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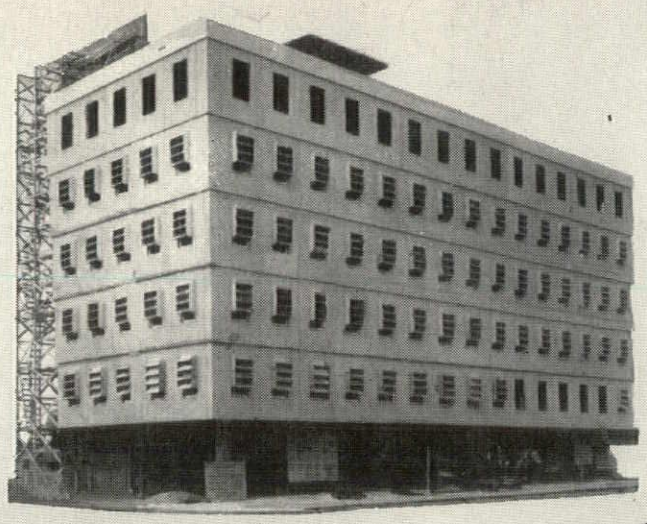

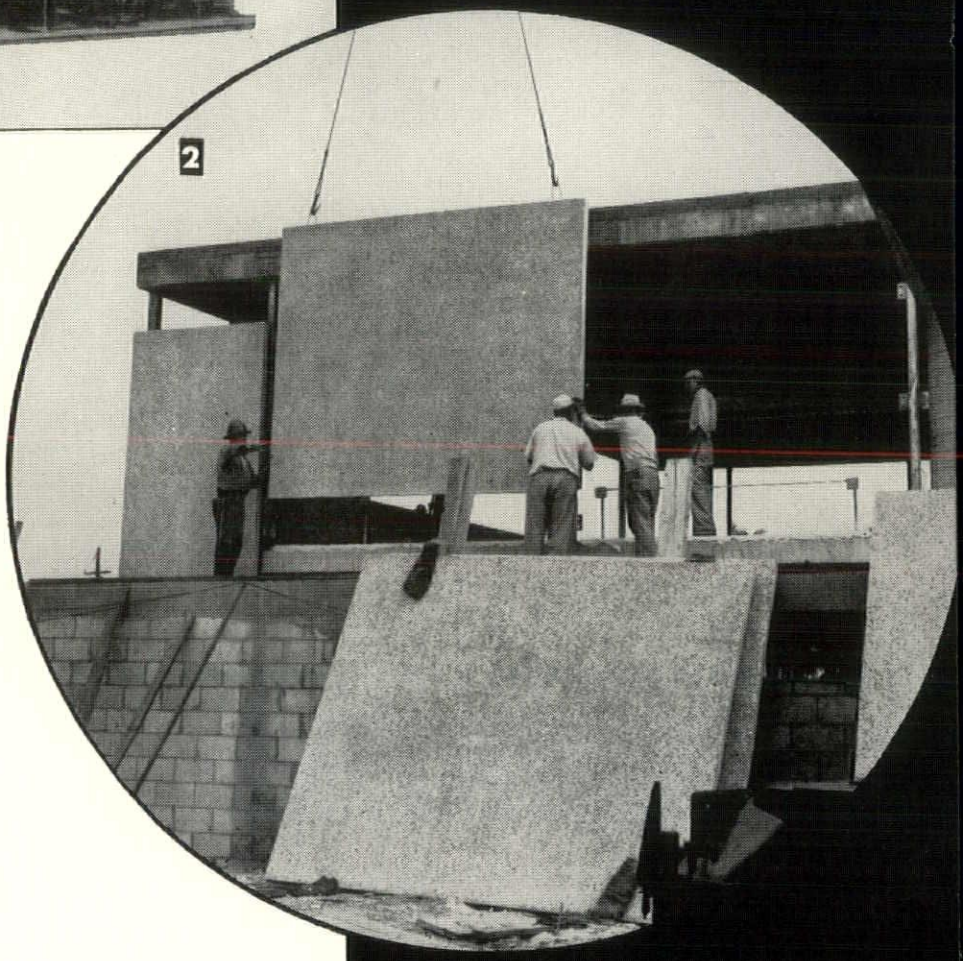

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3. *ASHE MEMORIAL, University of Miami. More than 10,000 square feet of slabs 4" thick will be used in the completed building. Architect and Engineers: Watson & Deutschman, Miami. Contractor: Gust K. Newberg Construction Co., Miami.*

