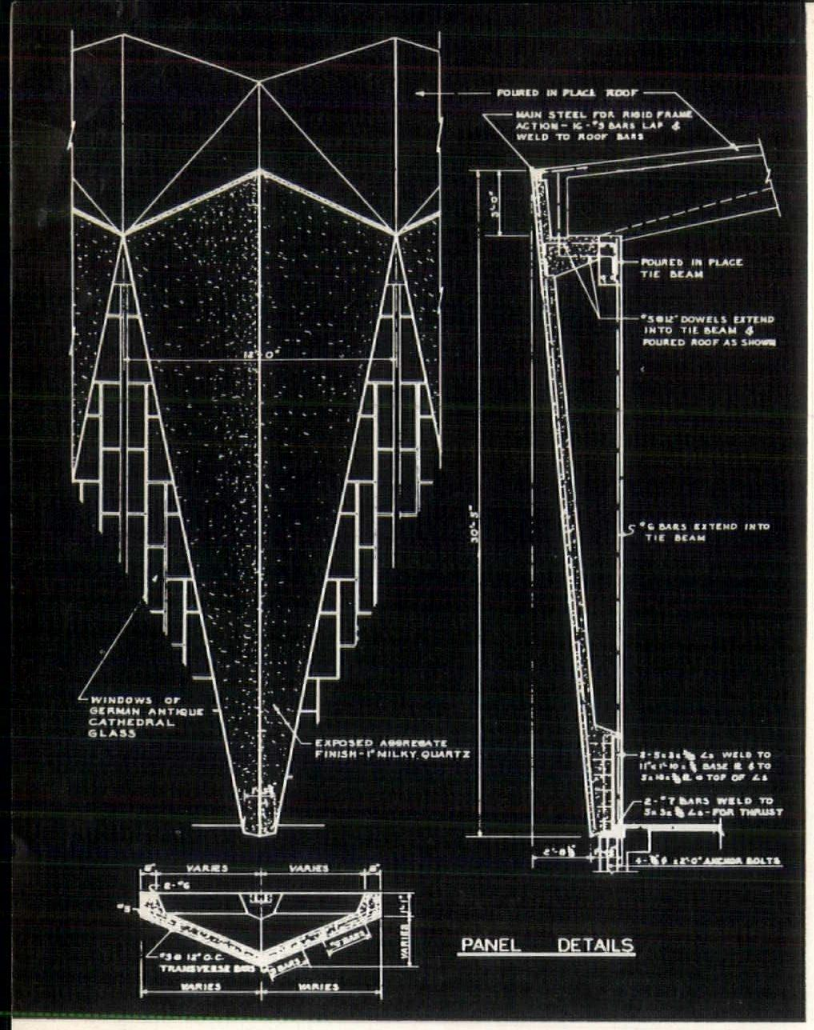
MAY - JUNE VOLUME VII NO. 3 1960

OWA ARCHITECT

Official publication of

OWA CHAPTER

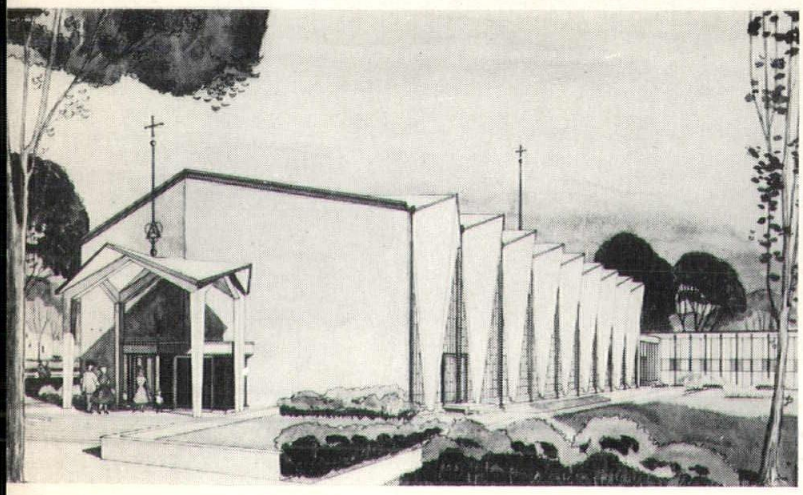
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

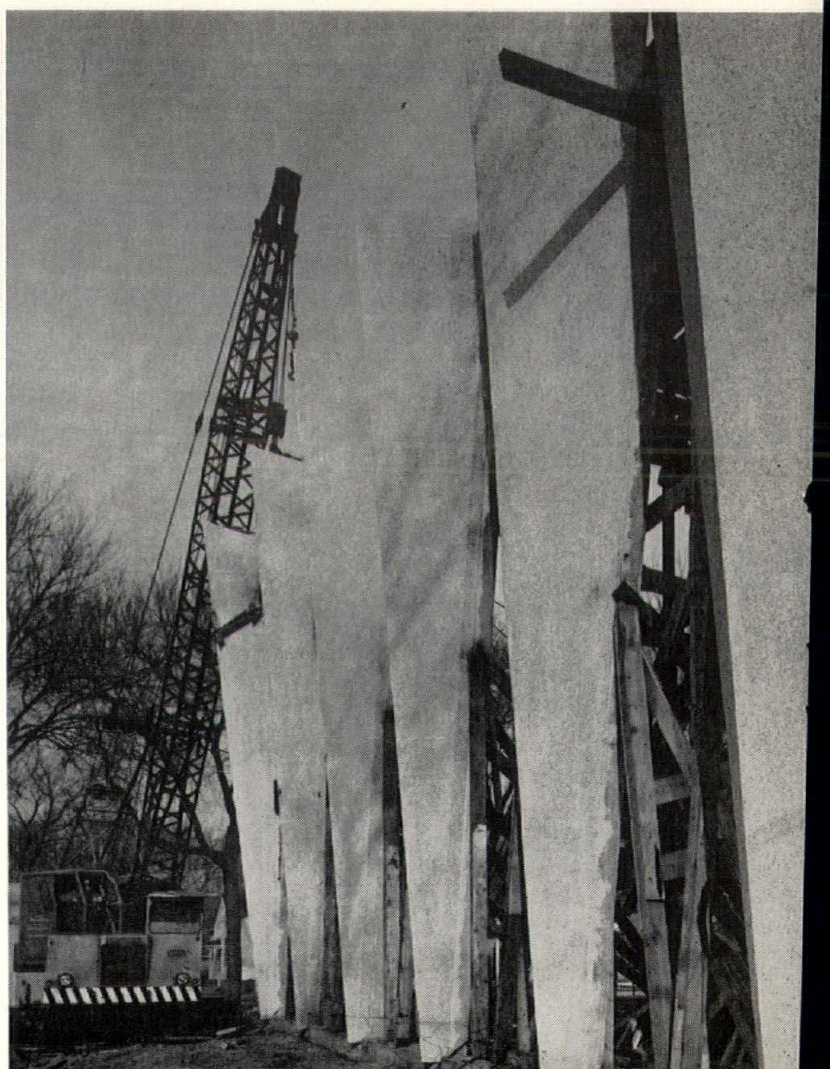


Trinity Lutheran Church of Minnehaha Falls
Minneapolis, Minnesota

Sovik, Mathre and Madson
Northfield, Minnesota

Each 15 ton panel acts as the leg of a rigid frame section with the poured in place shell roof. There are no columns. The contractor had to erect all 18 panels before the roof could be formed. The surface finish is exposed milky quartz in white concrete. Each panel is 12'-0" wide and 30'-5" high. All were cast in West Des Moines and trucked to the site.





