CONSTRUCTION IN 1952—AN EDITORIAL

CONVENTION TERMED TOP SUCCESS

MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT OF BUILDINGS

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PRESIDENT’S ANNUAL REPORT

NOVEMBER 1951
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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 17-20—Winter 1951 examinations for registration to practice architecture in Texas, University of Texas School of Architecture, Austin.

January 5—TSA Board meeting, Commodore Perry Hotel, Austin.
January 24-26—Convention of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, Galveston.
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LET YOUR NEAREST HOTPOINT ORGANIZATION PROVIDE YOU WITH TECHNICAL DATA
Private construction allowed is to be highly limited in 1952. Recreational work, 60 per cent of needed schools, almost all commercial work, and better homes will not be permitted unless they can conform to minimum formulas of tons of steel and pounds of copper currently or yet to be promulgated by NPA. This is the basic message brought to Texas architects and others attending the 12th annual TSA convention in San Antonio, by Henry M. Heymann, Division Counsel, Construction Controls and Industrial Expansion Division, NPA, who painted this unhappy picture in not unkindly but certainly very precise words.

In the matter of structural steel—the same applies to other critical metals—the entire production for each quarter first is estimated by a government authority. All 13 or 19 claimant agencies—whatever the current number happens to be—are called in to claim what they want. The Atomic Energy Commission, the Armed Services and Industrial Expansion get first crack at the overall total. Other agencies get theirs next. Last comes the work that directly affects the man in the street and which is mostly done by architects.

There is no detailed inspection of the requests of the Atomic Energy Commission and the military and little of industrial expansion identified with the defense effort. There is no specific report of any policing of government agencies using steel and other metals directly to prevent useless waste, overdesign and stockpiling ahead of job needs, nor are there reports or any regulations controlling the non-essential use of such materials by these agencies.

What of the overall conservation of steel in its form in which shortages are current? What of regulations covering use of critical forms of steel applicable to all users? What use has been made of the advice and cooperation of private practicing architects and engineers in detailing a program to conserve critical items? Is special consideration given projects where a large percentage of critical metals are eliminated? Couldn’t there be regulations which would deny permits only to those projects which could not meet percentagewise the needed reduction in critical materials? All of these questions and more were asked but answers satisfactory to architects and the general public were not forthcoming. Existing regulations do not cover such approaches to the problem.

It was stated by Mr. Heymann that some advantage may be given to projects which are designed to use a minimum of steel, etc. There are no current recognized regulations on this.

Presently, government agency is pitted against government agency. In this dangerous procedure, private economy and private construction is the pawn which can be swept from the board by such procedure.

The picture is bleak! It could be brightened by an adequate plan to conserve and use to full advantage the resources and supplies available.

This plan however will not come from government. It must be devised and perfected and sold by us who are most affected.
CONVENTION TERMED TOP SUCCESS

The more than 320 architects, their wives and guests attending the 1951 convention of the Texas Society of Architects, October 25-26 in San Antonio, hailed the meeting one of the best in the TSA’s 12-year history.

Delegates and guests found little leisure time on the activity-packed convention schedule.

The night of October 24 a “get acquainted” cocktail party was given by the West Texas Chapter which hosted the convention. Earlier in the day the TSA Board of Directors met to discuss the convention program.

Next day opened with a morning-long business session which featured the president’s annual report by President Raymond Phelps and the nomination of 1952 officers.

That afternoon the seminar sessions began with the opening address by Alfred L. Jaros, Jr., New York City consulting engineer.

Members of the seminar panel which discussed the mechanical equipment of buildings following Mr. Jaros’ talk, were Grayson Gill, Dallas architect, moderator; Reg. F. Taylor, Houston consulting engineer; Prof. F. E. Giesecke, New Braunfels research engineer; Martin E. Staley, San Antonio consulting engineer; Charles G. Heyne, Houston mechanical contractor, and Donald Barthelme, Houston architect.

A design critique was held on the TSA-Featherlite Corporation student competition. A “Home on the Range” party was staged that night in the Pearl Corral of the San Antonio Brewing Association with the Uvalde Rock Asphalt Company as host.

Following a breakfast given by the Acme Brick Company, the seminar session was continued the morning of October 26, featuring a look into the future.

