

Architecture's Monthly News Digest of Buildings and Projects, Personalities, New Products

Definitely Worth the Candle



WASHINGTON, D.C. The tiny, 160-sq-ft Retti Candleshop, designed by 32-year-old architect Hans Hollein, won this year's \$25,000 R. S. Reynolds Memorial Award. The shop, which has a 12' frontage on Vienna's elegant Kohlmarket, was completed last November for a total construction cost of \$20,000.

Hollein, a Viennese who is currently a visiting professor at Washington University in St. Louis, used aluminum almost exclusively in his design. The aluminum, which came from Austrian and Swiss sources, was cheaper than the alternatives of brass and steel, was more easily fabricated and transported, and had the necessary modernity that architect Hollein was looking for. He wanted the shop, with its ageold wares, to have a "spaceage" image. The lines are smooth, almost machine-like in their exactness-exterior aluminum plates wherever possible were joined with epoxy resin, eliminating surface breaks. The shapes of the doorway and windows, as well as the welcomed omission of advertising signs, create an air of mystery to draw the shopper into the store. The use of mirrors and the continuous polished aluminum with its reflec-



tive qualities give the tiny space a necessary lightness and spaciousness.

Hollein, who designed al-most every fixture in the candle shop, down to the hinges and packaging for the products (silver shopping bags and wrapping paper), has let his architecture sell the product. There are no signs, no big shopping windows ("How many candles can you see at one time anyway?"), no counters to create a barrier between customer and salesman. Surrounded by the grand dames of 19th-Century ornamentality, this small, elegant shop can hold a candle to any of them. And if "the concept of the shop is the concept of the city,' as Hollein says, we look forward to this architect's future designs on a grander scale.

Kling to Propose Modernization of Washington National Airport

WASHINGTON, D.C. Looking ahead to 1980, the Federal Aviation Agency expects traffic at Washington's antiquated, overloaded National Airport to double. Vincent Kling & Associates recently signed a \$297,-000 contract to make proposals for the airport's modernization. The present runway system will be kept intact, and so will the FAA restriction limiting jet aircraft landing there to less than four engines. Four-engine jets and those flights originating nonstop more than 650 miles from the capital will continue to use Dulles Airport. The study, to be completed in 295 days, will offer four alternate plans. One certain provision will be for increased parking gained by roofing the present parking facilities.



SPRING GREEN, WISC. Ceremonies on June 8 here will mark the official issuance of the Frank Lloyd Wright postage stamp. Designed by Patricia Amarantides, a student at Taliesen West, it will be printed in blue and show a picture of Wright superimposed on a portion of the Guggenheim Museum. Mrs. Wright made suggestions for the stamp's design, as did sev-

eral students, and the result is a group project, as were many Taliesen projects before Wright's death in 1959—a group project with the stamp of the Master.

The fifth in the "Prominent Americans" series of regular stamps, it is worth only 2ϕ . What would Wright have said about that?



NEW YORK, N.Y. From April 26 to May 31, the Museum of Modern Art exhibited a selection of models, murals, photographic enlargements, original drawings, and working plans of the architecture of Louis I. Kahn. The exhibit was both a tribute to the 65-year-old Kahn and to the museum's 34year-old Department of Architecture and Design.

Entitled "The Architecture of Louis I. Kahn," the review was overseen by Arthur Drexler, Director of the Museum's Department of Architecture, and was selected and installed by Ludwig Glaeser, Asso-ciate Curator of Architecture. Glaeser, a 36-year-old German who trained in architecture at the Technical and Free Universities of Berlin and who has been with the museum since 1964, worked closely with the Kahn office in acquiring exhibit material. He was undoubtedly helped by that office's recently instituted practice of saving and dating everything that comes from the master's hand. Glaeser told



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Mo-Sai projects an image of strength and solidarity for savings and loan offices

Deeply textured Mo-Sai facing units 9 feet wide by 25 feet tall were used as forms for the poured-in-place concrete structural columns. The few required joints were well concealed, giving the columns a monolithic appearance both inside and out. Random quartz aggregates from dark brown to almost white impart a warm, friendly color. Mo-Sai in contrast with exotic wood paneling was used to create the dramatic teller windows and was also used throughout the unusually beautiful offices. The rough textures and colors of the Mo-Sai were chosen by the architects as an expression of the rugged beauty of the Northwest.

First Federal Savings & Loan, Bremerton, Washington Architects: Branch, Branch & Garrison General Contractor: Hainsworth Construction Co.





P/A last month that his aim was to make the exhibit "showy and as analytical and historical as possible." The result of the review, which took five years to plan and five weeks to set up, was an exhibit that gave ing tracks and used to pinpoint and highlight Kahn's rouga cardboard working models. The models, set on raised pedestals, seemed to float in the middle of the exhibit space. Large murals, photographs, and original draw-







thought and enjoyment to layman and professional alike.

Much of the interest in the exhibit was engendered by the lighting. The Philip Johnsondesigned lighting cans, which are used in the trees outside to light the museum's sculpture garden, were spaced along ceilings on the surrounding walls received more subdued toplighting. They formed a backdrop for the exhibit, and, because of this relatively dark bulk, gave the illusion of moving in toward the center of the room, becoming an integral part of the space. Glaeser has used Kahn's materials well. Three-dimensional models contrasted with their two-dimensional counterparts on the walls behind them. And finished drawings contrasted with the evolutionary sketches, working to create an involvement with the architecture and the design. In a sense, the exhibit was an explanation of how an architect works.

Also included was a continuous, 14-minute slide and tape program (the first in the museum's history), narrated by Vincent Scully, Professor of the History of Art at Yale University. The spontaneity of Scully's remarks (taped once and presented without extensive reworking) and the clarity of the color slides added two important dimensions — color and sound.

One wishes more U. S. museums (see p. 52 in this month's News pages for further discussion of architecture and museums) explored the possibilities of architectural ex-

hibits with the Museum of Modern Art's competence and completeness. The Museum's Department of Architecturethe only one in the world-has, since its inception in 1932, collected memorabilia of the "modern movement," with the result that, to date, the museum has presented nearly 200 temporary exhibitions of loan and collection material, has published myriad books and catalogs on architectural themes, and has recently opened the doors to a permanent architectural gallery-the Philip L. Goodwin Galleries. When the museum's new west wing is added, the Goodwin Galleries will have four times their present space for the exhibition of the 4000 items in the architectural collection. The Museum's energetic Department of Architecture will this month be justly rewarded for its efforts with an AIA Citation of an Organization; the Goodwin Galleries will receive a special commendation.

Beautification Begins at Home



JOHNSON CITY, TEX. This is the home of 600-odd other citizens besides Lyndon B. Johnson. And, during an average day, another 600 come through town, either sniffing hard at the scent of history or just out for an easy day's excursion from Austin, 60 miles away.

Johnson City is Any Town, U.S.A.—only more so, being Texan. The main street stretches out comfortably, and the buildings along it have the pleasant attitude of having been invited over to spend a quiet afternoon. It is a place for old clothes, idle conversation, small occupations—a homely place, in the original sense of the word: familiar. Some small towns achieve Ugliness slowly; others have Ugliness thrust upon them, Suddenly and retroactively becoming the birthplace of a Great Man has undone many a small town. One approaches Johnson City, then, expecting to find a Galloping Uglification. And one wonders what is being done to check it, especially with the extraordinary interest in beautification shown by Mrs. Johnson.

There is little capital-B Beautification. *The New York Times* reported that the Johnsons were hoping to restore some stone buildings f r o m the 1850's and create a park around them. The full scope of this project has not yet been made public. From time to time, LBJ has made strong statements about overhead wiring (as we recall, it was something like "We'll bury them"), but Johnson City has not seen any changes on this score either.

On the other hand, the town is not rapidly Uglifying. Lady Bird has had a hand in keeping billboards down, although there are a few signs—proclaiming Johnson City as the home of LBJ, or pointing out the Information Center, or directing tourists one block over to the boyhood home. (The birthplace, 12 miles away, has recently been restored but is not yet open to the public, since its proximity to the ranch poses security problems.)

The family is doing its best to Keep Johnson City Green. Lynda Bird planted six live oaks on Main Street with money she earned writing an article. Lady Bird planted thousands of bluebonnet seeds (the state flower) at the ranch. Another horticultural happening: The entire grounds of the ranch have been wired for Muzak, with loudspeakers planted among bushes and trees. There is a state plan to establish an LBJ State Park across the river from the ranch, to keep commercial exploitation at a distance. In town, however, enterprising merchants sell rocks from the Pedernales River at 25¢ the handful (prepackaged), and Pedernales water at \$1 the bottle.

Where the dust will settle is uncertain. There are rumors of resorts and housing developments, and *Holiday* magazine predicts that ranch land will certainly give way to the tourists. Now, however, there are still more sheep, goats, and turkeys than people. But LBJ is everywhere: Just outside town, a woman sells her produce under the sign *Large, Beautiful, Juicy.*—EP.

Expanding the Golden Triangle



PITTSBURGH, PA. Used to be a man went out and cleared a few acres of forest land, planted some grain, and called himself a homesteader. Now, whole groups of men go out, clear a few acres of city land, put up some developments and call themselves urban redevelopers.

In Pittsburgh, they are preparing to clear 148 acres (40 blocks) along the Allegheny River, adjacent to the Golden Triangle. Shown here are renderings of building concepts proposed for the site by Robert Dowling, chairman of the City Investing Company, New York, planning consultants for the project. When the plan, sponsored by the Pennsylvania Railroad—which owns 80 per cent of the land and is acquiring the rest-was first presented Dowling stated, "May I explain that this is not a blueprint defining the exact size and shape and location of each of these buildings. It is a concept with certain basic assetsthe low land coverage, the Mall, the avenues and the service roads. It is a greenprint of how to bring the countryside back into the city and create a healthier, safer, economically sounder community."

Notable in the Dowling concept are a great traffic circle with a sunken fountain in its center, and a long landscaped mall bordered by curved slab buildings. Once the land is cleared, the railroad plans to turn it into a temporary park before starting actual construction. Among the present structures to be sacrificed for Penn Park renewal are the Pennsylvania Station, the Fort Pitt Hotel, the Greyhound Bus Terminal, and the sprawling





wholesale produce market. The latter will be accommodated in the Chartiers Valley Urban Renewal Project.

In 15 years, Pittsburgh has poured more than \$331 million into urban renewal. By the end of this year, that figure is expected to reach \$400 million.

One hopes that Dowling's preconceptions will not prevent an enlightened architectural effort.



Paris Is Burning

PARIS, FRANCE The undeclared Franco-American War, waged politically with nasty notes shot between the State Department and Elysée Palace, is being



won behind the high-level smokescreen by U.S. private enterprise. Flushed with victory at having foisted Levitt houses on the unsuspecting



"Le Western," the first restaurant of its kind in Paris,

Gauls, our side has now built a Hilton Hotel, that inescapable symbol of international sleeping unity, just one block from the Eiffel Tower. The U.S. tourist can now take refuge from the shock of environmental and cultural changes directly under the nose of Le Grand Charles. The homogenous Hiltonry will permit, within a grenioulle's jump of Sacre Couer, Nôtre Dame, and Deux Magots, the serenity of receiving the same service and surroundings that prevail in similar institutions in Athens, Minneapolis, Rome, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh, and other tourist meccas. An accomplishment not within the wildest dreams of NATO or the United Nations.

