforced concrete school. The contractor estimates $\frac{3}{4}$ " fir plywood saved a

AN EXCELLENT EXAMPLE of how fir plywood roof

decking sharply cuts costs as well as provides

total of \$3,300.00 on the job; \$2,800.00 in actual installed cost, plus an additional \$500.00 by amortizing costs of some of the panels previously used for forms. A total of 27,000 sq. ft. were used on the job. Design calculations by the architects show plywood superior in resisting racking forces such as wind loads and earthquakes.

Although many home builders have found thick plywood over wide rafter spacing saves money, this is one of the first detailed cost analyses for a larger building. The idea points the way to new opportunities for reducing costs on commercial and industrial buildings as well as schools.



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(Continued from page 186)

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the search for pleasingness

The discussion below is drawn from a provocative book, While Architecture Lasts: Proposals for a Revival and a Code of Criticism of Modern Architecture, being written by Robin Boyd, Australian architect, author, and critic who was first brought to attention of P/A readers as editor of the student leaflet, Smudges, with which professionals of his country were bombarded several years ago. C. M.



In his first book (*Chapter II*), Vitruvius defined good architectural arrangement as the disposition in their just and proper places of all the parts of the building, and the elegance or pleasing effect of the whole. Pleasing Effect then became the slogan emblazoned on the banner wherever the Classical tradition was carried. To realize this universal property of pleasingness the ancients sought a Golden Rule, the vital touch of nature's design, the key to a perception unlocking the innermost secrets of the design of the universe. Characteristically they began the search on the surface of the human body, believing that the secret of the design of its form would be the key to all creation.

Vitruvius started methodically at the navel, noting it to be the natural central point: "If a man be placed flat on his back with his hands and feet extended, and a pair of compasses centered at his navel, the fingers and toes of his two hands and feet will touch the circumference of a circle described therefrom." (Book 2, Chapter I.) He also explained that a square may be discovered in the body, for a man's arm-stretch "will be found to be the same" as his height.

This picture of the man in the circle has pleased many generations. Somehow, it seems evidence of our importance in the scheme of things, suggesting at least a comforting niche for our mortal frames in the cosmic pattern, if not positive proof of our being made in God's image. In his study of the Renaissance, Rudolph Wittkower disagreed with Scott's theory of empathy, of the humanist's simple aim to please the eye. On the contrary, he pictured the age in earnest search of a mathematical and harmonic integration of architecture in the cosmos. The Vitruvian Man "seemed to reveal a deep and fundamental truth about man and the world," he said, "and its importance for Renaissance architects can hardly be over-estimated. The image haunted their imagination." (Architectural Principles in the Age of Humanism, Part IV.)

The artists of the Renaissance delighted in illustrating the concept. Leonardo's famous diagram is the most thorough. His man has a body fixed in the center of a superimposed circle and square. Man's limbs are shown in two positions, with legs spread easily and arms raised in a V to touch the circle, and with feet together and arms stretched wide to touch the square. Other artists pictured the Vitruvian figure differently. In 1511, Fra Giocondo, the first to publish a drawing, had Man's arms horizontal and his legs comparatively close together. Cesariano's edition of Vitruvius (1521) spread Man's legs into an acrobatic split. Francesco Giorgi (1525) had to bend his Man's arms to contain them within a circle which had suddenly contracted, for some reason not suggested by Vitruvius, until it almost touched his head. Notwithstanding the different postures, all these universal men were contained precisely within the perfect geometric form of a circle. This is not remarkable since artists can adjust posture and proportions at will. All the men in the pictures are proportioned differently, as indeed are men in life, and the artists could just as well have turned their pens to prove that man bore a striking resemblance to a triangle, or a tree-which may be a more convincing hypothesis. But the circle attracts because it is the most obvious basis of cosmic geometry, and a circular container adds dignity to our physical form. It reminds us that, however vulnerable and ungainly our body may be in comparison with the forms of some of our fourfooted co-inhabitants of the world, it alone when spreadeagled can fit inside the shape of the universe. Nevertheless, if we were cats we would fill the Vitruvian circle much more snugly-and in our sleep.

Vitruvius scrutinized his fellow men more closely to find further evidence of harmonic pattern. He was delighted to discover that their frames carried a network of mathematical division: "The human body is so designed by nature," he wrote (Book 3, Chapter I),

the search for pleasingness

"that the face from the chin to the top of the forehead and the lowest roots of the hair, is a tenth part of the whole height; the open hand from the wrist to the tip of the middle finger is just the same, the head from the chin to the crown is an eighth, and with the neck and shoulder from the top of the breast to the lowest roots of the hair is a sixth . . ." and so on. Furthermore the face is a veritable graph: "The distance from the bottom of the chin to the underside of the nostrils is one third of it, the nose from the underside of the nostrils to a line between the eyebrows is the same; from there to the lowest roots of the hair is also a third comprising the forehead. . . . The other members too have their own symmetrical proportions."

It is difficult to believe that such wishful thinking ever could have commanded a sizeable body of artistic thought. If the proportions stated for the body or the face were exact, everyone would look alike. If they were intended only as approximate, then they mean nothing as a rule for design, since it is the subtle little differences in proportion which express major differences of character in the human design. And if the ancients were not considering ordinary mortals but only an ideal, a perfect human, a God, then who among the artists are we to follow? Where is the perfectly proportioned

ELECTRICAL SPECIF



human on which we can base our proportions of building? No doubt he is an athlete—tall, trim, and bronzed, poised against the blue sky of ancient Greece—or perhaps a modern Olympic competitor, Western (of course) Caucasian, and all that, and male. The Vitruvian figures were always male, sometimes aggressively so.