4. *SEARS ROEBUCK & CO., Coral Gables. A total of 12,600 square feet of wall slabs were used with the largest of the panels 8'7½" x 16'3½" . . . making them some of the largest ever cast in the United States. Architect: Weed, Russell, Johnson Associates, Miami. Contractor: Edward M. Flemming Construction Co., Miami. Engineer: Norman Dignum, Miami.*

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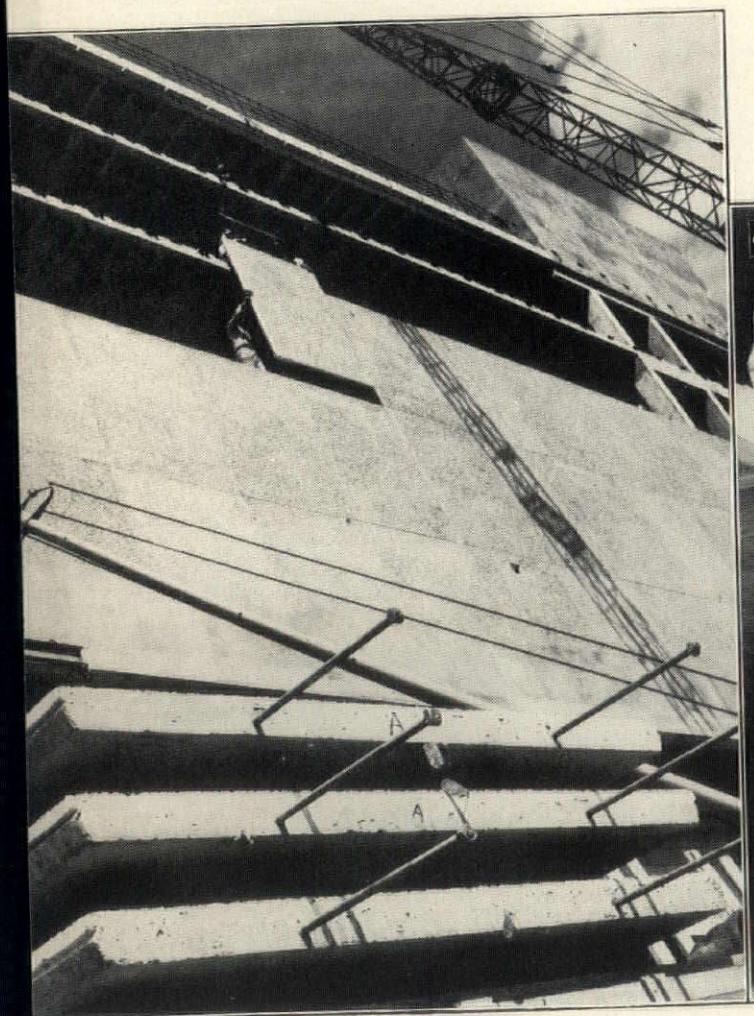

