

P/A NEWS REPORT

Progressive Architecture's Monthly Digest of Buildings, Projects, People and Products

April 1968

DISQUIET IN NEW HAVEN

NEW HAVEN, CONN. Since P/A published its extensive analysis of urban renewal in New Haven and its effect on racial unrest (see JANUARY 1968 P/A), several notable changes have taken place. (1) The Board of Aldermen has tabled the New Haven Redevelopment Agency's plans for State Street after an explosive public hearing, attended by 400 persons on January 24. (2) The city tabled the Model Cities Program, then on March 5 called for a new "Model Cities Agency" to administer the program, not the Redevelopment Agency. (3) The *New Haven Register*, which chided P/A for its criticism of the New Haven police during the city's 1967 summer riots, called for straight talk from the Redevelopment Agency on the controversial Inner Ring Road. The agency says plans for the road do not exist. Agency maps, however, have shown it since 1942. (4) In early February, New Haven aldermen formed a special investigating committee to "evaluate and explore" the Redevelopment Agency's programs and plans.

WHAT'S UP IN POPULATION TRENDS

In 1967, the U.S. birth rate dropped to the lowest level since the Federal Government started keeping track of it. A rate of 17.9 live births for every 1000 Americans is lower than the previous low of 18.4, recorded in 1966, and in the Depression years of 1933 and 1936.

Obviously, the ease and availability of contraceptive devices are being felt in the U.S.; and it seems logical to predict that, as the price of these devices drops, they will attain more widespread use throughout the world, leading to a drop in the birth rate of other already overpopulated countries.

Arthur A. Campbell, however, chief of the Natality Sta-

tistics branch of the National Center for Health Statistics, credited the dropping birth rate more to changing child-bearing patterns among American women. Today's mother, he pointed out when the statistics were announced, not only has her babies earlier in life but stops having babies in her thirties and forties. Many projections of future population fail to take such changes into account and end up with population figures for, say, the year 2000 that some experts are beginning to feel are far out of line. In a recently published book, *The Year 2000*, Herman Kahn and Anthony J. Wiener argue that, by 1980-85, "if the average family in an underdeveloped country wants to have fewer children, effective birth control techniques will be readily available to them and widely known in their societies." They shy away from predicting how many will actually want fewer children.

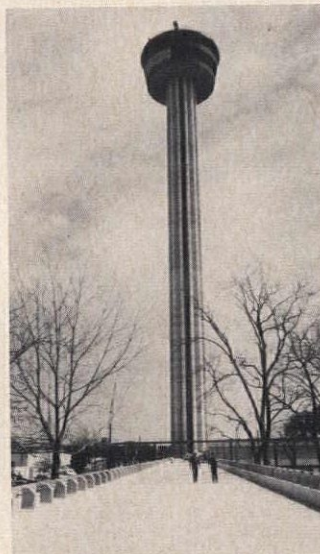
It would seem that U.S. women in 1967 actually did want fewer children. Not so, says Campbell. Right now in the U.S., the women of child-bearing age (15 to 44) represent a smaller fraction (one-fifth versus one-quarter) of the total population than they did a generation ago. Actually, these women are having more babies — 88 babies for each 1000 women of child-bearing age versus 76 per 1000 a generation ago. Relatively fewer women are producing relatively more children. At present, the make-up of the population is such that, despite this fertility, the birth rate is dropping. But for the next few years there are going to be an increasing number of women entering the child-bearing age.

How far off population statistics are (most call for a doubling of the world's present population by 2000) depends largely on what happens to the death rate as well as to the birth rate. Currently, the number of births daily throughout the world number 324,000, the daily deaths 133,000 (including 10,000

per day from starvation and malnutrition). As increasingly sophisticated medical knowledge saves more lives for longer periods of time, the birth rate must fall still further just to keep up.

"The long-term goal," write Kahn and Wiener, "will probably be to have women infertile all their lives, and to produce fertility for a specific period by a pill or an injection when it is desired."

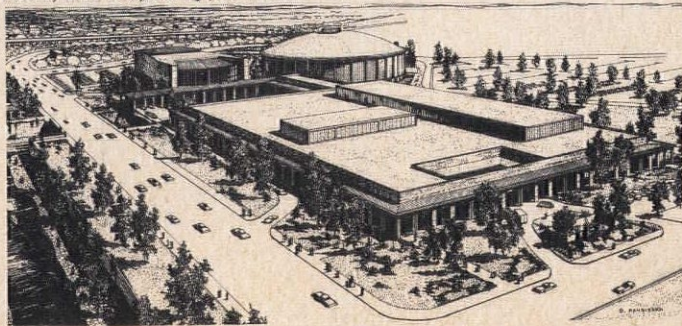
HEMISFAIR '68: TOWARD A FAIR DOWNTOWN



Tower of the Americas.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX. Those who still expect Texas to produce the biggest, if not the best, of whatever it is they produce may be disappointed when Hemisfair '68 officially opens its gates April 6. The 622' "Tower of the Americas" with its revolving restaurant at the center of the 92-acre site will

Civic center and convention center contains 2800-seat theater, 10,000-seat arena, and 200,000-sq-ft exhibit hall.



Hilton hotel, two blocks from fair.

be only the second tallest observation tower west of the Mississippi. But take heart. It will be the tallest permanent World's Fair structure to be erected since the Eiffel Tower pointed its steely finger skyward in 1889.

Hemisfair '68 is an official World's Fair, accredited by the Bureau of International Expositions in Paris. But when the fair grounds close in October, the buildings will remain. Located just 200 yds from the Alamo in downtown San Antonio, the fair is expected to give the downtown area a dramatic lift, if not while in operation, then after it closes. Already a man-made extension of the San Antonio River winds into the fair grounds and will carry fairgoers in water taxis; a mini-rail system is being installed, and so is a system of elevated walkways. Perhaps the largest physical contribution of the fair will be a \$10 million, three-building Civic Center. Also, the \$10 million State of Texas Pavillion will become

Photos: J. O. Bragstad



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an Institute of Texan Cultures. And a lasting boost may be given to San Antonio by the renovation and remodeling of some 20 old homes on the fair site into specialty restaurants.

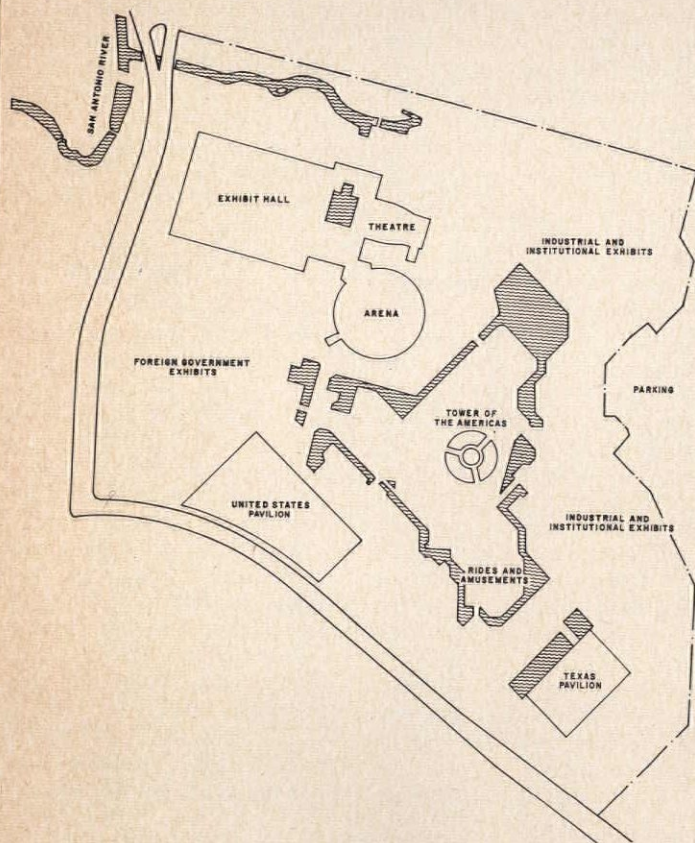
Already the effect of the fair is being felt in downtown San Antonio, where some \$500 million of new construction is taking place. Only two blocks from the fairgrounds, for example, is the new Hilton Palacio del Rio, 21 stories high, built at a cost of \$7,500,000.

Besides the Federal Government, and the States of Arkansas and Texas, 19 private exhibitors and 25 foreign governments will participate in the fair.



Renovated house.

Unfortunately, as the pre-fair scurry of last-minute construction activity reaches a climax, HemisFair looks as if its architectural contribution will be minimal. But, then, World's Fairs are more than architectural showcases, and if this one can help revitalize a city, it may set a valuable precedent.



TAKING A TRIP? TRY THE NATIONAL VISITOR'S CENTER

WASHINGTON, D.C. A bill authorizing the transformation of Union Station in Washington into a National Visitor's Center is, as P/A goes to press, on the President's desk awaiting his signature. Presented to Congress last fall, the bill passed both the House and the Senate; and under its provisions the Penn Central and the Baltimore & Ohio Railroads, which own the terminal, would spend \$11 mil-

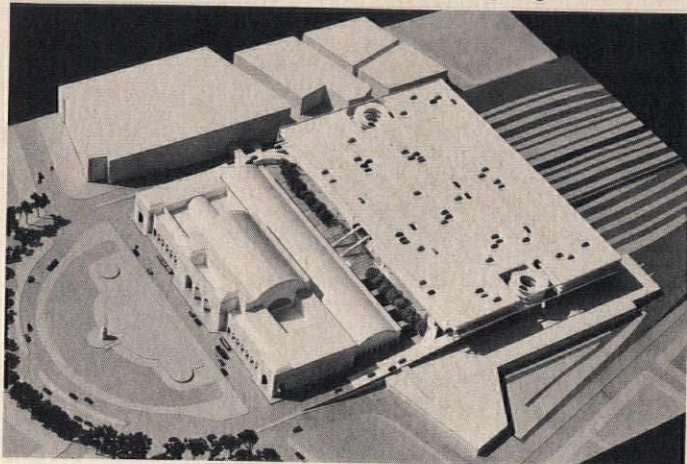
lion to build a four-story parking structure, capable of holding 4000 vehicles, above the railroad tracks to the rear of the station. In addition, they would put \$5 million into refurbishing the station without changing or harming Daniel H. Burnham's magnificent 1902 interior spaces or his handsome façade with its deep arches and Ionic columns. Terminal facilities and offices would be moved be-

neath the parking structure. Once the old station is outfitted with an elaborate array of sound and sight displays to tell visitors what to visit in Washington and how to get there, the Government will rent the space for not less than \$3 million per year.

Washington gets hordes of visitors each year. They pour in by bus from Iowa and Wisconsin and Idaho. They come by train and car and plane to climb the steps of the Washington Monument, to walk

above all, shabby, cold indifference to their coming here on what truly is a pilgrimage for themselves and their children."

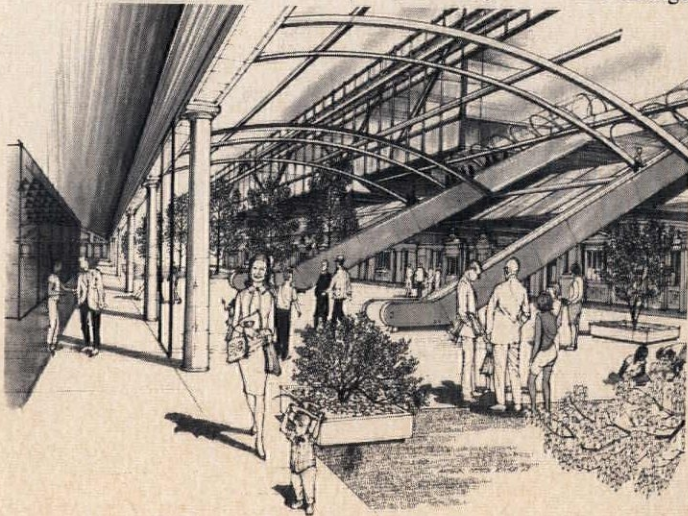
If the Visitor's Center and its garage are built according to preliminary designs drawn up by Cooper & Auerbach of Washington, D.C., visitors will be able to park in the garage over the railroad tracks. From there, they will move down glass-enclosed elevators into an esplanade between the garage and the old



through the White House in hushed groups, to visit the Treasury and the FBI buildings. And, mostly, they are ignored and abused. Vice-President Humphrey, who paints a dim picture of his fellow American tourists, says they have trouble finding water fountains in Congressional office buildings, can't find a parking space for their car, have trouble locating a restaurant, and are stranded in a strange city with no official place to get information about what and how to visit. What they very often do get, Humphrey claims, are "parking tickets, a feeling of being strangers and intruders, and

Union Station, listening to a taped description of how to use the Visitor's Center. Just beyond the Esplanade in the old Concourse area will be a 360° movie of the sights of Washington. On either side of this raised circular screen will be two flat-screen theaters, constructed of steel framing and tinted glass panels through which persons passing by can see the film being shown. Also planned is a huge, floor-mounted relief map of the city with lights and sound to point out tourist sights and routes. Upstairs will be restrooms for tourists, a USO facility, and a student hostel.

