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Design in Air Conditioning

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A.I.A. Council Committee

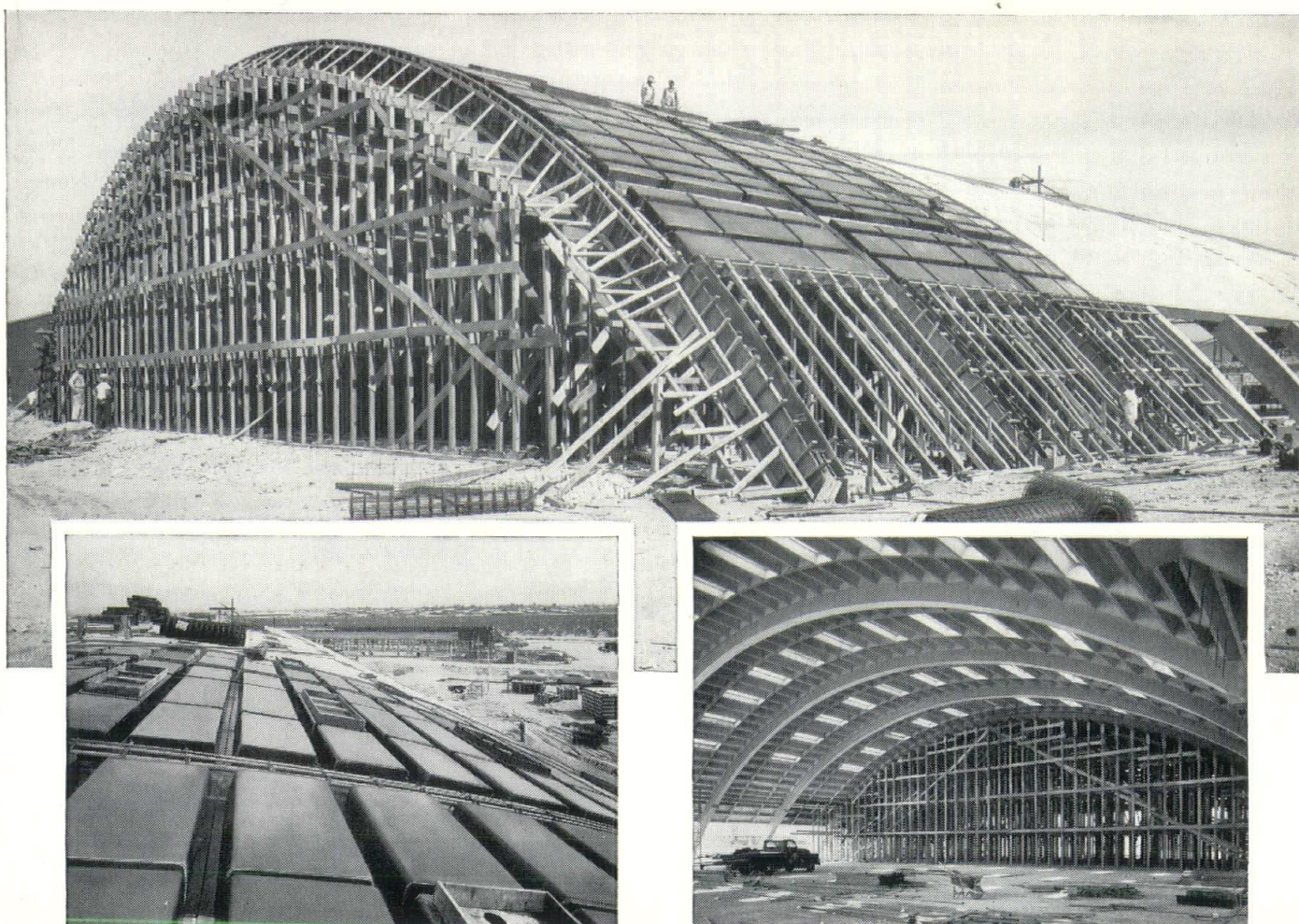
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Arkansas Plant Housing

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REHAB CENTER

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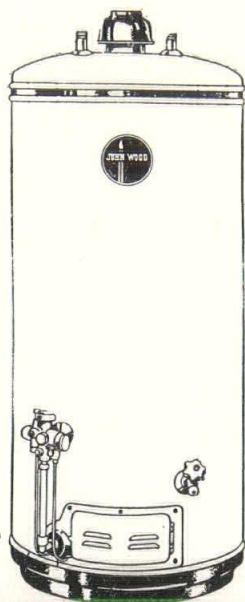
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THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL
GULF STATES REGION
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

JANUARY, 1958

VOL. 2, NO. 7

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COVER PHOTO

Exterior — Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center
Avon Park, Fla.

Sherlock, Smith & Adams—Photo A. Georges

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Letters

● We would like to be placed on your mailing list to receive future issues of the Gulf States Architect and Builder. We are interested in the affairs of the construction field in your deep South area and enjoy the opportunity to see what is going on through a good publication that you have.

We will appreciate this courtesy.

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MEETINGS

● January 15-17—Oil Heat Institute of America Board Meeting, Pfister Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

● January 16—Associated General Contractor, Arkansas Chapter, Hotel Marion, Little Rock, Arkansas.

● January 19-23 — National Association of Home Builders, Exposition and Convention, Chicago.

● February 9-12—Mason Contractors Association, Annual Convention New York.

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Comment From Page 26—This Issue

Our Editorial Advisors Comment on topics of present day concern—Page 26.



"There is some talk about having the A.I.A. Gulf States Regional meetings every other year instead of annually . . . changing our . . . meetings to every other year would be a death

blow . . . interest would drop and the reap purpose for having the meetings would be defeated."

—O. J. BAKER, A.I.A.



"It was really encouraging to learn of at least one labor leader who was courageous enough to call for a moratorium on wages for 1958 . . . While (his) proposal may not be

the ultimate answer to our over-all problem, such a proposal was very courageous, since he is a labor leader . . ."

—RAY E. PUTFARK



In the absence of Mr. Broussard's comments in this issue, the editors have prepared from various sources a number of predictions for 1958 that affect the construction industry.

(ED NOTE — We appreciate these communications from our readers and always welcome suggestions and comments.)

For those who desire to send editorial material to the editors for publication, we suggest that a note be enclosed stating requested dispositions of papers and photographs.

ARCHITECT and BUILDER



Publisher's Letter

Following is our message for 1958. These are not our words but excerpts from some excellent remarks we've noted in the course of events during 1957. We liked them especially for their honesty and their descriptive reflection of our challenges of today and tomorrow:

" . . . Our conquest is of the inner space, as broad as the whole Southland, and only as narrow as the limits of our imagination and our capacity for carrying it out. Impatience and the crises of change are the beginning of plans. We have seen two World Wars and the transition from horseback to space travel in the years of our lives and a sense of urgency is bred in us . . ."

Sam T. Hurst, Dean, School of Architecture and the Arts, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Alabama in his eloquent summation of a three-day conference of architects from five great Southern states reflected in the words above the challenge of today's great opportunities.

Of parallel significance is the following message from a speech by Howard Eichenbaum, FAIA before the Monroe, Louisiana Chapter AIA in April, 1957:

" . . . Industrial development throughout the South along with increased production by manufacturers to meet . . . demands . . . are influencing our community problems. We seem to be caught in the jet stream of a fast moving civilization which forewarns that if we slacken our pace we will be on the sidelines watching it pass us by . . . Our daily lives today are caught in an acceleration that is geared to the speed of sound, and with nuclear science setting the pace, we can expect even a faster transition than even today's mind can imagine. We cannot afford to be leisurely in our thinking, and we . . . should focus our vision on all the movement about us. If we fail to adjust, then progress will pass us by, and we will find ourselves out of breath playing catchup in a race that finds science out-distancing those who tarry. . . ."

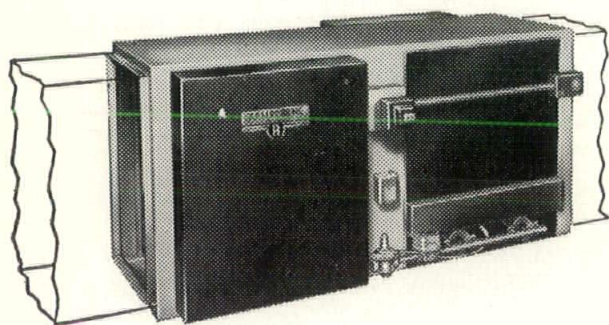
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ARCHITECT and BUILDER



Pictured during the AGC reception held honoring the New Orleans A.I.A. chapter's official observance of the American Institute's 100th Anniversary, are: from left, J. Brian Corry; James R. Lamantia; Mrs. A. J. Wolf, Jr.; and Mr. and Mrs. Carl Nussbaum, president, Construction Industry Association of New Orleans.

A.I.A. Centennial Observed

"A Century of Architecture in New Orleans" is the theme of an exhibition recently displayed to the public in New Orleans commemorating the Centennial of the American Institute of Architects. The exhibit consisting of more than 200 outstanding photographs, drawings and other items attractively displayed was sponsored jointly by the New Orleans Chapter, A.I.A. and the Louisiana Landmarks Society.

The exhibition was officially opened at the Customhouse on Canal Boulevard December 5 with a reception given by the New Orleans Chapter of the Associated General Contractors of America. It remained open to the public through January 1.

According to Samuel Wilson, Jr., FAIA, general chairman for the observance, the Customhouse was chosen as the site of the exhibition because in 1857 it was one of the most architecturally important buildings then under construction in America. Its Marble Hall is said to rank as one of the finest Greek Revival interiors in the nation, and the building was one of the first in the country to utilize iron beams in its construction.

Members of the exhibition committee in addition to Mr. Wilson were: J. Brian Corry, Louis A. Goldstein, James R. Lamantia, Bernard Lemann, Mark P. Lowrey, Garland F. Taylor, and Albert J. Wolf, Jr.

A meeting of the Executive Committee, Gulf States Regional Council is scheduled for January 21-22 in New Orleans — Page 10.

Brown Transferred To New Post

Col. Staunton L. Brown, district engineer, Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District is being transferred to Korea early in 1958, according to an Army announcement.