Pyramids For the Living





CHICAGO, ILL. Architect Stanley Tigerman peers through a model of combination office/ residential structures he designed for the Vermiculite Institute as an imaginative suggested use of urban spaces. The Institute wanted to find ways of using urban land, which is increasingly being taken over by highways, and also, of course, wanted to demonstrate how vermiculite



might help solve this problem. In Chicago, for example, from 1948 to 1964, expressway construction was the largest displacer of residential communities. Built on leased air rights over expressways, Tigerman's structures, labeled Instant City, would both maintain these communities and return the land to the tax rolls.

Formed of two triangles leaning against each other at their apexes, the structures would use only 50 per cent of the space above the roadways and allow dissipation of carbon monoxide fumes from vehicle exhausts. According to the Institute, vermiculite would eliminate 35 per cent of the structure's dead weight by lightening the dense structural concrete floor slabs. A vermicu-

lite spray would fireproof the steel frame. And the vermiculite concrete would help deaden impact noise.

By using only five basic structural units, construction time and costs would both be cut. These units are: steel tubes 2' in diameter, steel tubes 8" in diameter, multicolored concrete floor slabs 18" thick, window mullions, and tension cables to tie the triangles together below grade.

Rising to a height of 485' above grade, the structures would provide 789,000 sq ft of floor space, not including below-grade parking or six top floors of mechanical equipment. Each structure would be 50' wide. Within this area are three lower floors of educational, institutional, light industrial and commercial spaces; above these are five office floors; then come 21 stories of duplex apartments; and at the top are the mechanical equipment and a floor for restaurant and recreational facilities.

Tigerman sees in Instant City a possible "synthesis of all those forces which have brought us to this moment in time." He points out that "the return to the rational mainstream of 20th-Century technology, in combination with man's desire to mold space, finds its life-blood in the very matrix that was originally implied by the three-dimensional possibilities of the structural frame, not as envelope but as a meshing of interior and exterior space in the ordered context of structure."

With the proliferation of the automobile and the extension of today's cities, Instant City just might be an exciting, geometrically conceived architectural solution.

An Organization to Research Design

PROVIDENCE, R.I. Ronald Beckman, currently a vice-president of the George Nelson Company, New York, was recently named director of the newly formed Research and Design Institute here. Beckman, who is in the midst of hiring a staff, will assume his new position formally on September 1. He is looking for persons with training or experience in both the behavioral sciences and design, for he hopes that the Institute can provide a synthesis of science, art, and ethics in solving various design problems. His concern is with ways that design can contribute to both the elevation of the human spirit and the increase in quality and quantity of human work.

Rhode Island's concern is not only with design but with the service industry that can provide that particular specialty and in doing so boost the state's economy. Last fall, a group of citizens, led by Senator Claiborne Pell, armed with a \$92,000 grant from the Economic Development Council, had an independent research group conduct a study to find a suitable service industry for the state. Rhode Island seemed to have been passed by in the economic boom that was engulfing the nation. Unlike neighboring Hartford and Boston, it had no large insurance or research organizations. Unemployment seemed chronic.



According to the study, a design research group and Rhode Island seemed ideal for one another. For one thing, there is no such organization anywhere in the U.S., despite an increasing need for and awareness of design. For another thing, Providence, with the Rhode Island School of Design and Brown University, provides an atmosphere in which such an outfit could flourish.

As it is currently envisioned, the Research and Design Institute will do basic and applied research into such problems as the urban environment, graphics, communications technology, products and packaging design, and materials use in industry. The Institute will offer consulting services to public and private clients and undertake educational design programs such as conferences and seminars. During the first year, support will come from \$100,-000 granted by the Rhode Island legislature, and from \$100,000 to \$500,000 provided by Rhode Island industrial and educational concerns. By its second year, Beckman hopes it will be self-supporting.

Beckman brings a varied background to his job as director. While with the Nelson Company, he was Design Director for the Herman Miller Company. He has taught and lectured at many colleges throughout the country, and at one point worked for two years in General Motor's design section. His most recent project is designing library facilities for a Boston high school.

Introverted League Exhibit



Factory, Ibaraki, Japan: James Stewart Polshek



Village Conference Center: George Lewis, T. Merrill Prentice

NEW YORK, N.Y. Fifty-one architectural projects by 60 architects who were under 40 years of age as of September 1965, make up an exhibit called "40 under 40" presented by the Architectural League of New York at the American Federation of Arts Gallery April 27-May 14. In some cases, the architects under 40 collaborated with architects over 40 on the projects shown. In each case, the architects included have their own offices or work alone.

In his introduction to the exhibit, Robert A.M. Stern, who assembled the exhibit for the League under the supervision of Philip Johnson, states, "Young talent abounds, though it has been tested, for the most



House, Boulder Creek, Calif.: Moore, Lyndon, Turnbull & Whitaker. Photo: Morley Baer

part, in projects of minor importance. One question remains unanswered: Will this generation be called upon to participate in the significant building programs of our time?" Judging from the selection, the implication is that a voung architect cannot make a significant contribution unless he has his own office. It may represent an ideal to have complete responsibility for a work of architecture, but an ideal does not guarantee quality. To assume as much has a certain prima donna arrogance. There are at least some young architects, not at all insensitive, who would rather be involved (sometimes with considerable unheralded responsibility) in the largest possible projects, and who feel they may not get them unless they are in the older, larger offices. There are young architects who are participating in the significant building programs of our time. but that is not what this exhibit is about.

What it *is* about is suggested by the introductory statement that, "For the first time in 50 years there appears to be no revolution in architecture." The error of this pronouncement lies partly in that the selections are very much a product of the taste and thinking of the Eastern Architectural Establishment, bounded north, south, east, and west by Louis Kahn. Comparison with the concurrent Kahn retrospective at the Museum of Modern Art (see p. 47) shows how incompletely digested his work has been by most of these architects.

Another part of the error lies in a preoccupation with form or facadery. It is precisely now that architecture is poised on the brink of philosophical and theoretical changes that will profoundly affect design. The changeover from the mechanical age to an electronic one is just one shift that will have a great influence. Splintering of architecture into "experiences" and separated elements is an example of this alienation of today's design from the safe mechanistic pronouncements of the recent past. The exhibition itself is a fast, superficial, and, necessarily, incomplete show of what some younger designers are doing. It will go on tour later this year to universities, art schools, and museums throughout the country.

Museums and Architecture

Visitors to museums throughout the country recently could see a retrospective of the work of Louis I. Kahn (see Kahn at MOMA, p. 47), take a museum-guided excursion to the new town of Reston, Va., or view photos of the work of Alvar Aalto. These architectural exhibitions, although rare, occur with moderate frequency. Thirty-five U.S. museums, responding to a P/A survey, reported that, in general, they have one or two architectural exhibits each year. Despite an increasing awareness of and interest in architecture, museums seem hesitant to either boost this enthusiasm or even ride with it. Reasons most often given for a lack of architectural exhibits were of course limitations of space and budget. Also mentioned were what museum directors consider the difficulty of presenting architecture adequately OF meaningfully. "In the first place," writes Addison Franklin Page, Director of Louisville's J.B. Speed Art Museum, "exhibitions of architecture are, for most of us not involved in the profession directly, extremely dull. They do not deal

with the essence of the whole matter—arehitecture. You may have photographs of architecture or models of architecture or dreams of architecture but never architecture itself, and I think the general public has a very difficult and dull time trying to relate these various representations to the actual thing."

There are many ways in which museums can help the public "relate" to architecture. The Washington Gallery of Modern Art, for instance, has occasional walking tours through historic areas of the capital, and so do museums in other cities. In Boston, the Museum of Fine Arts takes an active role in educating the public about the city's extensive urban renewal program. Awards in the Copely Square competition were recently announced there, accompanied by a display of several of the better entries. In conjunction with it, the museum sponsored a lecture by Edward Logue on the principles of urban design, followed by a case history of the Fenway Urban Renewal project, and a bus tour of all the projects in Boston. But despite this activity, the museum has reservations about architectural exhibitions. A spokesman says, "While interest in architectural exhibitions is present, it in no way matches the interest in fine arts exhibitions. I suspect that one of the reasons for this is that the best way to see architecture, as you see a painting or a print, is to see it, not inside a museum, but on the site."

One can hardly argue with this attitude, but what museums can do is prepare the public for "seeing" architecture. More is needed to educate a lay audience than just displaying photographs. Imaginative presentations such as the Kahn exhibition in New York are one solution. Illustrated talks and walking tours are others.

Too many museums rely solely on traveling exhibitions prepared by the AIA, New York's Museum of Modern Art, and the American Federation of Art. And when they do prepare their own exhibits, they are generally put on under the supervision of someone like a curator of paintings.

Of course, most museums actually create good architecture and, by proxy, an architectural awareness through their own building programs. "Certainly," said James J. Rorimer, late director of New York's Metropolitan Museum of Art, "when we built The Cloisters, we were thinking in terms of medieval architecture as well as works of art."

In general, it seems that museums are moving slowly away from the tradition of isolated display. They are quietly becoming, as they should, leaders in awakening the public's architectural awareness. It seems the proper time to increase the tempo.

human folly. A 150-lb timecapsule "containing a sampling of the culture of 1966" is buried beneath the stabile. The "sampling," sealed in a series of tubes, will give pause to any space-age archeologist. In it he will find such relics as: a brief history of Standard Oil of New Jersey, an MIT mug, one pair of spectacles, a Sears Roebuck Catalog, a Betty Crocker Cookbook, music composed by MIT professors, and a plastic beaver. The beaver, that hardworking amphibious engineer, is MIT's mascot-but the beaver doesn't bury things, he dams them.

The Corner That Came Around Again



The Jolly Black Giant

The 35 CAMBRIDGE, MASS. pieces of "La Grande Voile" (The Big Sail) by Alexander Calder were bolted together here last month on MIT's East Campus. Some 3000 lbs of nuts and bolts, black mat paint, and a 33-ton assemblage of steel plates combine to form the largest Calder stabile in this hemisphere. As shown (right) in McDermott Court against I. M. Pei's Cecil and Ida Green





Building (Pei, MIT '40, will design the chemistry building which will also front on the court), this Calder sculpturehuge and hulking as it is-has the air of a friendly giant. As with many of Calder's stabiles, the open spaces beneath the Big Sail invite one to pass through it. I.M. Pei & Associates of New York are the architects for the McDermott Court, with Sasaki, Dawson, DeMay & Associates associated as landscape architects.

If the Big Sail seems to laugh, perhaps it is because it stands guard above a bit of



BOSTON, MASS. Boston-the city of "brains, beans, and brownbread," as William Cowper Braun once called it-has also been the home of many great American writers. The focal center of much of their social and literary life was a spot in Boston-Ticknor & Fields' Old Corner Bookstore, where Washington and School Streets meet. Here, from 1840 to 1870, the greats of the American literary scene met, talked, and published their works. Emerson, Whittier, Hawthorne, Longfellow, Holmes, Louisa May Alcott, Agassiz, Fanny Kemble-all were frequent visitors to the Corner Book Store, "the Mermaid Tavern of the New World." Here too, under William D. Ticknor and more especially, James T. Fields, The Atlantic Monthly and the oldest magazine in America, The North American Review, were published.

The history of this particu-



lar Boston street corner goes back even further in Boston's history. In 1634, mild-mannered William Hutchinson arrived from England with his 14 children and wife, the redoubtable Anne. He acquired land (now the Old Corner Bookstore site) and settled down for what he thought would be a quiet life. Within three years, Anne was expelled from the colony for consorting with the devil. In 1711, when Mary Morse let fire "catch the

oakum which she was employed in picking of" and loosed the worst conflagration the colony had yet experienced, the Hutchinson's handsomely gabled house, along with hundreds of other homes and shops, was burnt to the ground.