The only structural change

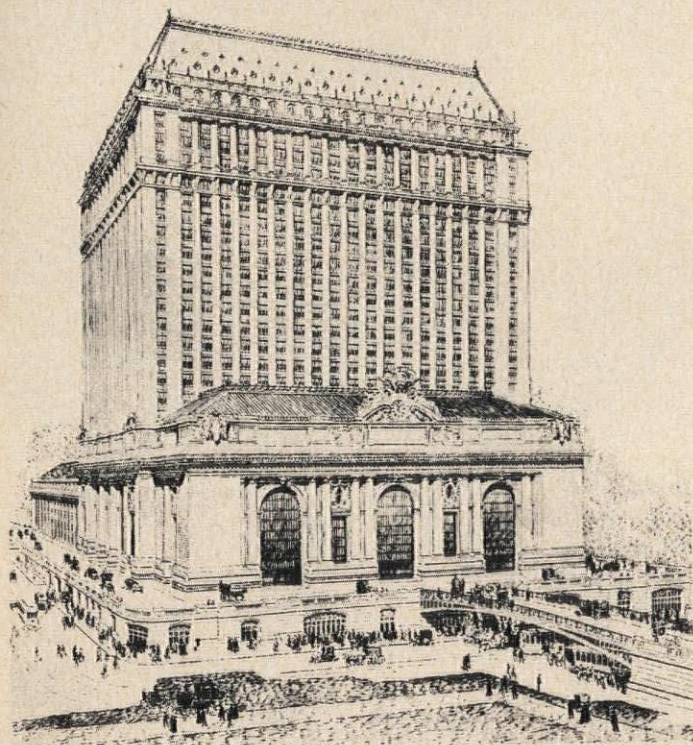


in the existing station will be removal of 64' at either end of the present concourse to make way for exit and entrance ramps leading to the parking garage. These concourse extensions are not in keeping with the main part of the terminal (its elements have a Doric order, while the rest of the building is Ionic), and there is some speculation that the extensions may have been

afterthoughts, put on to handle additional incoming tracks after Burnham completed his design. According to architects Cooper & Auerbach, experts in historic preservation with whom they consulted agreed to the amputations.

Urban planning consultant was Robert L. Playnick; transportation consultant, Alan M. Voorhees & Associates.

GRAND CENTRAL BAUHAUS



1 Grand Central Station before addition of office buildings above it.

NEW YORK, N.Y. Marcel Breuer has the commission for an office tower to rise above Grand Central Station. For those who love the grand spaces and the old (1913) façade of Grand Central, it may be a boon that Breuer is to be the one to design the slightly less than 2 million sq ft of space above the station's waiting room. Breuer's client is an Englishman, Morris Saady, who expects to invest between \$100 and \$120 million in the building. He will pay the Penn Central Railroad a minimum annual lease of \$3 million for air rights; under the city's present zoning laws, his building can, if he wishes, go as high as 45 stories. The space Saady will lease above the waiting room is an area of about 146,000 sq ft on the 42nd Street front of the terminal. He will have an air

space of some 80' between his building and the Pan Am building to the north. This distance is at least as much as that across most city streets. But the problem posed is not, of course, comparable to that of building on an ordinary site. For one thing, Grand Central Terminal is a New York City landmark, and under the landmark law its façade cannot be changed. Breuer has stated his intention of preserving the exterior, and as much of the interior as possible, although interior space is not protected by the law. He will have to bring trusses and elevator shafts down into the waiting room. But, with care, even this can be done without desecrating the existing space. A lesser architect-builder team might not even have taken the care to announce a concern for the



Photo: Louis Reens

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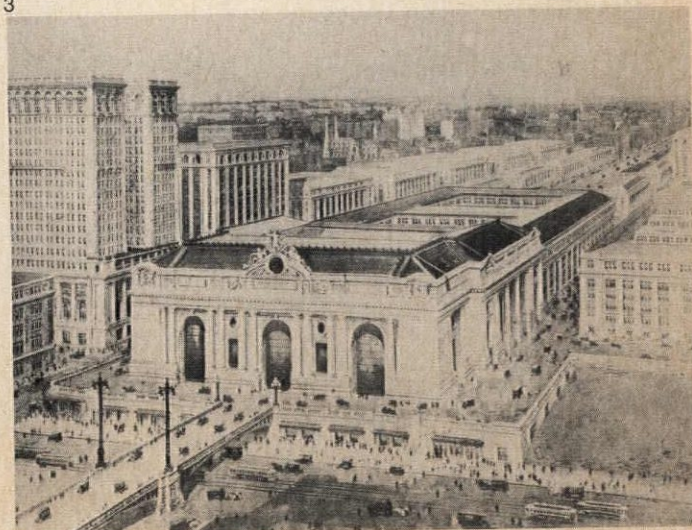
interior, and would probably have tried to have the exterior restrictions changed.

Breuer's concern, and indeed one of his reasons for taking the job, may go back to his years at the Bauhaus. It was part of the Bauhaus teaching that an architect or designer should take a distasteful commission and do his best with it, lest someone else botch it. Walter Gropius said as much about his reasons for taking on the Pan Am building with Belluschi.

And now two mammoth skyscrapers—one by the Bauhaus' founder and one by a former pupil—will stand facing one another in the middle of Manhattan, defiantly guarding the air space above Grand Central. Breuer has the more difficult task. How will he produce a Charybdis to go with Gropius' Scylla? Will he be able to preserve the air and light that tenants in the 57-story Pan Am building now have? How will he manage to channel the commuters out of the terminal and into his building without massive pedestrian jams?

In announcing his commis-

3



sion, Breuer was quick to point out that Grand Central Station was originally conceived as a cluster of buildings, and indeed the original competition-winning scheme by Reed & Stem (1) showed a 22-story hotel rising above the main concourse. Some maintain that trusses to support such a tower are in place within the arch supporting columns that surround the concourse, but no one remembers now for sure.

Reed & Stem were from St. Paul, and their design for Grand Central was selected over those of Stanford White, who had just designed Madison Square Garden, D.H. Burnham, architect of the 1900 Chicago World's Fair, and Samuel J. Huchel, Jr., who had done Philadelphia's City Hall.

Reed was the brother-in-law of William J. Wilgus, the civil engineer who conceived the idea of the new terminal in the first place. It was to replace a station completed only five years previously. But it would bring trains in beneath ground to a fan-shaped terminal and it would straddle

Park Avenue — one, as Wilgus conceived it, of a complex of buildings above the tracks. Some thought that the Reed & Stem solution of carrying Park Avenue traffic around the terminal on elevated ramps was Wilgus' idea. Be that as it may, their's was the only solution that handled the traffic without slicing the terminal in two, and their's was the winning submission.

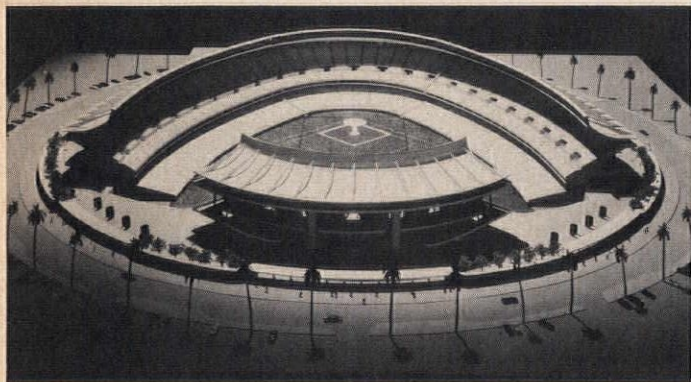
White's multitowered design with a main 40-story office tower rising above the terminal (2) looks much like what the Grand Central area may become with the completion of Breuer's commission. The White scheme has the advantage of being designed from scratch, each of its parts relating to and balancing the

others. Breuer has the problem of designing in a space that has become cluttered and crowded, like a giant case of milk cartons.

A building too brutal in its façade will congeal the area, like an oversize scab. A building too delicate will merely add to the clutter while becoming lost in it.

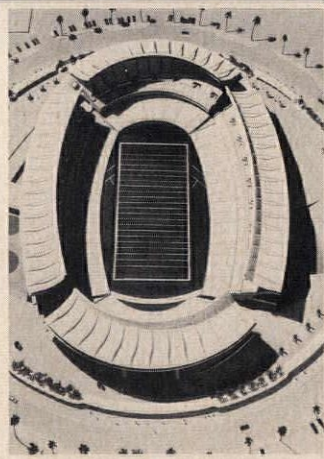
Breuer's client wants to make the building a monument. The Grand Central Station area contains enough monuments already to serve a dozen cities the size of Seattle. With care, the area above and around Grand Central can be made to work as well as Rockefeller Center, even though it will never again have the gracious sense of space and light it once had (3).

QUICK-CHANGE ARTISTRY



HONOLULU, HAWAII. Preliminary designs by Charles Luckman Associates for a \$20-million stadium have received the approval of the City Council and Citizens Committee of Honolulu. After an architectural selection committee had recommended six firms for consideration, the Citizens Committee chose the Luckman office, primarily because of the simplicity of the Luckman proposal for converting stadium seating to suit either baseball or football games.

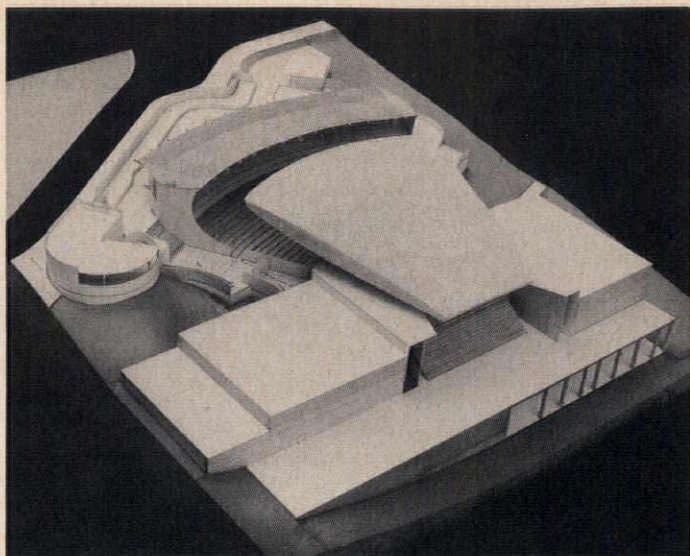
The approved design in fact allows complete alteration of the stadium's shape by making it possible to move 27,000 seats in 20 minutes. Only the ends of the basic oval will be fixed; remaining sections will be supported on a space frame, which, in turn, will rest on manually or hydraulically operable jacks. An electric motor will transfer the structure's weight from the jacks to railroad-type wheels when a section of seating is to



be moved. Structure, ramps, and seats will move outward as a unit from the oval arrangement for baseball to a configuration of broken arcs for football. The design calls for flexible conduit electrical connections and swivel connections for water and sewage disposal.

By late 1969, the first phase of stadium construction should have been completed, with a spectator capacity of 36,000 seats.

ENCORE FOR THE OPERA



SANTA FE, N.M. Western aficionados of the opera are currently paying close attention to the construction of Santa Fe's second opera house. Santa Fe has had its own opera for 11 years — or did, until the building burned last July. Since then, architect John McHugh of McHugh & Kidder, who designed the first one, has been commissioned to provide a larger and more substantial building, and construction is well underway at the original site.

To be built primarily of concrete and concrete masonry, sheathed partly in tiled marble, the new structure will seat an audience of 1356 persons. Dressing rooms, storage space, and stage machinery will be larger and more complex than the provisions in the old building. Estimated cost of the project is \$1,337,000. The client, the Opera Association of New Mexico, looks forward to completion of the project in time for the 1968 summer season in July.

ARCHITECTS HAMPER PREFABRICATION SAYS UNION REPORT

WASHINGTON, D.C. Architects must be considered a major bottleneck to the future growth of prefabrication in the construction industry, according to a lengthy report by the Battelle Memorial Institute, released in Washington early in March.

The report was the result of a \$66,000 study funded by the AFL-CIO Building Trades Department, which, according to President C. J. Haggerty, wants to know what effect the "talk about prefabrication, about technological advances, new and substitute materials" would have on the construction industry, and particularly on the Building Trades Department's component unions and their future.

Over-all conclusions were that prefabrication would not have a major impact by the year 1975, but that the field would grow as the idea of prefabricating as many build-

ing components as possible (either on or off-site) takes hold. One result, said the report, would be "opportunities" for about half of the building trades unions — notably the Operating Engineers, electrical workers, and "threats" to the other half, including painters and paperhangers.

The survey was conducted, according to Battelle, by means of a series of interviews with all segments of the construction industry, including architects and engineers, building material manufacturers and suppliers, and others.

Of architects, the Battelle report had this to say:

"Under the present construction process, the architect has to be considered as a restraint to the future growth of prefabrication. By education, the architect is not oriented to systems engineering, but rather to designing in terms of aesthetics, art, and expressing his own personality. Any change in the area of new products or methods that re-

stricts his freedom to express, or decreases his selection of building components, is a potential 'threat' to his profession.

"To date, most of the architects have readily accepted well-designed preassembled components that lend themselves to design flexibility. But they have not been so willing to accept various types of unit prefabrication, such as the 'pre-engineered' metal buildings and others. This is understandable since there is little architectural input required on these types of buildings.

"The biggest area of potential conflict is represented by systems building. As previously mentioned (in this report), in Europe the successful building systems employ a basic team approach to construction, usually with the sole responsibility for the project being delegated to the contractor. As a result, the European architect is relegated to a much lesser role than he ordinarily has in this country. For this reason, the architects will undoubtedly resist the system building concept in the United States, especially if it is patterned after successful European systems.

"Another potential area of conflict arises from the construction industry's procedure for rendering architectural fees. Since this is geared to the cost of construction, any time a substantial cost reduction is evoked as a result of new methods and/or techniques, the architect's fee is reduced. It will be virtually impossible to optimize a design so long as this procedure prevails."

In answer to press questions after presentation of the report in the AFL-CIO's impressive Washington headquarters, Rolland B. Guy, of Battelle, said that engineers are not mentioned in the report as "constraints" because they are generally more oriented to the systems concept.

The lengthy report (236 pages, plus appendices) is available at cost from Mr. Haggerty's office, 815 16th St. N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006. Haggerty said that his organization plans no immediate action on the basis of the report; it wants to have its component unions study it in detail before deciding what to do. — E. E. HALMOS, JR.

THE VIEW FROM THE TERRACE

ACCOKEEK, MD. From the front porch at Mount Vernon, George Washington could look down across the Potomac River to the hills and forests beyond. Today, some 200 years later, *you* can do the same thing, and chances are good that your children and grandchildren will be able to enjoy the same unspoiled views.

