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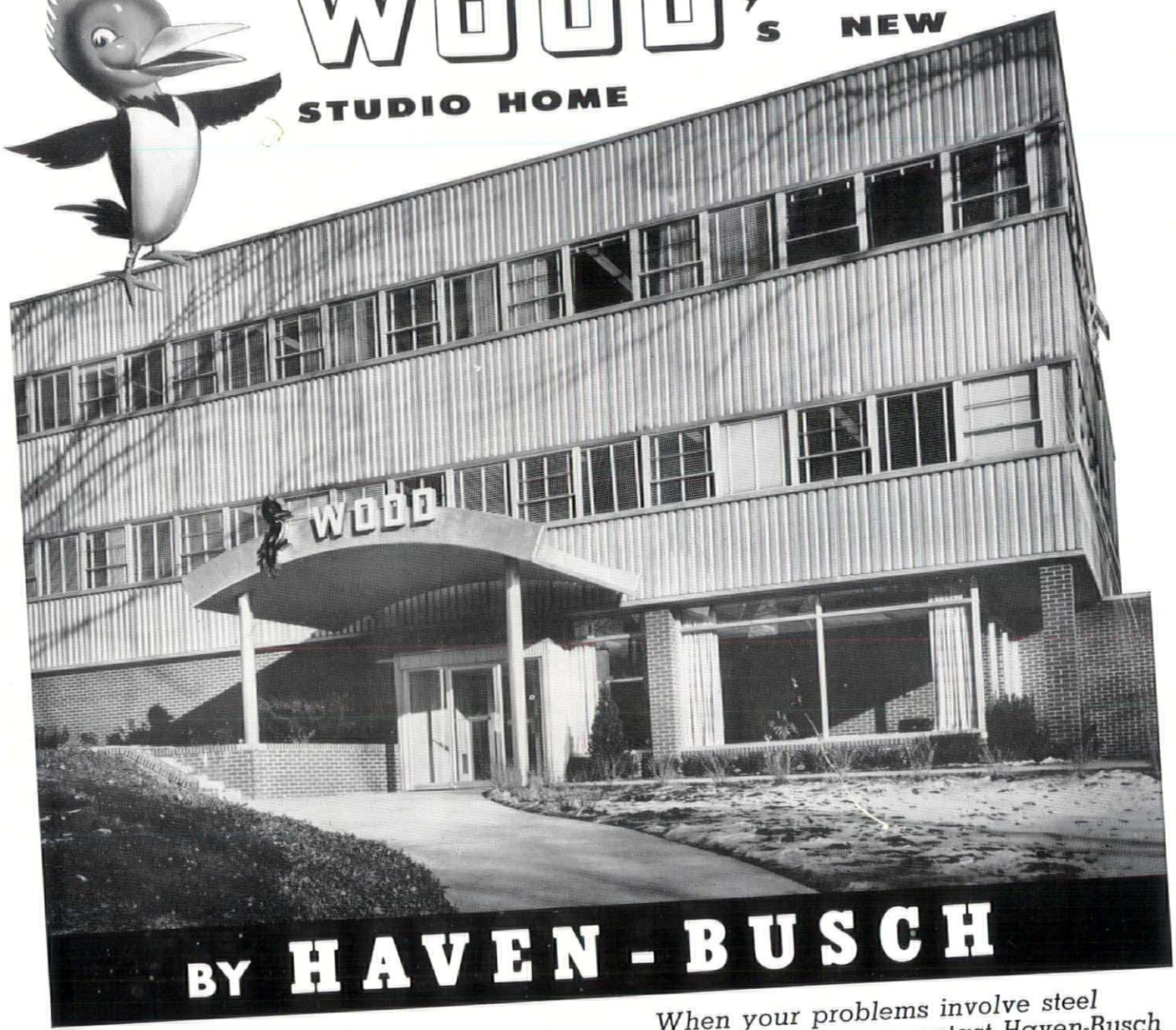

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C. Allen Harlow

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architectural practice

Your officers and directors of the Michigan Society of Architects have been constantly aware of a menace brought about by reduced fees sometimes offered by members.

While such reduced fees may at first appear to be an attractive expedient for an owner, it must be pointed out that such practice can only lead to a low standard of service. This is true because fees below the minimum necessary to provide adequate service necessarily result in inferior plans, ambiguity and incompleteness of drawings and specifications.

The Board of the Society is deeply concerned with the impression its members make as it affects the ideals and ethics of the profession. The respect and standards of the profession in this State will rise or fall with our members' influence on the general public. Mediocre plans and specifications and weak business practices will do more harm to the profession, to the owner and to the architect than is at first apparent.

Architectural registration boards, societies and chapters of the Institute can function as policing agencies only in a limited manner, nor should they be expected to do more. In a broad sense, they can only influence the practice of architecture, and they must depend upon the performance by the individual architect for the final result. The public cannot be expected to know about such practice except as the individual practitioner's influence is felt.

Every business or profession must show some profit or the life of that endeavor is limited. The architect is conducting a business, and, dollar-wise, he must justify its existence. While, undoubtedly, there

table of contents

coming issues

OCTOBER—Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.

NOVEMBER—Diehl & Diehl

DECEMBER—Annual M. S. A. Roster (Geographical) & Saginaw Valley Chapter, A.I.A.

JANUARY, 1956—Giffels & Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti

FEBRUARY—Louis G. Redstone

MARCH — 42nd Annual M. S. A. Convention

APRIL—Carl R. Habermas

MAY—R. S. Gerganoff

JUNE—Annual M. S. A. Roster (Alphabetical) & Western Michigan Chapter, A.I.A.

JULY—Charles D. Hannan

AUGUST — 13th Annual Mackinac Mid-summer Conference

SEPTEMBER — Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, Inc.

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architect

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Michigan Society of Architects

120 Madison Ave., Detroit 26, Mich., WO 5-3680

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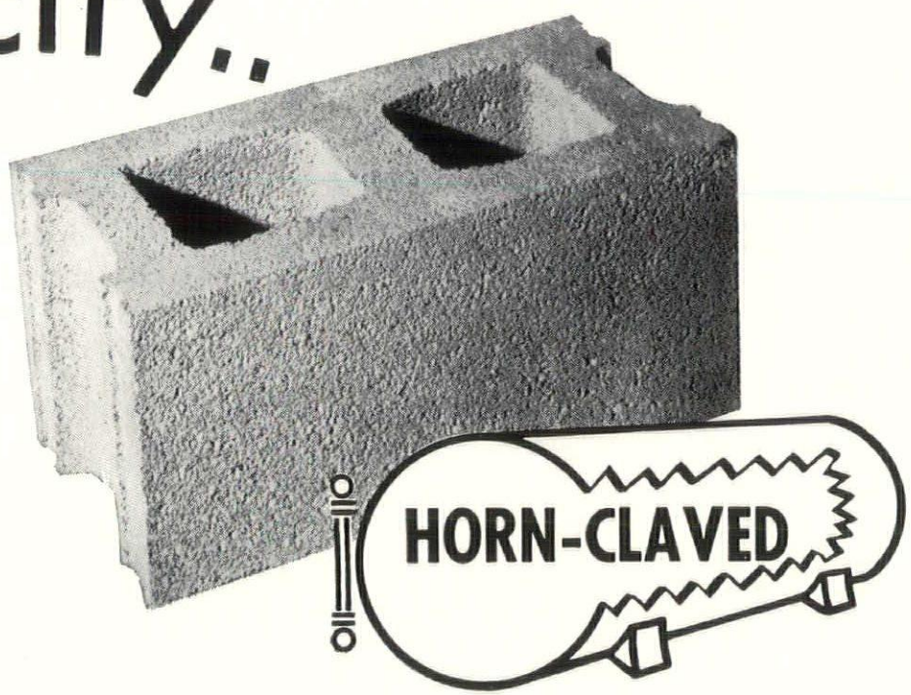

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are some architects who do not produce adequate documents even with a fair fee, it can be expected that when a commission is taken at a low fee the architect will attempt to find means of reducing his services to avoid loss.

It is under such circumstances that the client may find his work turned over to less experienced men in the drafting room, insufficient study given to preliminary plans, important details omitted from the working drawings, specifications slighted, and the coordination and checking of the mechanical and structural engineering details with the architectural drawings slighted or omitted.

The fallacy of the low fee, almost invariably, is that the client has saved a small sum on architectural fees but at the cost of a good deal more for contractors' extras, and possibly higher operation and maintenance costs. In addition, he will probably be enduring a building with an unsuitable functional plan.

The client is not generally aware of these dangers, nor can he be expected to be. Many of the clients the architect serves may build but once in a lifetime, and they may serve on boards awarding architectural commissions for large projects, without having had previous experience with architects.

At a recent meeting of a Michigan school board, architects were interviewed for a proposed new school building, and it was reported that the range of fees was so wide as to cause much confusion. Fortunately, in this case, a sufficient number of board members were convinced that low fees might cause embarrassment later.

Few such boards are, in their entirety, familiar with the complexities involved in preparing complete plans and specifications. Few are aware of the fact that building costs, building operation and maintenance costs are related to the thoroughness with which the architect has prepared his studies, his plans, his documents, and supervised his work.

No schedule of fees can fit exactly every individual project. However, the Society has conducted a comprehensive study of costs of preparing complete documents and carrying out a creditable service. It has also prepared a Schedule of Recommended Minimum Fees, which is contained in its brochure, "Organizing to Build." This booklet also explains in language understandable to a client the duties of the architect, the responsibilities of the owner, and much other valuable information.

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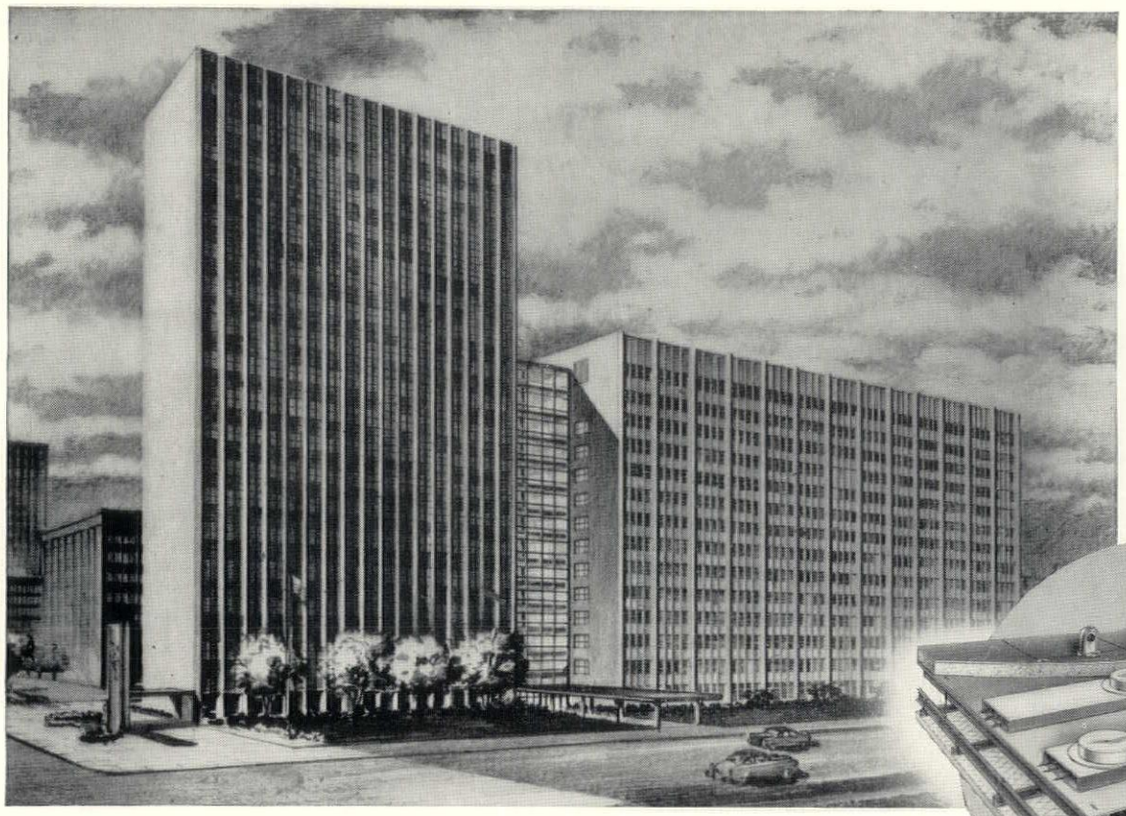

New $26,000,000 City County Building, Detroit, Michigan. Harley, Ellington & Day, Inc., Architects and Engineers; Bryant & Detwiler Co., General Contractors.

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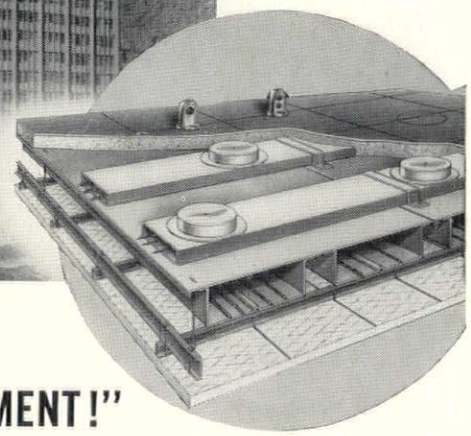

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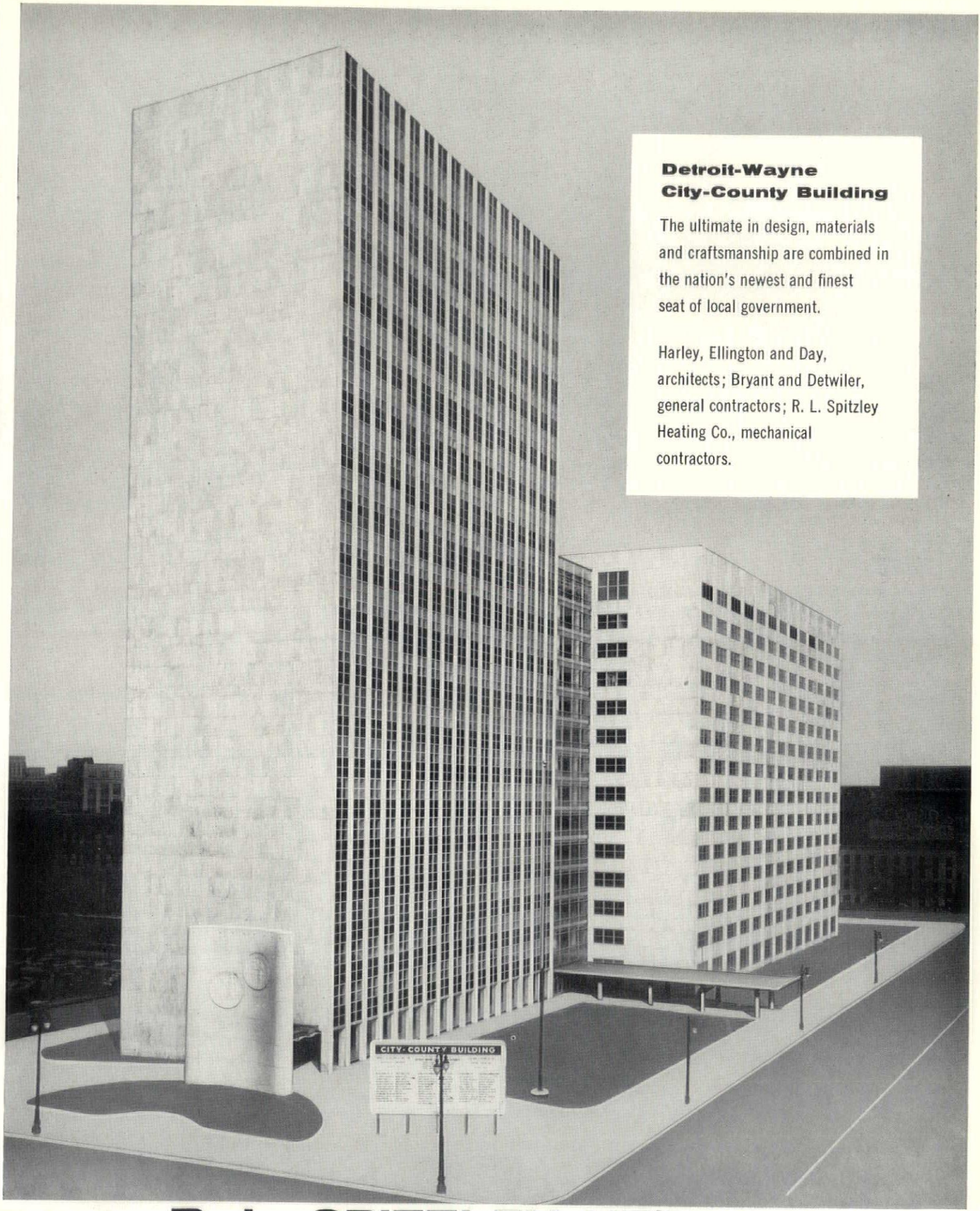

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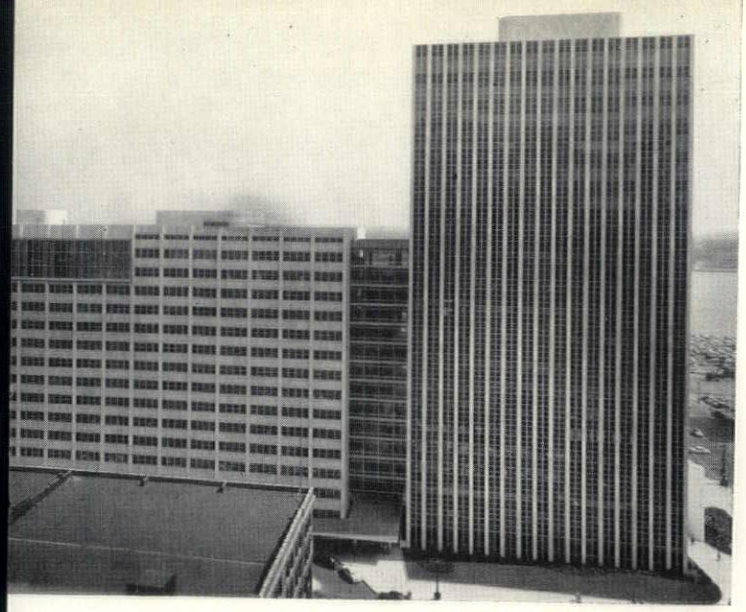

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The actual photographs shown on this page are a clear indication of the important part we played in the execution of this fine addition to Detroit's new Civic Center.

To enter this building you must pass through our aluminum doors regardless whether it be from Woodward Avenue, Jefferson, Larned or Randolph.

After you enter, either the Courts Unit on the west or the Office Unit on the east, we supplied the aluminum and glass partitions dividing the numerous public areas on the first floors.

You find it necessary to conduct your business on one of the upper floors, we provided directories and bulletin boards for your convenience.

Should you find yourself in the Courts Unit and discover you should be in the Office Unit, you may pass through our aluminum doors and across the connecting link at each floor whose exterior walls of aluminum and glass were also done by us.

If you are to attend a function in the Auditorium or find it necessary to use one of the buildings many stairways, our railings will be there to assist you.

Even a possible unhappy court appearance may be made less so by your being able to read the enlightening bronze inscriptions and studying the sculptoring we supplied on the marble walls behind the judges benches.

We could go on and on describing the part the Moynahan Bronze Company played in the execution and completion of this fine building. Yes, we played a prominent part and are proud to describe it. May we pay tribute to Harley, Ellington & Day, the Architects and Bryant & Detwiler, the General Contractors for selecting us as the Ornamental Metal Contractors.