The building on the site today was built between 1712 and 1718 by "Dr. Crease," who had his apothecary shop on the first floor and his home above. Other doctors and druggists subsequently owned the two-and-a-half story, hippedroofed house until 1828 when Timothy Carter decided to set up his publishing and bookselling business there. Carter lowered the first floor 3' or 4' to street level, rebricked the exterior of the first story, adding projecting show windows, and built a brick wing over what had been a formal garden and a large wooden structure to the rear. The following year, the first in a long line of publishers (Ticknor & Fields being the most notable) opened shop on the old corner. By 1903, however, the publishers, books, and authors had gone elsewhere, and the corner witnessed the beginnings of an era of tobacco, hats, beer and pizza.

In 1960, when threatened with immediate demolition, the Old Corner Book Store came under the aegis of Historic Boston, Inc., a nonprofit organization formed for the express purpose of taking title to the building. Historic Boston set about raising funds for restoring the exterior and looked about for prospective tenants for the interior spaces. The signs were taken down, and restoration, under the guidance of Boston architect Francis N. Cummings, was begun. The upper floors were returned to their original 1712 state, while the ground floor, whose brickwork had been obliterated when the building first became a publishing house in 1828, was restored to its original bookstore state. The bricks were scoured, the bay windows on the 1828 ground-floor restored, and the shed dormer built sometime between 1865 and 1883 was removed and replaced with the two original 1712 dormers (locations determined by the notches and mortises in the existing trusses).

On the interior, the existing 1712 hand-hewn beam structural system was repaired, treated for fungus, insect, and rot damage, and reinforced

So far, Historic Boston has put up \$117,000 for exterior renovation, and The Boston Globe, which for the past two years has had its subscription and classified advertising departments on the ground floor, spent an additional \$60,000 for interior renovation. The second floor, vacant until recently, has been leased to a law firm, and The Globe plans to expand into the third floor and the attic floors. The 1828 addition to the rear, now Driscoll's Men's Bar, has not received the work Historic Boston had planned. Without the necessary funds and prospective tenants, the addition may continue to stand as it is, its upper floors only partially occupied by a tailor and a campaign-button manufacturer

But the efforts of Historic Boston, *The Boston Globe*, and architect Cummings have not been in vain. The corner today retains much of its publishing spirit. It has regained its respectability and warmth and it had added another note to the chorus of Boston rehabilitation.

AIA Awards



WASHINGTON, D.C. This month at its national convention in Denver, Colorado, the AIA will present its academy awards. To Kenzo Tange (shown above) will go the Institute's Gold Medal. Tange will be the 32nd recipient and the first Japanese architect to be so honored, Elected Honorary Fellows are Jacob B. Bakema of the Netherlands, Ralph Erskine of Sweden, Aarne Ervi of Finland, Denys Louis Lasdun of England, Alfred Roth of Switzerland, Harry Seidler of Australia, Gerard Venne of Canada, and Bernard Henri Zehrfuss of France. Honorary memberships in the AIA will go to Henry F. du Pont, member of the White House Preservation Committee; Harold Bismark Gores, president of the Educational Facilities Laboratories, Inc.; the late James J. Rorimer, director of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City; and John G. Flowers, executive director of the Texas Society of Architects and the Texas Architectural Foundation. The Henry Bacon Medal for Memorial Architecture, which is being presented for the first time, will go to the Gateway Arch in St. Louis, Mo. New York City's Museum of Modern Art will receive the Institute's Citation of Organization with special commendation for the Philip L. Goodwin Galleries of Architecture and Design.

Rock for the Hudson

NEW YORK, N.Y. As everybody in New York knows, "the Bowery's up and the Battery's down." That won't change, but the shoreline of Manhattan Island just north of Battery Park will (once again), if plans to build a small community on landfill there are approved. Proposed last month by Governor Nelson Rockefeller, Battery Park City, a complex of







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Cabin Crafts Makes the Contract Carpet That Makes Specifying Easy

Georgia's Department of Archives and History Building, a \$6 million structure regarded as the most modern and efficient of its kind in the nation. Architect: A. Thomas Bradbury; Decorator Supplier: Ralph Dennard Co.; Interior Design: Ivan Allen Co.

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apartments, offices, townhouses, shops, and park, would be located on a 98.2 acres of land created by filling that section of the Hudson River with rock. It is an area now occupied by 17 piers, most of them in disrepair and 10 of them owned by the city. One of the most glittering attractions of the project is the prospect of \$20 million in city tax revenues, as opposed to the \$1 million the area is currently yielding.

A political undercurrent swirled around the state's proposal, for while it was received enthusiastically by Mayor Lindsay and other city officials, the mayor made it clear that the city would soon offer its own development plans. One item favoring state support of the \$600 million project is that the state's Housing and Finance Agency has \$600 million in unused borrowing power for financing middle-income housing. The city has none. Housing costs are estimated at \$300 million.

As shown in concepts prepared by Wallace K. Harrison, the governor's architectural consultant, Battery Park City would be built on two levels. The upper level would be a landscaped area, closed to vehicular traffic, from which the buildings would rise; a lower level would provide parking, vehicular circulation, and space for light industry. Two 67-story office towers would add 8,000,-000 sq ft of office space to an area that will also gain 10,000-000 sq ft from the World Trade Center. Just how this sudden abundance of office space would be absorbed has been a subject of discussion. In addition, 18 apartment buildings would create 14,000 residential units for families from all income levels.

What will all this look like?

Poot-Poot Honk-Honk

Reginald Gardiner used to do a wonderful routine about repetitive wallpaper designs featuring huge cabbage roses, in which he practically *became* t h e wallpaper. "Poot-poot, honk-honk, poot-poot, honkhonk, zow-zow," he would say, repeating vocally the implacable pattern of the wall covering.

Large-scale housing and other Government-inspired development in New York (and other cities) has often taken the same course; we wish, indeed, for a Gardiner to vocalize our plight, particularly when confronted with the same old thing as a vision-of-tomorrow - public - relations - so - the-Governor-can-produce-a-design as represented by the proposal for the landfill on New York's West Side. We happen to know that Wallace K. Harrison, the architect concerned, is inquisitive about the necessary mixture of people, activities, economic pursuits, religions, cultural values, etc., etc., that will make a complex such as Battery Park City really viable. That he or his advisors have failed in the Rockefeller proposal and produced only another Reginald-Gardinerwallpaper-imitation of urban development (high rise-low rise-church-recreation-light industry-high rise- low risechurch-school-recreation-commerce- there's the harbor!), can only be deplored. The idea of releasing more space for New Yorkers is admirable; but there is certainly no excuse for repeating once more the dreadful mistakes already existing on the Manhattan mainland, including that of blocking off the waterfront to city dwellers. also elected Ulrich Franzen its next year's president.... New York engineering firm of Syska & Hennessy, Inc., was recently awarded the Charles L. Staples Award of Special Distinction for engineering design. The award sponsored by *Actual Specifying Engineer* commended the winner especially for the integrated ceiling design in the Park Avenue Union Carbide Building... Winners of the annual Koppers Architectural Student Design Competition were: Jorge Machado of Catholic University, Charles T. Smith of Clemson, James Goettsch of Iowa State, John F. Webster of Kent State, Edward A. Rhodes of Ohio State, Franklin H. Roberts, Jr. of Texas A & M, David F. Aschbacher of the University of Illinois, and Joseph C. Garcia of Yale.

Higher and Higher in Houston

HOUSTON, TEX. When completed sometime in early 1969, the 650' Shell Building will not only be the tallest building in Houston—and perhaps in that area known as West of the Mississippi—but reputedly it will also be the tallest building anywhere framed in reinforced concrete. (Chicago's Lake Front apartments, at 645', will be 5' shorter.) Designed by the Chicago office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (Bruce Graham, design partner) with





Dr. Constantinos Doxiadis will receive the Aspen Award next month. The award, which honors "that individual anywhere in the world judged to have made the greatest contribution to the advancement of the humanities." Doxiadis, who in his own words has turned to "something even more substantial than architectural design . . . [to] the question of how we live," has formulated a philosophy of Ekistics, the "science of human settlements"; his architectural firm has been engaged in massive urban renewal projects in Greece, Pakistan, Jordan, Syria, and Lebanon. . . . I. M. Pei received the Harleston Parker award for his design of the Earth Sciences Building at MIT at last month's meeting of the Boston Architectural Society. ... The J. Clawson Mills Fellowship in Architecture was presented by the Architectural League of New York to Michael W. Baker, a member of the University of California's (Berkeley) department of architecture. The League

Wilson, Morris, Crain, & Anderson of Houston associated architects, the Shell Building will be 47 stories high and have a floor area totaling about 1,450,000 sq ft. Close to onethird of this space will be occupied by 1500 Shell Oil Company employees. The rest

will be leased. Toward the base, the building's otherwise rectilinear façade has two vertical strips that look a little like the folds in a loosely hung curtain. These "folds" serve a structural function, allowing interior concrete partitions to act as shear walls. They take much of the force of lateral winds. The other source of lateral stability



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Construction will begin later this year. Under way within two blocks of the new Shell Building (which overlooks a reflecting pool and park in

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front of City Hall) are the Houston Lighting and Power Company Building, the Albert Thomas National Space Hall

Court

of Fame and Houston Convention Center, and the Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts.

Hope For Glessner House?





CHICAGO, ILL. Prairie Avenue, "the sunny street that holds the sifted few," seemed a pretty good place to build a house. And in 1887, on the corner of Prairie and Eighteenth Street, John Jacob Glessner, one of the founders of the International Harvester Company and later a Chicago civic leader of note, did just that. The neighborhood was good. A block away was Marshall Field's \$2 million, Richard Morris Huntdesigned home; across the street stood W. W. Kimball's smaller \$1 million French chateau, designed by S. S. Beman; and on the other corner, George W. Pullman's mansion.

Glessner chose his architect with equal care, talking with Stanford White, William A. Potter, and finally deciding on



Henry H o b s o n Richardson. When, in 1885, he wrote Richardson asking if he would consider such a small commission, Richardson replied that he would "plan anything a man wants, from a cathedral to a chicken coop." The Glessners, who wanted something in between, were perfect clients, limiting the architect only in the number of rooms he was to provide.

For the next 11 months, the Richardson office worked on the plans, finally settling on an unusual (for that time), inward-looking design. All the principal rooms were to face a quiet interior court, avoiding the dust and noise of the city streets. At the final meeting, Richardson pencilled in the positions for the lighting fix-



tures and turned to Glessner: "There, Mr. Glessner, if I were to live five years longer, that is the last thing I would do on your house; my part is finished." Three weeks later, Henry Hobson Richardson was dead.

Excavation began in June of 1886, and in December of the next year the Glessners moved into the house they were to occupy until their deaths in the 1930's.

The neighborhood has deteriorated the way most oncefashionable areas do, and many of the mansions that lined Prairie Avenue have been torn down, replaced with parking lots and factories. But the Glessner House still stands its ground, the last remaining Richardson-designed structure in Chicago.

