DISOQUET 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 Statistics 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 argued 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 makeup 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 birth rate as well as to the death 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 infertilize 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

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 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 minirail 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 Pavilion will become San Antonio's landmark.
At 40 below, Saraloy bends your way.
Flexible in temperatures ranging from \(-40^\circ\) to \(+175^\circ\), Saraloy\textsuperscript{®} 640R brand plastic flashing has no plasticizers, hence no migration. This means long life, no call-backs. Can be cut to fit on the job. Solvent weldable.
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 re-
taurants.
Already the effect of the
fair is being felt in downtown
San Antonio, where
$500 million of new construc-
tion 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 Gov-
ernment, and the States of
Arkansas and Texas, 19 pri-
vate exhibitors and 25 foreign
governments will participate
in the fair.

Unfortunately, as the pre-
fair scurry of last-minute con-
struction 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.

Washington gets hordes of
visitors each year. They pour
in by bus from Iowa and Wis-
consin and Idaho. They come
by train and car and plane to
climb the steps of the Wash-
ington Monument, to walk
through the White House in
hushed groups, to visit the
Treasury and the FBI build-
ings. 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 Congress-
ional 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, Hum-
phrey claims, are "parking
tickets, a feeling of being
strangers and intruders, and
above all, shabby, cold in-
difference 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 & Auer-
bach 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 ele-
vators into an esplanade be-
tween the garage and the old
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 rest-
rooms for tourists, a USO
facility, and a student hostel.
The only structural change

TAKING A TRIP? TRY THE
NATIONAL VISITOR'S CENTER
WASHINGTON, D.C. A bill au-
thorizing the transformation
of Union Station in Washing-
ton into a National Visitor's
Center is, as P/A goes to
press, on the President's desk
awaiting his signature. Pre-
sented 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 ter-
minal, 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 with-
out changing or harming
Daniel H. Burnham's magni-
ficent 1902 interior spaces or
his handsome façade with its
deep arches and Ionic col-
umns. Terminal facilities and
offices would be moved be-
neth the parking structure.
Once the old station is out-
fitted 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.
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

**GRAND CENTRAL BAUHAUS**

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 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 commission, 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 & Stern 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 multistoried 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 conceal 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.

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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-
strikes his freedom to express, or decreases his selection of 
building components, is a potential threat to his 
professions.

To date, most of the archi
ysts have readily accepted 
well-designed preassembled 
components that lend them-
selves to design flexibility.

But they have not been so 
willling 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 re-
qured on these types of 
buildings.

"The biggest area of poten-
tial conflict is represented by 
systems building. As previ-
ously mentioned (in this re-
port), in Europe the success-
ful building systems employ a 
basic team approach to con-
struction, usually with the sole 
responsibility for the project 
being delegated to the con-
tactor. As a result, the Euro-
pean architect is relegated to a 
much lesser role than he or-
dinarily 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 con-
struction industry's procedure 
for rendering architectural 
fees. Since this is geared to the 
cost of construction, any time 
a substantial cost reduction is 
invoked 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 immedi-
ate 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 Feb-
uary 22, Secretary of the 
Interior Stewart Udall an-
nounced 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 ob-
tained. 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 founda-
tions: The Accokeek Founda-
tion, 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 eas-
ements.

It is hard to imagine Mount 
Vernon surrounded by a wel-
ter 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 Oc-
tagon restoration got under 
way late last year before com-
pletion 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 re-
search.

Also last month, Mitchell/
Giurgola Associates were 
to 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

NEW YORK, N.Y. Although 
much 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 Febru-
ary 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 For-
rest 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.
The Ultimate...

In Classroom Cabinets

SYSTEMS 20

Modular Components
Interchangeable Interiors
Choice of Bases Fixed or Movable
Plastic Fronts Colors and Woodgrain
Outstanding Hardware
Rugged Construction

An advanced concept in institutional casework based on repeatable modular components which provide an extremely wide choice of units with maximum flexibility.

