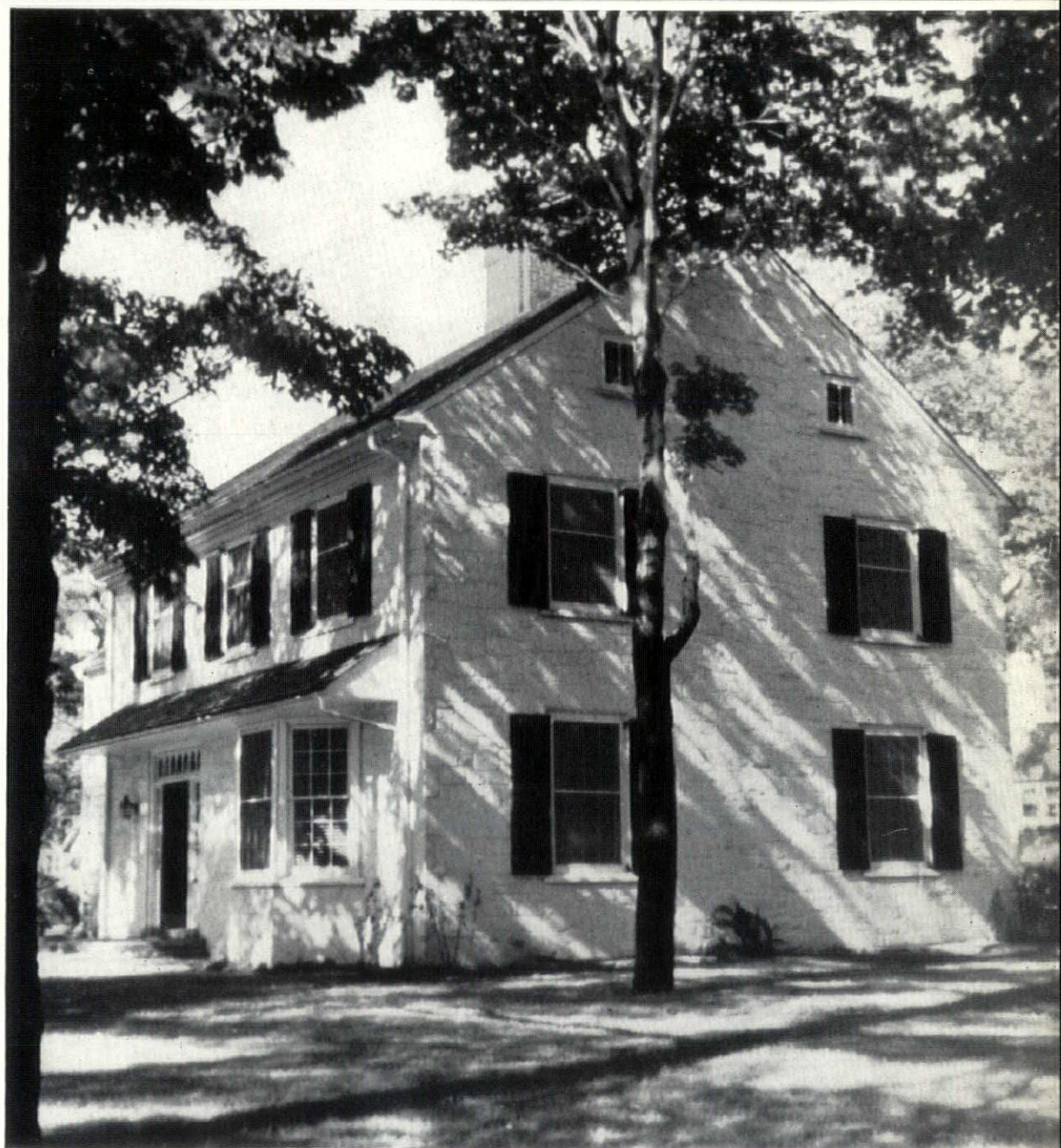


THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT



AUGUST
1941
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THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT

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Notice of Examination

The Wisconsin Registration Board of Architects and Professional Engineers of the State of Wisconsin will hold written examinations for architects registration in the State Capitol Building on September 9-10-11-12, 1941 and for Professional Engineers at the same place on September 10-11-12, 1941.