Though the house was not admired or architecturally influential in its own day, the Glessners thought highly of it. Almost defensively, Mrs. Glessner was quoted as saying, "For all its granite, this home is wonderfully elastic. You can squeeze as many as you want to into it." With its 35 rooms, 6 bathrooms, 10 individual fireplaces, and its 9'- and 10'-high ceilings, space could not have been much of a problem. Today, the house is appreciated for its typical Richardsonian granite work. The exterior walls of the house rest on massive foundations of Joliet limestone blocks mixed with bricks and mortar. The street façades

use a brick backing and Wellesley granite (alternatively 6" and 8" sheets) facing. The deeper blocks are returned at the openings to imply a wall of solid stone. Structurally unnecessary, since the 2' walls would hardly need any added strength, this type of strictly coursed mansory shows the aesthetic Richardson used in his granite work. Much of the interior spaces lack the Richardsonian amplitude, but they were largely finished after his death. The interiors do, however, show a number of unusual innovations. A crude air-conditioning system was installed in the basement, circulating air over ice blocks and then into the house. The basement ceiling and all floors were sound-proofed. The furnace was placed under the carriage house to keep soot from filtering into the house. And much of the furniture was designed by the Richardson office (see chairs in dining room photo below, left).

Glessner's pride in his house was such that, in 1924, eight years before his death, he turned the deed over to the Chicago AIA. His will asked for the house to be kept as a "museum, library, gallery, and educational institution, including a school of design for legitimate architectural assemblages." But high maintenance costs (estimated then at \$25,000 a year) prevented the Chicago Chapter from keeping the will and the house was returned to the Glessner estate, whose heirs in 1938 gave the building to the Armour Institute of Technology. Twenty years later, the house passed (for a reported \$70,000) to the Graphic Arts Technical Foundation. And, last July, when the Foundation moved its headquarters to Pittsburgh, the house again was put on the market. Asking price: \$60,000.

The house, which is one of Chicago's official 38 landmarks, has been praised by historians such as Henry Russell Hitchcock ("Undoubtedly his finest and most mature masonry mansion . . . Richardson had never . . . used granite so magnificently") and by architects such as Philip Johnson ("One of the greatest houses of its period anywhere in the world.")

So far, the interest has been great and certain gains have been made. The Chicago School of Architecture Foun-



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© Steelcraft 1965 dation, formed for the primary purpose of preserving the Glessner House, has offered \$30,000 toward its purchase. Philip Johnson has pledged \$10,000, as have Chicago architects Harry and Ben Weese. Estimates by the Foundation for purchase, restoration, and maintenance run as follows: \$50,000 for painting and general restoration; \$50,000 for a heating plant and roof; and \$50,000 to restore the rear carriage house as an auditorium and meeting hall. The Foundation proposes to acquire the Glessner House, organize and supervise restoration work, and establish a Chicago School of Architecture museum within. Additional revenue would be gained from renting space to small architectural or photographic firms and from letting rooms to visiting students and architects.

One hopes that these valiant efforts will bear fruit and that the last bit of Richardson in Chicago will not go the way of the Marshall Field Wholesale Store, demolished in 1930.

[Early this month, the board of the Graphic Arts Foundation met to act on the \$30,000 offer. Outcome at this writing is unknown.—ED.]

"Where's Henry, Mother?" "He's in the Bathroom, Working Out"

Henry's choice of exercise room isn't so strange, according to a recent study, called *The Bathroom*, published and



conducted by the Cornell University Center for Housing and Environmental Studies. Alexander Kira, who is Associate Professor of Architecture at

Cornell, worked six years on the study, which was sponsored jointly by the Cornell University Agricultural Experimental Station and Plumbing and



Heating Division of the American Radiator and Standard Sanitary Corporation. Kira points out that today's bathroom, like the old-time country kitchen, is a truly multipurpose room. Not only is it used for bathing and eliminating body wastes but it is also the scene for reading, shaving, exercising, relaxing under the



sun lamp, playing with water toys, watching TV, applying beauty preparations, and washing clothes. Unlike the old kitchen, however the contemporary bathroom is the last private refuge of citizens beset by picture windows, togetherness and the family room. Here father can retire to read the sports page uninterrupted, and mother can watch "Peyton Place," while washing her stockings, without someone changing the channel.

Ideally, Kira would have the bathroom expanded in size and storage space until large enough to accommodate the facilities needed for every use. But his main concern is with the design—or lack of design —of the facilities themselves. "The bathroom is hopelessly

antiquated and inadequate," he writes. "In many respects, the bathroom is in about the same stage of development as the kitchen was 30 or 40 years ago when a stove, sink, and ice box sat in splendid isolation against opposite walls of a room and storage was accounted for by some unreachable fixed shelves in the next room. This is in startling contrast to most contemporary kitchens, which are totally designed and integrated facilities with full utilization of space and with individual items carefully related to one another for convenience."

Among a host of design improvements, Kira suggests self-cleaning tubs with lint- and hair-catching drains located at the end away from the water spout, showers with outside walls of glass brick to let in light, shelves and seats in both tub and shower, toilets that provide support under the body's bone structure, urinals shaped like funnels.

Most of his suggestions are such obvious improvements that one wonders why they haven't been put into practice long ago. Only one item seems questionable. If water controls in showers worked vertically, with water turned on by pushing a lever down, one might slip against the controls and be inadvertently scalded. And unfortunately the problem of bathroom plumbing noise is outside the scope of the study. "From the standpoint of pure noise without reference to embarrassment, the biggest single problem is posed by piping systems which are improperly sized and which are in no way isolated from the fixtures, or from the walls which contain them . . . it is a problem which also deserves considerably more attention than it has received to date."



Copies of the report are available for \$7 from the Center for Housing and Environmental Studies, Cornell University, Ithaca, N.Y.

Obituaries

JAMES J. RORIMER, Director of The Metropolitan Museum of Art, died at the age of 60 early last month in New York City. Rorimer, who started as Assistant in the Department of Decorative Arts at the Metropolitan in 1927, was responsible for the planning, construction, and development of The Cloisters, which opened in 1938 and houses the museum's medieval collection. During World War II, he served in Normandy, Paris, and Germany as the Chief of Monuments, Fine Arts and Archive Section of the Seventh Army. His latest award was an honorary membership in the AIA.

JOHN LORD KING, of John Lord King Associates, San Francisco, died April 28 at the age of 57.

Aspen Speakers

ASPEN, COLO. This year's International Design Conference in Aspen (June 19-24) will feature such notables as: Dr. Revner Banham, British architectural historian and critic; Julian Beinart, architect and authority on contemporary African culture; Henry Dreyfuss, dean of American industrial designers; Charles Eames, architect, inventor, and designer; John Peter, designer and architectural commentator; Kevin Roche, architect and principal of Eero Saarinen & Associates; and Ben Shahn, graphic artist.

The conference is open to anyone interested in design. Advance registration fee is \$75. For additional information write: the International Design Conference, P. O. Box 664, Aspen, Colo.

Calendar

Craftsmen USA '66, an exhibit of the 268 merit award winners from six regional competitions, will open June 3 at the Museum of Contemporary Crafts in New York City . . . June 19-24 are the dates for the International Design Conference in Aspen. The sources and resources of 20th Century design will be the theme of the conference . . . The Na-tional Council of Instructors in Landscape Architecture will convene on June 29-July 2 at the University of Wisconsin at Madison . . . The Stained Glass

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Association of America will hold its annual conference from June 21-24 at the Drake Hotel in Chicago . . . The International Seminar on Ekistics and the Future of Human Settlements will be held in Athens on July 4–15. For information write: Dr. D. Iatridis, Director, International Seminar on Ekistics, Athens Center of Ekistics, 24, Strat. Syndesmou St., Athens 136, Greece . . . On July 5-9, Stanford University will present a Secondary School Planning Institute . . . On July 18-22, at MIT, there will be a special summer program on Religion and Community Cooperation in Planning, Housing, and Architecture . . . September 21-23 are the dates for the International Conference on Space Structures. For informa-

tion write: Secretary (Registration), International Conference on Space Structures, Battersea College of Technology, Battersea Park Road, London SW 11, England . . . From September 27-30 the Producers Council will hold its annual meeting at the Waldorf-Astoria in New York City . . . The 12th annual Architecture and Gardens Tour of Japan, directed by Kenneth M. Nishimoto of Pasadena, Calif., will leave from Los Angeles on October 7. The tour lasts 24 days and is limited to 25 participants. For information write Mr. Nishimoto, 263 South Los Robles Avenue, Pasadena, Calif. 91106 . . . The Architectural Woodwork In-stitute will hold its annual meeting October 19-21 in Williamsburg, Va.

Rehabilitation With A Vengeance



NEW YORK, N.Y. There are many who fight rehabilitation, who say that it is just a bandage on a broken leg, that rehabilitated slums are still slums, and that the housing of the future should be new-steel, concrete, and glass. The Federal Government (HUD, FHA, and OEO), New York City's Rent and Rehabilitation Agency, and the Community Improve-Rehabilitation ment Corporation of Manhattan (CICOM) are staking \$6 million and two years' time to prove that their opponents are wrong-that rehabilitation is economically feasible, socially preferable, and urbanistically necessary.

CICOM, a nonprofit joint venture of the Frederick W. Richmond Foundation and the Carol W. Haussamen Foundation formed two years ago, is currently conducting the larg-





est (in investment and units) rehabilitation project in the country. Purchased with a \$5,512,000 FHA mortgage loan, 37 "old law" (built before 1901) tenements on Manhattan's 114th Street between 7th and 8th Avenues will be a test case for future large-scale urban rehabilitation. In a city with an estimated 43,000 such tenements housing more than one million people, new construction would involve a prohibitive volume of public funds and resident dislocation. Up at 114th Street, the cost of rehabilitation and land acquisition is approximated at \$12,-500 per unit—half that of comparable new construction, and no one is forced to move from the block.

In April 1965, work was begun on the first three tenements, now finished and occupied. Next month, seven more will be completed, and by 1967 the whole block of tenements will give more than 1300 Harlem Negroes a fresh neighborhood.

As usual with rehabilitation practices, only the exterior walls, beams, floor sheeting and stairways are retained. Interiors are refurbished with new kitchens, bathrooms, flooring, walls, ceilings, windows, buzzer systems, garbage chutes, and, for the first time, closets. The exteriors will be restored and painted the original brownstone color. Cornices, wherever possible, have been kept. New York architects Horowitz &



Chun, responsible for the rehabilitation plans, are to be commended for keeping the neighborhood's architectural integrity. When completed, the brownstones will stand on 114th Street as fashionable as they were when first built.

Though the ways of rehabilitation are the normal ones, the means and spirit surrounding 114th Street make this project unique. From the start, CICOM has kept the program on a neighborhood level. The tenants receive monthly circulars on the progress, meet with block captains and CICOM personnel to offer suggestions and to receive explanations. A local CICOM office in a firstfloor apartment keeps an open

door at all times. Work crews, despite initial union objections, are integrated, and a full 40 per cent of the subcontractors are Negroes. Some \$390,000 from the Office of Economic Opportunity will open the floor-through basement level to various community services. Already in full swing are a play school, meeting room, laundry area, and Haryou-Act Cadet Corps training center. And now there is talk of planting trees and of cutting the street off permanently to traffic. Behind the tenements, where there used to be nothing but garbage and rats, CICOM plans to create a "block backyard." With the backs of the buildings painted white (see bottom photo), this area will gain light, spaciousness, and an urbanity that other more fortunate New Yorkers to the south would envy. The backyard will be easily accessible. All community basement levels open on to it and a block-through passageway has been created by clearing the ground floor of one tenement. CICOM is presently negotiating for the purchase of the 115th Street tenements backing on this space.

Upon completion, Harvard and MIT's Joint Center for Urban Studies will draw up an official evaluation of the project for the City's Rent and Rehabilitation Administration who provided the necessary rent subsidies.

