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1953

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OFFICIAL PUBLICATION

*New Hampshire Chapter of the American Institute of Architects*



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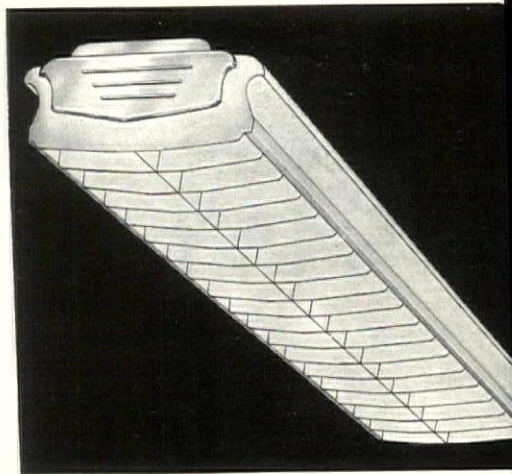
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Manchester, N. H.

## PUBLISHER

LAWRENCE J. MOYNIHAN  
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# New Hampshire ARCHITECT

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NO. 5

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## COVER PICTURE

Exterior View of New Residence of  
Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spector, Manchester, N. H.  
John D. Betley, A. I. A.  
Architect



## The President's Message

*"For the hand can never execute anything higher than the character can inspire."*

RALPH WALDO EMERSON

---

### EXHILARATE

If in our architecture, be it modest doorway or towering structure we exhilarate the poor the rich, the cultivated and uncultivated, if this creation lifts up the soul and makes artists of the humble, it will have served its high moral outlet. To some a small motif exquisitely created by soul and hand is the limit of their concentrative effort and to others . . . . .

There is in the air a half-hearted concentration in the world of business, medicine and the arts. The unfortunate contagion of "good enough" has resulted in more practitioners to do what previously had been done by fewer—it would appear that we have quantity at the risk of quality.

There is a need in this present day culture to completely work out this problem of art, to stay with the problem until it is creatively solved—it is not solved by standardized formula—it is not solved by prescription—it is solved by full use of research into the facts which create the problem as of this day. Along the way of creation there are many distractions — time-schedules, people and money; to concentrate with complete honesty in plan, in orientation, in third dimension, requires of the architect a complete devotion to the problem at hand. There is much to be said for those outstanding architects who indulge in philosophical discussion with their clients before lifting a pencil; it is well that these people do a little soul-searching, the status of compatibility can be established in this very early stage; and if there be a fundamental divergence wouldn't it be better for both to stop there; if there is complete understanding what an inspiration to really create!

A well known architectural magazine editorial recently stated that the demarcation between the outstanding architect and the average architect was closing and the result-

ant building design was so greatly improved that outstanding architecture was difficult to find. That is a safe statement since subscribers for the most part are average architects and well it might be—however it is also a statement of mediocrity, a plateau has been reached, in which there is a static state of design.

Perhaps it is too much to hope for that the architect entrusted with the commissioning of architecture look further than the surface to find the backbone of the man. Well it might be if the number one question in an interview were to be:

*Do you really want to help us?*

and if he answers in the affirmative, he might ask:

*Will you completely entrust me?*

Present-day methods used in the architectural interview lack directive questioning with the result that in many instances selection has been made because of the utter exhaustion and exasperation of the interviewers. Except for the juvenile or senile, age does not represent the degree of concentrative or creative power nor does a staggering list of similar structures executed make the holder of this string of titles a greater artist—for with each problem come new facts, new soil and new soul.

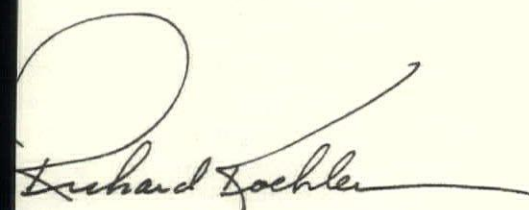
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### SHELTER

Those of us who live the gamut of seasons in New Hampshire can never find reason for our boredom. There is a warmth of houses well built for us northerners which no other part of the country can experience. Up this-a-way the fields have browned, the trees are stark, the lakes have hardened and winds are biting. All living creatures have "holed-up." In winter come from the hurting bite of a Canadian wind, in from heavy miserable "gettin' round" into the warmth of "snug as a bug" shelter, hot baths, hot mustard and for those who like hot-buttered rum for medical purposes. When the frosty-blue hands mother brings in the warm blanket, Barnum and Bailey never presented the sight created with stiff-frozen long underwear, nightgowns and other unmentionables standing in a frozen circle, then as each melted the attitudes assumed would win the prize in a game of "Statute." The snap and crack



maple and birch logs sing well with the  
line of a cold wind. Even to the gourmet  
lowly soup takes on exotic aroma. Yes,  
these are the days that family life takes on a  
deeper meaning, these are the days which find  
the freezer loaded with small snowballs and  
leaves to throw in July. Red-hot shiny faces,  
pajamas and starry eyes wait with open  
mouths for the next fantastic story which  
summer finds no time for. Who else but these  
northerners know the value of corn-cob in-  
sulation, well-caulked joints and the virtues of  
the grape.