Systems 20 is designed to meet today's constantly changing educational needs. When a study program changes, cabinets can change to suit the new requirements.

Educators Manufacturing Company,
TACOMA, WASHINGTON 98401

April 1968
Residence by George T. Johnson. Living-dining area at left, bedroom wing at right. Jury comment: "Simple, crisp detailing without resorting to clichès."

Residence by Wimberly, Whisenand, Allison & Tong. 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.


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-
McKINNEY MODERNE is a better hinge for hospitals . . .
AND WE CAN EASILY SHOW YOU WHY!

If you are still specifying five knuckle hinges for hospital jobs, the obvious question is WHY? McKINNEY MODERNE is far more attractive in appearance. Its straight, slim lines make it the best looking hinge on the market today. It gives all the security you need and solves many other problems too. Ever try to hang a heavy hospital door with a tight pin hinge or try to get one off for final fitting? With McKINNEY MODERNE it's easy because the separable leaves facilitate hanging or removal of the door. In actual tests, McKINNEY MODERNE extra heavy hinges showed less vertical wear than three competitive makes of 4-bearing hinges.

Someday, somebody may develop a better hospital hinge than McKINNEY MODERNE. So far, nobody is even close!

Available in all types, finishes and materials

Mortise • Full Surface • Half Mortise • Half Surface • Swing Clear Hinges (all types available in extra heavy only) • Hospital-Tip Hinges (all types)
Twenty years ago, reinforced concrete building construction literally hugged the ground. Not any more. It's on the rise, reaching for the clouds. And the trend to taller, more beautiful buildings in reinforced concrete has just begun. Look at what has happened in just the past ten years.

One of the major reasons for this spectacular breakthrough is the new Grade 60 reinforcing steel. It has 50% greater yield strength. Helps designers achieve slimmer columns. Greater usable floor space. Reduced overall construction costs. Gives construction a material as versatile as the men's minds that design, engineer, and build with it. Beauty, utility, economy are all a part of the package.

If you have a building that's going up, ask your consulting engineer about the many benefits high-strength reinforcing steels offer in modern concrete building design. Do it soon.
TOWERS ON THE VELD

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 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, 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 Dalgleish 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

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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 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, 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 Dalgleish Marshall & Associates of Nairobi. Their client is the International Life Insurance Company.

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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 call themselves "land planners"—without special 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, 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 center 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-
Moenique is Moen's unique new idea for putting everything around the tub in one convenient place. It's a Moen faucet, plus: single-handle shower control, soap dish, safety bar, shampoo shelf and shower-tub diverter. Moenique can work wonders for you, too. It improves the tub's appearance. It makes showering safer by reducing the number of objects projecting from the wall. It will upgrade baths in apartments, hotels or motels. And —

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the faucet that turns people on.
sible, and an administrative area required 13,000 sq ft on each 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 lowest 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, Deutchman & 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 sky-light, 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 Dashgah, 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. Osbald 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.

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-sin 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 Barziloff-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 piling up 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 $2.50 a trip, and at least some of the passengers in the buses, 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¢.

April 1968
We hid the grid.

But not the accessibility. Or the flexibility. That's the beauty of it.

Used to be, accessibility and flexibility in a ceiling meant exposed grid work and lay-in panels. If you wanted the appearance of a tight, acoustical tile ceiling, you had to sacrifice flexibility. And to add accessibility you then had to put up with trapdoors and hatches.

But now, there's a new and unique way to handle acoustical tile: the Armstrong Accessible Tile System. You use the same tiles you normally would with a "permanent-type" tile ceiling—only now, tiles can be removed, replaced, rearranged. (A special tool slips between the tiles to release them—quickly, easily, neatly.) The result: complete accessibility.

As for flexibility, you can shift tiles, grilles, and lights—in any modular arrangement. All the parts not needed can be re-used.