Credits for St. Louis Stadium

Credits for work on Busch Memorial Stadium in St. Louis (see NEWS REPORT, APRIL 1966 P/A) are: Sverdrup & Parcel and Associates, Inc., Engineers-Architects; Edward Durell Stone, Architect-Design Collaboration; Schwarz & Van Hoefen, Associate Architects.

Designing Women

Last Month's issue of Mademoiselle treated its readers to a peep at "A Battleground of the Spirit"—the ups and downs of being a woman and an architect. Welcomed at every major architectural school but one (Princeton), women make up a skinny—but shapely—3 per cent of the 30,000 registered architects in this country.



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This is a far cry from their 24 per cent representation in the Soviet Union, or the more than 50 per cent in Greece. The article attributes the low U.S. female ratio to the fact that the architectural profession in general is undermanned. One would have to pass 6000 people walking along a city street before meeting one architect. And the chances of bumping into a female architect are even slimmer—one out of every 200,000. The magazine goes on to find bright horizons for the girl interested in architecture and leaves its women readers with the following thought: "After all, how many other fields are there in which one can influence the whole shape of man's environment?"

[As if to rub salt in the wounds of aspiring girl designers, Mademoiselle misspells the first name of our most famous lady practitioner, Chloethiel W. Smith, "Clothiel."—Ed.]

Red School House on Capital Site



WASHINGTON, D.C. A design for a District of Columbia elementary school has won praise from the Washington Fine Arts Commission. The brick and cast stone building, which will accommodate 1000 students, blends nicely with the rows of turreted Victorian builder houses that surround it. According to commission member John Carl Warnecke, "The Fine Arts Commission believes this will be one of the great schools in the District." To be built on two acres of cleared land once working drawings are approved by the District

authorities, the school has a hasic three-story classroom structure with 30 classrooms. Staircase enclosures are articulated. And running from it and enclosing a landscaped courtyard is a one-story section housing kindergarten rooms, offices, library and a combination cafeteria/all-purpose room. The latter will have a raised copper roof (right in rendering). Adjacent to the building will be a playground and below that a playing field.

Architects are Lyles, Bissett, Carlisle & Wolff of Columbia, S.C.

Competitions

July 1 is the deadline for entries to the Department of Housing and Urban Development's Honor Awards Program for Design Excellence. All entries must have been completed or substantially completed since January 1, 1961 under any HUD or HHFA assistance program. For more information and entry forms write: 66 Design Awards Program, Department of Housing and Urban Development, Washington, D.C. 20410 . . . Any project whose construc-

tion has been or is being assisted by loans or grants under the Higher Education Facilities act of 1963 will be eligible to enter the Awards Program sponsored by the Bureau of Higher Education of the U.S. Office of Education, the Educational Facilities Laboratories, Inc., and the AIA. For information and entry forms write to: Design Awards Committee, Bureau of Higher Education, Room 4931, GSA-ROB, 400 Maryland Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20202.

U.S. Rubber Stretches a Point



CHICAGO, ILL. On view at the last International Home Furnishings Market was U.S. Rubber's contribution to the growing number of prefabricated vacation houses. Wigwam '70 (so called because four aluminum poles, joined at the top, form the 16-sq-ft house's main support) is inexpensive (a \$5000 price tag includes bathroom and kitchen

units as well as a prefabricated fireplace), and is virtually careand maintenence-free. The wall panels, of a Tedlar-finished Royalite exterior with a foam insulation core and a Naugahyde interior wall covering, are newcomers to the U.S. Rubber line. The panels, set in 8'x4' modular units, are said to be lighter than aluminum and able to resist heat, cold, dents.

WASHINGTON/FINANCIAL NEWS

BY E. E. HALMOS

Beauty is very much a matter of the "eye of the beholder" and the newly fledged Department of Housing and Urban Affairs has no present intention of becoming a national arbiter of what's truly beautiful and what's merely a slick cosmetic treatment covering the ugly face of a city.

Nevertheless, HUD could easily find itself in such a position, as it begins handing out "beautification" grants (up to 50 per cent of certain basic costs) to municipalities throughout the U.S.

Reason is that Congress, in writing the basic legislation (The Housing and Urban Development Act of 1965), was as uncertain as anyone else about just what constitutes "beauty," and left it largely to HUD to decide how to implement the law, and on what basis.

With two principal sections of the program under its wing —open-space land acquisition, and urban beautification— HUD is taking a generous leaf from the Agriculture Department's administrative experience, and is otherwise playing the whole tune by ear.

The administrative end is being taken care of by the department's field service—"local" offices in seven principal regions and in Puerto Rico, and a field staff, to handle applications, advice, and aid, on as nearly a local basis as possible.

As to what constitutes beauty and a proper program, the agency makes these principal demands: that a city's proposed program is in fact a program, not a one-shot cosmetic treatment, that it include both



Plastic forms were used for precision casting of these columns. The high-early-strength concrete, made with Lone Star's INCOR® 24-hour portland cement, permitted forms to be stripped the following day. Maximum aggregate size was 3/s".

A forest of concrete "trees" for a new IBM office building

Incor® 24-hour portland cement used for cold-weather concreting.

This IBM office building is interesting from any angle, but the really spectacular sight is found indoors. Here some 81 graceful concrete "tree" columns have transformed a vast multi-level office area into an indoor forest.

These concrete trees have a striated surface texture suggesting bark. They are also interesting from a structural standpoint; as an inverted umbrella, each includes a column, a column capital and a 22¹/₂-foot-square slab. The diagonally adjacent slabs were prestressed through a common plane of concrete, but aside from that, the trees are independent vertical cantilevers.

Construction of this concrete forest presented an unusual challenge. Color uniformity throughout the exposed, unfinished concrete surface was a requisite. High early strength was required because casting took place in cold weather. **INCOR®**, America's *first* high early strength portland cement, thus played a vital part in the successful completion of this unique, complex and impressive building.



IBM GARDEN STATE OFFICE BUILDING, Cranford, N.J.; Architect: VICTOR A. LUNDY, New York, N.Y.; Structural Engineers: SEVERUD ASSOCIATES, New York, N.Y.; General Contractor: MAHONY-TROAST CONSTRUCTION COMPANY, Clifton, N.J.; "Incor" Cement Concrete: THORN-WILMERDING CORP., Linden, N.J.



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public and private efforts (though no money is available in the program for private work on private property), and that the locality itself make out a good case for whatever it may consider beauty—be that street kiosks, tree and flower plantings, even decorative street lighting and paving. (In general, no major construction or reconstruction can be included.)

But—at least for some time to come—there won't be any list of criteria of what HUD thinks is beautiful or ugly. Not possible, say HUD staffers, who point out that a fountain, or a horsetrough, or coach-type street lamps might be ugly in themselves, but contribute to "atmosphere" that a community may desire. Each case must be considered individually, under present plans.

By early May, only a trickle of an expected flood of applications had washed into HUD's temporary headquarters in downtown Washington. Of the first 20 or so, most came from surprisingly small cities (8000 or fewer inhabitants), and only three from major cities.

They ranged from plans for tree planting in older neighborhoods, expansion of recreationtions come closer to a flood, HUD will insist on one other criteria: In addition to an approved plan, cities will have to show that they are making and have made a real effort to improve themselves (through local ordinances and enforcement controlling unsightly buildings, signs, and other efforts).

Little or no actual construction work is included in the program "beautification" (though architectural services may be covered in some circumstances). HUD does, of course, have construction monev available, also, but that is in programs such as urban renewal, the "neighborhood facilities program" (which can cover recreational centers, health stations, and the like); and the urban planning assistance program.

(One huge "beautification" sector won't be under HUD's jurisdiction, by the way: the roughly \$300 million to be spent on highway beautification. That will be handled by the U.S. Bureau of Public Roads, an agency of the Commerce department.)

New Pennsylvania Avenue Plan



al facilities and riverfront clean-up (in Pittsburgh); to marsh-grass planting (to screen a city incinerator), an ice-skating rink (New Haven); to landscaping around Government buildings, schools and (Washington). small parks Hayward, Calif., got a \$55,350 grant for improvements to "left over" areas in its business district, improving parks, landscaping median strips; Seaside, Calif., got \$7257 to landscape five blocks of median strip and three traffic islands, and to perform other work.

Later on, when the applica-

After much soul-searching and much criticism—the Temporary Council for Pennsylvania Avenue (headed by Nathaniel A. Owings) came up with a plan, in early April, that seemed to please almost everybody. It was approved by the National Capital Planning Commission,

The Temporary Council is charged with plans for making a "grand avenue" out of Pennsylvania Avenue, connecting the White House and the Capitol. Its first published scheme called for a huge square—almost a half-mile on a side—at the western end of the avenue (nearest the White House) that would have knocked out (in favor of park or paving) some of the city's most valuable privately owned real estate (including the 13-story, \$16-million National Press Building, the somewhat elephantine Willard Hotel, and other structures). It also included a pretentious "gate" for the White House itself.

This brought loud outcries from many sources, and the Temporary Council retreated to its sanctuary to reconsider.

Final result was a plan for a square about one third smaller than the one originally proposed, retaining the Press Building (but still taking out the Willard), with a better attempt to coordinate the downtown section of the city into the new open area (including a new hotel and possibly one or two theaters). Criticism was greatly muted.

Higher Interest Rates May Be Housing Boon

Higher interest rates (by ¼ of 1 per cent) on FHA and VA mortgages apparently won't have the disastrous results that many observers predicted some months ago when the Federal Reserve Board boosted interest rates generally.

In fact, housing authorities seemed to think the boost in rates (to 5.75 per cent) would stimulate the lagging housing market. Reason: At lower Federal rates, mortgage money was getting scarcer, as investors preferred to go into other areas where returns were higher); and the elimination of the charging "points" (discounts above established ceilings to make up for loss of interest). The upgrading of interest rates also affects FHA mortgages on multifamily housing programs now up to 5.5 per cent.

If housing men are right, the change could provide a needed boost for housing: Last year, FHA mortgages were used to purchase 196,400 new homes, and about 363,000 existing homes.

(Earlier raises in interest rates by FHA and VA—to 5.5 per cent—may get the credit for the first upswing in newhousing unit starts in many months: In March, according to the Census Bureau, newhousing starts were at a seasonally adjusted annual rate of 1,543,000 units—up 4 per cent

over a year ago. In February, the rate of starts was down 11 per cent from the previous year.)

Financial

• There was an ominous note in the statistical news of the construction industry: A huge jump—of 2.3 per cent—in the Bureau of Public Roads Highway construction index, to a new all-time high.

The index touched 109 per cent (1957–59 base is 100), to top the previous all-time high (in the second quarter of last year) of 106.9 Every category in the index was up: 11 per cent for structural steel; 6.1 per cent for excavation; 7.3 per cent for reinforcing steel; 7 per cent for structural concrete; 3.4 per cent for portland cement.

BPR's index doesn't reflect labor costs as a separate item, but most Washington observers were convinced the higher labor costs are the largest factor in the general upswing.

• Nevertheless, construction activity generally continued to show every sign of health. The Commerce Department said that in March, new construction put in place was valued at \$5,200,000,000—up 6 per cent over a year ago.

· A trend to be watched-if it is a trend-began to appear: Cancellation or postponement of Federal construction projects. General Services Administration "rescheduled" several major projects because it said the local building market is "highly active" and has "acute shortages" of skilled construction workers. The projects: A \$44,500,000 Federal office building in Chicago, now rescheduled for bids (substruc-, ture only) in September; a \$10,500,000 structure in Louisville, Ky., now set for late summer or early fall; a \$7,600,000 courthouse and office building at Rochester, N.Y., now reset for bids in December.

No Federal spokesman would call the moves economy cutbacks, but the building industry was watching closely.

