The First State Bank of Amarillo has been selected by the Panhandle Chapter, AIA, as representative of recent work in the Chapter area. Architect: John S. Ward, Jr., TSA-AIA of Amarillo.
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Traffic engineers have estimated that the new highways to be constructed under PL 627 will more than repay their cost in actual savings in the operation of cars and trucks over new arteries. There is in addition one tremendous saving — the prospective saving of human lives and suffering on safer highways.

For the fiscal year 1957 (beginning July 1, 1956) these apportionments are in effect. The South Texas metropolitan area, in spite of tremendous growth, has not neglected to preserve and add to the natural beauties of its setting. It is surely one of America's most beautiful cities.

Texas architects can take particular pride in the theme of the Corpus Christi convention. It is increasingly recognized that TSA has helped to foster the growing consciousness of the importance of sound community relations which is now found among U.S. architects. This central importance of service to the community has been stressed for years by TSA in its statewide programs. It has been put into practice by our membership, as is attested by a number of significant community awards to TSA members in every part of the state. Many will recall the heavy percentage of participation in almost every facet of community life which a survey of Texas architects revealed in 1955. It is this tradition of participation and service which TSA members will be continuing — and exploring further — at Corpus Christi on November 1-2.
First State Bank of Amarillo
Selected by Panhandle Chapter

CLIENT: First State Bank of Amarillo
ARCHITECT: John S. Ward, Jr., TSA-AIA, Amarillo

The First State Bank of Amarillo was granted its charter by the State Banking Commission on June 22, 1955. When this bank first opened its doors for business on August 1, 1955 it was in a tiny, three-room frame house complete with a combination posting-coffee-file-rest room. Its location was down the street from its present permanent address, and it was here the bank operated under temporary makeshift conditions while its new building was under construction. "Makeshift" would hardly be the term applied to operating conditions by the bank's six-foot, six-inch president working under his six-foot four-inch ceiling.

Formal opening of the new building was June 9, 1956. This is the first suburban bank to be built in Amarillo. As such, the officers and stockholders desired to stress service, convenience, ease of parking and informality. The building site is bounded on three sides by streets, one of which is a major North-South artery, on which the building fronts. Location of the building is toward the front portion of the property, with the majority of car parking facilities at the rear. The three drive-in teller windows (with provision for the future addition of another window in the island) are so located to be accessible from any of the three boundary streets. At present 35% of the banks customers make use of the drive-in teller facilities.

DESIGN EMPHASIZES EXPANSION

Deposits have grown rapidly, and continued growth is anticipated. An important requirement of design therefore emphasized provision for future expansion of all banking facilities. The structure is so designed that portions of the rear wall of the building can be removed and necessary expansion accomplished by extending the present bookkeeping area at the rear into new quarters, providing space for increased lobby, teller area, officers’ area and additional drive-in windows. At present, the entrances to the bank lobby are located off the main thoroughfare. By extending the lobby, secondary entrances will be possible off the parking areas located at the rear.

Another factor in the design is the community room located above the drive-in window island, tying this island into the main banking structure. The community room as here advanced carries out a concept in banking service which is new to Amarillo. The bank makes this room, with its kitchen and snack bar facilities, available for use after banking hours. These facilities have proved their demand as they are already in use several nights each week by church groups, civic clubs, womens' organizations, labor groups, etc. The community room is also used during the day for the customers' and employees' coffee break.

GLASS, ALUMINUM EXTERIOR

The building structure is steel frame and masonry bearing walls on drilled piers and continuous grade beam. All window sash is fixed, and the building is completely air-conditioned. The exterior walls of the community room are constructed of glass and insulated aluminum panels set in aluminum sash. Floors of the main banking areas are terrazzo. Floors in officers area and directors area are carpeted, and in other areas are covered with vinyl-asbestos tile. In the lobby and in other areas, exterior wall treatment of brick and stone is expressed on the interior, and the aluminum panels are exposed on the interior of the community room. Ceiling treatment of the building is suspended acoustical tile, and in the main banking areas the spaces above the ceiling are used as return air space. Walls in the tellers area and officers area are covered with fabric and have a plastic laminate wainscot to working height. Trim throughout the building is brick.

Lighting in all working areas is fluorescent, recessed in the tellers area and officers area and over safety deposit booths. Lighting in the lobby and community room is incandescent.