C. A. WILLSON, *Acting Secretary.*

National Housing Act - Title VI

DESIGNATED DEFENSE AREAS — TITLE VI. OF THE
NATIONAL HOUSING ACT

(Special release by Dodge Statistical Research Service)

The following list is comprehensive of all designated defense areas to date within the state of Wisconsin. It represents a combination of the lists of designated areas as released by the Federal Housing Administration on April 9, May 15, June 24 and July 25, 1941.

According to the statement of the Federal Housing Administrator, "Areas and localities in and about each of the places appearing on the attached list. . . , including the reasonable and normal commuting areas serving these places, have become formally and officially designated for purposes of Table VI. operations of the National Housing Act."

Designated Areas — Title VI.

WISCONSIN

Beloit Manitowoc-Two Rivers
Green Bay Milwaukee
Madison Oshkosh
Racine-Kenosha

The Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences

The Research Council of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences has been set up by the motion picture industry to standardize motion picture procedures and techniques, and through cooperative effort, to improve motion picture quality in the theatre.

As part of the Council's program, Technical Bulletins are issued from time to time on different motion picture subjects.

Our Theatre Sound Standardization Committee, after conferences and discussions with architects and acoustical and equipment engineers, has recently drawn up the attached "Theatre Acoustic Recommendations" Bulletin. These recommendations formulate general principles to guide the acoustic design of motion picture theatres.

We believe all members of your organization will be interested in this Bulletin and we will be glad to furnish to you a sufficient number of additional copies for distribution to each member of your organization. If you wish to forward this Bulletin to your members, will you please let me know how many copies you need and they will be forwarded to you promptly without charge.

Sincerely,

GORDON S. MITCHELL,
Manager, Research Council.

A True Story

(Excerpt from a letter to the Editor)

One day your humble architect of Pittsburgh received a call from a prospective client, a local attorney. The preliminary interview developed the fact that the client had purchased a property as a home site some months before and was now ready to proceed with a building program for his new home. In addition to obtaining the routine program information, the architect stated that before starting any work he would, of course, want to make a visual inspection of the site, and made an appointment to meet the owner at his property the following morning.

Arriving first at the property, the architect found that it was a precipitous hillside site, which is not in itself unusual in this district. However, the soil conditions and the fact that a large amount of fill had been recently dumped over the hillside in an effort to manufacture a level lot, made a dangerous situation for normal foundation work. Therefore, upon the arrival of the owner, the architect reported that while it was not impossible to build on this lot, it was certainly uneconomical, and that, in his opinion, no expenditure would ever make it a proper home site for the class house which the attorney wished to build. He asked an opportunity to have his consulting engineer verify his opinion, which he did the following day.

It is easy to imagine the owner's chagrin when the architect took the attitude that, although it was possible to build, he would not be a party to such action on this

site. As a result there began a long series of squirming and twisting on the part of the client in an effort to substantiate his judgment in the purchase of the lot. The architect would receive calls such as "I have been talking to Mr. So and So, and he says a floating foundation will solve the problem," or "My friend, So and So, says that he sells something that looks like stone, but only weighs one-tenth as much; can't we build the house out of this?" To which the patient reply was always given that the problem was not to hold up the house, but to hold up the hill; and the architect wanted no part of the situation as he saw it as a site for a fine home.

About this time a new residence was started on the adjoining lot where similar conditions prevailed, and the owner immediately interviewed the builder (no architect involved). He then called the architect and advised him that he had told the builder what his architect had said, and the builder had reassured him that there were a good many things that paper architects did not understand, and that if he wanted a house on his lot he would be glad to produce one for him. The architect, sensing trouble, used all the persuasiveness at his command to prevent the owner from doing this and did succeed in putting the fear of God in him to the extent that he did not so contract.

(Continued on page 5)

10th ANNUAL CONVENTION

of the State Association
of Wisconsin Architects

to be held in Madison, Wisconsin, on
SEPTEMBER 19, 20, 1941

HEADQUARTERS at THE LORAIN HOTEL

Models, Photographs and Producers' Council Exhibits on Mezzanine Floor

THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
1941 SEP - 2 AM 10:10
WASHINGTON D.C.

Painting Problems*

Architects, builders and painting contractors have an important common interest—painting. Unlike the average homeowner, who is concerned with a single painting problem at infrequent intervals—perhaps once every four or five years—these men find painting problems a very essential part of their regular activities.