---

Architects and bankers, alike, have a tre-  
mendous responsibility guiding the building-  
public to see the best that is available to them.  
It is a strange paradox of human behavior that  
man resents monotony which we see so much  
of, but, he resists change. He likes 'to be  
set' but hates 'to be set right.'

The client tends to place a very high degree  
of trust in our two groups, and in turn, we owe  
the client the highest obligations. We owe to  
the client economic responsibilities and we have  
social responsibilities, and through coopera-  
tion and understanding of these objectives,  
both architects and bankers can progress to  
benefit the clients."

—Marcellus Wright, Jr., Regional  
Director speaking to an architect-  
banker dinner of the West Virginia  
Chapter.

---

There is no time like the present. In fact, there  
never has been.—Selected.

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There isn't any map of the road to success;  
you have to find your own way.—Unknown.

## LADIES NIGHT SPONSORED BY N. H. CHAPTER, A.I.A.

The New Hampshire chapter, American  
Institute of Architects, held Ladies' Night  
at the Laconia Tavern. Guest speaker  
was Stephen P. Tracy of Tracy & Hildreth,  
Architects of Nashua, a member of the  
Architectural Registration Board who ex-  
plained the present registration law. Mr.  
Gardner Tilton, Manager of New Hamp-  
shire Business Development Corporation  
gave a short but interesting resume of the  
activities of that organization.

Richard Koehler of the firm, Koehler &  
Isaak, Architects of Manchester, chapter  
president conducted the meeting. Dinner  
chairman was Prof. George R. Thomas  
A. I. A. of the U. N. H., while local arrange-  
ments were in charge of Norman P.  
Randlett A. I. A. of Laconia.

---

## ENGINEERS CLUB AT N. E. COLLEGE NEEDS BOOKS

The members of the New England  
College Engineers Club have outfitted a  
Library Room on the second floor of  
Alumni Hall. It is a very nice place to  
study and to hold club meetings. Its walls  
are lined with bookshelves. There is only  
one thing necessary to complete it. The  
bookshelves are empty. It would be the  
perfect library if the shelves were lined  
with books. Pamphlets; Periodicals;  
Manuals; reference books; and any other  
reading matter will be greatly appreciated.  
Our librarian, John Moore, will enjoy his  
job much more. He gets tired dusting the  
empty shelves every day. If any reader  
has articles he thinks our library could  
use, we would be glad to welcome him if  
he can bring them and inspect our place;  
but if he is too busy for that, he may send  
them, c/o John Moore, Librarian, New  
England College Engineers Club, Henniker,  
New Hampshire.



# BUSINESS TO BE GOOD NEXT YEAR -

## F. W. Dodge Corporation Report

NEW YORK—Strong reassurance as to the business outlook for 1954 is the prevailing tone of reports by 138 leading economists recently polled by Thomas S. Holden, vice chairman of F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists.

Next year will likely be the nation's second biggest business year, according to majority opinion. Mr. Holden, writing in the November issue of Architectural Record, says that the economists think 'the anticipated drop from the boom levels of 1953 will be quite mild.'

Of the economists polled 49 are in business organizations, 41 in colleges, 28 in financial organizations, four in government and 16 are business consultants. Each year Mr. Holden uses their opinions as one basis for making his own estimates of construction volume for the following year. His 1954 estimates have not yet been published.

Moderately declining construction activity is expected by a majority, as measured in 1954 by estimates to be made by the government. They forecast that next year's government totals will be down 8 per cent from 1953 in dollar volume. The majority expect this decline will be partly due to moderate price declines, and to

lessening of overtime altho higher hourly wage scales are expected.

There is general expectation of a decline in residential building, but nevertheless of a big year of more than 1,000,000 non-farm dwelling units, which would be a decline of about 7 per cent from what is expected to be this year's total in dollar volume.

