HARRISON TO RECEIVE AIA GOLD MEDAL

WASHINGTON, D.C. In May, Wallace K. Harrison will become the thirty-third recipient of the Gold Medal of the AIA. It is, of course, the highest honor granted by the AIA in recognition of "most distinguished service to the profession of architecture or to the Institute." Harrison, whose commissions have included many of the most important buildings constructed in this country during the past 30 years, has displayed a diplomat's skill in working both with clients and with teams of some of the world's most prestigious architects. Probably his best known display of this skill was as director of planning for the United Nations buildings in New York. Although many feel that the final solution was a sadly watered-down version of Le Corbusier's original scheme, his team of 17 architects from 10 countries, including Corbu and Oscar Niemeyer, produced a unanimously agreed upon design in less than three months, a feat once called the architectural equivalent of the months, a feat once called the architectural equivalent of the architectural equivalent of the architectural equivalent of the four-minute mile. It is perhaps less well known, but indicative of Harrison's character, that when his firm was selected to oversee construction of the U.N., he took no fee, working only for costs.

Appropriately, at one point during World War II, Harrison was a diplomat, serving as Director of the Office of Inter-American Affairs.

Speaking of Harrison's special talent, architectural historian Talbot Hamlin once said, "He's been so phenomenally successful in gaining the confidence of businessmen that they've begun to accept innovations in modern architecture more readily than they ever did before. Thanks to him, many business leaders have actually become enthusiasts for the best in progressive design. Harrison has won a new kind of respect for the entire profession. I shudder when I think what could have happened if the same opportunities had fallen into the hands of a man who was less responsible, or less creative, or both."

Much of Harrison's growth as an architect and diplomat came during the 30's, when he was the youngest of a team of architects working on the design of Rockefeller Center. Back in 1954, a three-part profile on Harrison in the New Yorker told of a meeting between the Center's architects and John D. Rockefeller, who envisioned the project. Rockefeller had lived in an era of rococco and intricately carved cornices. He envisioned the same sort of structure for the RCA building and told the architects so. According to the New Yorker, the architects listened until Rockefeller had finished; then Harrison blurted out, "Good dammit, Mr. Rockefeller, you can't do that! You'll ruin the building if you cover up its lines with that classical gingerbread."

In the past 14 years, Harrison has won three national awards from the AIA: In 1953, for the Corning Glass Center in New York; in 1956, for the Interfaith Center at Brandeis University; and, in 1964, for the University of Illinois Assembly Hall.

Although Harrison's architectural solutions have rarely been measured up to the stature of his commissions, and although his designs have seldom shown bold innovations, he has left his mark on 20th-Century architecture. "I don't have time to worry about style when I'm working on a building," he told a reporter recently. "What he does worry about is pleasing the people who have to use his buildings. He has a host of satisfied clients, if not satisfied critics. It is, in large part, his role in making contemporary architecture acceptable to the public that makes the Gold Medal a fitting tribute.

BUILD NOW — OR YOU MAY PAY MORE LATER

What will the construction market be like in 1967? Most pundits, basing predictions on 1966's economic slowdown, are cautious. Yet 1966 was the best year the U.S. construction industry ever had. By the end of the year, more money had been spent on construction — $76 billion — than in any previous year, and profits, also, were riding at record industry levels. This boom took place despite the sharp — and widely publicized — drop in housing, one of the largest segments of the construction field. Most economists agree that housing will continue its weak position in 1967, but just what all this will mean for architects is hard to tell. According to P/A's annual business survey, architects will gain an increasing share of the housing market. Their share has, traditionally, been a small one, but as more people realize the contribution architects can make, and as money available for mortgages eases, architectural work in housing should pick up.

There is a seeming paradox in the prediction of this increased activity, for, with increased inflation, costs have risen and building will cost more this year than last. A potential home builder will gain nothing in waiting for a more advantageous interest rate. Labor costs alone average 6.6% in 1966, and costs of building materials are starting to rise too. This has put the cost of home building significantly above what it was a year ago (as much as 5%), enough to eclipse any rise in interest rates. In light of this, it seems wise for architects to advise clients worried about the money market to go ahead with building plans. Besides, as prices continue upward, many observers expect only a slight easing of interest rates, perhaps between one-quarter and one-half of 1%. In short, if you don't build now, you may well pay more later.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL INSULT

"What a blessing it would be if we could open and shut our ears as easily as we do our eyes."

GEORGE PICHENBERG, 18th-Century physicist.

In New York City, a hostess has a summer party for about a hundred friends. On her patio, a rock-and-roll band, with all that electronic equipment, plays dance music. Her patio, walled on all sides by high apartment houses, forms a sort of natural echo chamber, and, with the volume turned up, the music coming from the electronic amplifiers reaches close to the threshold of pain (120 db). After a while, the police arrive, summoned by the neighbors.

At Carswell Air Force Base near Fort Worth, Texas, jet planes scream off runways into the sky with a roar (140 db) that would be literally deafening to persons directly in its path. Each morning, children there file into an underground school where they can study, oblivious to the chaos above them.

A housewife in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, has the kitchen radio going and second she does the ironing; also going are the dishwasher and garbage disposal, producing such a din (80 db, about the noise level in a DC-3 cockpit) that, when her mother-in-law calls on the...
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*Du Pont registered trademark
February 1967

and that there was
guinea pigs have died of this
One scientist found that
goes far beyond hearing loss.
loses about a decibel per year
ordinary noisy environment
for 20 or so years of his adult
immediately and permanently
deaf. Scientists estimate that,
workers become
their ears. If. for
put plugs of wood putty into
the plugs slip or fail to fit
decreased hearing. Italian bor­
tered on damage to hearing,
the effects of noise has cen­
tal illness, and a number of
development of cardiovascu­
can play a serious part in the
noise as an external irritant
"Research has shown that
fected by it. Our
re- German police issue
in Paris put gongs and two­
In 1954, municipal authorities
ians where noise is concerned.
level is as much as 15 db high­
level is as much as 15 db high­

Most current research on
the effects of noise has cen­
ted damage to hearing, merely because this is the
most obvious result. Pro­
longed exposure to levels
than a level thought

There have been attempts in
the U.S. to control noise
but, for the most part, they
have been futile and limited.
It is both ironical and typical
that when New York City
Congressman Theodore Kup­
erman, one of the country's
most enlightened spokesmen
on noise control, read 23
pages of testimony — includ­
ing a bill for noise control,
which never got out of com­
mittee — into the Congres­sional Record last spring; he
was followed immediately by
Congressman Pucinski of Illi­
nois, who congratulated the
FAA for allowing jets into Na­

This apathy exists despite
findings that noise reduction
leads to greater worker pro­
ductivity and a lower turnover
rate in apartments and hous­ing.
One estimate states that
office workers spend 20% of
their time fighting noise, and
that, in all, noise may cost
against automobile horns
knows what a difference it
makes. They also put rubber
wheels on Paris subway trains
and recently talked Montreal
into doing the same. In both
Germany and France, gar­
bage cans must be covered
with rubber or plastic. West

American industry as much
as $4 billion a year in lost pro­
duction and accidents. An in­
urance company that sound­
proofed its offices found that
typing errors went down
29%, that machine operators
made 52 fewer mistakes,
that absenteeism dropped
57%, and employee turnover
dropped 47%.