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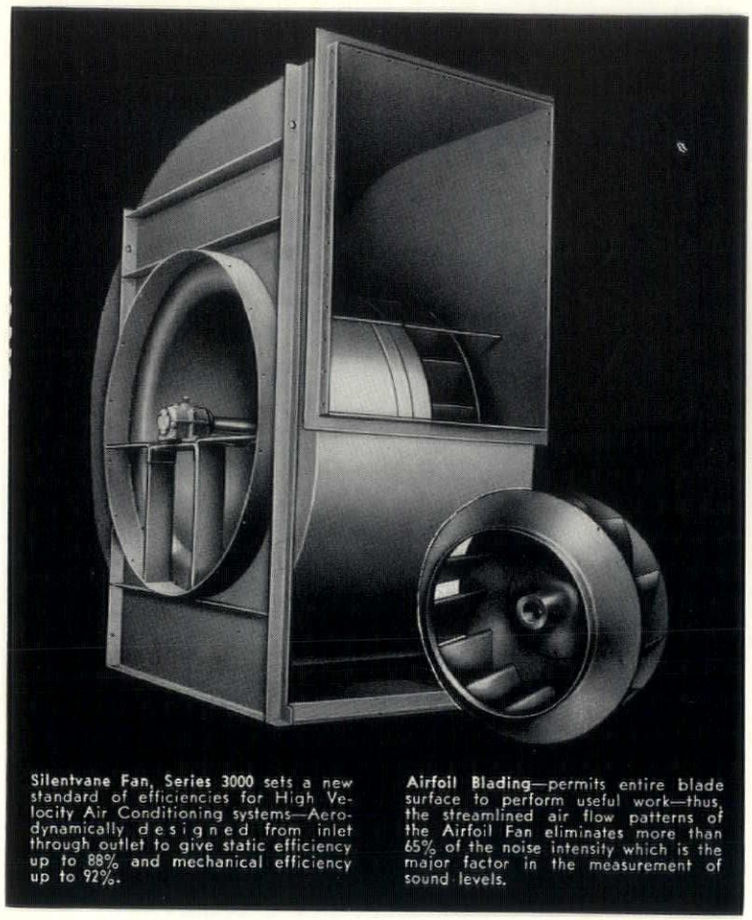

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Detroit News Photo

City-County Building

Detroit, Michigan

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Architects and Engineers

Detroit, Michigan

The Symbol Wall

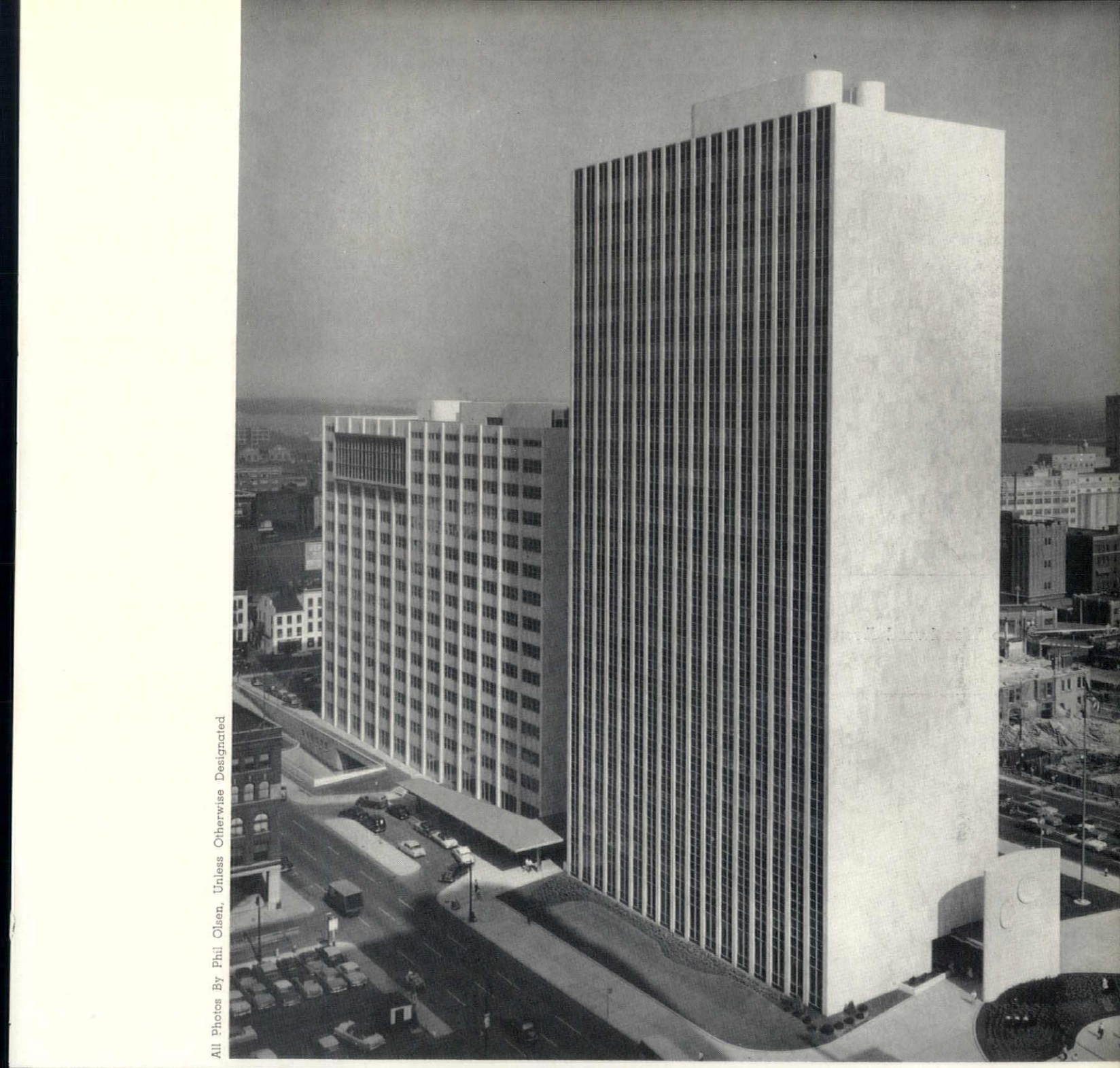
BY MALCOLM R. STIRTON, A.I.A.

The City-County Building is the second building to be built in Detroit's new Civic Center. It is located on the two-block area bounded by Woodward, Larned, Randolph and Jefferson Avenues, and closes off Bates Street between Larned and Jefferson. The same Architects and Engineers, Harley, Ellington and Day, Inc., designed the first building in the Civic Center (the Veterans Memorial Building) and the new City-County Building is designed in harmony with that building. In fact, the new building has been planned in relation to all of the proposed buildings of the Civic Center in such a way that it will become an integral part of it when the Center is completed.

The building is occupied by Municipal Offices of the City of Detroit and the County of Wayne and provides for the Courts of the County of Wayne, exclusive of Recorders Court and Traffic Court. It was erected under the direction of the Detroit-Wayne Joint Building Authority, a non-profit organization incorporated under the laws of the State of Michigan.

The Authority is composed of three members, one selected by the Board of Supervisors of Wayne County, one selected by the Common Council of the City of Detroit and the third selected by mutual agreement of these two organizations. These men are Postmaster Jesse Ziegler of Livonia, Councilman Eugene I. Van Antwerp of Detroit, and the Mayor of Detroit, Albert E. Cobo. The present manager of the building is a former authority member, Charles G. Oakman. They work without renumeration and it is because of their great interest in the project and untiring efforts for civic improvement that the building is a reality. This Authority has the right to issue revenue bonds to defray the cost of the building, these bonds being secured by a rental agreement between the City of Detroit and the Authority, and the County of Wayne and the Authority. Certain funds were made available as advance rents by these two municipal bodies to the Authority, which enabled it to prepare the drawings and commence construction. Subsequently the necessary bonds were sold to complete the financing of the entire building. The total cost of the project is approximately $26,000,000, including all land and improvements as well as the Architects' and Engineers' fees. The actual building itself cost approximately $22,600,000.

All Photos By Phil Olsen, Unless Otherwise Designated



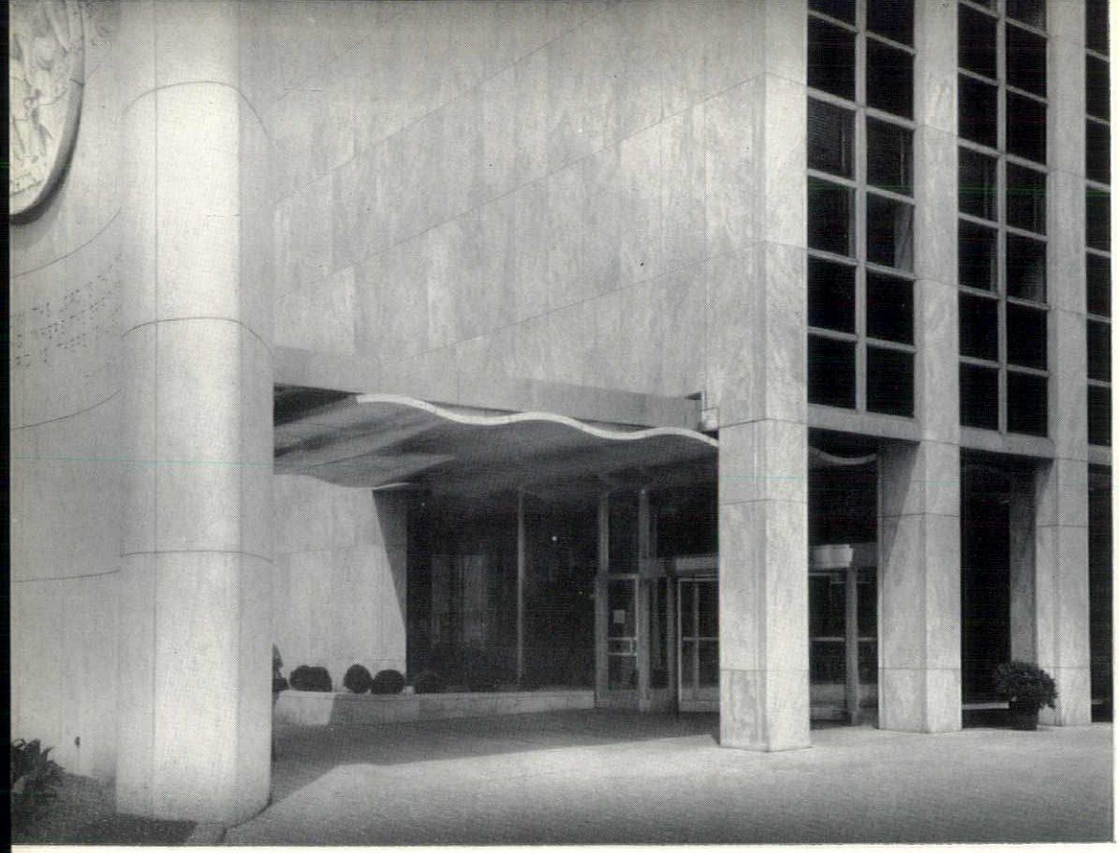
Win Brunner Photo

Exterior from Woodward & Larned

The building is composed of two units, the Courts Unit and the Office Unit. These units are organized into one common building by a glassed-in structure commonly referred to as the "link." The organization of the two units, the Courts Unit and the Office Unit, has been predicated on the general arrangement of the Civic Center but also on the physical problems encountered in the site. Planwise the Courts Unit is set forward toward Woodward Avenue and to the north of the Office Unit which thereby forms an interior corner, tying across Jefferson Avenue to proposed buildings of the Civic Center and the new Ford Auditorium. The link is so placed that it exactly straddles the location formerly occupied by Bates Street. This is done because of the presence in Bates Street, some 21' below grade, of a large 13'-6" diameter inverted-syphon sewer. In order to avoid loading this sewer which is of strategic importance to the downtown area, the link has been designed to bridge this area and is supported from the courts unit on one side and the office unit on the other.

Structurally speaking, in general the building foundations are of the caisson type ranging in diameter from 4'-6" to 7' and drilled to a depth of approximately 125' below sidewalk level. This gives them a bearing directly on rock and insures the life-long stability of the building.

The elevator banks, toilets, stairways, and service shafts are grouped in the interior of each unit. The floors of these service



The Woodward Avenue Entrance

cores and the first floor are of reinforced concrete. The remaining floors are of cellular steel flooring which will also serve for electrical and telephone raceways. This cellular steel floor is covered by a 2½" light-weight concrete fill specified not to exceed a weight of 80 pounds per cubic foot and has a compressive strength of not less than 1,000 lbs. per sq. inch at 28 days.

In addition to the use of cellular steel floors, light-weight materials are used to save weight wherever possible. Fireproofing of structural steel, except in service cores where reinforced concrete slabs were used, is of light-weight aggregate plaster. This, in conjunction with the saving in weight due to cellular steel floor construction results in a dead load of about 80 pounds per square foot less than if conventional concrete floor slabs and concrete fireproofing had been used. It is estimated that by the use of this light-weight floor construction and fireproofing, a saving of 1,000 tons of structural steel was made as well as a material reduction in the cost of foundations.

The building frame is, of course, structural steel except for the extended portions of the basement areas. The roof of the extended basement areas is designed for total load of 1,000 pounds per square foot to provide protection in case of bombing. These extended basement areas are covered with 3 to 4 feet of soil for landscaping.

There are 3,756 tons of structural steel in the courts unit and 4,430 tons in the office unit, a total of 8,186 tons. Framing is, in general, conventional beam-and-girder floor construction. Notable exceptions to this are the story-high trusses concealed in basement walls carrying the "Link" over the Bates Street sewer, and the roof trusses over the Council Chamber on the 13th floor of the office unit. These story-high steel trusses are supported on combined caissons of the courts unit on one side and the office unit on the other. Only four columns support this link and as there is an expansion joint between the end of the link and the courts unit special care was taken in the bracing and framing to make this part of the structure stable and rigid.

The trusses over the Council Chamber span 84 feet but have a depth of only 5'-6" because of the architectural and mechanical requirements and the desire not to have this area of the roof project above the surrounding roof areas. Because of the shapes and height of the two units the column loads varied from 1,706 to 3,311 kips in the courts unit and 908 to 2,516 kips in the office unit. All the columns were 14 WF sections with the heaviest base column composed of 14 WF 320 and two plates 22" x 1 ¾55 for a total weight of 582 lbs. per foot.

To help provide rigidity the base of all columns was designed with moment connections with 4-2 ½ inch anchor bolts.

Typical floor framing consists of 18" WF 55 girders and 12" WF 27 beams for the office unit. As each bay size is different in the courts unit, the girders are of a variety of sizes, but generally 21 and 24 inch and the floor beams 12 and 18 inch. All connections are riveted although the specifications gave the contractor the option of both shop and field welding.

In the wind analysis of this structure the entirely different shape and height of the two units posed a problem in providing the proper stability, strength and rigidity. This was accomplished by using the continuous frame portal method on the office unit as this unit has, in general, standard bays and framing and thus this method gave the desired results. However, in the court unit no two bays are the same in either direction and because of the height and change in story heights the portal

The "Link" Entrances — Above: Jefferson Avenue. Below: Larned Street

method would not be satisfactory. Hence, the centilever method of analysis was used. The wind connections are, in general, split-tees. However the heaviest wind moments (max. 500 foot kips) require heavy brackets. The shear in all cases is taken by standard beam connections.

In reality, the building is definitely a single building with common mechanical services but the two units do have peculiarities which seem to distinguish one from the other. The courts unit is the tallest portion of the structure and contains twenty floors plus a basement and measures 317' from the ground to the top of the elevator penthouse. This unit is 76' wide and 155' long. The office unit, on the other hand, has a greater floor area, being 110' wide and 262' in length. It is 198' from the ground to the top of the elevator penthouse and contains fourteen stories. The link connecting the two units is approximately 40' square in floor area and is the same height as the office unit. There are over 10 million cubic feet in the structure and nearly ¾ million square feet of floor space. An example of its size is indicated by the fact that there are 5 miles of marble base in the public corridors.

Above and Across Page: Portions of the First Floor Lobby

Externally the building is faced with the same white Vermont marble as the Veterans Memorial Building except that the east end of the Office Unit is brick in anticipation of future expansion. Provision has been made at this end of the building for expansion up to 120' to accommodate future departmental needs or to house additional units of the City Government.

At the Woodward Avenue entrance there is a free-standing curved pylon some 45' in height and 36' in width which is known as the Symbol wall. On this background there are carved the seals of the City and of the County and an inscription from the Bible, "And the Lord is the Spirit and where the Spirit of the Lord is there is liberty." The nationally famous sculptor, Mr. Marshall Fredericks, has been commissioned to design an outstanding bronze statuary group in front of this symbol wall and this group will become one of the focal points of the entire Civic Center. The casting will be made in Denmark this winter and erected in the spring of 1956.

The grounds around the building are to be landscaped in keeping with the Civic Center and on the end of the property toward Randolph where the future expansion is provided, a parking lot is provided to accommodate at least a few of the cars belonging to occupants of the building.

In general, every provision has been made to give this new City-County Building every advantage from the standpoint of modern, progressive, building practice. The building has cellular steel floors which are used as race-ways for electrical and telephone wiring so that flexibility of furniture layout can be achieved easily by making electrical and telephone outlets available in any portion of the building in very short order.

The partitions, in general, in the building are movable metal, interchangeable and can be adjusted to form new floor plan patterns. The arrangement of the windows in the building has been in modular fashion so that typical room sizes can be accommodated against the exterior wall by the grouping of various members of window units to form varying sizes of rooms. The vertical window mullions have been designed to receive the movable partitions and each window has its own cooling and heating unit directly below it. The lighting is fluorescent recessed into the ceiling and so arranged as to provide the maximum flexibility in partition arrangement.

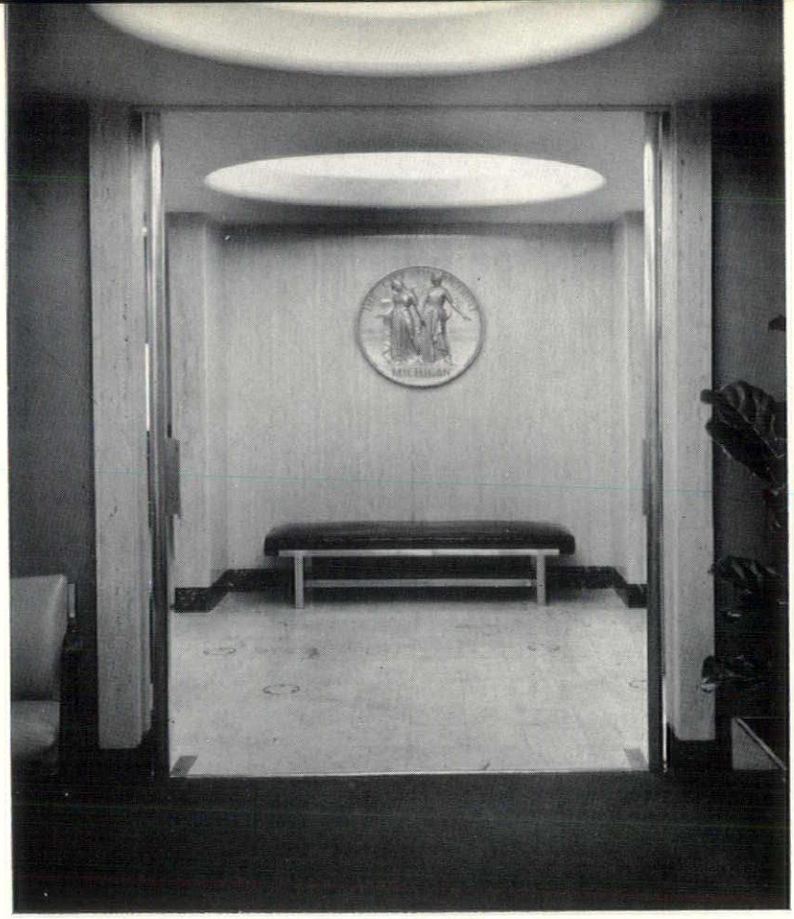
The building is entirely air conditioned and although the windows can be opened, they will only be opened to be washed. These windows are unique in themselves, in that they are aluminum, pivoted, and can be completely reversed and washed from the inside without being left open during washing. No outside window wash-

Below: A Typical Office Floor Corridor

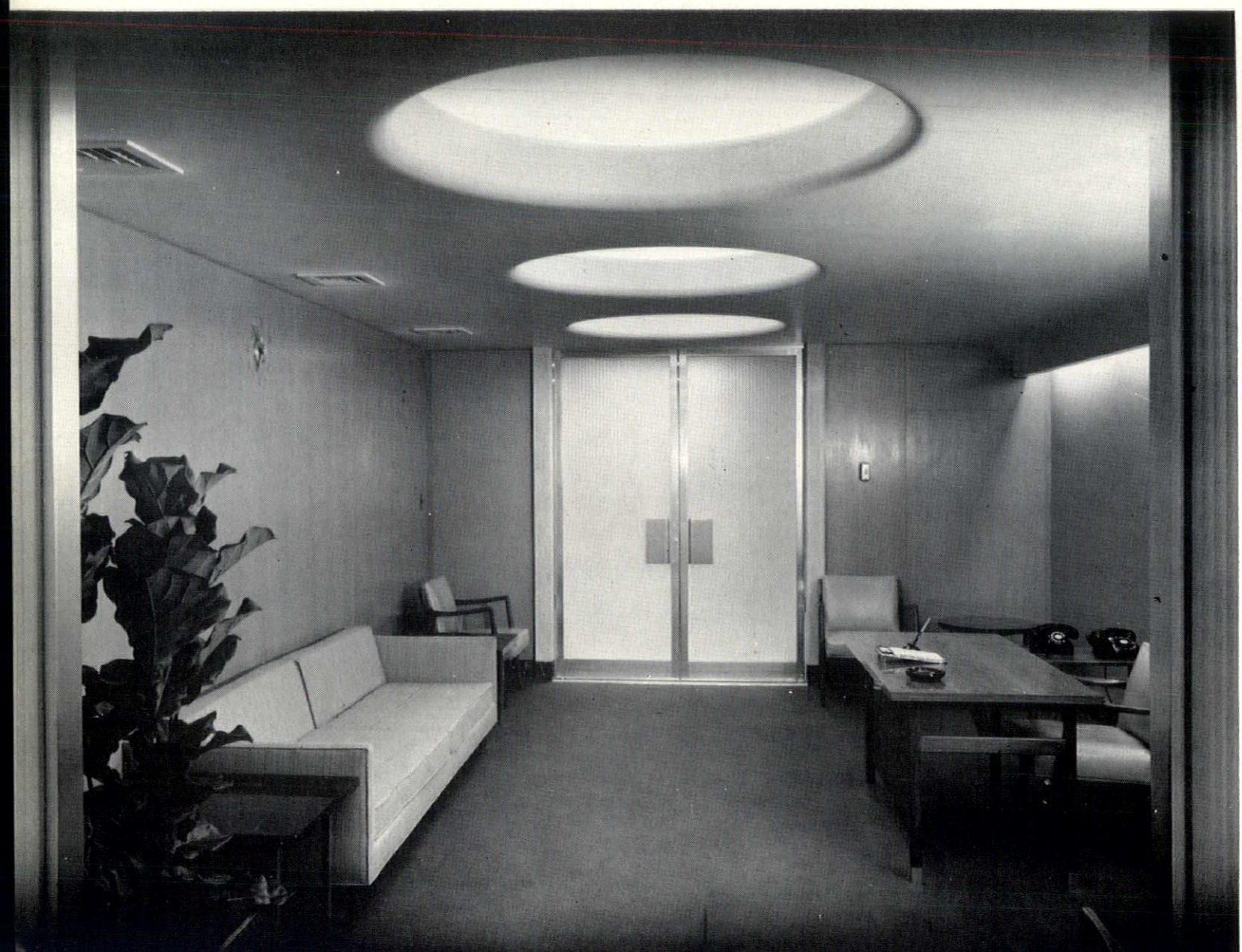
ing facilities are necessary.

The air conditioning system is an important step forward in comfort cooling. It is the Buensod-Stacey Duo-Duct system and employs high-pressure ducts delivering hot and cold air to either window units, or ceiling units in the interior spaces. All outside and recirculated air is centrally filtered, heated, cooled and dehumidified before being distributed to the conditioned space. This system is also the winter heating system so that 12 months of the year the occupants have the benefit of conditioned air. Each office and departmental area has its own selective temperature control both summer and winter.

The refrigeration plant consists of two 960-ton centrifugal compressors producing chilled water which is circulated through the coils in the nine central air handling systems which condition and heat the building.



The Mayor's Suite — Above: Anteroom. Below: Reception Room



Above: The Mayor's Office

At Right: The Mayor's Conference Room

(Furnishings by the Architects)

There are also two 30-ton direct expansion systems one of which cools in summer, and heats and ventilates the basement snack bar in winter. The other duplicates this service for the photostat and photocopy department.

In addition there is a 20-ton unit which uses chilled water from the main refrigeration system and cools air for the mechanical equipment room where the 960-ton units are located. A total of 2,000 tons of refrigeration is provided for the building.