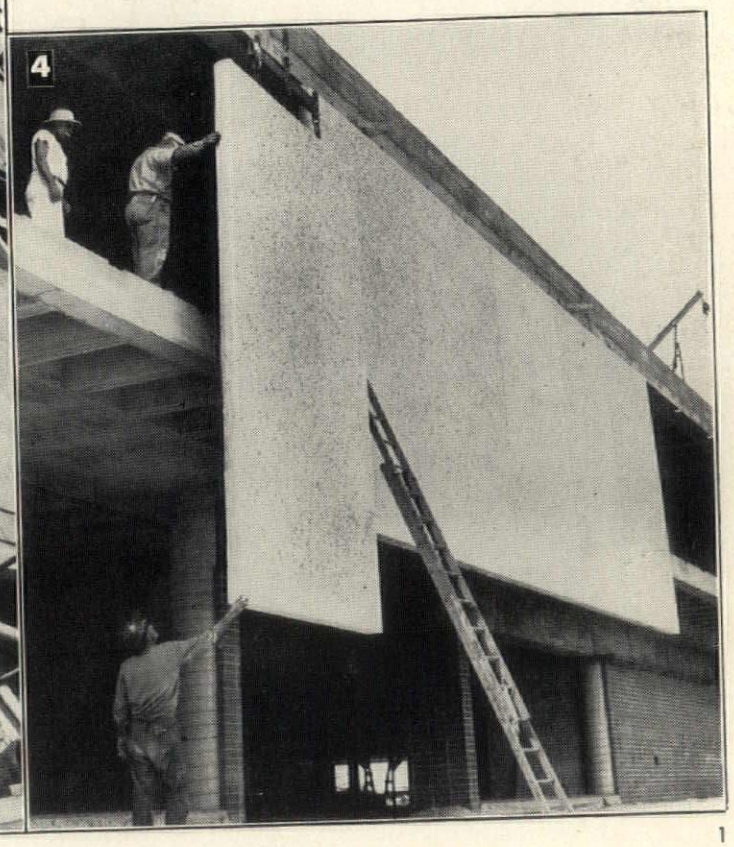

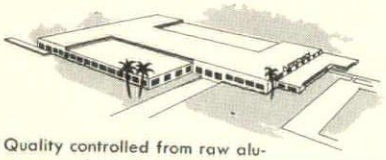

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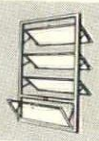

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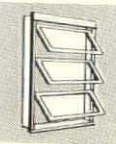

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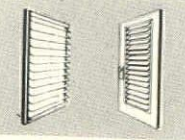

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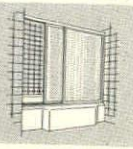

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Double-Barrelled Challenge . . . .

During one of the Seminars at the recent A.I.A. Convention in Boston, an earnest and thoughtful man made a number of blunt and leading statements. The man was Charles D. Gibson, President of the National Council on Schoolhouse Construction. The subject of his remarks was the current trends of school planning.

Part of those remarks are reprinted elsewhere in this issue. They are well worth the reading time for any architect. But even more worthwhile than the words themselves is the scarcely veiled indictment of "official school board thinking." And with that indictment a clear and obvious challenge to architects—"Change it!"

That hits pretty close to home from two points of view. First is our own situation relative to school planning and the need for it. In spite of the fact that much excellent work is now being done to complete this State's current school-building planning, the surface has hardly been scratched, either in terms of needed construction volumes or the kind of planning our changing communities need for future growth. County and Statewide, our school plant is, and will be for many years to come, physically inadequate to meet requirements for our new youth. Educators with a conscience and no political aspirations know the score. So do some of our architects who have made themselves experts on local school problems.

But the public does not yet fully realize the situation. And because it does not, elected ignorance can ride roughshod over carefully considered technical recommendations, vitally needed action can be postponed, adequate appropriations pared down often far below the danger mark.

So Mr. Gibson's challenge hits home from a second point of view. Here is work that needs to be done. Work that architects can do away from offices and drafting boards. It's educational work on a community level. It's directly concerned with raising the standards and sights of civic leaders and officials to get better conditions for better training for better future citizens.

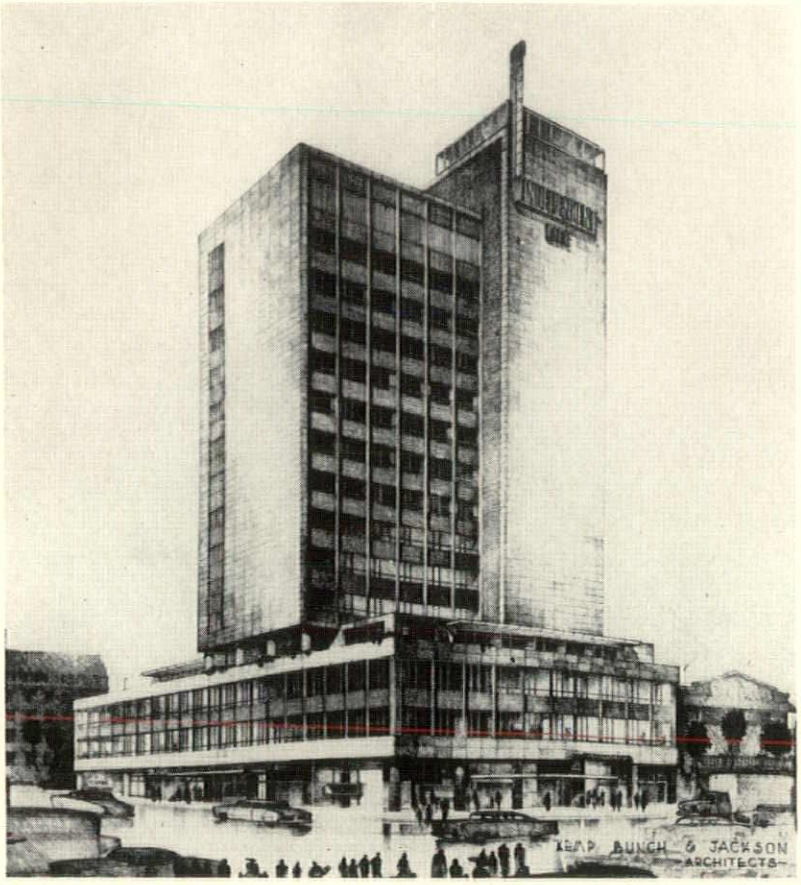
Yes, it's a public relations job. It's one that's particularly down the architect's alley. The theme of it is the same as Mr. Gibson's: *"A poor school district cannot afford to build cheap buildings."*