Harvin C. Moore, TSA-AIA
Is Candidate for Houston School Board Position

Harvin C. Moore, TSA-AIA, is a candidate for Position 2 on the Houston Board of Education, running against the incumbent A. J. (Jack) Tucker. Mr. Moore, former president of the Association of Rice Alumni, has been prominent in civic activities in Houston and is currently active in the Houston Heritage Society and other organizations. The election will be decided November 6.

Interior of Amarillo Bank

An interior view of the First State Bank of Amarillo, showing the unusual entrance and use of suspended acoustical tile in the ceiling. Spaces above the ceiling areas shown are used as return air space for the air-conditioning system. The bank, designed by John S. Ward, Jr., TSA-AIA of Amarillo, emphasizes provision for future expansion.
New York and other cities have resulted in the so-called "theater-in-the-round." For many Catholic worshippers in the past the old altar was so situated that the Mass could be followed only with difficulty. The new altar, however, is mounted in such a way that the services can be easily observed from nearly every angle of the vast church.

The altar is wrought of two kinds and colors of Italian marble. On its various surfaces are carved images of the four sacrifices of the Old Testament. These are the handiwork of the Italian sculptor Leo Ravazi and, to Catholic believers, presage the daily renewed sacrifice of the Mass.

Four years ago Henry Gracida was a rising young architect in Houston. The former Air Force lieutenant now is a Benedictine monk. Rev. Mr. Gracida took his vows in the spacious basilica of St. Vincent Archabbey, in Latrobe, Pa., whose interior he redesigned only a few months ago.

With 10 other young monks he made his solemn profession before an altar which was constructed according to his own blueprints. He will be known as Father Rene.

Rev. Mr. Gracida hopes to enter the priesthood, for which he is still preparing.

Rev. Mr. Gracida was a student at Rice Institute for one year before entering the Air Force in 1943. After his discharge from the service, he resumed his studies at this time at the University of Houston, and received from that institution the degree of bachelor of science in architecture in 1950.

While still a senior, he was engaged by the university as an assistant instructor, a position he held until 1952. After graduation, he worked for two years with Donald Barthelme and Associates, local architectural firm. In 1952 he entered the St. Vincent scholasticate, first step in the long itinerary which leads to the priesthood.

The young Benedictine monk received his elementary and secondary education in Texas City. In redesigning part of the basilica's interior, Father Rene adopted principles for the new altar similar to those which, in Dallas, branded Basilica

Ex-Houston Architect Becomes Monk

Brings the Outdoors in!

Texas Contract Awards
At Second Highest Level
In History Dodge Reports

Contract awards for future construction in July in the state of Texas amounted to $113,184,000, the second highest July ever, A. W. Kitchens, district manager of F. W. Dodge Corporation, reported. The awards were 27 percent below July 1955.

Cumulative awards for the first seven months period totaled $1,053,437,000 for an all time high according to Dodge Reports; the awards were 14 percent greater than the comparable 1955 period.

Individual July categories compared with July 1955 show: total building classifications at $90,556,000, down 31 percent and, in addition, heavy engineering at $22,628,000 down three percent.

Individual first-seven months totals compared with the like 1955 period show: total building classification at $848,692,000, up 13 percent and, in addition, heavy engineering at $204,745,000, up 21 percent.
**AIA Officials Will Attend Corpus Christi Convention**

All national AIA officials will attend the seventeenth annual TSA convention at Corpus Christi November 1-2, according to information received in TSA headquarters. Leon Chatelain of Washington, D.C., president; Philip Will, Jr. of Chicago, second vice president; John Richards, first vice president; Raymond Kastendieck, treasurer; Edward L. Wilson of Fort Worth, secretary; and Edmund Purves of Washington, executive secretary, will be in the official party arriving in Corpus Christi October 31.

In the meanwhile, most of the details of an outstanding program for the convention, built around the theme of "The Architect and His Community," have been announced.

The program will open Wednesday, October 31 with a traditional golf tournament sponsored by Dave Johnson of Texas Quarries, Inc. There will be an evening cocktail party at 6:30 p.m. in the Terrace Room of the Driscoll Hotel, with more than 300 early registrants and members of the host chapter and guests expected.