The announcement said that Brown would be succeeded at Little Rock by Col. Arthur M. Jacoby, now as-

sistant division engineer at Atlanta. The change will be effected about March 1, the announcement said.

A graduate of the Military Academy at West Point in 1934, Col. Brown holds a master's degree in engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. During World War II, he served in the Mediterranean Theater and in France.

Col. Jacoby assisted in the construction of the Alaskan Highway and saw service in Korea, including an assignment as port officer at Pusan, the announcement said.

Arkansas Plant Housing Approved

The Arkansas Industrial Development Commission has approved bond issues for the construction of four industrial plant housing facilities in Arkansas, according to an announcement.

The approvals include (a) a bond issue totalling \$243,000 planned by the Osceola (Ark.) Industrial Development Corp., to house a new plant coming to the eastern Arkansas town; (b) approval to the Garland Country Industrial Development Corp. for a yet-to-be-announced plant at Hot Springs, and (c) two approvals to the Boone County Industrial Development Corporation for two plants locating at Harrison, in Northwest Arkansas.

According to the announcement, the four plants involved will offer total employment of about 700 and issues to finance construction of

(Continued on Page 25)



Active in the planning and observance of the centennial of the A.I.A. in New Orleans were: E. C. Pittman, Union Construction Co., Inc., a member of the joint AIA-AGC committee; Samuel Wilson, Jr., FAIA, general chairman of the observance committee; Ed Silverstein, president of the New Orleans, AIA chapter; and Martin Gurtler II, Gurtler-Hebert Co., Inc., a member of the AIA-AGC committee.

ACTIVITIES OF THE GULF STATES REGION A.I.A.

John Hayes Pritchard, Tunica, Mississippi—Director

Wm. Bailey Smith, Baton Rouge, Louisiana—Secretary-Treasurer



Plans will soon get under way for the 9th Annual Conference of the Gulf States Region scheduled for Biloxi, Mississippi next Fall. The photo above was taken during the annual awards banquet of the 8th Annual Conference held in Birmingham, October 8.

Regional Council Executive Committee Meet in New Orleans

A meeting of the Executive Committee, Gulf States Regional Council will be held in New Orleans January 21, and 22, according to an official announcement. The meeting will be held at the Roosevelt Hotel.

Also meeting in connection with the Executive Committee will be the board of governors, Louisiana Architects Association, according to Wm. Bailey Smith, president of the LAA.

Schedule of meetings and events for the two-day affairs are:

1. Meeting of the Executive Committee, Gulf States Regional Council, 10 A.M., Tuesday, January 21, with the meeting to extend into the afternoon as required.

2. A cocktail party and dinner at Antoine's for members of the Executive Committee, Gulf States Regional Council, Board of Governors, LAA, and guests is scheduled for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, January 21.

3. A meeting of the Board of Governors, LAA is set for 10 A.M. Wednesday, January 22, and continuing into the afternoon as required.

Wednesday, January 22, and continuing into the afternoon as required.

Reservations

For the attention of members planning to attend, single and double room accommodations at the Roosevelt Hotel have been reserved for arrival anytime during the afternoon of January 20, and for departure on Wednesday, January 22. It is necessary that these room reservations be confirmed to the hotel as soon as possible and members are requested to advise Wm. Bailey Smith, Secretary of the Regional Council on the type of accommodations desired. This should be given immediate attention. All correspondence on reservations should be addressed to Mr. Smith at P. O. Box 2267, Baton Rouge, Louisiana. Approximate dates for arrival and departure should also be included with your request for reservation.

Wives of council members and the LAA board are welcome and are invited to attend the two-day event.

(ED Note—Following is a roster of A.I.A. chapter presidents and secretaries for information purposes.)

A 1958 roster will be published in the February issue.)

ALABAMA

Alabama Chapter:

William Perry Shaw, President
Edwin Burns Mims, Secretary

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Arkansas Chapter:

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New Orleans Chapter:

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G. Lewis Dunn, President
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J. Cheshire Peyton, Secretary

MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Chapter:

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L. L. Brasfield, Secretary

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Tennessee Society:

Zeno L. Yeates, President
John D. Bland, Secretary

Chattanooga Chapter:

Mario Bianculli, President
S. T. Franklin, Jr., Secretary

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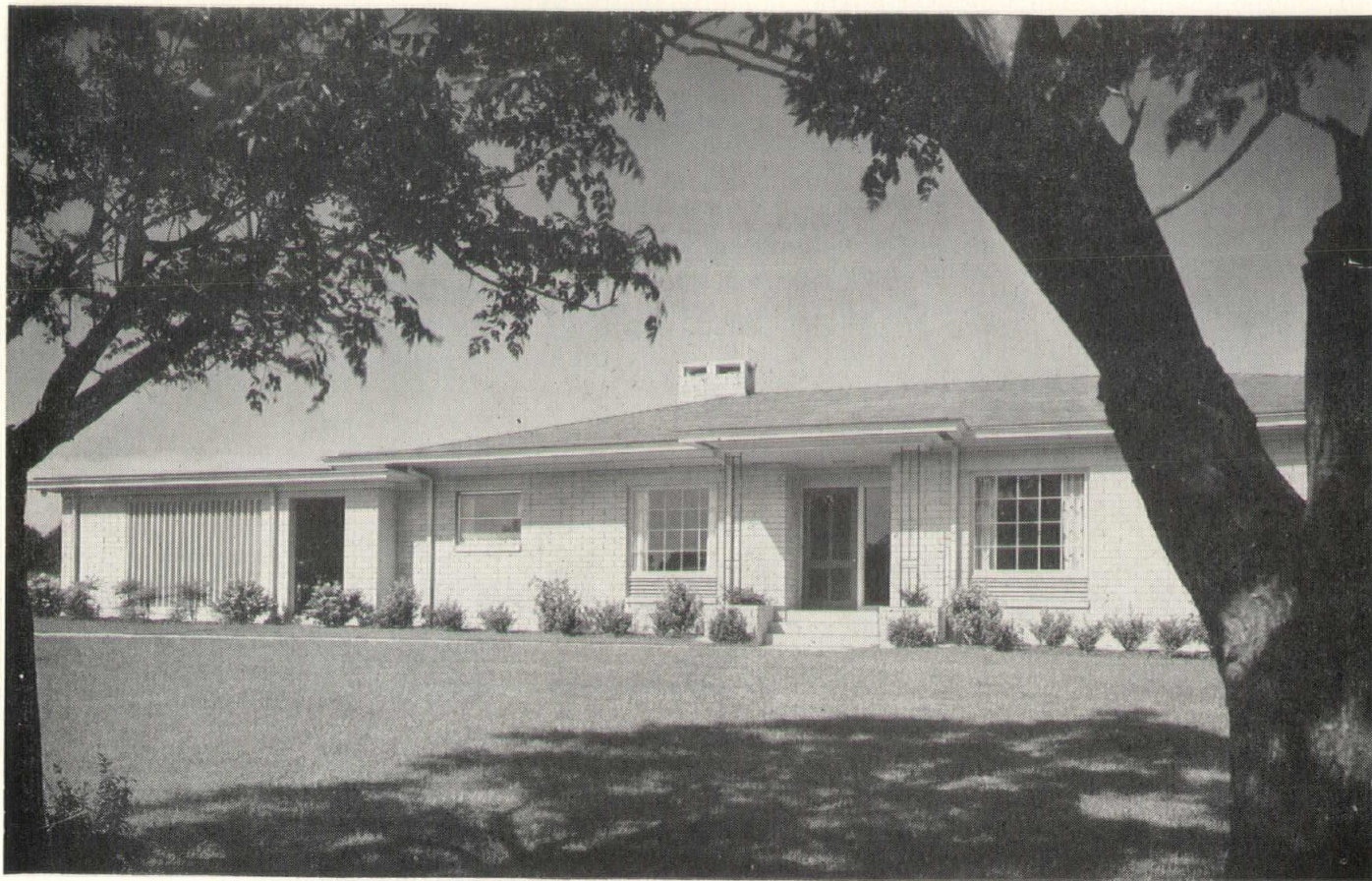
Will W. Griffin, President
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Memphis Chapter:

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Charles W. Ellis, Jr., Secretary

Middle Tennessee Chapter:

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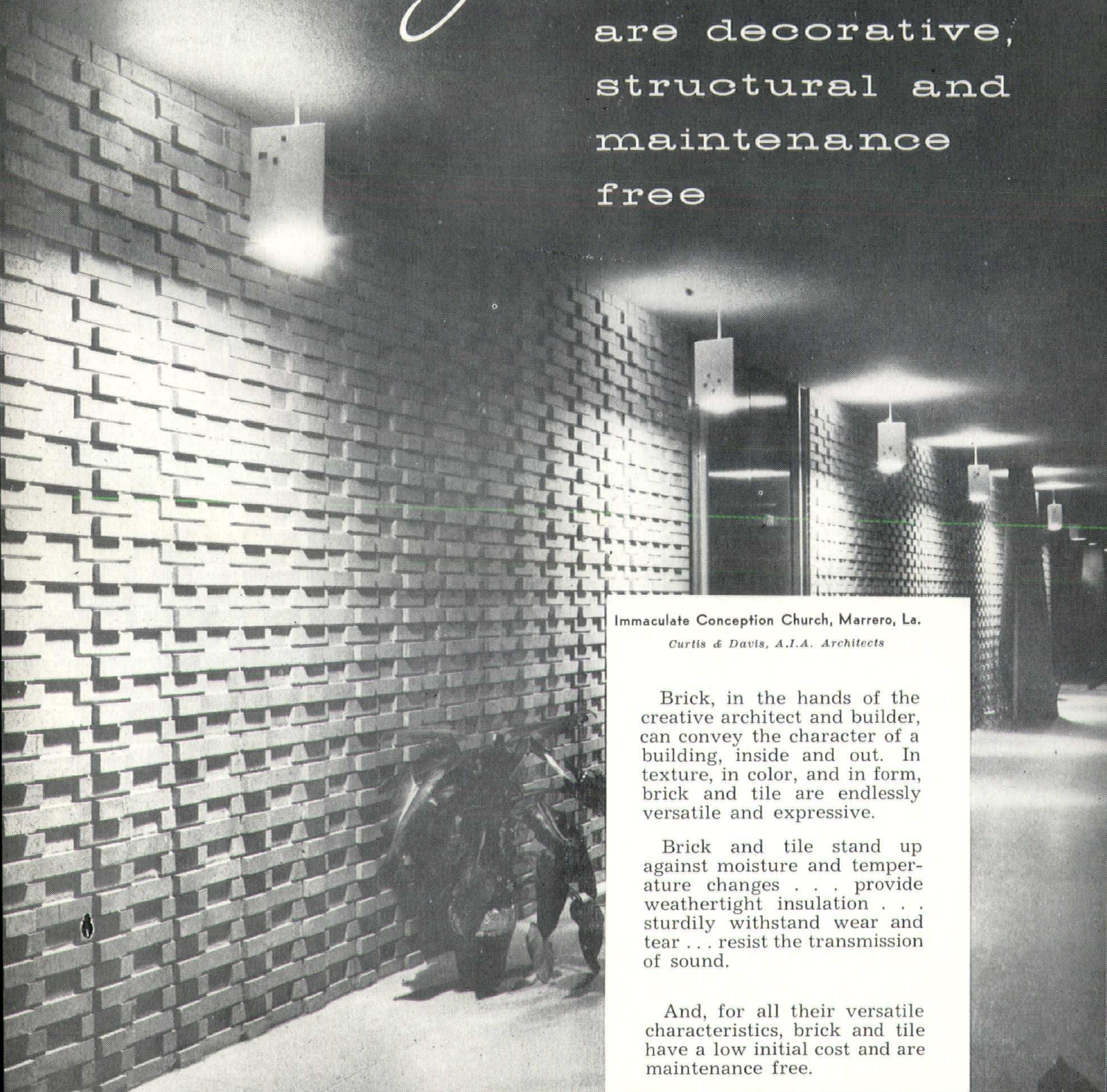
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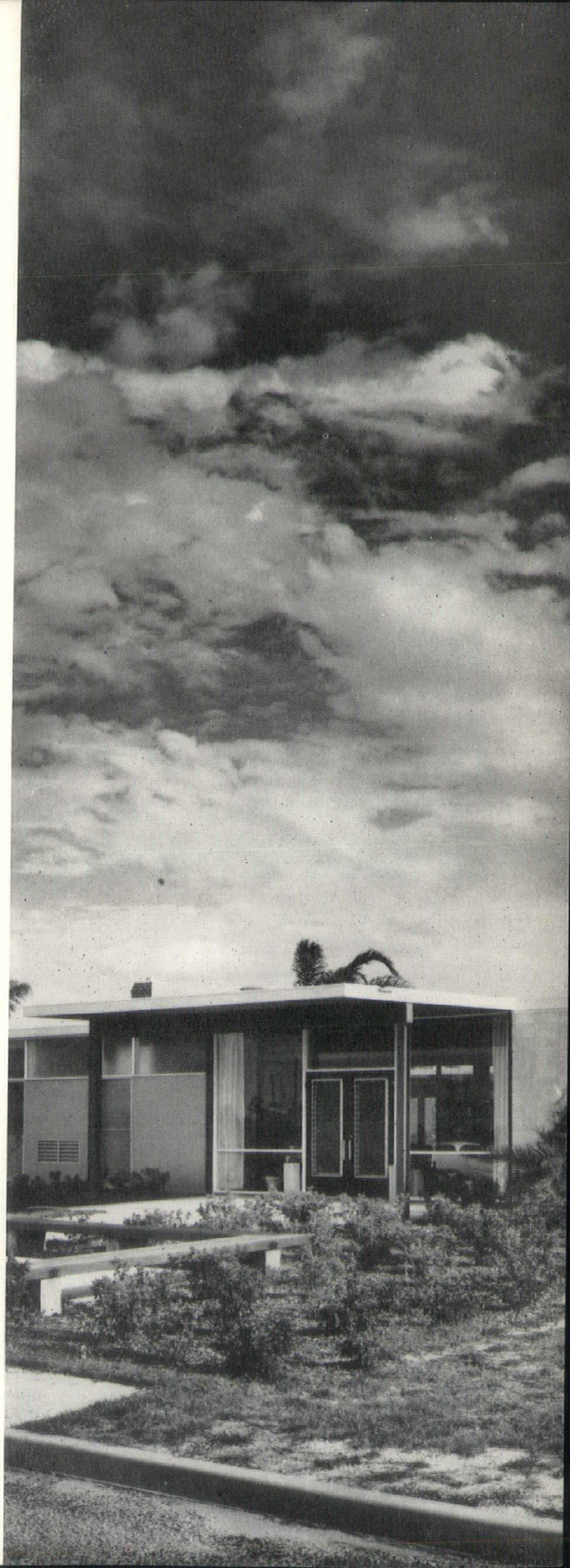
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is expressed by the design
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by Architects
Sherlock, Smith & Adams.*





View from Main Entry Showing Lobby—Photo by Alexandre Georges

Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center

A Challenge in Design

Program requirements of this award-winning design of an alcoholic rehabilitation center indicated a rather important new kind of building and challenge in design for architects, Sherlock, Smith & Adams, Architects & Engineers, Montgomery, Alabama.

A research trip which included eight existing U. S. clinics and Yale's School of Alcoholic Studies pointed to several positive directions which the client wished to pursue.

Because alcoholism appears to be notably unresponsive to in-

dividual treatment, the Alcoholic Rehabilitation Center at Avon Park, Florida was designed to foster community life. Gathering rooms, both for therapy and casual sociability, were planned for maximum convenience and use. Since a generous site located between two lakes was sparsely wooded, a rather tightly knit, inward-facing village was evolved to effect a sense of security however the suggestion of confinement for patients who voluntarily entered for treatment was avoided.

A 10-bed intensive treatment

area with clinical facilities was provided for patients during an initial "drying out" period of two to seven days, and a 40-patient ambulatory area (28 men, 12 women) serves a 30-day program of individual psychotherapy, group therapy, occupational, recreational and work therapy... conceived as exposure to the "total push" of the community network.

An administrative area is headquarters not only for the Center but for the direction of planning, education, and research activities of the state-

wide program Kitchen and service areas were separated but readily adjacent to both intensive treatment and ambulatory units. Visitors to patients under treatment are seldom allowed, thus requiring rather strict control of parking near the front entrance. The receptionist's desk controls all entering traffic except stretchers.

Interior design and landscaping became important factors in the final atmosphere of the Center, especially since it became a major aim neither to alarm the skid-row patient nor depress the well-off.

Steel H-columns, laminated wood beams, and 3-inch T&G wood decking were used throughout. Exterior panels containing windows and/or doors were prefabricated at the mill, with plywood applied at the job. Asphalt tile floors were substituted for integral terrazzo surfaced slabs for economy and concrete block was used for exterior walls, garden walls, etc.

Heating and ventilating was handled by forced warm air systems zoned throughout the buildings, and plumbing includes a small sewage disposal plant and a fire protection and irrigation system fed from the south lake at the site.

In charge of research for design and planning was Ernest M. Shepherd, administrator, Florida Alcoholics Rehabilitation Program, with Charles M. Kelley, architect-in-charge.

Sherlock, Smith and Adams, Montgomery, Alabama, were architects and engineers for the project with the Avon Park, Florida architectural firm of Helm and Helm as associate architects.

General contractor was A. C. Samford, Inc., Albany, Georgia.