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The belief that the elusive "perfect" human body holds a secret of universal proportional beauty was carried high through the Renaissance and appears triumphant again today in the . . . figure with which Le Corbusier embellishes his measuring stick, Le Modulor. Le Corbusier proposed Le Modulor, after World War II, as a method of standardizing and "harmonizing" dimensions of all manufactured goods while reducing the obstacle created by the irreconcilable metric and foot-and-inch systems, which are now splitting the world. It takes the form of a graduated scale, a useful tool for draftsmen, and is based not on the repetition of even units-inch upon inch-but on a logarithmic progression of lengths. Starting at a basic dimension of 2.26 meters, the intervals diminish in steps of even proportion towards zero, and in the other direction (beyond the length of the tool) enlarge in the same progression toward infinity.

The basic dimension of 2.26 meters was selected by Le Corbusier as being the height of a man standing with one arm raised. He proposed this as a standard dimension for the ceiling-height of rooms, a measurement based on the human being rather than the arbitrary inch or meter. The man whose arm is raised is taken to be six feet tall. In earlier experiments with *Le Modulor*, Le Corbusier recounts that he and his collaborators had adopted a human height of 1.75 meters, but this was not proving satisfactory in some of the practical details of conversion to feet and inches. Then one draftsman suggested: "Isn't that rather a French height? Have you never noticed that in English detective novels, the good-looking men, such as the policemen, are always six feet tall?" (*The Modulor*, Harvard University Press, 1954). So they amended the basic measurement to 1.8288 meters (6 feet) and this solved their problem!

Le Corbusier was not prepared to leave his measuring stick at the utilitarian level. Having selected rationally, if not very scientifically, a basic dimension keyed to human scale, he diverted to the mystic "mathematics of the human body, gracious, elegant and firm." In the body he expected to find, as the Ancients did, "the source of that harmony which moves us: beauty." On the measuring instrument he drew in his familiar easy scrawl the outline of a man-the English policeman, presumably-with one enormous hand raised above his head to the 2.26 meter line. He discovered that the figure could be divided vertically into sections of pleasing mutual relationship. He used the navel, not as a socket for the point of a pair of compasses, but to mark one of the decisive points" of the human body's occupation of space. As he shows it, the policeman's navel is conveniently situated half way between his toes and raised fingers. This central position of the navel, as



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noted by Vitruvius, may apply universally to athlete, policeman, giant, or pigmy; because all proposals of this sort avoid specifying whether the raised arm should be stretched or bent, and any differences may be adjusted at the elbow.

Le Corbusier then took three "decisive" dimensions from the figure of his policeman, measuring from ground to the navel, to the top of the head and to the raised fingertips, and from these three he developed the entire system of Le Modulor. By combining two simple mathematical progressions, a range of dimensions was obtained from 2.26 meters (basic ceiling height) descending in decreasing steps to the smallest measurable size. It was intended that a tape so graduated should be at hand on every drafting-board, eventually supplanting the foot or centimeter rules. It could eliminate arbitrariness in the subdivisions of building. The architect or draftsman, after being led by functional requirements to an approximate dimension for any detail -for instance, the height of a sill-would consult the tape and select the nearest Modulor size. Now, because all Modulor sizes are linked in a progression, all the dimensions of the building would be linked or "harmonized" to each other and to human scale. While Le Corbusier was careful to explain that this measuring-tape



did not relieve the artist of any responsibility, while he reserved for the artist the right to make a "personal interpretation" of the proportions which it suggests, still he claimed that *Le Modulor* would help a draftsman to select the most pleasing proportions not only for the parts of architecture, but indeed for sculpture or paint-



ing as well. He was naturally delighted when Albert Einstein wrote: "It is a scale of proportions which makes the bad difficult and the good easy." Durisol Inc., a company in New York, undertook in 1947 to market *Le Modulor* as "a scale for harmonic measurement of space," and Le Corbusier saw himself entering the country of numbers, "passée la porte des miracles."

Anyone else is entitled to select other key features of the human frame-for example, the joints: knees, pelvis, and shoulders-and claim for them more decisive roles in the body's occupation of space than that enjoyed by the immobile navel. A different scale could thus be drawn up from the relative positions of these features, no less logically related to the body. Someone else may prefer to base a system on the proportions of the width of a policeman to his height. A dozen different systems of proportioning could be devised on the results of a brief run over a human body with a tape measure. But of all the possible points of reference and combinations of dimensions, Le Corbusier was led by his practised artist's eye direct to the one set of proportions which accorded to the Classical designer's Golden Rule; he selected a division approximating the mathematician's extreme-and-mean ratio, the traditional conception of perfection in proportion, the Golden Section.

If the rational movement in architecture cannot ac-

cept any mystical connection between the figure of a man and a Divine System of Proportion, it is nonetheless as impressed by mathematicians as any esthetician of antiquity. In Architectural Principles in the Age of Humanism, Professor Wittkower went some way toward presenting a disenchanted post-war generation of architectural students with a creed. Many saw a new direction for a Functionalism that had lost its way, as they followed him through the historic progression of the idea that architecture, in the company of the musical scale, may reach through a system of mathematical ration finally to the being of God Himself. Wittkower traced the growth of number symbolism and mysticism from the Pythagorean conceptions (for example: "Three is the first number because it has beginning, middle, and end. It is divine as the symbol of the Trinity") through Plato's suggestion that cosmic order may be contained, and the harmony of the world expressed, in a pyramidal lambda of the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 8, 9, 27 ("The ratios between these numbers contain not only all the musical consonances but also the inaudible music of the heavens and the structure of the human soul.") Renaissance architects, practical men, converted the heritage of harmonic theories into workaday techniques. They modified the strict Classical modular system and developed new codes. Palladio in the mid-16th Century gave a general rule to harmonic

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proportions for the height of rooms in relation to their width and length. "A wall [was] seen as a unit which contains certain harmonic potentialities," reports Wittkower. "The lowest sub-units, into which the whole unit can be broken up, are the consonant intervals of the musical scale, the cosmic validity of which was not doubted."

