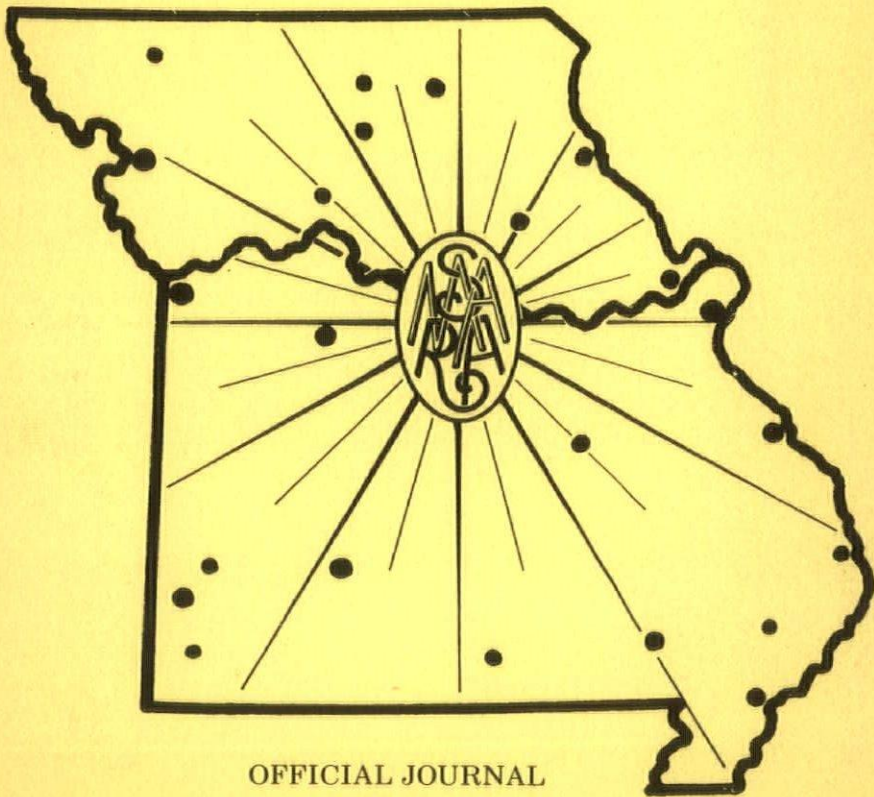


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The MISSOURI ARCHITECT



OFFICIAL JOURNAL
OF THE
MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION
OF REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

JANUARY 1954

Volume 2
Number 1

THE MISSOURI STATE ASSOCIATION OF REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

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THE MISSOURI ARCHITECT

Volume 2
Number 1
January 1954

With the January issue of this journal we welcome the New Year and record a past eventful year, for the Missouri State Association of Registered Architects. During the past year several happenings of note are here reviewed, briefly, and the officers and directors are looking forward to many other matters which it is hoped may be accomplished during the months that follow.

Worthy of mention is the establishing of an annual "Architects Day" to be held each year for architects and their wives, and for their friends and others interested in school, hospital and other programs, involving the services of architects. The attendance last year, at this meeting, while not as large as it was hoped for, was a very good index as to what may be expected in the coming years, as more of the profession become interested in such meetings. Plans are now under way, for this year's meeting.

President Casey brought forth a plan, and discussion following succeeded in a sound approach to the Architects-In-Training Program, with the younger members accepted as Architects-In-Training without dues payment, and with an open invitation to attend meetings when practicable, and with few reservations; non-voting memberships naturally, until the A-I-T members have become full fledged, dues paying, corporate members.

Some discussion was had on several other matters which are here mentioned, in the hope that constructive work may follow on these worth while projects: the furthering of legislation toward the establishing of a commission to interest the public in helping to rehabilitate and restore some of the very fine examples of Missouri Architecture. Many fine ante-bellum river homes, and others of more ancient vintage should be preserved along with structures of other types; the looking toward some sort of master plan, for establishing a state building code, and with the objective in mind that it could be an all-embracing, complete code, which, while not conflicting with any existing city codes, would strengthen and implement such documents. Recent collapse of buildings, which could cause disaster and death, should be the concern of all the citizenry, but in any event we should show the way; the fostering of good housing developments, health centers, hospitals, parks and recreational areas, and the extension of the public school system are all matters of interest to all architects, and should be, at all times, worthy of your time and atten-

tion.

We wish to thank our advertisers who have pioneered the first pages of the Journal, and to welcome those who are now taking space for the coming year. We believe this year will see a great gain in circulation, which will make the Journal a more valuable medium. We also wish to thank the committee who have so ably assisted the editor in securing new advertising. We should again like to mention that we generally are in need of good articles of interest to the profession and welcome your contributions to the columns of this publication.