Architects can prove the point. They can do so by studying the basic needs of modern education and keeping constantly abreast of trends in school administration and teaching methods. Such knowlege can then be related to available sites, to room layouts, to construction techniques, to costs and bond issues and tax assessments. There is hardly another individual in any Florida community better able to accomplish this than an architect.

But it can't be done by *seeking a job*; and it can't be done *without fighting*. It means educating the mayor as well as the corner grocer, the farmer, the preacher, the newspaper editor, the housewife — as well as members of the school board. In most cases it means long hours of extra work. And in every case it requires the ability to take cuffs and come back for more.

But it brings leadership in the community. It brings the satisfaction of achieving a real contribution which the future will find good. And a more immediate and tangible reward is usually a contract for designing the kind of modern and model school plant that you've made your townsfolk really want.

What Makes A Good Job?



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Power For Good

The same Florida statute that sets up regulations for the practice of architecture gives the State Board power to enforce them. This power is in more constant use than is generally realized. BENMONT TENCH, Jr., F. A. A. General Counsel, gives a behind-the-scenes account of how the Board's law enforcement program works.

Even the most casual report of activities toward the end of enforcing the Florida Statutes covering architectural practice must necessarily be somewhat historical in character. This one will prove to be no exception, for it covers a number of violations some of which had their start—or at least were brought to the attention of the State Board—well over a year and a half ago.

The law is not the most expeditious of our national institutions. Like the mills of the gods, it grinds slowly—sometimes very slowly indeed. But in the vast majority of cases it grinds exceedingly fine; and once a case is brought to the attention of the Board, the file on it is kept open until a definite conclusion is reached.

That conclusion is not necessarily a law suit. Indeed, a suit is more often than not a disciplinary measure of last resort. In most instances it's not needed. Our experience has been that very often the illegal practice of architecture is being conducted in all innocense of any regulation against it. That, of course doesn't change the illegality of the situation, for, as most laymen know, ignorance of the law is in itself no excuse for violating it.

But it does have a bearing on whether or not an intent to violate a legal statute is involved. If the intent is present, it will become evident rather quickly. And if the violation does not stop in such a case, the Board has no alternative but to authorize legal action to end it. But before this is done, all measures possible have been taken to make the culprit see the error of his ways, banish evil and embrace virtue in the form of honest business.

These measures vary from case to case. Strange as it may seem to architects who are living in the same town with seemingly flagrant violation practices, there is hardly a case that can be called typical. Circumstances vary widely. Each involves also, a difference in personality and motivation. Even the backgrounds of cases that have come to the Board's attention form no common pattern.

For this reason no standardized procedure is possible. Each case is handled as a separate problem; and action to enforce the law is decided upon relative to the particular situation which may be encountered.

This much, however, can be said as to procedure. As soon as practical after an alleged violation has been brought to the State Board's attention, the facts and personalities relative to it are investigated. Sometimes a letter from an official of the State Board calling attention to the provisions of the statute is all that's needed to stop the violation. More often, however, a personal call is made, an explanation of the law with regard to architectural practice given, and a diplomatic, though none the less definite, suggestion offered that

(Continued on Page 10)

Let's Build Our Future Now

- In barely 25 years U of F's College of Architecture and Allied Arts has become the largest in the South, fourth in the Nation.
- New facilities, desperately needed to replace temporary, over-crowded makeshifts, will be requested from the 1955 Legislature.
- The sooner they are built, the sooner will Florida's construction industry have a top-flight educational plant to assure adequate, overall development of its technical and professional future.

If hopes and plans of its faculty and alumni are realized, the College of Architecture and Allied Arts of the University of Florida may shortly be housed in its own permanent building.