Condenser water for the 960-ton machines, the 30-ton machines, and the after-coolers on two 20-h.p. compressors producing air for the pneumatic control system for building air conditioning is taken from the De-

Above: The Committee of the Whole Meeting Room

At Left: A Typical Councilman's Office

troit River, and is supplied to the building by a new pumping station designed by the Detroit City Engineers office, and located at the foot of Randolph Street at the Detroit River. The water is screened and chemically treated for algae and pumped to the building through underground mains a distance of four city blocks, and after passing through the condensers is returned to the Detroit River. This system will also furnish river water for other buildings in the Civic Center.

The building has been designed for the utmost ease in maintenance and has marble-lined corridors from floor to ceiling, with marble floors.

The "Courts Unit," of course, contains the Court rooms, of which there are 36. These rooms vary in size to accommodate different requirements. There are 18 Circuit Courts, 4 Circuit Court Commissioners, 9 Common Please and 5 Probate Courts in

the Building. These court rooms have been so designed as to provide natural daylighting and are usually grouped four on a floor. Arrangements have been made for the judge's chamber, his secretary, and jury rooms to be served from a secondary corridor apart from the main public corridors. Inasmuch as these court room stories have higher ceilings than ordinary office floors, they are all grouped together in the upper half of the building so that the typical office floors can continue through and tie in with the similar floors in the office unit. The court rooms have been planned after extensive study of existing court rooms in various parts of the country, and include the latest developments. The importance and dignity of the courts have been maintained but the extravagance of ornate decoration and wasteful room sizes has been avoided. A private elevator has been provided to serve these court room floors for the convenience of the judges and so that the prisoners can be brought in to the cell block adjacent to the Circuit Courts. This elevator will serve as a utility elevator for the entire building when not in use by the judges.

The office unit has a variety of departments functioning in it but perhaps the most spectacular is the Council Chamber and Meeting Room of the Board of Supervisors which is located on the 13th floor. This room is lighted from the north by a window 25' high and 98' long. The room has been specially designed to accommodate the specific needs of the Common Council in which there are only 9 elected officials and the contrasting requirements of the Board of Supervisors whose membership is 97. The room will seat approximately 500 persons so it can be used for public meetings and meetings of a special nature. The floor is arranged in an amphitheater type so that good visibility and perfect hearing is possible from any part of the auditorium. A large lounge room is provided under the seating area and affords a perfect view of downtown Detroit. In addition to this room, whose use will be regulated according to the needs of both the City and the County, sufficient other meeting rooms have been provided on this floor for the Committee of the Whole, a function of the Common Council, or for the subcommittee of the Board of Supervisors.

The 9 offices for the Common Council, together with common reception room and secretarial offices, are also provided on this floor so that all the requirements of the Common Council are provided in close proximity to each other. Throughout the rest of the building and extending on into the lower 8 floors of the courts unit are the individual departments of the City and County. All of these spaces are planned in accordance with the needs of the various departments. The following list gives some idea of the type of departments housed in the building.

CITY:

Office of the Mayor, Common Council, Clerk, Treasurer, Controller, Corporation Counsel, Civil Service, Purchases and Supplies, Building and Safety Engineering, Public Works, Election Commission, Plan Commission, Telephone Operators, Auditor General, Police License Bureau, Municipal Credit Union, Reference Library, Board of Assessors, Parking Meters, Zoning Board of Appeals.

The Board of Supervisors' Lobby

(Furnishings by the Architects)

COUNTY:

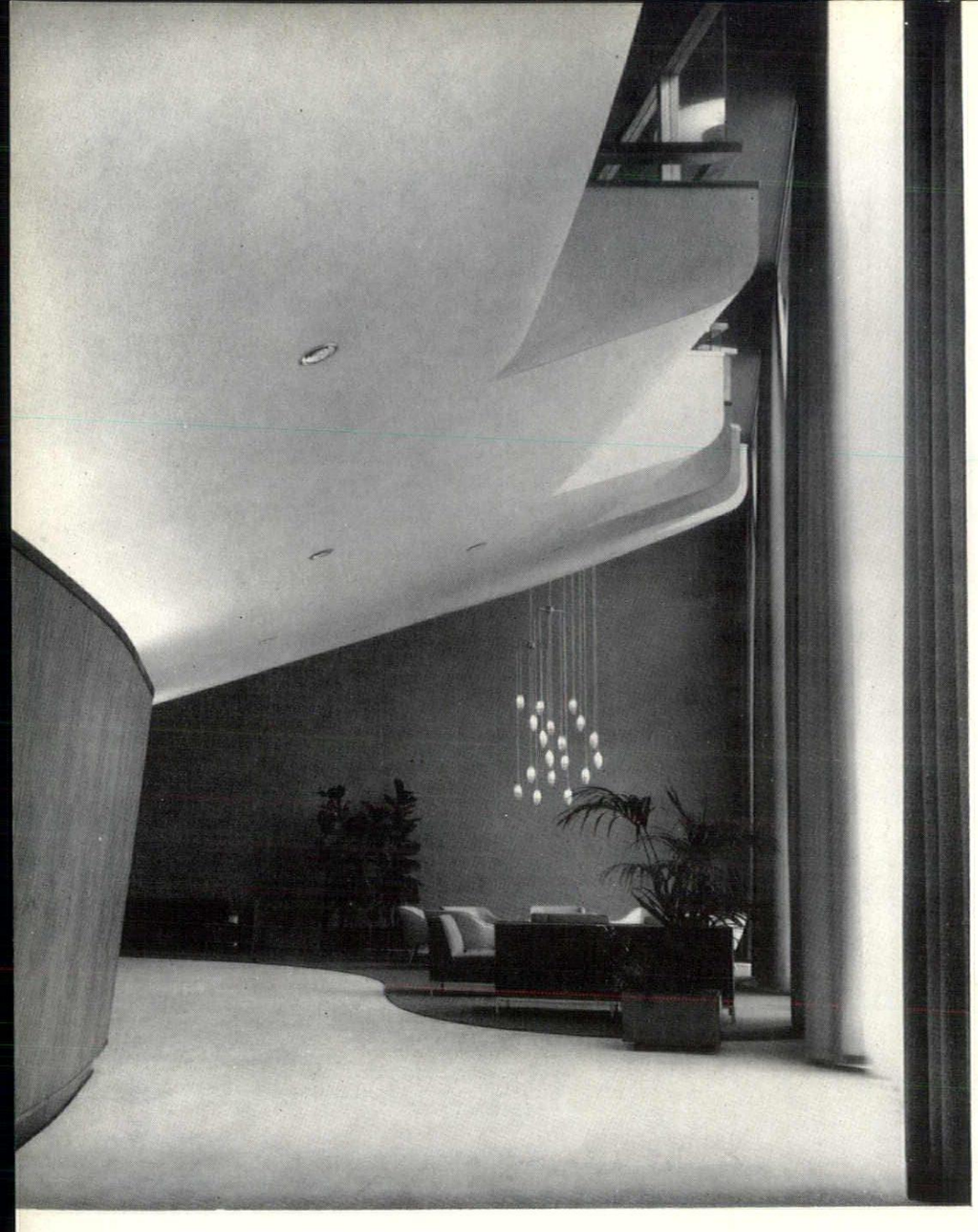
Board of Auditors, Board of Supervisors, Register of Deeds, Clerk, Treasurer, Board of Education, Board of Health, Drain Commission, Road Commission, Civil Service Commission, Purchasing, Bureau of Taxation, Retirement System, Circuit Courts, Circuit Court Commissioners, Circuit Court Probation, Probate Courts, Common Pleas Courts, Prosecuting Attorney - Civil Division, Jury Commission, Sheriff - Civil Division, Telephone Operators, Photocopy and Microfilm.

GENERAL:

Receiving, Maintenance, Mechanical Equipment, Cafeteria, Storage, Press Rooms, Auditorium, Legal Library, First Aid, Building Manager, Building Employees.

One of the underlying motives in erecting this building for the use of the City and County has been the hope that a great deal of duplication of effort could be avoided and that a common use of facilities could be made possible. With this thought in mind every opportunity was taken to develop common spaces which could be used by the City and the County without interference or inconvenience. These spaces would be shared in use as well as in rent and their use regulated by mutual agreement. Such spaces are the Common Council Chambers, jointly used by the Board of Supervisors, certain examination rooms to be used by both the County Civil Service and the City Civil Service, the development of a legal library combining the present libraries of the Corporation Council, the Circuit Court and the Prosecuting Attorney; the rooms set aside for the use of the press and similar developments.

Naturally, in a building of this type which houses offices and services devoted to the interests of the public, it is very important



Auditorium for the Council and the Board of Supervisors

At Left: **Foyer, with Cantilevered Auditorium Seating above**

Above Right: **Auditorium, showing "Floating" Ceiling**

Below Right: **Foyer, with windows overlooking Downtown Detroit**

(Furnishings by Architects)

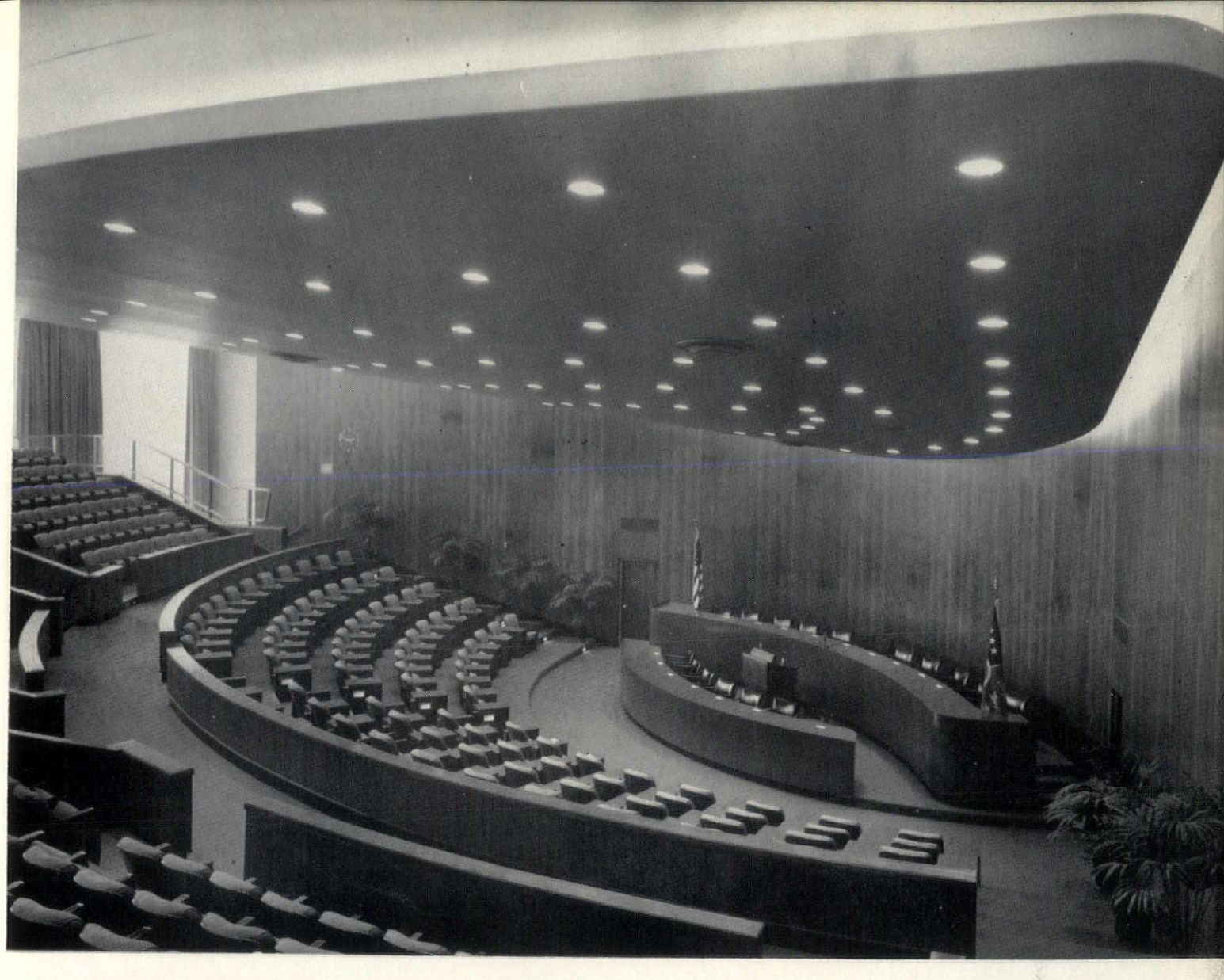
to have these services organized to be within easy access of that public. Obviously, it would be desirable to have all departments to which the public had access situated on the first floor within easy reach of each other. It is also necessary that the first floor accommodate, at times, all of the people in the building. Therefore the corridors and public spaces must, in turn, be greatly amplified over those on other floors, leaving less office space than on a typical floor. As a consequence a great deal of selection and discussion entered into the determination of which departments should be on the first floor. It was felt that the Treasurer's Department of the City and the Register of Deeds of the County, together with the Police License Bureau and the Tract Index Department of the Board of Auditors were best suited to the space available.

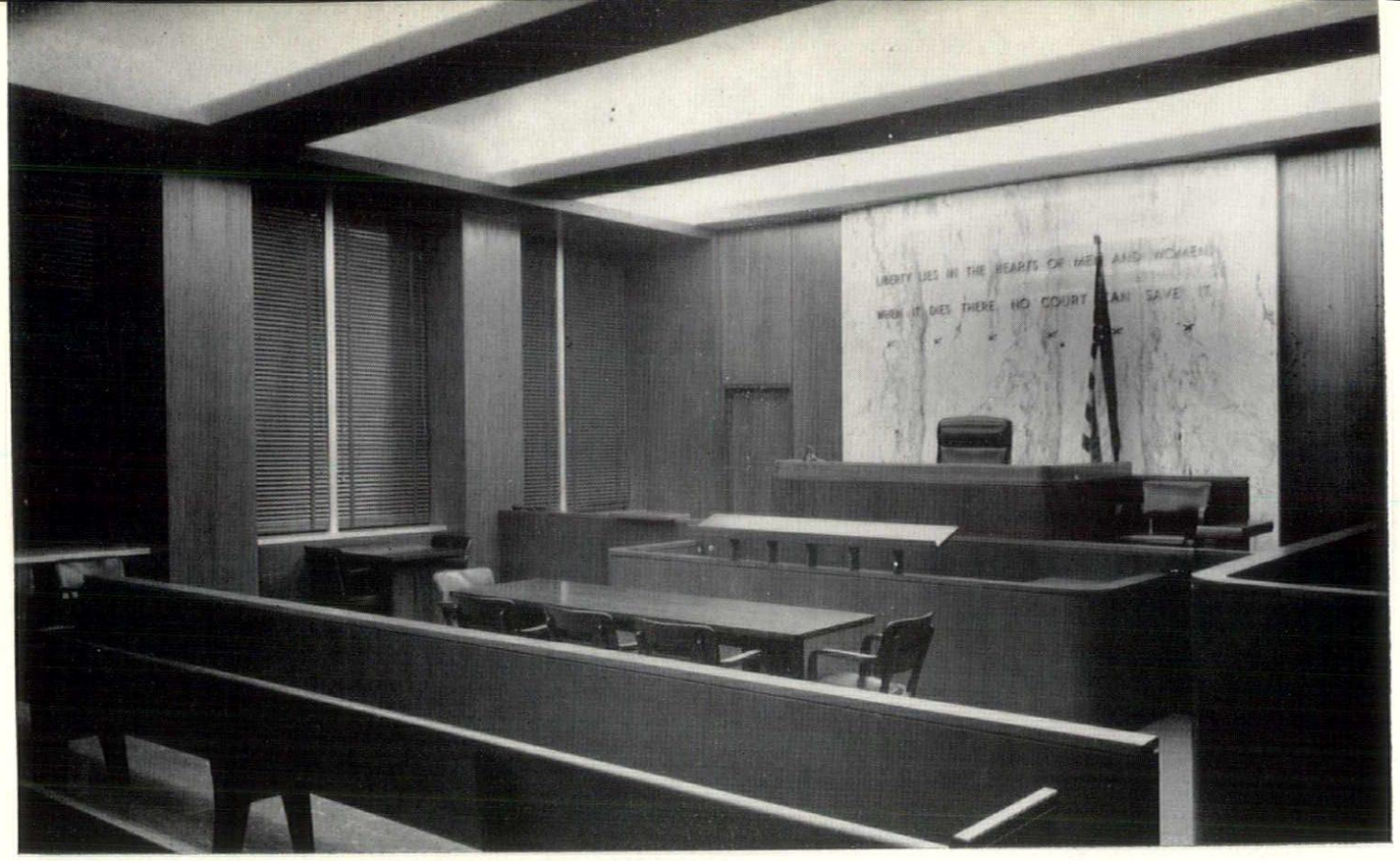
In order that easy access may be had at the times of voters registration and to better serve the public in their contacts with the County Treasurer's Office, both of which are on the second floor, a reversible escalator has been provided in the Office Unit between the first and second floors.

The population of the Building is something near 4,000 persons, including visitors, and so a great deal of attention was given to means of access and the relationship of elevators and stairs to the traffic pattern. A bank of six elevators in the courts unit, plus the special elevator previously mentioned, are designed to handle the population of that unit. At the same time a bank of eight elevators in the office unit, together with the single service elevator, are provided for the traffic in that building.

The arrangement of the building is such that it is possible to cross from the office unit to the courts unit at every floor through the link and therefore the elevator loads can be balanced if one occupancy is greater than the other. These elevators are large, designed to handle large groups of people, and are the very latest in design and operation. They travel 800' a minute with a rated capacity of 3500# and are as fast, if not faster, than any passenger cars in Detroit today. Provision has been made for operator-less control of these elevators which is definitely the latest development in automatic operation. It is believed that with this facility available, the building will be one of the most economical to operate that can be designed.

Because this building is so large and has so many people in it, there are a great many requirements for the successful operation of the building. Among these facilities, which are primarily housed in the basement floor, are a large cafeteria-type dining room; lockers and toilet rooms for all the people required to operate the building, that is cleaning women, janitors, engineers, guards, etc.; first-aid rooms; building maintenance, such as carpentry, electrical, plumbing; all of the mechanical equipment rooms require for the entrance of the telephone, electrical, water, steam





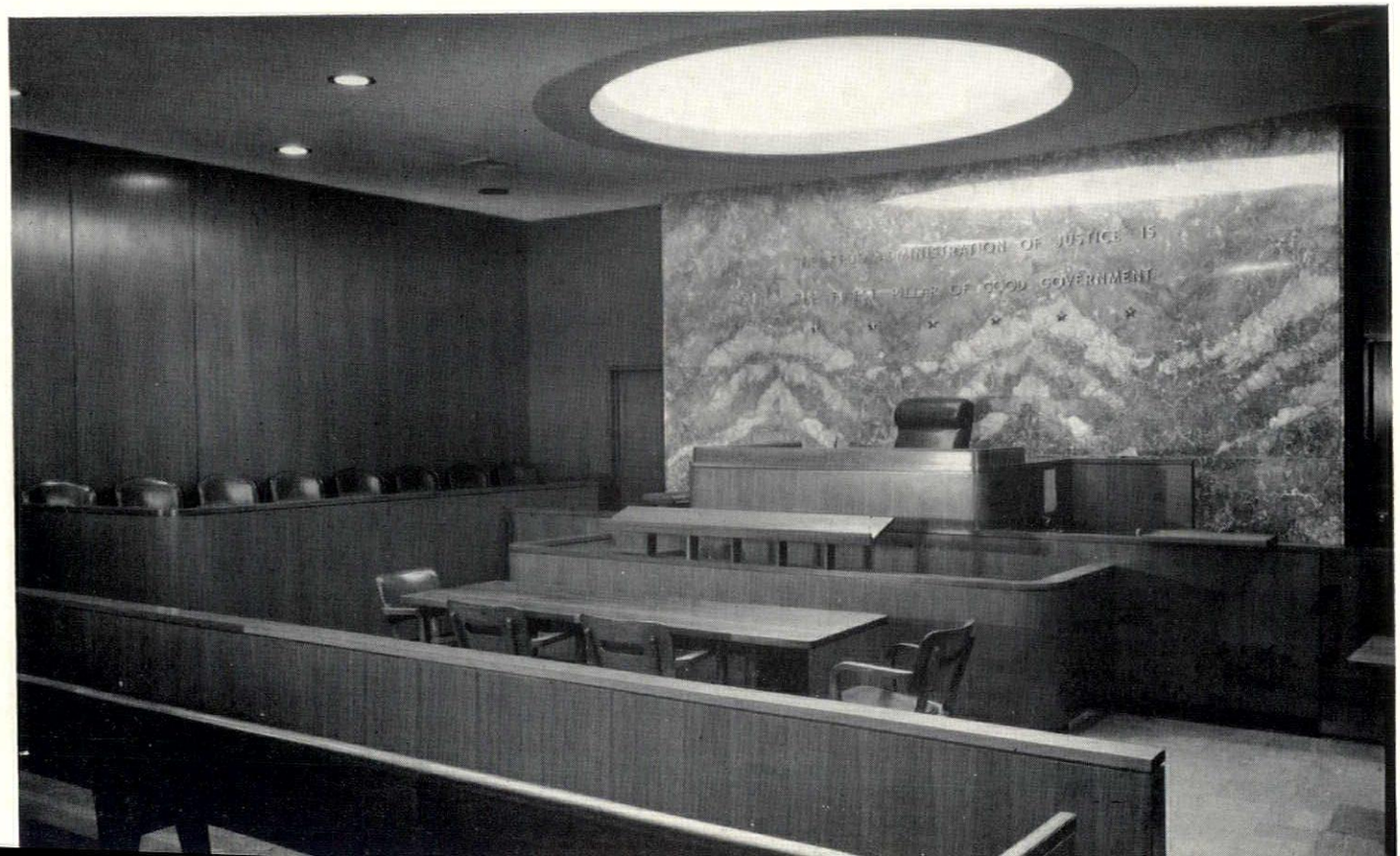
Four of the thirty-six Courtrooms, featuring various woods and marbles