Even when noise controls
are enacted, they are difficult
to enforce, which is again
partly attributable to a far­
reaching apathy. Contractors
in Coral Gables, Florida, for
example, found that, when
noise-control legislation was
passed last June, they could
not install air-conditioning
units in homes until manu­
facturers had made them
quieter. Memphis, Tennessee,
has been a pioneer in enforc­
ing strict noise control, and
for a while, until the Council
was disbanded, that city won
the Noise Abatement Coun­
cil's annual award as the
U.S.'s quietest city. It had little
competition.

Europeans who have been
noise conscious for some time
look on Americans as barbar­
ians where noise is concerned.
In 1954, municipal authorities
in Paris put gongs and two­
cone horns on fire engines
and ambulances. And anyone
who has experienced the ef­
fects of that city's ordinances

Some sound and increase in
tone horns on fire
wheels on Paris subway trains
and recently talked Montreal
into doing the same. In both
Germany and France, gar­
bage cans must be covered
with rubber or plastic. West

...
GREAT FALLS, VA. A small (11,500 sq ft) visitors' center for Great Falls's park, alongside what remains of the Potomac Canal, will get under way shortly. Designed by Kent Cooper & Associates of Washington, D.C., the center will be located between newly created parking areas and the Great Falls. The National Park Service, which operates the park, hopes visitors on the way to viewing platforms over the falls will pass through the building for an historical briefing. The center will contain an exhibit area, an auditorium seating 143, administration offices, and concessions. A terrace will provide room for outdoor dining.

The architects have chosen a concrete block matching the original canal lock stone walls in color. Because of possible flooding, public areas are on the building's second floor and are approached by a gently sloping entrance, which provides an inviting entrance. The concrete floors of these public areas will be cantilevered beyond the exterior walls to provide sheltered areas outside for visitors caught in the rain. The project is expected to cost $325,000.

U.S. GYPSUM REHABILITATION PROJECT SUCCEEDS

NEW YORK, N.Y. When U.S. Gypsum decided in July 1965 to enter the rehabilitation business, it estimated that 58,000 buildings in New York City alone were ripe for their efforts. They pegged the market at from $5 billion to $7 billion. After completing a pilot project — the rehabilitation of six tenement buildings in Spanish Harlem — they were so pleased with the results that plans are afoot to expand the program throughout the country. Already the company has purchased six additional tenements, and is buying six more in Cleveland. It is also considering projects in Chicago, Los Angeles, Philadelphia, Atlanta, San Francisco, and Oakland.

Gypsum's first six buildings (see p. 45, JANUARY 1966 P/A) came in at a cost of about $11,500 per rehabilitated unit — half the cost of demolishing the buildings and putting up new ones. Federal funds provided financing at an interest rate of about 3%, and additional help came from city tax laws, which make the structures tax free for 10 years. U.S. Gypsum plans to turn them over to a neighborhood nonprofit group, Metro East Housing.

While work on the project was underway, tenants were moved into the building next door (one building was done at a time), then moved back in when the job was completed. And although rents are now more than double the $20 to $40 per month former rate, apartments are now more spacious, cleaner, and are equipped with up-to-date facilities.

U.S. Gypsum sees its rehabilitation work as an outlet for its home building products. For the Harlem project, they contributed several new ones, including a metal studding system and a gypsum slurry for floors.
ADDITION TO SEA RANCH

SEA RANCH, CALIF. Scheduled for construction next year is a Guest House/Condominium along the rugged California coast at Oceanic Properties' Sea Ranch (pp. 120-137, May 1966 P/A). To be built up the slope behind the existing condominiums, designed by Moore, Lyndon, Turnbull & Whitaker, it will be located close to another grouping of condominium apartments designed by Charles Moore and a store and restaurant designed by Joseph Esherick. The proposed Guest House/Condominium, the work of the San Francisco firm of Marquis & Stoller, will match its neighbors in style.

After considering a single-story arrangement, the architects decided that such a solution would be too incohesive, relating poorly to the more compact adjacent buildings. They therefore decided on multistory structures grouped in a complex that is roughly triangular. This triangle is formed by two groupings of housing blocks with multilevel shed roofs, one facing down the coast, one up, both avoiding a view of the housing directly below; the third arm of the triangle is formed by a car shed.

The architects feel that their cluster arrangement provides a sheltered feeling in the midst of the vastness of the sea and grassland.

LYNDON TO MOVE TO MIT

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. By the start of the fall term, Donlyn Lyndon, 31, will become chairman of the Department of Architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. He moves to MIT from the University of Oregon, where, since 1964, he has headed the architecture department.

Lyndon received his M.A. in architecture from Princeton University in 1959, and spent a year as a Fulbright scholar studying Hindu temples in the Far East. He has lectured and written widely on architecture, and this month becomes the new editor of the Journal of the Association of Collegiate Schools of Architecture.

As a partner in the firm of Moore, Lyndon, Turnbull and Whitaker of Berkeley, Calif., he has been responsible for some highly acclaimed designs, notably Sea Ranch on the California coast north of San Francisco (see pp. 120-127, May 1966 P/A). Lyndon told P/A that he would, of course, continue to practice architecture and work with his partners. "We have to decide how we will handle the arrangement," he commented, "but we will definitely be working with one another."

Lyndon takes over MIT's architecture department from Dean Lawrence B. Anderson, who has been acting chairman, as well as dean, since 1965.

CIRCULAR CAPITOL FOR NEW MEXICO

SANTA FE, N.M. In 1860, the Palace of the Governors in Santa Fe was large enough to house "more than a thousand persons, 5000 head of sheep and goats, 400 horses and mules, and 300 head of beef cattle, without crowding." Dedicated last month in Santa Fe was the U.S.'s newest State Capitol, which, with 232,206 sq ft of space in its four stories, could hold almost as much livestock as the old Palace. It has underground parking space for 167 cars, chambers and offices for the state Senate and House, legislative offices, lounges, and committee rooms. The design (1) by W.C. Kruger & Associates is in the shape of the Zia Indian Pueblo sun symbol, shown emblazoned on the floor of the central rotunda (2). Kruger's original design for the capitol (3), which he called a "monumental pueblo," met with such a storm of protest in this community, which is intensely conscious of its 356-year history, that it was substantially redesigned. (For a still earlier plan, see p. 69, May 1963 P/A.) He substituted a more traditional territorial feeling, one in keeping with Santa Fe's passion for adobe construction. It has a façade of adobe colored concrete.

The capitol's $4,500,000 cost has been financed by state severance tax bonds.

PERSONALITIES

Donald A. Ostrower, partner in the firm of Vollmer Ostrower Associates of New York City, has been elected president of the New York Association of Consulting Engineers... The American Institute of Consulting Engineers has chosen Richard O. Walker, Jr., as its president for 1967. Walker is vice-president of Abbott, Mertk & Co., Inc., New York architects and engineers... New president of the Hawaii Chapter, AIA, is Edward Sultan... Edward
Durell Stone was honored for "services to mankind" by the construction industry at its annual dinner on behalf of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies. P/A Design Awards winner Robert Venturi is among the most recently designated trustees of the American Academy in Rome. Jose Luis Sert, Dr. John Ely Burchard, Hans Hollein, William Kessler, and William Morgan will comprise the jury for the 1967 Reynolds Memorial Award for Architecture with Aluminum. Morton Aves, an architectural student at California State Polytechnic College, has been designated president of the Associated Student Chapters of the AIA. Dr. Winston R. Weisman, professor and head of the department of art history at Pennsylvania State University, has been appointed special consultant to the Landmarks Preservation Commission of New York City. Richard L. Hartung, architect, has been appointed Educational Director of the Indiana Limestone Institute.