Gradually the search for a key to the cosmic harmony was abandoned, but the belief in the existence of a universal beauty and a science of proportions lingered on into the middle of the 18th Century. Then a new tide of rationalism engulfed it with the cold water of the ideas that architecture and music are not comparable since they communicate with the mind through different organs, and that architecture and mathematics operate on different levels: note how a building's apparent proportions change as the observer moves about. The effects of proportion depend on the association of ideas, not an abstract reason, and are relative to the beholder, his nature, his time, and his place. Thus Burke, Kames, Hogarth, Knight, and others argued in the 18th and 19th Centuries, and in the 20th a leader of the modern movement restated the most obvious objection to all Golden Rules: "Beauty is relative because men are different," said Piet Mondrian, a painter for whom an utmost delicacy of proportioning in lines, spaces, and solids constituted the very means of expression. "Attachment to a merely conventional conception of beauty hinders a true vision . . ." (Plastic Art and Pure Plastic Art. Wittenborn, New York, 1945).

For two centuries, then, bridging across generations of the picturesque, the romantic, the worldly, and deep into the revolution of the functional, the thought of universal harmony lay dormant. Men with all kinds of conflicting artistic approaches could agree at least on one principle: whatever the style, art was a task for artists and not for mathematicians; it was an understanding between an artist and an observer; it was in the eye that received a satisfying message.

But the closed door of the mathematician's study slowly regained its fascination for the architect. Everything he saw through the keyhole, as the 20th Century developed, suggested analogies with the problems of his own creative work. When the mathematician advanced in his studies of three-dimensional geometry, the designer saw new prospects in plastic forms; and when the mathematician directed his attention to a fourth dimension, the architect would scarcely contain himself. Hence the worldwide enchantment of the title which Siegfried Giedion attached to his famous account of the origins of the modern movement: *Space, Time and Architecture.*



Many architects still respond today to an old magic and look to their profession for somewhat more than creative satisfaction. The polite apathy which the ordinary cultivated layman extends to architecture is counterbalanced by a high intensity of feeling on a certain, thin, professional stratum from which architecture is viewed not simply as the ultimate art of man —for this much is self-evident—but also as dazzling light now shaded by ignorance, a saviour of mankind's soul—not to mention his body. On the day when all building accords to the cosmic harmony, all men will live in order and peace of mind. The secret of the harmony escapes us temporarily, but who can denv that the Greeks were close to it on the Acropolis?

Thus the search for inspiration in numbers is revived, if on a somewhat less emotional plane, and linked now to the technological demand for an international module to reconcile the metric and foot-and-inch systems and to facilitate the prefabrication and international exchange of parts. High-level meetings of professional men and technicians in Italy and England have discussed the physical details while estheticians re-examine the complex arithmetic which the Greeks brought to perfection in the Parthenon. The geometry of the medieval mason is drawn out into the daylight. Even Chartres Cathedral's asymmetrical façade is found probably to be following a mathematical "melody"

MORE THAN SKIN DEEP

of dimensions based on an octagonal whorl in the Gothic section and a modular scale in the Romanesque part (On the Proportions of the South Tower of Chartres Cathedral, Ernst Levy. Humanities No. 20, MIT. 1956).

Le Corbusier was never alone in his experiments with Le Modulor. Once again he was leading his profession. this time in the revival of a concept and an argument which had been discredited for two centuries: the concept of an objective system of beauty which may be applied to all men's construction. But what made his invention profoundly significant as an architectural development in the middle of the 20th Century was that it returned, beyond the numbers to the dawn of philosophy to try to find some sort of mysterious link for the system with the proportions of the body, some hint of divine inspiraion. The sheer reaction of these suggestions coming from one of the spiritual leaders of 20th Century architecture might have been expected to take the rational movement's breath away. Instead, thousands of Le Corbusier's disciples round the world began to play with Le Modulor and claimed to see some part of the miracle which the inventor himself all but experienced. Some criticism was made at the time of inherent difficulties in the practical application of the scale but there was no sign of shock; only a movement which had retained its rational principles would have been shocked.

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the search for pleasingness

The Golden Mean, Golden Cut, or Divine Proportion, which were revived from near oblivion by Le Modulor, are the artist's quasi-mathematical terms for one of the geometrical propositions which has fascinated many men who have gone in stumbling search of a rhythm of creation. The Pythagorean mathematicians, who sought a rational explanation for the phenomenon of beauty in the 6th Century B. C. and decided that the circle was the most beautiful figure and the sphere the most beautiful form, first solved the problem of devising a mathematical basis for the perfect visual proportioning of parts. They discovered how to divide a line into two parts, the ratio of the smaller to the greater being the same as the ratio of the greater to the whole line (roughly .618 to 1). As the Pythagoreans discovered, this proposition leads to absorbingly interesting mathematical consequences. For instance, if the length of the smaller section of the divided line is marked on the larger section, again an extreme and mean ratio is created, for the offcut that remains bears the same ratio to the original small section as the small does to the large. and as the large to the whole. This process may be repeated again and again but the end of the line-zero -will never be reached, for the parts of the Golden Proportion are incommensurable, which adds to their

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fascination and to the aura of mysticism surrounding them for twenty-six centuries. Artists saw in the phenomenon a Golden Rule of proportions for building, sculpture, and painting. Plato saw in it a clue to the secrets of creation, and Aristotle saw, in the balanced tension of the long and short parts, an analogy for a code of ethics. Developing from the divided line, the esthetic theory of the Golden Section goes on to state that a rectangle formed of the two parts of the linear division is a plane shape of absolute beauty; a solid rectilinear body based on the proportion is one of the forms of absolute beauty; and a building sub-divided in accordance with it will be a building of perfection.