That possibility, at least, was forecast through a recent announcement by Acting President John S. Allen that the University will ask the 1955 Legislature for $1,500,000 for the first unit of the new building. If the request is granted, it would be possible to complete the structure by 1956.

In that event, the College of Architecture and Allied Arts, now one of the major educational units of the University, would have, at least in part, a physical justification for its status as the largest architectural school in the South and the fourth largest in the entire nation.

It certainly has no such physical justification at present. The marvel of its statistical position in the field of professional education is the fact that it has been able to achieve any status at all in view of the almost overwhelming handicaps under which is has been forced to operate.

The blunt fact is that this College —which now graduates more students from its five professional programs each year than were graduated during the entire 18-year period from 1929 to 1947—lives and works in a campus slum.

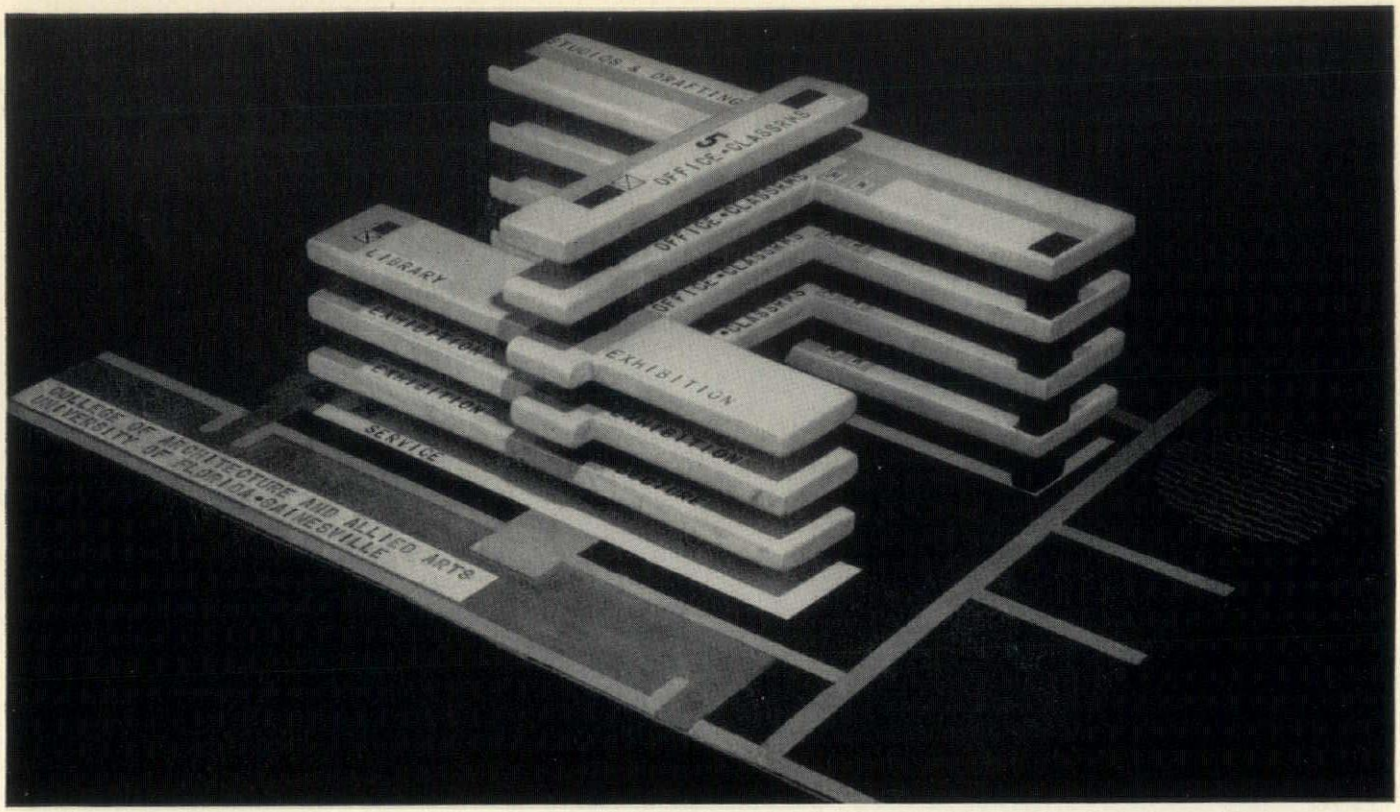
It occupies four makeshift wooden buildings located in three, widely-separated areas of the University grounds. Originally built to provide emergency space during World War II, all are temporary in character and should have been razed long since. Not only are these depressing shacks scattered, poorly arranged and grossly inefficient in terms of even the lowest of educational standards. They are in poor repair, ill ventilated and poorly lighted; and some are completely without toilet facilities or even water, making them not only unsanitary but actually unsafe.