That afternoon, Henry M. Heymann, division counsel for Construction Controls and Industrial Expansion Division, National Production Authority of Washington, D. C., addressed the convention on the future of the construction industry with NPA. The closing business session was held and new officers were elected.

Herbert M. Tatum of Dallas was elected president and Albert S. Golemon of Houston, vice-president. Jack M. Corgan of Dallas was appointed secretary-treasurer by the new Board of Directors at the board’s meeting following the final business session.

A cocktail party sponsored by the Texas Chapter of the Producer’s Council was held Friday night preceding the president’s banquet and ball. At the banquet, the new officers were introduced and student competition awards were presented by Key Ryan, representative of the Featherlite Corporation which provided $2000 in prize money.

Resolutions were passed by the delegates, including one strongly reprimanding the National Production Authority for the way it handles distribution of critical building materials.

The TSA in its resolution called on the NPA to revise its controlled materials plan so that producers of essential materials be required to set aside reasonable quantities of such materials to fully implement the defense program and release the remaining material for distribution on the free market.

Another resolution passed urged the increasing of salaries for architectural professors to the salary level of professors of legal and medical schools.

The West Texas Chapter, AIA, was complimented for its work in hosting the convention as was Marvin Eickenroht, general chairman of the convention.

Convention delegates selected El Paso as site for the 1952 convention.
MECHANICAL EQUIPMENT OF BUILDINGS

Green-tinted windows which help keep out the sun’s rays are “just around the corner” in the construction industry.

In the opinion of Alfred L. Jaros, Jr., New York City consulting engineer, who was principal speaker at the TSA’s 12th annual convention, October 25-26 in San Antonio, the windows will be accompanied often by old-fashioned balconies which would act as shade-makers above the windows.

“Developers of the special glass didn’t pick green because it is a cool-looking color,” Mr. Jaros explained. “It just so happened that the chemical put into the glass took on a green tint.”

He also predicted that smaller windows will soon become predominant in construction on Southern and Western sides of buildings to reduce solar head loads.

A novel window washing system partially developed by Mr. Jaros’ firm features a narrow-guage railway track around the top of a building with a cantilever structure from which a safety scaffold is suspended. He said the system will be completely motorized and remotely controlled by men on the scaffold.

“It is mechanical equipment which makes a modern building livable, comfortable and useful,” Mr. Jaros said. “Beautiful design, functional layout and sound construction—all alike are useless if the building is too cold or hot, if the lighting is hard on the eyes or if anything else is seriously wrong with the mechanical services to which we have become accustomed.”

He said mechanical equipment has made it possible and economically feasible to increase the size of buildings and to create within them a more completely satisfying environment.

“It has therefore become a major element in modern building,” Mr. Jaros pointed out. “Its increasing use, and the service demanded has caused the size and complexity of the mechanical plant itself to increase. Consequently, in the planning of a really successful building, the mechanical engineers must be of as high a calibre as the architects, the mechanical contractors as skilled as the builders—and the mechanical plant must receive full consideration as to scheme, space-requirements, proper materials and details, functional completeness, proper control under varying conditions and, above all, intelligent and imaginative adaption to the special uses and requirements of the buildings.”

Mr. Jaros described a new feature being incorporated into construction of an office building which features an aluminum ceiling. It will provide heat in the winter and lower the summer temperature by means of water circulating through pipes in the ceiling.

He predicted that the atomic age will not revolutionize buildings and that present trends in construction will remain.

In making his point regarding mechanical equipment, Mr. Jaros said today so much expense goes into this mechanical equipment on the interior of a structure that the building design suffers.

“Nuclear or atomic power plants for buildings are a generation or more away,” he said, “the cost being prohibitive.”

He emphasized that the simplest most obvious way to cool homes is to use smallest windows possible and have them made of heat-resistant glass that is sealed in.

He said any good outside awning is more effective in keeping out the heat than the best inside shades and blinds, the awning arresting a major part of the sun’s heat before it enters the building.
HERBERT M. TATUM, PRESIDENT

Born 47 years ago in Dallas, the new president of the Texas Society of Architects graduated from Texas A. & M. College in 1924. He taught school the following year in San Antonio then spent six years in New York City acquiring general architectural experience. He traveled in Europe in 1929 and received his New York state architectural registration the same year. He became a registered architect in Texas in 1936.