The architect, particularly, must be careful in drawing up specifications for the preparation of surfaces to be painted, and for the paints to be used on them. The builder and the painting contractor must be equally careful in following these specifications. No matter how careful each member of this conscientious trio may be, however, complaints are sometimes received concerning the paint job. Some of these complaints are unjustified, in fact, unreasonable. Others are justified, and can be traced to certain definite causes, and these are briefly outlined herewith.

Paint failures leading to complaints can usually be classed, according to cause, as follows:

- a. Condition or nature of the material painted.
- b. Incorrect formulation of the paint employed.
- c. Poor workmanship or poor judgment in applying the paint.

According to an unbiased survey of more than 500 paint jobs on which complaints were received, about 27% concerned blistering and peeling. In almost all instances, blistering and peeling of paint films is due to moisture. The moisture may be present in the material when it is painted. In some instances, however, it was found that the siding and trim of new frame houses were painted immediately after erection, and then the interior was plastered. The moisture liberated, as the plaster dried, was driven through the outer walls, and caused a severe blistering on all sides of the house. In some of these instances the homeowner—not the architect, builder or painter—was directly responsible, because of his insistence upon a definite completion date; in other cases, uncontrollable conditions were responsible for the trouble.

Another trouble that is due to the underlying surface is discoloration, which may be of various types. Wood shingles that have been stained with creosote or other non-drying stains, for example, tend to discolor any white or light colored paint applied over them. The non-drying oil, which is soluble in the vehicle of the new paint, "bleeds" through the light colored film, even though several years have elapsed since the original staining job, and causes a displeasing discoloration.

Certain dark red and dark brown paints are in the same class; that is, they contain "bleeding colors."

It is easy to avoid discoloration of this type, but not very easy to overcome it. The best practice is to try a little white oil paint on an inconspicuous but representative part of the surface. If, after several weeks, the test portion is still free from discoloration, and the part tested is really representative, the job can be painted white or a light color. If discoloration occurs on the tested portion, it is safer to either restrain or repaint the surface a dark color.

Paint formulation was responsible for a considerable number of the failures investigated during the survey under discussion.

Cracking and scaling had occurred in about 20% of the causes examined. These two defects are closely related. Cracking is a rupture of the paint film extending clear through to the wood. Moisture enters the wood through these cracks and loosens the paint; in other words scaling occurs. This trouble is caused by the use of a paint which becomes hard and brittle as it ages. Where cracking and scaling have occurred to a considerable extent, the old film should be removed completely before repainting. The use of a properly formulated paint, that dries to an elastic, tenacious film, is the best assurance against the occurrence of cracking and scaling.

Certain types of discoloration, due to dirt accumulation, mildew, yellowing and fading, are also caused by incorrect formulation of the paint. Sagging, tackiness, and other defects are in the same class, as far as cause is concerned. These troubles are of infrequent occurrence, and the competent painter knows how to prevent them.

The third class of paint complaint concerns workmanship. Wrinkling of paint films, for example, may be caused by the application of too heavy a film of paint, resulting from insufficient brush work. Checking, which results from the application of a hard drying film over an undercoat that has not been permitted to harden properly, may be the source of complaints regarding workmanship. Checking is characterized by the occurrence of lines of cleavage in the top coat of paint only. In its aggravated form, where the rupture lines are wide, and the areas between them are large, checking is given the descriptive designation "alligatoring."

The number of paint complaints received by the architect is surprisingly small, considering the tremendous amount of painting that is being done continually,

* By J. P. St. George, National Lead Company Research Laboratories, Brooklyn, N. Y.

on all kinds of materials. A brief study of the paint defects that occur, and the means recommended for their avoidance, is bound to benefit everyone concerned — from the homeowner to the architect.

A TRUE STORY

(Continued from page 3)

The contractor's house next door began to run into trouble even before it was completed and approximately six months after completion and before any mortgage could be obtained the entire house and hillside collapsed. This was page one news in the Pittsburgh district, the Mayor, City Council, the Bureau of Building Inspection, the Department of Public Safety, all worked themselves up into a lather about shoddy construction, the rainy season, landslides, and other acts of God. Sightseers came from far and near to view the wreckage. Every one agreed that there ought to be a law.

Of course, nobody knew how to write a law that would keep overburdened hillsides from sliding. So nothing was done. In the meantime the architect was busy with his knitting, and not being of a controversial nature he had almost forgotten the entire incident when one of his clients called on him one day and opened the conversation with the remark, "You have become quite a famous architect."