All this would be bad enough in a small and unimportant institution. But the case of the South's largest architectural College is a wry, blown-up dramatization of the shoemaker's children. A long-time stringent policy

THEY SEE THE BUILDING FUTURE IN TERMS OF PRESENT NEEDS

William T. Arnett, Dean, College of Architecture and Allied Arts, University of Florida, Gainesville

John L. R. Grand, Head, Department of Architecture, University of Florida, Gainesville



FIRST PRELIMINARY SCHEMATIC showing space organization of the initial permanent units for the College of Architecture and Allied Arts at the University of Florida. The units pictured above in "exploded" form would provide 200,000 square feet of floor space, of which approximately half would be built under an appropriation of $1.5 million to be sought from the 1955 Legislature. The first unit would house all or part of the Departments of Architecture, Building Construction, and Community Planning, the Bureau of Architectural and Community Research, and the University Center of the Arts.

of make-do and do-without has forced faculty, staff and students to work under conditions that are so desperately crowded as to be almost beyond imagining. Dean William T. Arnett sums up the existing space problem like this:

"Students are packed so tightly that twice as much drafting space per student would be required to provide merely 'acceptable' conditions. Three times as much space as we now have available would be necessary to bring our conditions to what the National Architectural Accrediting Board terms 'adequate.'

"In terms of library and exhibition space—to say nothing about such necessary areas as offices, receiving, work and storage rooms—our situation is equally cramped. In all the five temporary buildings which the College uses wholly or in part, barely 150 feet of wall area exists that can be adapted, even inefficiently, for the displays and exhibits that are so vital a part of current educational programs. From two to three times this available space would be required to provide adequate or even acceptable conditions."

In view of all this, the general situation into which the College of Architecture and Allied Arts has been shoe-horned represents a gigantic paradox. This important unit of our State University's educational plant represents, so to speak, the largest and certainly one of the most vital and dynamic economic factors of our State as well as the nation. From the young men and women who study the various phases of the building arts at Gainesville come the future designers and builders and craftsmen and artists needed by our building industry.

Each year Gainesville graduates are being absorbed by that industry into architectural offices, construction firms and manufacturing organizations that produce the materials, products and services which bring structures into being. Demand for these graduates is constant—and consistently exceeds the supply. A recent survey indicates that 98 per cent of them are now engaged in the building industry.

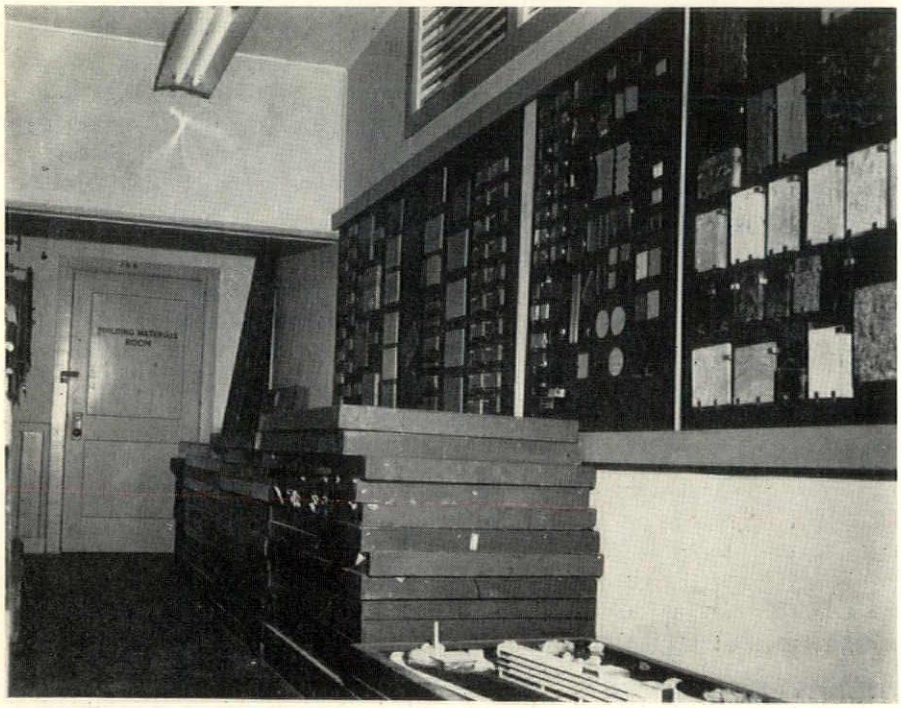
This is a record of which any College in the country might well be proud. Yet it has been accomplished under educational handicaps that are of amazing proportions when contrasted with facilities now existing or being provided for in the fields of education and research in Medicine, Engineering, Law, Journalism, Pharmacy, Physical Education.