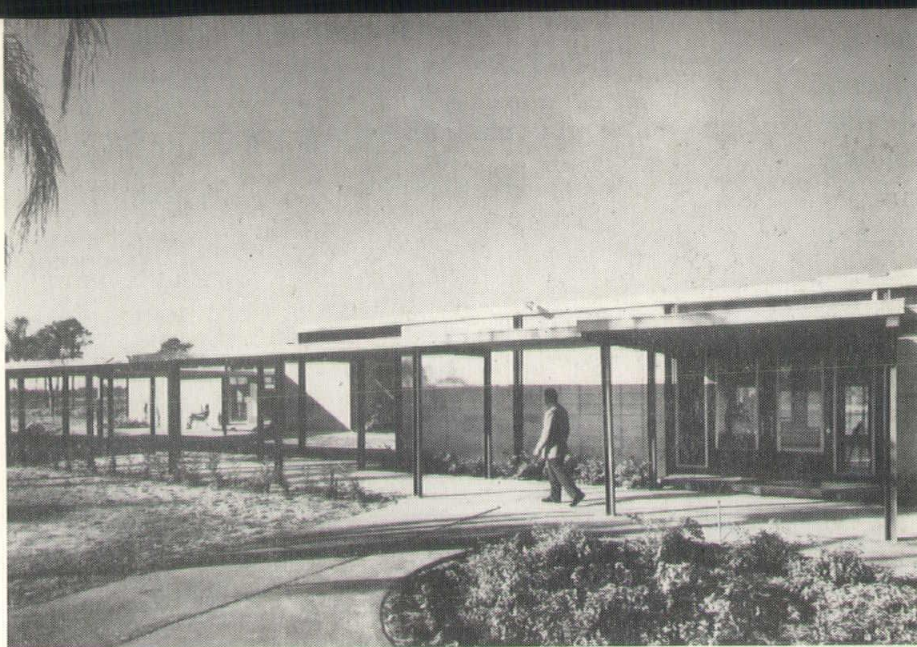
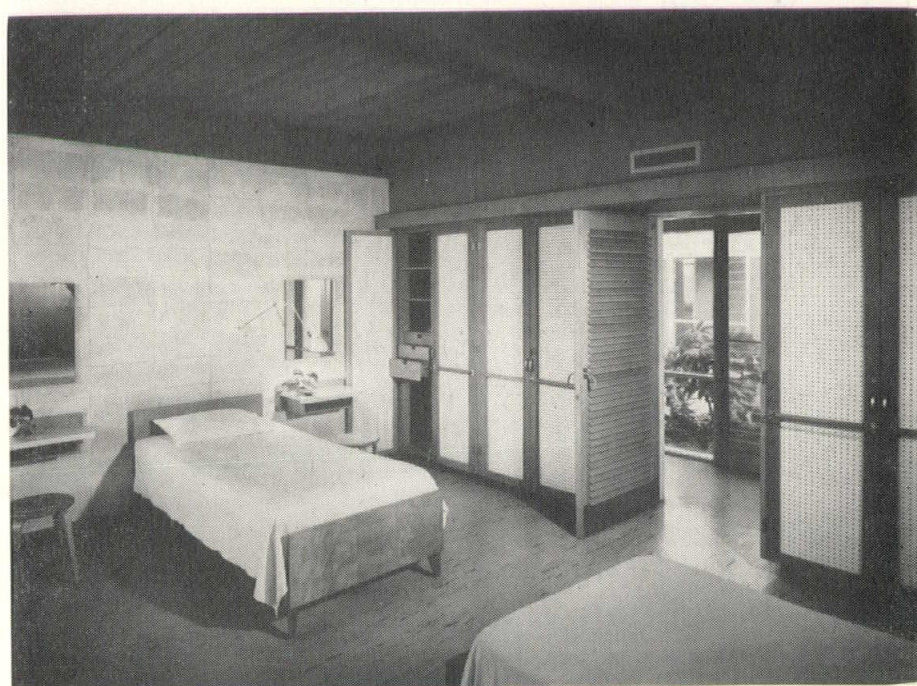
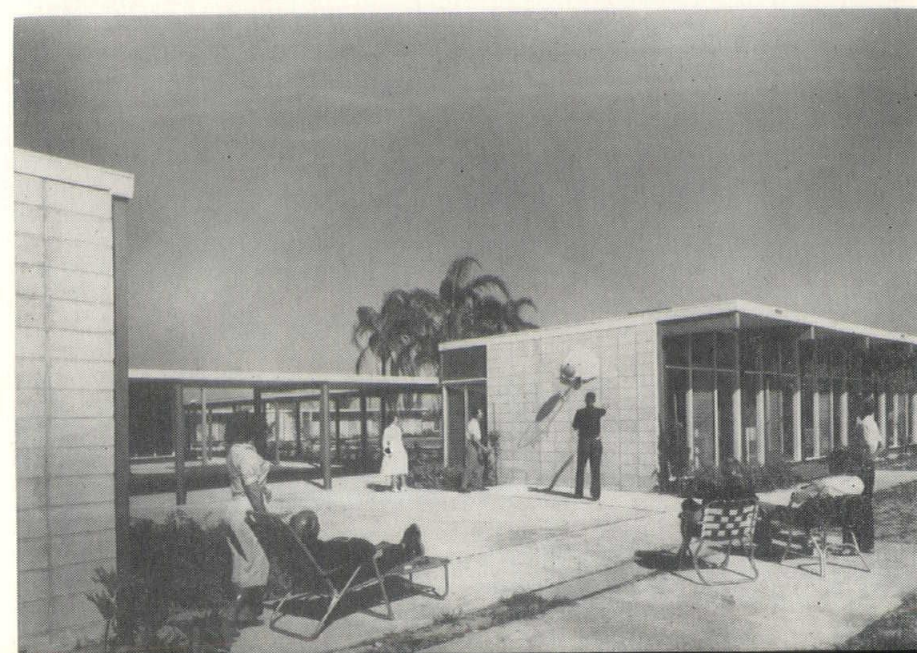
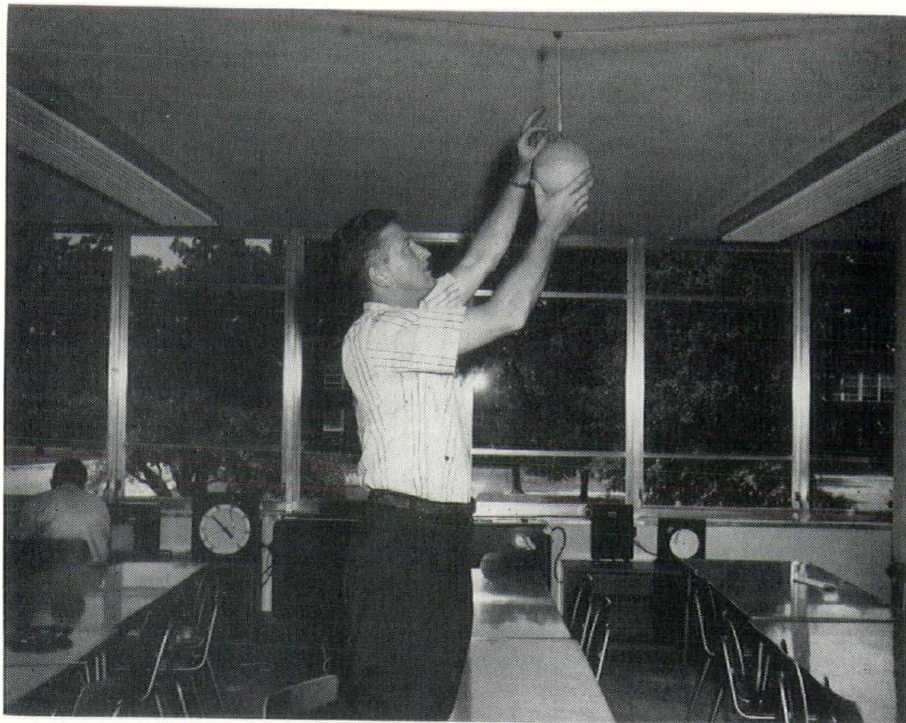


Photo above shows covered walkways to entrance to dining hall. (Photo—Rudi Rada—Miami).



Above is Photo of typical 4-bed dormitory in the men's building. Photo below shows another exterior section of center.





Research engineer John Kline adjusts globe thermometer at center of end classroom which measures over-all comfort condition. Light-weight aluminum globe responds quickly to ambient and radiant temperature, as does the body.

Architectural Design

AN IMPORTANT FACTOR IN SUMMER AIR CONDITIONING

By Henry Wright

A recent series of tests of the air-conditioning equipment in a new college classroom building in Hammond, Louisiana, disclosed a number of facts of at least equal interest to architects as to air-conditioning engineers. It was found, for example, that the orientation and shape of the building contributed greatly to the ease of keeping it cool in summer. It was also found that some details of the construction made air conditioning appreciably more difficult.

Because of the widespread interest in air conditioning college buildings at the present time, and because of the particular applicability of these findings in the Louisiana region, it is felt that the "Hammond story" is well worth the serious study of architects in this area.

Description

The new classroom building was architecturally ideal for summer air conditioning in southern latitudes. Its elongated shape and closed end walls, together with the fact that the axis of the plan was almost due east-west, made for minimum solar heat load.

At the latitude of New Orleans, the maximum heat load on east and west walls is almost 200 BTU's per square foot per hour, whereas the load on north and south walls is less than 50 BTU's per hour, on the air-conditioning "design day" of August 1. In addition, the open corridor scheme provided very adequate shading of most of the south side of the building, and the portions of the south wall at each end of the building which were not so shielded were equipped with vertical exterior louvers. Thus, the net effective solar heat load on the south side of the building was reduced to about the same value as for the north side—around 25 BTU's per square foot for the peak hour.

Construction Details

In one important respect, however, the construction of the building failed to exploit to the full the basic air-conditioning advantages of its design. Because the roof is a solid concrete slab topped with a layer of thermal insulation and finished on

the underside with acoustical plaster, it constitutes a homogeneous mass of comparatively low thermal resistance, exposed to the greatest solar load. One result of this was to make the second floor classrooms a great deal harder to cool than those on the ground floor. Another result was to spread the heat load of the sun shining on the roof over a long period. Even with the air conditioning functioning and maintaining satisfactory comfort conditions in the second floor classrooms, portions of the ceilings of these rooms reached temperatures as high as 90° F. The brick-cavity-walls forming the ends of the building, with brickwork exposed on the inside, reaches almost as high a temperature, making the end classrooms the most difficult of all to cool.

One solution of this problem would have been to employ white surfacing, such as marble chips, for the roof. A still better solution would have been to employ ventilated construction for the roof and for the east and west end walls. Had the construction of the walls been modified merely to the extent that would provide free ventilation of the cavity, the heat load of the sun shining on these walls could have been more largely dissipated to the outside by natural convection. Architecturally, this might have been accomplished very simply by providing a continuous series of small vents at the top and bottom of the cavity, such as open joints.

Roof Ventilation

The roof, as constructed, provided no opportunity for such internal ventilation. Had it, however, consisted of beam construction with a separate ceiling, it would have been almost equally simple to open the spaces between the beams to the outside along both sides of the building and thus allow a great deal of the heat absorbed by the roof to escape.

A still better solution, affecting the architectural design of the building, might have been to employ a sloping roof with similar openings so that air movement through the roof would have been induced by the force of gravity, with hot air leaving the higher vents and cooler outdoor air entering those on the low side.

Air-Conditioning Performance

The extremely detailed research conducted in one of the hardest-to-cool end classrooms on the second floor disclosed, first of all, that even with the problems due to construction, a single unit ventilator at one end of this oversized classroom was

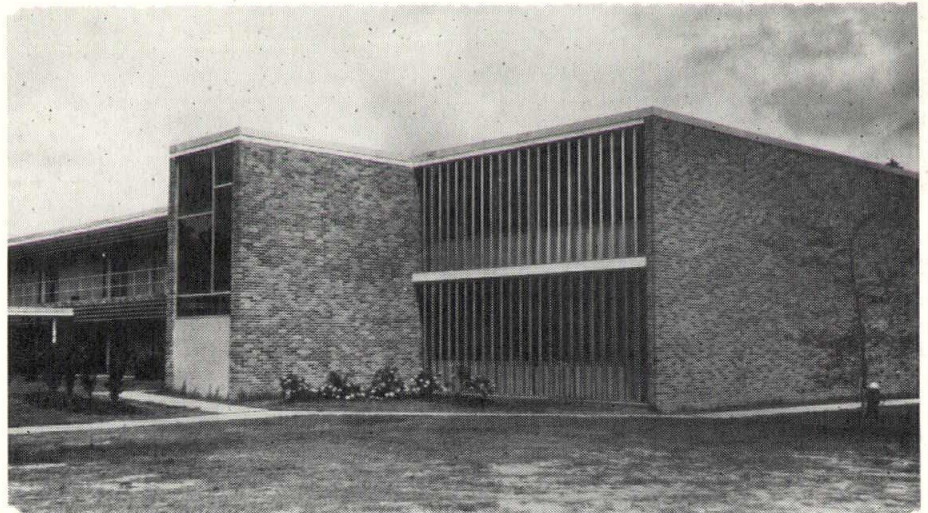


Henry Wright is a self-trained architect who has devoted most of his time to architectural research and writing rather than the practice of architecture. He was Technical Editor of *Architectural Forum* for seven years and its Managing Editor for six years. Mr. Wright was co-author with George Nelson of the best-selling book on modern house design, *Tomorrow's House*. His interest in heating began with a study of solar heat gain in houses made for the John B. Pierce Foundation in 1935, and the construction, for Columbia University, of the first U. S. Heliogon, or apparatus for studying sun effects on architectural models in the same year. Written especially for the *Architect & Builder* by Mr. Wright, now Director of Building Product Research, Silas Snider Associates, Inc., New York, his article is based on research conducted at the Southeastern Louisiana College, in Hammond, Louisiana.