The summary of replies indicates expected moderate declines of less than 1 per cent in the nation's total output of goods and services, commonly known as gross national product. But 19 of the economists expect next year to be a bigger year than 1953, while 41 expect a fairly severe drop.

The summary observes that "generally speaking the year 1953 has been somewhat better than the majority of economists anticipated" a year ago when the survey result was summarized in the following words: "High level stability is expected to characterize general business conditions thru most of the year with the possibility of a quite mild setback in the second half."

But the gross national product this year is expected to total about seven per cent above last year, as against an expected gain of a little more than one per cent reported in last year's survey.

---

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## AN EULOGISTIC OBITUARY

Architects, like other artists, are temperamental individualists to whom recognition of their accomplishments means as much as or more than financial reward. With a few conspicuous exceptions, modest men who hate to employ press agents and shun the advice of W. J. Herbert:

If you wish in the world to advance  
And your credit you wish to enhance  
You must stir it and stump it  
And blow your own trumpet  
Or, believe me you haven't a chance."

If the achievements of the architects receive the same discussion and recognition that are given to other artists—it would be an eminent stimulus to the culture of the present day.

An eulogistic obituary gives no encouragement or satisfaction to a dead architect.

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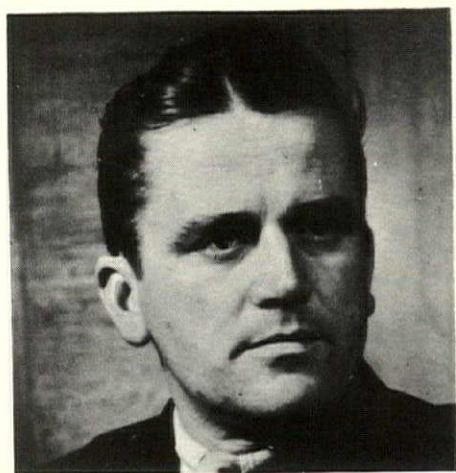




# ARCHITECT of the MONTH

JOHN D. BETLEY, A.I.A.

*John D. Betley, Registered Architect, Manchester, New Hampshire, was born in Manchester January 7, 1913. Graduated from Manchester High School Central and University of New Hampshire, B. S., 1936. He attended the Architectural Association School of Architecture in London, England, division of advanced planning and design. Traveled and studied in Europe. Private practice from 1936 to present time. Active duty as Army Officer from 1940 to 1946 in Atlantic and European theatres of war. Past chairman of Membership Committee A.I.A. Director of New Hampshire Chapter A.I.A. and member of the Architectural Association of London, England.*



## Residence of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spector Manchester, New Hampshire

A modern colonial residence for Mr. and Mrs. Louis Spector dominates the corner of Beech and Whitford Streets in Manchester, New Hampshire. This ranch house sets on slightly sloping land on the west facade with gentle slopes on all sides providing an excellent setting against the pine grove in the back-ground. The main entrance, enhanced with a brick flower box, faces Beech Street on the west side, and the driveway to the garage is on the north. A sunken living and dining room with a fireplace and large bay window features the entrance hallway. A knotty pine kitchen provides an interesting contrast. The den is easily accessible from both the

kitchen and the main corridor. master bedroom features a private bathroom and large closets; the boys' and girls' bedrooms each have two closets with adjustable clothespoles. The second bedroom is easily accessible for all to use, both bathrooms are finished with ceramic tiles, floors and wainscotings, which harmonize with the colored fixtures. The side open and screened porches feature spacious lawns. In the basement, a large playroom and fireplace are ideally located for the young and old. A laundry room, cold-storage room and boiler room complete the basement area.



God rest ye mer-ry, gen-tle-men, let no-thing you dis-



Construction: Foundation walls—concrete.

Exterior Walls: Cedar clapboards and siding.

Roof: Asphalt shingles.

Interior Walls: Plaster, birch plywood, knotty pine, ceramic tile.