Mr. Tatum was an officer in the Corps of Engineers from 1942-46 and now holds the rank of lieutenant colonel in the officers reserve corps. He practiced architecture in Dallas as partner of Tatum, Alexander and Quade from 1946 to 1948 when the current partnership of Tatum and Quade, architects and engineers, was formed. Mr. Tatum's work includes Dallas housing projects; the First Unitarian Church of Dallas; mental hospital buildings, Terrell State Hospital; Dallas school buildings and others.

He is past president of the Dallas Chapter, AIA, served as vice-president of the TSA and as member of the Fees Committee, AIA, chairman of the Education Committee, TSA, and member of the subcommittee on National Defense, AIA.

ALBERT S. GOLEMON, VICE-PRESIDENT

A native of Mobile, Alabama, where he was born in 1904, Mr. Golemon received a degree in architecture from Alabama Polytechnic Institute, a masters degree from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and a diploma in architecture from Ecole Des Beaux Arts in France.

He has been a practicing architect in Southwest Texas and Southwest Louisiana for approximately 20 years. Before the last war, Mr. Golemon was partner in the Beaumont firm of Steinman & Golemon.

During the war Mr. Golemon served four years with the U. S. Army, entering with rank of captain and being discharged a lieutenant colonel. He formed a partnership of Golemon & Rolfe with offices in Houston and Beaumont. He served as chairman of the Statewide Fee Committee of the TSA and held chairmanships of Houston Chapter AIA, committees.

Some of his projects include the Galveston County Hospital, Ethyl Corporation plant in Houston, the new Beaumont Enterprise and Journal building and others. His firm won the gold ribbon for

(Continued on Next Page)
meritorious design awarded at the 1950 TSA convention.

JACK M. CORGAN,  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

The new secretary-treasurer was born in Hugo, Oklahoma, in 1911. He graduated from Oklahoma A. & M. College in 1934 and has been a registered architect in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico. From 1938 to 1940 he practiced in Dallas as partner of Corgan and Moore, taking up private practice there in 1940. Mr. Corgan served with the Army Air Corps from 1942 to 1945 at which time he resumed his private practice.

He is past president of the Dallas Chapter, AIA, and has served as a director of the TSA. Mr. Corgan's work includes Dallas housing projects, school buildings and several hundred motion picture theatres in Texas, Oklahoma and New Mexico.

New Committee Chairmen

Chairman to head TSA committees during the coming year will be:

Insurance—Harry D. Payne, Houston.
Architectural and Government Relation—Thomas D. Broad, Dallas.
Public Relations—David C. Baer, Houston.
State-Wide Fee Schedule—Albert S. Golemon, Houston.
Capitol Plan—Karl Kamrath, Houston.
Professional Society Relations—Preston M. Geren, Fort Worth.
School Plant Study—Lee Buttrill, Temple.
Education—Donald S. Nelson, Dallas.
Legislative—Raymond Phelps, San Antonio.

Many of these men headed the same committees during the current year and were reappointed because of their outstanding work.

Convention Action

TSA convention delegates voted to employ a legal counsel in Austin to advise the TSA on legal and legislative matters affecting the architectural profession in Texas.

The TSA Board of Directors appointed a committee of Max Brooks, chairman, Bartlett Cocke and Lee Buttrill to interview and negotiate with a legal counsel and report back to the TSA Board at its January meeting.

Delegates also passed an amendment to the TSA by-laws, which sets up THE TEXAS ARCHITECT as a separate entity with matters pertaining to the magazine's editorial policy and other operations now under jurisdiction of the Publication Board. There were no dissenting votes on the amendment.
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Following is a condensed form of the annual report made by Past President Raymond Phelps before the 1951 TSA convention October 24-26 in San Antonio.

"The chairman of the Architects Committee to the Texas Construction Council kept TSA officers informed of activities of the Texas Construction Council. The reports were clear and concise and we are pleased to recommend the TSA continue its association with the TCC.

"The Committee on Insurance worked out the plan for extending the benefits of the Houston AIA Chapter's program of health and accident insurance to the entire TSA membership.

"The Architectural and Governmental Relations Committee continued their work from the previous year.

