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*New Hampshire Chapter of the American
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JULY
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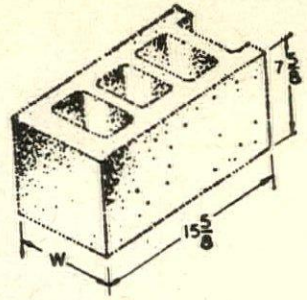
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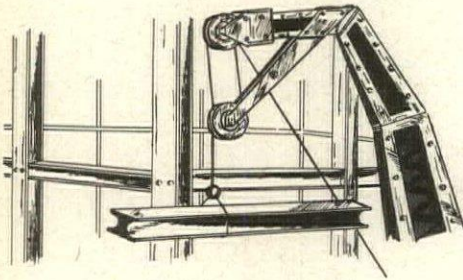
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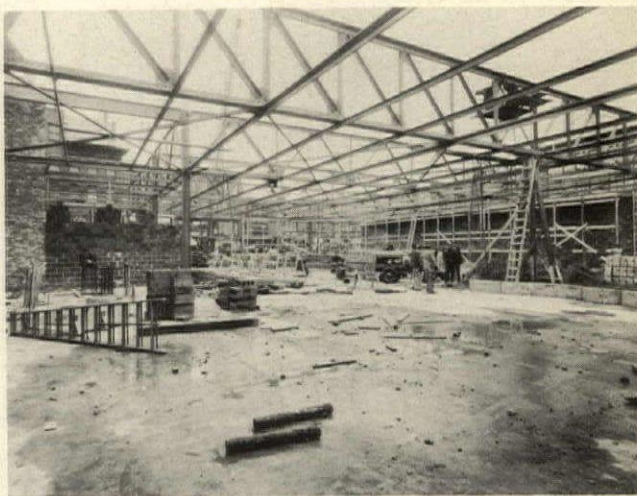
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COVER PICTURE

View showing steel roof construction of the F. W. Woolworth building at Haverhill, Mass. M. E. Witmer of Portsmouth was the Architect; Consolidated Constructors, Inc., of Portland, Me., were the general contractors and steel for the project was furnished by Lyons Iron Works, Inc., of Manchester, N. H.

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THE PRESIDENT SPEAKS

"Architects find needed increases for advertising" reads a recent headline in the New York Herald Tribune.

The article refers to recent polls which showed that a very small percentage of the public knows what architectural services are. This is not very surprising when you consider that only a small percentage of the public knows very much about any particular subject. Look at some of those funny answers given by college graduates in army tests—you wonder how any college graduate could be as dumb.

Here in New Hampshire we hardly need a poll to tell us of the widespread lack of understanding about the architectural profession. We are irked about this because it makes it more difficult for us to do our best work and because it sometimes lands our clients and ourselves in a peck of trouble. Fortunately we, Chapter of the A. I. A. are doing something more than just talking about this problem. One of the things we are doing is the group advertising which started in the back page of last month's N. H. Architect and which is supposed to appear there each month with a new brief message about the Institute.

Another thing we are doing is the N. H. Architect itself, no small project for a group no larger numerically than ours. Is there any doubt but that this little bulletin, written by architects about architecture for people interested in architecture, has very effectively advertised the profession throughout the State? (Incidentally it is not at all difficult to get on the mailing list—just ask Publisher Larry Moynihan.)

Thirdly, we initiated the suggestion that the State Department of Education publish a "handbook on School Planning" and five Chapter members are serving on the committee charged with its preparation. The

first edition is expected to come out shortly. This will be a double-barrelled proposition and it will help school people to understand architects and vice-versa.

Finally, the Chapter sponsored the Architects' Registration Bill and the recently passed amendment which made it compulsory rather than permissive. Among other benefits, this should eliminate some of the confusion about architects caused by persons who attempt to practice architecture without the necessary qualifications. These above activities cost their supporters a great deal, perhaps more in time than in money. But the benefits accrue to all; therefore we expect and will welcome the active support and membership, of all true architects.