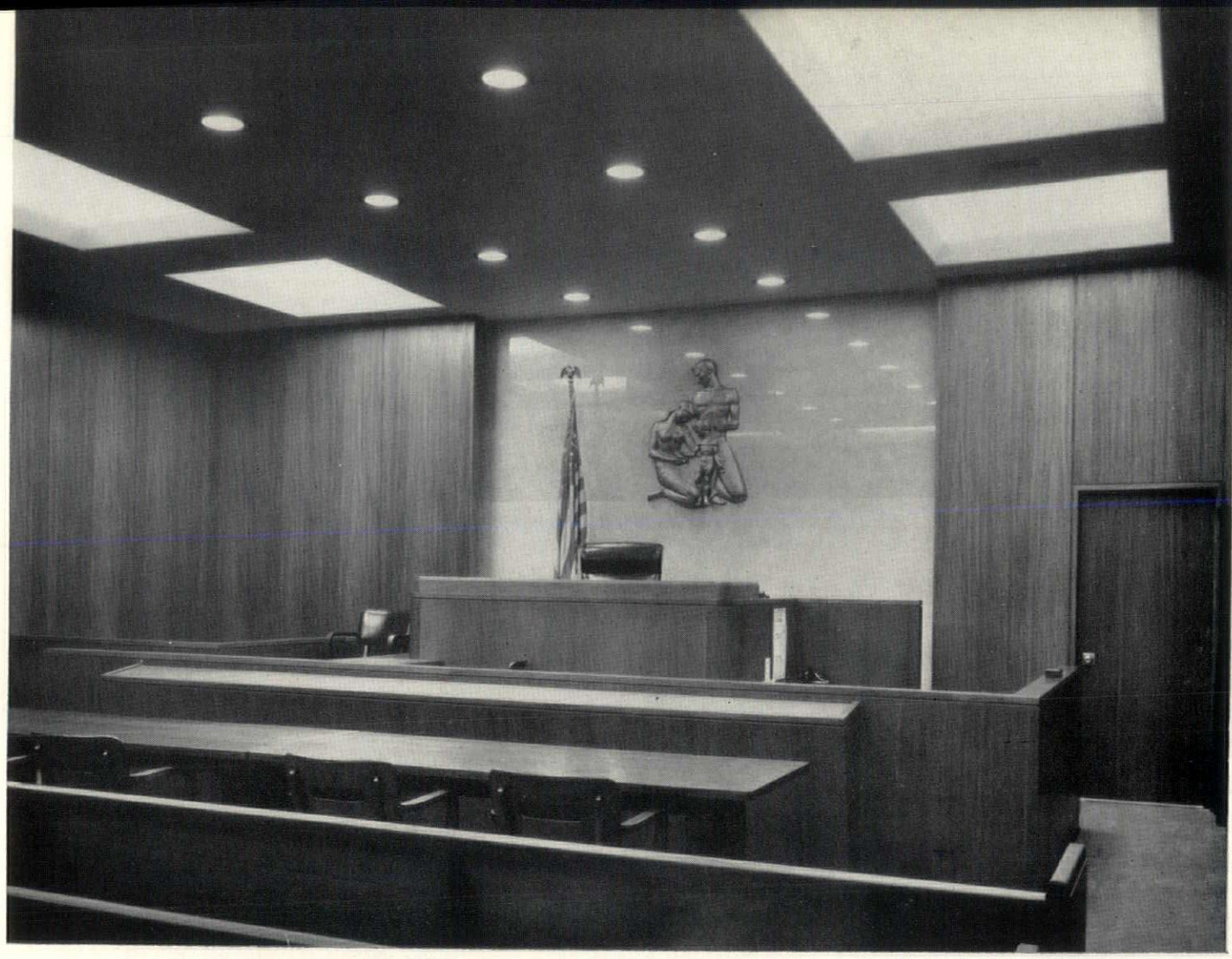
(Sculpture by Marshall Fredericks)

and other facilities, as well as a large receiving and shipping dock accessible from the grade by an outside ramp. Another facility in the basement is the micro-filming room of the County which will reduce the tremendous amount of storage space previously required for files to an average type file space. Because of these space requirements, the basement area extends beyond the upper building line to the property lines of Jefferson and Larned.

Another unit of Government, which is rather unusual but requires space, is the store room required for parking meters and facilities for the money so collected to be counted and banked.

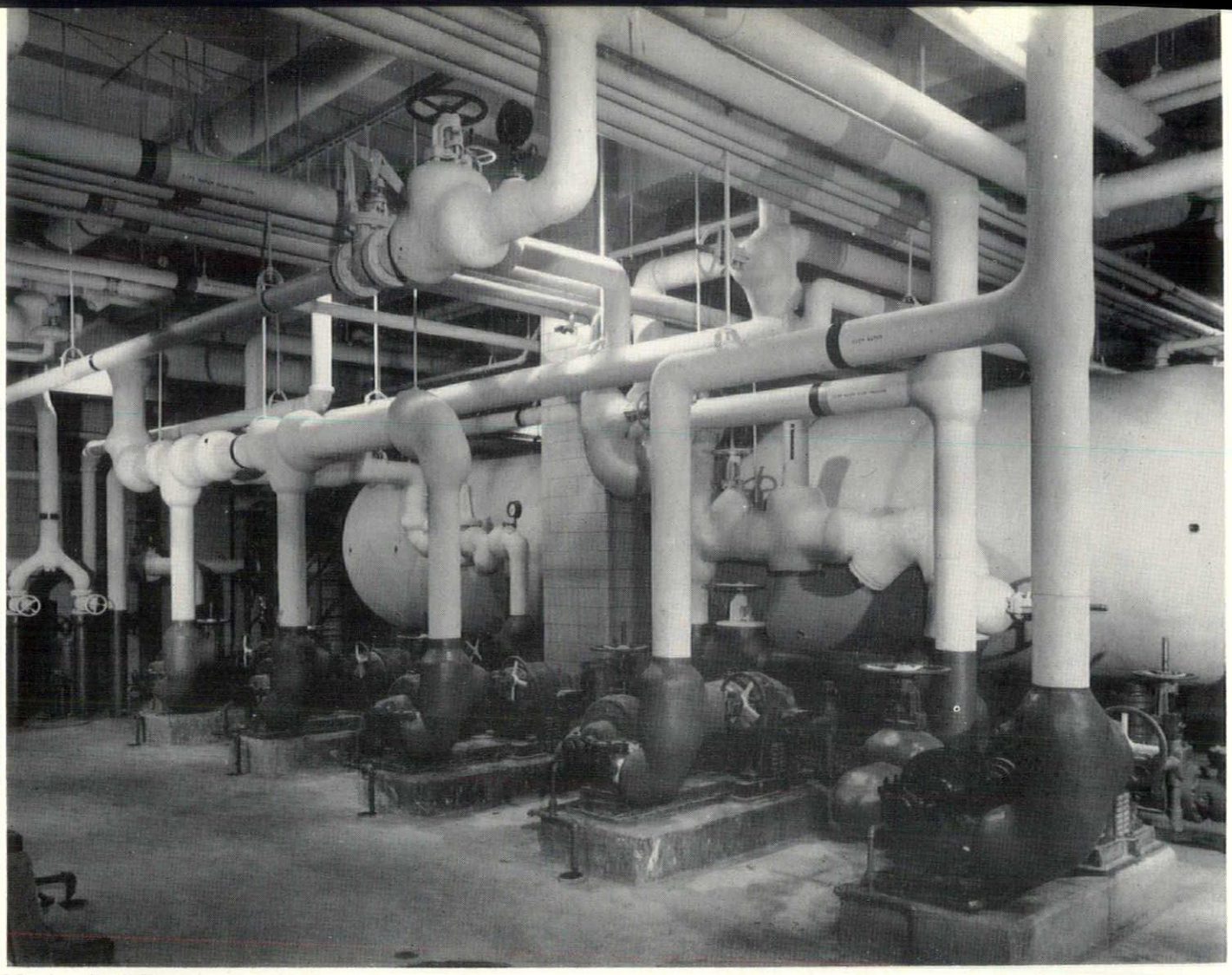
The building was begun on July 11, 1951, and the cornerstone laid June 22, 1953. Many difficulties were encountered in allocation of materials during the Korean War, but the program was adjusted to suit, and no long periods of inactivity resulted. From an architect's standpoint, it has been a true challenge, almost overwhelming at times, to fit into this building the special needs and functions of all





of these departments.

As more and more departments adjust to their new surroundings, and find they can communicate more directly with each other and the public, their comments lead us to believe we have met the challenge. If we have, it is due to the cooperation of hundreds of people, in our office, in the City and County departments and the contractors and workmen on the job. The building is another step in the realization of Detroit's dream of a Civic Center.



Mechanical Room

Basement Corridor

grand hotel

TOP: Toastmaster Langius, Speaker Harvey Campbell, A.I.A. President Cummings, Great Lakes A.I.A. Director Kastendieck, Conference Chairman Wigen, Society Secretary Morison and Treasurer Haughey. BOTTOM: The Linn Smiths, the Ditchys, the Cummings and the Mansons.

The Annual Midsummer Conference of the Michigan Society of Architects at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island has each year become better in attendance, with better programs, and with better financial results.

The Twelfth Annual Conference, August 4-6, 1955 was no exception, and no small part of the credit is due Frederick E. Wigen, A.I.A., of Saginaw, Chairman of the event.

Our thanks go to Owens-Illinois Glass Company and Detroit Steel Products Company for sponsoring the reception and cocktail party, opening the Conference Thursday evening; to the Portland Cement Association for the continuation of its President's Reception, cocktail party and "Man of the Year" award, on Friday evening, and the Producers' Council, Michigan Chapter for its sponsorship of the Saturday evening cocktail party.

Harvey Campbell, Executive Vice - President of the Detroit Board of Commerce, was the principal (one and only) speaker at the banquet, concluding event of the Conference. Speaking on "Where is Michigan Going?" Mr. Campbell told the architects that they had a basic commodity—shelter—and he stated that they were in a position to help solve the problems facing Michigan—notably that of providing sufficient water for the many industries that are interested in locating in this State.

Gus Langius as toastmaster was in fine form and everything he said was right to the point. He turned the tables on Gardner Martin of the Portland Cement Association by awarding him what Harvey designated as the figure of a pregnant squaw. Gardner had previously awarded President Elmer Manson a skiing trophy as "Man of the Year."

A new feature at the banquet was the Besser Teen Tunesters, under the direction of Mr. Ralph Mechaud, Besser chorus director. The six girls presented a ten-minute program that was a delight.

President Manson, presiding, presented distinguished guests representing the national body, including George Bain Cummings, F.A.I.A., President of The A.I.A.; John N. Richards, F.A.I.A., Second Vice-President; Clair W. Ditchy, F.A.I.A., immediate Past President, and Raymond S. Kastendieck, A.I.A., Great Lakes Regional Director.

The part of the program devoted to "Adventures in Time" was on a high plane and was most enjoyable. The series of twelve paintings on display at the Conference were done by Marvin Beerbohm, Detroit muralist, with text by Dr. George Lechler of Wayne University. The series had been published in twelve issues of the MSA Monthly Bulletin during 1954. Both Messrs Beerbohm and C. Allen Harlan, sponsor of the project, spoke on the ideas and ideals back of the series.

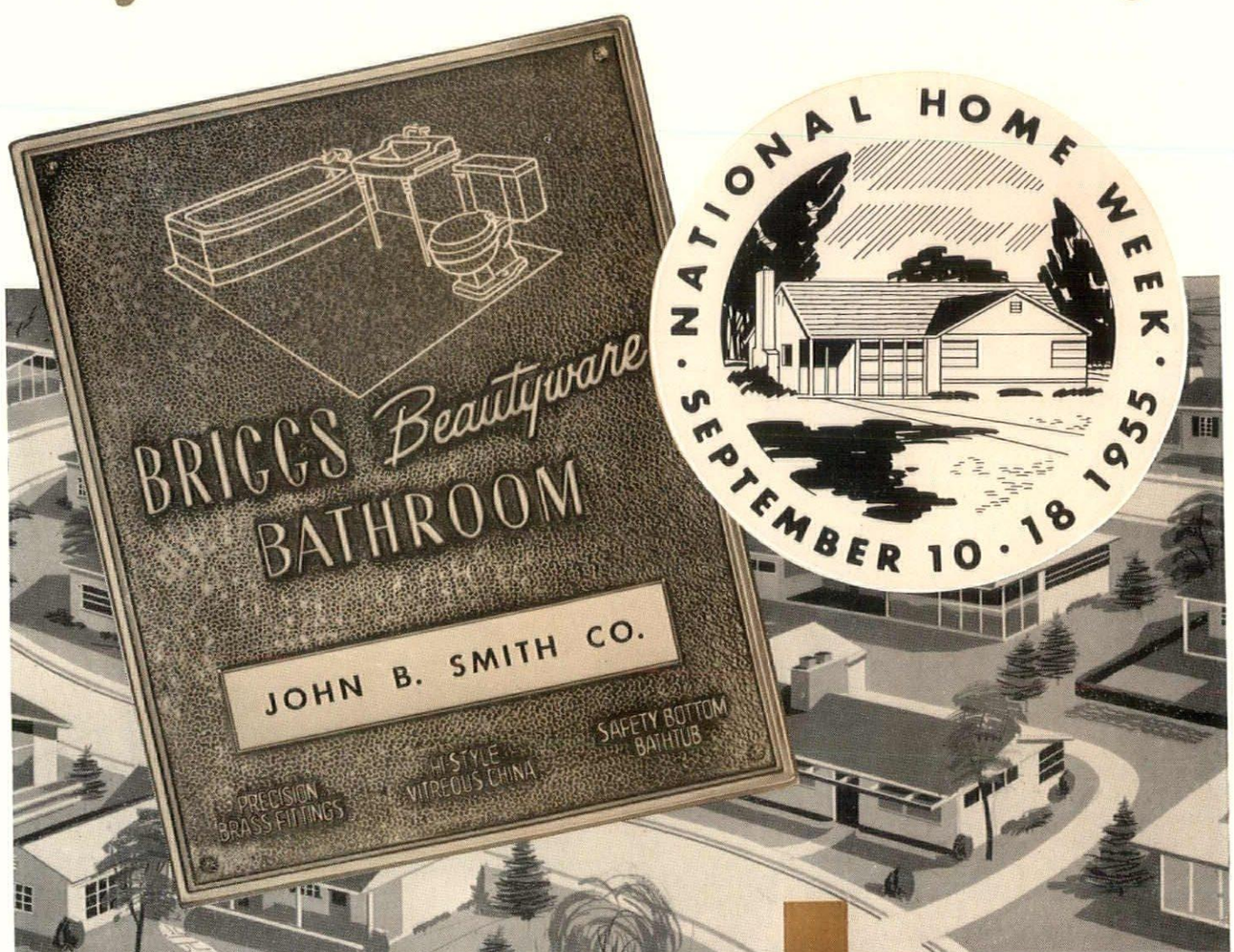
The illustrated lecture by Prof. Ralph W. Hammett, A.I.A. on his recent year in Europe was just the kind of material that is most suitable for such a Conference as this. Prof. Hammett explained that he had looked at Europe and its architecture not only from the standpoint of history but also as to what they are doing today. Functionally, he said we are doing better than they are, while structurally some of each is better. Esthetically, he said, they are ahead of us. This is due in large part, he believes, to the fact that we don't care, since we feel that we must be practical.

Amos Ruddock and his associates from the Dow Chemical Company gave an interesting and valuable demonstration and talk on the Future of Plastics in Buildings, which was as modern as tomorrow. This is the kind of information that architects can use to advantage, for it shows what is ahead and what we can expect from research in industry.

The Board of Directors of the Society met at breakfast Friday morning, and one of the notable actions was the approval of an outline specification for concrete masonry worked out by the Concrete Products Association of Michigan, together with the Society's Technical Problems Committee headed by Eberle M. Smith, A.I.A. The specification was presented by Chester A. Sirrine, A.I.A. Executive Secretary of CPI.

BELOW, LEFT: Man of the Year Manson receiving trophy from Portland Cement Association's Dick Backus, Olie Ohman and Gardner Martin. RIGHT: Conference Chairman Wigen, Mrs. W. (left) and Mrs. Haughey.

Symbols of Better Living



PLEASE NOTE: Interest in quality bathrooms—and especially *two* of them—will be stronger than ever during this year's National Home Week.

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detroit chapter's next meeting

Detroit Chapter, The American Institute of Architects will give public recognition to excellence in architectural achievement by members of the Chapter at its dinner meeting in The Detroit Institute of Arts on the evening of Wednesday, September 21, 1955.

This will be the culmination of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. Honor Awards Program for 1955, the first such competition held by the Chapter since 1931. Wells I. Bennett, F.A.I.A. is Chairman.

Entries will be on exhibition at The Detroit Institute of Arts from September 20 through October 16, and members are invited to view the exhibition during the afternoon of September 20, then attend a reception, with refreshments, in the Romanesque Hall of The Institute, at 6:00 P. M.

A buffet dinner will be served at 6:30 P. M. in the Institute's new Educational Department Work Room, newly designed by our Chapter President, Suren Pilafian. At 7:30 the Chapter will hold a brief business meeting and induct new corporate members.

At 8:00 P. M. there will be a presentation ceremony for the Chapter's 1955 Honor Awards Program. Certificates will be presented to both architects and owners, with First Honor Awards and Awards of Merit in each classification.

The Chapter Board will meet at the Institute of Arts at 3:00 P. M. Attention of members is called to the fact that all events in connection with this meeting will be held at The Detroit Institute of Arts instead of at the Rackham Memorial Building as usual. The buffet dinner will be catered by Walker and Company, and they promise us a delightful menu. The price will be the same as usual—$3.00 per person.

NOTE: The 8:00 P. M. program will consist primarily of the jury's critical evaluation of all submissions.

MSA

BIDDLE HOUSE

The Biddle House Restoration Committee has received contributions from members of the Michigan Society of Architects, reaching a goodly portion of the Society's quota. Contributions have ranged from $5 to $250, and the overage is about $36. It will be appreciated if those who have not yet contributed will do so soon.

Following is a list of contributors to August 18, 1955: Clark R. Ackley, Charles N. Agree, Inc., Roger Allen, H. S. Baines, John P. Baker, H. A. Beam, Byron H. Becker, Gordon A. Belson, G. A. Binda & Associates, Edward E. Bissell, Lee Black & Kenneth C. Black, John O. Blair.

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ADCRAFTER TED SEEMEYER, advertising director for the Michigan Society of Architects A.I.A. Bulletin, did a story on Mackinac's Grand Hotel, under the pen name of Gustavus Arnold. The hotel folk liked it so much that they ordered 3,000 reprints in booklet form to hand out to guests. Next, The Detroit Free Press used the story as a basis for an article in their magazine section. —THE ADCRAFTER.

Below: Messrs. Harlan and Beerbohm at the Grand Hotel.

speaker

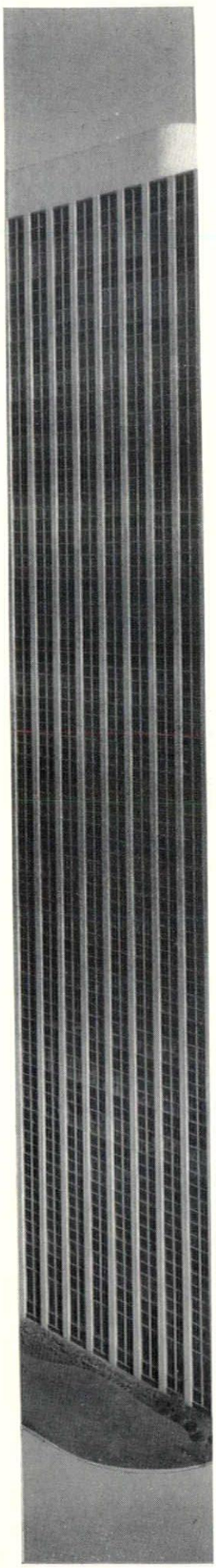
HARVEY CAMPBELL, executive vice-president of the Detroit Board of Commerce, as principal speaker at the Michigan Society of Architects' 12th annual midsummer conference at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island recently, pointed out that food, clothing and shelter were basic necessities of life, and he added:

"Not the least important of these is shelter —your basic commodity."

Speaking on the subject, "Where is Michigan Going?" he predicted that the State will have a tremendous increase of population within the next decade, and with regard to income he said:

"Today the average Michigan family has an annual income of $7,250. Within ten years it will undoubtedly be $9,300."

The speaker said that many important industries are being attracted to Michigan, but the biggest problem is obtaining sufficient water. This, he said, is a paradox, since in our Great Lakes and the many smaller Lakes of Michigan there is such an abundance of water, and he concluded that architects can help solve this problem.



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From Detroit Travelers Aid Society to Boston Travelers Aid Society:

We understand that there is a well-known Boston architect named John Freeman Bradley. Would you consider it within your function to notify him that his name is being used fraudulently in Detroit, Windsor, Ont., and in cities throughout Michigan.

We had our first contact with the 63-year-old man who used the name on July 28. He approached our worker at the bus station that morning, demanding money, and stating that he and his wife were living in a downtown hotel, but needed food, and that he had been referred to Travelers Aid by a priest at a Roman Catholic Church just across the street from the bus terminal. Our worker was extremely busy with other clients, but the fictitious Mr. Bradley was insistent that she take care of him immediately. He went into detail about his broad association with the Boston Council of Social Agencies and the Boston fund-raising group. He also spoke about having lost a large investment in a New Jersey housing project. Later, on clearing with the priest, we found that no such person had been there.

We have since learned that he has been known under this name to the Salvation Army in Detroit, Windsor, Ontario, and in several Michigan cities .

Today we were informed by the local Community Information Service that he had gone to them for help. He was described as "handsome, intelligent, well-spoken." He told the same story of the New Jersey housing project and stated that he had just come from Boston, though he gave our worker an address in Salt Lake City, Utah. The Information Service executive was so much impressed by him that she secured appointments for him with three architectural firms and the architectural division of the S. S. Kresge Co.

These people all report that he is evidently an architect—and perhaps a good one. Three jobs were offered him. A partner in one of the firms was so impressed by him that he not only offered him a job but was willing to advance him $500 personally However, the partner decided to check with The American Institute of Architects, and there he learned that the real John Freeman Bradley is a much younger man with an entirely different physical description.

This was reported to the Information Service, which also learned that the pseudo Mr. Bradley is wanted by the police for fraud and embezzlement in Salt Lake City and in Denver. This has been reported to the firms which saw the man, but he has not returned to any of them despite the job offers. He evidently made an excellent impression, since two of the men who interviewed him expressed willingness to give him the jobs previously offered to "try to work with him on his personality difficulties."