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IOWA ARCHITECT

Iowa Chapter, American Institute of Architects

CONTENTS

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Upon Viewing California . . .

by Eugene C. O'Neil, President, Iowa Chapter

Attending a National Convention of the American Institute of Architects for the first time is a unique experience. Probably I'll never be the same again, both from having attended the programs and meetings of the convention, and also from the impact of California. The way the Architects act and think as a group is one thing to report; the way a citizen of California thinks, and more particularly acts is another.

By now you have heard that the 1960 convention is regarded as the most successful in the History of the Institute. The speakers and panelists were of such stature as to make it so. The speeches will be reported in the Journal of the A.I.A. and should be read and appreciated as affecting the thinking and future actions of us all, at least in a general and very broad sense.

When a sociologist such as Dr. Wendell Bell tells us that we don't have a democracy, and generally speaking that we don't want a democracy in the sense of true and effective representation, I cannot help but think upon his statements.

When a truly great man such as Dr. Oppenheimer tells us that we must recognize and create order, and that we learn not by being right, but by being wrong, I reflect upon such statements. When he mentions that terror, discipline and essential lonesomeness are the attitudes of all creative minds in his Princeton Institute of Higher Learning, I immediately think of all Architects who experience these same reactions when they sit down to the seemingly hopeless task of converting unrelated facts into program, and eventually into an effective and significant structure.

When Mr. Parkinson said "Architects have to quit playing God" I had to say to myself that we hadn't had clients who allowed us the privilege.

The speakers and the panelists were the cream of the convention.

The business sessions of the Institute produced no significant action, only debate and motions to defer action "until more study is given" to the affairs at hand. The new president Phil Will expressed his concern that the Architects during Convention had confused "timidity with wisdom" in not accepting at this time the recommendations of both re-organization of the regional structure of the A.I.A. and a broadened membership base of the Institute. It will occur eventually, but not in 1960.

One could not attend a convention for the first time and not be amazed at the seemingly small number of men who are significant in the voice and leadership of the Institute at the top level. You further realize that the problems of political apathy can be applied with cogent import to the conditions of control of the American Institute of Architects. Iowa and other Central States can be heard and felt through Oz Thorson, and anyone else who bothers to present a convincing point of view.

Most of us have felt that "Washington" was just too far away to care about the problems of the hinterlands. This is just not true. Probably the hinterlands will eventually dictate the final reorganization pattern of the Institute. The larger states with greater numbers sound off about Geography, but geography as well as numbers will eventually dictate the reorganization. Geography is on our side. So much for the affairs of the Convention.

California is a subject in itself. We saw the Bay area, spent time in San Jose, and later spent a few days at Pasadena. It is a bewildering, confused place to be. Many midwestern migrants have made a fantastic booming expanding economy so unlike our "status quo" concept that it defies comparison.

I'm convinced that we have given away a great portion of our future by not selling Iowa to our own Sons and Daughters. Far too many of them are counted as residents of California and have no intention of returning. People like them from many states are the fabric of the population explosion of California.

Two of my personal convictions on the "Magazine Architecture" that serves as our brainwash were shattered by first hand observation; one regarding schools, and one regarding housing.

Our National Architectural Geographics come in regularly with California's best in both categories. California schools are supposed to be the last word. Many of them are, but state participation and control has reduced the majority of Architectural solutions to an undramatic uninteresting, fully predictable building of no real challenge, and certainly no reward for the efforts of those who produce them. There were notable exceptions, but these seem mostly to be buildings which were excluded from state par-

(Continued on page 10)

the water's fine

• • •

BEACH AND BOATHOUSE AT VACATION VILLAGE

Summer Outing at Lake Okoboji

Two full days of leisurely summer activities in good company were in store for the Iowa Chapter members who answered the call to the annual "Summer Outing" being held this year at Vacation Village on the western shore of West Lake Okoboji, June 10 - 12.

Hosts Keith and Bob Ross had plenty of room, promised sunshine and swimming weather, and event Co-chairmen Bernie Keninger and James Walsh had completed arrangements for boat rides and other entertainment suited to everyone from the smallest of children to the grandfather class.

First copies of the Iowa Chapter suggested minimum fee schedule were to be ready for distribution at the meeting. Copies will go into the mail to each firm immediately following the summer meeting. Initial distribution will be at the rate of 20 per firm. Additional copies will then be available on request and at a modest price.

Most serious business of the weekend was that of having an enjoyable time in excellent surroundings. Program plans included a one-hour ride on the "Queen," sometimes called the "Flagship of the Iowa Navy," while speedboat rides also were in the offing.

Excellent golf courses, and riding stables were close at hand.

Meals are served buffet style and the crowd gathers first in the vicinity of the shuffleboard and tether ball courts to test skill and coordination. The cabins are clean and well kept, providing snug bunks for children and surroundings that are immune to the splash and drip of wet swim suits.

The gently sloping beach provides an excellent place for the youngest and the oldest to frolic in the water. The sandy area of the beach makes sunbathing a luxury, and, for those who don't want to go near the water, sun-lounge chairs are distributed through the area.

Children find plenty of games to play away from the beach, too, and some will be teaching their parents a thing or two about ping-pong and bowling.

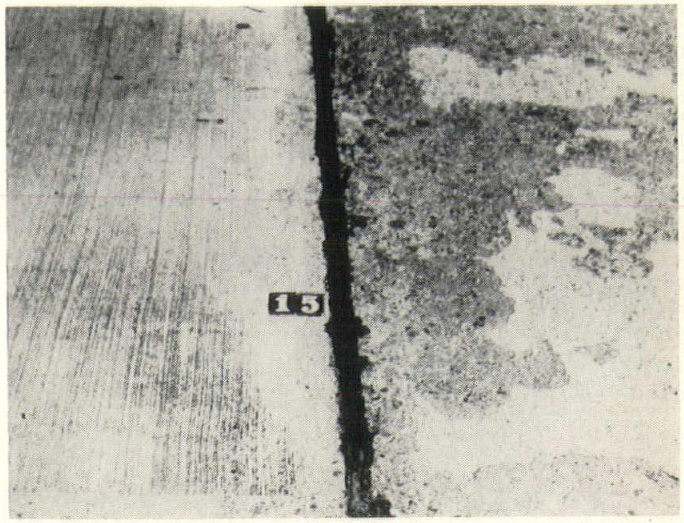
Motion pictures are on the evening program, with the emphasis on architecture of foreign lands.

MEMBERS AND FAMILIES TROOP ABOARD THE QUEEN

Concrete For Severe Climates

by

D. H. Comann, Iowa District Office
Portland Cement Association



The unscaled concrete pavement at the left of the joint was made with air-entrained concrete. The pavement at the right of the joint, with 75% of the surface area scaled, was built at the same time of similar materials and construction procedure except that the concrete was not air-entrained.