• Strongest taxpayer support for public works construction was for higher-education purposes, according to results of bond elections in March. Voters approved 100 per cent of all such proposals submitted to them, out of a total of \$206,300,000 worth of public works bonds (73 per cent of all issues) voted upon.





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PRODUCTS



Combination radiant heating and acoustical ceiling system features square water pipes which are said to increase its water-carrying capacity 60% comparable systems. over Square-edge perforated panels are self-clipping, and total height of unit, including suspension channels, is 213". "Acousti-Therm" has noise reduction coefficients of .10 to .90 International Environment Corp., 77 Tarrytown Road, White Plains, N.Y. 10607. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 100

To the Top of the Roof

Redesigned rooftop units for cooling only or for year-round heating and air conditioning are available in capacities from 20 to 50 tons and from 252,-000 to 664,000 Btuh. Cooling units can provide mechanical air conditioning at ambient temperatures as low as zero, with an optional control. When outside air drops to 55F, compressor switches off and unit uses fresh air for cooling. Factory packaging reduces on-site labor, and steel channel base eliminates need for roof curbing. Worthington Air Condi-tioning Co., 2005 W. Okla-homa Ave., Milwaukee, Wis. 53201.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 101

Construction

Honeycomb Siding

Plastic-reinforced-kraft honeycomb with $\frac{1}{2}''$ cells is bonded to prefinished aluminum sheet on one side and to heavy-duty aluminum foil on the other side to make a lightweight insulating siding. Exterior aluminum face can be smooth or wood-grained and is available in a choice of colors finished in either enamel or vinyl plastic. Units have preformed lock

joints. Hunter Engineering Co., P.O. Box 4269, Evansville, Ind. 47711. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 102

n Readers' Service Cara, Circle 102



Random dispersion of air bubbles through a flat glass sheet produces a glass in which there is no exact repetition of design. Sheets, 3%" thick and up to 48" wide, are available in standard lengths. It is suitable for decorative walls, windows, and partitions. American Saint Gobain Corp., Box 929, Kingsport, Tenn. 37662. On Readers' Service Card. Circle 103

Expansive Mood



Manufacturer states that new expansion joint system will prevent leaks due to cracked roofing felts along the joint, transitions or junctions. Felts do not crack because they are mopped to a galvanized steel water dam and the thermal reactions of the felts and steel are very much alike. Freefloating, extruded aluminum shapes form the sides and top of the joint; plastic flashing at the bottom forms a continuous seal throughout the 4" of movement allowed by the joint design. A 3" x 4" insulation batt is supplied to absorb condensation. W. P. Hickman Co., 2520 Industry Row, Troy, Mich. 48084. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 104



Framing anchor, in six different shapes, uses nails in shear in three directions. First designed for use in anchoring rafters and roof trusses to wall plates, "Trip-L-Grip" can also be used in wall and floor construction to join joists to beams, solid blocking to plates, rafters or trusses to purlins. The 18-gage galvanized metal anchors are available in three types, with a right and left hand for each type. Timber Engineering Co., 1619 Massachusetts Ave. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 105

Doors/Windows

Spanish Doors



Manufacturer has added three Spanish door designs to his stock: the "Matador" (shown), the "Conquistador," and the "Fiesta." The Ponderosa pine panel entrance doors are constructed with dowel joints and are sanded ready for finishing. Size of all three doors is 3'-0" x 6'-8". Ideal Co., P.O. Box 889, Waco, Texas. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 106

Electrical Equipment Wood Frames Light

Surface-mounted fixtures for fluorescent lights are framed with $\frac{3}{4}$ " poplar with a wide choice of veneers. The shallow box-type fixtures, available with various plastic lenses, can be used singly or in groups. Sizes include 1' x 4', 2' x 4', and 4' x 4'. Litecontrol Corp., 36 Pleasant St., Watertown, Mass. 02172. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 107

> It's a Reflector Fixture



This is not a spaceship from Mars but a heavy duty, solidbronze reflector fixture designed to withstand abuse in public area lighting. Incandescent or mercury vapor lamps may be used in 39" post fixture that provides low level spread light. Suggested areas for use include shopping malls, campuses, parks, moon ports, etc. Kim Lighting & Mfg. Co., Inc., El Monte, Calif.

On Readers' Service Card. Circle 108

Infrared Heater

Ceiling heater uses two infrared lamps or one regular lamp and one infrared lamp. Unit includes air exhaust with 50cfm squirrel-cage blower; face plate is anodized aluminum. Suitable for bathroom supplemental heating in residences, motels, apartments, etc. Emerson Electric Co., 8100 Florissant Ave., St. Louis, Mo. 63136. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 109



Two waterproofing coatings for above-grade masonry or concrete are guaranteed for 5 years against seepage and leakage. "Colorcoat" is applied to dry interior or exterior surfaces; "Super Colorcoat" may be applied to damp or dry interior or exterior surfaces, and is said to be mildew- and fungus-resistant. Both are available in 25 colors, and may be applied by brush, spray, or roller. Sonneborn Building Products, Inc., 1700 S. Mt. Prospect Rd., Des Plaines, Ill, 60016. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 110

Furnishings

duty contract carpet "rejects soil, resists crushing and traffic abrasion; endows unprecedented and unmatched strength, durability, and appearance retention." The carpet is also said to require 15 lb of force to dislodge a single tuft; won't fuzz or fray, pill, ravel, or shed. Or matt. Many other virtues. Available in 12' and 15' widths, or custom; 12 colors. Contract Carpet Engineering, Div. Aldon Rug Mills, Inc., Lenni, Pa.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 112

Modular Units



Indigenous handcrafts by American Indians and Eskimos are exhibited in a new shop, The American Indian Arts Center, designed by Architect John Arms. The wares make honest decorative elements for offices and other interiors, and range from Navajo rugs (which the Center believes can be used as successfully as Orientals in either traditional or modern settings) to character dolls and masks, to paintings (unusual and charming) and graphics, to good pieces of the now wellknown soapstone sculpture of the Eskimos. Although there is no architectural discount, handcraft sources should be known. The American Indian Art Center, 1051 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10021. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 111

Tough Tufted

Rhino-Tuft nylon yarn with "Fortress" construction results in—get it?—carpeting as tough as a rhino's hide. The heavy-



Danish Architect Hans Wegner's "Office Group" comprises desks, bookcases, and storage units; each allows many variations of shelf, drawer, and filerack arrangement. Cabinets close à la roll-top desk: the many wood strips on a canvas backing make a convincingly solid-looking tambour when closed. Cabinets and bookcases available in three heights; desk heights are adjustable, tops in six sizes. Legs and trestles of satin finished chromed steel. Units in teak or oak. Svend Wohlert Inc., 473 Jackson St., San Francisco 11, Calif. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 113

Aries Series



Marking the first of the Zodiac year is the "Aries Series," by Swiss designer Hans Eichenberger. The series consists of a club chair, a two-, a three-, and a four-cushion sofa. Focus here is on the frame (of mirror polished chrome steel tubing) with a system of "helical steel springs" supporting loose foam rubber seat and back cushions. Stendig, Inc., 387 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 114



For patios and poolsides, a practical collection: the "Century" line, which includes a round and square table, side and armchair, and adjustable and flat chaise. Frames are aluminum with baked enamel finish (four colors); 2" vinyl straps allow varied color combinations and easy replacement. And when sunning and swimming season ends, it stacks for storage. Brown-Jordan Co., Box 272, El Monte, Calif. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 115

Transition Expanded



Stow & Davis' "Transition" line has been expanded to include seven desks, several file units and occasional tables, and an "executive 'L' arrangement." Insert tops are offered in black vinyl or laminate, plain or quarter-matched butt walnut, elm burl; white or gold metal trim; light or dark finish. Also: a smaller-scale model of the "Bubble" chair with straightleg, revolving bases. Stow & Davis Furniture Co., 25 Summer Ave., N.W., Grand Rapids, Mich.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 116

In the Ivy Tradition





Harvey Probber introduces his educational furniture division with a collection designed specifically for use in colleges. The line includes a side (desk) chair, lounge seating, tables (originally designed for Harvard University), benches, and carrels. Primary wood is solid oak; tables are also available in cherry; those with ebony bases may be surfaced with plastic as protection from scuffing. Harvey Probber, Inc., 155 E. 56th St., New York, N.Y. 10022

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 117



S. M. Hexter's spring line features a variety of fabrics, from blazing prints to texture wovens. Of note: a nubbly nylonrayon in 13 muted to bright colors, an indoor-outdoor orlon, a heavy ribbed nylon, and



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a "twill" of nearly 100% viscous rayon available in 18 colors. S. M. Hexter, Co., 979 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 118

Tiles in Style



From Robbins for 1966: a vaguely "op" pattern with swirls of color; a spiral mosaic of translucent tiles; four woodgrain patterns (maple, teak, and two walnuts); others. All designs in several colors. Robbins Products, Inc., Tuscumbia, Ala,

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 119

Sanitation/Plumbing Flowers for M'lady



Patterned basins are the latest word in bathroom luxury. Two colorful models now on the market feature a petal design in bright yellows or blues; or a stripe pattern with an intricate Moorish border in blue and green or white and beige. Matching accessories include toilet tank lids and seats, ceramic wall tile and towels. Rheem Manufacturing Co., 7600 S. Kedzie Ave., Chicago, III, 60652.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 120

Services

Façade Textures Made To Suit

Spandrel and fascia panels are custom formed in three-dimensional patterns designed by the

architect. Lightweight, insulated panels (1 psf) are the result of a cooperative development program between the manufacturer, U.S. Rubber, and DuPont. Exterior face is of Royalite, a self-extinguishing ABS thermoplastic pro-duced by U.S. Rubber Co. The finish is Tedlar PVF film, a self-extinguishing polyvinyl fluoride developed by DuPont. factory-bonded to the Royalite. There is an insulating core and the interior face is usually cement asbestos board or a similar material. Panels are tough, durable, easy to install; the 11 standard colors are stable and uniform, says manufacturer. Smooth surface panels have also been used for exterior walls and roofs. Pax-Panel, 6311 St. John Ave., Kansas City, Mo. 64123.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 121

Special Equipment Tidy Fountain



tain is fabricated from aluminum with an anodized, bronzecolored finish. Fountain is wall-mounted with an integral back plate; head and push-button are said to be vandalproof. Haws Drinking Faucet Co., 1443 Fourth St., Berkelev. Calif. 94710. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 122



Modular swimming pool constructed from glass-fiber-reinforced-plastic panels is the first modular pool on the American market, reports the manufacturer. Six basic models can be constructed from standard components and may be enlarged after installation. Panels are bolted together and sealed with a silicone rubber; construction is said to tolerate the stresses caused by earth movement due to freezing and shifting soils. Pools are also suitable for rooftop or indoor installation. Filters, pumps, and other pool accessories available from same manufacturer. Jacuzzi Bros. Inc., 11511 New Benton Highway, Little Rock, Ark. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 123

Old Dog Has New Trick



The first major design innovation for that drafting room standby—a lead pointer for mechanical pencils—has been introduced by a company that has been manufacturing lead pointers for 16 years. The device is a disposable abrasive cup that twists off cleanly and is replaced with another unit. Adapters are available for the old-style pointers. Tru Point Products Inc., Coloma, Mich. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 124

"I'm Sorry...