We are writing you, since we feel it is in justice to the real Mr. Bradley that he should know of the misuse of his name and his reputation. It is possible that he might meet some extremely puzzling situations if he did not know of this. Perhaps you may want to send him the carbon copy of this letter.

HENRY G. GROEHN, executive secretary of the Michigan State Board of Registration for Architects, Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, is shown here pointing out to Board members the new offices into which the Board had just moved. All seven members of the Board were present.

Besides Groehn, those shown in the picture, from left to right, are Richard Van Praag, investigator for the Board; Robert B. Frantz, F.A.I.A., of Saginaw; Talmage C. Hughes, F.A.I.A., of Detroit; Wells I. Bennett, F.A.I.A., of Ann Arbor; Henry T. McGaughan, Board Chairman, of Pontiac; William H. Harvie, of Birmingham; Wilfrid C. Polkinghorne, of Houghton, and Angelo Marino, of Monroe.

C. A. SIRRINE, A.I.A.

concrete masonry units

By C. A. SIRRINE, A.I.A.,
Executive Secretary,
Concrete Products Association, before
the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.

It should, I believe, be a matter of clear understanding at the outset that any exploratory view to be taken by concrete masonry producers of the manner in which their products ultimately find use will, for the most part, be centered upon certain practices normally employed in building with concrete masonry.

Such extraordinary interest is occasioned by an understandable concern regarding certain conditions inevitably to be encountered subsequent to manufacture and prior to final completion of construction in which concrete masonry units have been incorporated.

Despite the degree of perfection known to have been attained in its manufacture, the producer is continually aware of the fact that performance of his product, after being laid in a wall, is the real criterion by which its excellence will ultimately be determined. He is equally aware of the closely related and inescapable fact that, not only must he relinquish all further control over his product at the point of its departure from his storage yard, but also that a number of other conditions, entirely beyond his control, are to be encountered during the subsequent construction period.

Once the products of a manufacturer's skill have passed from his to other hands, it is not possible for him to exercise the same degree of control over the handling and care of units delivered to the job site, for example, that is readily available to him as a part of normal production procedure. Adequate protection of stored materials against dirt, ground moisture and inclement weather, as well as protective covering for uncompleted construction on which no work is being done, are some of the precautions well known to be necessary to satisfactory concrete masonry construction. Yet a careful observance of these and other good construction practices must be the direct responsibility of the builder, under a guiding mandate from the architect.

An equally important condition claiming the manufacturer's keen and continuing interest, although he is practically without means to do anything about it, results from the manner in which concrete masonry units are placed in a wall and the extent to which protective measures, adequate to a contniued well being of the material, have been made a part of completed work. Proper handling of this matter involves, among other items, an appropriate use of control joints and longitudinal joint reinforcement.

An element of interdependence becomes apparent from this necessary division of responsibility for carrying out protective construction requirements in a satisfactory manner. With this thought in mind, and at the risk of digressing briefly, I should like to refer to a quotation encountered in the official publication of the Kansas City Chapter of The American Institute of Architects. This thought-provoking statement, made before a seminar of that group by a prominent Kansas City builder, in part emphasized the necessity for the building industry to serve its own best interests by means of adequate design, sound materials and correct construction procedure.

Such an obviously intelligent expression is, it seems to me, incomplete insofar as it would appear that not only the interests of the building industry but also those of the architect and the manufacturer can be best served as a result of all three working together as a team, wherein the architect, the builder and the manufacturer each willingly accepts and fully discharges his share of responsibility for good construction. To this should be added, however, that no team should be expected to function smoothly and faultlessly unless and until the members thereof have a reasonable knowledge and, perhaps even more importantly, a sympathetic understanding of the individual capabilities and limitations involved.

So, aside from an occasion for pleasant social relationships, of which there is some evidence, it is with a desire on the part of member producers located in the Detroit Chapter area, to contribute something in the way of better understanding that the intended purpose of this meeting may be identified.

The importance to be attached to this purpose is clearly evidenced in the case of concrete masonry, where construction incorporating units of questionable quality can deny success to the most intelligent design or exacting construction requirements. Conversely, and equally true, the most excellent example of concrete masonry production will contribute to the success of a construction operation only to the extent permitted by the manner in which the material is handled in both design and construction.

Added importance is given to this purpose by the fact that, aside from the influence destined to be exerted by the builder in his use or unfortunate misuse of the material, the desirable future of concrete masonry lies, in a marked degree, on the drafting boards of the nation. It is within the relatively restricted area of the architect's office where original determinations are made as to what materials shall be used and just how extensive that use shall be. It is there that new and/or improved materials receive first, important recognition and where original and imaginative ideas for their use are created.

This is not intended to imply however, that concrete masonry should necessarily be considered as one of a host of new building materials constantly being developed and brought to the hand of the designer and builder; although the products of present day concrete masonry machinery and manufacturing processes, by reason of a steady development, might very properly be included among the most recently offered items.

It is to be noted, in this connection, that concrete masonry's basic ingredient—concrete—was fairly well known to architects and builders in the days of the Roman Empire; and, further, that truly native Americans were turning out a prototype of concrete masonry, in a manner entirely adequate to their needs, for quite a while prior to any concept of concrete masonry as it is known today. Incidentally, history has a curious way of repeating itself in this present era of modern machinery. Concrete masonry producers located in several of our western states are again producing adobe units, but largely for a so-called design effect rather than the design-worthy, utilitarinan reasons which brought adobe bricks into original use.

Much later than the periods just mentioned but early in the history of the concrete masonry industry as it is presently known, there was a period when any one who had access to a gravel pit and a hand tamping machine was in the cement block business.

Before, during, and for a long time after that period the architectural profession concerned itself with structures, particularly public ones, designed in the image of ancient monuments. Those were the years when a bank had to be a Greek or Roman temple; when big business, contemporary in all its other aspects, was housed in Gothic skyscrapers and when an architectural student who dared to stray from the confining fold of archaeology was a dead pigeon. This was an era in which the accumulation of worldly goods was measured by the size and grandeur of the family home, and when the nation's residential thoroughfares were dotted with massive stone structures attesting to the affluence of their owners.

Small wonder then, that such influences, at work upon an industry, were productive of panel-faced and pseudo-vermiculated blocks reminiscent of the Italian Renaissance, along with the universally popular rock-faced units that, among other uses, supported the front porches of the nation, and today continue to be manufactured and sold for repair and alterations to many of the original installations.

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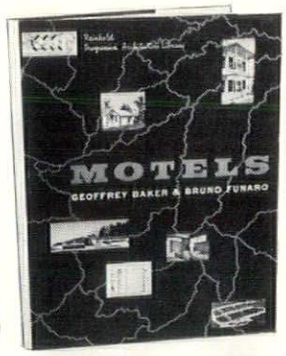

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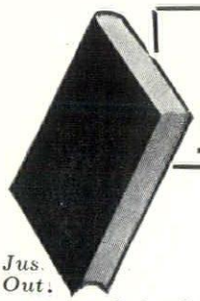

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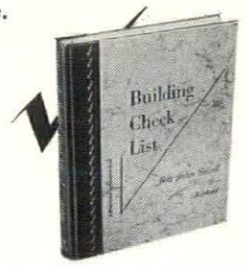

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attempted team work, in which industry tried to give to the builder for his use what the designer so graphically indicated to be his choice.

The failure to recognize concrete masonry in the single light of its basic qualities and to understand its limitations as a building unit, without attempting to make it appear to be something else is, undoubtedly, one of the reasons for the amount of time that elapsed before manufacturers sensed the necessity for producing concrete masonry in the simple, design-worthy forms in which it is to be found today.

Other and more important reasons include the fact that conclusive results of research are not obtained over night; that improved manufacturing techniques are products of long-range planning and experience; and that important advances in production machinery have constantly taken place over the years.

It is somewhat coincidental that these years of constant improvement in materials, machines and production know-how, responsible for bringing concrete masonry to its present, but by no means final, point of perfection, are paralleled to an unusual degree by the time consumed in architecture's struggle to free itself from those ties to antiquity to which common sense and sound reasoning denies a present day usefulness; and for the profession to move forward to a point of realization that honest architecture must recognize a proper and necessary relationship of form to function.

It will very likely be in this friendly climate that concrete masonry, in company with other sound materials, may anticipate a further healthy development, nourished by proper use in a manner consistent with inherent advantages to be gained therefrom, and within clearly understood limitations.

At this point a question might logically arise as to what the architect-member of the triumvirate should consider a proper course of action to obtain maximum benefit from an advantageous use of concrete masonry.

The material should, it seems to me, be employed by the architect in the same honest manner by which sound principles of contemporary architecture dictate that his designs shall be created. At no time should concrete masonry be called upon to perform in excess of the natural and known limitations of the material, or to lose its identity in representation of something else.

Demand of quality is mandatory at all times. Not only is this a fundamental principle of good professional practice but, in addition, industry will be aided substantially in its continuing program of self improvement by every instance of refusal to permit the use of sub-standard units.

The quality of craftsmanship in construction must be no less than the quality of concrete masonry units to be built into a structure. This, too, must be a direct responsibility of the builder who, in certain instances, has resorted to a practice of blaming the products manufacturer whenever a concrete masonry wall he has built begins to show signs of improper construction.

There must, it seems to me, be taken into account the fact that **all** materials are susceptible to change in some degree by reason of "drying out" processes and/or exposure to variation in temperature. Provisions to care for stresses set up by such conditions are a part of customary practice with respect to nearly all materials. However, for some unidentifiable reason, there appears to be a disposition in the case of concrete masonry to consider precautions normally taken with other materials as unnecessary, and any resultant failure to be a direct responsibility of the producer of the units used.

I was recently asked to serve as a consultant on a job where failures had occurred and where the manufacturer had been accused of furnishing sub-standard units as a reason for the unfortunate results obtained. Investigation failed to support the contention that structural failures had taken place in the units. Further examination did disclose, however, that a wall had been erected 160 feet in length and approximately 18 feet high without a single provision for relieving stresses that might develop; that construction had taken place during the winter months, and that a protecting roof had been built over the wall only a short time before the inspection. Yet, in the face of an obvious absence of correct construction procedure, the manufacturer was charged with supplying inferior materials.

Completely objective surveys of concrete masonry construction requirements, to which the immediately preceding observations and the earlier expressed concerns of the producer have an obviously close relation, lend strength to an opinion that a most important source of corrective measures lies within the architect's sphere of influence. It becomes abundantly clear that the extent to which recognition of requirements normal to the product finds intelligent expression in specifications and working drawings issued by the architect will be an accurate measure of concrete masonry's construction success.

The foregoing statement is based upon a sincere belief that the great majority of reputable builders are amenable to intelligent direction; that they are desirous of obtaining and will use any construction procedure which provides a satisfactory solution to their job problems, and that architects are equally zealous in their desire to attain perfection.

It is then an obvious conclusion that the architectural profession, so important to the successful use of concrete masonry, must be provided with sound and workable information at every opportunity, if the manufacturer is to make a reasonable contribution to actual construction and is to deny to the builder or the architect a questionable privilege of screaming "inferior materials" at the first crack of the block.

Accordingly, it may be of pertinent interest to first briefly examine the matter of concrete masonry specifications. In this connection I will hazard a guess that if, at this moment, we were to examine specifications obtained from six local offices, we would find, included under concrete masonry, six widely varying statements by which it was hoped to obtain substantially the same thing. This may sound a little rough on specification writers, but let me give you an example. An architect with whom I have had a long acquaintance and know to be a capable and talented practitioner, was recently commissioned to do a school building. In his specifications for light weight concrete masonry units to be used in this structure, I read the following: "cinder blocks as manufactured by the Detroit Cinder Block Company." The specification writer may have asked for exactly what he wanted—but I doubt it. The Detroit Cinder Block Company ceased to exist 25 years ago. This was, a glowing tribute to the age-old custom of clipping specifications from former jobs, but hardly adequate if it is desired to obtain best results from the use of concrete masonry.

In recognition of situations similar to the one just mentioned and, much more importantly, in further recognition of a far too frequently disregarded fact that the architect, as only one human being, can hardly be expected to know in detail everything about everything, the Michigan Society of Architects and the Concrete Products Association of Michigan have jointly undertaken the development of a minimum standard specification for concrete masonry, intended for general use in the State of Michigan as a reference specification. A Committee appointed from the Society working with the Association's Technical Problems Committee form a team to produce a specification which will be technically accurate, all-inclusive and, it is believed, of inestimable benefit to all concerned; in that the architect, the builder and the manufacturer will, at long last, be provided thereby with a common language for the expression of concrete masonry requirements.

An unusual amount of time and effort has been put into preparation of the proposed document because, intended as a standard, it must reflect a maximum of accuracy, coverage and clear understanding. There have been undesirable and, at the same time, unavoidable delays encountered in its preparation. As the one to whom preparation of original drafts of the specification was assigned, I must take personal responsibility for these delays. However, it is possible to report at this time that the specification is now ready for review and decision by the joint committee.

Comparable in importance to that of proper specifications is the development and use of correct construction procedures for concrete masonry. Although research on the subject and study of results obtained by practical field application are by no means at a point of final conclusion, there are those who feel that some progress has been made in Michigan through the Association's action in developing and making available what is believed to be a helpful control joint procedure. At the outset, the necessity for keeping such a procedure as simple as possible, and the cost of carrying it out to a minimum without sacrifice in the protective value of the joint was clearly recognized.

In Michigan where, at the present time, high-pressure steam-cured units represent a very minor portion of total concrete masonry production, an opinion was encountered which had developed in certain quarters to the effect that use of this type of unit in construction made control jointing unnecessary. The fact of the matter is that the difference between using high-pressure steam-cured units and other, far more available types, is one of degree rather

than one which would permit a total elimination of control joints in concrete masonry walls.

Another opinion encountered as to how the use of control joints might be eliminated, proposed a substitution of horizontal joint reinforcement for control joint construction. Here again, the facts in the case call for emphasis to be placed on the importance of using joint reinforcement; but only for its intended purpose and within its known limitations of use which do not include the role of replacement for control joints.

It is then necessary to point out the value, so clearly indicated by results obtained in the field, of employing both horizontal reinforcement and control joints, in proper combination, and to warn against the fallacy of considering one as a replacement for the other.

A very substantial amount of engineering research and testing is being carried on by the more important manufacturers of horizontal joint reinforcement. From these programs, undertaken as an industry service, must and will come a great majority of the answers to horizontal reinforcement problems. Consequently, any comment on the subject offered at this time must necessarily be considered as a general reference based almost entirely upon field observation of wall behavior.

In the interest of accurate reporting, it must be said that any apparent resistance to the use of control joints in Michigan has, for the most part, been offered by members of the designing group. This stated reluctance appears to have developed largely from the designer's feeling that the appearance of control joints in the facade or on the interior wall surfaces of his architectural creation would have a tendancy to dilute the aesthetic quality of his design. Actual experience amply demonstrates that control joints look far more formidable on the working drawings than they appear in the finished wall.

MARVIN BEERBOHM

adventures in time

An Address by Marvin Beerbohm, Muralist, before the Michigan Society of Architects Midsummer Conference at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, Michigan, August 4, 1955.

If you have consulted your programs, you no doubt have noted that this time has been allotted to something referred to as a "Discussion of the Philosophy" of the group of paintings on exhibition here. I sincerely hope that wasn't as alarming to you as it was to me, for I am no philosopher, and am not interested in a lot of metaphysical double-talk. If you have examined the paintings, and read the explanatory copy so ably composed by Dr. George Lechler, our special consultant for this project, you already have a good idea what they are all about.

I am here not only in my personal role as the artist, but also as a sort of "reader," as was used in the old Greek plays . . . describing, commenting, and pointing up.

The inception of this project was very simple—the result of an informal discussion over coffee on a Sunday afternoon at the Harlans. Mr. Harlan's facile imagination was quickly fired by the implications of Dr. Lechler's descriptions of ancient techniques and technology. At that time, none of us fully realized just what an exciting and rewarding project this was to be. Each of us was seeing in his mind's eye his own goal, but we could not foresee the ultimate results of our collective endeavor.

As a working artist, I was thrilled at the idea of documenting the debt of today's technology to the past, but I didn't anticipate the impact of the ideas implemented in each assignment. The hackneyed phrase, "there is nothing new under the sun," was muttered under my breath, not in disgust but in awe, as the material was assembled each month, and I marveled at the unfolding of man's efforts to solve his most pressing problems . . . not today's man, standing in the full light of his conquered environment, aided by the able tools of science, technology, and history . . . but that man of 150,000 years ago, hunting his food with the bolo he had fashioned . . . and the slave of 3500 years ago, quarrying the obelisk, utilizing the brute strength of his back and arms in a disciplined way, dictated by carefully thought-out plans for the most effective use of that power to move "immovable" stone.

We named the series "Adventures in Time," and it has proved to be apt. An Arab poet once said, "Time is not measured by clock or calendar, but by the intensity of experience."

Certainly, this has been true of this project, for I, who have always been so pressed by the simple mathematics of just one lifetime that I have taken to lying about my age . . . have become so immersed in the activities of the man on that long road back to 70,000 years ago, that my own horizons have been expanded and amplified.

We have long been aware that the human denominator is inherent in all progress, in the sometimes slow but steady surge of civilization and growth of cultures. In a project such as the one we are discussing, we are constantly reminded of this as we see the primitive results of that tremendous power, the mind of man. And we wonder about them . . . primitive scientists and dreamers and artisans, who bravely experimented, introduced, yes, even projected hitherto unknown ideas to their contemporaries. We owe them a tremendous debt, and it was the awareness of this debt, and the keen interest and pride in the techniques and technology of today, that led Mr. Harlan to sponsor this project . . . first, as dramatic documentation for the Harlan Electric Company's advertising in the Michigan A.I.A. Bulletin, and ultimately as a permanent collection of paintings in a special field.

The function of an artist is to express ideas and ideals through his own media . . . brush, pigment and canvas. He must be honest, sincere, hard-working, and not afraid to acknowledge his dreams. He must fit into the scheme of things, and use his talent wisely within the needs of his community . . . that is my personal measuring stick, for my own self.

Allan Harlan, industrialist, community-minded, and generous giver of himself, his time, his financial resources, and his know-how, must have a king-size measuring stick that he uses, for this project is just another of the many he has evolved and shared with so many. His enthusiasm and whole-hearted interest in this series has been a constant source of stimulation. His robust praise of the paintings themselves recalls to me the young woman painter who was to exhibit a canvas for the first time at the Metropolitan Museum, and was elatedly discussing it at home. Her small daughter, who had been firmly guided through the halls of that institution, and knew it was filled with impressive old masters, thought for a moment, and then asked, "Mother, does that make you an Old Mistress?"

Seriously, it has been a great pleasure to work with Mr. Harlan and Dr. Lechler on this project and to see it progress from an idea to an actuality. Someone once said of Columbus, that he wasn't such a much, since when he started out, he didn't know where he was going, when he got there he didn't know where he was, and when he got back he didn't know where he had been.

Well, when he started out we didn't know for sure where we were going, but, unlike Columbus, we do know where we are, and we certainly know where we have been. We hope that these paintings may prove to be not just documentation of Adventures in Time, but inspirational as reminders that our debt to the past is a complex chain of many things . . . that our luxurious, over-size bed of today, with its foam rubber mattress, is the logical successor to that narrow hard shelf of clay, cushioned with dry moss, of 8,000 B.C., and in a larger way, that our great dynamos, smelters, illumination, drills . . . indeed, all the tools of industry and commerce, technology and culture, had their beginnings in the dreams of many generations behind us.

As the past plucks at our sleeve, we may well paraphrase Ecclesiastes, "To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven . . . that which hath been is now . . . and that which is to be hath already been."

michigan items

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS is conducting a survey to determine to what extent its members are participating in planning and zoning activities in cooperation with the various planning agencies throughout the country.

Detroit Chapter of the Institute has sent questionnaires to such agencies in this area to determine their architectural personnel.

Included are the Detroit Metropolitan Area Planning Commission; the cities of Birmingham, Detroit, Dearborn, Grosse Pointe, Lansing, Pontiac, Ann Arbor, Ferndale, Highland Park and Royal Oak. Also included are the counties of Oakland, St. Clair and Washtenaw.

Architectural personnel on these commissions are Ray C. Eastman, Ann Arbor; Harry M. Denyes, Birmingham; Richard B. Fernbach (Director), Highland Park; J. Robert F. Swanson (Chairman), George J. Bery, Oakland County.

Harold S. Ellington, Engineer, of Harley, Ellington & Day, Inc., Architects and Engineers, is on both the Detroit Metropolitan Area Planning Commission and the Grosse Pointe Park Planning Commission. He is chairman of the latter.

The Detroit City Plan Commission has for its director-secretary Charles A. Blessing, a member of the A.I.A., and for its consultant Eero Saarinen, a Fellow of the Institute. Also on the Detroit Commission are Francis P. Bennett, A.I.A.; Frank A. Barcus, A.I.A.; Helen L. Fassett and Edward J. Hustoles, associate members of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.

Advisory to the Detroit City Plan Commission is Detroit Chapter's Committee on Civic Design: Louis Rossetti, Chairman; Malcolm R. Stirton, Vice-Chairman; James H. Barr, Eugene T. Cleland, Clair W. Ditchy, Amedeo Leone, Thomas H. Hewlett, Eberle M. Smith, Minoru Yamasaki, Edward H. Laird and Lawrence G. Linnard.

WAYNE UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION announces that its evening course in Construction Finance and Accounting will be offered on Monday evenings from 7:30 to 9:30 p. m. for 16 weeks, beginning September 19, 1955.

The course given this fall for the fourth time, is designed for those who occupy or seek executive positions in the building field. It is also of interest to those in the financial field of the building industry, such as bankers, public accountants, officials of surety companies, suppliers and contractors.

Registrations at $35 each may be made through the Division of Business Service at the University, 692 Merrick, telephone TEmple 1-1566.

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CHEMICAL ENGINEERS, Detroit Section will hold the first of a series of meetings on Nuclear Science, in cooperation with the Detroit Nuclear Council, at The Engineering Society of Detroit, Tuesday, October 4, 1955. Dinner will be served at 6:00 P. M., and reservations for dinner should be made with Mr. D. W. Anderson, Parke, Davis & Co., LO. 7-5300, Ext. 246, by Oct. 3.

The meeting will be a panel discussion on Radiation Chemistry in which Mr. Bernard Manowitz of Brookhaven National Laboratory; Dr. J. J. Martin of the Department of Chemical Engineering, University of Michigan, will participate. There will also be an eye-witness report of the Geneva Nuclear Conference and of the Atomic Industrial Forum Conference held in September. The panel meeting will be held in ESD auditorium at 7:30 P. M. the same evening.