Spring has finally come to Iowa and this past winter has taught a lesson that all should remember —the widely specified 3000 psi non-air-entrained concrete cannot be expected to survive for very long when used for exterior slabs on ground.

Here in Iowa where climatic conditions are severe, many concrete drives, parking areas and walks have evidenced surface scaling. This scaling has been caused by severe frost action and by the wide use of salts as de-icing chemicals. Salt scaling can be caused by either the direct application of the salts to the concrete, or by indirect application of salt drippings from undersides of automobiles. If walks, drives, or parking lots are to be free from scaling, specifications for exterior concrete slabs must cover three important subjects:

1. Proper amount of air-entrainment.
2. Proper quality of concrete for the exposure.
3. Proper curing prior to exposure to frost and/or application of salts.

Air-entrained concrete is concrete which contains *intentionally* entrained air in the form of minute, disconnected bubbles well distributed through the mass. These air bubbles are microscopic in size and as many as 600 billion bubbles are entrained in a single cubic yard of concrete having an air content around six per cent by volume.

The benefits of air-entrained concrete can best be shown by the illustration. It shows a typical example of the type of surface scaling caused by the application of salts for ice removal and the beneficial effect of air-entrainment. Laboratory studies and field experience have consistently shown that purposely entrained air in the proper amount increases the resistance of concrete to disintegration by frost action and to scaling by the direct application of salts for ice and snow removal.

To provide an adequate safety factor and dependable assurance that adequate protection will be obtained, it is recommended that the following amounts of air be specified in air-entrained concrete:

Maximum Size Aggregate	Amount of Air Per Cent
1½ in., 2 in., or 2½ in.	5½ + 1
¾ in. or 1 in.	6½ + 1
⅜ in or ½ in.	8 + 1

It should be emphasized that specifying air-entrainment is not enough in itself. Air determinations should be made by competent inspectors at such intervals as may be necessary to insure compliance with the specifications. If two consecutive determinations of separate batches at the beginning of a day's run show adequate amounts of air, an occasional check, such as one per five loads, should be sufficient evidence of continuing compliance. Samples for air tests should be taken after the concrete is deposited on the subgrade.

Air-entrainment alone is not the sole answer to durable concrete. Tests have shown that the lower the water-cement ratio, which is to say the higher the strength, the more resistant concrete is to freezing and thawing. In structural concrete the strength specified is governed by the loads on the particular section. In a like manner the durability of exterior concrete is governed by the exposure to which it will be subjected. The 3000 psi, or even 3500 psi, concrete

(Continued on page 22)

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Upon Viewing California . . .

(Continued from page 6)

ticipation, and their distinction was a result of the freedom of exploration away from the stark and unyielding state requirements.

We saw many fine schools on the Conducted School Tour in the San Francisco area. However, I could name several schools in Iowa as noteworthy, or more so, if the twelve-month greenery was taken from the California examples.

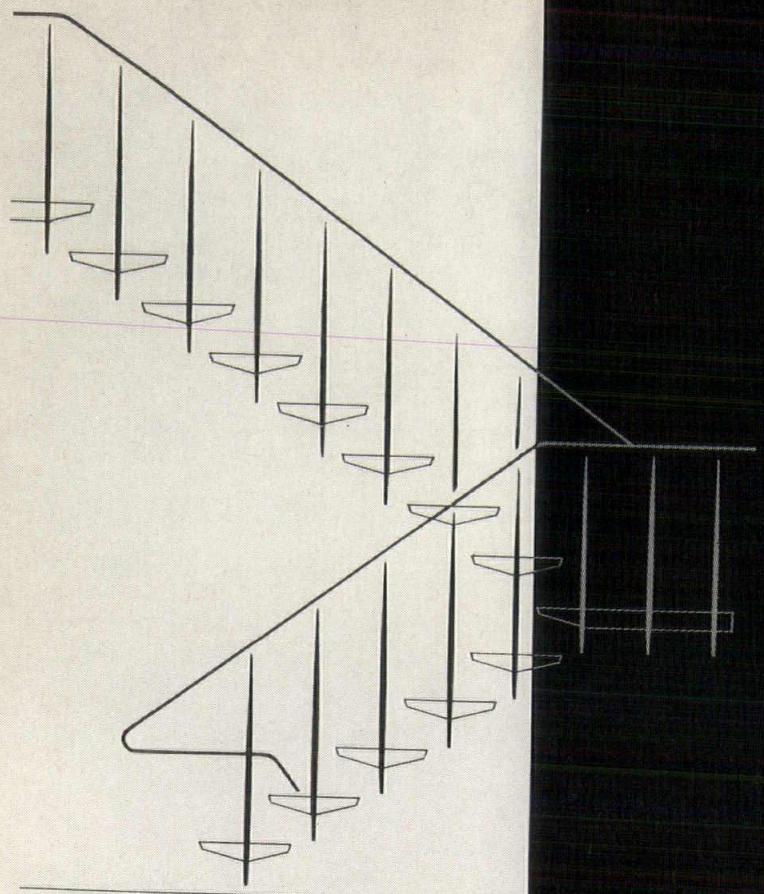
Incidentally, we also learned through a report to a session at the Convention that California's huge state Civil Service Architectural Office, over nine hundred strong, probably the largest in the world, has cost the California taxpayers from 15 to 16 percent of the total cost of the College Buildings for the Architectural and Engineering Services provided in other states by private practitioners at a much lower cost. The California legislature has expressed its concern by modifying their law to allow private practitioners to once again participate in this area of building. We are to learn, I'm sure, that state participation means control, and control eventually means a stereotyped building solution.

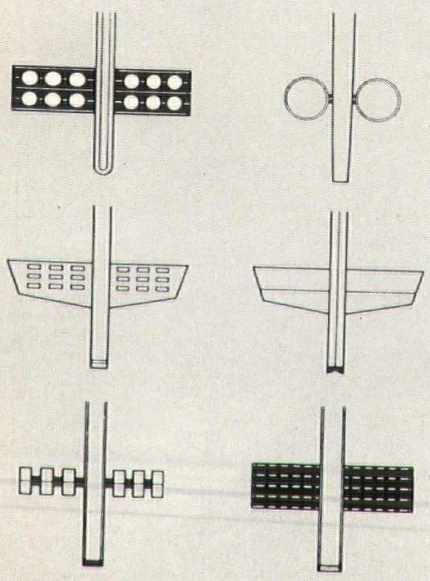
The other conviction that I had challenged was regarding the "California Modern" approach to residential construction. A Secretary of a Real Estate Board told me that the higher eschelons of house purchasers fought to own what we would call in Iowa a "Traditional" midwestern ranch-type home. The post and beam, glass walled, low-pitch and flat roof models were generally reserved for the tract houses to be sold "at a price" for the mass market. A very small percentage of homes were built at the higher cost brackets of truly contemporary construction. Of course, where fourteen million people are involved in statistics a very small percentage can be quite a few homes.

I would like to take a second look at much of what California is, but the same people who have created the booming economy of the state have created the problems that go with it. Mass transportation is probably the most serious.

I'm convinced that Iowa is worth selling to our own generation. We must understand that the ideal weather and broader opportunity of the west and southwest are always beckoning. However, many components of our economy are more favorable in Iowa. We have very few deadbeats. Our system of moral and social values is exported for the betterment of California. We have everything to gain and little to lose in making a positive effort to establish Iowa as the state should be, based on the growth and wealth possible in holding and developing Iowa's own people.

