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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

*New Hampshire Chapter of the American
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New Hampshire ARCHITECT

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THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

Last week our editor and publisher, Larry Moynihan, dropped into our office for an occasional chat. In case you do not realize the responsibility of carrying on a little journal like our NEW HAMPSHIRE ARCHITECT along with other publications Larry handles—just take a look at him sometime and see what a big fellow you must be to carry the load.

The NEW HAMPSHIRE ARCHITECT has rounded out its first full year. Everyone cheers at the excellence of performance and few realize the long hours of hard work and preparation required before excellent results are obtained. To the subscribers who have made it financially possible for us to continue this journal—to the architects who so generously submitted articles and photographs for our publication—to Gene Magenau, Chairman of our Publicity Committee, who has torn out most of his hair and gnashed his teeth to mere fragments trying to get you fellows, including myself, on time with our articles—we want to extend our deep appreciation.

We are going to relieve "Sally" (Mrs. Magenau) much grave concern and permit her to have more pleasant evenings at home with her hubby, for a while at least, as our genial Vice-President, "Nick" Isaak, takes over the responsibility as Chairman of the Publicity Committee, along with George Thomas, and Eugene Magenau sitting on the sideline cheering Nick on. Oh, no, Architextopics will not be

(Continued on page 4)

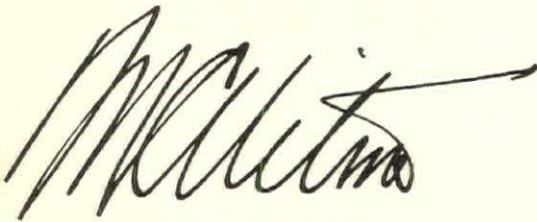
THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

(Continued from page 3)

discontinued, Gene will still be editing that column of interesting highlights as usual.

Talking about Architextopics, I could not help thinking how much fun Gene had on one of his days off,—not golfing, not motoring, but simply enjoying himself at doing a little plumbing about his camp, leisurely and undisturbed by sanitary laws, union wage rates, or the interference of a telephone, and this being Labor Day, it occurred to me, unencumbered by the necessity of answering questions, attending meetings, writing letters, keeping appointments, but rather ahead of me for a stretch of eight or ten hours I can call my own.

There are no crowded roads or rush of activities at the club or seashore but right here in the protection of an office closed to personnel and public, where instead of playing the part of a cog in a machine remotely controlled I can decide what I want to do and do it as long as I enjoy it. Mrs. Witmer has no plumbing for me to work upon, my lawn mowing was accomplished last Saturday with its trimming about the garden. Here I can wander about in leisure, meditating upon the rapidly growing shrubs and grass after the past three days of rain and fog. If I choose to open a book—"a library is at hand"—not merely to snatch a crumb of information needed at the moment but in a receptive mood to absorb anything the book may tell me. Outside the street is quiet and empty, the telephone is silent, my calendar is no reminder of something to be done in the next hour. I AM FREE!



ARCHITEXTOPICS

By Eugene F. Magenau, A. I. A.

After hearing about the fun, food and sophy that was dished out at last month's Chapter meeting, I concluded that it is considerable effort to attend each and every meeting. Looking back over the past few years, the quarterly meetings have been varied and interesting and the fellowship has promoted a good feeling among New Hampshire architects. The Chapter is exerting a good influence on the practice of architecture throughout the state.

One of the questions posed by Paul F. in his able discussion of architectural practice and school design was, I am told, "What can the Chapter or the State Department of Education do to correct some of the abuses which are commonly practiced by local school districts?" This was with particular reference to the sketch bogey. No one expects to wipe out the abuse in one fell swoop, especially while there are still architects around who forget common sense and professional ethics whenever they smell the chance for a job. But there are several things the Department could do in a positive way to eliminate these abuses.

Of most direct concern to architects would be the publication and distribution of a book for local school people containing general and specific information on methods and procedures for handling any type of building problem—how to determine the need for a new facility, how to prepare warrants for school district meetings in order to initiate action; how to appropriate funds for preliminary and final plans; how to deal with consultants, architects, engineers, contractors and the like.