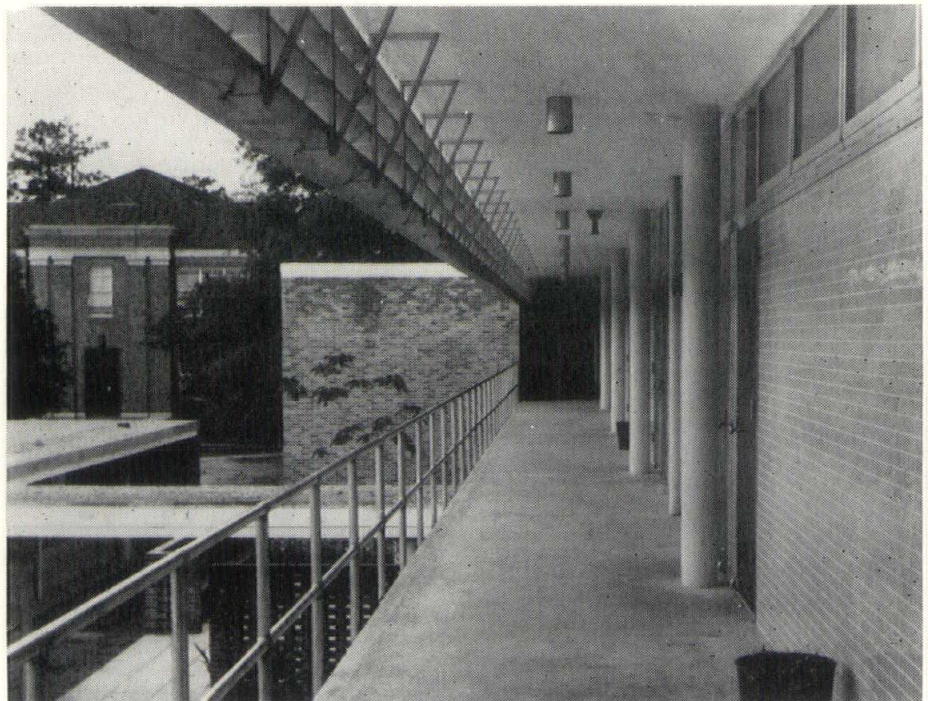
" Because of the widespread interest in air conditioning college buildings at the present time, and because of the particular applicability of these findings in the . . . region, it is felt that the Hammond story is well worth the serious study of architects in his area"

able to maintain satisfactory comfort conditions in the hottest weather. Actually, the method of air distribution and diffusion employed with this type of equipment did much to counteract any adverse comfort effects due to the solid roof. Unit ventilators have for years relied on an unique method of distributing air in school classrooms. This method consists of discharging a large quantity of air at a high velocity towards the ceiling, which acts as an extended diffusing surface, with the air fanning out in a thin layer and spreading over the entire room. Since in wintertime many schools require a great deal of cooling, and since the problem is exactly the same as that which arises in air conditioning—that of introducing sufficient quantities of cool enough air to maintain a comfortable temperature without causing drafts—it is not surprising that unit ventilators are inherently capable of doing a good air-conditioning job. In this particular instance, this method of distribution had the additional advantage of focusing the cooling on the principal source of heat gain, the ceiling, with the result that the major part of the ceiling was held to a reasonable temperature level and did not, therefore, greatly increase the radiant temperature of the room. In this particular, air from the unit tended to be channeled between two continuous lighting fixtures running the length of the room, and between these fixtures ceiling temperatures were generally no higher than the room temperature. While the fixtures prevented direct cooling of the portions of the ceiling on either side of the room, they probably helped the unit to maintain reasonably uniform temperatures throughout the exceptional length of the end rooms (37 ft.).

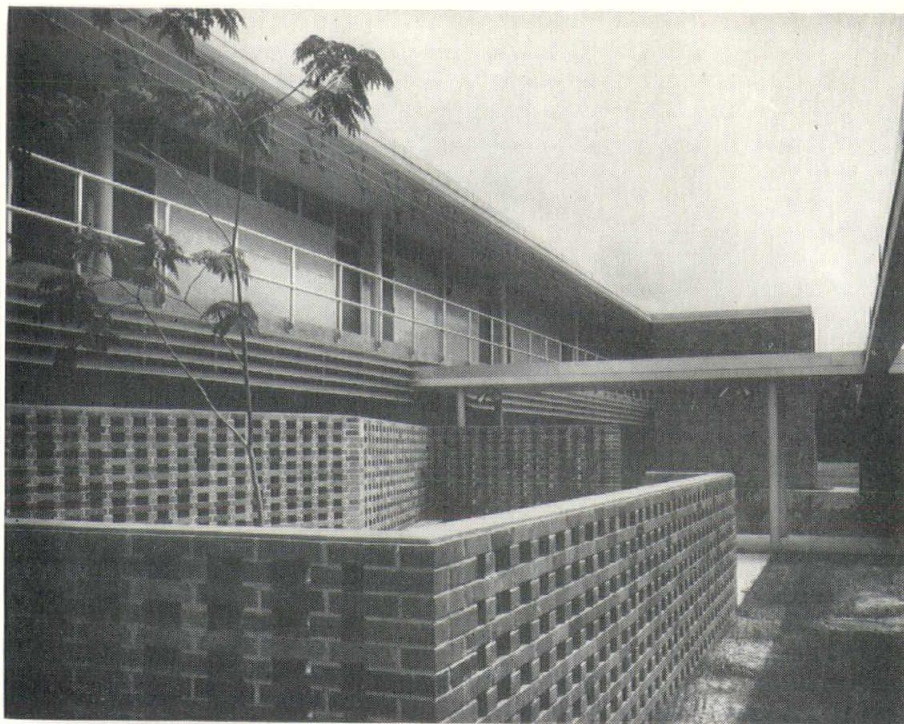
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Southeast corner of new classroom building shows projecting stairway and exterior metal louvres shielding in windows of end classrooms.



Access balcony on south side excludes sunshine from center classrooms. Horizontal louvres are aluminum.

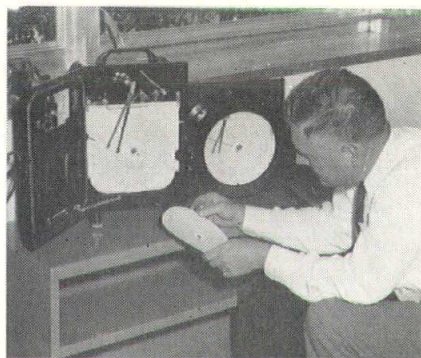


General view of south side shows open-work wall framing outdoor seating area.

Night Purging

Another way in which the particular type of cooling equipment used was able to compensate for the cooling problems presented by the structure was the opportunity it afforded for using outdoor air to flush heat out of the structure during the night. With the unit ventilator-air conditioner, it is possible, simply by shutting down the refrigeration plant, to revert automatically to outdoor air cooling, and to employ the full circulating capacity of the fans for night cooling in much the same way as an attic fan. At night, when outdoor temperatures normally fall, such air can be used to extract heat from the building structure, which would otherwise remain "stored" in the construction and add to the daytime air-conditioning load.

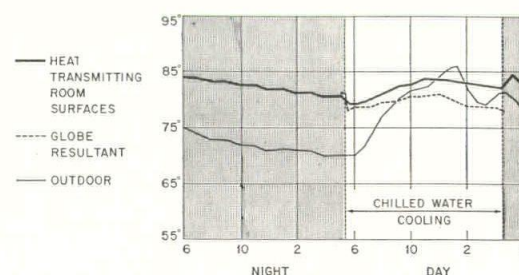
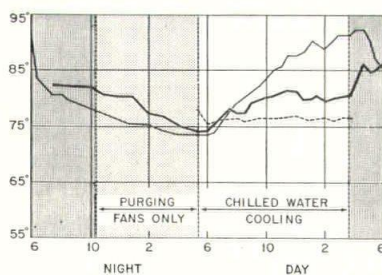
In the Hammond tests, it was found that the average temperature of heat-transmitting room surfaces, which peaked at the end of the day at about 85 F., could be dropped between midnight and 6 A. M. to below



Project engineer Forrest Baker studies temperature humidity chart providing twenty-four-hour record of unit performance.

LEFT HAND chart shows that with "night purging" (operation of fans only) the average temperature of the ceiling and exposed side wall of the classroom was reduced from about 83F to below 75F in less than eight hours. The globe resultant, or comfort temperature the following day stayed about 76F all day, and the ceiling temperature below 83F.

The RIGHT HAND chart shows that without "night purging", the average temperature of the ceiling and wall declined only slightly overnight . . . from 84½F to about 82¼F. Result was, the globe resultant temperature on the following day was around 77½F all day long, and the temperature of the ceiling rose to over 85F in the middle of the afternoon (sharp drop just before 2 p.m. was due to rain).



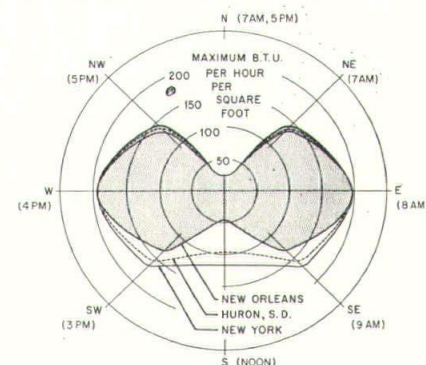
75 ° F., through operation of the unit fans and without recourse to refrigeration. When this was not done, the average temperature of these surfaces fell, overnight, only five degrees, to 80° F., and the air conditioner had to combat residual heat the following morning.