"Public relations was concerned largely with setting up the new TEXAS ARCHITECT and getting it under way. Although this magazine is but one phase of the public relations program, it is such a large undertaking and of such importance that this year it was given first priority. The magazine has been well received. Reports and comments have been very favorable, the magazine receiving acclaim from many chapters in other regions of the AIA.

"The Statewide Fees Committee was assigned the task of getting printed 'Services of the Architect and a Schedule of Proper Minimum Fees.' These were put into the hands of State Secretary Richard Vander Stratten, for distribution. Requests for the pamphlet have come from throughout the nation. The committee believes this schedule should be even more widely distributed.

"The Capitol Plan Committee hopes to have a Capitol Plan Commission created by the next session of the legislature. There is a great need for careful planning in the development of Texas' capitol area.

"Continuation of the work done by the 1950 committee, subsequent to the adoption of the report of that committee including the suggested Code of Practice, was carried on by the Professional Society Relations Committee.

"A meeting of the School Plant Study Committee with representatives of the Texas Education Agency was highly satisfactory, leaving only the problem of proper handling of requests that come to the State Education Agency from rural school communities for help in planning or requests for standard plans for small buildings. The committee proposed the possibility of having each AIA Chapter set up a group to give individual and pertinent information to any school board or official that might seek this assistance. Requests to the State Agency should be channeled through the chapter committee serving the respective area.

"The Advisory Council on School Plants worked in conjunction with the School Plant Division of the State School Authorities.

"The Committee on Education holds as its main objective closer relations between architectural schools and the profession. The committee recommends consideration be given the examination of the architectural graduate, the continuation of architectural education after graduation, more free hand drawing be included in present curricula, and that the TSA Registration Committee seek changes in the registration law or its regulations to prevent undergraduates receiving licenses prior to degrees.

"The Committee to Assist State Board of Architectural Examiners performed its work well and it is recommended the committee be continued even though the Board membership has been increased.

"The Legislative Committee had officers of each chapter as its members.

(Continued on Page 14)
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President's Report...
The committee recommended a legal counsel be retained, that a permanent TSA headquarters be established in Austin, and that a TSA member living in Austin be appointed to serve as coordinator between the counsel and the TSA through its Board of Directors. During the year the membership of the State Board of Examiners was increased from three to six, the board's name was changed to 'Texas Board of Architectural Examiners,' the statutory salary limitation provision was removed and the over-all limit on expenditures was raised to $10,000 per year and the requirements of duplicate files and records in the Secretary of State's office was removed."

In making his report as president, Mr. Phelps complimented all committee chairmen and members for their outstanding work during the year.

Examination Notice
The winter 1951 examination for registration to practice architecture in the State of Texas will be held December 17 through 20.

Bartlett Cocke, secretary-treasurer of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners, said the examinations will be given in the University of Texas School of Architecture, Austin.

Houston Honor Awards
Judges for the Houston Chapter, AIA, 1951 honor awards program will be Arthur Fehr of Austin; Harwell Hamilton Harris, director of the University of Texas School of Architecture, and Douglas Haskell, architectural editor of THE MAGAZINE OF BUILDING, Chapter President C. Herbert Cowell announced.

Deadline for entries is December 1.
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You are cordially invited to visit booths No. 127, 128 and 129 of the commercial exhibits of the Texas State Teachers Association Convention in Houston on November 22nd and 23rd. The exhibits will be in Sam Houston Coliseum. We'll be there with interesting displays of Mutschler Homemaking Cabinetry, Kewounee Scientific Laboratory Furniture, Medart Gym Seats, Basketball Backstops, etc., Erickson Fold-A-Way Tables, and other items of school equipment.

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Central Texas Chapter

September meeting of the Central Texas Chapter was held in mid-month in Austin.

Chapter members voted to oppose sale of a publicly-owned tract of land in Washington, D.C., to private ownership of a housing project. They decided to communicate with government representatives concerning this matter, pointing out that sale of the land would be detrimental to the National Capitol Plan.

The Building Code Committee had 25 copies of the General Construction Code mimeographed for study by experts, the chapter secretary was authorized to notify the AGC that the chapter is ready to resume discussion on pertinent subjects.

In the chapter’s October meeting also in Austin, it was voted to hold a future meet in Temple. Joe Pursell and Robert Garland were approved as associate members and H. C. Kroll as a junior associate member.

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