The officers and directors have worked and planned the By-Laws, objectives and ideals, and have completed the organization of the National Association of Registered Architects. A great many things of benefit to the profession have been planned and will get under way shortly. You will hear frequently of the things to be accomplished.

We hope that our readers will like the new format, paper and the general tone of the publication. Your suggestions are appreciated and asked for.

Appearing elsewhere in this issue is a roster of the Architects-in-Training, with their addresses. We urge all of these men, who will one day take our places, to fill out the blank shown in this issue for their free Membership Card. We also urge them to attend our general meetings, and to attend the annual "Architects Day" meeting next May. Taking an active part is one of the best ways we know of to be of service in your own relationship with the profession. To serve is to enjoy, and to look forward to broader contacts with all your friends and acquaintances is to identify yourself with all phases of the profession and its activities.

Our thanks to Senator A. L. McCawley for his timely and very informative article on "The Use Of Your Seal." We hope that this is only the first of many articles from the pen of the man who has been our excellent counsel, guide and friend, of many years. One whose advice has not always been followed in some of the matters which have affected the membership of this organization, often to our disadvantage; but his friendly, and wise suggestions have in general prevailed, and we grow more appreciative daily, in knowing how much we may rely on his opinions and judicial lore.

REGISTERED ARCHITECT'S PERSONAL SEAL

By A. L. McCawley

The requirement that registered architects shall have and use a personal seal is found in paragraph 2, Section 327.060 of the registration law, which reads as follows:

"2. Every architect and every professional engineer, registered by the board, shall, before undertaking, completing or releasing any work requiring the personal seal of a registered architect or registered professional engineer, procure a personal seal, of a design approved by the board, bearing his name, registration number, and the legend "Registered Architect" or "Registered Professional Engineer", as the case may require, and affix said seal to all plans, specifications, plats, reports, and other documents or instruments prepared by him, or under his direction, and for which he shall be held primarily and wholly responsible: provided a rubber stamp facsimile of any such seal may be used with jet black ink on all but one of the sheets comprising such plans, specifications, plats, reports, or other documents or instruments."

A provision of the registration law relative to the use of the personal seal of architects not found in any registration law enacted prior to 1945, is concerned with the use of the personal seal of registered architects practicing through the medium of corporation. This section, 327.080, provides that:

"the plans, specifications, estimates and reports of such partnership or corporation are signed and stamped with the personal seal of the registered architect or registered professional engineer by whom or un-

der whose direction the same were prepared and the registered architect or registered professional engineer affixing his signature and personal seal to any such plans, specifications, estimates and reports shall be personally and professionally responsible therefor."

Other references to the registered architect's personal seal are found in Section 327.280 of the registration law, known as the penalty section. That section includes, among other things declared to be unlawful, the following provisions relating to the use of the registered architect's personal seal:

"the affixing of a registered architect's or professional engineer's seal on any plans, specifications, drawings, or reports which have not been prepared by him or under his immediate personal supervision,"

"any person duly registered under the provisions of this chapter who shall knowingly allow his name or seal to be used upon plans or work not actually performed by him".

"Plats" or "other documents or instruments" are not mentioned in the penalty section of the registration law, but these may be covered by an all-inclusive phrase in said section, as follows:

"or any person who shall violate any of the provisions of this chapter".

Any violation of the registration law, including those relating to the use of personal seal of registered architects constitutes a misdemeanor. Punishment, on conviction, fixed by law, is a

"fine of not less than one hundred dollars nor more than five hundred dollars, or by imprisonment in the county jail for a term not exceeding three months, or both."

The provisions of the Missouri registration law relating to the registered architect's personal seal have been passed along from State legislature to State legislature since the beginning of architectural registration, one State following another in the order of enactment of its architectural registration law, and all following substantially a so-called model law.

It is unlawful for any registered architect to affix his personal seal to any plans, specifications, plats, reports, or other documents or instruments not prepared by him or under his direction, or to any plans, specifications, drawings, or reports which have not been prepared by him or under his immediate personal supervision, or to any plans or work not actually performed by him.

No provision of the registration law authorizes one registered architect to affix his personal seal to plans, specifications, etc., prepared by another registered architect.

The personal seal in general use centuries ago has long since ceased to be a legal requirement, or to afford any protection against duplication or misuse.