On the afternoon of February 22, Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall announced the establishment of Piscataway Park, 956 acres of rolling Virginia countryside on the banks of the Potomac opposite Mount Vernon. In addition, scenic easements over 1202 acres of adjacent private properties were obtained. These lands will be protected from the blight of commercial or industrial building.

Acquisition of the land took 20 years, hampered by soaring land prices as private owners jacked up prices for Government buyers. Over half the purchased acres were acquired by three foundations: The Accokeek Foundation, the Alice Ferguson Foundation, Inc., and the Moyaone Association, which turned the acreage over to the Federal Government. One hundred sixty-eight donors provided the scenic easements.

It is hard to imagine Mount Vernon surrounded by a welter of gas stations, diners, used car lots, and souvenir stands. Now, fortunately, if you want that effect you will have to imagine it.

OCTAGON FUND IS OVER THE HUMP

WASHINGTON, D.C. Members of the AIA contributed more than \$1 million last year for restoration of the Octagon House and construction of a new headquarters building. According to G. Harold W. Haag of Jenkintown, Pa., a member of the Institute's board of directors, who headed the fund drive, pledges received amount to \$1,001,-040.88.

Planning work for the Octagon restoration got under way late last year before completion of the fund-raising

campaign, and, by last month, J. Everette Fauber, Jr., who is architect for the restoration, was ready to report on his research.

Also last month, Mitchell/Giurgola Associates were again revising their plan for the new AIA headquarters, working with the AIA Build-

ing Committee.

Perhaps the most significant point about the successful fund raising was the relatively low level of campaign expenses, which amounted to only about \$25,000, or slightly more than 2%. Fund-raising expenses are usually close to 10%.

EXAMPLE FOR THE KIDS



Photos: Forrest Wilson

NEW YORK, N.Y. Although most everyone knows of man's penchant for fouling his own nest, in some pockets of so-called civilization man seems determined to keep proving the point. My nest is dirtier than yours, he appears to be shouting. But even so, like persons who ignore the antics of a child showing off, some New York City dwellers are yet to be convinced that the city became any dirtier

during the week-long February garbage strike than it had been before. "After working for six months in the Bronx," said one Manhattan resident recently, "the garbage strike was nothing."

P/A Associate Editor Forrest Wilson thought that the city at least looked different, if not dirtier, and he took these photos to show his children how not to behave when they grow up.



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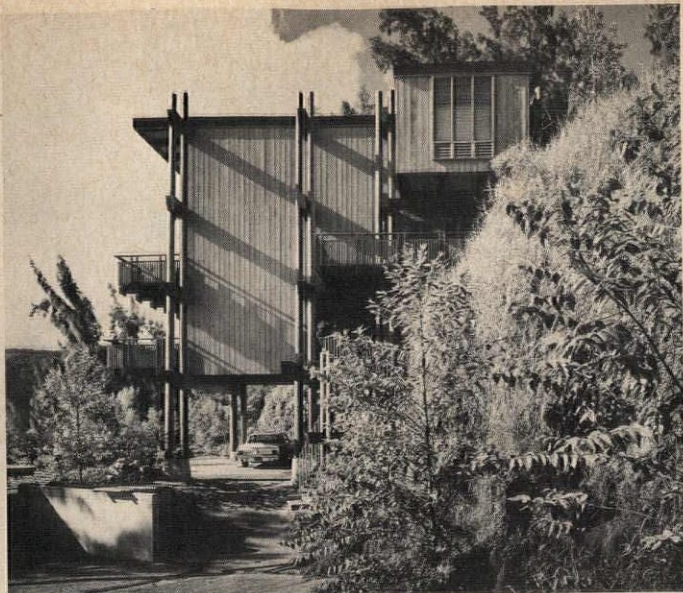


Photo: R. Wenkam

Residence by Wimberly, Whisenand, Allison & Tong. Jury comment: "Straightforward solution to the use of a difficult site."

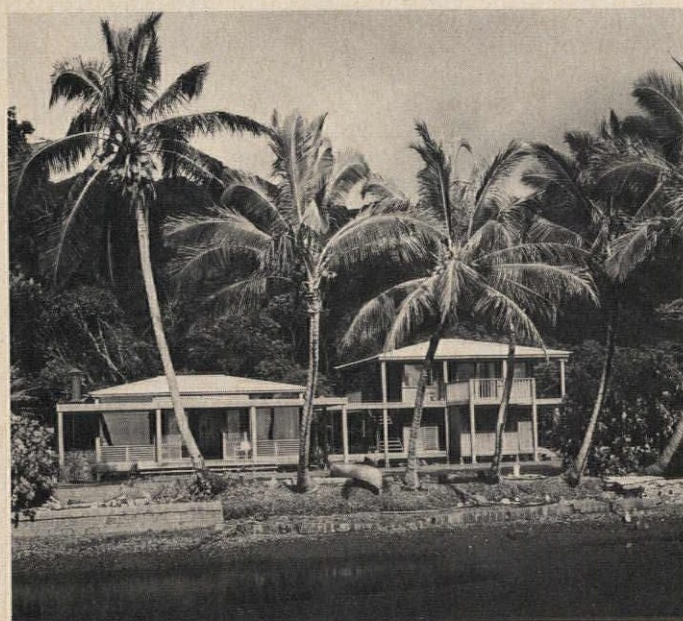


Photo: R. Wenkam

Residence by George T. Johnson. Living-dining area at left, bedroom wing at right. Jury comment: "Simple, crisp detailing without resorting to clichés."



Residence for builder-client by Charles J. Chamberland. Jury comment: "The skillful handling of architectural details gives the basically simple house distinction."

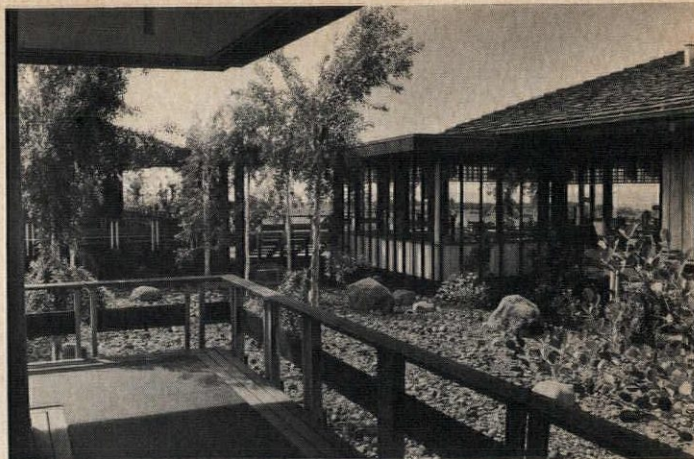


Photo: Walton Tregaskis

Royal Kaanapali Golf Course Club House by Wimberly, Whisenand, Allison & Tong and Vladimir Ossipoff & Associates. Jury comment: "Quiet, open grouping of buildings . . . tasteful and appropriate taking full advantage of the environment."

IT'S HAPPENING IN HAWAII

HONOLULU, HAWAII. The Hawaii Chapter, AIA, awarded five honor awards to local architects at its annual banquet in mid-January. Members of the awards jury were architects Thomas H. Creighton, chairman, J. Hugh Burgess,

and A. Bruce Etherington, who gave awards to two residences for private clients, a residence for a builder-client, a golf course clubhouse, and the interior design of a travel agency office. Jury comments are noted in captions.



Photo: John Tatom

Interior design of the Castle and Cooke Travel Agency Office by John Tatom, with John Hara, project designer. Jury comment: "High degree of visual interest . . . orderliness and a strong discipline in use of materials and carefully placed artifacts."

LOSING PROPOSITION

SEATTLE, WASH. Proposition 1 on the ballot for metropolitan Seattle voters February 15 turned out to be a loser, despite a 50.7% majority vote in its favor. At issue was authorization of a \$385 million bond issue to finance a metropolitan rapid transit system (see p. 49, FEBRUARY 1968 P/A); necessary majority for passage of bond issues in Seattle is 60%.

Proponents of "Forward Thrust," the citizens' group that organized support for the

transit plan, and a number of other projects for civic improvement also listed on the February ballot, are not discouraged by the failure of what they consider the most important element of their program. James R. Ellis, president of the group, intends to resubmit rapid transit to the voters at the earliest opportunity, and expects that it will eventually receive the necessary approval. His hopes seem well founded, for the plan has the backing of public officials and politicians, including Mayor Braman and Gov-

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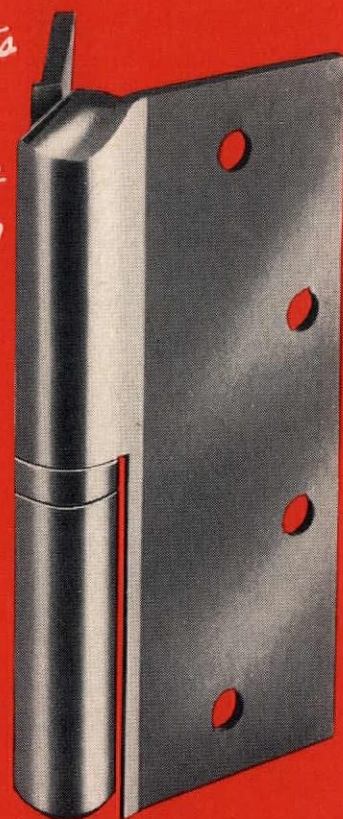


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Less attractive appearance

Leaves can not be separated... this tight pin hinge requires extra work, time to install doors

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700 ft.

600 ft.

1965
1000 Lake Shore Plaza
Chicago
600 ft.

500 ft.

1958
Executive House
Chicago
370 ft.

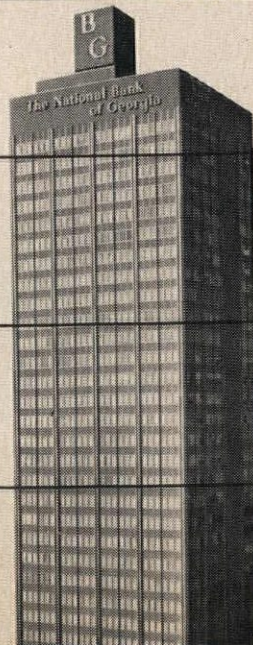
1961
The National Bank of Georgia
Atlanta
390 ft.

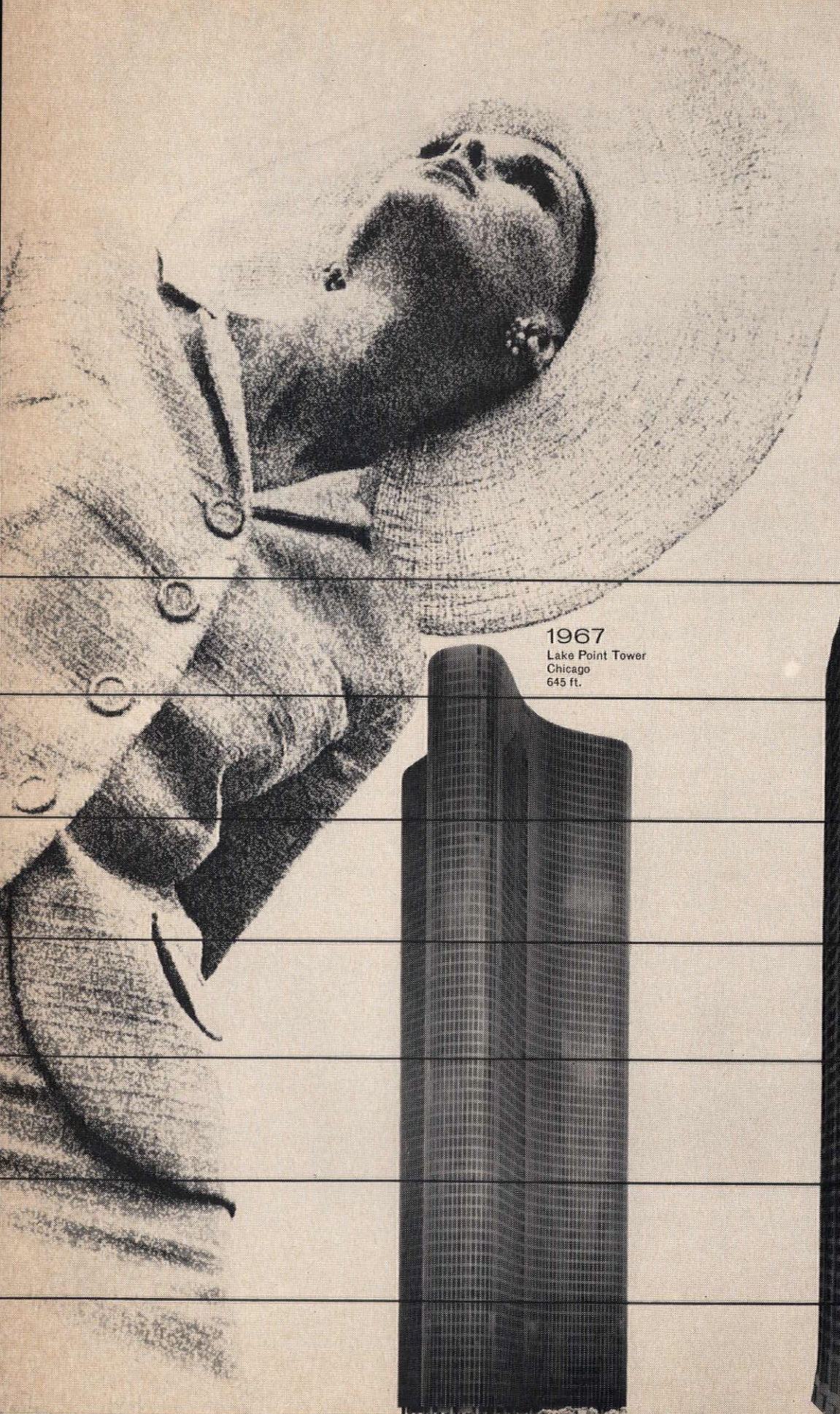
400 ft.