Professor Frederic D. Mayer of the University of Illinois department of architecture has been elected president of Scarab, a national professional organization of the environmental design fields. New chairman of New York City's Housing Authority is Walter E. Washington, who comes to New York from the National Capital Housing Authority. Brazil's best-known architect, Oscar Niemeyer, has been commissioned to design the new seat of the French Communist Party in Paris.

Eighteenth chairman of New York's City Planning Commission is Donald H. Elliot, former Special Council to the Mayor. Head of a newly formed group appointed by HUD secretary Robert C. Weaver is William L. Slayton. The group is to advise and assist in implementing the Model Cities Program. Graham J. Morgan, President of United States Gypsum, has received HUD's Urban Pioneer Award for his company's efforts in rehabilitation.

NEW YORK, N.Y. On display through February 15 at the Metropolitan Museum of Art is a selection of project drawings of architect Alexander Jackson Davis. Davis, whose most active period was during the mid-19th Century, designed buildings of almost every type, mostly in either Greek or Gothic revival styles. Many of Davis' watercolor paintings of his projects include lush vegetation, trees, bushes, grass — an unspoiled landscape that attracted him greatly. He is credited today with being among the first architects to insist that a building relate to its natural site. Shown here is his design (done with Ithiel Town) for the New York Customs House, which was later (1833) became the Sub-Treasury Building and which stands today on Pine Street as the Federal Hall Memorial Museum.

WRIGHT'S SHIP OF STATE

San Rafael, Calif. In 1957, shortly after he was selected to design the Marin County Civic Center and Fairgrounds, Frank Lloyd Wright told the people of the county, "A good building is not one that hurts the landscape, but is one that makes the landscape more beautiful than it was before."

In Marin County, you have one of the most beautiful landscapes I have seen, and I am proud to make the buildings of this County characteristic of its beauty." Typically, Wright saw his buildings, which were to be sited in the rolling hills above San Francisco Bay, as examples to government officials throughout the country.

Although Wright finished the plans for the Civic Center and Fairgrounds just before his death in April, 1959, only one structure has been completed: the Marin County Administration Building, opened in October 1962. Now construction is underway on the Hall of Justice, a mirrored image wing of the administration building. Resting on the brows of three hills, the Hall will have two roadways running beneath it, through arched culverts. The curve of these culverts is reiterated in the gentle, repetitive arches of the wings in the building above them, the arches being reminiscent of gentle swells off the sea. But the feeling generated by the Administration Building, as one comes upon it, is not so much one of the sea, as of a ship riding the green-brown hills. It even has a concrete prow. (Did Wright have a ship of state in mind?) Like the Administration Building, the Hall of Justice will have an open central well running the length of the structure, covered by a plastic skylight.

If work proceeds on schedule, the Hall of Justice will be completed in 1968, and the Superior and Municipal Courts, as well as the District Attorney, the Sheriff, the county jail, and supporting agencies will move in.

Wright also completed plans for a Health and Welfare building and for fairground structures, including an amphitheater seating 3000 persons and an exhibit pavilion. Work on these will proceed as funds become available. Current work is being carried out by Taliesin Associated Architects and Aaron G. Green of San Francisco, associated architect.

A.J. DAVIS (1803-1892)

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WORLD TRADE CENTER PRICE TAG INCHES UP

NEW YORK, N.Y. The cost, if not the height, of the proposed World Trade Center is inching upward. The height of the Center's twin towers, each 1350 ft, will, as everyone knows, make them the tallest buildings in the world, and their cost, if some sidewalk critics are correct, may place them among the most expensive. Revised cost estimates, released in time to greet the new year, called for an anticipated total cost of $575 million. This figure was up $50 million from the last estimate, an increase of a significant $305 million from the original $270 million estimate. According to Lawrence A. Wein, head of a syndicate that operates the rival Empire State Building, the total cost will approach $1 billion. Wein points out that Gov. Rockefeller has twice mentioned a $650 million price tag.

The official revised estimate was increased for three stated reasons: delays caused by unsuccessful lawsuits against the project; upward spiraling costs of labor and materials; and cost of the redesign of the low-rise buildings, which form an enclosed courtyard at the base of the towers. The center's designers, Minoru Yamasaki & Associates (Emery Roth & Sons are associated architects) made minor changes in these buildings' façades and siting last year. Foundation work on the center, which is scheduled for occupancy in 1972, is now under way.

MASTER PLAN FOR SKOPE

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. Adolf Ciborowski, the Polish city planner who is supervising the reconstruction of Skopje, the Yugoslav town leveled by an earthquake in 1963, was in New York recently for meetings at the U.N. Ciborowski, a large, genial man, dresses in a middle European style, but with a flair. He is neat and well organized, and his work shows it. As reconstruction manager, he coordinates an international team of planners and architects, a job that takes both diplomacy and professional skill. Ciborowski's skill first attracted international attention following World War II, when he planned the rebuilding of Warsaw.

The United Nations contribution to the work in Skopje has been to assemble one of the most experienced teams of planners ever to work together on a single project. Besides Ciborowski, there is Kenzo Tange, who rebuilt Hiroshima, van den Brock and Bakema, rebuilders of Rotterdam, and Arthur Ling, who helped reconstruct Coventry. The master plan now being followed in Skopje was prepared by Polservice of Warsaw and Doxiadis Associates of Athens, and it incorporates several ideas gleaned from an international competition held in 1965 (see pp. 48 and 50, November 1965 P/A). Kenzo Tange, winner of that competition, working with the Skopje Town Planning Institute, has completed details for reconstruction of the city center (see model photo), and work is proceeding there. Also underway is further planning for Skopje suburbs and for highway engineering, which is being done and from east to west. The largest, most dangerous zone of seismic activity, they found, was along the Vardar River; accordingly, the largest greenbelt stretches along the river on either side of the city center. When asked about this textbook use of the waterfront, Ciborowski laughs and calls it a perfect example of theory meshing with expediency. The greenbelts separate

(1) Railway Station; (2) Var­dar River; (3) Republique Assembly Hall; (4) Republi­cate Square; (5) Offices of the

by the U.S. firm of Wilbur Smith & Associates.

In working out the master plan, the U.N. also assembled a gold star team of seismic engineers. They wanted, of course, to minimize the possibility of a recurrence of the 1963 disaster, which claimed more than 1000 lives and left more than 170,000 persons homeless. As a result of the engineers' advice, the master plan shows greenbelts snaking through the city, dividing it roughly from north to south

Republic Assembly; (6) Business, Administration, Ho­tel, Shopping.

residential from industrial sections. To further minimize the effect of any future earthquakes, each section of the city will have two main access roads, two sources of water supply; no naval gas will be allowed in the city.

Skopje today has a population of about 320,000 — 30,000 more than at the time of the disaster. This increase, Ciborowski points out, consists mainly of peasants who came down from the surrounding hills to work on con­
constrution. There are also more homes. Fifteen thousand prefabricated units were built immediately after the quake. An additional 15,000 were added to replace destroyed buildings, and recently 3000 more were completed.

In addition, the industrial output of the town is greater now than it was before the quake. Most of the industrial increase comes from the full-time operation of a newly completed iron-and-steel mill, which was under construction before the disaster and only partially damaged by it.