If any additional examples were needed to prove the point, here's one: Work of the Department of Architecture is carried on in two temporary buildings, one originally designed as a hospital, the other as a library. Students and equipment are so crowded that even halls are used for storage areas. And up to now funds have been so lacking that the Department is still forced to use 250 postwar, makeshift desks that were ready for the junk yard years ago.

That's an important illustration of existing conditions in the Department. Any university attempting to teach chemistry without an adequate laboratory, or mathematics without a blackboard, would soon be laughed out of existence. Yet the University

" . . . . depressing, unsanitary, poorly arranged, scattered, ill ventilated, crowded, inefficient, unsafe . ."

MAKESHIFTS are the rule in the space now available to the College of Architecture and Allied Arts at the University of Florida. Here is a drafting room in Temporary "U" in which beginning students in Architecture and related fields are now crowded in triple shifts. In this barren, dreary structure—built originally as a temporary library building—students and faculty work under serious handicaps; e.g., without drinking water, wash sinks, or toilet facilities.



THE HALLS OF BUILDING "E" are continually cluttered with equipment because students occupy every square foot of usable space. Even the Building Materials Display Room shown in the background is forced into service as a classroom.

of Florida—with one of the largest enrollments in Architecture in the nation—is daily attempting to teach professional students under conditions almost as hopelessly inadequate.

To what extent is this truly disgraceful educational situation generally realized—not only by practicing architects and other building professionals, but by State legislators and the public at large? Very little, judging by the current amount of concerted effort to change it. Yet the need for a new medical school at Gainesville has been broadly and intensively publicized. Funds for a University Health Center were made available by the 1953 Legislature and construction of the Medical Sciences Building is now well advanced.

Certainly no one would deny the value of such a new educational facility to the University or to the people of Florida. And comment about it is not to decry the facts of its financing or construction. But the existence of these facts should make every building professional in Florida stop, *think*, and ACT!

The Medical Center is becoming a reality because authoritative segments of public consciousness have been thoroughly convinced as to its need. They have been aroused to the point of providing for this need through a constant and vigorous program on enlightenment. It's obvious, of course, that this program stems from the medical profession. That's the way it should be. The really notable point, however, is that active support of the program has grown and finally blossomed in the ranks of our State legislators to such an extent that its objective is now well on the way to complete fulfillment.

Should building professionals have less interest in the educational facilities for their field than medical practioners have in theirs?

The answer, of course, is no, they should not. And if the majority of Florida's building members could be polled, the facts would probably show a high degree of such interest. But a passive interest is not enough to initiate a program or to push its progress smartly along to completion. Action is necessary, *purposeful* action, *coordinated* action, *constant* action.

It could be started through the cooperative initiative of building industry leaders in this State. There is plenty of progressive, public-spirited leadership in the fields of architecture and construction in Florida. Many leaders are influential, even powerful, in their communities. All surely realize that the proper development of our State, the stability of much of its economy, the safety and well-being of its public is quite directly dependent upon the active progress of building activity. And they must certainly appreciate that future advances in building development must be made by the young men and women who are now students. It takes little thought indeed to understand, with crystal clarity, that the public, even more pointedly than the building professional, has a very real and tangible stake in the improvement of educational facilities and the progressive development of better educational standards at Gainesville.

If the interests and vigor of these building industry leaders could be coordinated and properly channeled, the current problems of the College of Architecture and Allied Arts of the University could quickly be solved.

IT'S TO EVERYBODY'S INTEREST

Construction of the proposed new educational building in Gainesville will benefit every phase of Florida's construction industry. Architects, general contractors, sub-contractors, craftsmen, even material suppliers, all have a stake in the future it would help to build. Help toward its early completion is not a matter of contributions or committee work. It's simply a matter of interest. To help, do this:

- Get to know the State Senators and Representatives who live in your town. Tell them about the educational needs of the construction industry and how this building will meet them.
- Write to the State Legislators you don't know or can't meet — not once, but several times on various angles of the subject.
- Write also to Dean William T. Arnett and Acting President John S. Allen at Gainesville. Put your approval of their building program on paper. It will help in presenting the matter to the Legislature.