NEW CORPORATE MEMBERS OF THE A.I.A. will be inducted into the Institute by Detroit Chapter Membership Chairman, Maurice B. Hammond at the Chapter's dinner meeting in The Detroit Institute of Arts, September 21, 1955.

The eighteen new members are Theodore V. Bacon, Douglas K. Bloetscher, Frederick Brauning, Elden P. Eroh, Fred D. Farrar, Irvin D. Feig, Maurice B. Kimmins, Louis W. Klei, James H. Livingston, Francis P. Lynch, Yochizo Machida, Phillips B. Marcellus, Jr., Robert C. Metcalf, Willard A. Oberdick, Richard J. Pavlicek, Stuart D. Rodgers, Arthur H. Sercombe and George E. Thomas.

CLEMENT E. MASON, an associate member of the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects, has just been elected District Governor of Lions International, for District 11E of Michigan.

Mason, experienced as commercial artist and architectural designer with General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co., is now with the Besser Company, of Alpena, Mich., in charge of product design and the company's exhibits at regional, national and international expositions. He also is responsible for his company's construction, modification and building expansion program.

CLARENCE L. WATERS, A.I.A. has transferred his membership in The American Institute of Architects from the Detroit Chapter to the Saginaw Valley Chapter.

Waters and David F. Oeming recently established a partnership for the practice of architecture at 218½ South Hamilton Ave. in Saginaw.

Both are graduates of the University of Michigan formerly employed in the office of Swanson Associates, Inc., of Bloomfield Hills, Mich.

FREDERICK G. STICKEL, A.I.A., chief architect for the Detroit office of Victor Gruen and Associates, Architects, was a recent speaker before the Saginaw Rotary Club.

Stickel showed color slides and motion pictures of his firm's Northland Shopping Center, and he described in detail some of the philosophy behind the design and execution of this project.

The program was arranged by Peter Frantz, A.I.A., of the Saginaw firm of Frantz & Spence, Architects.

NEWLY ELECTED NON-RESIDENT MEMBERS of the Michigan Society of Architects are Oscar Stonorov of Philadelphia, Callix E. Miller of Indianapolis, Arthur N. Steinmark of Pittsburgh; William M. Cooley, Walter H. Sobel and Alfred Shaw, all of Chicago.

James B. Morison, Society secretary, announces that all of those newly elected are members of The American Institute of Architects, and all are registered to practice in Michigan.

LEONARD H. GUSSOW, electrical engineer announces the removal of his offices to 1112 Charlevoix building, 2233 Park Avenue, Detroit 26, Mich. The telephone number remains the same — WOodward 5-6336.

Gussow was formerly at 1229 Majestic building, Detroit.

LEINWEBER, YAMASAKI & HELLMUTH, of Detroit, and Hellmuth, Yamasaki and Leinweber of St. Louis, Mo., will henceforth practice as independent architectural firms.

The Detroit organization will continue to practice as Yamasaki, Leinweber & Associates, Architects and Engineers, at the firm's present address, 112 Madison Ave.

SMITH, HINCHMAN & GRYLLS, INC., ARCHITECTS AND ENGINEERS, have been appointed for the design of a 1,700,000 square foot metal stamping plant for the Ford Motor Company, to be located near Chicago, Illinois. The plant will be situated on a 140 acre site, as part of the Company's recently announced $625,000,000 expansion program.

C. ALLEN HARLAN, Chairman of the Major Commerce, Trades and Professions unit of Detroit's Torch Drive, is just getting under way with his campaign. John W. Armstrong, is a co-chairman, as is Gerald G. Diehl, A.I.A., for the architects' division.

The Building Trades Division last year raised some $380,000 for the Torch Drive. Goal for this year will be announced soon. This "Give Once For All" drive will begin October 18 and run through November 10.

ARCHITECT in northern location would like to purchase a going practice in a southern state or enter into a worthwhile partnership in a more southerly location, possibly Texas or Florida.—Monthly Bulletin Box No. 150.

ARCHITECT desires connection, full or part time, with established Detroit office. —Box 151, Monthly Bulletin.

michigan items

HARLEY, ELLINGTON & DAY, INC., Architects and Engineers announces that Paul B. Brown, Frederick J. Hildebrandt and Alfred H. Mitschke have been elected vice-presidents of the firm.

Brown, a graduate of the College of Architecture, University of Michigan, was winner of its Booth Traveling Fellowship in 1940. He is now a director of the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects. As project administrator for HE&D, he has had charge of such projects as the University of Detroit's expansion program, Michigan National Guard Armories, Michigan Life Insurance Company building, National Bank of Detroit branches, and other educational and institutional projects.

Hildebrandt, also a U. of M. graduate, is a registered professional civil engineer. As construction manager for the firm, he has been in charge of field forces located from Newark, N. J. to Los Angeles, Calif., also in Toronto and Montreal, Canada.

Mitschke is a member of The American Institute of Architects, its Detroit Chapter, and The Engineering Society of Detroit. He received his early training in various Detroit offices, including that of the late William B. Stratton, F.A.I.A. He also took special courses in structural engineering at the University of Wisconsin.

DONALD F. WHITE, A.I.A., member of the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects, is now in Harbel, Liberia-West Africa, with the United States agency, FOA.

The assignment is a joint operation of the Government of the U. S. and the Republic of Liberia, to assist the Prairie View Agricultural and Mechanical College in developing Booker Washington Institute into a technical school patterned after the land grant college system of the U. S.

White, senior member of the Detroit architectural firm of White & Griffin, writes that there is a great deal of work involved in developing the physical plant of the college as well as curricula innovations, and he adds:

"At present we are working on a campus development and expansion site plan, and making detailed studies for a trades building with a number of shops. The school was founded in 1928 by the Phelps Stokes Fund of New York, and it is now supported by the Republic of Liberia. Firestone has its rubber plantation in the vicinity, and also there is a subsidiary of Republic Steel Corporation."

SITUATION WANTED — Registered Architect with Master's Degree, long experience, wants free lance work: Modern design, presentations, renderings, working drawings etc.—Box 149, Monthly Bulletin.

LOUIS G. REDSTONE, A.I.A., was architect for Detroit Public Library's newest unit, the Henry Chaney Branch at Grand River and Mansfield Avenues.

Mrs. Hedley V. Richardson, president of the Library Commission, presided at the dedication ceremonies, and taking part were Mayor Albert E. Cobo; Council President, Louis C. Miriani, and other members of the Library Commission and Detroit Common Council.

Lynn D. Bartlett is branch librarian of the new unit, the ninth opened in the past six years.

Charles M. Mohrhardt, Associate Director of The Detroit Public Library, said:

"We are extremely well pleased with Mr. Redstone and the building which he designed for us. It was with pride that we introduced him to the audience in attendance at the time of the dedication."

FRANK REESER, well-known portrait artist, of Cleveland, Ohio, who is spending the summer at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, completed a number of pastel portraits of ladies attending the Michigan Society of Architects Midsummer Conference there August 4-6, 1955.

Among them were Mrs. Gardiner Vose of Bloomfield Hills, Mrs. Eberle M. Smith of Grosse Ile; the Misses Carol and Bonnie Beltz, daughters of the Charles R. Beltzes of Grosse Pointe, and granddaughters of the American Ambassador to the Philippines, the Honorable and Mrs. Homer Ferguson; Miss Anne Fuchs, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Albert L. Fuchs of Huntington Woods, and Mrs. Tyler Riggin of Kalamazoo.

Mr. Reeser is expected in Detroit the latter part of November when he will complete other portraits commissioned at Mackinac Island.

CLAIR W. DITCHY, F.A.I.A. was a speaker at the recent annual convention of the American Society of Landscape Architects in Detroit.

Ditchy stressed the fact that in a new era we are privileged beyond our forbears to enjoy the fruits of an inventive age, with modern architecture combined with landscape architecture offering standards of living never before known, and he added:

"Our people have become disciples for better public parks, better schools, churches, public buildings of all sorts, and through them the value of our combined services is accentuated."

Ditchy has just retired as president of The American Institute of Architects, after serving two terms.

WANTED—University graduate architect-engineer with ability to engineer, design, prepare plans for new buildings, supervise construction through contractors, handle maintenance of present structures. Excellent opportunity to join an aggressive organization with operations extending throughout Middle West and East. Give age, education, past experience and salary desired.—Monthly Bulletin, Box No. 148.

construction specifications institute

Organization Meeting, July 19, 1955, Kingsley, Inn, Bloomfield Hill, Mich. Reported by Alger W. Luckham

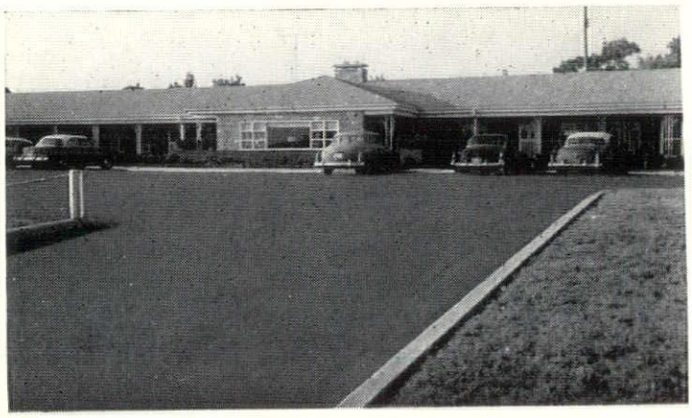
Following dinner, William E. Kapp, F.A.I.A., who had agreed to act as temporary chairman, was introduced by one of the organizing committee. Mr. Kapp explained why he is a member of C.S.I. giving many reasons for continuing that membership, and his strong feeling regarding the formation of a chapter or chapters in Michigan. One of the many points stressed by Mr. Kapp was his opinion of The Specifier. Copies were distributed and the chairman drew attention to the nature of the material covered, manner in which it was presented and the fact that much of it is not to be found elsewhere. He added that the Institute quarterly is the outstanding publication of its kind and that its high standing speaks well for the place the Institute is assuming in its field.

The chairman welcomed those who had come after their day's work on a hot and humid July evening, and he expressed for the committee its feeling that the attendance of twenty-seven was far beyond its fondest hopes. Introductions of the C.S.I. members present, consisting of six of the eight or nine considered as local members, were made. The organizing committee members were then introduced and each in turn was asked to explain some phase of the work of C.S.I. and something of the plans for this area. The members and some of their comments were, briefly, about as follows:

Al Luckham explained the requests which had come from Mr. Barrows, A.I.A., National Director from the Metropolitan New York Chapter, who is now heading the committee for chapter organization of the national body. These requests had extended over the period from last November. Luckham reported that good wishes for the success of the meeting had come from President McGinniss of C.S.I., Mr. Barrows and Chicago Chapter. Mentioned also was the fact that Mr. Barrows had asked the latter chapter to have a representative present at this meeting. However, it was vacation time and we could scarcely expect every planned arrangement to work to our advantage. It was learned the Secretary of Chicago Chapter had been on vacation, returning to his desk just the day before this meeting; even so, an able assistant, Miss Marie Van Cise, had complied with our request and forwarded promptly a copy of the chapter By-Laws which should prove very valuable to us.

Mr. Kapp read a telegram from President McGinniss, which had been sent to the Inn, in which the officers and directors of the Institute expressed their greetings, congratulations, and promise of help in the efforts being made in Detroit.

Les Larkin commented on his membership in the C.S.I., mentioning some of the things he had found worthwhile. He discussed various items which had appeared in The Specifier, many of which had supplied him with specifications material. One especi-



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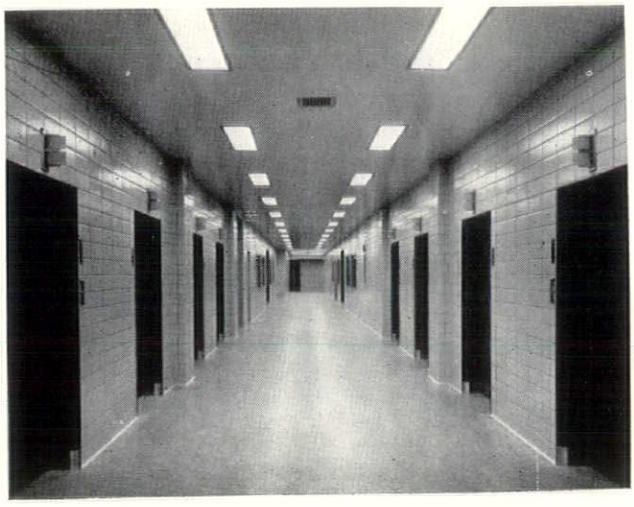

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ally singled out was an article which appeared in April 1952 entitled, "The New Development in Conductive Ceramic Tile Flooring for Hospitals," by E. J. Filsinger. Also mentioned was the much needed information regarding present day paints.

Henry Wilcke followed and explained that while he is a member of the organizing committee he is only now applying for C.S.I. membership. Wilcke believes very strongly that the exchange of ideas among men in the construction specifications field will be of great help. The many new materials and methods being used in present day construction cause him to feel that there must be a clearing house for presentation and discussion of these as they affect specifications. Wilcke also drew attention to the specifications of some years ago which had but eight sections or divisions to cover the entire construction, whereas today it is not usual to deal with 40 or more in the general construction.

Charles Scripture mentioned his having recently asked C.S.I. to reinstate his membership so that he might be active in the work now being done and share in the advantages offered. Scripture pointed out that the specifications writer is really the buyer for the owner and, as such, should be constantly in touch with the latest and best information dealing with construction. He felt the exchange of ideas, both locally and nationally, is of the utmost importance.

Frank Couch, an Institute member, stated that in this group he felt perfectly safe in saying that specifications were really more important than the drawings. He gave a resume of the work of other chapters and indicated what fine projects were under way. Frank then touched on the program of the national organization, and the work of the Metropolitan New York Chapter, stressing the contributions of such men as Ben Small, Harold R. Sleeper, Ben H. Dyer and others.

Chesley Ayers, an Institute member since 1949, was next to emphasize the benefits from the all-important Specifier, (the latter must be pretty puffed up by now) and said he would belong to C.S.I. to get the Specifier, if for no other reason. Chesley had used such a view to influence others to become interested in the Institute. He mentioned also the work of the National Joint Committee of A.I.A. and C.S.I., in which Mr. Sleeper is co-chairman.

Les Lowery, who had handled many of the arrangements for the meeting, emphasized that he was very new in C.S.I. work, in fact he was just about to apply for membership. He really had come hoping to learn more about the Institute and its work. Les commented on the differences in specifications writing between large and small offices, and that in large offices there was need for closer cooperation between those who draw and those who specify. A field for work by C.S.I., according to Lowery, is open in causing large corporations and their representatives to change with the times and accept new materials and methods as well as to show a willingness to approve specifications conforming to local conditions and customs.

At this point, the chairman introduced the guest of the evening, Suren Pilafian, President, Detroit Chapter A.I.A., explaining he had waited purposely until our guest had heard those who had been engaged actively in the preliminary work to date, and asked Mr. Pilafian to comment on what he had observed during the meeting and give any ideas he had regarding the work being undertaken. Mr. Pilafian observed that in the average architect's office there are just four main divisions of the work, one being design, another working drawings, third specifications and fourth supervision; and of these the specifications are but a small part, both in time involved and money spent. In view of the fact that those handling the other divisions of the work have not organized in any way, it was the hope of our guest that specifications writers did not have any illusions as to their work out-ranking in importance that of the others. A further comment by Mr. Pilafian dealt with the proposed C.S.I. Chapter from the viewpoint of A.I.A., calling attention to the local committees of the latter which deal with architectural practice and Architect-Contractor relations, but which can devote so little time to the field of specifications. In the belief that collaboration between A.I.A. and C.S.I. Chapters would be welcomed, Mr. Pilafian expressed the hope that C.S.I. would develop a program locally which would prove helpful to all concerned. Evidence of such collaboration on a national scale was cited by Mr. Pilafian by reference to the work of the National Joint Committee of A.I.A. and C.S.I. in the proposed specification service to architects.

Following Mr. Pilafian's remarks, the chairman announced it was his desire to have an open meeting for a fuller discussion by all in attendance. He reviewed what had been presented and then, as a start, called on Mr. C. A. Graether, of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, considered the dean of specifications men in Detroit.

Mr. Graether felt C.S.I. along with A.I.A. chapters would be of great help, and that the exchange of ideas could mean much to architects as well as the men who write specifications. It was Mr. Graether's feeling that investigations of materials carried on by C.S.I. could be made available to all offices and would place results before those who must make decisions and decide on those best suited for the work at hand. Major assistance in all specifications matters could reach various offices in areas served by C.S.I. chapters, as Mr. Graether saw it.

Paul Ketelhut questioned the possibility of overlapping of A.I.A. and C.S.I. in the broad field of architecture, but was quick to accept the chairman's explanation on this point. Mr. Kapp read the list of advisors to the Institute to indicate the various fields from which opinions are asked for C.S.I. purposes, and explained it was his view that these sources went far beyond the normal practice of archiecture as represented by A.I.A.

The chairman then asked for some indication of the feeling of those assembled relative to the formation of a chapter of C.S.I.

On a motion of Paul Ketelhut, seconded by Henry Wilcke, it was voted unanimously to have the present organizing committee members, together with four additional men from the younger group, continue until such time as all material can be presented for action at another meeting; the committee to decide on time and place of the future meeting, and be prepared with assembled, applications for membership, slate of officers and anything which may require clearing with the national organization. The committee referred to will be composed of the following:

William E. Kapp, Chairman
Leslie G. Larkin
Henry G. Wilcke
Charles M. Scripture
Frank L. Couch
Chesley Ayers
Leslie M. Lowery
O. R. Bellucci
Neal Smith
Gene St. George
Glenn Dailey
Alger W. Luckham

Another motion was made by Charles Scripture and seconded by Frank Morgan to the effect that the naming of the chapter and scope of operations at present be left to the committee. This was passed unanimously.

Les Lowery then took up the question of applications for prospective members. He suggested the blanks on hand be distributed. Since it was evident that all in attendance could qualify, blanks were distributed.

Mr. Dailey, United States Gypsum Company, the lone representative of prospective associate members, was asked to comment. He was of the opinion a large number would desire to join a local chapter as associate members. Mr. Dailey said further he is quite sure manufacturers who subscribe to the idea of C.S.I. nationally would be interested in having local representation. (Note: The committee had decided earlier to invite but one representative of a manufacturer to the initial meeting, and it was agreed that Mr. Dailey should be asked to be present because of the interest he had expressed at an earlier date.)

Frank Couch then paid tribute to the hard work Bill Kapp had done and the masterly manner in which he had handled the meeting. (Applause)

Les Lowery announced any desiring to mail in applications could do so, sending them to Al Luckham without checks for dues for the present. After review, checks will be requested and the assembled applications forwarded to the Institute at one time.

Mention should be made also to the prowlings of an expert photographer during the meal. A number of shots were taken by our C.S.I. specialist, Frank Couch, using a very complicated looking Graphlex, or equal. We can only hope for the best.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:00 P.M., with Scripture's definition fresh in our minds:

> "It is the province of the specifications to state what is to be done and how it is to be done; while the drawings are to show where and how much."

The next meeting is planned for about September 15th.

Look for a brief report of the organization meeting in the August number of Tal Hughes' Monthly Bulletin. Tal very kindly offered to do this.

Reported by Al Luckham

letters

The American Institute of Architects, Detroit Chapter has taken a stand with regard to the "debate on modern art" that arose around a sculpture in bas-relief which Probate Judge James H. Sexton asked to have removed from his courtroom in Detroit's new City-County building, because he said "it is indecent."

In a letter to Charles G. Oakman, custodian of the building, Louis G. Redstone, A.I.A. wrote:

"As chairman of the Allied Arts Committee of The American Institute of Architects, Detroit Chapter, I am much concerned over the controversy originated by one of the Probate Judges regarding the removal of the bas-relief sculpture installed in his courtroom.

"This Committee is particularly interested in seeing sculpture used as an integral part of any architectural project, especially civic and public buildings. In this case it was used with the idea of giving the room a human touch, by expressing moral values and symbolizing historical events.

"This bas-relief by the distinguished sculptor Marshall Fredericks is an excellent portrayal of the symbol, 'Kindness, Gentleness and Charity,' which should please the followers of both modern and conservative art interpretation.

"The kind of sculpture to be installed in a civic building, which is to stand for generations to come, should not be dictated by temporary occupants, whether a present judge or his successors.

"In the final analysis, the artist, once commissioned, should be given full freedom of expression, and guided by the architects and owners only. Any others may be expected to approve or disapprove—that is the democratic way—but not to the extent of disqualifying the work. I am sure that a judge would not tolerate in his court unqualified advice on legal matters.

"It is the expressed opinion of this Committee that, not only should this bas-relief remain in place, but other locations should be found for additional sculptures expressing the dynamic events of our present-day living."

Enclosed herewith are some of the observations I have sent out as a part of my duties as Chairman of the UN celebration which will take place October 24, 1955.

I have just witnessed the most dramatic experience of my life. Emillo Nunez-Portuondo, Delegate from Cuba, had the floor and, in the process of delivering a blasting attack upon the Soviets, was ruled out of order by the chair.

Thereupon, General Carlos P. Romulo charged the chair, shouting that Molotov had made an attack upon the U. S. A. For a moment, I could see myself back in uniform, for, from the explosion, I thought that World War III was on the way.—**C. ALLEN HARLAN,** from San Francisco, during the UN's Tenth Anniversary Celebration.

Few men have been as generous with their time, and as unselfish in their devotion to the young men of the architectural profession, as has Robert M. Wright, who passed on recently. He will be remembered by many.

For years he directed study in the Architectural Atelier in Cleveland, Ohio, with unwavering devotion, and many able architects, now practicing throughout the United States, will happily credit "Bob" with the essence of their success.

It is not pleasant to lose a stanch friend of superior character, but it is a satisfaction to know that he derived great pleasure in his work, and devotion to the boys, and that he was the inspiration and constructive guilding spirit to countless fine young men.—HENRY P. WHITWORTH, A.I.A., Winter Park, Fla.

WOW! You certainly did a job. That is the best presentation I have ever seen turned out on Grand Hotel. I love it.