300 ft.

200 ft.

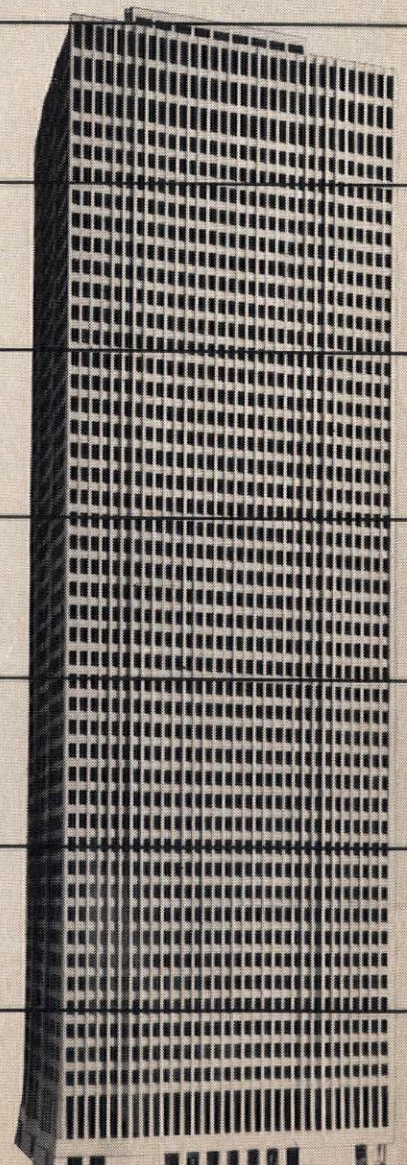
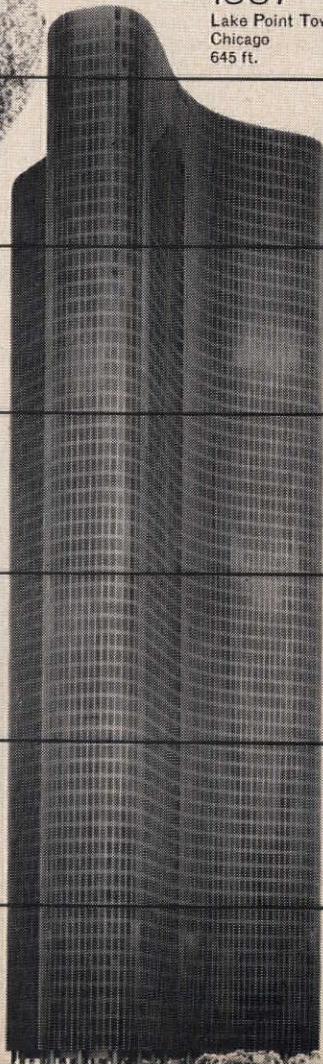
100 ft.





1969
Shell Oil Bldg.
Houston
714 ft.

1967
Lake Point Tower
Chicago
645 ft.



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ernor Evans. And there is a rather impressive precedent: this winter, as voters turned down the transit plan, they finally approved a \$40 million multipurpose stadium that Forward Thrust had unsuccessfully pushed for passage in the fall of 1966. Ellis says that no part of the plan for rapid transit will be altered before voters are asked to take a second look.

ALL BUILDINGS ARE BROTHERS



Photo: Toshio Taira

TOKYO, JAPAN. As the International Style office building spreads throughout the world (see following article), only the street signs can give a traveler a clue as to whether he is on the Kurfürstendamm, the Ginza, Michigan Boulevard, or Sunset Strip. The latest, and not, incidentally, the tallest office building to rise in Tokyo is this 18-story steel-and-glass structure designed by I. Ebihara & Associates.

To build 245' above ground in Tokyo, the contractor had to go 78' beneath it, because of the twin hazards of soft loam and possible earthquakes. Just beneath the soil level is a layer of gravel. On this, a concrete mat foundation was laid that is claimed to support a total load of 50,000 tons.

Below grade, five basement floors house mechanical equipment, parking space, and shopping arcades.

The building will be known as the DIC Building, after the major tenant, Dainippon Ink and Chemicals, Inc.

TOWERS ON THE VELD

Photo: Gianni La' Magna



NAIROBI, KENYA. Ten years ago, Nairobi was a quiet West African town, just recovering from what the local residents referred to as the "emergency," the Mau-Mau terror. Since then, Kenya has announced its political independence and has gone through an almost inevitable cycle in which the European settlers are forced to move away and then urged to come back again.

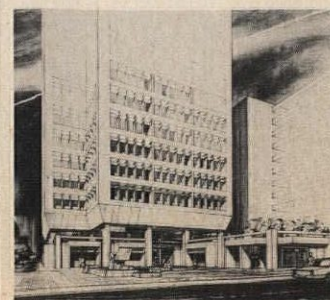
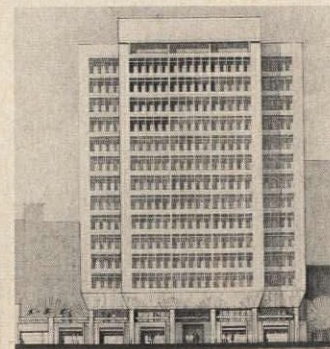
Today, Nairobi is in the midst of a mild building boom; buildings soar toward the sky, far above the red tile roofs of the traditional white stucco, two- or three-story buildings that once gave Nairobi its image as a white hunter's haven.

Two recent Nairobi office buildings were designed by U.S. firms. One, 13-stories, by McMillan Griffis Mileto (above), is owned by the Aga Khan and is now open for business; the other (right), 16 stories, is still in the design stage by Gruzen & Partners, working as associated architects with Dalglish Marshall & Associates of Nairobi. Their client is the International Life Insurance Company.

Both buildings make concessions to the Kenya tradition of window space for every employee: the MGM building by using a long narrow shape, the Gruzen building by a cruciform plan. This latter plan may put some workers further from the windows than they would like, but the building is to have central air conditioning and the architects want it to be efficient. It will

be the first time central air conditioning has been used in a Nairobi building and the entire machinery will be imported, together with elevators and the structural steel, from Europe and the U.S.

Nairobi is located only 100 miles from the equator; but because of its mile-high elevation, the weather year round is about 70°F. Still, the sun beating through glass windows can make building interiors uncomfortably hot, and for this reason both buildings have well recessed windows. Nairobi also has an abundance of skilled carpenters who can provide good formwork, and the quality of concrete work is relatively high. Consequently, both buildings are of concrete. Both have ground floor ar-



cades; moreover, the Gruzen building has a broad plaza and an open, three-story galleria, with shops, a restaurant, and a bank. The International Life Insurance building, with total floor space of 165,000 sq ft, will cost an estimated \$4,200,000, about two-thirds what such a building would cost in the U.S.

TALL TEXAS MONUMENT



DALLAS, TEX. Watch it grow. When completed, perhaps sometime in 1972, the second office structure in Dallas' Main Place complex will stand 45 stories tall above the Texas plains. It will rise on 4 acres opposite a similarly clad granite building, One Main Place, which will open in June. Both buildings are the work of the New York office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.

As the architectural profession moves rapidly away from the monumental style of architecture toward the creation of environments, or at least toward the creation of buildings that harmonize with their environments, this type of design is typical of that done in some old-line offices, which are moving, if at all, at a snail's pace from designing single monumental buildings to designing groups of two monumental buildings.

The latest Main Place structure, designed by SOM in association with Harwood K. Smith & Partners, will have almost 2 million sq ft above ground and more than 1 million below. At 625', it will be — almost anticlimactically — the tallest building in Dallas, and will cost \$86 million.

Eventually, Main Place will

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have four major buildings, all connected below ground. For the tenants (Atlantic Richfield is the first major tenant in the newly announced building), the complex, which will include a hotel and a major department store, will be a prestige location. But what will it be like for the people who work there, and for the city of Dallas?

INTERPROFESSIONAL MEDIATION: A NEW APPROACH

Hoping to forestall the type of interprofessional dispute that winds up in the courts and militates against true interprofessional collaboration, a seven-society organization has now formally approved a mediation procedure and put the plan into full effect.

The new "Procedure for Mediation of Interprofessional Controversies" is designed to end the type of battling that recently resulted in long court actions, before architects and engineers won the right to certification as "land planners"—without special examinations and qualifications—under a New Jersey state law.

It was developed by a special task force of the Interprofessional Commission of Environmental Design (ICED), made up of AIA, Consulting Engineers Council, American Institute of Consulting Engineers, American Institute of Planners, American Society of Civil Engineers, American Society of Landscape Architects, and National Society of Professional Engineers.

In essence, the procedure—now formally ratified by all member societies—is supposed to work this way:

(1) Local chapters or other local groups of any member organization examine the dispute, and, if it deems the matter to be "of sufficient gravity," notifies its own national organization (not ICED), furnishing supporting data.

(2) The national office gets in touch with national offices of other members who might have an interest in the controversy, signalled by its local chapter. These other groups get in touch with their own local components in the area

for information, which may then be used in determining jointly (among the national offices) whether the matter actually warrants national mediation.

(3) If this "fact-finding" leads to an agreement by the national offices concerned that mediation is desirable, they will each make efforts to get their local components to request mediation services offered by ICED.

(4) When mediation requests have been received from two or more societies, ICED alerts all component societies of the situation, locality, and other circumstances, and asks each society to name one panelist and one alternate to serve on an "Ad Hoc Mediation Task Force." (A society, if not directly involved, may decline to be represented on the mediation panel.) When all appointments are in, the Chairman of ICED appoints a chairman and secretary for the panel, each from "neutral" organizations, if practicable.

(5) The mediation panel holds investigations, hearings, and so on, presenting reports of each meeting to ICED after each meeting.

(6) The only panel "final report" that will be acceptable will center on one of two elements: (a) a mutually satisfactory agreement, entered into by both or all parties; (b) abandonment of the mission, after all efforts to work out a solution have failed. ICED has no power to take any action of itself, or intervene in any way; but, after receiving the final report from the panel, it may elect to make recommendations for ratification by constituent bodies.

All materials, correspondence, and the like are to be handled as confidential, at least until an agreement is reached, or the mission abandoned.

Commenting on the plan, a statement from ICED said, in part:

"ICED earnestly desires to find a means to minimize interprofessional controversy, and whenever possible, to dissuade court action. The objectives are . . . to work for harmony among the members of the environmental design teams, which by their services to the public are much in the public eye."

THE MIND EXPANDER

VIENNA, AUSTRIA. Chairs are very personal things, so personal that some architects design them to go with their buildings. Other architects, such as Ulrich Franzen, who lives in New York, don't like chairs, "which may be one of my problems," he told a *New York Times* reporter recently. The *Times* quoted Franzen in a brief article called "Man's Four-Legged Friend: His Chair." The *Times*' problem is that chairs aren't necessarily quadrupeds any more. Some, like bar stools, have only three; some, like Marcel Breuer's tubular steel chair, two; and some, like Saarinen's pedestal chair, only one.

Two Austrian designers, Laurids Ortner and An-An Hareiter, have now designed a very personal chair that has no legs at all to speak of. They entered it in the German furniture competition, Interdesign 2000, where it failed to win a prize but won lots of comment from the press. Looking a little like a throne that might be used by Ming,

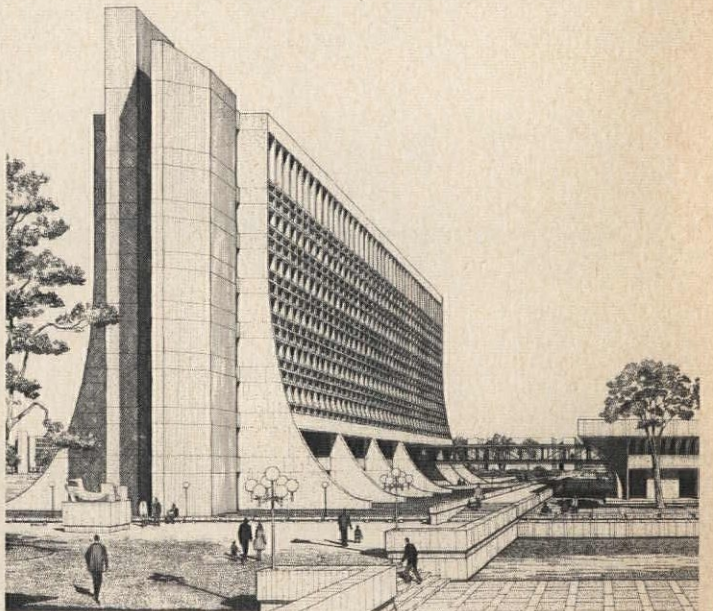


Photo: Michael Pilz

the mortal foe of Flash Gordon, the chair is called the "Mind Expander."

Just looking at it does something to the mind. But when you sit in it with a girl, and fasten the seat belt, that plastic bubble canopy comes down over you and a pulsing sound matches the rhythm of your heart. "You are happy about it," the designers explain. It might even persuade people like Ulrich Franzen to start sitting in chairs again.

A PLACE IN THE SUN



MIAMI, FLA. One of 12 prototype centers for the study of child development and mental retardation in the U.S. is being constructed on the campus of the University of Miami. Funds for the project were provided by a U.S. Government grant of \$3,054,432 and by private sources, whose contributions equal the amount of the grant. The cen-

ter will train personnel for dealing with retarded children, conduct research, and treat patients. Schooling, training, and recreation will be an integral part of the center's program. All the diverse activities entailed by the center's aims are to be confined within the 4½-acre site.