The rule may, in fact, be traced through the proportions of many famous paintings and buildings, and its "objective beauty" is occasionally "proved" by art instructors in simple experiments. If a group of people is asked to select the most pleasing shapes from a range of different lines and rectangles, one is fairly safe in calculating on the majority selecting the figures which approximate to the proportions of the Golden Section. An experiment even so simple as this supplies substantial evidence supporting the idea of a mathematical formula for beauty. Here, clearly, is the basis of a system of scientific determination of the most popular, satisfying shapes and sub-divisions, and eventually an architect might be able to apply this to all the openings

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the search for pleasingness

and appurtenances of his buildings.

At the highest pitch of enthusiasm the Golden Section suggests the possibility that the eye can recognize here a microcosm of universal harmony, that the human being somehow senses the progression from zero to infinity of further ratios implicit in the single given ratio, and that somewhere beyond the reach of our present knowledge an understanding of the all-pervading pattern of creation flickers in the soul.

At a lower pitch of excitement, the psychoanalyst interprets the *mystique* of it as a comparatively simple psychological trick. Even when conscientiously applied to the parts of a building, the mathematical simplicity of the proportions of the Golden Section are never obvious. The conscious eye finds nothing offensive yet can find in the lines no apparent mathematical law, but meanwhile the subconscious has perceived the precision hidden in the form relationships and its secret goading of the surface mind is the seat of the fascination.

At the most prosaic level the "universal beauty" of the Golden Section may be explained flatly as a matter of compromise. Any pure mathematical form or simple mathematical system is approved by the eye because it is a decisive statement. A line cut in the middle satisfies because there is nothing woolly about the even



balance of the halves. In a line cut in the golden proportion of .618 to 1 the ratio of the parts is more subtle, but the statement is still clear, for if the cut is moved close to one end of the line, it reduces the shorter section to an inconsequential tag. And if it is not moved far enough from the center the indecision is disturbing: perhaps the draftsman's hand slipped as he was about to make a central cut! A position in which the cut is far enough from the center to be clearly no slip of the pen and far enough from the end to give the short section sufficient strength of its own, is the point at which the eye finds a satisfyingly definite statement; this is approximately the point of the Golden Cut. It may not always agree exactly with the mathematician's calculation, but in practice the eye cannot judge with any accuracy the parts of a building seen in perspective. The arithmetical Golden Progression may be converted for everyday use from decimals to found figures (say 3, 5, 8, 13, etc.) and a Board Room may be cut to this pattern with every confidence in its ultimate pleasingness. It will seem neither constrictingly narrow nor oppressively low, and a building on the same pattern will be neither too thin nor too squat. The Golden Mean means neither too much nor too little, but moderation, the comforting average; everything to rest the eye and nothing to concern the mind.

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the search for pleasingness

irrespective of their site, environment, function, and meaning to society, then the Golden Mean should dictate the proportions of everything man makes and Le Modulor should be on every drawing board. But Le Corbusier cannot believe that these qualities are desirable in all buildings, for his own have the expressive range to be expected from a master who can control tons of concrete as few men can control a tube of paint. The Golden Proportion can be discovered in most of his buildings only if they and credulity are stretched to breaking point-and they will relate to almost anything when thus extended. On the other hand, they may be sensed like a grid of invisible wires between one's eyes and most of Le Corbusier's paintings, contributing to the singular monotony of his work along this sideline.

Contradicting nearly everything that has gone before, Le Corbusier concluded his first book on Le Modulor with a caution: "Any door that offers an escape is dangerous," and by quoting Kahnweiler's comment on the Cubist movement (including Le Corbusier's architecture): "Every one of these artists has attempted to create works of art which have as strong an autonomous existence as possible, to produce objects whose unity is ensured by the force of their rhythm and in which the

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Idia

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parts are subordinated to the whole. To each of these objects, fruits of their emotion, they intend by its uniqueness to guarantee complete automony." Could Le Corbusier have discovered a more devastating condemnation of Le Modulor's pretentions to universal proportioning? How can a work of art have an autonomous existence while it is pulling its forelock to some inviolable rule of proportion? Le Corbusier makes this apparent contradiction because he sees the dimensions on his measuring stick not as an architectural scale like a foot-rule, but more as a musical scale on which the designer may play freely. But surely language is working some mischief here. Le Corbusier's interpretation of playing freely on Le Modulor is to ignore it altogether, to change the key whenever it offers no dimension applicable to a practical task in hand-for instance, in the height of an ordinary doorway. This is the traditional way with systems of architectural proportions. "The artist is always present beside the geometrician," said Viollet-le-Duc, "and will be able to bend the formulas when necessary." (Dictionnaire Raisonné de l'Architecture Française du XIe au XVIe Siécle: "Proportion," "... l'artiste est toujours présent à côte du géomètre, et sait, au besoin, faire fléchir les formules.") Now, just what-one may ask in Heaven's name-is bent geometry? It is certainly not geometry, probably it is not the best art, and it can hardly be the way to the stars.