Skopje's reconstruction is financed by a special fund set up by Yugoslavia's government, which contributed the greatest share. The rest was donated by other East European countries. At present, the fund is expected to finance the rebuilding program for five years.

A recent visitor to Ciborowski's temporary office on the twenty-fourth floor of the U.N. building commented on the view, which looks out over the East River to the industrial section of Queens, a drab, smog-covered area of factories and warehouses. Ciborowski laughed in a way that recalled Bella Lugosi, and said with a twinkle in his eye, "I think what we need here is a little earthquake."

AIR TERMINAL FOR BONN

BONN, WEST GERMANY. The proliferation of air passengers and planes is choking many airports throughout the world, and the airport serving Cologne and Bonn is no exception. Designed for a capacity of 300,000 passengers a year, it handled more than twice that number last year; obviously, new facilities are needed in a hurry. Bonn's air passenger traffic is not large compared to that of other cities in the Western world. Anchorage, Alaska, for instance, handled about the same number last year, and London's Heathrow airport accommodated 12 million.

Now under construction as a new facility for Bonn is this U-shaped terminal with its star-shaped loading gates, designed by Dusseldorf architect Paul Schneider-Esleben. In all, it offers 20 loading positions. Deplaning passengers enter the terminal at the upper level. Deplaning passengers take escalators from the loading platforms to the lower level, where they collect their baggage and exit to cars and buses. All baggage checking and ticket service takes place at the boarding stations (to which passengers must carry their luggage—about 80 yds.). The terminal's upper level will house the usual supporting shops and restaurants, and on the rooftop are viewing areas for visitors. According to the architect, the new facility will be able to handle as many as 2,500,000 passengers a year.

Completion is scheduled for 1968, at an estimated cost of $54 million.

KENNEDY LIBRARY FACES DELAY

CAMBRIDGE, MASS. Construction of the John F. Kennedy Memorial Library, planned to go up on the Harvard University campus, may be delayed at least four years. The library, which is being designed by I.M. Pei, will be located in part on land now owned by the Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority, which operates the Greater Boston Rapid Transit System. The delay stems from difficulties in obtaining the land.

CALENDAR

The University of Iowa's Third Annual Sacred Music Conference will feature a lecture by Joseph E. Blanton on "Contemporary Organ Building in Relation to Architecture." Architect Blanton will speak at the afternoon session of March 10. The Alberta Association of Architects will sponsor a conference on architectural education entitled "Session '67," to be held March 20-23 at the Banff School of Fine Arts, Banff, Alberta, Canada. The Pittsburgh Council for Urban Transportation will sponsor a second International Conference on Urban Transportation in April 1967; details to be announced soon. Modern dwellings will be featured at the Eastern U.S. Modern Living Show, Cherry Hill, N.J. The show will run April 18-22 inside the Cherry Hill Mall. New York City's Coliseum will be the scene of Contract '67, trade show and conference of the interior furnishings industry, April 25-27. The Illuminating Engineering Society plans to hold its Third Annual Theatre, Television, and Film Lighting Symposium May 14, 15, and 16 at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel, Hollywood, Calif. Write for information to: T. M. Lemons, Sylvania Lighting Center, 100 Endicott St., Danvers, Mass. The 99th Convention and 17th Building Products Exhibit of the AIA will take place May 14-18 at the New York Hilton. May 29-31 are the dates for the Eleventh Annual Construction Specifications Institute Convention and Exhibit, to be held at Miami's Hotel Fontainebleau.

PREFAB LAB

PALO ALTO, CALIF. Architects Ian MacKinley & Associates of San Francisco have arranged prefabricated trailersized units into a pleasant temporary building that provides generously for color, space, and light. MacKinley's client, Syntex Laboratories, Inc., a manufacturer of synthetic steroids (chemical compounds used in pharmaceuticals), found their business booming with the acceptance of birth-control pills. They needed additional space, and they wanted it right away, not in the three years it would take to build permanent facilities. While waiting for permanent buildings, they decided to put up interim ones on their headquarters site, rather than leasing space in town. Architect MacKinley, working with the Design Facilities Corporation, manufacturers of prefabricated units, solved the problem at a cost currently estimated to be no greater than that of leasing. D.F.C. units are 10' wide and either 32' or 60' long. Trans-
AWARDS

The New York Society of Architects has announced that its Sidney L. Strauss Memorial Award has been presented to the J. M. Kaplan Fund, Inc., for its promotion of excellence in product literature in architectural design and urban planning projects. Two Exhibition Awards for outstanding design have been given by the Southern California Chapter, AIA, to the Long Beach firm of Hugh Gibbs and Donald Gibbs . . . Bethlehem Steel Corporation has been presented with a Service Award by the Association of Student Chapters of the AIA. The award recognized the company's concern for the future of the architectural profession . . . Recipients of awards for excellence in product literature directed to architects are Weyerhaeuser Company's Wood Products Group and the National Association of Architectural Metal Manufacturers. Awards were made by the AIA in conjunction with construction industry groups . . . Winner of the fourth annual Jack Evans Landscape Architecture Scholarship at California State Polytechnic College at Pomona is Jack P. Dangermond . . . Seattle is the latest recipient of an AIA Citation for Excellence in Community and animal health marketing offices.

The D.F.C. units are framed in steel, with plywood floors and sheet metal roofs. Exterior walls will be either gray-glass curtain walls, or textured, insulated wall panels. Use of color in walls and carpeting, and fairly extensive landscaping, will soften the prefabricated effect.

“A fine arts village,” it is called, but despite the name and the unreal appearance, this section of the campus is meant to be an integral part of the university and of university life. “Painting, sculpture, drama, music, and dance typically have been relegated to the site on flatbed trailers, the units assembled on concrete footings. A covered mall, planted with trees and spotted with benches, between units will make them a single, integrated complex. In all, there will be 23,000 sq ft of space, housing a cafeteria, conference, information and training rooms, a utility plant, and pharmacu-

ARCHITECTURAL HUBRIS

“In looking for a building from the standpoint of both beauty and timelessness, our attention became focused upon the Parthenon, constructed in Athens, Greece, in 500 B.C.,” said Paul Broyhill, president of Broyhill Furniture Industries of Lenoir, N.C., in describing his company's new office building and showroom. Aside from the interesting theological implications of this design approach—what takes the place of the deity in the inner shrine? The latest bedroom “suite”?—it will be suspenseful to await reactions from Nashville, Tenn., where, of course, they have the real original replica of the Parthenon, done in concrete. A spokesman for Broyhill points out that “the concept and design of the windowless building were created by Broyhill's management and design staff after having studied architecture of all types and all ages.”

A VILLAGE OF FINE ARTS

IRVINE, CALIF. Looking like a world's fair pavilion, the latest planned addition to the University of California campus at Irvine sounds like one, too. A “fine arts village,” it is called, but despite the name

February 1967

P/A News Report 33
Pittsburgh Corning, the insulation people, announce

Celramic-Board

the first roof insulation able to "breathe" without loss of insulating value.

The secret's in the remarkable new glass nodules developed by Pittsburgh Corning (like the one shown at left, cut open and magnified). Each contains countless closed cells which trap still, dry air—the ideal insulating medium—inside a vaporproof, moistureproof shell of glass.

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On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 409
to a back shed or the gymnasium on American college and university campuses," observed Fine Arts Dean Clayton Garrison recently. "But at UC Irvine we plan to make the fine arts a full academic partner of the sciences and humanities, as well as the center of campus and regional campus life." Architecturally, this partnership will be achieved by juxtaposition. To be constructed on a knoll near the central ring of academic buildings and adjacent to the Mesa Court student residences, the village will be on a path traveled by students going from dormitory to class. It sounds a little like getting religion by passing the church on the way to the pool hall.