I'd like to go to another convention.





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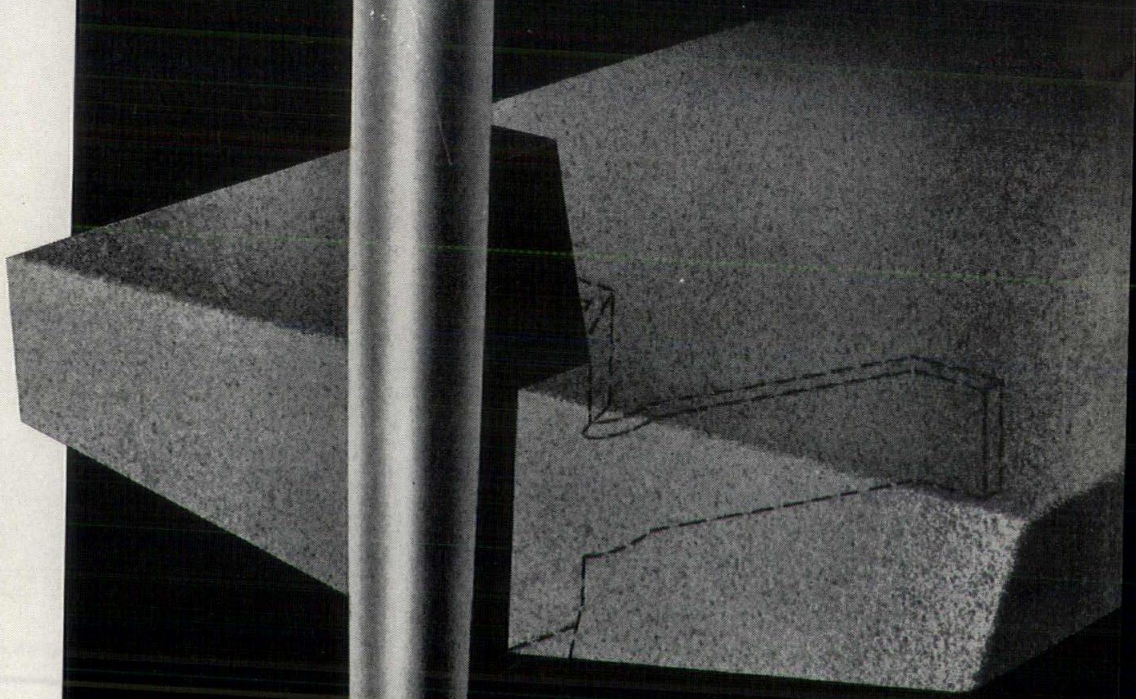

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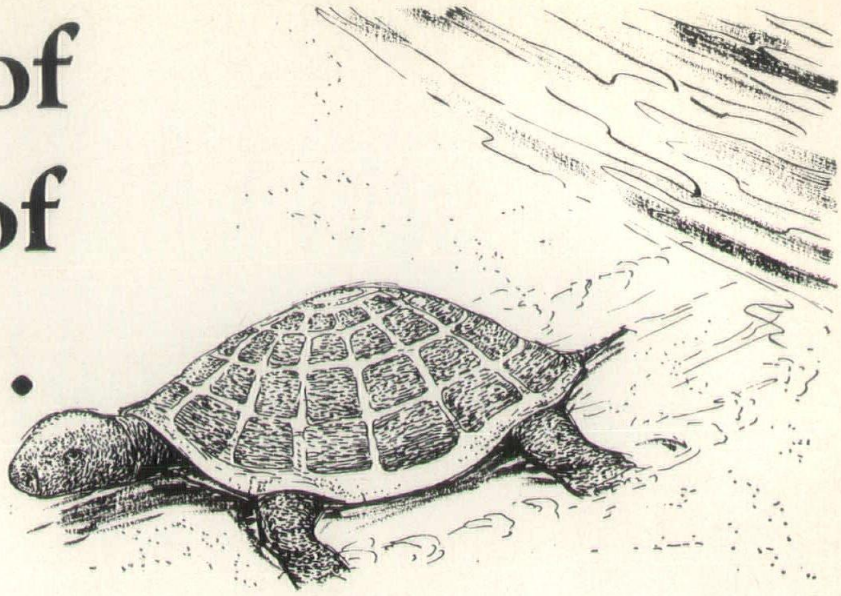

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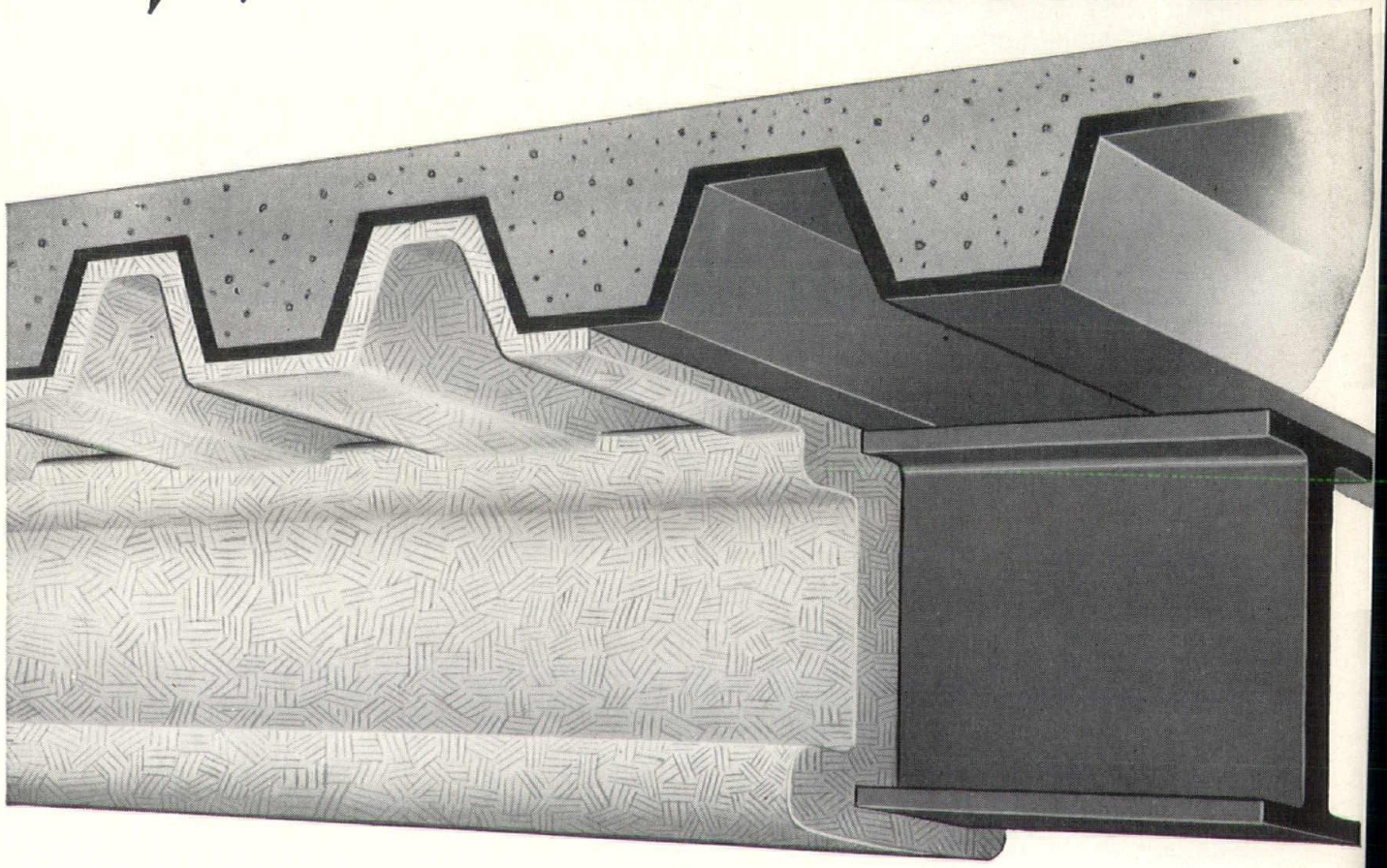