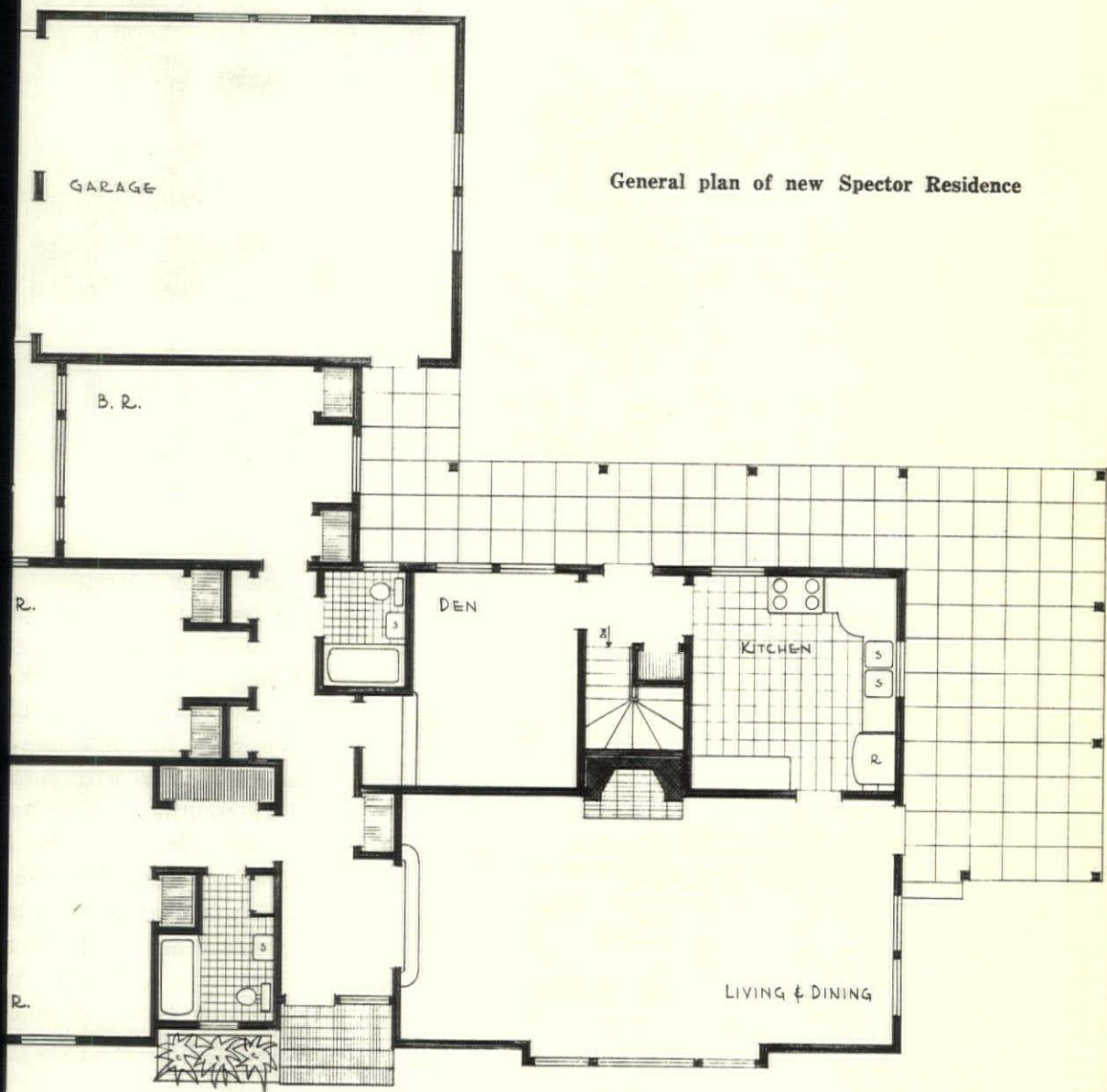
Floors: Hardwood, rubber tile, ceramic tile, concrete.

Ceilings: Plaster and acoustical tile.