Conclusions

Thus, the highly detailed performance tests on the air conditioning in this classroom building afforded a real "close-up" of some of the architectural implications of air conditioning in the Louisiana region, and tended to document the more and more widely recognized connection between air conditioning, architecture and construction. This particular building was found to be excellent in over-all conception from the air-conditioning point of view, and might, in this respect, well serve as a model for future work. On the other hand, the fact that so much of the air-conditioning load was eliminated by a good over-all design revealed shortcomings in the construction.

The most important defect was the homogeneous roof structure. Since the greatest amount of summer heat comes from overhead, the most important means of warding it off is the roof, and roof construction should be approached, in all air-conditioned buildings, as a means of blocking solar heat. The solution, as has been indicated, may lie in the color of the roofing, or in air-wash ventilation below the roof sheathing. Both of these devices fall more within the province of the architect than that of the air-conditioning engineer.

In addition to its important influence on first and operating costs of a sound architectural approach, a good "design for air conditioning" can also contribute considerably to the ultimate comfort result.



Radial graph shows maximum quantity of solar heat falling on walls facing in various directions for latitude of New Orleans and at other points in U. S. Hourglass shape of shaded area vividly illustrates air-conditioning advantage of north and south exposures in southern latitudes.

ARCHITECT and BUILDER

Named To Head Institute

Charles F. Smith, Memphis, Tennessee has been elected president of the Weatherstrip Research Institute at its annual meeting in Chicago. Mr. Smith is president of the National Guard Products, Inc. in Memphis.

The WRI is a trade group composed of nineteen of the nation's leading manufacturers of metal weatherstripping.

Elected first vice president was Harry Zegers, Jr., Chicago; Richard P. Rodenbaugh, Memphis, second vice president; Richard Erck, Chicago, secretary; and Walter F. Michals, Chicago, treasurer.

L. G. Klee, Riverside, Illinois, was re-elected executive secretary of the association.

People

Lionel H. Abshire, A.I.A., Baton Rouge architect has announced the appointment of **Robert P. Sprague** as an associate member of the firm.

Sprague has been employed by the architectural firm for the past 18 months. His previous experience also includes employment with the New Orleans firm of **Favrot, Reed, Mathes, and Bergman, Architects**.

Ivan M. Foley, secretary-treasurer of R. F. Mestayer Lumber Co., New Orleans, has been elected a director of the Home Improvement Council, successor organization of Operation Home Improvement. Foley was also named chairman of the organization's by-laws and ethics committee.

Airtemp Meets In Mississippi

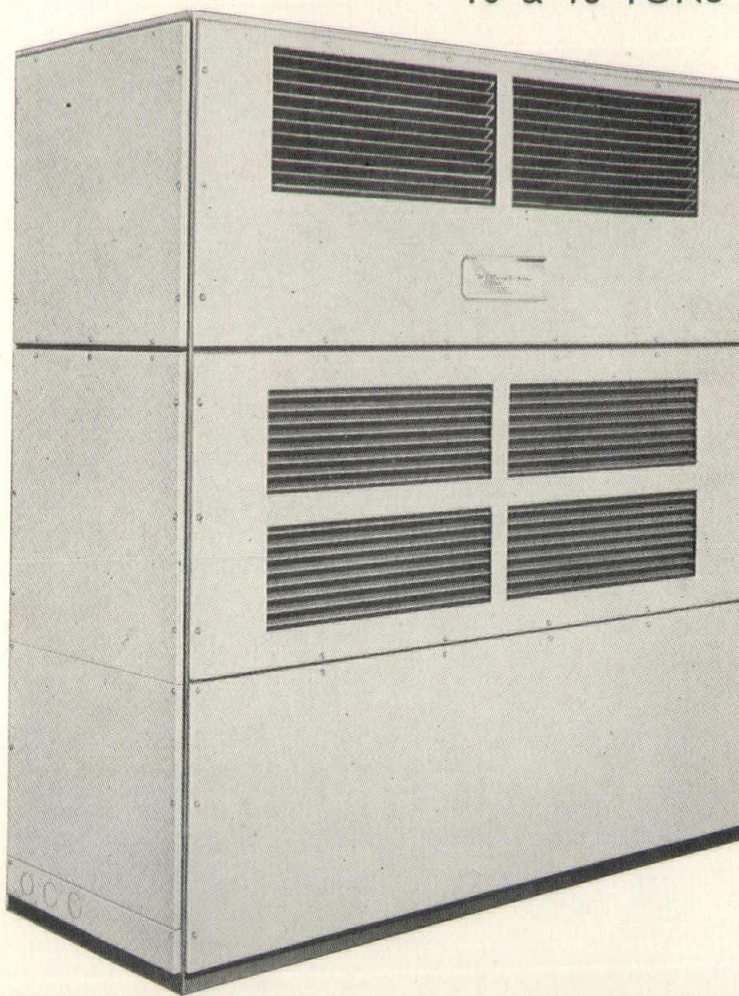
The Airtemp Division, Chrysler Corporation held a national sales conference for the company's sales organization and distributor personnel, at the Edgewater Gulf Hotel, Gulfport, Mississippi, November 10-13.

According to a company announcement, more than 100 distributors, and company sales officials were on hand to kick off the company's promotion on its new 1958 line of air conditioning units including a new 3-hp heat pump and its 2 and 3 hp "air cooled" packaged air conditioners.

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NEW ORLEANS

Ark. School Expands Facilities

Little Rock University officials have announced the proposed construction of a new \$350,000 science building . . . a first step in the university's \$1,000,000 building program.

The new science building will be a one-story, split level structure and will be financed through the University's building and expansion campaign.

Architects for the project are Ginocchio-Cromwell & Associates and the New York architectural firm of Englehart, Leggett & Cornell were

associates in the design of the new building.

The building will be of semi-fire-proof construction with a steel frame and brick walls.

A second step in the building program of the university will be the construction of a \$39,000 student union building, the announcement said. The student union building will be financed by \$25,000 from a building campaign fund, and by additional money from the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency, the announcement said. Plans for the union building are complete and construction is scheduled to begin soon after the federal Agency gives its final approval.

INDUSTRY NEWS 12 MONTHS AGO

Elected as officers of the New Orleans chapter, A.I.A. were **Edward Silverstein**, president; **Earl Mathes**, vice president; **A. J. Wolf, Jr.**, secretary; and **Wayne Stoffle**, treasurer.

Hall and Norwood, Greenville, Mississippi architects, were awarded a contract for the design and engineering service for the construction of a new federal building in Greenville.

R. E. Dumas Milner announced plans for the construction of a new 15-story building for Jackson, Mississippi. **John L. Turner and Associates** were architects announced for the project.

Fred Forstall was re-elected president of the Home Builders Association of Greater New Orleans with **Morgan Earnest**, vice-president; **A. Louis Sizeler**, secretary; and **J. A. Haase, Sr.**, treasurer.

Clifton C. Boyd, **Charles Dieth**, and **James Taylor**, all engineers for the New Orleans district, **Portland Cement Association** attended a four-day seminar on concrete masonry in Chicago.

The Shreveport chapter, A.I.A., presented its annual journalism award to **William H. Lynch**, a reporter for the Shreveport Times; and its craftsmanship award to **Leon Meeks**, electrician with **Cahn Electric Company**.

National Roofing Contractor's Association held its annual convention at the Roosevelt Hotel in New Orleans.

Free Lighting System Offered

The city of Little Rock, Arkansas has been offered a complete gas street lighting system—free.

W. R. Stephens, board chairman of Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company told a meeting of Little Rock's newly elected city directors that he would install the system without charge. "This includes free fixtures, poles, complete installation and monthly gas supplies. It won't take us very long to get them up, either," Stephens said.

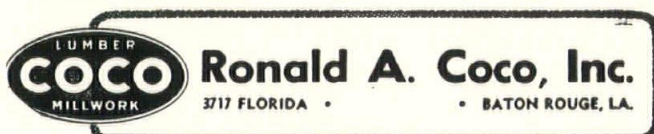
Expanding on his offer, Stephens said, "we'll cover the whole city, and, in fact, we'll install street lights from here to Shreveport. It will be excellent advertising for us."

ARCHITECT and BUILDER

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- A detailed report on a workable procedure for launching a multimillion dollar East Nashville, (Tenn.) Urban Renewal project is expected within 30 days according to an announcement. A team of specialists in this field who recently toured the area will submit the report. A financing plan provides for the purchase of a home with about \$150 down and financing over a period of up to 40 years at approximately 5 per cent interest.

- The Tennessee state highway department will take bids January 17 on \$11,-276,605 in projects with more than half the total involving work on the interstate system. Highway commissioner William M. Leech said the letting would involve \$6,691,577 in interstate projects.

- W. D. Roussel, president of the Board of Commissioners of the Port of New Orleans, and Claude W. Duke, president of the Orleans Levee Board in a joint statement said that bids will be advertised for initial phase of the construction of the huge \$96,000,000 Tidewater Channel "shortly after January 1." Congress has approved an appropriation of \$265,000 for construction purposes which will permit the Corps of Engineers to begin widening and deeping the 5½-mile stretch of the Intracoastal Waterway from the Industrial Canal to Parish Road, near New Orleans.

- TVA has announced that the 547-acre "Hiwassee Village" site, adjacent to the Hiwassee Dam is for sale at public auction on a date to be designated after receipt of the "first firm bid". Bids must be based on a minimum \$190,000 acceptable price figure, the announcement said.

- In Memphis, Mayor Edmund Orgill has announced that the city government will seek \$10,000,000 in bonds next April to finance a capital improvement program for 1958. Projects include the \$5,000,-000 Wolf River interceptor sewer which will cost the city and county \$2,000,000 in contracts to be let in 1958, the announcement said.



Residence, Baton Rouge, La. — Lionel H. Abshire, A.I.A., Architect

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BATON ROUGE, LOUISIANA

To Build New Plant

A \$150,000 plant to manufacture concentrated sulphuric acid will be built on Bayou Casotte Harbor at Pascagoula, Mississippi by the First Mississippi Corporation, according to Owen Cooper, board chairman for the company.