Shown here is the first increment of the 9-acre complex, which is being designed by William L. Pereira & Associates. This initial grouping is expected to cost $2,700,000 and to be completed by 1969.

VICTOR GRUEN’S ONE-BUILDING TOWN

SAN FRANCISCO, CALIF. Fox Plaza, a 29-story combination parking garage, shopping center, office building, and apartment tower, which opened here last year, rests on a site that in the past has been used for even more purposes. Its triangular plot of ground, on Market Streets at Hayes and Polk, was originally part of the Yerba Buena cemetery for Chinese immigrants. Nearby, in his father’s livery stable, heavyweight champion James J. “Gentleman Jim” Corbett was born. It was in that area of the Hayes Valley that Eric von Stroheim filmed his motion picture “Greed.” Finally, in 1929, Twentieth-Century Fox put up the Fox theater on the site. The Fox was one of those gild rococo theaters of the late 20’s and early 30’s with cherubs, gargoyles, and red velvet drapes. “For 75 cents (evenings after five)” said a recent article in San Francisco magazine, “you could hear Eddie Cantor in person, talking about Ida and the five girls and singing of the value of knowing Susie as he knew her. Then 90 minutes of gripping the armchair logs while watching Warner Baxter and Lois Moran in ‘Behind That Curtain’.”

When the National General Corporation, parent company of Twentieth-Century Fox, decided to tear down the old theater and put up an income-producing structure, there was, of course, an outcry in San Francisco. Few persons had used the Fox in recent years, but suddenly many wanted it saved.

Now, in its place, stands the Victor Gruen-designed Fox Plaza. The tallest building in that section of Market Street near the Civic Center, the Fox Plaza is also the only office structure and the only apartment house in an area mostly consisting of small retail shops. It should begin a ren-
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planks laid over concrete block; its many shedlike roofs of wood shakes. Sprawling around a central campanile, the church rises and falls with the level of the wooded, hilly site. There will be three main levels, all accessible at grade. On the intermediate level is the sanctuary, arranged to create what architect Wagoner calls a "church in the half round." Beneath the sanctuary is the Fellowship Hall and a dining terrace. On the lowest level are classrooms, all of which open to the outside, so that, during good weather, classes can easily move outdoors under the trees.

**PRIZE-WINNING PLAN UNDER FIRE IN ALBUQUERQUE**

Existing

Proposed

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M. "Onlybumswill use those benches," said a critic of the plan to beautify downtown Albuquerque. The beautification plan, which got under way in 1965, includes, of course, more than benches. But the small-mindedness of the above critic is typical of an attitude that may undermine the entire program. Perhaps one of the most carefully worked out schemes for revitalizing a downtown area put forth by any city in the country, it had, until recently, everyone's cooperation. Civic leaders, businessmen, architects, planners, the local chapter of the AIA all cooperated on its details. Last fall, it won one of the AIA's Awards for Excellence in Community Architecture. Now, for political reasons, its chances for success seem uncertain. The chairman of the Albuquerque Metropolitan Development Committee (AMDEC), which is supervising the plan, belonged to an organization that sponsored the "wrong" candidates for the city commission. His candidates were defeated in last fall's election, and the newly elected commissioners are cool to AMDEC. Ralph Trigg, city commission chairman, recently expressed doubt about AMDEC's future.

At stake is a plan that started in the urban planning committee of the local chapter of the AIA, chaired by William E. Burk, Jr. Its details, worked out by architects Ronn Ginn and Charles Quinlan, following suggestions made by Burk's committee, show changed traffic patterns, some streets turned into malls and parks, and a considerable amount of storefront refurbishing. Eventually, community buildings such as a theater and a main library will be added. The plan is intended as a guideline — one that will accommodate future changes and attract people, commerce, and industry to the downtown area, over a 20-year period. A small portion of the plan is already completed, including planting boxes and those malign benches, which line Central Avenue.

After so many have come so far, it can only be hoped that political rivalries will not hasten the decay of downtown Albuquerque.

**EAVESDROPPINGS**

The building [The Salk Institute for the Biological Sciences] fulfills "a need for a structure that itself possessed some of the characteristics of the living organisms to be studied in it." Dr. Jonas Salk, quoted in Look magazine.

"Although every age has had its proportion of junk compared to its works of value, it is my unhappy conviction that never before in the history of man, with possible exception of the Victorian era, has the proportion of junk — the man-made wasteland in the name of Art — been higher than it is now. The really exciting new visions, techniques, and materials which constitute perhaps 10% of what is currently produced — to these new adventures we must open our eyes and our minds. They are the authentic voices of our time." Marya Mannes, speaking to the Connecticut Commission on the Arts Statewide Conference.

"Since the new opera [Metropolitan Opera House at Lincoln Center, New York City] promises to be an excellent performing house, with satisfactory acoustics, it may not matter that the architecture sets no high-water mark for the city; that it is average, rather than adventurous or avant-garde. Performance, after all, was the primary objective. It is secondary, but no less disappointing, to have a monument manqué." Ada Louise Huxtable.

February 1967
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February 1967
On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 358
There was a kind of left-handed, oblique rebuttal to that recent proposal on building codes, by the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations. It was delivered by the powerful Producers Council, just as Congress was getting ready for another session. The rebuttal, prepared for the Council by Douglas E. Parsons, retired chief of the Building Research Division of the National Bureau of Standards, came soon after ACIR's suggestion (see p. 5, February 1967) for a "national" building code to be adopted by the states.

But it was really aimed at efforts now being made by the Housing and Urban Development Department; HUD is quietly working on its own version of a national code, which it could make binding on local communities through its power of the purse.

Parsons' conclusions, after years of study, boil down to a couple of points:

□ As someone once said of democracy, the present system of building codes is complex, not always workable, and sometimes bad; but it is better than anything else yet invented.

□ A national code would not remedy defects, and could in fact result in overly rigid and less current than the local codes now in use.

□ A Federal agency administering such a code might become too hidebound, might not always receive enough appropriations to properly administer and constantly revise the code; thus the result would be a national code less effective and less current than the local codes now in use.

Clearly implied in the report is the fear that a Federal agency, acting at the highest levels in Washington, would not be as aware of, or sympathetic to, local conditions as a local agency, and thus would tend to insist on standards that would increase costs and complicate building procedures.

(ACIR, by the way, had suggested a model national code, which includes provisions for licensing building inspectors, for adoption and modification by the states and their component local communities.)

Parsons Report Says No to National Code — The Parsons report was prepared for the Producers Council in response to a request by HUD — one of several reports sought by that agency for its continuing study of codes and other matters that affect "the welfare of the building industry and the cost of buildings." But it obviously didn't come out quite the way HUD wanted it.

Problem, said Parsons, is that the states — the Federal Government — are the sources of legal power to enact and enforce building codes. (It is estimated that there are at least 12,000 jurisdictions that issue building permits or otherwise influence building practices.)

"Authors of local codes commonly pattern the requirements after those in other codes. And, in recent years, the four recognized model codes (American Insurance Conference of Building Officials, Building Officials Conference of America, Southern Building Code Congress) have been widely used.