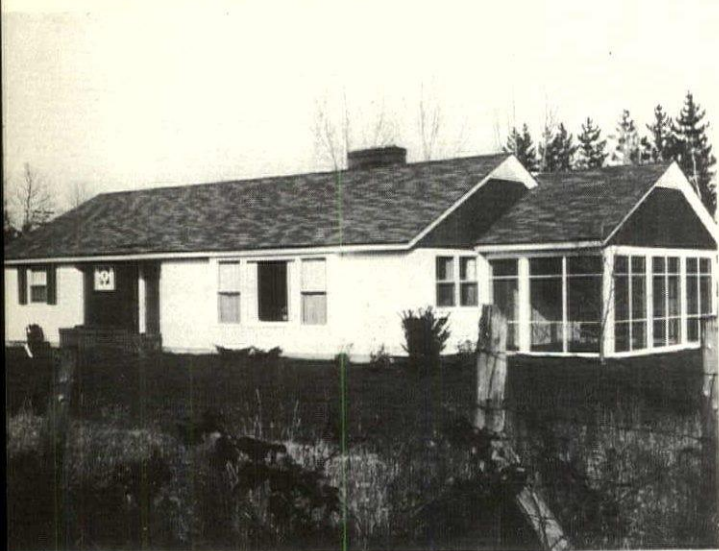
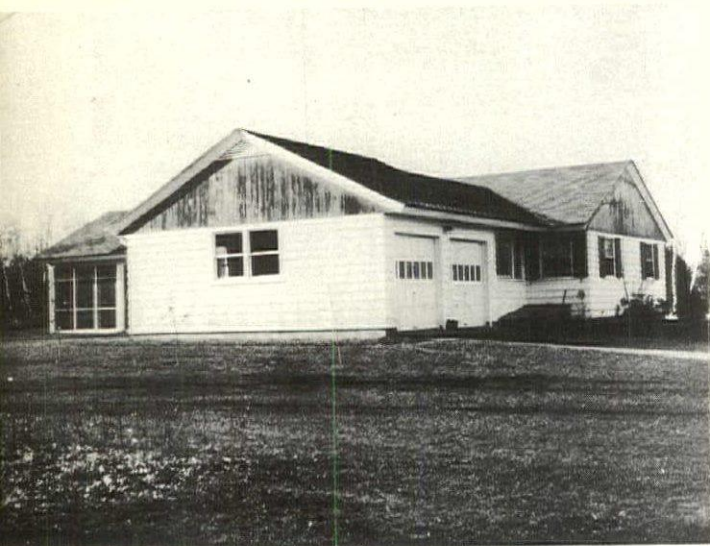
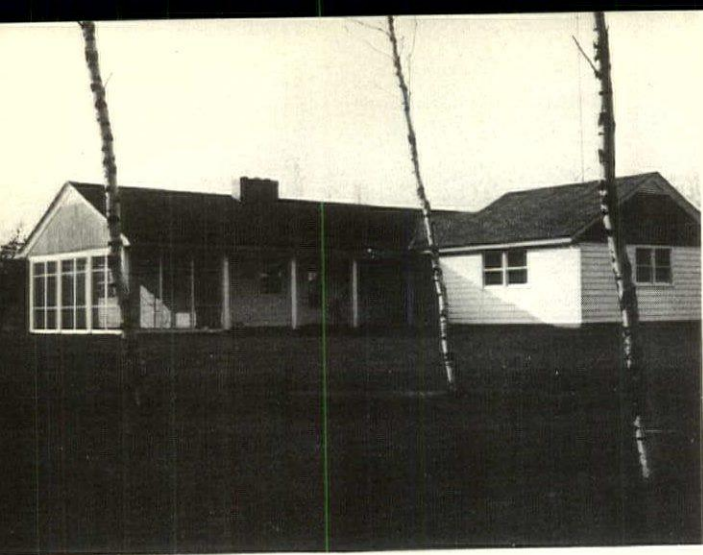
General Contractor: Harvey Construction Co., Inc., Manchester, New Hampshire.

Photographs of the Spector Residence are shown on Page 10.