While the New Hampshire Chapter, A. I. A., has already made some preliminary work along this line and has received good cooperation from the State Department of Education, the move lacks official status and direction. The suggestion is offered that the Co-

of Education appoint a commission to prepare such a handbook within a specified time to attain a specified objective. Personnel of the commission should be carefully selected, and sufficient funds made available so that the handbook would be significant and authoritative.

At least \$5,000,000 annually is going to be expended in all New Hampshire communities for school buildings, if minimum needs are to be met. What function of the State Department of Education could be more important than to guide this expenditure in such a way as to obtain the most and the best results? Surely the educators know that obsolete, overcrowded buildings and equipment are a handicap to their efforts to realize current educational objectives, so different from those of twenty years ago. But one-sixth of our school buildings now in use were erected before the Civil War. So the State Department should also conduct a vigorous informational campaign to show Joe Citizen why horse and buggy schools should not be tolerated in this Atomic Age. We will not get good schools until Joe Citizen decides he wants

It is my belief that a wrong practice—such as building committees asking architects for sketches or architects offering to furnish plans—cannot possibly be the right way or the only way. Then why is it done? Because the school people suffer from misinformation and misunderstanding. Hence the need for an authoritative handbook; it would be widely used and appreciated.

Architects are interested in another aspect of education, namely the education of architects. Most of us have received the questionnaire for "The 1950 Survey of the Architectural Profession" from the Commission for the Survey of Education and Registration of the American Institute of Architects, Department of Education and Research. How many have answered it? This questionnaire is a masterpiece for getting the answers to its 49 search questions in the least painful and best way to tabulate results. If you haven't returned it yet, be sure to do so by September 30.

American Institute Calls for Congressional Action

Retailoring of Research Program Sought by Architects

Washington. — Congressional action to strengthen the government-financed housing research program was called for today by the American Institute of Architects, which described such research as an antidote to rising prices, materials shortages, and other building industry ills that have been intensified by current international uncertainties.

In a letter addressed to Raymond M. Foley, Housing and Home Finance Agency administrator, in charge of the housing research program, the Institute also asked that efforts to retailor the research program in the light of present-day realities be speeded up. It called for particular stress on the technical rather than the economic aspects of housing research.

The statement noted that Congress is now determining the level of future spending for technical investigations of building questions. It described yesterday's report of a Congressional conference committee as a setback to recent progress in this field. The Institute said the report, if adopted by Congress, would have the effect of cutting in half the research projects now carried on by private research agencies with government aid.

The Institute recalled, in its statement, that when Congress established the research program two years ago it planned to increase its scope gradually and steadily. The program embraces building code reform, measures to standardize building material sizes, and a series of specific inquiries into why concrete blocks crack, what makes basements damp, and other housing defects.

The Institute's special committee on national defense recently took the position that the defense emergency demands more housing research rather than less. It stated that more building, faster building, more economical building, and the conservation of building materials, all hinged on the results of technical housing research.

Architects Must Eat

(Ed. Note: Following Mr. Farnum's talk, at the August 17 Chapter meeting at Wentworth-By-The-Sea, on establishment of architectural standards in practice and design for schools in New Hampshire there was a lively discussion of ways and means of establishing such standards. Architect Shepard Vogelgesang of Whitefield reports below on the facets of the subject which he caught. But, he says, "As I had opinions and suggestions of my own, my point of view is essentially biased in the direction of my own prejudices and makes no pretense of being factual reporting.")

The basic and very familiar subject of discussion was what to do in the case of a community unfamiliar with architectural procedures—an unfamiliarity which includes astonishment that an architect should need to eat and therefore would expect compensation for his work like any member of the building committee itself. Roughly there were two groups discussing this problem, the **Eat As We Go Group** and the **Deferred Eating Group**.

Eat As We Go had done spade work and had met with success in getting some communities to provide funds for that purpose. Their position seemed rational and practical where established.

Deferred Eating Group couldn't prove that their technique ever nourished them though they felt that in some way they had done the community a service which deserves pie in the sky eventually, if not now.