**KEYNOTE SPEECH**

Registration continues Thursday, November 1 at 8 a.m. in Exhibition Hall on the shores of Corpus Christi Bay, scene for all business sessions and many luncheon meetings. The convention will be formally opened at 9 a.m. with a 90-minute business session and the keynote speech following at 11 a.m. There will be a noon luncheon for delegates at the Exhibition Hall and a special ladies luncheon at the Privateers' Club, a Corpus Christi Country Club. The opening seminar session is set for p.m., and there will be special boat trips beginning at 4:30 p.m.

A spectacular costume party at the Corpus Christi Country Club, with the "beachcomber" theme for guests, will be held the evening of Thursday, November 1. It will be proceeded by a cocktail party and informal buffet.

The convention continues Friday, November 2 with the traditional 8 a.m. breakfast by Acme Brick Company.

**General Itschner**

**New Chief of Engineers Effective October 1**

Maj. Gen. Emerson C. Itschner will become Chief of Engineers, U. S. Army, effective October 1, according to Col. W. P. McCrone, district engineer of the Army Engineers' Galveston District.

Gen. Itschner succeeds Lt. Gen. Samuel D. Sturgis, Jr., who has applied for retirement from active duty.

President Eisenhower, last week, announced the recess appointment of Gen. Itschner to the top post in the Army Engineers.

The appointment is subject to Senate confirmation when Congress convenes.

Gen. Itschner, who is 53 years of age, is one of the youngest officers to be appointed Chief of the Army Engineers. Not since 1838 has a younger man been selected for this important post, with its combined military and civil works responsibilities for the nation's defense in wartime, and for the country's water resource development and control of floods in peacetime.

**Aerial View Of Corpus Christi**

An aerial view of beautiful Corpus Christi, scene of the TSA convention on November 1-2. The traditional "T" heads of Corpus Christi Bay are seen in the foreground, with the downtown business district in the middle of the picture.

Many convention sessions will be held near the bayfront in the Exhibition Hall. The final business session is set for p.m., and there will be special boat trips beginning at 4:30 p.m.

A spectacular costume party at the Corpus Christi Country Club, with the "beachcomber" theme for guests, will be held the evening of Thursday, November 1. It will be proceeded by a cocktail party and informal buffet.

The convention continues Friday, November 2 with the traditional 8 a.m. breakfast by Acme Brick Company.

Seminars are set for 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. with an Awards Luncheon at the Exhibition Hall. The final business session including the election of new officials for TSA is scheduled for 3 p.m., and the convention proper concludes Friday with the President's Dinner-Dance at the Driscoll Hotel.

**POST-CONVENTION TOUR**

Many TSA members have already registered for a most interesting and unusual post-convention tour of Mexico, with the Mexican Society of Architects entertaining members in the southern republic and acting as special guides for architectural tours. All MSA members have been invited to attend the Corpus Christi convention without the payment of registration fees and a sizable delegation is expected.

The post-convention tour leaves Saturday from Corpus Christi and Brownsville.

**VAST NEW HIGHWAY PROGRAM**

(Continued from Page 3)

Among the many other benefits to accrue from this highway-building program are the solid boost to the economy from such construction and the impetus to other new building and business. This is of course of particular interest to Texas businessmen and to those in every phase of professional life including architecture.

The immediate consequences of this new law are already being seen in every part of Texas. One of the nation's very first PL 627 projects has already been approved for the Harris County area. A meeting of representatives from Orange to Brownsville has recently been held to spur building of a giant four-lane highway all the way from the Louisiana border to Brownsville. These are quick and encouraging results from some excellent and badly-needed legislation.
LIGHTING

Part 3

Editor's Note: We continue a series on lighting by H. L. Logan, Vice President — Research, of the Holophane Company, Inc., 342 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Both the size of the detail, and the reflection factors of the detail and its background, can be measured in the field with the ILLUMINATION LEVELS INDICATOR, which includes a booklet of instructions explaining how to recognize significant details for visual purposes; and a table of reflection factors of the most commonly encountered detail backgrounds.

The NOMOGRAPH below permits you to determine the appropriate illumination level if you have some means of measuring the critical detail and the difference in reflection factor between background and detail.

It is obvious, from this brief description of what is involved in determining an appropriate illumination level scientifically instead of by guess, that the average architect cannot be expected to do it for himself. At the same time it is well for him to know that it is a scientific matter, so he may be prepared to demand from his advisors a scientific answer.