Cooper said the new plant will have an annual capacity of 70,000 tons.

FMC will build the plant and erect storage facilities, however it will be operated when completed by the Coastal Chemical Corporation.

Consolidation Announced

Tusco Corporation of Houston, Texas, has announced the consolidation of Aluminum Products Co. and Rubin Glass & Mirror Company into a division to be known as Apco-Rubin, Division of Tusco Corporation according to an announcement by the firm.

C. N. Posey, Tusco vice-president has been appointed acting general manager, and C. W. Goldner, formerly general manager of Rubin is the assistant general manager and general sales manager, the announcement said.

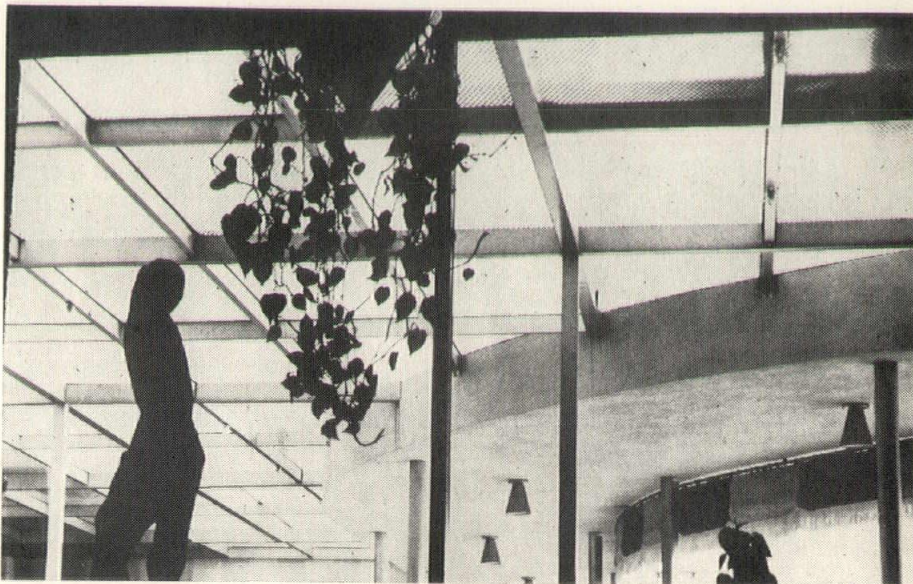
ARCHITECT and BUILDER

Resolite Panels

The Resolution Corporation, Zelienople, Penn., has announced, the use of a new type of metal-and-plastic building panel for creating a skylight over a patio type area in residential or commercial construction.

The translucent material is reinforced with both Fiberglas and embedded steel mesh, giving it high impact strength and distinctive appearance, the announcement said.

The material is supported by an open grid set on slim columns in the photo, and provides a level of diffused daylight throughout the patio area while providing protection against sun and sudden showers.

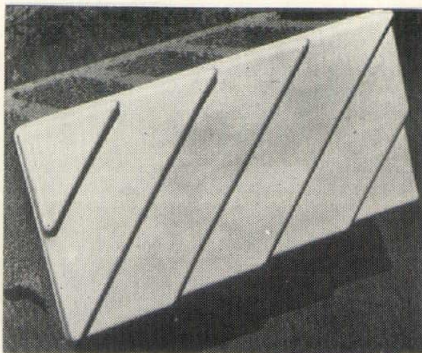


Form Liners

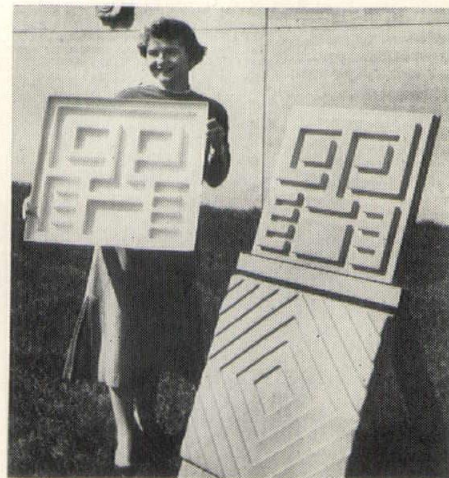
A variety of new textures and patterns for concrete surfaces has been made possible by the development of plastic and rubber form liners, according to the Portland Cement Association.

A new publication from the association says the liners produce sharp, crisp patterns and a smooth almost glassy surface that requires no clean-down, grinding or finishing.

According to PCA, both the plastic and rubber form liners are relatively low in cost and are reusable many times if handled properly. No special concrete mix is necessary to achieve good results, and both lightweight and heavyweight aggregates are suitable, according to PCA.



Additional information about the form liners can be obtained from any PCA district office or the general office of the association at 33 West Grand Ave., Chicago 10.



a

b

NEW

PRODUCTS

Hardboard Panels

Chapman Manufacturing Company, Corvallis, Oregon, has announced two new pre-finished hardboard panels designed for the mass handyman-builder market. One primarily for wall application has been named Oregonbord Plank-ette; the other, designed for both ceilings and walls is called Oregonbord Score-tex. Both are $\frac{1}{4}$ " economy hardboards, and are pre-finished by the exclusive Oregonbord Tinta-Seal process, the announcement said.

Plank-ette is a v-grooved design in random plank pattern. Spacing of certain grooves is such that they fall on 16" centers to match normal stud spacing. It is available in 4'x8' panels with bevelled edges.

Score-tex, on the other hand, is made in 4'x4' panels. Deep-cut v-grooves score the panel into perfect 16"x16" squares and all sides of the panel are bevelled so that butting edges hide the joints. Score-tex is particularly suitable for ceiling application.

According to the manufacturer the new Oregonbord Tinta-Seal finish eliminates need for painting, waxing or varnishing. Concurrently with the announcement of these new hardboards, Chapman Manufacturing Company also announced that matching colored annular threaded hardboard nails are available.

Complete information is available from Chapman Manufacturing Company, Corvallis, Oregon.

Newsletter

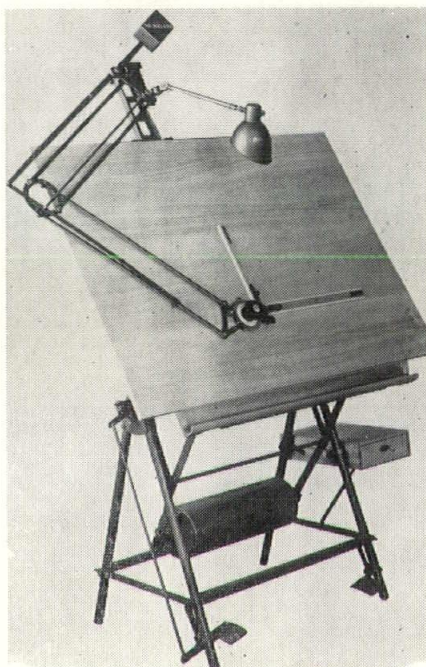
An expanded newsletter designed to provide architects, builders, dealers and members of the industry with the latest and most complete information on the aluminum window industry is now being published by the Aluminum Window Manufacturers Association, according to a recent announcement.

Copies of the newsletter are said to be available through John Jansson, AIA, executive vice president of the association, 45 North Station Plaza, Great Neck, L.I. New York.

Drawing Table

A new, counterbalanced drawing table and drafting machine has been announced by the Ozalid Division of General Aniline and Film Corporation, Johnson City, New York.

According to a company announcement, the new unit is fully adjustable and counterbalanced in combination with a precision drafting machine.



Dimensions are 40" x 60" and can be positioned with a simple hand movement from a complete horizontal to an 88 degree vertical as low as floor level, the announcement said.

A crane neck parallelogram type drafting machine may be completely lifted away from the board eliminating the danger of smudging.

Other features are said to include a unique built-in-cross-hatching device on the drafting head which can be used at any angle and enables the draftsman to dial hatching spacing from 0" to 5/16". The hatching device once set to a given spacing, will make equal spaces as long as the draftsman desires, the company claims. Complete information may be obtained from the company, at 3 Corliss Lane, Johnson City, New York.

Sidewalk Handbook

Stephens-Adamson Mfg. Co., Aurora, Illinois, has announced the availability of a new Speedwalk and Speedramp moving sidewalk handbook for architects and design engineers.

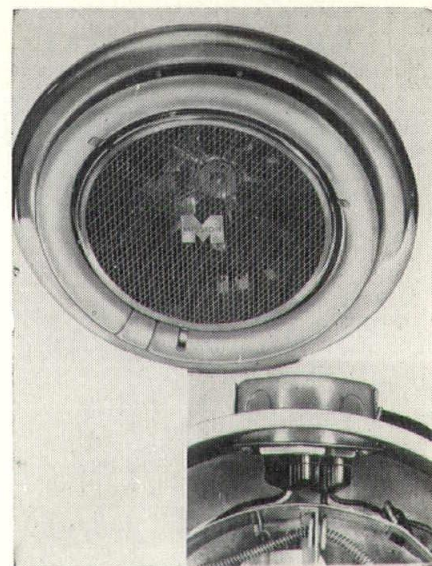
According to the announcement, the new publication features comprehensive technical data, specifications and illustrations of belt-support and balustrade types, handrail and balustrade details, dimensions for moving sidewalks, installation of moving sidewalks and component parts.

General information on the line including practical applications, traffic control and typical installation photographs are also included. Copies may be obtained by writing for Bulletin 457.

New Heater-Light

The Mission Appliance Corporation, 12611 Crenshaw Blvd., Hawthorne, California has announced a new Overhead Heater-Light.

According to the announcement, the new unit is completely wired at the factory. The illustrated model



(OHL) contains a fluorescent lamp, however another unit, model OH with heating unit alone is available at a lower cost.

Features of the unit include a grille design; a six-inch fan in either model which operates in conjunction with a 1500-watt heating element which directs heat down from the ceiling and circulates it evenly throughout the room.

A plug-in assembly is shown in the photo inset.

ARCHITECT and BUILDER

OBITUARY

Albert L. DeMontcourt, Memphis lumber industry executive died December 15 at his home.