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Engineering Inspection, Measurement and Testing. H. C. Town & R. Colebourne. Philosophical Library Inc., 15 E. 40 St., New York, N. Y., 1956. 192 pp., illus., \$8.75

Architectural Symbolism of Imperial Rome and the Middle Ages. E. Baldwin Smith. Princeton University Press, Princeton, N. J., 1956. 219 pp., illus., \$7.50



Southern Interiors. Samuel and Narcissa Chamberlain. Hastings House Publishers, 41 E. 50 St., New York, N. Y., 1956. 172 pp., illus., \$15



Badger, Iowa elementary school. Architects: Thorson, Thorson and Madson, Waterloo, Iowa. Contractor: Sande Construction Company, Humboldt. Iowa.

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RILCO LAMINATED PRODUCTS, INC. W817 1st National Bank Bldg. St. Paul 1, Minnesota District Offices: Newark, N. J., Fort Wayne, Ind., Tacoma, Wash. Louis Sullivan and the Architecture of Free Enterprise. Edited by Edgar Kaufmann, Jr., Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, Ill., 1956. 47 pp., illus., \$1

The Railroad Station. Carroll L. V. Meeks. Yale University Press, New Haven, Conn., 1956. 203 pp., illus., \$7.50

Architects' Working Details, Vol. 2. Edited by D.A.C.A. Boyne. Frederick A. Praeger, 105 W. 40 St., New York 18, N. Y., 1956. 160 pp., illus., \$5

Induction Heating Practice. D. Warburton-Brown. Philosophical Library Inc., 15 E. 40 St., New York, N. Y., 1956. 191 pp., illus., \$10

The Building of Malta. J. Quentin Hughes. Alec Tiranti Ltd., London, England. Distributed in U.S. by Transatlantic Arts, Inc., Hollywood-by-the-Sea, Fla., 1956. 242 pp., illus., \$10

Architecture, Nature and Magic. W. R. Lethaby. George Braziller, Inc., 215 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y., 1956. 155 pp., illus., \$3.95

Timber Design and Construction Handbook. Timber Engineering Company. Dodge Books, 119 W. 40 St., New York, N. Y., 1956. 622 pp., illus., \$12.75

Architects' Year Book No. 7. Philosophical Library Inc., 15 E. 40 St., New York, N. Y., 1956. 220 pp., illus., \$10

Architects' Detail Sheets. 3rd Series. Edited by Edward D. Mills. Philosophical Library Inc., 15 E. 40 St., New York, N. Y., 1956. 232 pp., illus., \$12

searching self-analysis

Life and Human Habitat. Richard Neutra. Verlagsanstalt Alexander Koch, Stuttgart, 1956. Distributed in U. S. by Wittenborn & Co., 1018 Madison Ave., New York, N. Y. 317 pp., illus., \$18

From Leone Battista Alberti and Sebastiano Serlio to Jean François Blondel and Roland Levirloys to Gottfried Semper, Adolf Loos, and Frank Lloyd Wright, the attempt to clarify the architect's basic ideas about his art has never done any harm to his creative potentialities. Neutra's *Life and Human Habitat* belongs among those searching selfanalyses of artists who have already proved their ingenuity by a great (Continued on page 214)

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(Continued from page 210)

number of actually executed works. Some years ago, Neutra already had developed his basic philosophy in his *Survival through Design*, when he emphasized the physiological and psychological conditions of human existence from which the architect *must* develop his design—a concept which he probably sometimes exaggerated. The present book—text in English and in German—combines many excellent photographs of Neutra's main works with explanatory captions and a thorough interpretation of his theoretical thinking.

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Founded 1932 as a service organization for the architect and contractor the humaneness of his approach, in contrast to the intellectual dogmatism of Le Corbusier. And the layman will discover that the employment of large glass planes, roof slabs, and cantilever constructions does not automatically mean a "modernistic" expression of the already slightly antiquated "functionalism" of the Twenties. On the contrary, the livability of Neutra's houses is based on his desire to speak to all our senses, from the visual to the kinesthetic, to the totality of conscious living. Not to press the life of people into a form, preordained by the architect, but to create for them spaces, forms, and colors which allow free and relaxed expressions of individual desires-that seems to Neutra the basis of architectural creation.

Each of the more than twenty houses reproduced in this book from many angles and with details, shows from the very beginning the human freedom of the individual who does not try to conform anxiously to the materialistic slogans of a mechanized period. Even the choice of material is dictated by this tendency -although he continuously employs truly new constructions and materials. Typical and not accidental is his abundant use of water in the synthesis of house, garden, and land-Considering this attitude scape. toward the surrounding nature ---always the touch-stone of a really great architect-one could perhaps say that Wright, in his more brutal structures, tries to emulate the "organic" forms of the landscape; while Neutra opens the spaciousness of his houses toward nature, and adapts them to given natural conditions, but demonstrates by their lines that they are man-made, developed out of an unique human equilibrium of imagination and thought. The emphasis on simple clarity of exactly limited and very definite forms does not contradict fluidity and tactful, humble subordination to nature.

Certainly the self-reliance of the Californian architect, who never in his work became a mere "regional-

(Continued on page 220



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reviews

(Continued from page 214)

ist," explains the far-reaching influence on all those who see in the modern movement more than a pattern and combination of new forms which —in contrast to those of the past only the development of new techniques and the employment of new materials could make possible today. His approach asks for a greater and more intrinsic originality than the usual indulgence in glass, stainless steel, and rectangularity which by so many amateurs is considered as the decisive symptom of "modernism." The layout and technically excellent illustrations of the book correspond



to the importance of this very worthwhile publication of the work of one of our best architects. PAUL ZUCKER

personality and performance

California Houses of Gordon Drake. Douglas Baylis and Joan Parry. Reinhold Publishing Corp., 430 Park Ave., New York, N. Y., 1956. 91 pp., illus., \$6.50

A career of promise, when snuffed out at an early stage, has all the elements of tragedy.