The more light people have the better, but the lighting level in any particular situation is based on the fact that PEOPLE CAN ONLY AFFORD SO MUCH. On the assumption that 90% of the maximum possible visual performance rate is the lowest that should be bought for work purposes, and that the 100% rate leads to a level that is too costly, both the ILLUMINATION LEVELS INDICATOR and the NOMOGRAM give three levels: those needed to permit 90% visual performance rate, 95% and 98%.

The choice between these three levels in a particular case usually depends upon economics. For example, if it costs three times as much to provide a 98% rate than a 95% rate, but the 3% improvement in visual performance can be translated into an equivalent improvement in work performance the cost of the lighting may be less than the work gain measured in dollars. It usually is. The average of all production tests to date show that an average gain of 6% in production costs 1.7% of the payroll in additional lighting. That is, for every dollar spent for better lighting an average of a little more than $3 is gained, in profit making enterprises. That is the fundamental economic reason why lighting levels continue to climb in commerce and industry. However, every case is different and must be decided individually. For that the architect needs expert help. The cry "MAKE IT SIMPLE", is natural, but un-informed. For those who can throw money away everything is simple — just SPEND! But for profit-making enterprises that depend upon the care exercised to get maximum value for every dollar spent, the choice of lighting is a technical matter that is the reverse of SIMPLE, and requires the assistance and guidance of thoroughly informed engineers.

The next article will deal with the characteristics of distributions of light for interior lighting with which architects should be familiar.
called "Micromet." This material is now available in a slowly soluble plate form. The plates are put in a plastic coated glass mesh feeding bag placed in the tower, preferably above the sump water under the water droplets so they will be wet and will dissolve just when the system is operating. An initial charge of one-half pound of plates per ton of capacity inhibits scale formation. Under average conditions, one charge will last about six months of operation.

A bleed is necessary to prevent an excessively high concentration of scale-forming salts in the recirculating water. For waters containing six to twenty grains per gallon of hardness, a bleed equal to the evaporation is usually recommended. In conjunction with the bleed, a small amount of glassy phosphate stabilizes the hard water so four or five times the amount of hardness or alkalinity can be carried without scale formation.

The "Micromet" treatment is sold to greatly reduce the amount of maintenance required, by preventing the build up of hard scale. When slimy growths are present, they can be kept under control by periodic doses of algaecide.

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"Interpretation of Specification"

Although we can assure our readers that none of the TSA members are going to draw up any such "specifications", we thought you would like to share with us this delightful bit of foolery. The author is Lou Aichel, toastmaster at a recent banquet of the Florida Association of Architects:

The plans and specifications are to be taken together. Anything shown on the plans and not mentioned in the specifications and not shown on the plans is to be considered as both shown and specified, and anything wanted by the architect or any of his friends or by anybody else, (except the contractor) shall be considered as shown, specified, implied and required, and shall be provided by the contractor without no expense to nobody but himself.

If the work has been done without no expense to the contractor, the work shall be taken down and done over again and again until the expense is satisfactory to the architect.

Anything that is right on the plans is to be considered right. Anything that is wrong shall be discovered by the contractor and shall be made right without a-telling the architect or indicing it on the bills.

Anything that is forgotten or left out of the plans or the specifications but which is necessary for the convenience of the owner shall be provided without extra cost to nobody but the contractor. The architect reserves the right to change his mind about what is best.

Any evidence of satisfaction on the part of the contractor shall be considered as just cause for withholding final payment.

DOWN OF MEXICAN ARCHITECTS EXPECTED

Lending a truly international flavor to the seventeenth annual TSA convention at Corpus Christi will be a delegation of Mexican architects numbering about 25.

The Mexican practitioners, all members of the Mexican Society of Architects, are attending at the special invitation of TSA officials. Registration fees for the visitors are being waived.

A large percentage of TSA delegates to the November 1-2 convention are planning to join a post-convention tour of Mexico during which MSA members will act as special guides to architectural show places there.

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OCTOBER, 1956
"Jeff Johnson" Strip To Be Featured In National Publication

The August, 1956 sequence for "Jeff Johnson, Architect," new and unusual comic strip which made its debut in the Texas Architect and has been attracting increasing attention across the U. S., will be featured in an issue of a national architectural publication.

ARCHITECTURAL FORUM has made arrangements to run the sequence this fall.

"Jeff Johnson," the only comic strip based on an architect, is a natural outgrowth of the tremendous circulation and readership now being given other strips based on medicine, the ministry and other professions.