Eugene J. Magenan

Construction Contracts in New Hampshire Show Drop in May

BOSTON—New Hampshire construction contracts in May totaled \$1,663,000 or 14 per cent less than April but 67 per cent below May a year ago, it was announced today by James A. Harding, district manager of F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists. The total for the first five months of 1951 was \$8,330,000 or 37 per cent lower than the corresponding total for 1950.

Non-residential awards in May were \$828,000 or 99 per cent more than April.

Residential awards at \$795,000 were 19 per cent above April but 24 per cent behind May 1950.

Public and private works and utilities totaled \$40,000 or 95 per cent lower than April.

ARCHITEXTOPICS

By Richard Koehler, A. I. A.

Philosophy

In this present day living, both from the international and close-at-hand viewpoint, the following lines from the RUBAIYAT of Omar Khayyam seem to be fitting:

*"Myself when young did early frequent
Doctor and Saint, and heard great Argument
About it and about: but evermore
Came out by the same Door as in I went."*

Unity and Protection

In answer to the question: "What is the state Chapter A. I. A. attempting to accomplish?" In part, the Chapter is:

- (1) By unity of organization and common purpose we hope to express a solid voice in matters aesthetic, practical, planning and politic.
- (2) For protection we hope to educate the public in hiring New Hampshire Architects for New Hampshire projects. (As expressed so ably in the February 1951 issue of this magazine by Gene Magenau, quote, "Because this column has been plugging New Hampshire architects for local jobs, a recent full page ad in the MANCHESTER UNION caught my eye. Three insurance firms who jointly occupy a new home office building in a certain New Hampshire city headed the advertisement with this plea: 'Support and patronize the New Hampshire firms.' Who was their architect—you guessed it—a firm from another state.")

It would be interesting to receive comments on the above policy from Chapter members as to their personal feelings regarding unity and New Hampshire Architects or New Hampshire projects.

Education and Schools

In the 17th century when class-room education was coming into its own, Comenius declared that "schools are slaughter houses of the mind where ten or more years are spent learning what might be acquired in one—places where minds are fed on words." Lancelot Hogben in his "From Cave Painting to Comic Strip" writes: "Children crave vividly for humanistic information which books can supply long before they can take advantage of a free library; and we could immensely enrich the capacity of the normal

child for further growth when able to do so, if we equipped the classroom and the corridor with the means of maintaining a pictorial background to formal instruction necessarily focused on the technique prerequisite to learning from books. By mass production and distribution of educational charts, exploiting to the full the puzzle motif, it is now possible to sustain the curiosity of the child under the continual impact of ever new sources of information about living in earlier times or about the modern world; and it is now possible to start doing so long before the child can read or write at all."

Perhaps with the foregoing in mind, we in our planning can try new expedients, study more seriously the future needs of a progressive educational system and at least anticipate advances in place of "by rote execution."

Communication

It is hoped that the Chapter will include in its coming program of activities a firm resolve to mix with the contractors and materials men. The Chapter could be a means of communication to obtain reciprocal participation of the architect, builders, suppliers in a cross-fertilization of planning and construction. It is here that cultural and practical progress can grow. It is here also that the Chapter could take the initiative and set up with allied branches, including representatives of the banking profession, a series of Round Table discussions.

"Comers"

In an article of Time Magazine July 2, 1951, regarding the operation of the Pentagon there is this tidbit: "The Pentagonian always lives 'by the book.' Confronted with a problem his instinct is to find a precedent. (nothing makes a Pentagonian feel snigger than to curl up inside a precedent)" If on the other hand the Pentagonian does use initiative and is able to score his point, he is labeled a "Comer."