Gordon Drake's active career was short—seven years—but long enough to show how tragic a loss to architecture was its sudden ending. His work was little in volume; but it was great in design importance, as the illustrations demonstrate.

An appreciative introduction by P/A's George Sanderson capably sets the spirit of the book. Written appreciations by two other friends of this reviewer are also included: these features convince him that the personality, philosophy, and performance of Gordon Drake merit whatever permanence and continuance this fine book may inspire.

LAWRENCE E. MAWN

urban design and theory

The Nature of Cities. L. Hilberseimer. Paul Theobald & Company, 5 N. Wabash Ave., Chicago 2, Ill., 1955. 286 pp., illus., \$8.75

At some point in his latest book, Professor Hilberseimer comes out against the Roman practice of rebuilding cities by imposing from above a rigid system of street design, with little regard either to the physical topography or to the social traditions of the community. In the first part of The Nature of Cities, which is a scholarly critique of city patterns from the past, he decries that "dominating form concept to which everything must be subordinated." Yet this is precisely what he calls for in the more sensational third part of his book. Here he repeats and elaborates on the schemes he launched in his book The New

(Continued on page 224)



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reviews

(Continued from page 220)

City, which appeared more than a decade ago. In the earlier work, he outlined ingenious plans for the rebuilding of New York and London, for an unnamed "European industrial city" (and, very specifically, for Chicago) by means of skilfully rendered sketches showing beautiful, orderly, but strictly regimented patterns of industry, residence, and transportation lines. Drawn on background maps indicating no topographical features other than rivers or waterfronts, they appear to impose on living cities of today a form concept as dominating as the Roman schemes he so effectively criticizes in the historical section of his present book.

On close examination, The Nature of Cities is in many ways an improvement on the earlier book, but it carries over the more serious weaknesses of that work. Reviews of The New City that appeared in the planning and architectural periodicals of 1945 seem to have escaped Professor Hilberseimer's notice entirely. Nor has he-as far as one can discover from the present book -profited by the experience shared by planners here and abroad in the postwar period. One must, therefore, regrettably (since he is obviously a serious, well intentioned, and learned student of architecture and planning) conclude that he has spent the intervening years in that Ivory Tower whose inhabitants are so vulnerable to the malicious, cynical iibes of that Arch-Antiplanner Moses and his like.

Stimulating as Professor Hilberseimer's theories are, and interesting reading as his arguments may be, they tend to do more harm in the long run to the achievement of concrete results in civic design by the active practicing architects and planners who try to improve our cities within the framework of feas ible procedure, than they could pos (Continued on page 230

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(Continued from page 224)

sibly do good by engaging the attention of a few sympathetic readers. For. in The Nature of Cities, Professor Hilberseimer carries into much further detail the sketch plans for Chicago which he previously published in The New City, updating them, perhaps, but apparently having learned nothing from the criticisms that had been made of them a decade ago. He blandly applies the same drastic conversion technique to St. Paul, Washington, and other large cities, as well as to selected medium- and smaller-sized cities such as Elkhorn, Wisconsin, and Rockford, Illinois. It is difficult to understand why the public-relations department of the Illinois Institute of Technology, where Professor Hilberseimer directs the teaching of planning, should think that these far-fetched schemes for Chicago and other existing communities, had to be featured as the selling-point of the new book in the release which they circulated on publication of The Nature of Cities. The Chicago plan, even as abstracted in the release, must inevitably be described as "wacky," "long-haired," or, at best, as "star-gazing" by those who go no further than the release or the dust jacket; or even by those who read only that section of the book itself.

To single out for attention his Chicago scheme, therefore, does a distinct disservice to Professor Hilberseimer, since the book is really a great deal more than that. Divided into three main sections, the first two-"Origin, Growth and Decline" (of cities) and "Pattern and Form" -constitute an excellent, well-documented and illustrated history of city planning. This is a mine of information, full of ideas, and a critical review of urbanism through the ages as seen by an enlightened 20th Century mind. The range is enormous, the illustrations, many taken from old engravings, plans and photographs, are unusual and provocative. (One could wish, however, that recent photographs, wherever used, were more effective as pictures : dramatic compositions like those of G. E. Kidder Smith, for example, instead of being merely symbols or keys, so to speak, whereby the reader can recall scenes already familiar to him and to which he must then apply further mental effort to relate them to the argument of the text.)

It is in the third section of the book, "Planning Problems," in which the present state of our cities is examined and his ten-year-old theories re-expounded, that Professor Hilberseimer goes sadly astray. It is really too bad, since his basic analysis is correct, his design technique is firm, and his means of expression is convincing; but like so many of the gifted Europeans who have settled here in the last two decades to teach or to practice, he fails to come to grips with the basic financial political, and social realities of the present day. These realities apply not only to the North American scene, but to the European and to the South American as well-in fact to any community where the deeply rooted and well established processes of western democratic financial, political, and social processes are in motion. Only under new forms of government, building on untouched terrain (as are emerging in Asia, Asia Minor, and in Africa), could the beautiful, serene, and formal concepts of Professor Hilberseimer be carried to fruition. Prof. Alexander Klein, imbued with similar idealistic didacticism, when laying out our new towns on the deserts of Israel, may be able to prescribe successfully patterns not unlike Professor Hilberseimer's. They would, however, be neither applicable nor acceptable in the reconstruction of European, and the "renewal" of American, cities.