A thoroughly contemporary branch of Eat As We Go wondered whether a small fund might not be appropriated from State moneys to provide backward communities with funds for slight sketches.

Discussion on this matter presented two suggestions: One that the Board of Education co-sponsor with the Chapter a folder of the best current types of school building with a preamble about the care and feeding of architects, and a second suggestion providing for conferences between building committees and architects within, say, a 50 mile radius of the locality and invitation to one architect to make sketches as the result of these conferences. If both of these procedures could be followed, most of the Eat As We Go group would appear to be satisfied. If a choice has

to be made, my preference would be a fifty mile radius and of necessity the talker. Of course, if the talker can bring his talk with pictures of accomplishments much the better for him; but what about a fellow with no schools to show?

Rumor has it that the president of the American Institute of Architects met the group by saying that, because we have never had one, we will bring you a fresher solution suited to your needs than the solution of the fellow who knows all the answers and is right. That is often right, but will a committee in the father-land of pragmatism

The Federal Government meets the problem of the novice in housing by so hedging with rules and laws and acts and commissions that Federal Housing appears to use the architect pretty much as draughting machine certifier of payments—a utilization of professional activity which John Betley described entertainingly for the group. Probably this practice which makes public housing a matter of so little real architectural interest. This is a danger which underlies public building types for school or any other building which helps to rob the profession of much of its dignity and creative impact; more, I think, than economic restriction which seeks itself to provide great variety of solutions.

I am in favor of emphasis to all communities of the following aspects of professional service which can be given only by the architect to present building practitioners:

- a. Conference on location, orientation, exposure and local weather conditions.
- b. Design embodying solutions above not disregarding them.
- c. Leadership in reconciling desires of building committee with materials, economic methods of construction, overall cost and appearance.
- d. Visualization of the project for the edification of committees and the mates of builders.
- e. Production of the documents on bids, not guesses, can be obtained.
- f. Conference on the selection of a builder and reconciliation once means and ends before contract entered into.

Seeing that the community gets what it has contracted for and the contractor is paid during the fulfillment of his contract.

It should be obvious that the architect must direct this process. It is also obvious that this is only a resume of what appears in all professional literature; but how many people know about it? This outline should be enough to convince a committee that the architect must begin with a sketch and end up with a finished elephant. Probably dramatization of the facts is needed. Perhaps all the money now spent on drawings and pamphlets and diagrams would be better spent on a documentary film to be circulated and shown before town-meeting in communities which contemplate building. Let us hope that the gusto which architects bring to a ball or even a dinner can invade the building process so that building can have gaiety during its accomplishment. Building Committees need a stimulus, too and if short bits can be shown of the current construction of projects by other communities along with the professional story, the film will have news value and will impart assurance.

Such a film could be legitimately sponsored not only by the Chapter, but also by the Institute and kept up to date by contributions from state agencies, the Chapter and private organizations. It could speak the language of the people in the most understood vernacular and also hint at the building of tomorrow. We don't know how fast the Institute moves, but if it is slowly, the Chapter might initiate action on its own and show the larger body the value of individual agility.

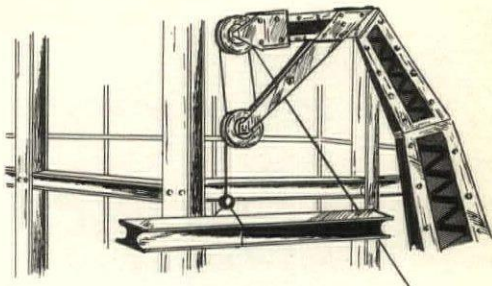
SHEPARD VOGELGESANG
Whitefield

Martha, wife of the Archduke Franz Josef, has become an adviser on interior decorating. She met Alex McDonald, the decorator, and asked him about the kind of work his clients prefer. "A good many of my clients prefer their living rooms done in either Louis XIV or Louis XVI," he said. "Most children's bedrooms are done in Hopalong Cassidy I."—LEONARD LYONS, *McNaught Syndicate*.