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Like a closer look at this very accommodating system? Want complete details? Write Armstrong, 4204 Watson Street, Lancaster, Pa. 17604. Or on Readers' Service Card circle No. 300.
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 too many rioters (or if a proposed mass riot on Washington this month results in violence), its chances may be killed. Congress is very touchy about being pressurized 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 deductions 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 stimulate 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 add a 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 renewed 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, happily, boasts the nation's second highest accident rate, is obvious. Federal officials, such as Labor Secretary William Wirtz are talking about penalties that include "freezing" contractors out of Government 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 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 $74,400,000,000 worth of work put in place — almost no gain over the $74,400,000,000 registered for 1966. That'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 cataloguing 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 4" steel rods as recommended, the specifications call for a finished ceiling to be leveled at 1/2" in 12'.

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

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 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 refraction 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

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

FINISHES

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.

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Nylon vinyl resuscitation. For several years, plastic fabrics have been quietly "breathing." "Comfortweave" does the same, but the manufactur-
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April 1968
Jock picking the lock 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.

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 flow. Stainless steel. The Halsey W. Taylor Co., 1554 Thomas Rd., Warren, Ohio 44481.

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.

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.

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a universal lighting system

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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


Circle 115, Readers' Service Card

Feeling groovy. "Shadow Groove," a redwood panel siding, is patterned with V-grooves burned into the plywood 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 3/8" and 5/8" thicknesses; lengths: 8'-10' with 48" face. Simpson Timber Company, 2000 Washington Building, Seattle, Washington 98101.

Circle 117, Readers' Service Card

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

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 overall thickness and can be used over any kind of door. General Plywood Corp., Louisville, Ky.

Circle 114, 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.

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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?

Glaverbel

GLAVERBEL (USA) INC. Empire State Bldg., 350 Fifth Ave., New York, N.Y. 10001

Drawn Sheet Glass • Tinted Glass • Cast Glass • Fritted Plate Glass • Plate Glass
Enamelled Glass • Diffuse Glass • Diffuse Non-Reflecting Glass


See Sweet’s Architectural File 4a/GL.
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.

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 included 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. 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 curbmount or self-flashing models. Performance data and details. 4 pages. Williams Bermuda Corporation, 914 Westminster Ave., Alhambra, California 91803.

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.

Furnishings. Hexahedrons may be used for seating, tables, and pedestals, claims a 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), “Micarti” top, (black or white), and...
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On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 392

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

Filing into filing. This walnut filing cabinet and its companion models may promote filing 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-

April 1968

Manufacturers' Data
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. It's a great idea because it combines the strength of rigid sheet metal ducting with the flexibility of fabric type connectors while eliminating the disadvantages of both. Aircon-Duct is formed from a high tensile steel foil sheet and corrugated for added strength and durability. It's designed to make complicated bends and still retain maximum air flow.

Because of its all-metal construction, Aircon-Duct resists crumbling and tearing; it won't burn, smoke or contribute fuel to a fire. (A special zinc coating protects it from rust, corrosion, and mildew.) 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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April 1968

On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 337

P/A News Report 77
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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Gentlemen:
Please send me complete details on how to use Mirropane most effectively.

[Address fields]

On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 363
Architects replace wall-to-wall headaches

who said it couldn’t be done?

Our engineers aren’t interior decorators, but we have to admit they have combined modern design with functional convenience in the NEW 15A *TRIPLEX outlets.

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

Heavy molded body features a "dead back" for added safety. Double-grip, copper alloy contacts are individually recessed for no flash-over. Terminals take up to No. 10 wire.

To complement any decor, rectangular opening wall plates in smooth and regular Uniline, "302" stainless steel and Chrome-X are available.

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

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On Readers’ Service Card, Circle No. 375

April 1968
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On Readers' Service Card, Circle No. 425
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-ettes 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 "seeontric" 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.
Sure you've seen a lot of beautiful faucets in your day. Like Cole. But have you ever wondered whether or not all that beauty is only skin deep? With Cole, the real beauty of our faucets is on the inside. (Though, in a beauty contest, we'd more than hold our own.) You see, Cole faucets are designed never to leak or wear out. Ever.

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