Mr. DeMontcourt joined the lumber division of E. L. Bruce Co. following employment as a lumber inspector for a number of Arkansas firms and remained with the Bruce Company for more than 35 years before his retirement. He retired as manager of the lumber division of Bruce.

Active in the affairs of the in-

dustry, he was a past president of the Memphis Lumbermen's Club; a member of the National Hardwood Lumber Association.

ARKANSAS PLANT—

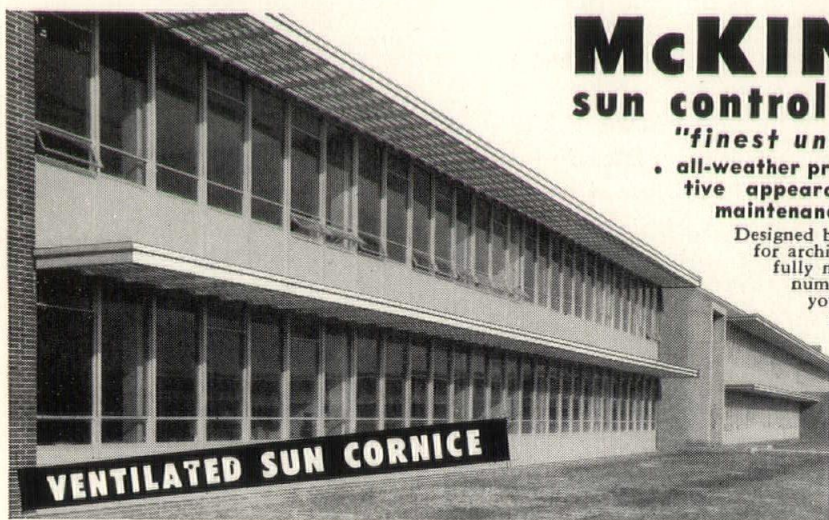
(Continued from Page 9)

housing facilities for them total \$676,500.

William P. Rock, director of the AIDC also told the commission that 11 other plants are "in prospect" for the state on which bond issue approval is still pending. The 11 plants he referred to will offer employment

to 2,195 and represent bond issues totalling \$3,195,000 in financing facilities to house them, the announcement said.

Under the state's industrial program, local industrial development organizations work through the AIDC in attracting new industries to the state. Location of such plants often is accompanied by the construction of factory buildings financed through bond issues. The buildings generally are leased to the firms coming into the state. Approval of the locally-owned bond issues first must clear the AIDC.



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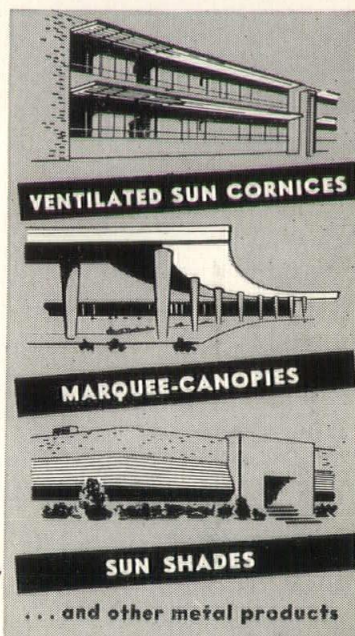
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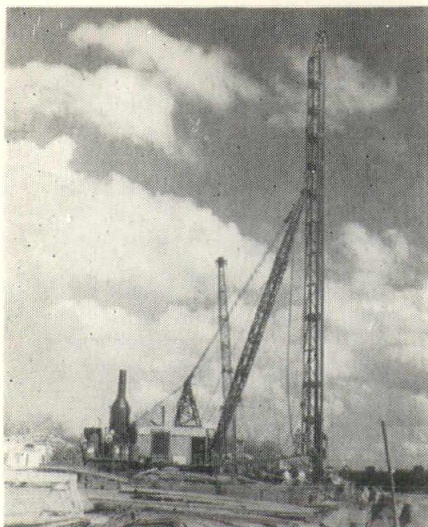
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There is some talk about having the American Institute of Architects, Gulf States Regional meetings every other year instead of annually, or perhaps holding the Louisiana Architects Association meetings once every two years. The reasons given for these

views are "don't have the time to spare" and "the attendance would be better."

My own opinion is that it would be more difficult to have successful meetings every **two** years! **Interesting** programs each year would increase the attendance. The reason for not attending meetings is not because we don't have the time but because we feel that we would not enjoy it. We can always find the time to do the things we really **wish** to do.

The Baton Rouge Chapter, A.I.A. meets every other month at noon. We should meet **each** month. The meetings are over by 1:15 or 1:30 and we take that much time for lunch every day. Occasionally when a meeting is missed because of sick-

ness or "out-of-town", it means **four** months between meetings.

We should canvass the A.I.A. members in the region to determine what **type** of meeting would be more acceptable, — how many days should the meeting last? Perhaps the members would wish to have active participation. Three or four seminars simultaneously on different subjects might be our answer. Maybe we should have discussions on everyday problems — problems that arise in the drafting room.

Changing our Gulf States Regional meetings to every other year would be a death blow! Interest would drop and the real purpose for having the meetings would be defeated.

—O. J. BAKER, A.I.A.

It was really encouraging to learn of at least one labor leader who was courageous enough to call for a moratorium on wages for 1958. Richard J. Gray, President of the Building Trades Department, at their recent convention urged the leaders of building trades affiliated crafts to forego all wage increases for one year in an effort to curb inflation.

In his proposal he suggested also that industries supporting ours, such as cement and lumber, steel and other

allied manufacturers, of building materials join in an anti-inflationary effort.

Another very important aspect of Mr. Gray's proposal was to create an industry-wide working committee on a national scale, with representatives of the various associations and top labor groups. This committee would examine the industry's economic position and would recommend broad measures important to stabilization. As an alternative to this proposal, he looked

for higher wages, higher prices, less construction, more unemployment, plus eventual government wage and price control.

While Mr. Gray's proposal may not be the ultimate answer to our over-all problem, such a proposal was very courageous, since he is a labor leader. In any event it is the writer's opinion that further increases granted within the industry without paralleling increases in production to offset wages could be disastrous.

—RAY E. PUTFARK

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tia, Architects

*
Isle Dauphine Club, Dau-
phine Island, Alabama
Arch R. Winter & T. How-
ard Ellis, Architects

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brary, Hammond, La.
Desmond & Davis, Archi-
tects

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ciuti, New Orleans
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ISSUE (APRIL)

GULF STATES ARCHITECT & BUILDER

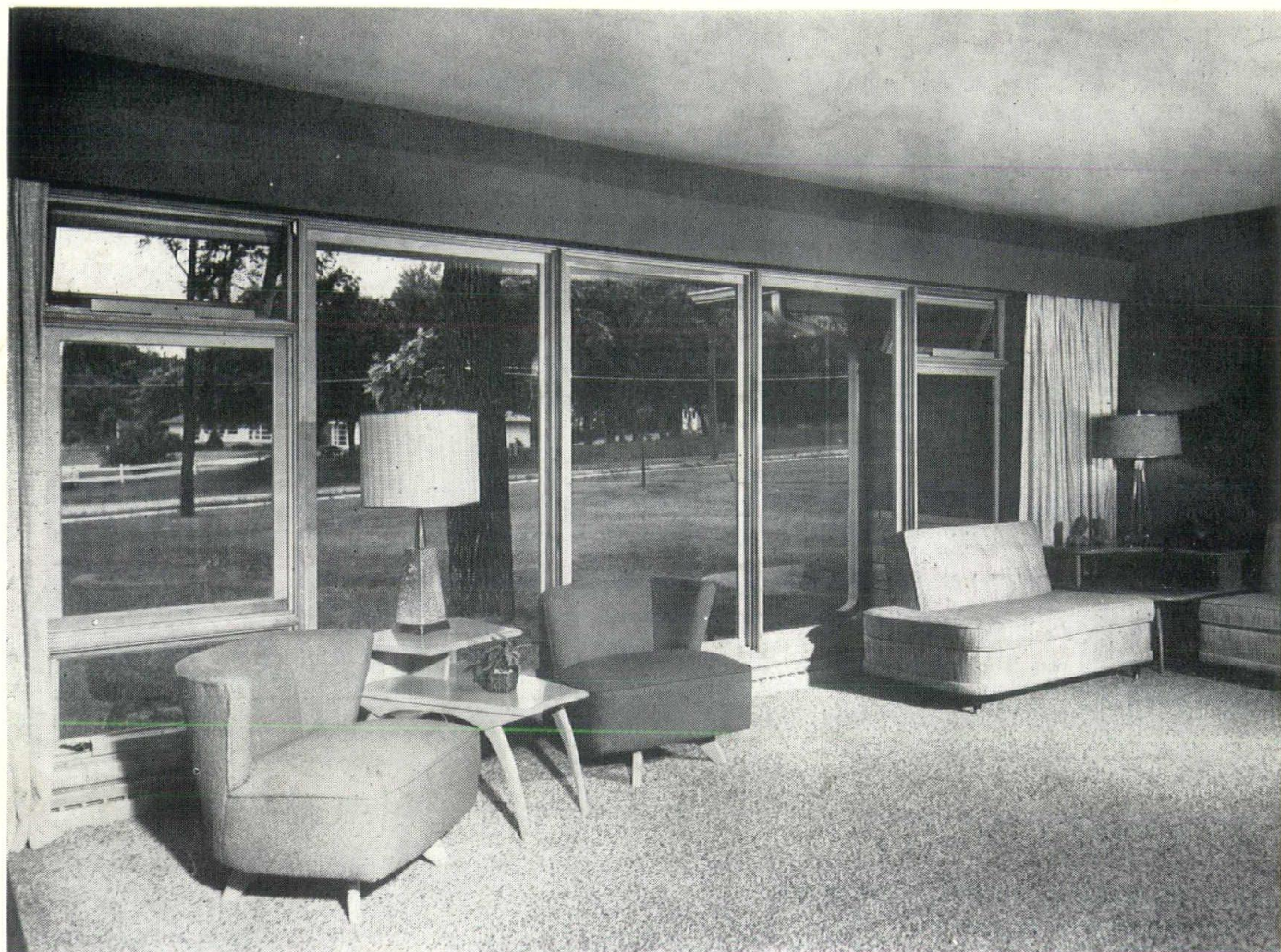
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