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Design for Architecture

James M. Hunter of Boulder, Colo., talks with Oz Thorson (right), Gerald Griffith (left) and Prof. Carl Wise in an informal session following the end of the "Operation Re-Tread" and the Student Chapter banquet at Ames, April 6. Hunter since has been elected Vice-President of the American Institute of Architects.

An excellent crowd of nearly 300 persons were present to hear winners of architectural awards announced at the 1960 Banquet of the Student Chapter, A.I.A., at Iowa State University, Ames.

James M. Hunter, F.A.I.A. of Boulder, Colo., presented the principle address of the evening, entitling his talk, "The Color-blind Chameleon" In his talk he said:

"The economic position of the profession, the technical ability of the profession, and the prestige of the profession have come a long way since World War I, and have continued at an accelerating pace since World War II . . .

"This is not time for complacency, however, no time to sit back and admire the image that society has created of us . . . No time to enjoy this, the best position in which we have ever found ourselves . . .

"Perhaps it is time to be cautious To look at the present, critically, and into the future. To stamp out brush fires and gear ourselves for the problems of the exploding population we can expect . . .

"Our social structure must change as this accelerating increase in our population 'explodes.' Our population will have doubled by 1999, and we will then need as many more buildings as now exist and we will have replaced more than half of the now existent buildings. This time, in 1999, is only one 'forty-year-mortgage' away . . .

"The profession, somehow, must be moved to interest and action toward a program of continuing education which will keep it abreast of the technical advance, the social changes, and the needs of this society . . ."

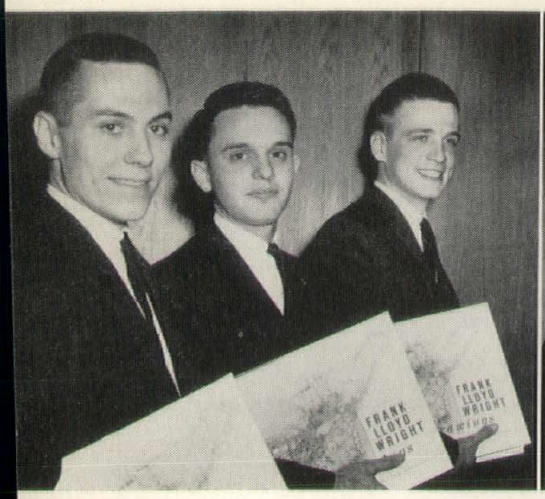
The suggestions following are summarized from Hunter's talk (he spoke as a member of the A.I.A. Committee on the Profession):

(a) Indoctrination: We feel that there is a marked lack of indoctrination into the profession of architecture not only among the young men beginning their careers, but amongst the older practitioners as well. This problem is for the Schools of Architecture and for the Architect-in-Training program.

(b) Education: We feel that we can see a real tendency in the Schools and the programs with which they are involved to be isolated from the reality of architectural practice. Seminar sessions are encouraging, but this is an isolated case. We feel the ideal climate is for the profession to consider the teacher as a fellow architect who is teaching; for the teacher to feel that their fellow architects may be called on as necessary or desirable to teach. We feel that many schools splinter course materials into more courses of less basic value, and that the architect should be educated on a far broader base in the humanities. We feel schools are inclined to glorify the designer at the expense of those who specialize in structural, mechanical, acoustical or electrical aspects.

(c) Internship: We feel that the profession is woefully remiss in this all important period of development between graduation and licensing and that the Architect-in-Training program should be revitalized and that the N.C.A.R.B. and the Licensing Boards should not only endorse the A.I.T. but make it mandatory for license.

(d) Registration: We sense a very poor rapport existing between the teachers of architecture, the students, the candidates for licensing, and the examining boards which cannot be dismissed as the natural antagonism between the examinor and the examinee. We believe that this poor rapport between candidate



Award winners at ISU for the year were captured by the Camera for the Iowa Architect. They are (left photo), left to right, Gerald Anderson, Michael Shellenberger and Richard Campbell, all of whom received a special award from the Karl Keffer fund. Campbell was winner of the School Medal of the American Institute of Architects, and Gerald Anderson also won a Book Award from the Henry Adams Fund as well as placing third in the judging of student architectural work. (Center photo) Kenneth Tin Gum Tam, winner of the Durrant & Bergquist award and Burl Swanson, winner of the Karl Keffer award. (Right photo) Medal Winners Campbell and Kenneth Bussard, who received the Alpha Rho Chi medal. Dennis P. Burns and James Dwinell (not shown) were winners respectively of the Faculty Freshman and Sophomore prizes.

and examinor accounts in large measure for the very suspicious regard with which young man holds the Architectural Profession, generally, and its tenets of ethics and professionalism.

(e) Post-Graduate Development: We see it almost as a matter of Survival. As a profession, we have simply failed to adjust ourselves to a continually evolving society. We have become color-blind chameleons unable to sense the color of the environment to which we adapt.

This, in our view, is the profession's big challenge. We must find some way to jolt the profession into the realization that it simply cannot shut its mind along with its college books on the day of graduation.

We have outlined to the board the nature of, and the kinds, of course materials which the A.I.A. might provide to the profession in the areas of Land Development, Broad Gauge Planning, Economics, Taxation, and all of the other subjects which I hope I have touched on as being the weaknesses in the "service offerings" we make to the public.

The organizing of this material and the making it available to the profession is a technical job which can be accomplished in a relatively short period of time.

The organizing of a research program and the dissemination of the results of that research in basic architectural and environmental areas is a simple function of intelligence and money to do it.

Neither the availability of these materials nor an active research program can change the average practicing architect unless he wants to be changed; unless he is aware of what society is doing to him; unless he takes a keen interest in his own survival.

Joseph Kastner, winner of the Charles Frederick Bowers Memorial Prize and selected as the winner of the student display in Arch-E., receives the congratulations of Iowa Chapter judges James Bentley, Gerald I. Griffith, and Keith Lorenzen, Iowa Chapter Education Committee chairman. Roger Boyer, James Paxton and Gerry Anderson were winners in the architectural division.