. . but the number you have just buttoned is incorrect." No more dialing on compact new push-button phone that can be wall-mounted or used as a desk set. It is molded from highimpact plastic, and offers superior voice reproduction, manufacturer reports. "Exceptional acid resistance" should make it an asset to those with a sharp tongue; and if, in a fit of anger over misbuttoning one of those 10 digit numbers, a person feels the urge to tear an instrument to pieces, the tensile strength should be kept in mind—5100 ps1. S. H. Couch Co., Inc., North Quincy, Mass. 02171. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 125

No Hiding Place



Communications system called "Pocket Page" can signal a person wherever he might be in a building. The call is placed from internal telephones or intercom stations and the person paged receives a signal on a 2-oz pocket receiver. He can then go to the nearest telephone and dial a reply number that automatically puts him in contact with the caller. Both call and reply can be made without going through a switchboard. Executone, Inc., 47-37 Austell Place, Long Island City, N. Y. 11101. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 126

Tabletop Computer



The compact DAC-512 consists of a computer unit (15" x 15" x 21") and console (12" x 15" x 8") that operate at room temperatures. Low cost is expected to make the computer a feasible budget item for offices that otherwise could not have afforded one. Since the programming language is essentially algebra, most users will be able to program simple statements with little instruction. In addition to the usual add, subtract, multiply, and divide functions, the DAC-512 can learn and recall as many as eight stored programs, each containing up to 64 commands. To check a program, the op-



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On Readers' Service Card, circle No. 350

82 Products

erator may visually examine each coded instruction and its location, step by step, on the display panel. To eliminate programming errors, unlit keys on illuminated keyboard signal that they may not be used at the moment. Data Acquisition Corp., 2980 Whitney Ave., Hamden, Conn. 06518. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 127

In Conference



Wall-mounted walnut cabinet contains a number of devices to assist visual presentations. The equipment includes an adjustable projection screen (52" x 52"), a pull-out easel for flipcharts or large pads of paper, a magnetic chalkboard, fabric-covered-cork panels for displaying literature, and a concealed map case. The twodoor cabinet measures 56" x 48" x 61/2". The "Conference Center" is shipped with such accessories as pointer, markers, magnets, and chalk. Oravisual Co., Dept. R-3, Box 11150, St. Petersburg, Fla. 33733. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 128



Wood that is impregnated with plastic and then bombarded by gamma rays to "set" or solidify the plastic inside the wood cells, is now on the market the first publicly available product that is processed by nuclear energy, according to the manufacturer. Polymerizing the plastic inside the wood eliminates the need for further



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Once on, Traffic Topping stops costly maintenance. It won't let water in, yet "breathes" to let any moisture out. Because the base material is silicone rubber, the most durable, weatherproof elastomer known (the same as Silicone Construction Sealant), Traffic Topping stays flexible and moisture proof.

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To date, no other outdoor coating has been able to stand up to weather and wear for very long. Traffic Topping will. For many years. On patios, steps, garages, runways, for instance. Anywhere there's water and traffic. For complete specifications, test results, application data, color selection and local distribution, please write Section Q6201, Silicone Products Dept., General Electric Co., Waterford, N.Y. 12188.



Quick, easy application. Just prime the surface, add catalyst to Traffic Topping, mix and trowel on. No expensive equipment needed. Only one coat is usually required, so application costs are low.



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GENERAL C ELECTRIC

finishing; since the built-in finish extends through the wood, all that is needed is sanding and buffing. A variety of properties can be obtained by different combinations of woods and plastics. Hardness or dimensional stability, for example, can be increased by the choice of wood species and the type and amount of plastic used. Dyes mixed with the plastic make it possible to permeate the wood with an even color. "Novawood" is irradiated yellow pine available in 19" x 19" parquet flooring blocks in a variety of colors. It is also manufactured in a flakeboard, with a marble-like appearance, which comes in 2' x 4' sections suitable for specialty flooring, and in 4' x 8' sections suggested for countertops. It can be easily machined and sanded, and has good bonding characteristics, but cannot be nailed. These new woods resist abrasion so well that the manufacturer recommends them for flooring in freight cars. The American Novawood Corp., 2432 Lakeside Dr., Lynchburg, Va. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 129

A Different Angle

Elongated hexagonal tiles are suitable for use on interior walls, countertops and light traffic residential floors. The shape, measuring 6" from point to point and 4¼" across, is a new addition to the manufacturer's line and comes in a variety of subtle colors. The Mosaic Tile Co., 55 Public Square, Cleveland, Ohio 44113. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 130

Cowhide Squares

Top-grain cowhide leather is laminated to aluminum to make bevel-edged tiles, which are available in 8½" squares, 4¼" squares and in 4¼" x 8½". Tiles are easily installed with pre-applied adhesive. Six antiqued colors will not fade or bleed when washed with soap and water, says manufacturer. Vikon Tile Corp., Washington, N. J. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 131

Ins and Outs of Urethane

Urethane material surfaces both interior and exterior walls and floors with seamless terrazzolike finish. Said to be a new type of resin developed especially for seamless flooring, "Readtex" hardens in a few hours and should maintain its high-gloss, resilient surface for the life of the floor. Readco Industries Inc., 320-324 Ash St., Reading, Mass. 01867. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 132

Noyesy Patterns



Architect Eliot Noyes, with an eye to commercial and institutional uses, has designed three patterns for Micarta. The designs are all based on the grid -a fine mesh, a slightly larger pattern of geometric shapes, and a "window" pattern, the largest of the three (shown). They are printed on 12 solidcolor backgrounds, also developed by Noyes. Manufacturer suggests wall, door, counter, and other applications in restaurants, on ships, in hotels, etc. Matching abutting sheets should not be a problem, says manufacturer, since the designs are sufficiently irregular to allow for flexibility. Westinghouse Electric Corp., Micarta Div., Hampton, S.C.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 133

Marble/Vinyl Tile

Fine chips of marble embedded in clear vinyl are backed with vinyl asbestos and embossed with a stone pattern that helps to conceal heel and scuff marks. "Roman Stone" tile, $12'' \times 12'' \times \frac{1}{16}$ " in four colors, is recommended for residential and light traffic commercial uses. Samples available. Azrock Floor Products, P.O. Box 531, San Antonio, Texas 78206. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 134



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On Readers' Service Card, circle No. 447

New Britain, Connecticut.

automatic sliding door operating carpets

MANUFACTURERS' DATA





Sound control in industrial, institutional, and testing environments is discussed in a brochure that also includes sound doors, custom-fabricated enclosures, and silencers for machinery. Two steel panel types are available: a 4"-thick flatsurface panel for noisy factory testing areas; and a corrugated panel with 2" acoustic insulation for swimming pools, gymnasiums, airport concourses and general factory application. Fibrous glass anechoic wedges (shown) are said to provide 99% echo-free chambers for acoustic research from 50 to 400 cps. Accessories available for integrated in-stallations. Construction de-tails, sizes, sound absorption coefficients, and photos. 4 pages. The Eckel Corp., 155 Fawcett St., Cambridge, Mass. 02138.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 200

Construction Screens Shade Exteriors



Brochure describes textured aluminum openwork sun screens and laminated exteriorinterior panels. Duranodic 300 and several other finishes are discussed—also pretreatment, aluminum alloys, and extruded shapes. Illustrated are screens suitable for both large and small area façades in new construction or remodeling design. Also "Alply" panels with an insulating core sandwiched between aluminum on one side and hardboard, plywood, or other materials on the opposite side. Tables, guide specifications, construction details, and text. 16 pages. Aluminum Co. of America, 1501 Alcoa Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 201

The Fabric of Construction

Manual designed to aid the draftsman and detailer to prepare details and layouts for welded wire fabric in reinforced concrete construction is generously illustrated with dimensioned drawings. Divided into an introduction and six sections, the book includes building code information, descriptive text, detailed examples with drawings, methods of computing weight of welded wire fabric, and an area and weight table. Spiral bound. 64 pages. United States Steel Corp., Rm. 8782, 525 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15230

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 202

Pick a Patio

A group of attractive wooden sun decks and patios are enticingly photographed in color. Grooved and solid flooring, openwork fences and latticed sunshades, space-dividing platforms, etc. 8 pages. Western Wood Products Assn., Yeon Bldg., Portland, Ore. 97204. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 203

Louverly Façades



Construction details and photos illustrate actual installations of exterior louvers on three large buildings. Both grilles and louvers of extruded aluminum with anodized finishes are available for interior and exterior application. A packaged "Spandrelouver" unit is described and detailed, and cross-sections of five standard styles are shown, Custom work is also available. Finishes, sizes, specifications. 8 pages. Bohn Aluminum & Brass Co., 1400 Lafayette Bldg., Detroit, Mich. 48226.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 204

Redwood, Inside and Out



Sample specifications for redwood siding and interiors are supplemented with siding profiles for tongue and groove, shiplap, and bevel siding; nailing diagram; paneling patterns; grades, properties, and lumber sizes. 8 pages. California Redwood Assn., 617 Montgomery St., San Francisco, Calif. 94111. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 205



Booklet gives section tables for H piles, and lists size and weight of available standard structural sections. A section of high-strength steels briefly compares the properties of 10 types, and tabulates more fully their chemical and physical properties and specifications. 16 pages. Inland Steel Co., Dept. SPC, 30 W. Monroe St., Chicago, Ill. 60603. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 206

Reynolds Wraps Buildings



Booklet describes aluminum siding, roofing, and decking with size-weight-cost charts, drawings, load-span tables, "U" value charts, details, application instructions, and suggested specs. Single sheets, insulated panels, and corrugated acoustical ceiling panels are covered. There is a section on the "Concealed Clip Panel," and on "Colorweld," a completely automatic enameling process. This process assures the uniformity of eight color finishes. 24 pages. Reynolds Metals Co., Building Products & Supply Div., Park Ridge, Ill. 60068. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 207

Precasting Techniques

A seven-section booklet on precast concrete panels describes procedures for precasting— both by specific example and by general discussion. There are several chapters on horizontally precast exposed-aggregate panels that are either chemically retarded, sandblasted, bushhammered, or polished. One recently developed technique allows bonding of an unhydrated asbestos-cement sheet to the face of a concrete panel to make a smooth, dense surface. Text gives frequency and amplitude of vibrating tables, depth of chemical retarder, thickness of panels, curing and vibrating times, sandblasting techniques, etc. A section on form liners shows patterned effects achieved by this method of forming. Other sections describe sand-bedding



The first vented wrap around plastic refractor gives you 768 sound reasons to specify Wakefield's new Vented Photometric luminaire. 768 small, square louvers the length of the lens allow air to circulate freely throughout the unit, decreasing op-erating temperature, lengthening ballast and lamp life, and *increasing efficiency al-*

most 10 percent. Available in either styrene or acrylic, this slim, handsome, injection molded refractor offers the same brightness level and strength as the popular solid Photometric refractor, while actually increasing light output. Available in standard 2-lamp 4-ft. and 2-lamp 8-ft. tandem fixtures, this super-efficient vented refractor is interchangeable with solid refractors on present Wakefield Photometric luminaires. It features the same easy lift-slideremove features with no latches or catches. Ask your Wakefield Representative or write for complete information on the new Vented Photometric . . . the only unit better than the Photometric.







for large exposed aggregate (1" to 8" dia.), integrally colored panels and vertically cast-in-place exposed-aggregate panels. Photos, mix-material chart, and short bibliography. 30 pages. Portland Cement Assn., 33 W. Grand Ave., Chicago, Ill. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 208

"Lucite for Lighting"

Ceiling, street, and exterior lighting illustrate brochure containing technical and semitechnical information on Lucite acrylic resins and Lucite acrylic monomers. Included are sections on properties, processing and fabrication, colorability, and building codes. A comprehensive properties chart and several pages of graphs compare Lucite with other materials under various exposure tests. 28 pages. E. I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. (Inc.), Plastics Dept., Wilmington, Del. 19898.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 209