General plan of new Spector Residence





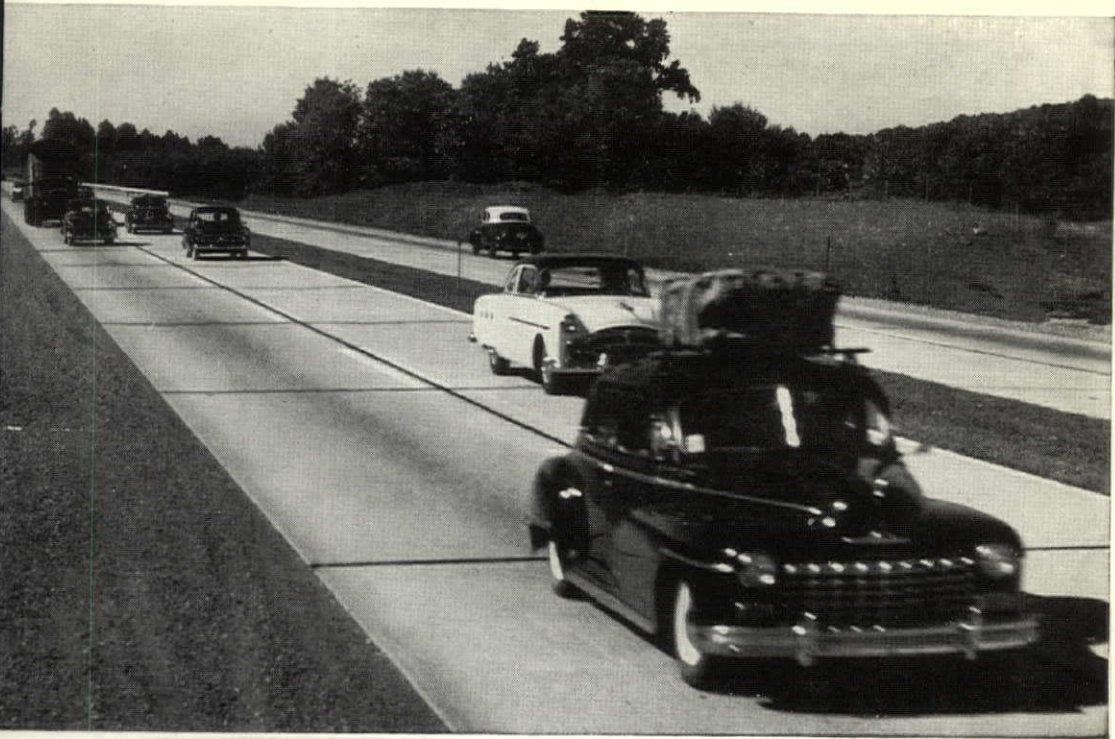


Three Exterior Views of the Spector Residence at  
Manchester, N. H.

**HARVEY CONSTRUCTION CO., Inc.**  
**Valley Street, Manchester N. H.**

*General Contractor for the New Spector Residence*





## Building Maine's Highways and Turnpikes of Concrete Will Assure Substantial Savings

Every motorist, taxpayer and commercial vehicle operator has a vital stake in the highways and turnpikes in Maine. Building these roads with concrete will result in the safest road and a saving of money for all concerned.

Safety and economy are important features of these highways to everyone in Maine so it is well to "look at the record."

America's first modern turnpike, the 160-mile Pennsylvania Turnpike, was built with concrete in 1940. After ten years of experience in financing, operating and maintaining this road, the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission selected concrete for the eastern, western and Delaware River extensions totaling 200 miles.

Today about 80 per cent of the mileage on all operating or planned turnpikes and toll roads in America is concrete. There are good reasons for this overwhelming choice for concrete pavement.

Concrete's gritty surface provides excellent traction for tires, allowing you to stop fast, without skidding, even in the rain. Concrete's light color reflects up to four times more light than dark pavements, which absorb light. That means you can see obstacles in the road farther away and get more time to slow down or stop.

Concrete is moderate in first cost yet can be designed accurately for any load—and will *keep* that load-carrying capacity for life. It costs less to maintain than other pavements, according to official state highway department records. And its average life is twice as long.

In fact, engineers now know how to build concrete roads that will serve for 50 to 100 years.