I am going to ask if you could let me have two additional copies to be mailed by your office direct to Mr. George Lacine, Newcomb-Macklin, Inc., 400 North State Street, Chicago, Ill., my picture framers. I am going to ask them to disassemble the two books carefully and frame under glass the pictorial story which you have so nicely done, that it may be given a prominent place on our archive walls for posterity to enjoy as I have today.—W. S. WOODFILL, President, Grand Hotel.

WAYNE COUNTY GENERAL HOSPITAL and Infirmary is planning to construct a 500-bed general hospital. Would you kindly submit to us a list of architects known to you in the State whom you believe to be qualified to design, plan and supervise the construction of such a building. We already have the roster prepared by the American Hospital Association, but wish to supplement that with any other qualified firms.—S. D. JACOBSON, M.D., General Superintendent and Physician-in-Chief.

obituaries

FREDERICK CROWTHER, well-known Detroit architectural delineator, perspective artist and water colorist, died in the Livonia Convalescent Hospital on August 14 at the age of 75.

Born in Manchester, England, he was educated there and he came to this country as a young man, going to Chicago where he was engaged by architects, working as a free lance delineator. He came to Detroit in the 1920s and continued his specialty, and he served a wide clientele of architects for the past 30 years.

Being talented in his field, he was considered an authority on perspective drawing and rendering, and he contributed articles to architectural magazines. An Editor's Note in connection with one of his contributions to American Architect and Architecture, stated: "The author of this article, Mr. Frederick Crowther, is in the forefront of America's architectural illustration artists in perspective and water color." This was in 1937, when Henry Saylor was editor of that publication, and the Crowther article was in connection with a portfolio edited by Detroit architects.

He leaves a brother, George, 14414 Whitcomb Ave., Detroit, recently retired from The Detroit Edison Company; three sisters, Mrs. Ernest Ashford of Hobbs, New Mexico, Mrs. Albert Speke and Mrs. Jack Kilroy, both of Manchester, England.

FRED W. LANGHENRICH, a member of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., died in Columbus Hospital, Chicago, Ill. on July 25, after a long illness. He was 56 years of age.

Born in Liepsic, Saxony, he received his early education there and came to this country as a young man. He studied at Chicago's Art Institute, the University of Michigan and University of Illinois.

He was a veteran of World War I, and he had traveled widely in this country. His early experience was gained in leading architects' offices in Philadelphia, Detroit, Dallas and Chicago. Mr. Langhenrich became registered to practice architecture in Michigan, by examination, in 1930, and he entered his own practice in 1932.

He was also a member of the Michigan Society of Architects, Illinois Society of Architects, Society of American Military Engineers, the national and Illinois Society of Professional Engineers, Germania Lodge No. 82, A. F. & A. M., of Chicago.

He leaves his wife, Sarah. The family home is at 4541 W. Washington Boulevard, Chicago.

ELMER L. ASTLEFORD, distinguished architectural photographer, died at his home, 16864 Chatham Street in Detroit, on July 30. He was 66 years of age.

Elmer Astleford was born on an Iowa farm, and he received an architectural education at the University of Michigan. He was employed in the Detroit architectural offices of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, Albert Kahn, Malcomson & Higginbotham, and Robert O. Derrick.

He roamed France with his camera and by combining his knowledge of architecture and photography he became one of the outstanding architectural photographers of the country. His work was widely published and much of it appeared in this publication.

It was our privilege to work with him in earlier days as a draftsman and more recently, since 1933, when he gave up his architectural career and devoted himself exclusively to photography.

Surviving are his wife, Josephine, a daughter, Mrs. Andre de Saint-Rat, and three grandchildren.

JOHN E. KINSELLA, secretary of the Detroit Chapter, Associated General Contractors of America, died suddenly in Mount Carmel Hospital, Detroit on August 11, at the age of 50.

Mr. Kinsella was born in Webster, Minnesota on October 1, 1904. He was educated there and at St. Thomas Military Academy and St. Thomas College of Law in St. Paul, Minn. He was admitted to the Bar of Minnesota in 1934, and after a brief practice as a lawyer, he became employed by Foley Brothers, Inc. and Walbridge, Aldinger Co., on the Lake City Ordnance Plant in Independence, Mo.

He joined the staff of the Detroit Chapter, A.G.C. in 1934, specializing in labor relations. He was secretary of the Detroit Building Employers Labor Relations Council, and the Power House Contractors Association.

One of his great pleasures was his membership in the Detroit Bar Association Glee Club, as those who have heard his voice will know.

He leaves his wife, Jane, two daughters, Mary and Sheila, and six sisters. The family home is at 23861 Roanoke, Oak Park, Michigan.

J. PHILIP McDONNELL, Detroit architect, died in Veterans Hospital, Dearborn on August 13 at the age of 66.

A native of Detroit, Mr. McDonnell became registered to practice architecture in Michigan in 1916. For many years he had conducted his own practice and he was architect for many fine residences and other buildings in the Detroit area.

In recent years he had been connected with several of the leading architectural offices in Detroit.

Mr. McDonnell had been a member of The American Institute of Architects, its Detroit Chapter and the Michigan Society of Architects, the Detroit Athletic Club and Lockmoor Country Club. He leaves a son, Ralph.

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ARCHITECTS SIGN THEIR BUILDINGS in the cities of some foreign countries, notably in Paris, France.

It was Francis Onderdonk, associate member of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., who discovered the following item in Newell D. Hillis' book, "The Quest of Happiness" (MacMillan's):

> Sostratus, the Egyptian architect, was commanded to carve the name of the Pharaoh upon the palace he was building. Fulfilling the decree, the architect first carved his own name deep into the granite, and then filled it in with plaster and engraved thereon the name of Ptolemy. After a century the plaster peeled off and took with it the name of the monarch, but left the name of Sostratus, the builder.

Incidentally, Frank has offered the United Nations a new design for its flag. It contains a border consisting of miniature flags of the 55 member-nations. In the center is a map of the world surrounded by an oval of stars, each representing a member-nation.

ARCHIVES OF THE DETROIT CHAPTER, American Institute of Architects contains a "Schedule of Charges and Professional Practice of Architects as Usual and Proper," adopted by the A.I.A. October 23, 1884, and by the Western Association of Architects, November 14, 1884.

The document states that it was reaffirmed by The A.I.A. upon the consolidation of the Western Association of Architects and The American Institute of Architects, November 20, 1889.

The schedule states that charges are "For full professional services (including supervision) Five Per Cent upon the cost of the work."

Charges for preliminary studies are covered in a sliding scale, beginning with work costing from $50,000 to $75,000, for which the fee is $559.00 and ending with work costing between $4 million and $5 million, which bears a $5,000 fee.

A note at the bottom adds:

"The rate is equal to 2½ times the square root of lowest cost."

DEFINITION OF A PROFESSION—issued by a Supreme Court:

"A vocation involving relations to the affairs of others of such a nature as to require for its proper conduct an equipment of learning or skill, or both, and to warrant the community in making restrictions in respect to its exercise."

And then we find in the program of a meeting of the American Institute of Electrical Engineers the following:

2:00 P.M.—Conferences on Ethics

C.P.** Teaching Ethics to Engineering Students. H. W. Bibber, Union College.

C.P.** What Ethics?

To which the New Yorker Magazine adds "Quiet please!"

WHEATSTAKES was the title of a competition conducted by two Americans to select the best samples of wheat grown in Australia, with $25,000, $10,000 and $5,000, respectively, offered for first, second and third prizes. Australian authorities could find nothing illegal about the contest.

A condition of the competition was that each entrant submit two bushels of his best wheat. Fifty thousand farmers entered and the Yanks had 100,000 bushels of the best wheat, worth two dollars per bushel. After paying the $40,000 prize money and all other expenses they netted more than $100,000.

Seems to be vaguely reminiscent of some architectural competitions.

COLOR IN ARCHITECTURE, too, can be overdone. To drive a black car today is to be conspicuous.

A large woman wearing a violent purple dress and many jewels came to the salon of Jacques Fath, the couturier, to order some clothes.

"What color should I wear?" she asked him.

Monsieur Fath looked at her and shrugged. "Madam," he said, "when God created the butterfly and the humming bird, He made them of brilliant colors, but when He created the elephant, madam, in his wisdom He made it gray."

EDWIN BATEMAN MORRIS, SR., A.I.A. says he use to be referred to as the husband of Faith Morris, but now he is better known as the father of Edwin B. Morris, Jr.

Undoubtedly he has seen his predictions on the future of architecture come true because he had Faith.

Eddie tells about a girl who said she would do anything for a fur coat, and he adds, "she did, and when she got the coat it didn't fit."

Shocking!

MISS JEANNE DAVERN, Associate Editor of Architectural Record, had an interesting article in that publication's June issue, giving information about chapter publications.

Surprising is the number now in existence and the wide field of information covered.

It's a safe bet that the Institute's public relations program and Ketchum, Inc. gave a great deal of encouragement to this trend, for all of them stress public relations, what to do until the architect arrives, etc.

ARCHITECTS' PICNICS were held this summer by some chapters.

It was such an occasion that a member of the Women's Architectural League met a wolf who, she said, "was over six feet in his stalkings."

SIGNS ON THE ROAD TO MACKINAC ISLAND:

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architects in the news

georgia

GEORGIA CHAPTER, A.I.A., is now appearing weekly on television, on Helen Parris' show "Memo to M'Lady". The first program starred Griff Edwards and John Portman discussing the function and services of the architect. Each succeeding week members of the Chapter were guests on this program.

Credit for this thirteen-weeks project goes to Frank Bull and his TV subcommittee of The Public Relations Committee which has been ably guided by George Heery.

illinois

The Department of Architecture, University of Illinois, in cooperation with the Division of University Extension, announces its Fourth Annual Conference for Architects, to be held in Urbana on October 18, 19, and 20, 1955.

The title of this year's conference is "Integration of Contemporary Aesthetics and Building Techniques," "Psychology of Aesthetics," "Color," "Form," "The Importance of Form and Space in Architecture," "Aesthetics and the Building," and the presentation of individual projects by well-known architects.

In charge of the Conference for Architecture is Professor Robert J. Smith, and for Extension, Robert K. Newton.

BENJAMIN F. OLSON, was reelected president of the Illinois Society of Architects. Harold Bradley was elected 1st vice-president and George H. Dubin, 2nd vice-president. Virgil E. Gustafson was reelected treasurer, and Gerald L. Palmer, financial secretary. T. Clifford Noonan and Ray F. Houlihan were named directors.

iowa

HAROLD W. HIMES, A.I.A., has been appointed associate professor of architecture at Iowa State College. Mr. Himes has been a member of the firm of Ramey and Himes since 1947. He is a graduate of the University of Michigan, a member of the study group committe of the City-County Zoning Commission and a member of the Board of Examiners and Appeals with the city of Wichita, Kansas.

kansas

WILLIAMSON, LOEBSACK & ASSOCIATES, Topeka's oldest architectural firm has announced a reorganization taking in three new junior partners and one associate engineer.

New partners are Glenn A. Horst, David E. Nichols and Orville O. Rice. Joseph C. Weakly is the new associate engineer.

The firm has designed a number of Topeka buildings including Jayhawk Hotel and Theater, National Bank of Topeka, First Methodist Church, Topeka High School, five junior high schools, 11 elementary schools and three buildings at Washburn University including the new Margaret Mulvane Memorial.

kentucky

ALBERT B. McCULLOCH & JOHN H. BICKEL, A.I.A., have formed a new architectural firm, with offices at 1115 S. Fourth St., Louisville. Mr. Bickel is president of the West Kentucky Chapter, A.I.A. Both men received the Alpha Rho Chi Medal. Mr. McCulloch is a graduate of Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., and Mr. Bickel was a graduate of the University of Michigan's College of Architecture.

louisiana

I. WILLIAM RICCIUTI, A.I.A., announces that J. Buchanan Blitch, A.I.A., has become a partner in the firm of Ricciuti Associates, Architects & Engineers, at 302 Q & C Bldg., New Orleans.

michigan

MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF REGISTRATION FOR ARCHITECTS, PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS has just held its first meeting in the board's new and larger quarters at 1604 Cadillac Square building in Detroit. The board's offices were formerly at 705 in the same building.

Announcement was made that the board would add to its staff another investigator to assist Richard Van Praag who has been with the board for several years.

Board members Henry T. McGaughan of Pontiac and Wilfrid C. Polkinghorne of Houghton were named as delegates to the annual convention of the National Council of State Boards of Engineering Examiners to be held in Washington, D. C., October 20-22, 1955.

UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN conducted a special program on Michigan, its art and architecture, labor and industry, during the past summer months.

Alden B. Dow, A.I.A., of Midland, Michigan, was the speaker on July 27, when he discussed the subject, "The Architecture of Michigan."

On August 8, Charles E. Wilson, Secretary of Defense of the United States, spoke on a topic of current importance.

In connection with the series, there are exhibitions and motion pictures concerning Michigan, its natural resources, recreation and transportation.

new york

BRUNO FUNARO, A.I.A., has been appointed assistant dean of the School of Architecture at Columbia University.

An assistant professor of architecture, Mr. Funaro has been in charge of the school's evening course program since he joined the Columbia faculty in 1953. He is a partner in the New York office of Howard T. Fisher & Associates. He and Geoffrey Baker were co-authors of the books entitled Windows in Modern Architecture, Shopping Centers, and Motels.

oklahoma

W. ALVA FRY, an officer in the Oklahoma Chapter of the A.I.A., has recently assumed the duties of Executive Administrator in the office of Leon B. Senter, A.I.A.

texas

WILLIAM M. COLLIER, JR., A.I.A., an Abilene architect has been appointed to the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners by Gov. Allan Shivers. He was past president of the Fort Worth Chapter and the West Texas Chapter, A.I.A. Mr. Collier is now chairman of the Board of Appeals of the building code of the city of Abilene and he is a member of the Board of Adjustment.

died

CHARLES O. CHROMASTER, A.I.A., 64, at his home in Ft. Worth, Texas, on July 29th. Mr. Chromaster, in 1954, was named chairman of the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission.

RUSSELL G. deLAPPE, A.I.A., prominent East Bay architect, at his home in Oakland, Calif., on Aug. 11th. Mr. deLappe was a partner in the firm of Russell Guerne de Lappe and Mitchell Van Bourg, architects. Mr. deLappe who had suffered from a heart ailment for several years, was the originator of a specially designed house for the bedridden heart patient, a project which has since gained national recognition.

GEORGE W. HUBBARD, 78, who was the designer on many of Chicago's great buildings, including Marshall Field's, American Museum of Natural History and the Union Station.

WILLIAM N. JACOBS, A.I.A., at his home in Brookline, Mass., on July 3rd. Mr. Jacobs was head of the firm of W. Nelson Jacobs Associates.Among the buildings his firm planned were the Center Theater in Fall River; the Hotel Bradford in Boston; Fall River Drive-In; recently he was working on the New Bedford's central junior high school now under construction.

GEORGE R. LAIDLAW, 93, in his home city of Elkhart, Ind., on Aug. 4th. Mr. Laidlaw helped draw the plans for Elkhart High School, the municipal building and numerous other structures in the city.

JOSEPH M. LAWLOR, 90, at his home in New Rochelle, N. Y., on Aug. 8th. Mr. Lawlor designed the buildings of Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and numerous apartment buildings in New York City.

EDWARD F. NEILD, F.A.I.A., prominent Shreveport, La., architect on July 6th. Mr. Neild was a senior member of the firm of Neild, Somdal and Associates. He was associated with the firm of Gentry & Voskamp on the Harry S. Truman Library. Mr. Neild had designed numerous public buildings, office buildings and hospitals, including the Veterans administration hospital in Shreveport. He was a special consultant to President Truman on the remodeling of the White House in Washington, D. C.

teachers' manual

The American Institute of Architects has announced publication of a manual of suggestions for the presentation of architecture in the primary, elementary and junior-high school years. "At Home With Architecture" is a guide for teachers in these early grades on the subject of better living for the whole family through better architecture.

With the manual is a kit of twenty-five photographic panels of outstanding American architecture—historical and contemporary. The panels are for the purpose of exhibit in the classroom.

Text for "At Home With Architecture" is by Anson Campbell, who worked with the National Public Relations Committee of AIA and educators throughout the country to bring the book to its present form. Mr. Campbell is AIA Account Executive at Ketchum, Inc., Pittsburgh, the Institute's national public relations counsel. The Architectural Guidance Sub-Committee of AIA, which reviewed the manual and approved it: Lawrence B. Anderson, Sidney W. Little, and Lawrence S. Whitten. Illustrations and lay-out for the manual are by John Arnold and John Shubelka.

Photographs are by some of the leading American architectural photographers. These include: W. A. Fleischer, Alexander Georges, Hedrich-Blessing, J. Alex Langley, Samuel A. Musgrave, Rondal Partridge, Ben Schnall, F. W. Seiders, Julius Shulman, Ezra Stoller, Roger Sturtevant and Lawrence S. Williams.

The manual's bibliography includes seventy-seven books and periodicals on all aspects of architecture.

General objectives of "At Home With Architecture" are to help the student: (1) observe the architecture that is all around him; (2) understand the influences that tradition, culture, weather and the habits of man have on the history of architecture; (3) recognize the best in general design and interior design; and (4) understand how architecture meets man's needs.

In the kindergarten and second school-years, nature is used as a starting point since the child is interested in the homes of animals and birds. The third and fourth school-years feature, the building of a home by a typical family, and the fifth and sixth years deal with observing some of the primary advantages of good design. The section devoted to the seventh, eighth and ninth school-years includes the natural and educational requirements for a career as an architect and the role of the architect in society.

The manual will be tested first in Texas and will cover three cities there: one under 15,000 population; another under 200,000; and one larger city.

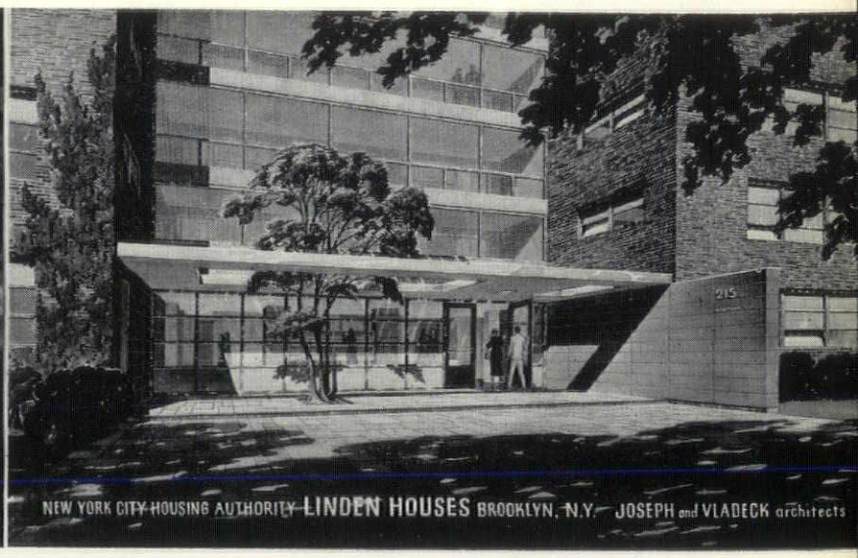
The University of Texas will conduct an evaluation measure of the manual's effectiveness as a teaching aid. A return questionnaire for the teacher will go out with each kit.

Since this is a public relations tool directed to a specific educational public, there will be no general distribution of the manual outside that field.

architectural school accredited

By National Architectural Accrediting Board, for 1955-56 (total 46)

Alabama Polytechnic Institute
University of California
Carnegie Institute of Technology
Catholic University
University of Cincinnati
Clemson A. & M. College
Columbia University
Cornell University
University of Florida
Georgia Institute of Technology
Harvard University
Howard University
Illinois Institute of Technology
University of Illinois
Iowa State College
Kansas State College
University of Kansas
Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Miami University (Ohio)
University of Michigan
University of Minnesota
University of Nebraska
North Carolina State College
University of Notre Dame
Ohio State University
Oklahoma A. & M. College
University of Oklahoma
University of Oregon
University of Pennsylvania
Pennsylvania State University
Pratt Institute
Princeton University
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Rhode Island School of Design
Rice Institute
University of Southern California
Syracuse University
Texas A. & M. College
University of Texas
Tulane University
University of Utah
Virginia Polytechnic Institute
University of Virginia
Washington University (St. Louis)
University of Washington (Seattle)
Yale University (provisional)



linden houses brooklyn, n. y.

JOSEPH & VLADECK, of 1841 Broadway, New York City, are architects for Linden Houses illustrated here. The 1590-unit housing project will consist of sixteen 8-story and three 14-story buildings located at Stanley and Schenck Avenues, Brooklyn, N. Y. The owner is New York City Housing Authority.