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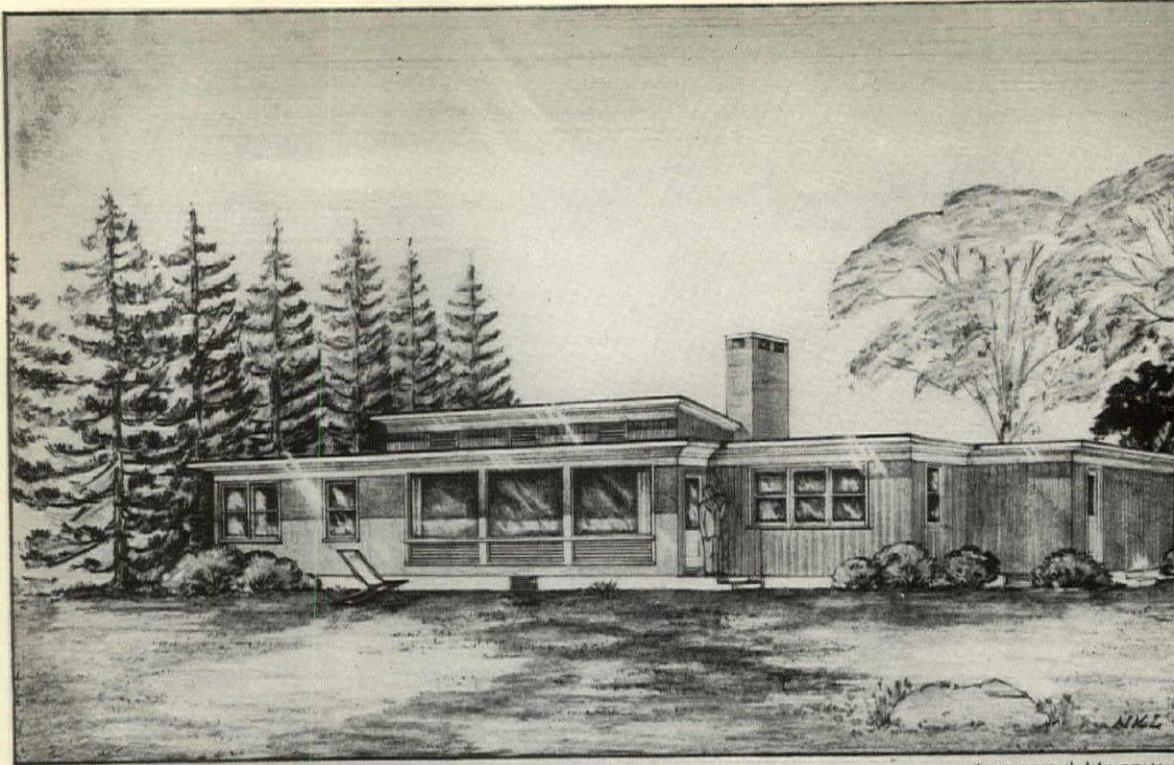
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Home of Dr. J. Kenneth McLeod, Penacook, N. H.

LYFORD & MAGENAU, Concord, *Architects*

The problem was to design a house for a doctor, his wife and three small boys. The dimensions of the lot limited to a great extent the opportunity for flexibility. Nevertheless a solution which seemed to please everyone finally was made. There is no cellar, a crawl space being provided for pipes and access to them.

A few of the interesting features are as follows:

1. Base Ray heating with hot water circulating two-zone system.
2. All electric kitchen including dishwasher and electric pig, and all metal cabinets. Breakfast area at one end.
3. Three twin-bedrooms with built-in wardrobes and dressers.
4. Two baths, one with tub and two lavatories for the boys, and one with

for the master bedroom.

5. Birch veneer flush panelling, natural finish, in Living Room and Dining Room.
6. Thermopane view windows with viewing panel louvers below and above.
7. Oak floors with penetrating stain and finish. Walls and ceilings throughout in pastel shades.
8. Utility Room providing space for laundry and boiler.
9. Rear hall with closets for children's clothes and future Lavatory.
10. Exterior finish, stucco and flush Twenty-year guaranteed built-up roof.