Since a large out-patient clinic had to be readily acces-

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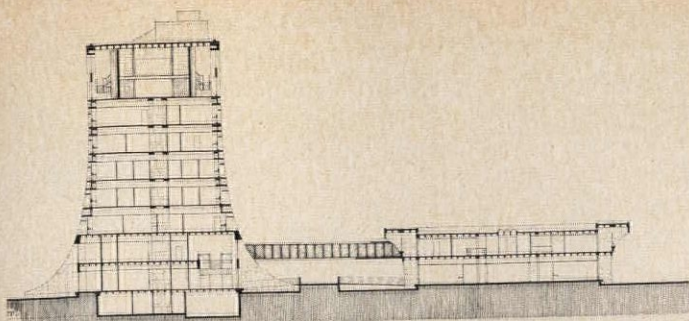
Also see Moen's 8-page catalog in SWEET'S Light Construction File, Sec. 12c/MO and in Architectural File, Sec. 25b/MO



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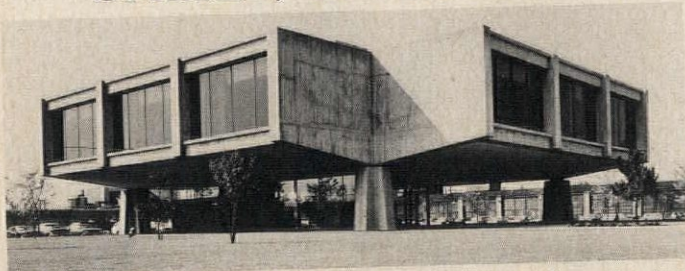
sible, and an administrative area required 13,000 sq ft on one level, while floors of approximately 10,000 sq ft were necessary for flexible office, study, and laboratory space, architects stacked these functions in an eight-story building of diminishing floor sizes. Large fins projecting beyond the lower two stories provide protection from the sun and privacy for patios that open off clinics.

At the top of the tower, which has been designed to allow for future construction of four additional stories, "eggcrate" fins shade setback windows of amber glass. Fins are also a characteristic of the two-story school and

in-patient living areas for mentally retarded children. Family dwelling units and wards are located on the upper floor of this structure, with enclosed loggias opening from each unit. Classrooms on the ground floor are designed as multiuse spaces, and open out into an enclosed play-yard. A third element of the complex is a broad plaza that adds to the visual relationship between the two structures. Textured, natural-finish concrete is the major structural material and exterior finish.

The project is a joint venture of Pancoast/Ferendino/Grafton and Watson, Deutschman & Kruse, architects.

STILTED, BUT STYLISH



CHICAGO, ILL. Architects of an executive office building for the Arvey Corporation have conquered an all-too-common site problem in a somewhat unusual manner. The building, which takes in 16,350 sq ft of space, is situated on a triangular lot on Kimball Avenue, adjacent to two expressways and a railroad embankment. By placing the structure on stilts 11' above ground, designers Fridstein & Fitch gave it a commanding view of the area.

The solution is a welcome contrast to the results one might expect from such a site; picture the low-slung roadside industrial buildings that, seen from the highway embankment, seem to be sinking into a swamp. With its large window areas and angular skylight, the Arvey Corporation's

new building gives the impression of a light-box for viewing transparencies. The actual view from within may not be scenic, but will afford a constantly changing panorama of vehicular movement. The gray tinted glass of window walls blends with the structure of board-formed, cast-in-place concrete. Approaching the building, one encounters a broad landscaped plaza that offers a see-through vista between the stilts. A service entrance leads directly to the data processing department, and a parking lot adjoins the building. Interior finish of natural teak wood complements the color scheme of black, white, gray, and teak-brown.

The structure was recently completed and is ready for occupancy.

CALENDAR

The students of the University of Arkansas department of architecture will present a **Megastructure Symposium** April 19-20. For further information, write to: Richard Dagenhart, Secretary, Megastructure Group, Department of Architecture, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Ark. ... The School of Architecture, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo., will hold a **Continuing Education for Architects Conference on Campus Planning**, April 25-27. Studies of campus planning examples will be presented by Walter Netsch, Ben Weese, and Gyo Obata. Architects who wish to attend are invited to request details from Associate Professor Robert C. Oswald at the University ... A similar program to the one planned for Washington University's conference is also scheduled for the **Fourth North American Conference of Campus Planning and College Building Design**, to be held April 28-May 1 at the University of Illinois. Master plans of new university campuses in the U.S., Canada, and England will be discussed. For more information, write to: "Architecture and the College," Department of Architecture, University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill. 61801 ... Technical meetings of the American Society for Testing and Materials are scheduled for May 1-3 (**Acoustical Materials**), May 12-17 (**Mass Spectrometry**), and May 20-24 (**Inter-American Conference on Materials Technology**). All interested persons are invited to attend these meetings; for details, write to: ASTM, 1916 Race St., Philadelphia, Pa. 19103 ... Headquarters for the **20th Annual National Engineering Conference of the American Institute of Steel Construction**, May 2-3, will be the Sheraton-Park Hotel, Washington, D.C. Reservations can be made through AISC, 101 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017 ... The **Annual Meeting of the Consulting Engineers Council of the U.S.**, May 7-9, will convene at the Statler Hilton Hotel, New York City. Program information is obtainable from: Raymond J. Rice, Meeting Chairman, 2 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10016 ... The University of Wisconsin

Extension will present a seminar on **"Specialized Flooring Systems,"** May 21-22, on the university's Madison campus. Inquiries should be directed to Dwight D. Zeck, Institute Director, 725 Extension Building, 432 Lake St., Madison, Wis. 53706 ... The **Spring Membership Meeting of the Aluminum Association** is planned for May 22-25 at The Greenbrier, White Sulphur Springs, W. Va. Write for information to: The Aluminum Association, 420 Lexington Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017 ... The **Fourth Annual Theater, Television, and Film Lighting Symposium**, sponsored by the Illuminating Engineering Society, will be held May 26-28 at the Barbizon-Plaza Hotel, New York, N.Y. For information on the program of technical papers, panel discussions, and a lighting progress show, write to: T. M. Lemons, Sylvania Lighting Center, 100 Endicott St., Danvers, Mass. ... The **First International Congress on Lightweight Concrete** will be held May 27-29 at the Royal Lancaster Hotel, London W2, England. The congress is under the auspices of the Concrete Society, Ltd. The society's address is: Terminal House, Grosvenor Gardens, London SW1, England.

BUSING THE PUBLIC

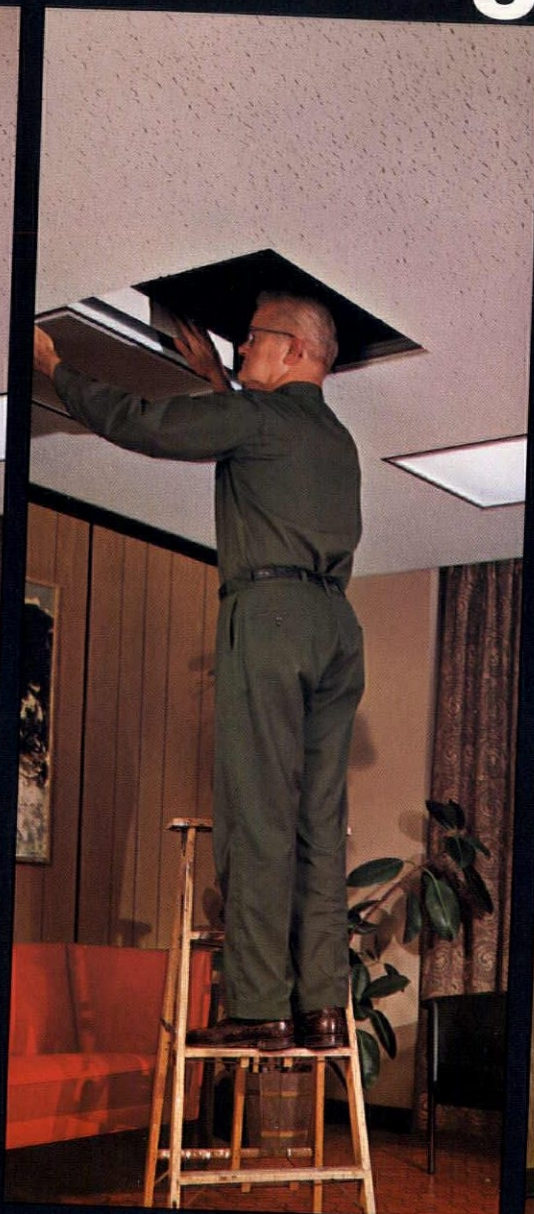
HEMPSTEAD, N.Y. Minibuses, capable of carrying 22 persons, are prowling the streets of this Long Island community. Operating with the help of a grant from the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the buses carry as many as 500 commuters a day from their homes to the local railroad station. The fare is a reasonable 25¢ a trip, and at least some of the residents in this area, which previously had no mass transit at all, are finding that the need for a second car is not as pressing as it once was.

The four buses meet every commuter train, then swing in a loop through two areas of South Hempstead, leaving commuters at bus stops near their homes. During the rest of the day, the buses carry housewives, children, and older persons to schools and shopping centers for an off-peak fare of 40¢. The area

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the buses serve has a population of about 29,000, and, on a recent winter Saturday, about 10% of these residents used the buses to get to the local shopping center to skate, see a movie, or even to shop.

The HUD grant will help support the bus service through June 1969. Until then, it will obviously go a long way toward keeping automobiles off the streets — where they belong.

WASHINGTON/ FINANCIAL NEWS

By E. E. HALMOS, JR.

Housing Bill — Although chances for full acceptance by Congress have to be considered doubtful, in view of monetary problems, politics, and possible riots and demonstrations this coming summer, the President's huge \$6 billion Housing and Urban Development Act of 1968 is worth serious study by architects and others in the construction industry.

The program (already before Congress as S. 3029) picks up features of almost every other housing bill that has appeared on the Congressional roster during the past year: rent supplements, added funds for urban renewal and low-income housing, easier mortgage terms, aid to private builders, help for poor families in acquiring their own homes, more money for Model Cities programs. It attempts to enlist the aid of private capital and private talent, doesn't go so far as several bills that would permit the poor to earn "sweat equity" by working on their own homes.

Two other messages — one calling for transfer of urban mass-transit activities from Housing and Urban Development to the Transportation Department; the other for a raise in maximum guarantee on G.I. loans from \$7,500 to \$10,000 — complete a housing "package" on which the Johnson Administration will stand in this election year.

The program has obvious political and social overtones: It is already billed as a major answer to possible unrest in the cities this summer, and this

provides much of its interest, and indicates as well some of the problems it may encounter. Congress wants to find an answer for urban riots, but if "rights" activists push other riots (or if a proposed mass march on Washington this month results in violence), its chances may be killed. Congress is very touchy about being pressured into passing legislation.

In addition, even though outlays in the initial stages won't look too bad on the budget totals, the final cost involved is enormous. Moreover, the total suggested bill of \$1,400,000,000 for urban renewal, \$2,500,000,000 for Model Cities, the proposals to guarantee "new communities" for private builders up to \$50 million each, and \$1,200,000,000 for low-rent housing (over six years), is frightening to a Congress that must go home in a few months to face voters' ire over high taxes.

Nevertheless, at least some parts of the program seem to have some prospect — that is, if the Administration does not insist on an all-or-nothing approach. One of these, for example, is a proposal that would allow low-income families to buy homes from private builders, paying a "specified percentage of their income" on mortgages, with the Federal Government paying the rest (including all but 1% of the interest) as a form of subsidy. Another may be the proposal for tax deferrals to aid insurance companies in supplying capital; still another, a plan to authorize formation of privately funded partnerships that would put private capital (on a national scale) into building of low- and moderate-income housing.

These proposals, together with the guarantees to private builders of "new communities," wouldn't cost too much in actual Federal cash, and could well provide a strong stimulus.

Other proposals, which include construction of 75,000 units of public housing, 90,000 rental units for moderate-income families, quadrupling of current appropriations for Model Cities, and a big jump in urban renewal funds, do not seem to have too much chance. Congress has been unhappy with the whole public housing idea for some

years, both because of slow progress (some 35,000 units in a peak year) and the typically unimaginative, dull design concepts. The lawmakers also haven't been happy with the urban renewal programs for a number of reasons: They don't like overriding of local political entities, as, for instance, attempts by HUD's planners to force changes in local laws and codes; and they're very wary of direct help to private builders of developments (these activities have been involved in too many local scandals over zoning, building codes, and the like).

One item of interest to architects seems likely to get short shrift: a proposal for a \$20 million appropriation for "urban technology and research." Many construction industry groups have argued that there's enough research underway now, and that it is practical work, privately funded, that doesn't need the heavy hand of Government, except possibly to provide coordination.

Over-all, the President's program is ambitious enough: It would call for construction of more than 2,600,000 housing units and apartments each year for 10 years — almost double the rate of single-family housing construction over the past two years.

And it offers some encouragement to architects: a repeated call for consultation with architects and other planners to produce a better environment.

Construction Safety Standards? — Continued hearings before House committees on the subject of "industrial safety" continued to disturb the construction industry, which sees them as an opening wedge to Federal safety standards.

Ostensibly, the concern is with such things as working conditions in factories, safety and installation of gas and fuel pipelines, packaging that might prove dangerous in the home, and the like.

But the probable extension to construction, which, unhappily, boasts the nation's second highest accident rate, is obvious. Federal officials, such as Labor Secretary Willard Wirtz are talking about penalties that include "freezing" contractors out of Govern-

ment work, jail terms, and fines for "knowing and willful" violations of Federal standards.

Breuer Takes Gov't. Dam Job — In an action believed to be without precedent, the Bureau of Reclamation has engaged an architectural firm to "provide architectural design features" for the new Third Power Plant at Grand Coulee Dam.


The firm of Marcel Breuer & Associates will provide architectural design concepts for the 200' forebay dam: an extension of the existing structure; the new powerhouse; visitor facilities, and other features. First stage of the powerhouse will be a 20-story structure encompassing an area the size of four city blocks.