"The producers of construction materials have strong incentives for initiating and stimulating standardization. ... Moreover, the procedures of the voluntary organizations ... seem admirably adapted for developing nationwide standards for the elements of the building structure and electrical and mechanical services."

"Concerning engineering and design standards despite the diversity in requirements of local codes, the evidence indicates that these differences ordinarily do not create major problems."

Needed and effective remedies, suggested Parsons, don't lie in a broad-scale national code, but rather in:

□ More frequent updating of local codes; better and more professional staffs and administration; perhaps better machinery for national evaluation of techniques and products on a voluntary basis.

□ "There is no evidence," concludes Parsons, "that a national code would minimize the defects of the present system. Progress in improving the quality of national standards could not be improved, needed new standards would not be supplied, training of staffs for building officials would not be improved. ... Emphasis on a plan to write a national code seems misplaced, if the purpose ... is to achieve better, as well as uniform, requirements and to prepare performance requirements to the extent feasible. ... Concentrating attention on the conspicuous project of drafting and promulgating a national code would not of itself result in a solution."

Air-Pollution Session — That four-day national session on air pollution in Washington just before Christmas accomplished its principal objective: a noisy kick-off for legislation on the subject, and very little else.

Principal conclusions from four days of speeches: nobody knows much about the subject or what to do about it; politicians are impatient with scientific approaches, are likely to push for broad-gage, perhaps "meat-axe solutions."

For architects and planners, not much of significance came from the session. Only this seemed likely; because of the obvious popularity, politically, of moves against air pollution, there'll be a demand for more open design of metropolitan centers, more demand for location of smoke-and-fume producing industries in outlying areas.

Financial — There's no question that the most important decisions facing the new Congress, now that it has received the President's annual messages, are going to be economic. And there's no question that almost any politician who takes office will affect the construction industry and all who depend on it for a livelihood.\n
□ Key is the tendency of politicians to persist in believing that, to control the economy as required, construction can be turned on and off like a spigot. Evidence is the already announced intention of chopping $3 billion or more from Federal construction spending — $11,000,000,000 on highways, the rest from other

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February 1967
flexible roofing. Synthetic sealants insure elasticity of roofing material without the use of elastizers. Formulated from neoprene and Hypalon, the calking will conform to unusual roofing contours and is made to retain its tough elasticity in both high and low temperature extremes. Manufacturer says “Neolon” is available in an unlimited color range with excellent color stability. Desco International, P.O. Box 74, Buffalo, N.Y. 14205.

Outdoor deck topping. “Promdek” may be trowel-applied over concrete, tile, wood, and other construction materials. It is impervious to snow, ice, and intense heat, and permits normal movement of the structure without cracking, claims manufacturer. Suitable for institutional, commercial, or residential use, it is available in either pastel or dark colors. Selby, Battersby & Co., 5220 Whitby Ave., Philadelphia, Pa. 19143.

DOORS/WINDOWS

Glazing material of press-molded polycarbonate is unbreakable for five years, claims manufacturer. “Zelux” thermoplastic is ultraviolet stabilized, self-extinguishing when exposed to flame, and offers lower heat loss than glass. Sheets up to 36” x 48”. Suitable for buildings subject to vandalism or accidental breakage. Crystal-X Corp., Second & Pine Sts., Darby, Pa. 19023.

Vitreous epoxy. Cold-glazed coating, with a flame spread index of zero, covers masonry, wallboard, plaster, wood, metal, and other materials. “Cemramix,” suitable for both interior and exterior, is weatherproof and resistant to impact and stains. A variety of colors is available. Preco Chemical Corp., 55 Skyline Dr., Plainview, N.Y. 11803.

Water paint. Semigloss latex enamels for woodwork are now available for complete water-based painting. Acrylic-latex enamels are suitable for kitchens, locker rooms, and other hard-wear or high-humidity applications. Tests indicate that paint based on “Rhoplex AC-22” have less tendency to yellow, crack, or peel, says manufacturer. A number of companies are producing paints using manufacturer’s acrylic emulsion vehicle. Rohm & Haas Co., Philadelphia, Pa.

FINISHES PROTECTORS

Four-square and textured. The frame of Edward Wormley’s latest handsome chair combines the textures of wood (ash) and steel: American ash members, oval in cross-section, are interlocked with polished stainless-steel stretchers. Attached cushions on seat, back, and arms are of fabric, naugahyde, or corkette. Wood frame can be finished darker as specified. Dunbar Furniture Corp. of Indiana, Berne, Ind.

Textiles with a difference. Six new contract fabrics from Scalamandre are individually upholstered and one case-moment. The nubby oatmeal casement is all silk and can be sized to order. Upholsteries include an all-silk criss-cross pattern of white and tan that can be dyed to order; a heavy textured wool that comes in...
Deep blue, red, orange, mustard, olive, and navy; a unique wool, cotton, and rayon weave of lumpy stitches forming a grid pattern over an oatmeal background. Also available is a silk warp with wool fill textile that creates a horizontal stripe effect when the silk takes the dye differently than the wool. Last is a draylon and cotton velvet pile with a silk look made in Germany. Scalamandre Silks, Inc., 977 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

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by using its RCA Telex equipment and jet freighter. Unika Vaev Corp., 305 E. 63 St., New York, N.Y. 10021.

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Deep blue, red, orange, mustard, olive, and navy; a unique wool, cotton, and rayon weave of lumpy stitches forming a grid pattern over an oatmeal background. Also available is a silk warp with wool fill textile that creates a horizontal stripe effect when the silk takes the dye differently than the wool. Last is a draylon and cotton velvet pile with a silk look made in Germany. Scalamandre Silks, Inc., 977 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

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Selectern. A unit that at first glance appears to be a 29'-high desk or table converts instantly into a variable height lectern or drawing surface. The lectern surface (24"x24") raises 10" at lower edge (to 46" high at top and 39" at bottom). An adjustable slide stop locks it into the desired place (it can support a projector) and allows it to lower slowly under balanced spring control. Three models, all of walnut laminate, are available: two tables and a single pedestal desk. Haney Equipment Co., Inc., 1600 Berkey S.E., Grand Rapids, Mich. 49507.

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Danish rugs and textiles. A line of both rugs and textiles, designed primarily by Ross Littel, is being shown by Unika Vaev. "Square Dance" (pictured), a relief-cut high pile rug, combines shades of only one color (red, blue, beige, or orange) to give a three-dimensional effect. Made of 100% virgin wool, "Square Dance" is 7'-6" x 10'-7," "Arrow" (also pictured), a cotton sateen fabric, comes in six different color combinations. Some all-white bobinette diolen (polyester) casement fabrics have been added to the collection, among them Verner Panton's "Ring," a woven series of concentric circles on a grid background that is ingeniously intricate.

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Office furniture. An attractive and serviceable line of office furniture by Danish designers Preben Fabricius and Jorgen Kastholm, includes conference tables, chairs and other seating units, desks, and lighting fixture. One group designs includes chairs with molded plywood shell and arms, set on tripods of stainless steel, of which one is high-backed conference chair, the other a low-backed lounge chair. Both are covered in loose leather in a variety of colors. A conference table with pie-shaped sections in teak, ash, walnut, or rosewood supported by stainless-steel members that extend out from a central column between pie sections to the outer edge, where they descend to the floor as supports. A square framed, leather-covered armchair with floating arms offers choice of solid upholstered arms or open steel arms wrapped with thick leather (illustrated). The line also includes a table or desk, varying sized cocktail tables, an armless chair with a horse-shaped base. George Tan, Inc., 305 E. 63 St., New York, N.Y. 10021.