(Continued on page 238)

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reviews

(Continued from page 231)

Applied to some far-off setting, or regarded as pure abstractions, unrelated to the here and now, Professor Hilberseimer's urban patterns appear not only rational but also fascinating and delightful. I regret, therefore, that I must bring in a report which may seem unappreciative of a work of such obviously excellent intentions and of such brilliant, imaginative ingenuity. I cannot conclude without making some comparisons with personalities, living and dead. Le Corbusier's Ville Radieuse gathers dust in Algiers as it does in Paris: and the late Martin Wagner's "solution" fer Beacon Hill, like the Goodman brothers' for Manhattan, can never be taken seriously. The late Eliel Saarinen and Richard Neutra, on the other hand, have written books which to many of us seem vague and far-fetched if taken literally as proposals for new ways of living, but we know that the dynamic constructions each of them has created in the course of his architectural practice are such positive contributions to our USAnian scene that much can be forgiven them in the way of theorizing when they sit down to write. The late Werner Hegemann, who was not an architect or planner by profession but an historian and a journalist, gave us many works that are unsurpassed, both in English and in German, on architecture, urbanism, and civic design (and I compliment Professor Hilberseimer by comparing the historical parts of his book with Hegemann's Civic Art). But at the same time, Hegemann participated actively, with his feet right down on the ground, in the day-by-day fight for better housing and more beautiful cities. Working closely with civic groups, attending committee hearings and official sessions, he never disdained to talk the language and understand the motivations of the bureaucrat, the politician, the realtor, (Continued on page 242)

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CITY.....ZONE....STATE.....

reviews

(Continued from page 238)

and the banker, to say nothing of the architect who cannot afford to lose his client!

Taking this approach, far-sighted solutions offered in the technical field of urbanism by a teacher or a writer stand a better chance of being both applicable and acceptable. We hope Professor Hilberseimer will be with us for many years to come and that his next book will contribute as much to the solutions of current problems as The Nature of Cities adds to the literature of urbanistic history. We hope, too, that he will join with the rank and file of practicing civic designers who believe that "the art of the possible" is a goal worth their efforts.

ROBERT C. WEINBERG

color in industry

Selling Color to People. Faber Birren. University Books, Inc., 404 Fourth Ave., New York, N. Y., 1956. 219 pp., illus., \$7.50

One of the outstanding color consultants in the country, the author has written fourteen books on color as well as more than 300 articles on the subject. Here, in his fifteenth book, he discusses the importance of color economically. He feels - and rightly so-that color is becoming "big business" in the United States; and as its power and influence increase, there is a vital need for a better understanding of it and just how it can be used for profit. Color has become one of the chief wants in the life of the American public and thus constitutes an important influence in the advertising, the selling, the styling, and the packaging of consumer goods.

In his approach to the subject, Birren wisely avoids the commonplace subject of color theory and, rather, makes a direct and dynamic approach to color as it applies to industry. This approach necessitates

(Continued on page 248)



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reviews

(Continued from page 242)

a first-hand knowledge of mass human psychology, marketing, and research. Being responsible for the styling of consumer goods for many of the nation's top industries and conducting one of the foremost color research agencies in the field, the author possesses the special skill and experience in supplying that knowledge.

This is throughout an especially useful book since it answers so many of the problems that anyone using color in a commercial way is confronted with. It has been written for business executives, sales managers and salesmen, advertising men and research specialists. No doubt many people in those categories realize and appreciate the value of color as a selling tool today, but this authoritative work affords worthwhile and practical guidance on many of the fine points of color use. Such guidance will help industry in serving the public better and surely business can profit accordingly.

Of special interest in this well designed and illustrated book is the chapter on color television because of its potentialities on the current business scene. The author has devoted special research to this use of color, not from the technical point of view of the process, but from the human side. FRANK A. WRENSCH

notices

new associates

RAYMOND W. SIPE, Architect, has become an Associate of RICHARD H. PETERMAN, Architect, 35 W. Market St., Westchester, Pa.

GORDON W. NORRIS, Architect, is now an Associate of JENSEN & MILLS, Architects, 308 S. Tacoma Ave., Tacoma, Wash.

(Continued on page 254)

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notices

(Continued from page 248)

new associates

RICHARD BOUILLON recently became an Associate of DECKER, CHRISTEN-SON & KITCHIN, Architects-Engineers, 1411 Fourth Avenue Building, Seattle, Wash,

RICHARD T. LESLIE, Architect, is now an Associate of WATTERSON & WAT-SON, Architects, 174 Mineola Blvd., Mineola, Long Island, N. Y.

p/a congratulates . . .

ROY A. SHIPLEY, WILLIAM A. CROS-SAN, HARRY C. PLUMMER, and A. C. FRISK, elected, respectively, Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer, 1956-57, of STRUCTURAL CLAY PRODUCTS INSTITUTE, Washington, D.C.

F. C. DELORENZO, new Manager, Advertising & Sales Promotion, Commercial and Industrial Air Conditioning Department, GENERAL ELEC-TRIC, Bloomfield, N. J.

M. C. FAIRFIELD, Sales Manager, Insulite Division, MINNESOTA AND ON-TARIO PAPER COMPANY, recently elected President of NATIONAL MIN-ERAL WOOL ASSOCIATION.

E. H. NICHOLS, J. D. KIRKWOOD, and WALTER C. CONGER, respectively appointed Manager of Sales, Industrial Products, Manager of Sales, Steel Joist and Tower Products, and Manager of Sales, Special Projects Department, Truscon Steel Division, REPUBLIC STEEL CORPORATION, Youngstown, Ohio.

ROBERT B. BYRNE, named Manager of House Furnishing, Bright Wire, and Industrial Hardware of STANLEY-JUDD, division of THE STANLEY WORKS, Wallingford, Conn.