It appears that architects and engineers are the only professions recognized by the laws of Missouri whose members are required to have a personal

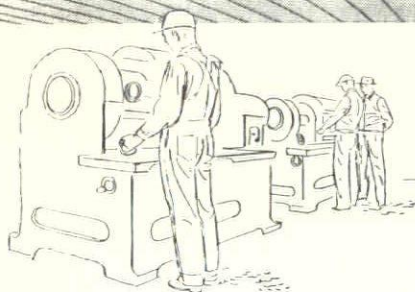
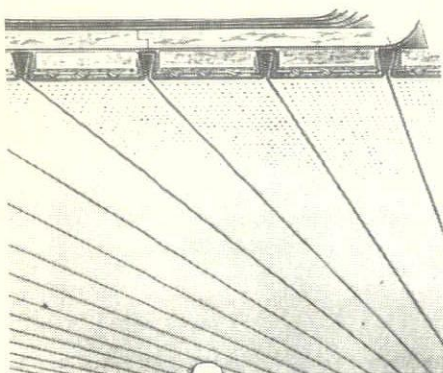
seal. Missouri lawyers are not required to affix a personal seal to their legal opinions, neither are Missouri doctors required to affix a personal seal to medical reports.

Except in the case of architects and engineers, the legally authorized use of a seal is limited to public officials, public bodies and private corporations. In no law except the registration law is the use of a seal authorized or required without an attesting signature, which alone protects the seal against unauthorized use, and as long as anyone can step into a stationery supply house and have a seal of any design made to his order, that long the seal itself affords no protection either to the registered architect or to the general public.

Whether or not this law should be so amended as to place the entire responsibility for the proper use of his personal seal upon the registered architect and leave it to his own sound judgment acting under his own sense of ethical conduct and mindful of the consequences of its misuse, as to when, where and under what conditions he will use his personal seal, is a matter for discussion and final determination by the architects themselves.

If the Missouri State Association of Registered Architects in cooperation with the National Association of Registered Architects can be instrumental in promoting a serious discussion of this question and, ultimately, effecting the amendment of architectural registration laws generally, so as to include reasonable and workable provisions for the use of the architect's personal seal, both organizations will have justified their existence.

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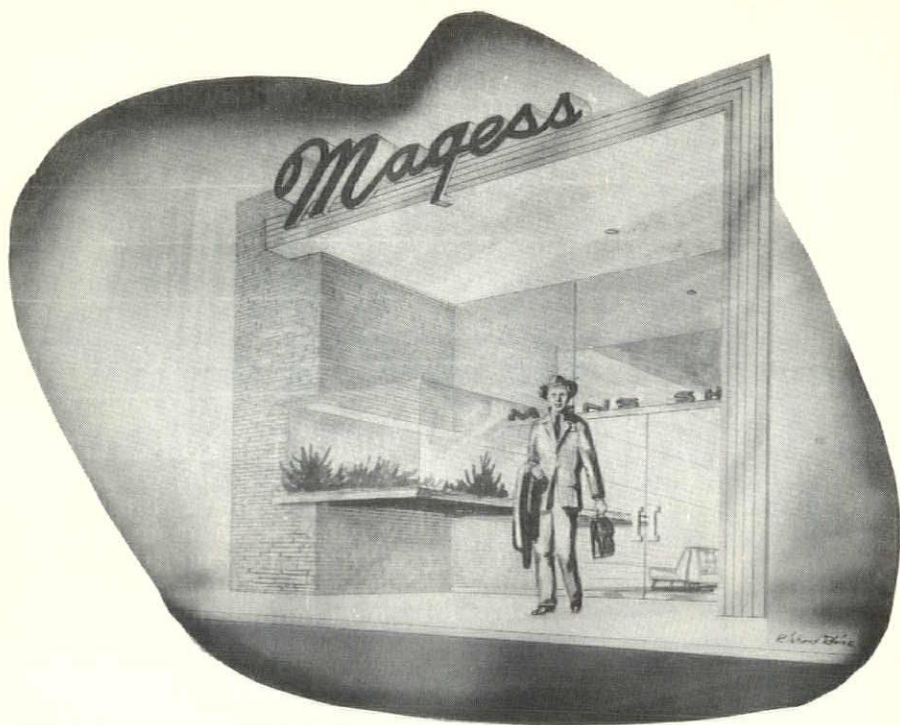
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AROUND AND ABOUT

ur thanks to the National Architect
r mention of the organization of the
ational Association of Registered Ar-
ects. The article appeared in the Nov-
ber Bulletin which is issued jointly,
th the Michigan Society of Archi-
ects.

ongratulations to Charles L. Mar-
all, of Topeka, Kansas, on his elect-
a to the Presidency of the Kansas
uilders Forum. This organization is
mposed of 500 Kansas Architects,,
eneral, Electrical, Plumbing and
eating Contractors. It is good to see
ose most concerned with design and
nstruction, sitting at the same table
r the mutual benefit of all parties so
terested. Much good may come of
is type of association.

are pleased to note the appoint-
ent of Harold D. Hauf, to the post of
rector of Public and Professional

Relations, of The American Institute
of Architects. Mr. Hauf was formerly
head of The School of Architecture of
Yale University, Chief Editor of The
Architectural Record more recently
and now takes the reins of a very im-
portant job; we are confident of the
results. Mr. Hauf needs no introduc-
tion to the field he will be working.