The firm's selection was the first outgrowth of the appointment, a year ago, of a Board of Artistic Consultants to advise on the design and aesthetics in planning and construction of major Bureau of Reclamation projects. Design recommendations will be provided by the architect for all parts of the complex — dam, penstocks and anchor blocks, gate deck, elevator tower, and the like — "with particular attention to color, form surface, choice of materials and lighting."

Financial — There was an encouraging note for the housing field in January, according to the Census Bureau, when housing starts jumped off at an adjusted annual rate of 1,445,000 units — up from December's 1,243,000 rate, and substantially above the 1,111,000 rate of January 1967.

■ Over-all, the construction industry wound up 1967 with a total of \$74,700,000,000 worth of work put in place — almost no gain over the \$74,400,000,000 registered for 1966. There's a sobering note, too: The Commerce Department said that in terms of "constant" (1957-59) dollars, the 1967 figure comes down to about \$59 billion.

■ Construction costs continued to climb: Federal Water Pollution Control Administration said its construction cost index jumped a huge 1.9% in January (over December), the highest rise in the three-year history of the index.



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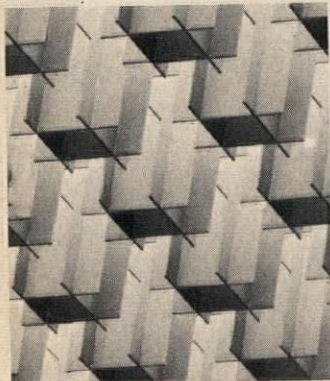
PRODUCTS

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Because a manufacturer believed that architects were confused by the vagaries of terminology in specifying illuminated ceilings, the company devised a methodical, step-by-step process cataloging its extruded aluminum ceiling patterns that can be simply specified by type and category. Terminology, according to the firm, will aid architects by being more descriptive — e.g., "major profile" and "minor profile" correspond to main runner and cross tee.

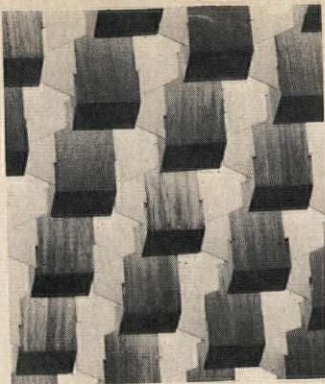
Panel widths and lengths are based on multiples of 4' long fluorescent tubes and rest on visible or invisible grid supports. A "wall profile" intended for wall-to-wall installations and a "perimeter profile" for areas where no ceiling contact with adjacent walls is desired supplement the major and minor profiles, which may also be used for soffit-to-soffit designs. The supports are produced in 11 profiles; lengths are 10' and 8', except for the minor profiles, which are 2', 3', and 4' long. When the supports are hung on 1/4" steel rods as recommended, the specifications call for a finished ceiling to be leveled at 1/8" in 12'.

The patterns are adaptable to irregular designs, and the manufacturer claims 27 options are available for all de-



"Quadra"

signs when the choices of area shapes, perimeter terminations, and variety of grid supports are combined. The "shielding elements" or grid patterns have been initially catalogued at 10 designs (2 of which are shown), interlock without clips, and are easily lifted, then slid for access to

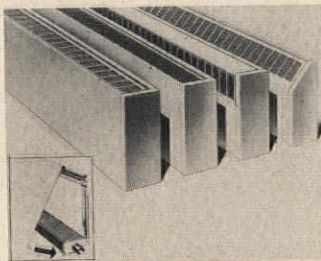


"Quiet"

the plenum. The firm claims a minimum visual cutoff of 45° for any pattern. Finishes: gold, bronze, matte black, white; other colors may be specified. Similarly, custom-designs may be commissioned. Free working drawings and services are offered. Neo-Ray Products, Inc., 315 E. 22 St., New York, N.Y. 10010.

Circle 100, Readers' Service Card

AIR/TEMPERATURE



What's in a radiator. Linear styling with fin-tube systems is available in either hydronic or electric radiators. Steel and copper-aluminum fins are used in the units; electric elements use a three-step control option said to offer economy and little temperature variation. Dampers, installed directly on the elements, reduce capacity by 70% instead of the usual 30% attained by grill-mounted dampers, claims the manufacturer. Cabinet surface temperatures are purportedly 90 to 120 F in normal operation. The Trane Co., 206 Cameron Ave., La Crosse, Wis.

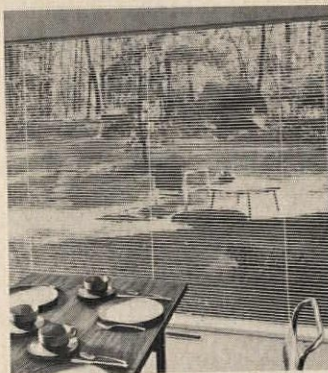
Circle 101, Readers' Service Card

DOORS/WINDOWS

Glare back. More than a tinted glass, "Glare-Check" uses a polarization process claimed to be permanent and unaffected by light or weather. The glass's neutral gray tint

reportedly transmits true colors, uses a safety glass type laminate, and comes in thicknesses from 1/4" to 1/2". Light transmission: 25% to 45%; the glass can be matched to neutral tinted glass for parallel installations. Polacoat Inc., 9750 Conklin Rd., Blue Ash, Ohio 45242.

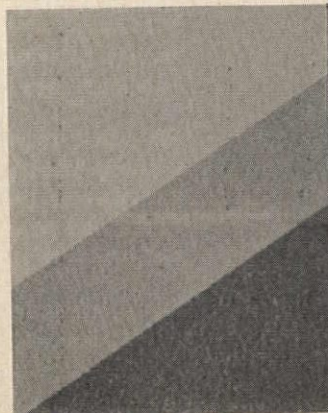
Circle 102, Readers' Service Card



Light opposition. "Magic Wand," a hand-operated device shaped like a gigantic swizzle stick, is attached to a rod working the tilting mechanism for venetian blinds. The tilting feature, which may be used in a single unit or integrated for controlling many units, will produce a uniformity of height and angles for the firm's blinds if the latter option is chosen. Aluminum slats are 1" wide for "Riviera" models and are held in a slender but strong ladder using .45"-diam. cord instead of wide tape. Levolor Lorentzen, Inc., 720 Monroe St., Hoboken, N.J. 07030.

Circle 103, Readers' Service Card

FINISHES PROTECTORS



Tile coat. "Epoxy Tile Coat" is made to replace ceramic tile facing on masonry, plaster, and wallboard, according to the manufacturer. Cost is said to be two-thirds that of

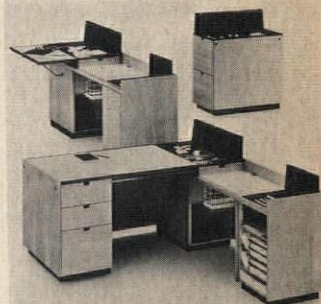
tile. Impact resistance is 72 in.-lb, and the coating is stable from -10 F to 150 F. Coating thicknesses: 8 and 16 mil. Kurfees Paint Co., Louisville, Ky.

Circle 104, Readers' Service Card

Pollution defense. A clear coating material, "Concrete Barrier," is designed to combat the damaging effects of air pollution, the main cause of cracking, spalling, and dusting of concrete, brick, and mortar, says the manufacturer. The coating waterproofs exterior surfaces and is also a final curing and finishing material claimed to eliminate the need for sealants, hardeners, and dust preventatives. If used on interior walls, the product is said to refract ultraviolet and infrared waves, reducing the fading of painted surfaces, while remaining invisible. Application: 250 sq ft per gallon. National Chemical Corp., 950 Watertown St., West Newton, Mass. 02165.

Circle 105, Readers' Service Card

FURNISHINGS



Merged furnishings. "System" is a series of component office furnishings permitting notable flexibility in horizontal and vertical dimensions through the use of brackets, separate tops, panels, and matched modules. It is possible that a desk be integrally joined to other furnishings of this series. Other features: utilities wiring through pedestals, fastidious detailing, plastic edging, and matte finishes on oak veneer. Massey-Ferguson, 1901 Bell Ave., Des Moines, Iowa.

Circle 106, Readers' Service Card

Nylon vinyl resuscitation. For several years, plastic fabrics have been quietly "breathing." "Comfortweave" does the same, but the manufac-

NEW! Your local Amweld distributor presents ... The Handsome Transom



For the past few years, your Amweld distributor has been fabricating **locally** (from standard, in-stock components) hundreds of special frames for stairwell enclosures, office spaces, interior arcades, lobbies and reception areas. Many include sidelights, borrowed lights, smoke screens and transom openings . . . or a combination of these.

Now, your local Amweld distributor can also provide you with complete transom panel assemblies because Amweld has just made **floor-to-ceiling transom panels** available to its distributor network.

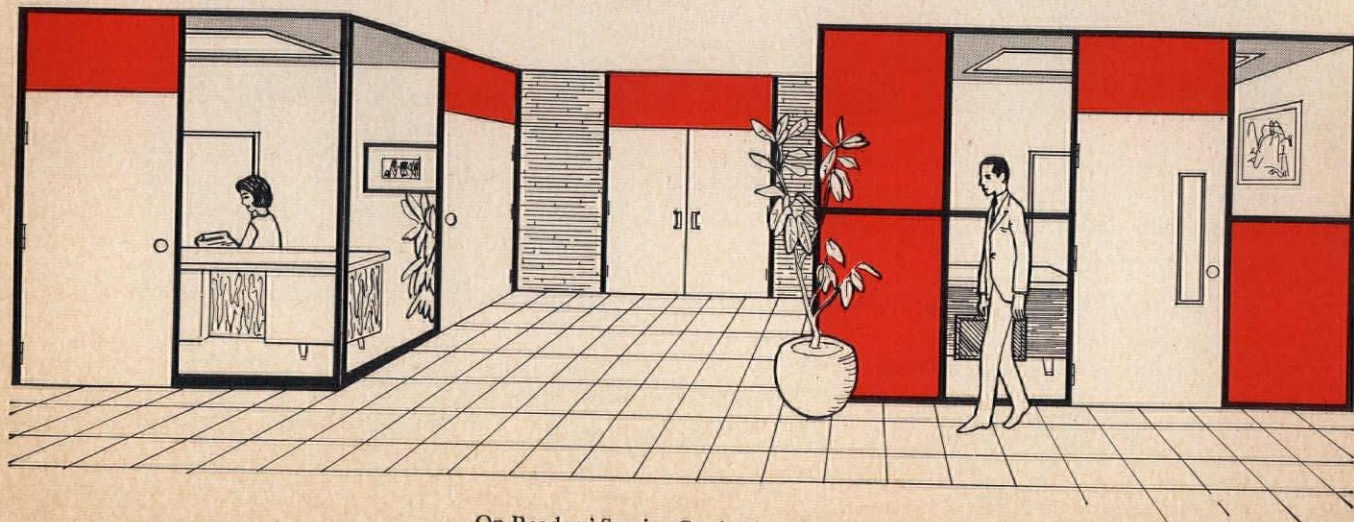
We call them the "handsome transoms" because they're attractive, neat and economical. Each is cleaned, phosphatized and primed with zinc-chromate synthetic primer, ready for finish painting.

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On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 324

turer claims that this is the first knitted fabric of nylon and vinyl strands to do so. The fabric is soft and has openings over 44% of its surface, a percentage allowing air to circulate freely in upholstering furnishings. The fabric blushes in 14 colors. Ford Fabrics, Mt. Clemens, Mich.

Circle 107, Readers' Service Card

LIGHTING

Floodlights without a glare. Dangerously bright glare spots thrown by floodlights often "blind" people who depend on power-lighting for their safety. This predicament is especially true on the highway or in arenas. Special-purpose velvet-black shields, reflectors and "cutoff tubes" can provide shielding, and help rivet attention on what is being lighted rather than on the source. Manufacturer uses these devices in his "Baffle-Floods" with incandescent, quartz iodine, or mercury fixtures. Stonco Electric Products Co., 338 Monroe Ave., Kenilworth, N.J. 07033.

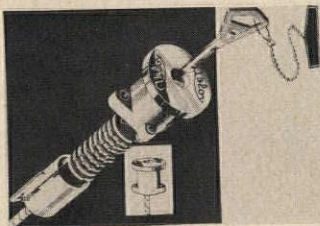
Circle 108, Readers' Service Card

SANITATION PLUMBING

Kids and lavatories. "Lady Fair" lavatory is shaped like a miniature bathtub and may be used for baby bathing. Among its other uses: a shampoo basin. A flexible hose-spray attachment and more conventional lavatory fixtures equip it for many uses. Kohler Co., Kohler, Wis.

Circle 109, Readers' Service Card

SPECIAL EQUIPMENT



Rotating disc locks. Because these cylinder locks have rotating discs instead of spring-loaded pins, manufacturer claims there is no risk of failure from weakened recoil. There are 4,500,000 combinations possible, set by rotating the discs. And, because a

lock picking tool cannot reach the locking bar, the locks are said to be "pick resistant." The Finnish manufacturer, Abby, now makes them available in the U.S. Intertrade Industries, Ltd., 5000 Buchan St., Montreal 9, Quebec, Canada.

Circle 110, Readers' Service Card

Emergency fountain. An eye wash fountain cleans eyes with two separate, steady streams of water, eliminating hand-to-eye motions that consume time. Planned for areas where chemicals and gases are used, the fountain has a large push lever, claimed to eliminate fumbling for controls; an automatic volume regulator assures a constant water flow. Stainless steel. The Halsey W. Taylor Co., 1554 Thomas Rd., Warren, Ohio 44181.

Circle 111, Readers' Service Card

Planters for people. Designed by Elsie Crawford, this glass fiber planter with sculptural seats was honored with a



prize award in the 23rd International Design Awards of the American Institute of Interior Designers. The model shown is 8' in diameter, 2'-8" in height, and comes in 20 colors. Architectural Fiberglass, 2020 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, Calif. 90034.