The General Contractor was Foster & Ford, Inc., of Concord; heating contractor Air Conditioning Co., Manchester.

The New Capital Of The Punjab

ALBERT MAYER, A. I. A.

Excerpts from Address before Convention Symposium I
"URBAN AND REGIONAL PLANNING"

planning de novo as we are doing in India, be free to formulate ideas and objectives early and boldly as our creative spirit permits.

We call in facts and techniques as we need them, and in sequence with our growing thought and study—but they are handy tools. They do not clutter up thinking.

In the first place, we want to create a beauty. It may sound peculiar, it may sound necessary to mention this to a gathering of distinguished American architects. I don't know, so, for two reasons. In the first place, the City Beautiful concept was thrown away fifty years ago, and the functionalists and sociologists took over, the concept of a simple and compelling and beautiful unity has been enriched by these important lateral and integral concepts, but has rather been replaced. There is no conflict or replacement.

We have not ignored these factors, we have creatively fused them, but we unabashedly seek beauty.

Our second basic purpose is to create a sense of pride in the citizen, not only in this his own country but in India, its past and its potential future. For the Indian today is a frustrated man. When his independence came, he was poisoned by partition into India and Pakistan. The economic and social betterment he had all expected in good faith, is much slower developing than expected. We are seeking tools, to restore or to create pride and confidence in himself and in his country.

We are seeking to build a city not in our own image, not the city of bold winged engineering cantilevers, which India's developed regions do not justify, but a city in the Indian style fused with our own simplicity and functional honesty. Frankly we are trying not so much to express ourselves or obtrude ourselves, but to develop this capital city as modern self-confident Indians would if there were such a thing. Not the word self-confident. I honestly believe we can not only do a more viable job, but a more Indian job than they could, because we can really enter into their spirit, and use practically all of the forward-looking ideas which have been educated in, and dazzled by the Western world, so that for a considerable time to come they will be doing Western work,

be lacking the self-understanding and self-confidence needed. Note we are not thinking in terms of Indian archaeology, but of modern India.

What are our other basic concepts? Well, the first, before we touched the city plan as a whole, is the basic cell or unit—the neighborhood. We first had to explore that, what it should be like, what should be in it, what kind of life should be lived there, what its size should be, what the implications of that size were—whether its dimensions were such that a whole busy city's traffic could be created around and between them. However useful the neighborhood concept is here, it is more valid in India where most people are still villagers and small community people at heart, and fairly recently by origin. The nature of the neighborhood is intimate, the shopping center preserves and encourages as far as we can in a reasonably orderly way do so, the marvelous excitement and gaiety of the bazaar, the people in their sociable pre-occupation with shopping and visiting undisturbed by traffic.

Our neighborhood super-block of 1,000 families or so, is one element in a 3-block unity, the center of which is the real heart of a small town of 3500 families, with a town square, local public buildings, health center, meeting hall—very much the same as the market square of the medieval European town. The reason is that the functions are much the same—meeting, gossiping, shopping, listening to speeches. Each should have the pool whose reflecting beauty and sense of coolness are such a heavenly gift in the Eastern tropics.

There is generally speaking no appreciable automobile traffic within the basic neighborhood, and no heavy automobile traffic of the thru-road variety in the roads between the three blocks. Heavy traffic and bus-routes surround the 3-block district.

So we build up the town from these living units and district trilogies. We did not plan down to them, but up from them.

Our bounding roads are wide, with parallel local or service roads, making in all a very wide right-of-way. But we hope we have avoided the over-scale sterility and stiltedness of Delhi, the over-monumentality of Washington, to say

(Continued on page 12)

Architect Bill is a pretty smart guy.
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Construction in N. H. Falls Off in July

Figures for first Seven Months of
 69 Percent higher

New York. New Hampshire construction contract awards in July totaled \$2,600,000 which was 35 per cent lower than the figure of \$4,170,000 and 11 per cent less than July 1949 it was reported today by James A. Harding of F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists.