Circle 116, Readers' Service Card

Le Corbusier Chairs. Four authentic Le Corbusier chairs manufactured under exclusive license are now in a showroom here. The adjustable chaise longue, 64" long, set on a low base of black and white iron or all black, has a frame of nickel or chrome-plated steel tubing that is covered with black foal hide augmented by a smooth leather neck roll. The tubular steel armchair with pivoting back, which adjusts to the pressure of the sitter, has calf skin sling upholstery and leather arm rests. The two others are the boxy "fauteuil grand confort," both fitting one person; tubular steel frame comes in black as well as nickel or chrome plate, with leather covered foam rubber. Although the designs are durable, the standard of comfort may seem to have changed since the chairs were designed in the late 1920's. Scandinavian Design, Inc., 15 E. 53 St., New York N.Y.

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olive, and beige. Four styles are available: an Austrian bouclé woven in vertical stripes, an opaque popcorn pattern, a network of interlacing stripes in a lattice weave, and wide vertical stripes combining an open and close weave. Heidenberg Textile Fabrics Co., Railroad Ave., Closter, N.J. Circle 117, Readers' Service Card

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**Outdoors.** Post lighting for mall, parking area, and other outdoor areas offers a choice of size, trim, and number of squared fixtures per unit. Available for either mercury vapor or incandescent lamps. The Holophane Co., Inc., 1120 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N.Y. 10036. Circle 120, Readers' Service Card

**SANITATION PLUMBING**

**Smallest mercury lamp.** Picture above compares size of 50-w mercury lamp (left) and 50-w incandescent lamp. The new GE lamp is said to give twice the light and 10 times the life of incandescent bulbs of the same wattage. The light is rich in red and is suitable for commercial use. General Electric Co., Nela Park, Cleveland, Ohio 44112.

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**Plastic shower head.** Recent advances in electroplating make it possible to chromium plate plastic shower heads. The manufacturer says the plastic resists wear, is non-corrodible, and the fixture costs less than comparable all-metal fixtures. Speakman Co., Wilmington, Del. Circle 123, Readers' Service Card

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**Lighting**

**Clean story.** Basin-mounted soap dispenser, for use where wall space is limited, is installed through a hole in the washstand. The 2½"-dia x 4¾"-long shank will hold 16 oz., filled from the top. Metal parts are brass or chrome finish. American Dispenser Co., Inc., 860 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 10003. Circle 121, Readers' Service Card

**Alarms.** Fire-detection senses invisible conflagrations by-products long before visible flame or smoke, claims manufacturer. Aerosol products interfere with ionization to break circuit and sound alarm. Units are available ceiling or duct mounted and can be powered by batteries. Honeywell Commercial Div., Fourth Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55408. Circle 127, Readers' Service Card
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ACOUSTICS


AIR/TEMPERATURE

Handbook for HVA/C'ers. A review of pneumatic control fundamentals includes sections on theory, operators, controllers, relays, switches, and air-supply equipment. Textbook-type handbook contains detailed discussions on throttling range, proportional band, differential, setpoint adjustment, remote-control point, etc. Text is supplemented by schematic drawings. 40 pages. Honeywell Inc., Commercial Div., 2727 S. Fourth Ave., Minneapolis, Minn. 55408. Circle 201, Readers' Service Card

CONSTRUCTION


Plywood Construction Guide

Wood file. "Western Lumber Technical Manual" has been republished in nine separate catalogs to simplify filing. Basic information on the use of 12 Western softwoods in construction is set forth under previous titles; and two additions have been made: Moldings, and Fir and Hemlock Doors. Western Wood Products Assn., Yeon Bldg., Portland, Ore. 97204. Circle 206, Readers' Service Card

Metal framing. "General Engineering Catalog #6" features complete engineering data, illustrations, descriptions, weights, and other pertinent data for manufacturer's channels, fittings, and parts for supporting mechanical and electrical equipment, storage racks, partitions, etc. 156 pages. Unistrut Corp., 4118 S. Wayne Rd., Wayne, Mich. 48184. Circle 210, Readers' Service Card

Concrete slump. Admixtures improve workability without using excess water. Charts and graphs give performance data on "Pozzolith" water reducing-set controlling agent, and on several other admixtures that will entrain air, plastic masonry mortar, etc. 16 pages. Master Builders, Cleveland Ohio 44118. Circle 208, Readers' Service Card

Put-together buildings. Steel frames combined with masonry wall panels offer a choice of building profiles in 25 sizes. Booklet has isometric drawings, details, specifications, and engineering data. 6 pages. Stran-Steel Corp., P.O. Box 14205, Houston, Texas 77021. Circle 209, Readers' Service Card

Building exteriors. The title of this brochure, "Curtain Wall, Windows, Door and Entrances in Aluminum, Stainless Steel, Bronze," explains the contents. Case studies of completed buildings present architectural details showing manufacturer's framed, double-hung, sliding, etc., windows and balcony door entrances. 16 pages. Flour City Architectural Metals, Div. of The Sealy Corp., 2637 27th Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55404. Circle 210, Readers' Service Card

CONTEMPORARY CONSTRUCTION

The patina metal. This brochure illustrates good contemporary buildings using sheet and plate copper and provides details of manufacturers. 16 pages. Master Builders, Cleveland Ohio 44118. Circle 208, Readers' Service Card

February 1967

Electrical Equipment

Floor outlets. Carpet flanges and watertight closing caps are features of electrical floor boxes. Catalog lists regular and duplex floor boxes, floor nozzles, fittings, and other floor units. Prices, specifications, dimensions provided on each product. 32 pages. Lew Electric Fittings Co., 627 W. Lake St., Chicago, Ill. 60606.

Furnishings

Rest Easy. Office chairs for many uses are included in an attractive partly-color catalogue from Directional Contract. Designed primarily by Kipp Stewart, line includes conference, swivel, desk, and lounge chairs, in addition to sofas. A highly adaptable component group (seats and tables) in modular sizes is featured; variables being upholstery, chair bases and arms, and extent of groupings. Composition and dimensional data for all chairs are included. Directional Contract Furniture Corp., 979 Third Ave., New York, N.Y. 10022.

Tread Gently. Ranging from high-density "Pliolite" rubber latex foam (for maximum-luxury areas) to cattle hair (for light-traffic areas), Allen rug cushions are made in a wide choice of materials. Others are perforated foam rubber, compounded sponge, and compounded rubber surfaces surrounding a mixture of blended hair and India fiber. All are adaptable to many installations. Folder shows 12 cushion types, describes composition and sizes, and recommends installation locations. Allen Industries, Inc. Contract Div., Detroit, Mich. 48207.

Matting. Described in 4-color brochure are matting and carpeting featuring "Nova," a new one-piece, sponge vinyl-backed nylon carpeting that does not support combustion. Designed primarily for institutions, its pile is nondirectional, thereby facilitating installation. Also described are two kinds of solid vinyl ribbed runners, nylon-on-vinyl matting for entryways, country-club-carpet matting, and vinyl sponge "anti-fatigue" matting in varying thicknesses. Color and size specifications are included. Catalog S-1, Crown Rubber Co., 1615 Croghan St., Fremont, Ohio 43420.