Hands together as a symbol of the teamwork they expect for next year are the newly elected officers of the Student Chapter, A.I.A., at Iowa State University. From left to right they are: President William T. Mahan, Internal Vice President Richard A. Maitland, External Vice President Edward G. Sauer, Secretary-Treasurer J. D. Willis (who also won the Leo A. Daly award), and V. F. Stone, the faculty advisor to the chapter.

FIRST FALLOUT SHELTER

Solid concrete blocks form the walls of this, the first residential fallout shelter to be completed in Iowa. Shown above are former Iowa Governor Leo A. Hoegh, now director of the office of Civil Defense, Wayne Howard of the Marquart Concrete Block Co. which manufactured the blocks and Gene DuBois of the DuBois Walker Home Builders Inc., which built the shelter into a medium-priced ranch style home. Estimated cost of materials used was $150.

Within four days after the shelter was opened to the public, five other residents in the Waterloo area had ordered similar shelters built into their homes. The shelter has an eight-inch thick concrete roof, and is located in a corner of a basement. It has interior dimensions of 9 x 10 feet.

QUOTABLE QUOTE

"We architects must assume the responsibility for turning the accelerating building boom into a better, more beautiful and more liveable environment for our people. This is both a challenge and an obligation. We cannot do it alone.

"This challenge and this obligation is one for the entire building industry. In that sense, the economic future of our country depends largely upon how well you, the contractors, and we, the architects, do our jobs—and how well we work together."

Quoted from John Noble Richards, past president A.I.A., who was the principal speaker at the 41st Annual convention of the AGC in San Francisco.

FAMILIES SEEK ROOM

A move of families from suburban developments to the country and a revival in interest in the two-story house were among the first findings of the McCall's third national congress on better living. The session also disclosed a desire for families that respect privacy.

Some other disclosures were a desire for roofed terraces, for fireplaces, and for the walk-in pantry, for two baths, and for a bedroom on the first floor of two-story houses.

Other features indicated were glare-proof glass in windows and glass walls; a separate laundry room; kitchen colors that are "more like living room colors."

John R. Hix, architecture senior and winner of a $500 national Edward Langley scholarship from the Institute, talks with Iowa Chapter president Eugene C. O'Neil in an informal moment following the banquet. Hix was also the recipient of a $1,000 E. M. Spiegel memorial scholarship from the National Home Builders Association.

Study Fire Regulations

Nearly five hundred schools administrators, building material suppliers, architects and contractors were on hand April 7 for the public hearing on new "Fire Safety Rules and Regulations" proposed by State Fire Marshal Ed Herron. The hearing was in the House Chamber of the Iowa State Capitol building.

During the two-hour session, many constructive suggestions were heard from various persons representing interested groups and industries. School board members, architects, local fire chiefs, contractors, and building material suppliers joined in expressing opinion on the proposed rules.

Nearly every speaker commended the fire marshal for his interest in safety, especially in the schools and colleges, however, many felt some of the recommendations should be re-written or modified. It was said the changes could be made without detracting from safety characteristics, but providing for flexibility of planning, ceonomy and construction.

Fire Marshal Herron accepted a suggestion of Blythe Conn, president of the Iowa Association of School Boards, that a committee, composed of representatives of the various groups present at the hearing, be named to work with the fire marshal in the clarification and modification of the proposed regulations.

Named to the Committee were:

Architects: W. L. Parish, Davenport; Clifford N. Prall, Des Moines; James Walsh, Spencer. School Board Members: S. W. Hirschler, Fairfield; O. H.

(Continued on page 22)

AIA GETS WAGNER BOOK

Listed among the recent acquisitions of the Institute's Library is a copy of "Landmarks of Iowa," the book sketches created by William Wagner and published by the Home Federal Savings & Loan Association of Iowa.

DIRECTORY OF ADVERTISERS

Advertisements of the following firms will be found on the indicated pages of this issue of The Iowa Architect.

INTEREST REVIVES IN ISU CHAPTER

An upturn in student interest in the American Institute of Architects has been noted by the officers of the Student Chapter at Ames who completed their terms in office.

President Frank Cervetti, in his annual report, said: "Generally speaking, the year to date has been very successful. The attitude of the students toward the organization improved tremendously, relative to that of former years. Co-operation among the students and faculty members with the Chapter has been extremely good. Attendance at scheduled meetings has been unusually high."

The monthly chapter meetings included an orientation session headed by Prof. Wolf, a discussion of "Thin Shell" concrete by Harold Jobse of the PCA; slides of the 1959 senior inspection trip; "Architecture and Fine Arts" in France by Prof. Roscoe Lorenz, the uses of plywood in architecture; a report on a student's tour of Europe, a discussion of architectural problems of the day, and a session on modern painting.

The chapter also noted that a lounge and refreshment room had been made available for the students to use during breaks between classes, and that a room had been made available for chapter officers and records.

Edward Sauer was chairman of the annual banquet, John Hix for the Beaux Arts ball, H. K. Bussard for the Veishea open house, and William Haynes for the Engineers' Carnival.

A.I.A. HONORS IOWA FIRM WITH AWARD ON PRODUCT LITERATURE

Recognition of an Iowa firm for the production of outstanding product literature was made during the 1960 A.I.A. Convention as the Waterloo Register Co. received a Certificate of Merit.

President E. T. Kelly of the Waterloo Register Co. received the award from George B. Cummings, a past-president of the A.I.A. at ceremonies recognizing firms in the 1960 Product Literature Competition.

The Certificate of Merit award was for "outstanding efforts in the production of informative, high-quality product literature directed to the architects."

NEW ROOF OF OLD METAL

Use of a Terne roof on a Frank Lloyd Wright designed building has been called to the attention of the Iowa Architect.

Terne metal roofs, an alloy of lead and tin on a base of sheet steel, enjoyed a great vogue in this country during the 19th century and one covers the AIA Octagon House in Washington, D.C.

The terne roof in Des Moines has been placed on the recently completed Drew Clinic at 2800 Ingersoll. It was placed with what is called the Bermuda horizontal seam construction.

NEW FIRM FORMED

Robin S. Carswell and Don S. Putney have formed the firm of Carswell-Putney & Associates to practice architecture. They are located at 308 F & M Bank Building, Burlington.