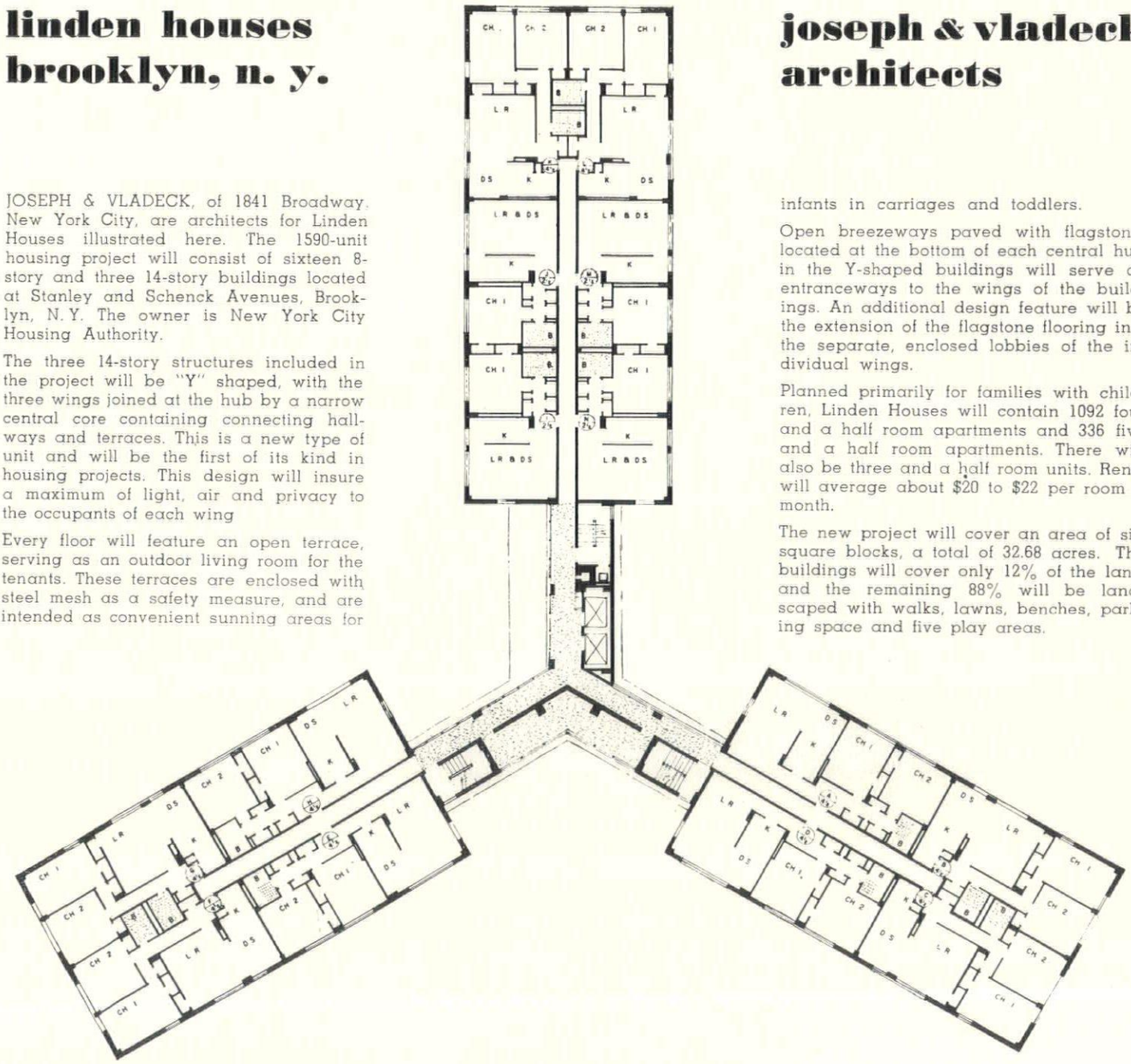
The three 14-story structures included in the project will be "Y" shaped, with the three wings joined at the hub by a narrow central core containing connecting hallways and terraces. This is a new type of unit and will be the first of its kind in housing projects. This design will insure a maximum of light, air and privacy to the occupants of each wing

Every floor will feature an open terrace, serving as an outdoor living room for the tenants. These terraces are enclosed with steel mesh as a safety measure, and are intended as convenient sunning areas for infants in carriages and toddlers.

Open breezeways paved with flagstone, located at the bottom of each central hub in the Y-shaped buildings will serve as entranceways to the wings of the buildings. An additional design feature will be the extension of the flagstone flooring into the separate, enclosed lobbies of the individual wings.

Planned primarily for families with children, Linden Houses will contain 1092 four and a half room apartments and 336 five and a half room apartments. There will also be three and a half room units. Rents will average about $20 to $22 per room a month.

The new project will cover an area of six square blocks, a total of 32.68 acres. The buildings will cover only 12% of the land and the remaining 88% will be landscaped with walks, lawns, benches, parking space and five play areas.



joseph & vladeck architects

atomic architect

Reprinted from Time Magazine

Who will design the atomic world — the technologist or the architect? As the world's top atomic scientists headed home from Geneva, leaving heady hints of a new atomic age behind them, Swiss Architect Rudolf Steiger was ready with an answer. "When mankind got electricity and steam," says Steiger, "factories sprang up, and residential sections were thrown around them without planning. That's what we must avoid in the atomic age. The architect should be Number One."

Steiger, 54, a blunt bundle of energy, is Switzerland's No. 1 architect. Last week he and his partner-son, Peter Steiger, were busy checking blueprints for a mammoth Steiger-designed atomic laboratory near Geneva. Commissioned by the twelve-nation European Council for Nuclear Research, the laboratory will cover 90 acres, will incorporate such new-age elements as a synchro-cyclotron and a 25 billion electron-volt proton-synchrotron (Time, Oct. 20, 1952).

Specialists' Hash. Steiger is convinced that architecture has failed to keep pace with technological progress and, as a result, is sacrificing its supremacy in the world abuilding. His answer has been to learn more basic technology himself, and to plug for more emphasis on balanced technological training in architectural schools.

Building by committee, says Steiger, leads to an undistinguished hash. "Today, when something must be built, a building committee is formed. The committee calls in specialists to work out their incompetent ideas. There's a specialist for concrete, a specialist for electrical engineering, a specialist for air conditioning, and finally what you might call a specialist for esthetics. That's the architect. All he gets to do is present the board with six or seven facade projects, and the worst is picked."

Mixed Grill. Scorning the committee approach, Steiger designed everything down to the laundry truck for a recently completed, $20 million Zurich hospital. Every purchase order for the hospital, no matter how small, passed across his desk. When a surgeon objected to his unorthodox arrangement of the operating rooms, he said perhaps the doctor would be happier elsewhere. The doctor stayed, and eventually approved.

Before taking on his Geneva job, Steiger made a tour of U. S. atomic installations, found Brookhaven and Oak Ridge "like gold-miners' settlements, because they were planned and built in stages, with no overall design." The model of a Soviet atomic-power plant on exhibit at the atomic-energy conference in Geneva offended him even more: "It's a mixed grill of Hellenic and Spartan styles."

New Concepts. On his own Geneva atomic project, Steiger insisted on personal control of all details, called in experts to advise him on unfamiliar technological problems. His blueprints for the Geneva laboratory are uncompromisingly functional, yet harmonious. The steel and reinforced concrete buildings will be low, plain, widely spaced, and devoid of eyesores. Ruling out eyesores meant redesigning many installations. For example, physicists assumed that the control room for the synchro-cyclotron should be perched atop the giant magnet; Steiger insisted that, for esthetic reasons, the controls should be in a shielded room on the ground floor, adjacent to the magnet. "There's no reason," he explains, "why modern technical requirements should degenerate architecture."

When he completes his present job, Steiger will plunge into an even more challenging assignment: building Switzerland's first "atomic city" in Zurich Canton. The project calls for a power-reactor plant surrounded by factories, and a complete town for the personnel. "If it works," Steiger says brisky, "I hope it will show that the architect can have a big, responsible position in the atomic age."

engineer architect

From the Milwaukee Journal

To the Journal: Recent articles regarding a permit for alterations to a local fire station cause suspicions that there is a lack of intelligence in Wisconsin regarding buildings, architects and professional engineers.

The writer has an architect's license, by examination, in an adjoining state but is not registered in Wisconsin so he considers himself an informed neutral.

An architect is a person who prepares contract documents (drawings, specifications, etc.) which are intended to secure for the owner, with a minimum of expense, the building he requires.

So an architect is a designer of buildings, whose shorest route to an architect's license is now five years of schooling, after high school, and at least three years of "education" working under the supervision of an accredited architect.

According to the last statistics I have seen, out of 11,000 freshmen who blithely entered architectural schools, only 700 were graduated. At the end of the three-year apprenticeship, the student may take a state board examination, which a high percentage flunk.

The Wisconsin law registers all designing engineers as "professional engineers" regardless of whether they are civil, structural, marine, electrical, chemical, mechanical, hydraulic, heating and air conditioning, illuminating, petroleum, electronic, refrigerating, railway, aviation, highway, etc. There are probably 57 varieties or more. Each of these subdivisions is a full man-sized job so it is obvious that Wisconsin's laws are ridiculous in classing them in one group.

Illinois had a similar engineers' license law. Some engineer there undertook some work that was not in his branch of engineering and made a mess of it so the owner refused to pay him. The engineer sued the owner and the court threw the case out because the license law was—well, like Wisconsin's.

As a result of this case, all Illinois "professional engineers" had their licenses cancelled and were required to re-register as civil, mechanical, structural, etc. Wisconsin should do this, too.

Architects often employ structural engineers to design the frame or "skeleton" of a building but they have to spend so much time co-ordinating the framing with the other parts of the building that it is usually cheaper for the architect to design the framing himself.

A young, arrogant structural engineer recently pointed to a large commercial bulding then under construction and said: "Take out the structural work on that building and what have you left? Nothing."

He was told: "The architect on that building was paid 6% of the cost and the structural designer received about one-half or five-eights of 1%. The owner of that building has built dozens of similar buildings and doesn't throw money away." A structural engineer is not even a half trained architect.

It is seldom that a direct comparison can be made on the relative value of building designers. Several years ago, I helped design a fire station in a medium-size city. Some engineer had prepared drawings and specifications for this building and several building contractors submitted bids. The city decided to build on a larger lot and to employ an architectural firm. The resulting fire station was not only much neater in appearance but was 10% larger, was divided into more rooms, had a kitchen that was not in the original design and it cost 10% less than the original design.

If an engineer wants to design buildings, all he has to do is pass the exams given to architects and get an architect's license. —C. W. IRWIN, 2422 E. Bradford Ave., Milwaukee 11, Wisc.

products news

producers' council

calendar of coming events

Sept. 19—Business Meeting Dinner, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

Oct. 3—Cocktail Party, Tuller Hotel, Detroit. (In connection with Producers' National Convention).

Nov. 14—Flooring Material Dinner, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

Dec. 12—Architects - Producers' Dinner Dance, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

Jan. 9, 1956—Insulation Dinner, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

Feb. 13—"Mechanical Trades Night" Heating Dinner, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

Mar. 12—Cocktail Party, Hotel Statler, Detroit. (In connection with M.S.A. Convention)

Apr. 9—Architects Dinner, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

May 14—Harvey Campbell Dinner, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

June 11—Election of Officers Dinner, Fort Shelby Hotel, Detroit.

BRIGGS MANUFACTURING COMPANY of Detroit, Michigan, announces a new simplified system of specification sheets is now available for architects.

Replacing the old system of individual pages or paste up cuts, Briggs has developed new condensed sheets which provide a check system of all individual items selected.

According to Briggs' officials, an advance survey with architects has indicated strong approval of the new specification sheets, which provide all descriptive and rough-in information in a limited number of pages, thereby enabling the assembly of a complete selection portfolio simply and quickly. Previous systems of separate pages or cuts required the laborious collection of pages and illustrations, and the insertion of certain information, roughing-in data, etc.

The new specification system is particularly valuable to architects for their prospective clients. Nothing impresses a prospect more than to receive immediately a complete portfolio specification of his selection of bath and kitchen fixtures.

The new specification forms are available through Briggs wholesale distributors, or from Briggs Manufacturing Company, 300 Buhl Building, Detroit 26, Michigan.

E. A. MILLER

E. A. MILLER has been made general manager of the Fenestra Building Panel Division, of Detroit Steel Products Company, in charge of sales, engineering and production for light gage steel and aluminum structural products, according to H. D. Palmer, president.

Miller, moves to his new position from the post of sales manager of the Panel Division.

Holder of both a master's and bachelor's degree in civil engineering from Cornell University, Miller joined the Panel Division of Detroit Steel Products Company in 1943 as a research engineer.

In 1946 Miller was appointed chief engineer of the Buffalo plant of Detroit Steel Products Company and in 1949 he was given the post of sales manager of the Panel Division.

Miller's new duties will include coordination of production in three Panel Division plants in Pittsburgh, Buffalo and Baltimore, as well as national sales and engineering. He will remain in Detroit.

Miller is also secretary-treasurer of the Metal Roof Deck Technical Institute and a director of the Acoustical Materials Association.

THE INTERIOR STEEL EQUIPMENT COMPANY, manufacturers of lockers, cabinets and other office and factory equipment, announces that S. A. Rothman has been placed in charge of the company's factory branch at 16801 Wyoming Ave., Detroit 21. The new telephone number is University 4-1556.

Rothman has been associated with the company for a number of years, and previous to that he was with other companies in the same field.

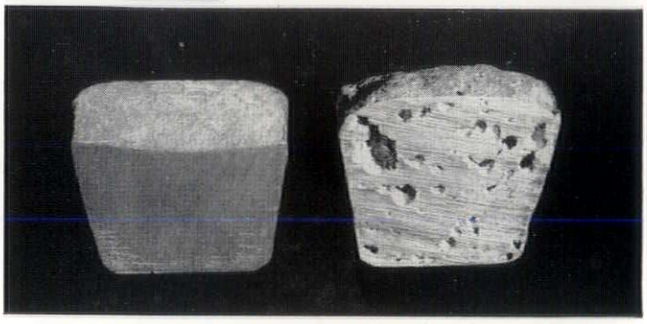
SCHIEBER "MOBIL-FOLD", folding portable table and bench units for lunch hour seating, distributed nationally by Schieber Sales Company, Detroit 39, Michigan, are now available in 12 foot models in addition to the 14 foot model.

The new Schieber unit consists of two tables and four benches, each 12 feet long, with a total seating capacity for 32 adults, folds to 6 feet and will clear all passages.

To get Quality castings use Electric furnaces

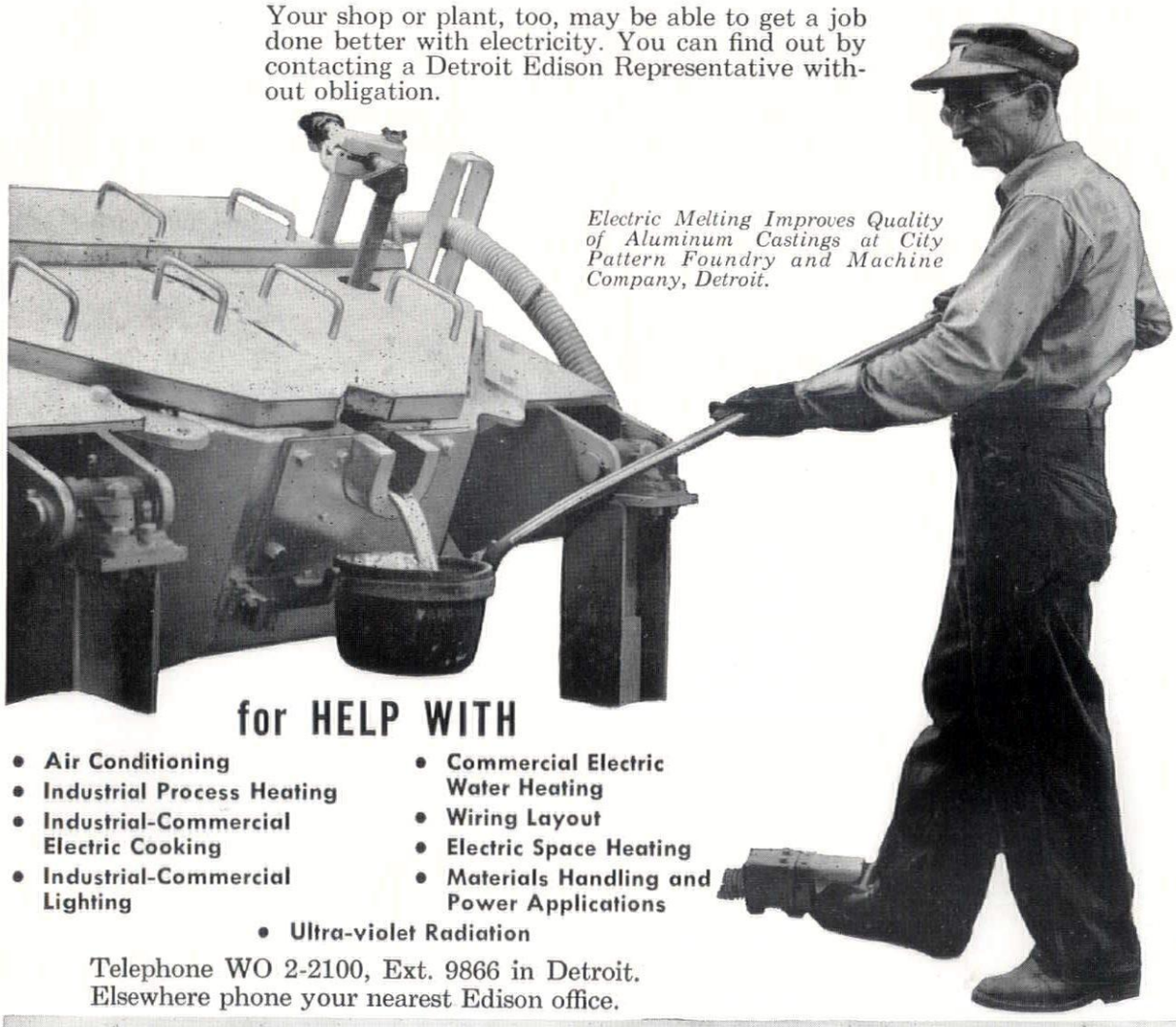
City Pattern's two 80 kilowatt, 60 cycle induction furnaces have virtually eliminated pinpoint porosity.* That's why electric furnaces are preferred.

There are other reasons, too. Electric furnaces are easier to operate and easy to install —give quicker, more uniform heats, and hot metal is always available for sudden and unexpected requirements. Yet, crucible costs are materially lower, and because electric furnaces permit cool and quiet surroundings, worker efficiency is higher.



*Comparison of metal quality of test samples. Vacuum cooling magnifies pinpoint porosity caused by gases in suspension in the aluminum samples. Both samples were degassed once. Sample on left was melted in the electric induction furnaces.

Your shop or plant, too, may be able to get a job done better with electricity. You can find out by contacting a Detroit Edison Representative without obligation.



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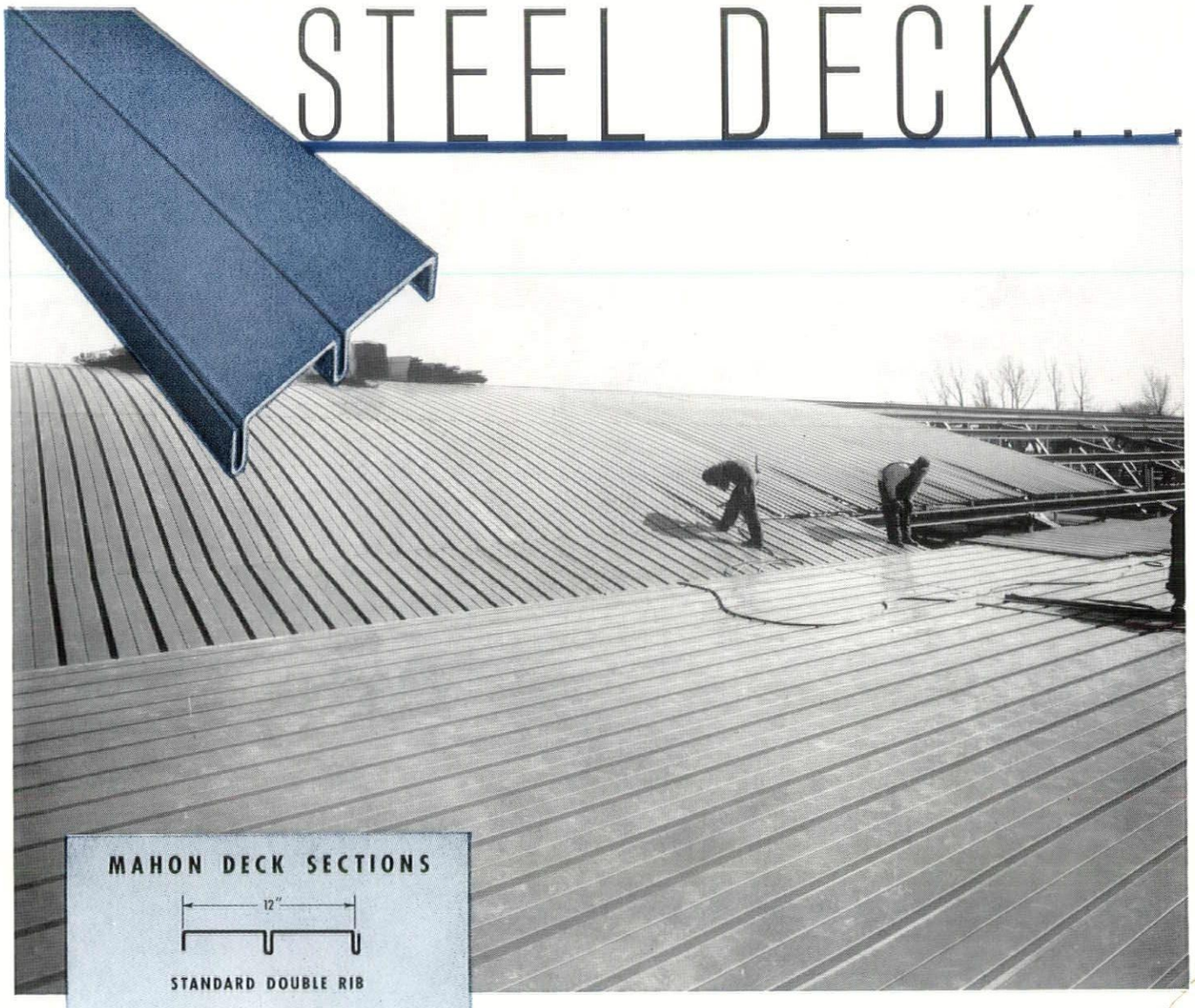
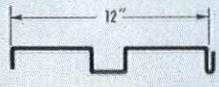
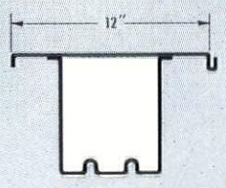


MAHON DECK SECTIONS

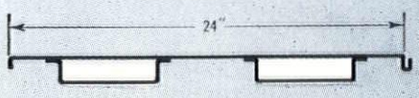
STANDARD DOUBLE RIB



WIDE-FLANGE DOUBLE RIB



LONG SPAN M-DECK
SECTION M1-G



LONG SPAN M-DECK
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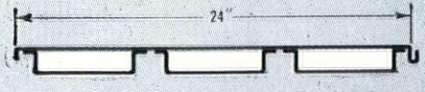

LONG SPAN M-DECK
SECTION M3-A

The illustration above shows Mahon Wide-flange Double Rib Steel Deck installed over bowstring trusses of a new roller skating rink. Year after year, Steel Deck roofs a greater percentage of new construction . . . and, it will continue to do so, because it weighs less and it costs less than any other type of permanent roof construction. Mahon Steel Deck is now available in the five Sections shown at left. The Long Span M-Deck Sections can be employed either with flat plate up or flat plate down . . . they span from beam to beam, eliminating roof purlins, and, when installed with flat plate up, they produce an attractive beamed ceiling effect. In either position, the bottom metal can be perforated and sound absorbing material inserted in the Cel-Beams to provide a highly effective acoustical ceiling. See Sweet's Files for information, or write for Mahon Catalogs D-56 and M-56.

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