Circle 112, Readers' Service Card

SURFACING

Velvet touch. With the appearance of suede and the feel of velvet, "Dauphin" is really a knitted, washable nylon tricot "laminated to an expanded vinyl." Marks can be wiped

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On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 427

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off the durable surface. The 54"-wide fabric may be used for wallcovering and upholstery, comes in stripes and colors. Gilford, Inc., 387 Park Ave. South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Circle 113, Readers' Service Card



Hardwood panels. Pre-finished with a patented process claimed to put the color into the wood, not just on it, hardwood panels are less likely to show scratch marks. A lacquer topcoat protects the panel from stains, crayons, and grease. The panels are

matching companions to "Eagle-Mate" door panels, which are also pre-finished but thinner in over-all thickness and can be used over any kind of door. General Plywood Corp., Louisville, Ky.

Circle 114, Readers' Service Card

Marble Flooring? No, but manufacturer claims "Mira-Marble" reproduces the texture of natural materials with its deeply embossed designs. A vinyl foam interlayer is added to make the flooring resilient and comfortable under-foot. Comes in 6'-wide rolls and a resin-saturated felt backing that cuts installation time. Available in seven colors. The Ruberoid Co., General Aniline & Film Corp., 1139 Lehigh Ave., Fullerton, Pa. 18052.

Circle 115, Readers' Service Card

Carpet for all seasons. The demands of durability in carpeting have prompted the development of a contract-grade needle-punched carpet, "Four

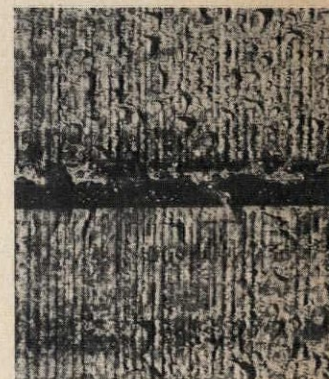


Seasons Conquest," an indoor-outdoor carpet. Nine colors mark the continuous filament Phillips 66 olefin; a foam-backed version for interior use only is also available. Because no natural fibers are used in its construction, the carpet is said not to rot or mildew and may be hosed with water for cleaning. General Felt Industries, Inc., 2323 S. Paulina St., Chicago, Ill. 60608.

Circle 116, Readers' Service Card

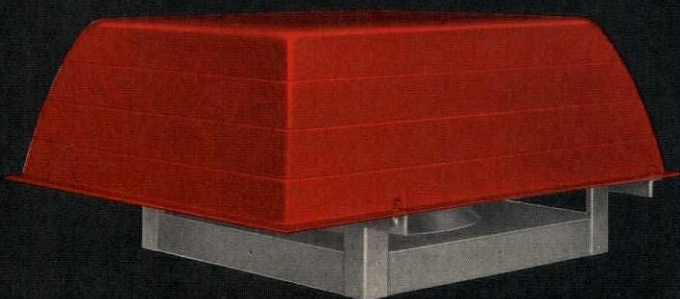
Feeling groovy. "Shadow Groove," a redwood panel siding, is patterned with V-grooves burned into the ply-

wood on 3.2" centers to provide a shadowline that does not penetrate the surface veneer. Designed for both vertical and horizontal installation, the panel siding may be applied directly to sheathing without calking or battens. A clear, water-repellent preservative is applied at the factory, and the textured surface may be painted or stained or



weathered. Panels are available in $\frac{3}{8}$ " and $\frac{5}{8}$ " thicknesses; lengths: 8'-10' with 48" face. Simpson Timber Company, 2000 Washington Building, Seattle, Washington 98101.

Circle 117, Readers' Service Card



a red ventilator?

WHY NOT! New Exitaire PERMA-VENT Roof Exhausters come in 14 striking colors that are permanently molded into the durable all-fiberglass hood.

HIGH PERFORMANCE AND HOT PINK, TOO! But let's not get so enthralled with PERMA-VENT's colorful good looks that we ignore its extraordinary performance. For example: Model FG4806, with 5 hp, produces 28,000 cfm (and it's only 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ " high). Companion gravity units also available.

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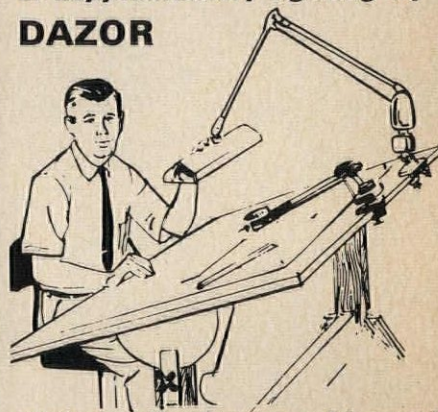
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D A Z O R

The advantages of supplementary lighting by DAZOR



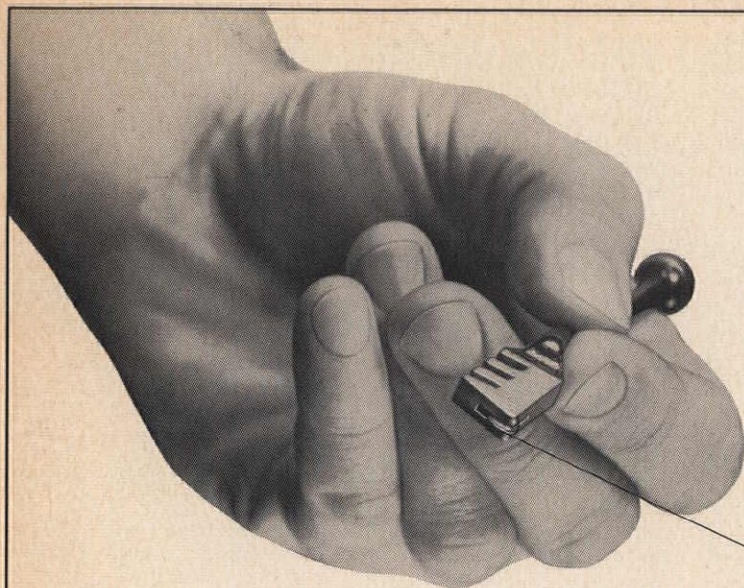
Being a Draftsman, I know!

Is there perfect general overhead lighting? Usually there is too little light at the working area... often it's over brightness, causing glare. With a Dazor Floating Lamp the reflector can be moved closer for more light, away for less, tilted to prevent glare. Ask your local supplier or write Dazor Manufacturing Corp., 4455-99 Duncan Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63110.

On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 407

◀ On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 420

April 1968



Glaverbel

Glaverbel Drawn Sheet Glass... Doesn't Make Waves!

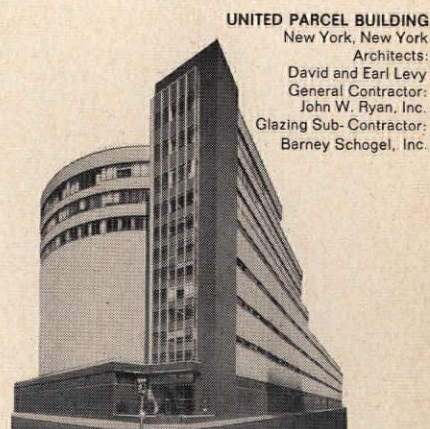
When the architects of New York's impressive United Parcel Building wanted a window glass that didn't show the typical "waves" of ordinary drawn sheet glass they naturally specified Glaverbel. They knew that Glaverbel's meticulous craftsmanship and quality control produce glass with greater surface regularity, and fewer defects. **Shouldn't you look into the look of Glaverbel?**

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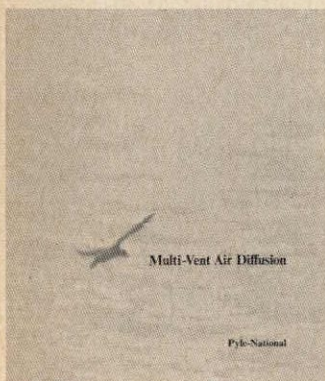
ACOUSTICS



Church acoustics. Premised on the belief that acoustics and pipe organ placement are often afterthoughts in church design, this booklet details how an organ can best be integrated into the plan of a church. Some recommendations: reverberation time of 3 seconds (with all seats filled); close grouping of pipes, choir, and console; no carpeting in choir and organ areas (reversing a fad). Also included are suggestions on remodeling. Although only churches are discussed, the data are applicable to other types of structures. 10 pages. Associated Pipe Organ Builders of America, 1133 N. La Salle St., Chicago, Ill. 60610.

Circle 200, Readers' Service Card

AIR/TEMPERATURE

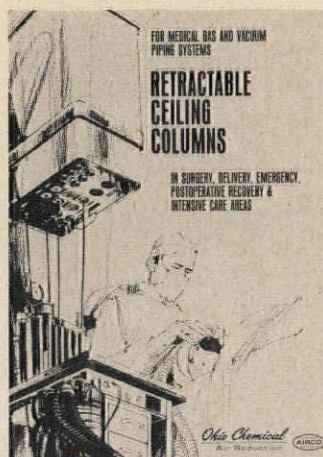


Air modulation. "Multi-Vent" air diffusers use a low-velocity method claimed to reduce draft and friction noise. A significant savings in fan and duct size requirements is claimed because these diffusers operate at a higher tem-

perature differential, reducing the air volume normally required. High-capacity modular units are also available, as are slot-type diffusers, sound traps, air valves, and unitary panels, which meet Federal Standard 209 for ultra-clean rooms. Application table, details. 8 pages. The Pyle-National Co., 1334 N. Kostner Ave., Chicago, Ill. 60651.

Circle 201, Readers' Service Card

CONSTRUCTION



Life subscription. Medical gas and piping equipment is described in manufacturer's file. Included is the suspended ceiling column shown, which has several gas service outlets, receptacles for monitoring equipment, and a 115-v electrical outlet. The unit telescopes into the ceiling, resulting, according to the manufacturer, in less operating room clutter and more safety by keeping gas hoses and electrical cables off the floor. 49 pages. Ohio Chemical & Surgical Equipment Division, Air Reduction Co., Inc., 1400 E. Washington Ave., Madison, Wis. 53701.

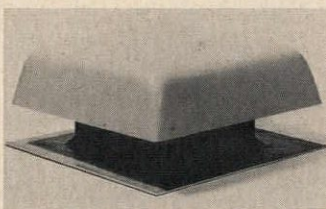
Circle 202, Readers' Service Card

Chandelier of water. "Rain jet" fountains may be installed in pools of your own design, or they may be purchased as completely self-contained units with a glass-fiber bowl. A bowl screen, also of glass fiber, keeps scum and other matter out of the bowl while reducing the noise of droplets. Bowl diameters: 36" to 94". Recirculating water may be tinged with color from lights housed in a system in-

cluded with every fountain. Optimum heights of sprays vary from 36" to 90", and several tiers of water come from a single, rotating head. Tables, illustrations. 17 pages. Brochure. Rain Jet Corp., 301 S. Flower St., Burbank, Calif. 91503.

Circle 203, Readers' Service Card

Welding aluminum. More than 10 methods of welding aluminum are comprehensively described. Also included are the more recent developments in ultrasonic, electron-beam, and atomic hydrogen welding. The variety of welding methods (some of which are patented) coincides with the variety of examples, from Mies van der Rohe's Barcelona Chair to hefty structural members. Book contains chapters on the performance of welds, inspection, safety practices and 50 tables of characteristics and properties of alloys; cross reference is simple, assisting designers in promptly selecting methods. 243 pages. Letterhead request. Aluminum Company of America, 612 Alcoa Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa. 15219.



Award Winner. One of the Pasadena Art Museum's 1968 Excellence of Design Award winners, this "Bermuda-lite Cap" is a ventilator skylight; moreover, the manufacturer says it's the first multipurpose ventilator skylight design that does not sacrifice the performance of either function, and the light distribution is supposedly evenly dispersed. The shell is of fiberglass and has a high strength-to-weight ratio. Other products include a skylight module permitting design flexibility in 2' increments to any length. The ventilator skylight comes in curb-mount or self-flashing models. Performance data and details. 4 pages. Williams Bermuda Corporation, 914 Westminster Ave., Alhambra, California 91803.

Circle 204, Readers' Service Card



Power of partitioned thinking. Forget the tools, advises the manufacturer, and lock the modular partition components into place. The units come in nine different panel widths and four panel heights, making it possible to assign panel height by corporate status, if desired. A walnut-vinyl laminate bonded to hardboard is available; 10 varieties of colors in steel panel partitions are also marketed and may be mixed with the vinyl-walnut models. Large raceways are claimed to cut wiring costs; glazing requires snap-in vinyl glazing strips, eliminating tools. Options include a panel extension to the ceiling. 8 pages. Weber Showcase & Fixture Division, Walter Kidde & Co., Inc., 1340 N.W. Monroe Ave., Grand Rapids, Mich. 49502.

Circle 205, Readers' Service Card

FLOORING

Tic-tac-tile. Floor-tile selection is easier with the current comparison charts. Patterns, dimensions, colors are all listed for vinyl asbestos and asphalt tile manufactured by Amtico, Armstrong, Azrock, Congoleum-Nairn, Flintkote, Johns-Manville, Kentile, and Ruberoid. 6 pages. Asphalt and Vinyl Tile Institute, 101 Park Ave., New York, N.Y. 10017.

Circle 206, Readers' Service Card

FURNISHINGS

Geometry primer. Hexahedrons may be used for seating, tables, and pedestals, claims manufacturer. As with nearly all primary form furniture, finishes and detailing are crucial, and in this instance the forms are available in several choices: high luster lacquer (16 colors), hand rubbed wood (6 woods), "Micarta" top, (black or white), and

Designing a motel, hotel or apartment complex?
Give your client a built-in rental advantage.

**Witness: Eljer's slip-resistant
Perma-Mat® textured tub.**

With rental competition as keen as it is, your client appreciates any fringe benefit you can design into his building.

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You can specify it in any Eljer tub, in white or pastels. Perma-Mat comes in the elliptical pattern

(shown), in cast iron and in a rectangular-shaped area in formed steel tubs.