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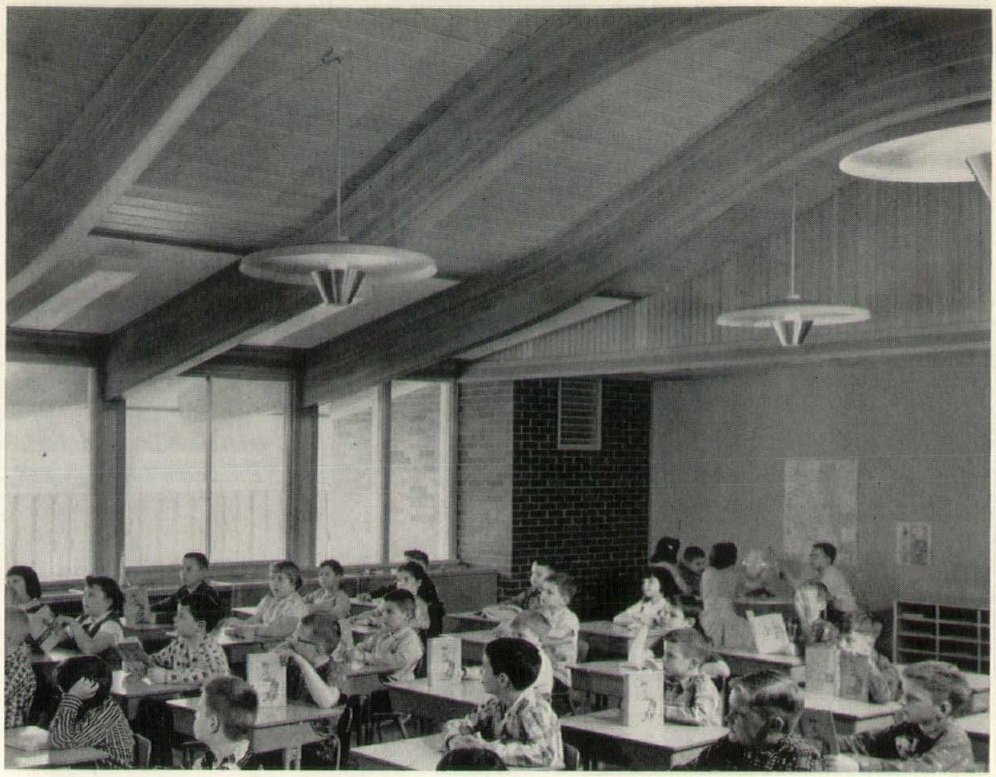

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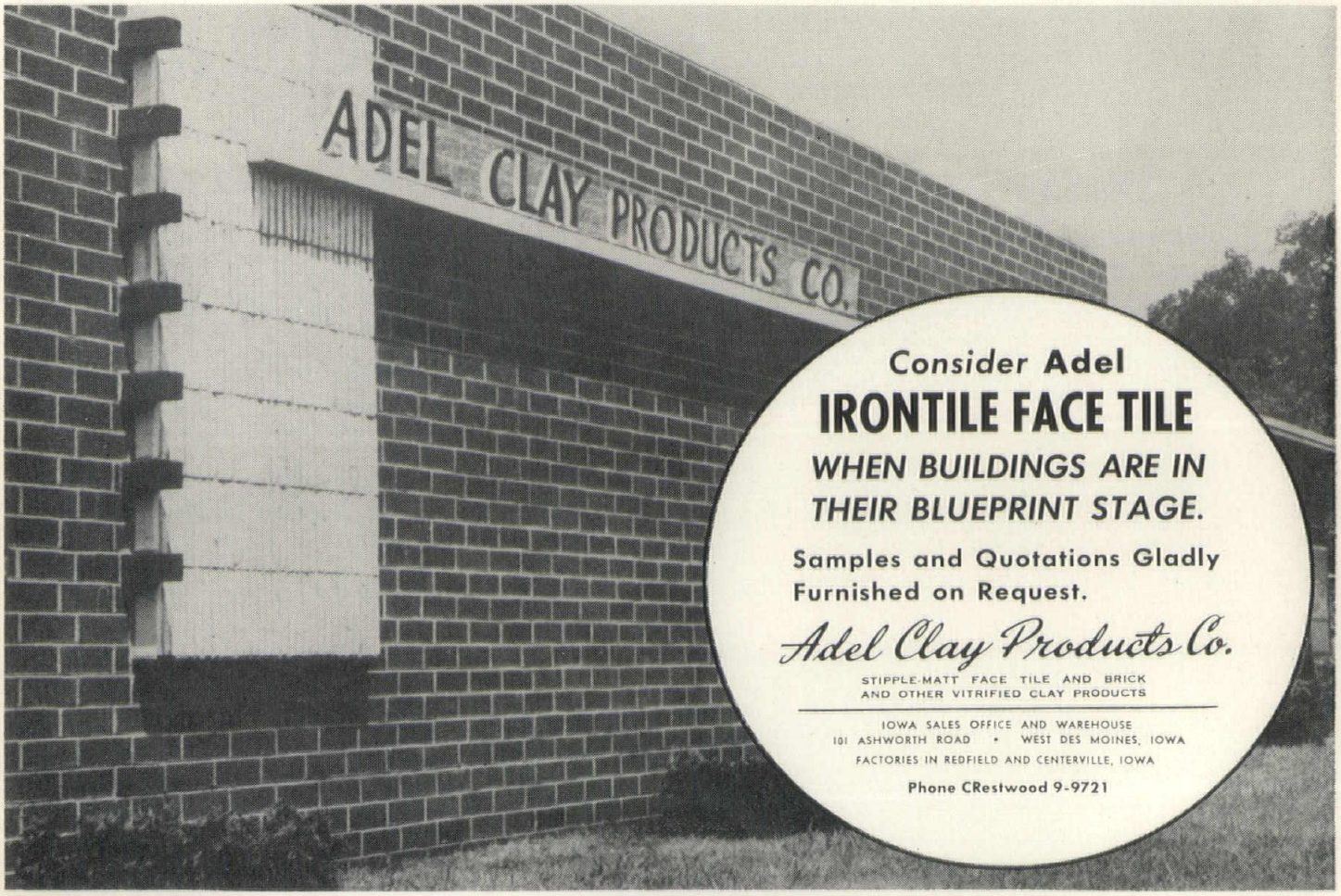

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Concrete For Severe Climates

(Continued from page 4)

found in so many specifications does not provide a water-tight cement paste which is essential to insure a durable concrete for exterior exposures in Iowa.

Therefore, in addition to the air-entrainment discussed above it is recommended that a strength of 4000 psi, or above, be specified for exterior work.

Assuming specification of the proper amount of air-entrainment and strength, it is equally important to provide for one additional time—adequate curing prior to exposure to frost and/or applications of salts. Adequate curing requires time, moisture and *favorable temperatures.*

Research and field experiences indicate that a minimum of 21 days of curing at 70° temperature (or above) is required for concrete to become resistant to salt scaling.

Thus it can be seen that exterior concrete placed in the spring or summer will be subjected to favorable curing conditions prior to severe weather. On the other hand, similar concrete placed in the fall has little or no chance to develop the resistance necessary. If it is necessary to place exterior concrete in the fall, the concrete should be given a protective coating for the maximum protection against winter scaling. (For information on protective coatings see the Portland Cement Association's Concrete Information Sheet "Protection of Existing Concrete Pavements from Salt and Calcium Chloride.")