We note in the December A.I.A. Me-
mo Newsletter an article which is di-
rectly related to the recent colapse of
a building, and about which we have
clamored for some action. The article
calls attention to the recent collapse
of a reinforced concrete structure in
Westchester County, N.Y., while un-
der construction, causing the death of
three workmen and injuries to ten
others. The jury found no wilful in-
tention, or criminal negligence, nor
was any violation of the local code ci-
ted. The article did call attention to the

fact of an apparent lack of adequate professional supervision, and inspection. The jury however, did recommend that the New York State Building Code be adopted by the Municipalities in Westchester County. It was further recommended by this jury (A Grand Jury which investigated this case) that a licensed Architect, or Engineer, be employed to closely supervise such work, and be required to submit an affidavit certifying that the work had been carried out in compliance with building regulations. Let us work toward the compiling of, and legislating a state building code. Mentioned before in this issue is other comment which was written before we had seen the Westchester County item.

In a previous issue we mentioned that the State Registration Board would like to have 8" X 10" photographs for possible display in the board offices, in the new State Office Building. Those wishing to submit entries,

should forward them to the board headquarters without delay. We suggest that they be mat finish prints for this purpose.

ARCHITEXTS

"The advantage of a classical education is that it helps you despise the wealth it prevents you from earning"

Yellow is nice warm color for that cool north room. It will "Manufacture" sunshine where it is needed.

Before you name any person's faults, take time to count ten...
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The lady of the house was briefing the new maid on her duties, and said, "Be careful of this dining room table, it goes back to Louis the Fourteenth". "That's nothing" interrupted the maid. "My whole living room suite goes back to Sears the fifteenth."

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We read with pleasure and an eye to what this organization might do in a similar manner, an article stating that the Kansas Chapter AIA has recently used exhibits in a new sort of public relations way. They also have offered to do the architectural work at cost for a new outdoor community theatre. There might be some fine benefits for all the people in this sort of approach.

The Kansas City Chapter is now conducting a series of television programs entitled "Space for Living" and participated in by many of the members. The introductory program was launched by President I. L. Roark and President elect Wm. M. Simon. The moderator is Walter Birkes, of the Kansas City Star, for the series. His approach to the interrogations is rapid fire, and the program is very well received. All following meetings will be each Monday night at 10:20 P.M.

The Kansas City Chapter recently elected the following officers and directors; Wm. M. Simon as President; Frank R. Slezak, re-elected as Vice-President; Robert S. Everitt as Treasurer; and Don Hollis as Secretary. The retiring President, I. L. Roark, Jr., will be a director for a three year period.

The Facts Package which is excellent public relations material, is enjoying fine reception by magazines, television and radio stations, newspapers and other channels of public opinion. The Octagon now has individual copies of the revised edition for the nominal price of 50 cents per copy. We recommend this "Facts Package" as

a valuable medium for acquainting your own clients with the services an architect renders.

"Look to the oak for a lesson in living, an example of character building. Beauty is not in the tree before you, but in the things you know concerning it. The callouses on its covering, those knotted and gnarled branches spell fortitude. The uprooting winds of opposition buffet it. . .but they add strength for the continued battles of life. While growing upward and branching outward it also develops the under surface anchorage. Towering above its fellows, yet it serves as a shelter and an inspiration to the rest of us."

Most of the chapters of the AIA in the Central States District are conducting public relations campaigns of one sort or another. The Nebraska Chapter has a TV program entitled "Adventures in Home Building" with comment on all phases of home building. The St. Louis Chapter is investigating the use of trade publications for publicity and are opening their meetings to the public. The Iowa Chapter according to Bob Savage, has printed matchbooks for distribution to clients. A TV program is also being studied and awards have been offered for craftsmanship, and etc. The Oklahoma Chapter conducted a series of radio programs some few years ago, which were well received. They are again very active with chapter sponsored newspaper advertising and a spot announcement has been started on the radio, and a public relations counsel has been hired to serve its chapter area.

your advertisement HERE will look much better than what you are now reading, and will reach many people you are not now giving your message; which to you is important. the rates are moderate and the results significant. Contact any member of the Missouri State Association of Registered Architects, for space in this publication, or to Editor, at 210 Westover Bldg. K. C. 9, Mo.

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