"Jeff Johnson" is drawn by David C. Baer, II, young commercial artist and son of David C. Baer, Houston architect who edits the Texas Architect. Patrick J. Nicholson, consultant to TSA, collaborates on continuity.

Young Baer expects to syndicate the strip in 1957.
Hi, Mr. Johnson! Is Jeff around?

Bob Forsythe! Jeff left here a while ago. To see you! Isn't he with you?

No! I ducked out! Dad is on the rampage, today! Why is Jeff looking for me?

Wow! I'd hate to be in his shoes!

What's that about city planning?

Oh, oh! That crowd by Dad's door... Things look bad! Come on!

I'm sorry, but your Dad said to let nobody...

It's locked!

OCTOBER, 1956

PAGE 11
The National - U. S. Packet "Mark III" is the newest addition to the line of completely automatic, all-in-one, home heating units manufactured by National - U. S. Radiator Corporation, Johnstown, Pa.

Broadening the company's well established line of Packets, the oil-fired Mark III is designed to supply both the heating and the domestic hot water needs of all sizes of modern homes. These range upward from the cottage to the multi-level and split-level types with several bedrooms and bathrooms.

The new Packet is completely assembled and wired at the factory, with boiler, burner, tankless heater, low voltage control system, altitude-pressure gauge, relief-valve, 1½ in. circulator, etc., shipped as a single unit. It arrives ready for installation, requiring only service connections.

* * *

A high quality vinyl latex wall paint with a newly added reagent that is said to kill germs on contact has been placed on the market on August 15 by Jones-Blair Paint Co. of Dallas.

Jones-Blair, now in its 28th year, has acquired a special franchise for a "Dentolite Process" from Denton-Edwards, Ltd. of Barking-Essex, England, to add APR (Anti-Pathogenic Reagent) to the Company's Satin-X brand of wall paint. Denton-Edwards, a pioneer firm founded in 1789, has had APR in use in England for several years.

APR is an odorless, non-poisonous additive that creates a reaction in paint which is said to kill on contact germs and organisms that cause many diseases.

First use of APR in the U. S. will be in Jones-Blair's Satin-X vinyl latex wall paint which will be marketed under the new name of Satin-X with APR. Satin-X with APR will be available in 16 standard colors and more than 300 custom colors.

Laboratory tests, conducted by the Company's consulting research bacteriologist, showed that after two full years of exposure, with repeated washing and scrubbing, that APR was still deadly to germs.

Expansion of its line of Enameline "glass-lined" automatic storage gas water heaters to combine the benefits of low first-cost with superior hot water service, is announced by Ruud Manufacturing Company, Kalamazoo, Mich.

Joining the Rudd Pacemaker series, which is designed to meet needs in the extremely low-price brackets, is the new Rudd Enameline Hispeed Series. Both groups have AGA approval for use with natural, mixed, manufactured and LP gases. They are warranted under the Rudd 10-year protection plan.

A newly-developed electronic air cleaner for the home is now on the market.

The air cleaner, known as the "Dustronic," is made by the Radex Corporation, Chicago.

Two models of this air filtering device, which filters dust, lint and pollen from the air, are in production.

Through a series of mechanical and electrostatic filters, these units collect and hold minute airborne particles of dust, lint, pollens, spores from molds, mildew and fungus, and other microorganisms.

Two new packaged unit hydraulic dock leveling devices have been introduced by Rowe Methods, Inc., Cleveland. The new models are available with capacities of 10,000 and 20,000 lbs.

The packaged units are delivered completely assembled ready for placement in front of an existing dock and subsequent wiring.

The 20,000-lb. model is six feet wide by 8'8" long, front to back, and gives instant raising or lowering action controlled from a push button station. It also has a manual floating feature, providing a smooth, level, and substantial ramp which automatically compensates for spring deflection of the truck bed during freight transfer.

Each dock leveler has its own hydraulic power unit consisting of a ½-HP, 115/220, single-phase, 60-cycle, totally enclosed, ball bearing motor, and a hydraulic package unit.

Alvin W. Anderson
Given First Award
For Houston Kitchen

Alvin W. Anderson, food services equipment consultant of San Antonio, has received a first award for his design of the $300,000 kitchen in the new Houston Club in downtown Houston.

The award was made in Chicago at the presentation luncheon of the 1956 Food Service Awards Contest.

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