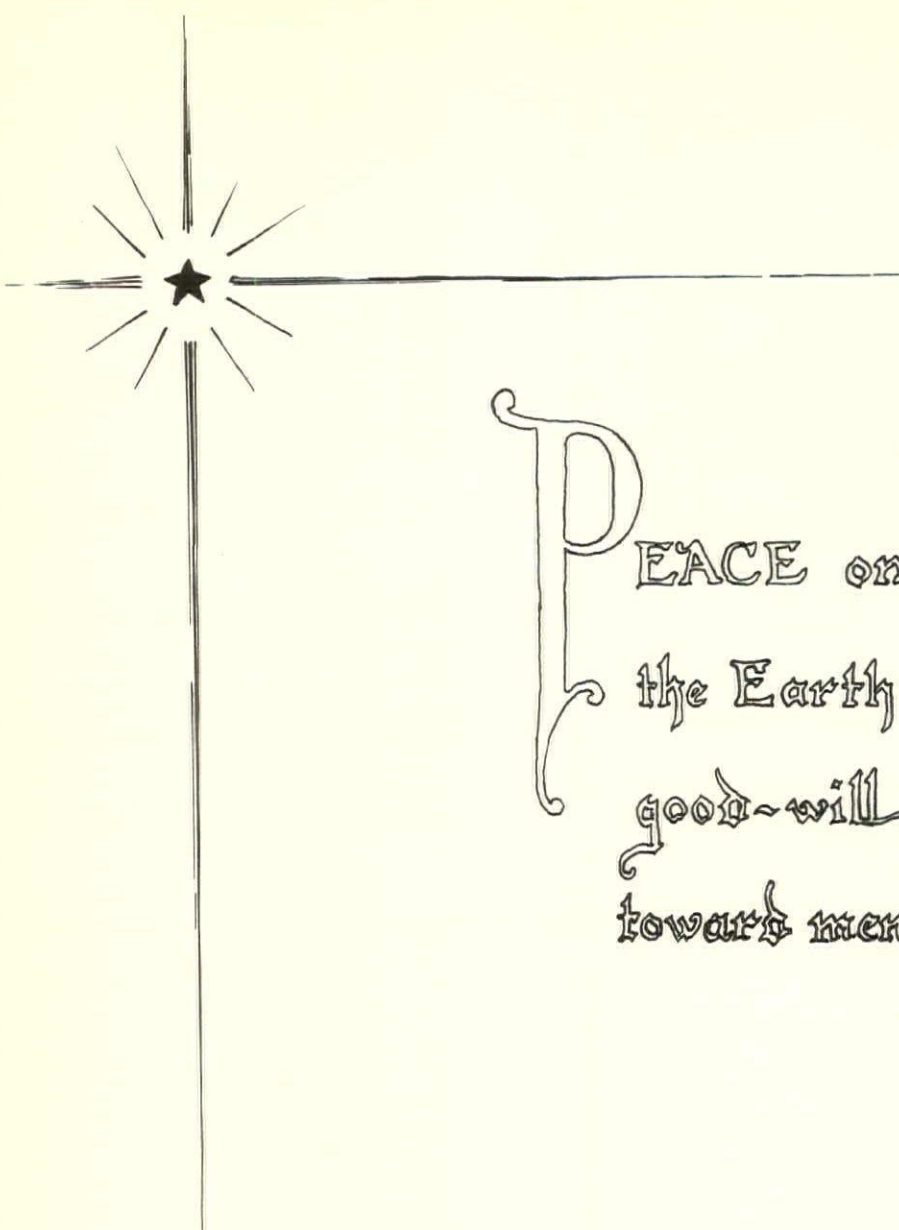
Safety and economy! Two big reasons why concrete is the logical choice for Maine highways and turnpikes. It will assure the ultimate in safety and service at the most economical cost.

### ORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION

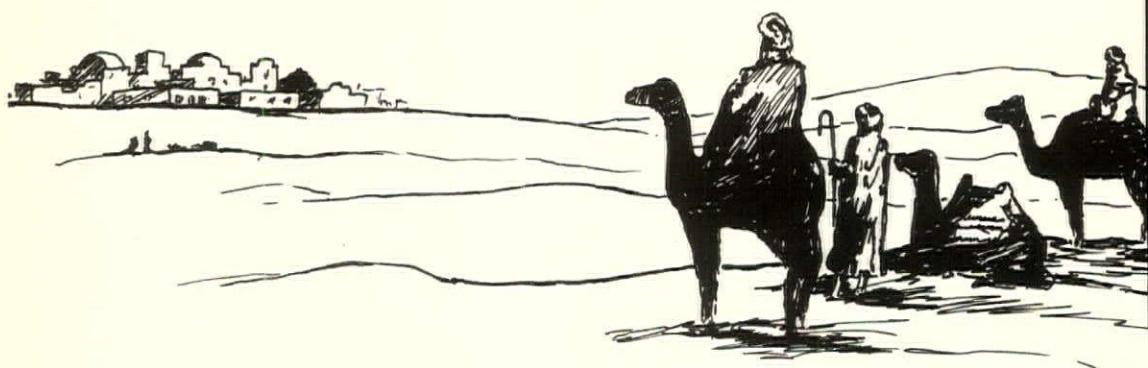
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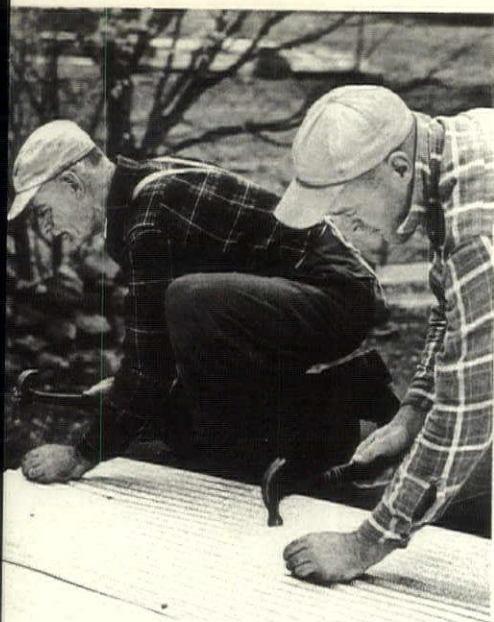
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Christmas Greetings