This brought New Hampshire's total for the first seven months of 1950 to \$20,099,000, 69 per cent higher than the corresponding figure for last year, according to the Dodge firm.

Residential contracts of \$810,000 were 29 per cent behind June and 29 per cent behind July 1949 to bring the seven month total for 1950 ahead of the same period last year by 10 per cent.

Non-residential awards for July decreased from the June total by 48 per cent. The July month non-residential figure for 1950 was 10 per cent higher than a year ago.

Public and private works and utilities showed a 77 per cent increase in July over July 1949, an increase of 6 per cent over the first seven months of 1949.

N. E. Construction in Second Place Nation-Wide

Boston. "New England in July continued its terrific drive in the construction field and maintained second place among the fifteen districts of F. W. Dodge Corporation in rate of increase over 1949 for the seven-month period," stated today by James A. Harding, district manager of the Dodge firm of construction news and marketing specialists.

"Recently New England ranked third among our districts in the 37 states east of the Rockies," Mr. Harding said, "but in July had the biggest month in history and it placed her in second place by outdistancing our southern eastern district. Only Southern Michigan showed a per cent gain was ahead of New England's 77 per cent.

new England's construction record thus far
 year is a thrilling proof of the vitality and
 confidence of New England people and in-
 es, and will be widely recognized by in-
 es elsewhere in the nation which study
 statistics.

ge announced that its reports of con-
 tion awards in the six states totaled
 29,000, up 13 per cent over June's pre-
 all-time high of \$102,780,000, and 87 per
 higher than July 1949.

dge's New England office at Boston plans
 ge New England trade associations and
 agencies to publish these facts as widely
 sible as a means of attracting industrial
 marketing activity into our lively area,"
 arding said.

ails of August Meeting - ewart Lyford Reporting

regular meeting was held at the Hotel
 outh-By-The-Sea in Newcastle with a
 id attendance. A large number of mem-
 vere fortunate to have their wives along
 thers were not so fortunate—or were

re were many games in which the various
 ers participated, notably shuffleboard,
 Carl Peterson the champion; swimming,
 Norm Leggett the champion, and our
 ng Expert from Manchester, Mr. John
 , taking one dive, two strokes and a push
 the curb of the pool. Lyford got wet.

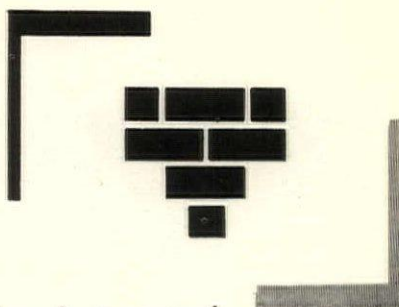
was enjoyed by some, but we missed the
 match between Magenau and Randlett.
 cocktail hour was enjoyed by all, followed
 ner which was out of this world. Paul
 m of the State Board of Education spoke
 e "Architect's Place in the School Pro-
 and we found out that there is a place
 —if we can get in.

in all, it was a swell time.

SAFETY-

A safety-minded pastor, when
 asked to bless St Christopher med-
 als for his parishioners, always
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Kesler News.

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nothing of the traffic complications caused by its basic rectilinear pattern and its superimposed diagonal pattern.

What we hope all this adds up to, is a city of satisfactory interrelationships, and satisfactory individual lives and moments; a framework which will take account of groups of people in their corporate activity whether in industry, in school, in political meetings, in buses, at home; and of the individual's need for serenity, for aloofness sometimes, for facing himself. We want an essentially peaceful city, not one where complications and nervous tensions are created which must be counteracted by other, remedial complications. We are trying to create a city as simple as possible, where the inter-arrangement of parts and functions minimize the need for fancy grade separations, though we will need a few of these.

And we want to provide a looseness and tolerance in the plan to allow for a future that can never be entirely imagined from the past or the present. That is why we are not too bothered by the lack of elaborate statistics. The problem here is to make such allowance, but not to over-do it. For in that case we might be providing a fine city for 50 years from now, but a moth-eaten city for, say, the first 20 years.