WILLIAM D. CRELLEY, recently appointed Advertising Director, OWENS-CORNING FIBERGLAS CORPO-RATION, Toledo 1, Ohio.

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1. It smothers noise in kitchens, serving areas, swimming pools, etc. with an 85% Noise Reduction Coefficient.



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Shaw, Metz & Dolio

Chicago, Illinois

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ARCHITECT: Charles H. McCauley & Associates, Birmingham, Alabama. CONTRACTOR: Ewin Engineering Corp., Mobile, Alabama.

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how to look at buildings

Last week end I made a quick trip down to Tampa, Florida, to help the Florida Central AIA Chapter celebrate the hundredth birthday of AIA. In making notes on what one does say about "a new century beckons," I found myself thinking that in the period immediately ahead two attitudes within the profession are going to be important. One is that continuing experiment and serious moves toward further progress must be encouraged. It is certainly clear, as contemporary scientists such as Norbert Wiener keep reminding us, that progress doesn't come automatically; it comes as a conscious move against nature's normal tendency toward disintegration, chaos, and sameness.

The other necessary intra-professional attitude, it seems to me, is one of serious, constructive criticism of current work. Progress through experimentation comes only when results of the experiments are critically evaluated. There must be further moves in this direction (I think the P/A Design Awards Case-Study Seminars are one, and I hope you all agree when they are published) both by the press and by the profession.

Many people are thinking—and writing—about the subject of architectural criticism, even though there is little of it carried out. I have just read two manuscripts; both attempt to assist critical understanding of architecture. One, as yet unpublished, is by Robin Boyd, an Australian; the other, just off the press in the United States, is by Bruno Zevi, an Italian.

I find Bruno Zevi's book* (which will be reviewed in our regular REVIEWS pages by someone more competent than I to discuss his historical analyses) both stimulating and disturbing. Stimulating (even, I would say, very important required reading) because of its emphasis on space as the definition of architecture-a consideration we are all too apt to depreciate, minimize, or ignore completely in our preoccupation with forms and volumes. Disturbing because his thesis-that interior space, considered in all its aspects of what it is and what it does, is "the most exact definition of architecture that can be given today"-does not entirely check

out, even in his own analysis and considering his own selected examples. He has to make too many qualifications, it seems to me, to justify such an absolute basis for a system of interpretation which has to, as he says any interpretation must, "demonstrate its effectiveness in illustrating every work . . ."

After arguing for space as the "protagonist of architecture," Zevi devotes a chapter to problems of representation of space (assuming that an interested person, student or not, cannot see every building in which he is interested) and raises some interesting problems regarding indications of the volume and shape and continuity of spatial concepts, by plans, sections, flat elevations. A chapter analyzing, briefly, historic stages of architectural development on the basis of space use, I found most interesting and fresh (although some historians I have discussed the book with quibble at some of his interpretations of historic fact). With his admitted preoccupation with spatial interpretations-the flat statement, in fact, that "no work, lacking interior space, can be considered architecture"-Zevi has to classify some past examples as great sculpture, rather than architecture. The Greek temple, with "an internal space which was never developed creatively, because it had no social function," must be considered, under the architecture-is-interiorspace concept, as "a horrible example of non-architecture" and "a giant piece of sculpture," albeit a work of "human genius."

At the other extreme of chronological history, Zevi's thesis needs further elaboration. The contemporary skyscraper is illustrated-presumably as architecturebut there is no attempt to describe it by its definition of interior space-slices of space cut up arbitrarily to answer many tenants' needs. In fact I felt, after the illuminating discussions of Renaissance and Baroque space concepts, that the brief analysis of contemporary treatments of space was quite inadequate. However, the fact that the many trends and subtrends in the current contemporary work are not studied from the space-treatment point of view doesn't mean that this could not be done-or wouldn't be a fascinating study. In fact, Zevi ends his book with a strong argument for a new, complete history of architecture based on this method.

It is the section of the book dealing with various methods of interpreting architecture that most interested me. A study of the literature of criticism leads him to break critical systems into three currently accepted types: those dealing with content (political, scientific, technical, and so on); those which are basically physiological and psychological (symbols, interpretations, empathy); and the formalistic ones (laws, rules, and principles of design). All of them, Zevi feels, neglect space, even though a physio-psychologist such as Geoffrey Scott (whom he quotes at great length) did discuss space, and even avowed that "To enclose a space is the object of building; when we build, we do but detach a convenient quantity of space, seclude it and protect it, and all architecture springs from that necessity."

Zevi carries that conviction to its logical end: "spatial interpretation . . . is a superinterpretation, or, if you wish, an underlying-interpretation." It does not compete with other methods of understanding buildings; it supplements them. "Interpretations of space may be political, social, scientific, technical, physio-psychological, musical and geometrical, or formalistic."

In other words, Zevi's original argument that architecture *is* interior space comes down, finally, to an insistence that space considerations *plus* others must be studied. As a matter of fact, *exterior* space is admitted, in parts of the book devoted to urbanism, to be an important partner with interior space in the evaluation of the space content of a city, and of the part exteriors of buildings play in this larger understanding of architecture in urban design.

To return to my original point that we need better evaluation of experiment and progress, I believe that this book is an important and timely reminder that the volumes and forms which catch our eye are a means rather than an end—that the content of architecture, the purpose of architecture, are the factors that somehow the viewers and users of buildings must be made to appreciate.

Nermas H. Cerighton

^{*} Architecture as Space. Bruno Zevi, Horizon Press, New York, N. Y. 288 pp., illus., \$7.50.