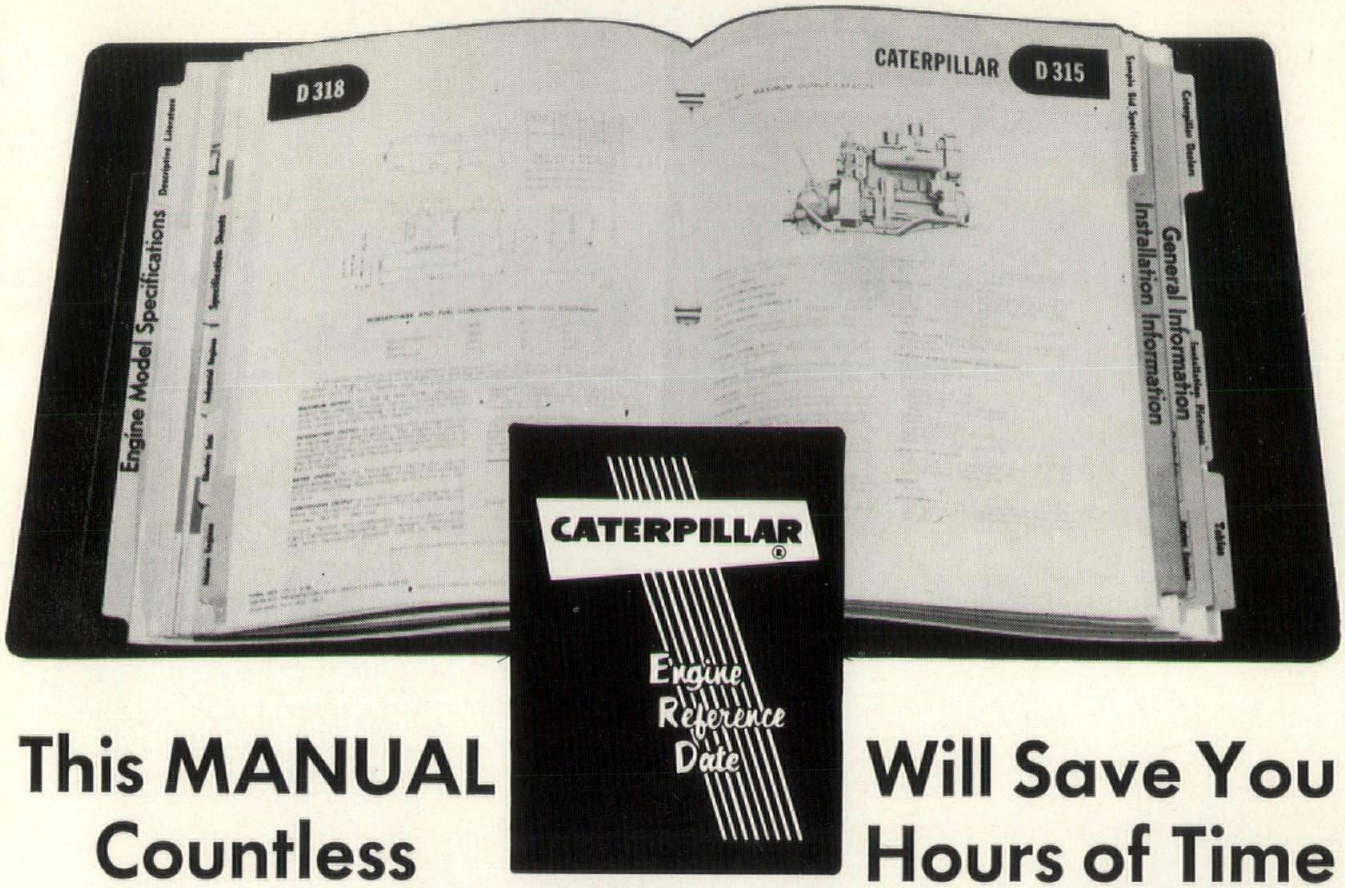
This article has attempted to cover the main points to be considered in this matter of durable concrete. The Portland Cement Association is greatly concerned over durability, as are the architects, and the Association's engineers stand ready to be of assistance.

FIRE RULES—

(Continued from page 18)

Propost, Creston; Robert H. Shepard, Mason City. School Administrators: William A. Anderson, Clarinda; R. O. Borreson, Sheldon; Arnold W. Salisbury, Cedar Rapids. Fire Chiefs: R. V. Bowers, Montezuma; Dale R. Holmes, Cedar Falls. Also appointed were: David A. Dancer, Sec., State Brd. of Regents, Des Moines; Monsignor B. Driscoll, Dubuque; and J. C. Wright, Superintendent of Public Instruction, Des Moines.

The committee held a preliminary meeting April 29 and set a second meeting for June 10.



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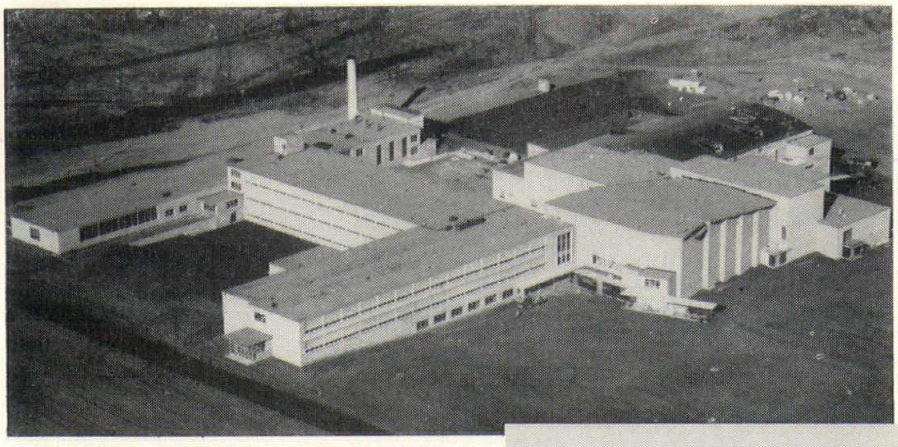
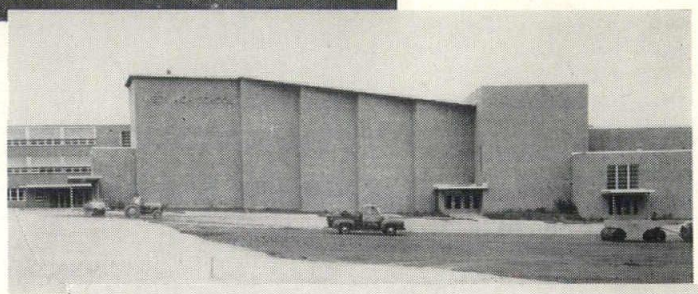


West Waterloo High School Waterloo, Iowa

R. M. & M. B. Cleveland, Architects

Photographs: Bruce Palmer



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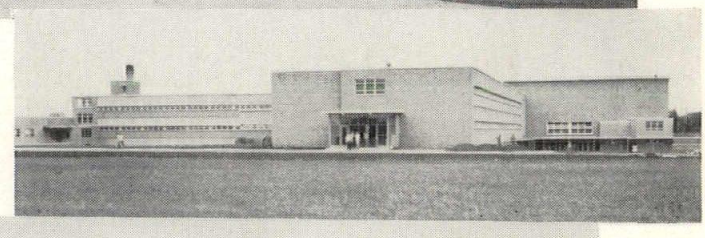

The new West Waterloo High School is an outstanding asset to the community and will continue to be an asset for years to come.

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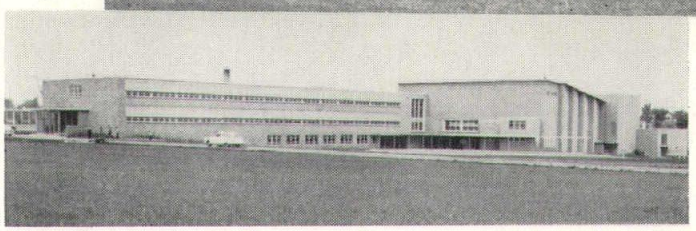

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