We are trying to create a city where the various kinds of people with their various habits and methods find themselves at home. We hope we have insight enough to estimate and sense how far we can and should encourage changes in habits to create better city living, and how far certain traditions and habits should be respected and fostered and sublimated.

We wish, though it may be too unattainable a goal, to give so large a city planned at one time a varied feeling, to produce a city which in different parts produces differential effects within one overriding idiom—and note that what I have called the looseness and tolerance provide areas for future needs where future architects and architecture may develop, so that it is not a static town architecturally.

We are feeling our way toward this kind of creation. It may be as opportunities grow, as they certainly will be in the "backward" areas, and as they filter upward into our own more advanced area, as we open our minds and creative spirits into this realm of thought and challenge, others will succeed in greater measure.

President Walker To V N. H. Chapter

Promises appearance at Oct. 27 M

Underscore this date—Friday, October 1950. Our able and always interesting president, Ralph Walker, of the American Institute of Architects will be with us. Watch for notice for time and place of meeting. President will be attending two very important meetings in Paris and London next month. Immediately upon his return, Mr. Walker granted us the pleasure of having him state on that date.

Paul Farnum's Address to appear in Oct. Issue

Mr. Paul Farnum, one of New Hampshire's able directors in the State Department of Education, who gave such a splendid address before the architects at the Hotel Wentworth last month, is presenting that same message to read in the October issue of the HAMPSHIRE ARCHITECT. All who have the pleasure of hearing Mr. Farnum will be glad to read it and those who did not have the opportunity will be well repaid by reading his direct and straightforward counsel to the architects in planning the rural school.

Hiking along a country road, we stopped to ask a farmer how long it would take to reach the nearest town. "Start walking," was his curt reply.

"Pardon me," my husband said, "but we'd like to know—"

"Start walking!" the farmer repeated.

Thinking it was useless to try to get further information, we trudged along our weary way. We had covered about 10 yds when the old farmer called out, "It'll take ye about 25 min's."

"Why didn't you say so before?" my husband asked.

"Well," the farmer drawled, "had to see how fast ye walk 'fore I could rightly say how long it'd take ye."—Mrs DAVID FERBER, *Family Circle*.

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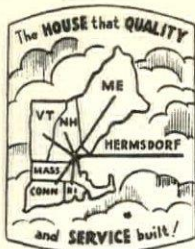
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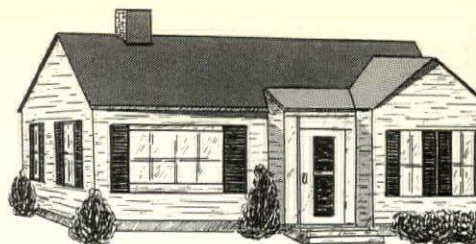
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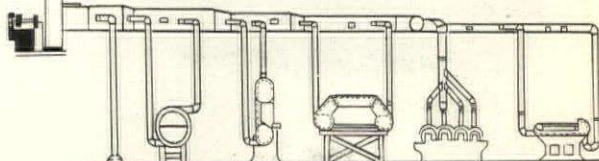
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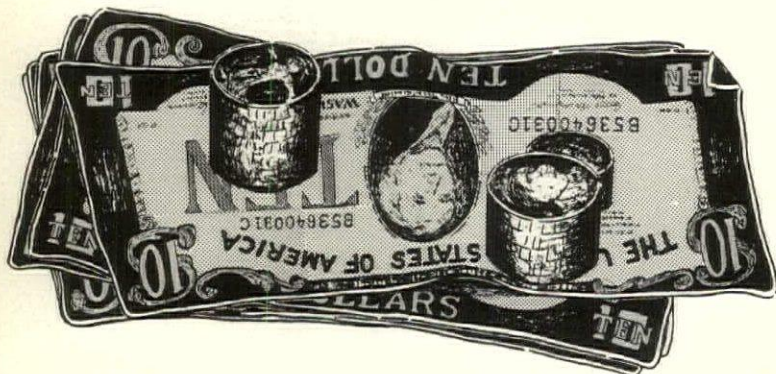
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