He went on to state that he had attended a business organization meeting the afternoon before, and that the meeting was addressed by the architect's prospective client, the attorney. It seems that the attorney had insisted on devoting a generous portion of his discussion to the subject. "But for the grace of God and the advice of an honest architect, I would have sustained a loss of several thousand dollars next door to where the house collapsed." He told this group of business men that, out of all the advice he sought in connection with his building program, the only individual who had courage enough to tell him that he was crazy was the architect. He urged that none of them even under any circumstances ever involve themselves in any building program, no matter how small, without first consulting an architect, and then following his advice implicitly.

The moral of this story from the architect's viewpoint is, that often the greatest boost for our cause may come from the job we don't get, and that "No" is still one of the most valuable words in the dictionary.

Plan to attend the

Architect's 10th Annual Convention

MADISON, WIS., SEPT. 19-20, 1941



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British Architects Study Problem of Reconstruction

(Continued from July issue)

The only true earnest of such trust would be a frank consultation over policy; the importance of the common task warrants it.

The Royal Institute is setting up an *ad hoc* Committee whose sole duty will be to consider the problems of reconstruction and invites the Minister to enable this Reconstruction Committee to function as it should by keeping it informed of those problems with which his Department and the Institute are both concerned, and by utilizing it to assist him in the formulation of policy, rather than as an organ to be made aware only of policy already formulated.

The matters outlined in this memorandum are of vital interest to the Royal Institute, and it will be glad of an early opportunity of discussing with the Minister, through any medium which he may think most useful, the most practical method for cooperation.

Lord Reith's Reply

MY DEAR PRESIDENT.—I write to thank you for your letter of March 6, enclosing a memorandum on post-war reconstruction, which I have studied with great care.

I am most grateful to the War Executive Committee for preparing the memorandum, and for their readiness to cooperate in the work of reconstruction. I am anxious to avail myself of all that they can contribute to this national task.

Architect's Report

Auler, Jensen & Brown, E.R.A. Bldg., Oshkosh, Wis. General, Heating-Ventilating, Plbg. and Wiring. Bids close 2:00 P.M. August 12, 1941.

Balch & Lippert, Gay Bldg., Madison. Addition and alterations St. John's Lutheran Church, Oregon, Wis. Bids close Aug. 29.

Clinic Elevator and Shaft with alterations; Skaalen Home, Stoughton, Wis. Bids close Aug. 30th.

Verle D. Harebo, Nakoma, Madison. Contracts let to Oliver McChesney, Middleton.

Beatty and Strang, Architects, 610 State, Madison. Village of Monona Municipal Bldg., Dane County, Wis. Architectural Concrete. J. H. Findorff & Son, at forming.

Residence for Charles West, Madison, c/o Architect. Wood pre-fabricated construction, Conc. block foundation.

Alterations to apt. bldg. for Emerson Ela at 421 N. Murray St., Madison.

\$6,000 residence—frame and concrete for Mrs. Mac Raynolds, c/o Architect.

Robert S. Chase, Residence sel. or com. white brick to be built at Janesville, Wisconsin. Plans and specifications prepared in progress. Sol. brick. Steel Casement Wds. Approx. Cost \$7,000. Dr. Melville W. Smith, Owner. Janesville, Wis.

L. W. Claude, 114 N. Carroll St. Mr. and Mrs. W. J. Erlandson, Lake Mills, Wis. Res. \$5,000.00.

J. J. Flad, Architect & Thomas H. Flad, Associate, 133 Langdon St., Madison, Wisconsin. Stoughton Hospital Addition, Stoughton, Wisconsin. Job in progress. Plumbing and electrical closed, will let soon. General Contractor—Stoughton Lumber & Fuel Co. Heating—Otto Biefeld Co., Inc., Wauertown, Wis. 3 story 60 x 40. Tile and Brick Walls, Terrazzo floors—steel joists.

Blessed Sacrament Priory—Madison, Wis. Job in progress. General—Fritz Const. Co. Plumbing—E. R. Welch. Heating—J. Obrien. Electric—Endres Elec. Co. 70 x 40 and 22 x 36 brick and tile walls frame construction "L" shape. Anderson Garage Delavan, Wis. Job in progress. Gen. Contractor—Peel & Peel, Lake Geneva. 164 x 65—Waylite block walls, concrete foundation, built up roofing over wood trusses, structural glass front and steel sash.