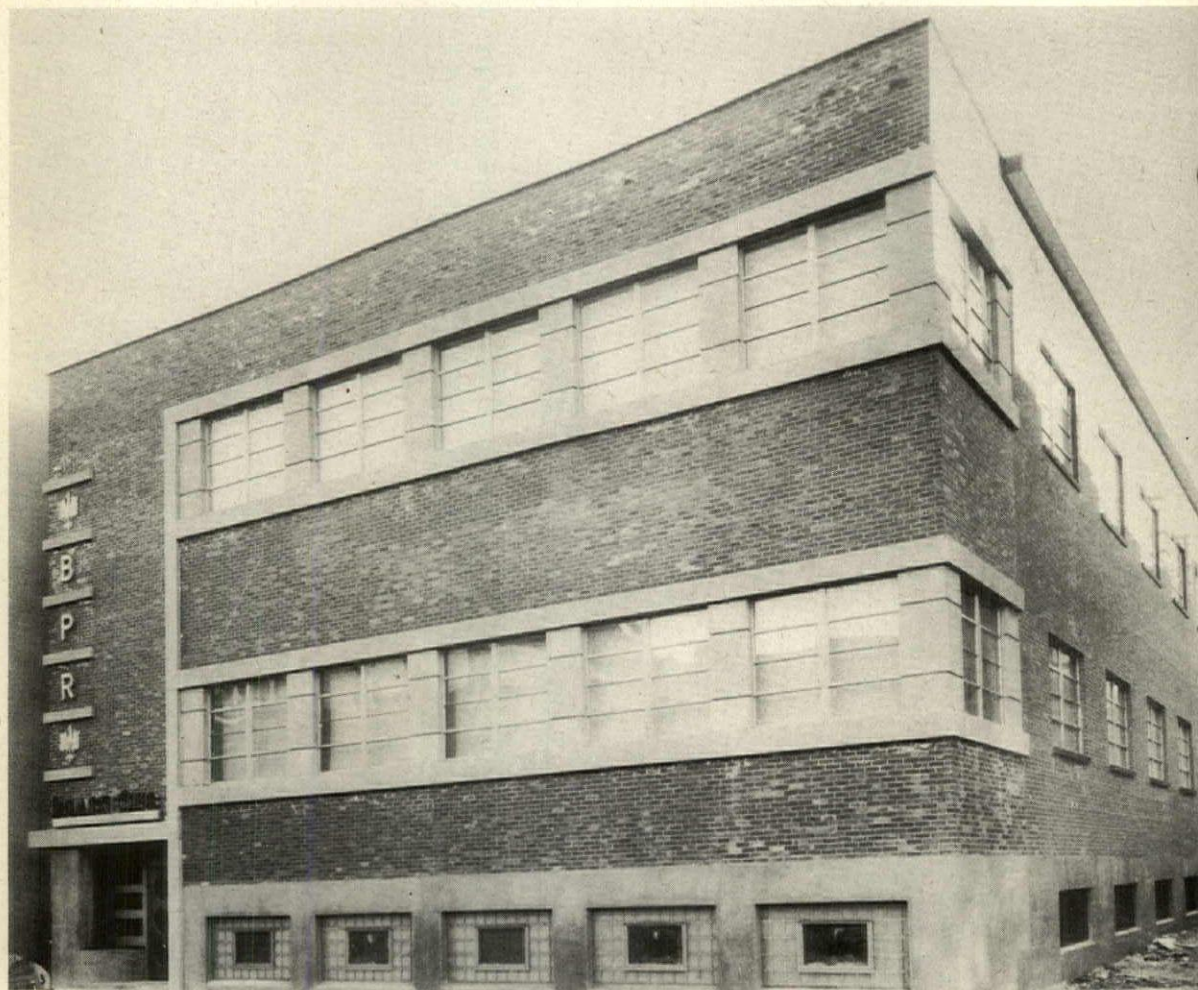
This runs a close parallel to many of us who for any number of reasons refuse to take the initiative in architecture.

How many "comers" do we have in this rugged state of Daniel Webster?

We have demonstrated that we are a group of small independent architectural offices, a small pool of architectural personnel, who for the most part have held tenaciously to our own identity and independence in spite of all types of inducement to trade this for the well known "thirty pieces of silver."

With further evolution of these characteristics into our architecture we could with conviction develop as "comers."