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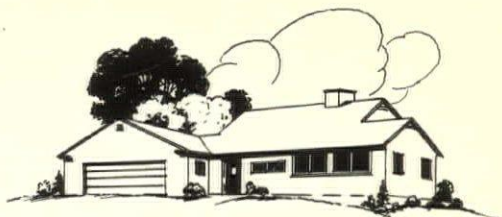
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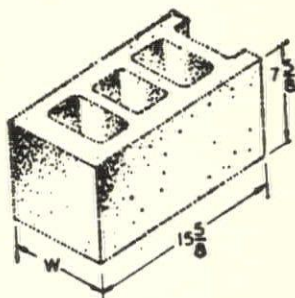
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## CONTRACT AWARDS IN N. H. SHOULD TIE 1952

BOSTON—New Hampshire had construction contract awards in October of \$5,042,000 which were 23 per cent above September and 73 per cent above October 1952, it was stated today by James A. Harding, district manager of F. W. Dodge Corporation, construction news and marketing specialists. The ten month award total of \$32,653,000 was up 16 per cent over ten months 1952.

"New Hampshire's building should carry the state to at least a tie with 1952," Harding said, "and follows the lead set by Dodge's 37-eastern states total which was up 5 per cent at the ten-month mark."

Individual October awards were: non-residential, \$661,000, down 68 per cent from September and 29 per cent below October 1952; residential, \$1,031,000, down 17 per cent from September and 40 per cent below October 1952; heavy engineering, \$3,350,000, up substantially over September and over October 1952.

Individual ten-month totals: nonresidential, \$14,521,000, up 14 per cent over ten months 1952; residential, \$8,280,000, down 27 per cent; heavy engineering, \$9,852,000, up 48 per cent.

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## Applicants Registered

Ned Spaulding, secretary of the Board of Registration for Architects, announced that the following applicants became registered on October 27.

159 Robert A. Bastille, 116 Mayo Rd., Wellesley 81, Mass.

160 Kenneth G. Reynolds, 143 Washington Ave., Albany, N. Y.

161 Robert C. Dean, 955 Park Square Bldg., Boston 16, Mass.

162 William Hoskins Brown, 125 Tremont St., Boston 8, Mass.

163 Bissell Alderman, 54 Canal Street, Holyoke, Mass.

## FHA TO TAKE NEW LOOK AT MODERN DESIGN

The Federal Housing Administration going to revise its thinking on architectural style of house plans submitted to for approval in connection with mortgage guarantees.

FHA Administrator Guy Hollyday to the annual convention of the Mortgage Bankers Assn. at Miami Beach last week that FHA will loosen its rigid attitude on house designs. He acknowledged that the FHA had "been forcing builders to buy to a mortgage pattern instead of for the housing market." From now on, FHA will be more tolerant of contemporary designs, instead of turning them down cold.

—Engineering News Record

---

## Good Advice . . .

The best way to secure revenge is not to make your enemy fail, but to succeed yourself.

—Marmaduke

Is a man made to grumble merely because the skies look dark? Are not the skies still?

—Walt Whitman

He who only remembers what he has lost may rightly be called ungrateful if he forgets what he received.

—Francesco Petrarca

If you work for a man, in heaven's name, work for him! If he pays you wages to supply you your bread and butter, work for him—speak well of him, think well of him, stand by him, and stand by the institution he represents.

—Elbert Hubbard

The greatest mistake you can make in life is to be continually fearing you will make one.

—Elbert Hubbard

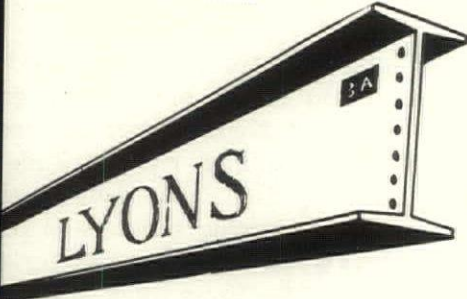
Put off thy cares with thy clothes; shall thy rest strengthen thy labor; and shall thy labor sweeten thy rest.

—Francis Quarles



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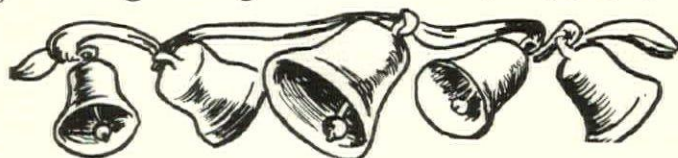
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