Edgewood College Residence Hall, Madison, Wis. 34'0" x 84'0" 2 story and basement. Taking sub. and mech. bids soon. Gen. Contract—R. F. Conlon Son's Const. Co., Dubuque, Iowa.

Melrose High School Addition, Melrose, Wisconsin. Job in progress. Gym addition, auditorium, stage, dressing rooms and library. Gen. Contract—J. C. Schneider, Independence, Wis. Electric—Berman Electric Co., Oregon. Plumbing—Melrose Heating & Plumbing. Heating—Harry Ginther—Melrose. Wood roof trusses—94' x 64' brick and tile walls built up roofing.

As you know, I have had in mind throughout my preliminary work the great importance of architectural treatment in planning. Initial consultations had to be informal and private, but now that we can proceed with a definite programme of work I am seeking your services on the Consultative Panel which is being set up. I am asking persons of experience over the whole field to assist me, and I want them to be associated with us from the beginning.

There is no objection at all, so far as I am concerned, to the publication of the memorandum, or indeed any expression of the Royal Institute's views, and with reference to the last sentence of the memorandum, if you feel that it would be of advantage to bring some representatives of the War Executive Committee to see me at this stage, I need not say that I shall be very glad to meet them.

Yours sincerely,

J. C. W. REITH

Job No. 4112. Township of Vienna—country home. In progress. Taking bids in about two weeks. 94' x 35' stone and frame walls.

St. Rose's R. C. Church—Brodhead, Wisconsin. Rev. Alois J. Klas, Pastor. Job in progress. Gen. Contractor—L. S. Wagner — Monroe. Brodhead Hardware — heating and plumbing. 72' x 33' masonry walls frame floor and roof. St. Joseph's R. C. Church, Black River Falls, Wisconsin. Job in progress. Winona Stone and tile walls. Tile roof. 120' x 66' reinforced concrete. Bids closed will be awarded soon.

Law, Law & Potter, Madison, Wis. Bids close Aug. 28 at 3 P.M. The job is an office building for The General Casualty Co. of Wisconsin to be built at Madison.

Livermore & Samuelson, 25 E. Main St., Madison. Clinic Building for Dr. Alfred C. Simley. Ready for roofing.

Mark F. Pfaller, 8525 Ravenswood Circle. Maple Grove Dist. No. 3 School Addition. 4 additional class rooms. S. 68th and Cold Spring Ave., Town of Greenfield. W.P.A.

Riley & Siberz, 103 W. Mifflin, Madison, Wisconsin. McGann Funeral Home, Baraboo, \$18,000.00. Contracts let. Coan-Slettland, Madison, \$4,000.00. Second Floor over Office Portion. Contracts let.

Lake Corporation, Cor. Lake & State, Madison. Remodeling 3rd & 4th floors into 20 apts. \$14,000.00. Contracts let. Remodeling 5th floor into 10 apts., \$15,000.00. Plans in progress. New elevator from 2nd to 5th floors. Plans in progress.

Forbes-Meagher Music Company, Madison, \$3,000.00. Complete interior remodelling. Bids in—Not let.

Residences

Wm. T. Eyjue, Madison, \$20,000.00. Contracts let.

Mrs. E. P. McFetridge, Portage, \$8,000.00. Taking bids.

John K. Yost, Madison, \$7,000.00. Contracts let.

Dr. I. Schultz, Mazomanie, \$11,000.00. Contracts let.

H. A. Schlumberger, Madison, \$7,000.00. Contracts let.

Arnold Spencer, Shorewood Hills, \$7,500.00. Contracts let.

Morris Barber, Madison, \$6,000.00. Contracts let.

T. A. Larson, Shorewood Hills, \$9,000.00. Contracts let.

J. Edward Sweeney, Edgerton, \$15,000.00. Contracts let.

George Adam, Madison, \$10,000.00. Contracts let.

W. D. Hoard, Jr., Fort Atkinson, \$20,000.00. Contracts let.

E. R. Klassy, Fort Atkinson, \$15,000.00. Contracts let.

F. E. Wedel, Baraboo, \$6,000.00. Contracts let.

Wayne Day, Madison, \$6,000.00. Contracts let.

John Felsher, Madison, \$8,500.00. Plans in progress.