For further information call your Eljer representative or write Eljer, Dept. PA8, P.O. Box 836, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15230.

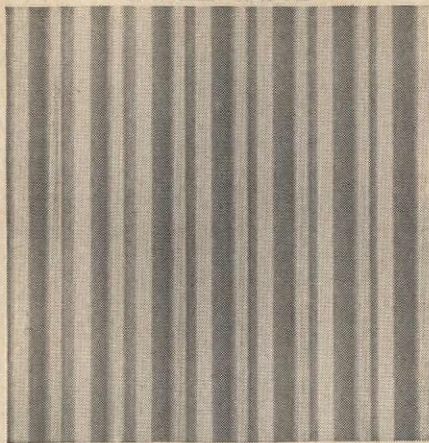


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NEW!



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TRAPEZOIDAL FORM LINER**

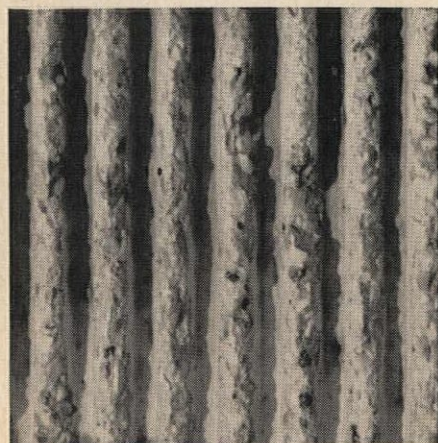


Now, deep and architecturally dramatic ribs can be easily cast into any concrete surface with this new Deep Rib Trapezoidal Liner. As the sun revolves throughout the day, distinctive shadows appear within the ribs, giving the concrete surface strong, clean lines.

The surface imparted to the concrete by the liner may be of a slightly textured finish, shown above, which is standard, or a smooth finish available on request. A rough finish, as illustrated below, may also be obtained by bush hammering or hammer blows.

Ribs are 1½" deep by 2" on center. The liner is made of special ½" plastic material which is highly durable and reusable. Either nails or a neoprene adhesive may be used to attach the liner to the form facing.

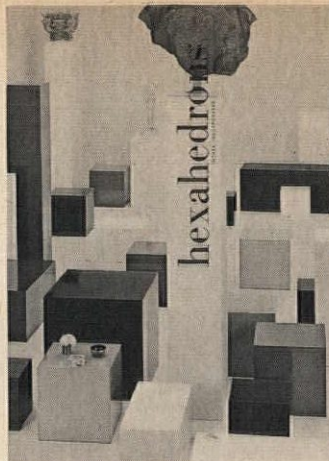
Complete information about Deep Rib Trapezoidal Form Liner available on request.



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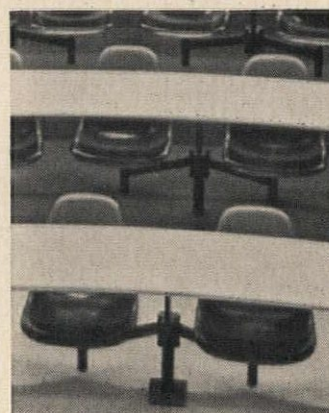
MORE SAVINGS WITH SYMONS

On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 392



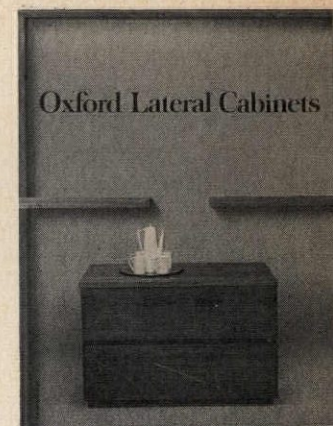
gold or silver leaf. If a Mica-top is selected, the sides may be of selected wood or lacquer; all wood used runs vertically, including those hexahedrons without plastic tops. The bottoms of all models are recessed 2" for easier handling, and if casters are desired, they are concealed within the recessed base, raising a unit ½" off the floor but capable of supporting 500 lbs. Tall pedestal units may be ordered with weighted bottoms to prevent toppling. Intrex Div., Habitat, 341 E. 62 St., New York, N.Y. 10021

Circle 207, Readers' Service Card



Educational seating, "Herman Miller Is a Ph.D." heralds "PD/3," a seating-table design using laminated continuous tabletops with Charles Eames's PD-3 seat, which is used in pairs, one seat on each side of a shared central stem. The seats swivel 140° on an arm that moves 70°, thus permitting access to both seat and aisle; also available are optional padded models. Anticipating the use of electronic devices, the firm notes that a conduit may be passed up the seats' stems; front-row seats may be equipped with an optional tilt mechanism to eliminate neck-craning. When not

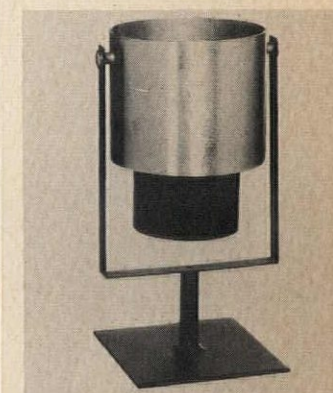
in use, the seats automatically return to within 3" of the vinyl-edged tabletop. Herman Miller Inc., Zeeland, Mich. 49464. Circle 208, Readers' Service Card



Fling into filing. This walnut filing cabinet and its companion models may promote file-in binges. Also available are metal cabinets with or without oiled or lacquered natural wood edging. File folders are suspended lengthwise or widthwise in four cabinets sized according to specific office material requirements with optional units that may be stacked onto the cabinets or onto shelves. The cabinets are sold in 2-tone combinations or in 12 standard, single colors, and if these are not agreeable, other colors may be specified for special orders. 8 pages. Oxford Filing Supply Co., Inc., Clinton Rd., Garden City, N.Y. 11530.

Circle 209, Readers' Service Card

LIGHTING



Torch power. Designers may choose between the Early American, Mediterranean, and Contemporary torches; they are available in single light and chandelier formations. Mounting systems are equally flexible with options on hanging, post mounting, wall mounting, and free-

Introducing a great idea. **Dayco's all-metal Aircon-Duct.™**

Dayco Aircon-Duct is a new type of flexible metal ducting for commercial heating and air conditioning systems that we can unblushingly call a *great idea*.

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Aircon-Duct is easy to handle and install, saves installation time and costs. (It can even be cut with a pen knife.) And, because of its shape retaining and lightweight benefits, it is self-supporting—won't sag or droop after installation.

But, best of all, Aircon-Duct won't cost you very much money. (As a matter of fact, it is competitively priced with the least expensive flexible ducting on the market, while providing better performance than the most expensive ducting now available.

These are some of the reasons we think Dayco Aircon-Duct is a *great idea*. You can see for yourself at the ARI Show in Atlantic City—visit Dayco's Aircon-Duct Display at Booth 756. For more information write Dayco Corporation, Dayflex Plastics Division, 333 West First Street, Dayton, Ohio 45401.

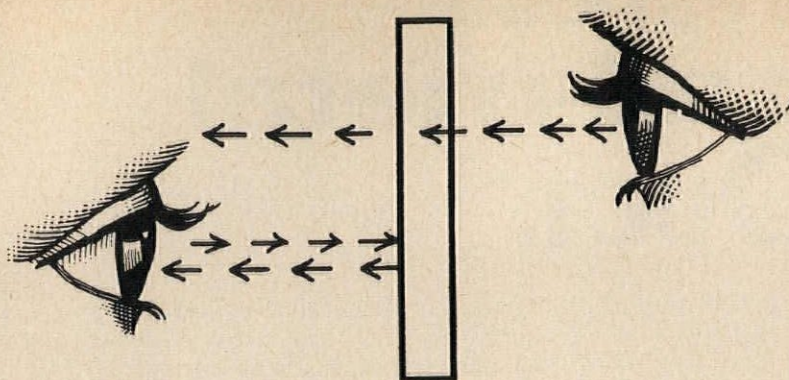
DAYCO
CORPORATION



DAYFLEX PLASTICS DIVISION
DAYTON, OHIO

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Design data and selection table for Mirropane®

(THE "SEE-THRU" MIRROR)

Mirropane, the transparent mirror, is being widely used in such places as schools, clinics and institutions (for undetected observation of behavior) and stores (for observation of light-fingered shoppers).

But to use it most effectively you should be aware of recommended installation techniques, light intensity ratios between one side and the other, effect of surrounding wall colors and location of light sources.

To learn about all the benefits from Mirropane installations, ask your Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Distributor for full information, or mail the coupon.

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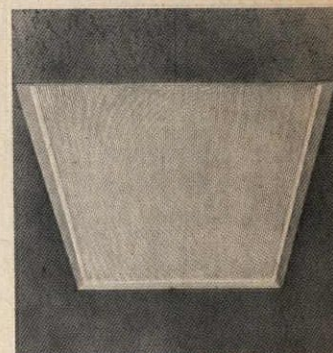
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standing. The fuel, allegedly smokeless and odorless, comes in cans designed to be lit after they are dropped into the torch. 4 pages. J.C. Christen Mfg. Co., 59 Branch St., St. Louis, Mo. 63147.
Circle 210, Readers' Service Card



Fluorescent lighting is recessed. Seven lines of recessed fluorescent lighting from "Regressed Primalux III" (shown) to "Round Dome" are described. Booklet includes photographs, specification features, sketches of interior mechanical arrangement, ordering information, and lighting data for each size luminaire available. 31 pages. Lightolier, 346 Claremont Ave., Jersey City, N.J. 07305.

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SANITATION PLUMBING

Whisper-quiet water softeners. Two models of water softeners, (one with a high capacity making it suitable for institutional use) have an electronic mechanism to start softening process only when water requires it, thereby saving water-softening compound. Pamphlets on "Hi-Flo-7" and "Hi-Flo-5" list benefits, performance and operations data, and space requirements. 8 pages. Culligan Inc., Northbrook, Ill. 60062.
Circle 212, Readers' Service Card

PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE NEWS REPORT

REINHOLD PUBLISHING CORPORATION
A subsidiary of Chapman-Reinhold, Inc.
430 Park Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10022

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**who said it
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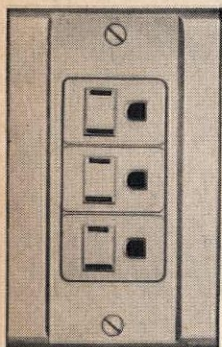
With grounding slots at the side rather than the bottom, the *TRIPLEX is designed to take two or three right-angle molded caps.

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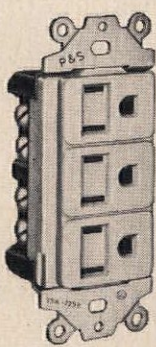
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*U.S. Pat. 2,873,433. Other Patents Applied for.

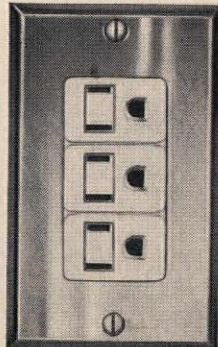
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5233-I



5233-I and
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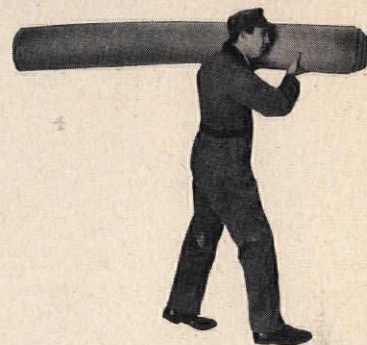
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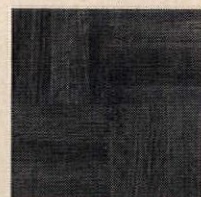
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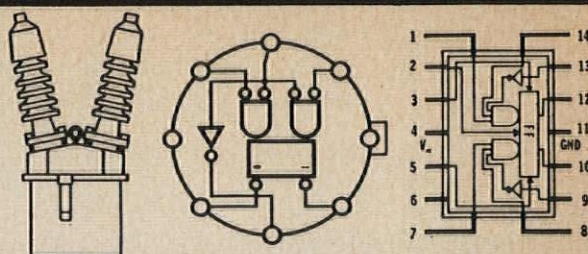
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April 1968

NEXT MONTH IN P/A

The controversy over the house as a "real" design problem still rages, and architects still design houses. In a sense, the dwelling can be seen as a microcosm of the design process, since the approach to the rationale of its design can encompass many factors, some of which are not ordinarily associated with homebuilding: recreation, sociological problems, client need and influence, advanced—or "retrogressive"—structural techniques, "irrationality" or ordered approach, professional or amateur authorship.

In May P/A, a complete issue devoted to "Dwellings: The Rationale of Their Design," will focus on the mystique of dwelling design through the medium of wide-ranging examples: from a formal solution in Philadelphia to the barriadas of Lima, Peru, where the poor rejected slums and public housing and set up their own sub-cities to live in; from a series of imaginative beach houses by young New York designer Horace Gifford to a serene residence in the Plaka, oldest section of Athens; and from low-rent housing in New Haven, Conn., by Carlin, Pozzi & Associates designed to alleviate racial imbalance, to a lively old age group in Ames, Iowa, by Brooks-Borg Architects & Engineers. In between will be a swinging apartment house in Berkeley, an architect's home featuring a wooden shell of nailed scantlings, a ski lodge on Sugarloaf Mountain, some sympathetic condominiums in Marblehead, Mass., a hilltop aerie in Oakland, Calif., and two "eccentric" houses built by enthusiastic do-it-yourselfers in Woodstock and Scarsdale, N.Y.

This intensive mix of many types of dwellings—and as many reasons and programs for building them—is going to make May P/A the most sparkling treatment of dwelling design of 1968. It will be sumptuously illustrated with four-color, black and white, drawings, plans, sections, and details. Reserve for yourself this colorful collector's issue and 11 more equally stimulating P/A's by filling in and sending in the subscription card at the rear of this issue.

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