B. P. R. SOCIETY and PULASKI CLUB ACCEPT MODERN



B. P. R. Society Photo of Front Elevation

Horizontal architectural line dominates in the modern building of the B. P. R. Society and Pulaski Club in Manchester, New Hampshire. The entrance is accented by a vertical line and cast stone trim and a symmetrical exterior balance. The outside walls are of brick and cinderblock backup with a steel frame construction.

The interior club room is gay and full of light. Varied colored spiral features in the cove lighting and the use of glass block gives a feeling of comfort to the large dining area. The leather-bound bar accented in dark and

light values adds a touch of luxury to the club room. Plywood paneling, acoustical ceilings, asphalt tile finish floors combine to make the room spacious with the aid of simplicity and cool, crisp design. The large windows are steel sash throughout the building.

The lower level, includes a large dining room with ample kitchen facilities, showers and locker rooms, storage space and a boiler room. A dumb waiter elevator from the basement kitchen serves the auditorium on the second floor. Special attention was given to the perfection of small detail and complete functionalism.

CLUB IN MANCHESTER BUILDING BY BETLEY



B. P. R. Auditorium Looking Northwest View.

The auditorium is made light and airy by the use of buff brick walling and a mottled-colored brick dado. The stage is trimmed with a red and white precenium arch. Also on the second floor are stage rooms, kitchen, rest rooms, rest rooms and the lobby. The first floor contains the lounge, main club rooms, billiard rooms, bar, rest rooms and telephone booths. All are conveniently located on the first floor. The club, one of the oldest organizations in the state of New Hampshire, with its fine example of modern architecture is admired by many. Mr. Charles Filip, president of the

organization, welcomes the contemporary design. The facilities of the club are broadened by the many modern features.

The building was designed by the office of John D. Betley, prominent Manchester Architect. The General Contractor was the Harvey Construction Co. Inc., of Manchester; Plumbing and Heating work by John H. Stevens Co. Inc., of Manchester; Electrical work by Nakos Electrical Co. of Nashua; Roofing by M. J. Murphy & Son, of Manchester and Dover, New Hampshire.

Additional Photos on page 8 of this issue.



B. P. R. Auditorium Looking Southeast



B. P. R. Lounge

LYFORD and MAGENAU JOINS ANDERSON - NICHOLS and COMPANY

Anderson-Nichols & Company, architectural and mechanical engineers of Boston and New York have opened an architectural and engineering division in Concord. Starting with Lyford and Magenau's entire staff as nucleus, the company will give permanent employment to approximately fifty men in Concord. Anderson-Nichols and Company are moving up the space occupied by Lyford & Magenau at 3 North State Street and taking the second floor of the Page Belting Company's office building on Eastman Street.

Stewart A. Lyford has been appointed manager of the Concord division and Eugene Magenau, Assistant Manager and coordinating engineer; Clyde Loiselle is in charge of electrical engineering; Norman Leggett has been appointed chief draftsman and Ernest Annette, structural draftsman. Miss Betty Bates is continuing as secretary although under a new name following her wedding to Charles Thomas on Saturday, June 30th.

The firm of Lyford & Magenau will close out sixteen years of active practice on completion of current projects.

Mr. William F. Dewey, partner of the firm of Anderson-Nichols & Company in Boston, will have overall charge of the Concord division. He is one of eleven partners, each of whom is active head of a technical division involving industrial, commercial, or public works design at construction.

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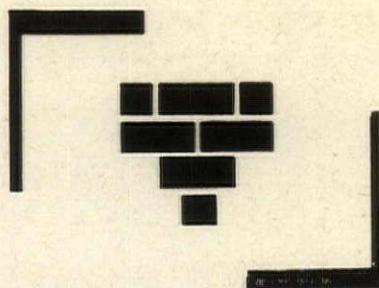
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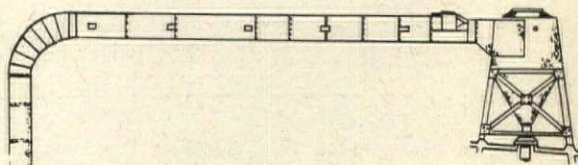
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