Milwaukee Indentures Apprentices

History was made on May 21st when 17 men were indentured as apprentices in the heating, piping and air conditioning industry at a meeting of the Milwaukee association.

To Herman Haase, 30, oldest of the group, went the honor of being the first apprentice in the industry in Wisconsin when he affixed his signature to the contract as a "token" signing for the others, many of whom are minors.

The ceremony took place with 41 members of the Milwaukee association in attendance at a dinner meeting at the Elks Club. Also present were the steamfitter members of the joint committee, William Arndt, Henry Brenner, Gerald Enright and George Schilter. The guests also included Walter F. Simon, apprenticeship supervisor of the industrial commission, Carl Rothe and Roland Smith of his staff, and Martin Wesolowski, in charge of vocational training for the Wisconsin Industrial Commission.

Both the Messrs. Simon and Enright, who were the principal speakers, stressed the fact that the indentures were made to the joint committee rather than to individual contractors, and that thus the boys would be given a well rounded training, as they would work for several contractors during their five year period. Mr. Simon characterized the evening as "an historic incident," stating that the apprenticeship training plan worked out by the committee was so good that several other trades were planning to use it as a model.

The contractor members of the Milwaukee area joint committee are Willard Henoch of Wenzel & Henoch Co., Frank Mueller, and Ray K. Robertson of J. E. Robertson Co. Mr. Henoch also serves on the state committee, his fellow contractor members being Thomas L. Ahern of John F. Ahern Co., Fond du Lac, and George Hall of Hyland, Hall & Co., Madison. Union members of the state committee include Wm. Arndt of Milwaukee, who is chairman, Joseph F. Hugett of Green Bay and N. V. Carlson of Madison.

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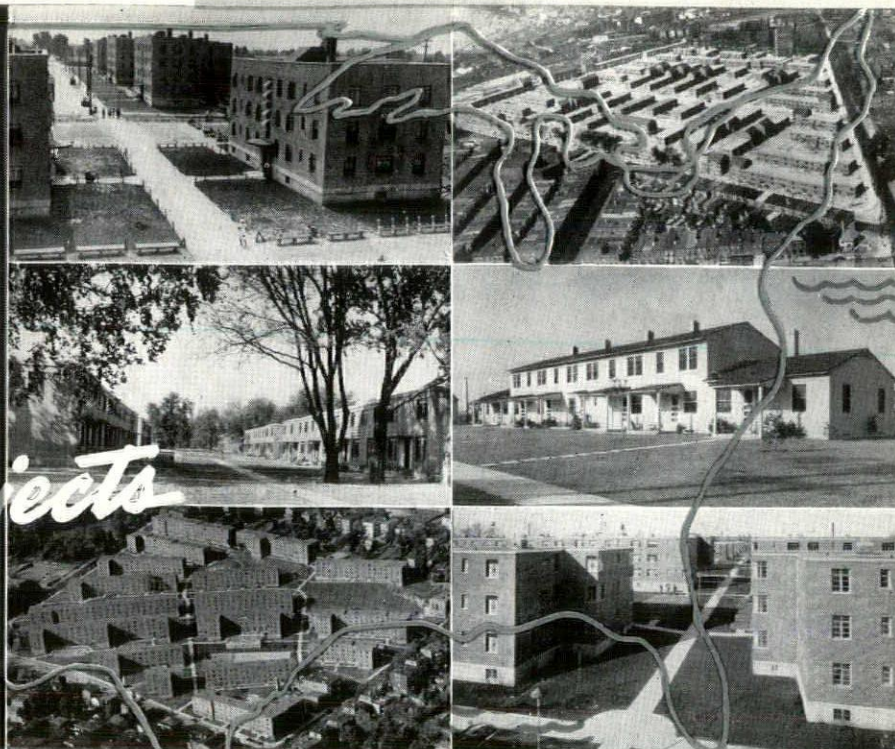
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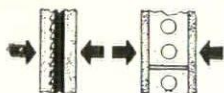


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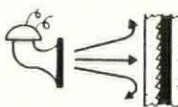
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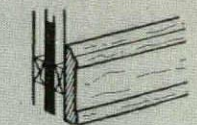
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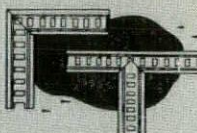
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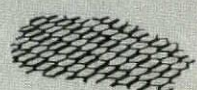
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