Quiet, Please. Patented Quietlok Library Shelving fits together in minutes; lugs on shelf supports fit into holes punched on inner wall of up-right posts; shelves fit over supports. Wood or laminated plastic end panels are available in addition to steel. 12-page catalogue shows extras:

Manufacturers' Data 49
snap-in book stops, magazine and newspaper racks, reference shelf, reel rack, etc. Also included, a complete listing of assemblies, parts, and accessories. Hupp Corp., Aurora Steel Products Div., 153 Third St., Aurora, Ill. 60507.

Circle 220, Readers' Service Card

Videne "Total Wall." Decor System includes paneling, matching doors, and moldings, plus a mastic-type adhesive. Stronger (and reportedly cheaper) than wood, it is available in 14 wood grains including 2 kinds of teak, and 3 walnuts, as well as in 44 solid colors (from a bright strawberry to a soft willow green) and patterns (e.g. padded leather, canvas, cracked ice). Videne, a pre-printed plastic surface that is heat- and pressure-laminated to 1/4" hardboard, comes in 4'x8' and 4'x10' panels; other sizes available on special order. The 15-page, 4-color catalogue shows colors, molding types, and finished rooms. Videne Div., Goodyear Tire and Rubber Co., Akron, Ohio 44316. Circle 221, Readers' Service Card

High and Low. A folder with data sheets from U.S. Polymeric describes high- and low-pressure laminates and their respective uses. High-pressure laminates serve better in heavily used horizontal installations, but low-pressure laminates serve as adequately vertical installations, and reduce the cost. Data sheets of low-pressure Polymeric Alc discuss laminating specifications and techniques, as well as resistance to stain, moisture, fading, etc. U.S. Polymeric, Inc., P.O. Box 218, Santa Ana, Calif. 92707. Circle 222, Readers' Service Card

Shady Deals. Pictured in Tropicraft's brochure of woven strips are patterns with descriptions, examples of room settings, and of possible installations. Both hand-woven and machine-loomed groups, the hand weaves offer a choice of woods (fruitwood, walnut, satin pine, Philippine mahogany, and bamboo) and of yarns (chenilles, cottons, nylons, and other synthetics). Color and finishes can be adjusted to specifications. Tropicraft, 5 Howard St., San Francisco, Calif. Circle 223, Readers' Service Card

Floor Tiles. All patterns and colors of Azrock's vinyl asbestos and asphalt tiles are shown in a 16-page catalogue which contains cork, mosaics, embossed travertine in woods, as well as more standard spotty patterns. Tiles are listed for range of installations from residential to heavily trafficked commercial areas. General information on size, gage, light reflectance values; brief specifications are included. Azrock Floor Products, P.O. Box 531, San Antonio, Tex. 78206. Circle 224, Readers' Service Card

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Table Talk. "Hugh Acton/Tables," a 12-page catalogue, shows a large collection of institutional tables (some folding), library tables and desks. Tabletops (3/4" thick for dining, 1¼" for conference) are reinforced by solid steel bars that extend out from table base. Tops come in oil-finished walnut, textured walnut laminate, and white laminate with continuous extruded vinyl edging (others by special order); base and support bars are chrome-plated steel. Dimensions and photos are included. Hugh Acton, 588 Brookside, Birmingham, Mich.

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LIGHTING

De-light-ful. Lampposts and luminaires of simple design may act as unifying elements in large-scale projects. Aluminum poles topped by acrylic globes, ellipsoids, and flared diffusers are shown in cutaway drawings, together with a variety of other attractive designs and pole styles. Above is ellipsoid with flat surfaces for area identification markings. 6 pages. Kim Lighting & Mfg. Co., 1467 N. Lidcombe Ave., El Monte, Calif. 91733.

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May 1967

On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 414
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Hofstra University, Hempstead, Long Island, recently constructed a new library tower which expanded their facilities three times.

Four 140' high mitered and tapered corner shafts, poured in place, form the library design base. To nero shafts, Symons Steel-Ply Forms were assembled in 11' x 15' x 20' gang sections, and lined with Spruce and Pine, 4" wide and varying in thickness. A rough finish was obtained by staggering the varied thickness boards, and by intermingling circular saw cut boards.

Symons Forms were chosen because they could be ganged and hold a regular mitered shape. Also, careful formwork construction was essential to insure that the texture of the rough-sawed lumber butt-joined pattern showed. The mitered corners, which have a 11° angle, were formed with Symons hinged corners. Two gang sections were joined with the corner and a 2" steel filler to complete the formwork. Finishing was easy because Symons Gang Form Ties with their positive breakback and a .225 diameter, left small tie holes which were easy to fill.

Forms may be rented, purchased or rented with purchase option. Architectural Bulletins sent on request.

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Put out the fire. Twenty fire extinguishers introduced during the past year are described in a catalog, which also includes manufacturer's standard models from previous years. Other fire-safety products (foam compounds, wall cabinets, etc.) are included. 24 pages. Vomar Products, Inc., 2807 Empire Ave., Burbank, Calif. 91504. Circle 237, Readers' Service Card

In the swim. Brochure gives design information on public swimming pools with manufacturer's special engineering features—pipeless and skimmer gutter system, below-ground filter system, and a 4' x 8' underwater observation window. Commercial filters, pumps, water heaters, and poolside equipment are available from manufacturer, as well as a design consulting service. 8 pages. Aquatech Corp., 1220 S. Alvernon Way, Tucson, Ariz. 85711. Circle 238, Readers' Service Card


Put out the fire. Twenty fire extinguishers introduced during the past year are described in a catalog, which also includes manufacturer's standard models from previous years. Other fire-safety products (foam compounds, wall cabinets, etc.) are included. 26 pages. The Fyr-Fyer Co., 221 Crane St., Dayton, Ohio. Circle 233, Readers' Service Card

Portable rooms offer controlled environments. Residential and industrial versions of portable rooms and prefabricated units are described. Includes technical data. 12 pages. American Ultraviolet Co., 30 Commerce St., Chatham, N.J. 07928. Circle 232, Readers' Service Card

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On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 383
Les dessins des notres écoles sont au bureau
Designing for big-city public school boards is likely to inflict on the architect a seizure of bureaucratic schooldaze. Using two new public schools in the New York City system, one by Morris Kotehum, Jr. & Associates, and one by Raymond & Rado, P/A examines all sides of the question in candid interviews with the architects, the educators, and members of the New York City Board of Education. This will undoubtedly be of aid and comfort the next time you heard the bureaucratic lion.

Color it exciting.
The program of the Sea Ranch Athletic Club was cut back considerably after it won P/A Design Awards Citation last January, leaving a good but diminished building by Moore, Lyndon, Turnbull, Whitaker. To bring some of the fun back into the design, they called in graphic designer Barbara Stauffeher, who, armed with paintpots, two sign painters, and imagination, turned the interiors into really swinging spaces. To be shown in color, of course.

How now, ACSA?
The feeling that architectural education is, by and large, not doing the job it should to produce architects for today — let alone tomorrow — is one that is shared by most educators and practitioners. From an intensive program of research in the subject and contacts with many architectural educators, P/A reports on new programs, methods, and ideas; what the most serious problems are; what educators see as the architect's role and function; what the "enrollment crisis" means; what remedies might be for the "attrition scandal"; what changes the future will see; and many other related topics. Extensive quotes from leading educators; illustrations by Forrest Wilson.

And you should know what we have to say about "Minimal interiors," ornamental plaster, testing models with wind tunnels, a prestressing job on a Florida church, and, of course, lots of opinions, observations, and late happenings in P/A Observer and P/A News Report.

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