Sophisticated Blades

Exterior louvers (fixed and operating), cooling tower

screens, and accessories are covered in an extensive catalog. Operating louvers are manual, electric, or pneumatic. Pneumatic operation is said to be noiseless and allows remote control of one blade or a multiple bay of louvers with only one or two air lines running through the entire system -depending on control. Simplicity is said to make system especially suitable for large installations. Blades are stormproof extruded aluminum. Construction details, suggested specs, descriptive text, per-formance data, sizes, photos, finish color samples, etc. 32 pages. Construction Specialties, Inc., 55 Winans Ave., Cranford, N.J. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 210

Doors/Windows New Sheets for Old

Series of data sheets for updating obsolete material in the Modernfold Manual gives details, charts, and architectural checklists for "Acousti-Seal" operable walls, "Soundmaster" operable walls, and "Coil-Wal" side-coiling wood partitions. 12 sheets. New Castle Products, Inc., New Castle, Ind On Readers' Service Card, Circle 211

Furnishings Sinking Feeling

Fold-down brochure shows "Fiesta Sink Centers"-four styles and six colors of stainand-chip-resistant enameled cast-iron. Dual sinks with round or rectangular bowls (big enough for broiler pans), a utilitarian triple bowl sink (middle bowl, with garbage disposal, is for peeling vegetables, scraping dishes). Optional fittings. American Standard, Plumbing and Heating Div., 40 W. 40th St., New York, N.Y. 10018. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 212

Compact Laminates

Fold-out brochure contains samples of Textolite laminates: 18 wood-grain patterns, 24

solid colors; photos of marbles, linens, and mists (the latter being the usual dismaying assortment of gold speckles and blotches). Available in satin or textured finishes, horizontal or vertical grades. Complete specifications, data. General Electric Co., Laminated Products Dept., Coshocton, Ohio. 43812

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 213

Sprightly Lighting



1966 catalogue, "Contemporary Lighting by Heifetz," collects information on all of







Now-from the Clark Door Man

Even at high speed, fork trucks don't scare the Clark Shock Absorber Door

Ordinary double-acting doors quake at the sight of a fork lift bearing down on them . . . but not the Clark Shock Absorber Door. That's because fork lift trucks and pallets never touch the door itself.

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On Readers' Service Card, circle No. 372

Jasha Heifetz's "Rotaflex" plastic lighting globes. Five major styles include geometric pendants, fixture clusters, and wall-mounted lighting. All in a variety of translucent or transparent colors and color combinations; plastic fixtures in ribbed texture as well as smooth. Photos, charts, specifications, price lists, index. 50 pages. The Heifetz Co., Clinton, Conn. 06413. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 214



Catalogue presents "Curvelle," a process by which solid wood is formed and sculptured to the curves of a specified design. Offered primarily as a service for architects and designers, "Curvelle" produces curved elements for chairs, tables, planters, screens, lamps. Group of available component parts and finished pieces shown. 18 pages. Walter P. Sauer & Sons, Inc., 30–28 Starr Ave., Long Island City, N.Y. 11101. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 215

Essential Extras I

Catalogue for 1966 shows Mc-Donald's handsome aluminum, leather, wood, and Naugahyde desk and office accessories, from waste baskets and book ends to calendars and letter openers. Large variety of ashtrays, from floor urns to walland chair-mounted, including one designed to fit many barber chairs. Available in a variety of colors and finishes. Color photos and keys. 36 McDonald Products pages. Corp., 252 Duk-It Bldg., Buffalo, N.Y. 14210. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 216

Essential Extras II

Catalogue shows a host of well-designed floor and wallmounted ash trays, including the pyrex sand urn. Others of steel and aluminum in many finishes. Good-looking umbrella stands, waste baskets, and coat racks and trees, 32 pages. Loumac Supply Corp., 327 E. 103rd St., New York, N.Y. 10029.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 217

Frame-Up



Catalogue shows Hugh Acton's forthright "I-Frame System," which ranges from desks, side pieces, tables and seating (torsion spring and conference chairs) to wardrobes, check stands for banks, lecterns and library furniture. All frames of mirror-chrome-plated solid steel; units in variety of woods or optional laminate tops. Photos accompanied by clearly charted descriptions, measurements and illustrations. 40 pages. Hugh Acton, 420 East Ten Mile Rd., Pleasant Ridge, Mich.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 218

Vertical Venetian Blinds

Adjustable vertical louvers for interiors may be fixed or traversing. Louvers are attached top and bottom in extruded aluminum channels, or are



installation Our Lady of the Angels Franciscan Seminary Quincy, Illinois

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Telecom-Webster Electric's trade name for private dial telephone systems

COMMUNICATIONS DIVISION ELECTRIC WEBSTER W RACINE .WIS

In Canada: Webster Electric (Canada), Ltd., Kitchener, Ontario

PRIVATE DIAL TELEPHONE . LOUD-SPEAKING INTERCOM . SOUND & PAGING SYSTEMS . TEACHING LABORATORIES

free-hanging. Man-made or vinyl-impregnated natural fabrics are available as well as PVC louvers. Each job is custom fabricated - installation being on the interior head and sill or sealed between double glazing. Installation details, descriptive text, and specifica-tions. 8 pages. Elkirt Verticals, Inc., P.O. Box 284, Des Moines, Iowa 50301. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 219

Vertical Construction



Brochure shows new group of furniture by Thonet on the occasion of the opening of their new showroom. Of interest here is the method of construction: two upright shells of molded plywood, each like a

vertical section through an hourglass, are joined under seat. The result, according to manufacturer, is "strength engineered to increase under stress." 4 pages. Thonet Industries, Inc., 1 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016 On Readers' Service Card, Circle 220

Mirror, Mirror Anywhere

examples: a transparent mirror hiding a TV set; when turned on, the picture is visible through the mirror; when off, only the mirror can be seen; mirrors camouflaging a structural column, warming a sun deck, making an elevator look larger. Includes mirror terminology, proper installation procedures. 25 pages. National Association of Mirror Manufacturers, 807 Jefferson Build-ing, 1225 Nineteenth St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 221

rors in interior design. Some

Insulation

Insulation Series

A group of five bulletins on plastic insulation and flashing describe: (1) Styrofoam and Dorvon rigid insulation; (2) Styrofoam rigid insulation for built-up roofing; (3) insulation for cold-storage areas, including a prefab panel system; (4) insulations for low-temperature pipes; (5) plastic flashing and waterproofing membranes made from "Saraloy," a new plastic. Tables, graphs, construction details, specs, design and engineering

data, and installation instructions. The Dow Chemical Co., 433 Bldg., Midland, Mich. 48640

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 222

Sanitation/Plumbing Where's the Soap?

Catalog illustrates many types of soap dispensers and washroom accessories with photos, dimension drawings, and brief specs. American Dispenser Co., Inc., 860 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 223

Special Equipment

Patio Pots

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installation instructions. The NIK-O-LOK Company

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files, sizes, color samples and photos. 4 pages. Atlas Asbestos Co., P.O. Box 221, Ambler, Pa. 19002.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 224

Hoods Grab Smoke

Wall-mounted or ceiling-mounted hoods for kitchen ranges can be equipped with one, two, or three speed blowers. Hoods are finished in white, stainless steel, or coppertone. For ductless installations, hoods can be equipped with an activated charcoal filter. Dimensioned drawings, size-price tables, and photos. 8 pages. Broan Mfg. Co., Inc., Hartford, Wis.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle 225

Space Age Drafting



Double-booklet portfolio gives information on automatic drafting tables, and digital electronic controls; the two types of components are combined into systems for converting graphics to digital data and vice versa. Tables range in size from 50" x 60" to 5' x 24'; drawing is with ink or scribe. Descriptions, specifications, optional accessories, applications, and photos are given. 22 pages. The Gerber Scientific Instrument Co., P.O. Box 305, Hartford, Conn. 06101. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 226

Put Power in Your **Drafting Table**

Extensive line of drafting tables and drafting station components includes a counterbalanced table equipped with electric motor for pushpedal height adjustment. Counterbalancing also permits easy operation of tilt mechanism with a simple handle. Board for this deluxe model has cellular core and off-white linoleum surface. It is nicely detailed with metal edges and pencil trough. Available either as part of an L-shaped station

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with reference desk or as a separate unit. Catalog includes many models in wood and metal plus systems for filing drawings. 34 pages. Hamilton Mfg. Co., Two Rivers, Wis. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 227

A Colored Sink In Every Kitchen

Attractive full-color brochure illustrates single- and doublecompartment colored sinks from Peachblow (pastel) to Blueberry (deep). Brochures gives sizes and describes fittings. 20 pages. Kohler Co., Kohler, Wis, On Readers' Service Card, Circle 228

Roll Out the Grille

Rolling grilles protect store fronts, parking garage entrances, ticket windows, etc., when buildings are not in use. Hand or electric operated grilles, custom-built for any opening, are available in three patterns fabricated from steel, aluminum, or stainless steel. Photos, installation details, and short specs are included with a discussion of operation and accessories. 8 pages. The Kinnear

Mfg. Co. & Subsidiaries, Columbus, Ohio 43216.

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Wood veneer wallcoverings are 1/85" thick, bonded to fabric backing. Some 50 woods are available in book- and endmatched sheets for grain continuity on the wall. Sheets, 18" to 24" wide and 8' to 12' long, are said to be easily applied and very flexible with a flamespread rating of 5. Brochure includes specifications, list of woods, and samples of 13 woods including walnut, English oak, teak, and Brazilian rosewood, 4 pages. Moderncote, Inc., 1717 "I" Ave., New Castle, Ind. 47362. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 230

Paper Laminates Stop Condensation

Leaflets describe two kraft paper vapor barriers that can be bonded to a roof deck with asphalt. Manufacturer recom-mends "Vaporstop 710," kraft laminated to a plastic adhe-sive, for simple, low-cost installation on concrete, wood, or gypsum decks. Noncombustible "Pyro-Kure 600," also a paper laminate, can be applied over metal decks, and is said to give three times the

protection of plastic films. Leaflets contain brief specs and application instructions; samples available. Sisalkraft Div., St. Regis Paper Co., Attleboro, Mass. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 231

Paneled Walls

Hardboard paneling in a number of grain patterns, and color stains from a deep brown "Mount Vernon Cherry" to light gray "Glacier Walnut," is available in grooved boards and random widths. Filigreed panels, pegboard panels, and moldings are also shown in pamphlet containing construction details, charts of properties, and color photos. 20 pages. Masonite Corp., Ma-sonite Bldg., 29 N. Wacker Dr., Chicago, Ill. 60606. On Readers' Service Card, Circle 232

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IN P/A

MONTH

For readers with fun on their minds: two swimming pools and two recreation club buildings—good hammock reading, For readers mulling over the eternal question: "The Architect's Toughest Problem," by Robert H. Mutrux, a humorous inquiry into how to select the right client. For the reader concerned with getting well soon: a report on why hospital rooms are so dreary and what can be done about it. For readers asking, "Why don't they do it like in the old days": A Forrest Wilson look at "What Happened to the Art in Artisan?" And for readers interested, as all P/A readers usually are, in good architecture and how it is put together: a fine TAC school, a magnificent space in a Boston student center by Shepley, Bulfinch, Richardson & Abbott, and technical studies on computer design, concrete platforms, load-bearing aluminum, and suspended structures. Plus, as always, the latest happenings in P/A News Report and the opinionated views of P/A Observer.

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