A little talk, a few letters. That's all — but from everybody in the construction industry it would mean a mountain of significant public opinion.

BUILT DURING WORLD WAR II as a temporary, barracks-type hospital, the wooden structures shown in the foreground (Building "E") house the Upper Division drafting rooms and class rooms for architecture, building construction, interior design, and landscape architecture. Here also are housed the Heliodon, the College Library, the Model-making Studio, the Building Materials Display Room, and offices for the faculty, the department heads and the dean. The permanent building in the background is the Administration Building.

Power for Good

(Continued from Page 5)

the provisions of that law should, and must, be obeyed.

This sort of thing is going on all the time—and all over the state. Sometimes the call is made via telephone. Sometimes it involves a substantial amount of travel. But our greatest success thus far has come not from formal legal actions, but through judicious use of the gloved hand—the process of explanation conducted on as friendly and helpful a basis as possible.

Of course, it's not always friendly. The glove encases a very effective legal fist which can, and will, be used where needed. It is impossible to tell how many would-be, or have-been, violators are, through this method, being driven to operate within the law—simply because they realize they must be more circumspect in their activities or face the legal consequences. Statistics would be immaterial anyway. The point is that results are being obtained. Two cases will illustrate this.

Shortly before Christmas last year, we learned that a man in the Lakeland area was apparently designing houses that exceeded the statutory limit. He was visited and the law regulating architectural practice explained to him. The conversation was amicable; a copy of the law was given him; and at the end of the visit he indicated he would contact his own lawyers and be guided by their advice. Since then his activities have not been brought to the attention of the State Board by architects in the Lakeland area and it thus appears we were successful in handling the matter in this informal fashion.

Another situation last fall concerned one James D. S———— in Miami. This man apparently had a seal designating him as an architect—complete with registration number. But, unfortunately for S————, the number he used was a good thousand digits above the highest registration issued by the State Board. He had been using the seal to stamp, for a builder, sets of plans originally prepared by one of Miami's prominent architects and a member of the AIA. Depositions from witnesses gave us the information needed on S———'s operations. But we couldn't find S——— himself, although we made every effort to do so—even to the extent of hiring a private detective.

As a result of our investigations, however, the activities of the builder for whom S——— had been generously validating plans with a bogus seal were brought to the attention of the licensing authorities. He was appropriately disciplined. As to S———, he still remains a mystery, though now an inactive one. The latest word about him came from a Miami architect close to the case. It was: *"We can't find S——— and we can't find the private eye who is supposed to find S———!"* And, with the offender vanished into thin air, the State Board now considers the matter closed.

All this is not to say that certain cases have not, or will not, come to court. The change in the Florida Statutes in 1953 vested the State Board of Architecture with a much greater power to enforce the law than it formerly had. Now the Board can institute civil proceedings not only against those violating the laws regulating architectural practice, but also those attempting to contravene "the lawful rules, regulations or orders of the Board."

This gives the Board a new freedom of action. It can now take legal action on its own responsibility to stop a wide range of statute violations. Some violations involve attempts to practice architecture without a license. These, in general, have to do with either a disregard of the laws relating to architecture or attempts to circumvent them. Others involve infractions of the Board's regulations and may involve such matters as the illegal use of an architect's seal, or failure to apply for a renewal certificate. The net effect is to give the State Board the legal power to stop violations that are shown to exist as well as to force compliance with its rules and with the laws relating to architectural practice.

The method for exercising this power for law enforcement is a relatively simple one. Shorn of legal language, it involves court action against an alleged violator toward the end of obtaining an injunction to stop him from a continuance of the violation. Once the injunction has been issued by the circuit judge, the Board's job is done so far as enforcement of the injunction is concerned. If an individual should then persist along his road of error, he is in contempt of court—the punishment for which is up to the court and not the State Board of Architecture.

Since the statute revisions were passed, three cases have been brought to court; and in each one an injunction has been issued. All were different in character; but together they have provided a good test of the Board's law enforcement activities.

The first of these involved an individual operating a planning service on the West coast. The Board was able to prove that he was offering architectural services without the formality of being registered as an architect.

The second was first brought to the Board's attention in December, 1952. It concerned an unregistered man in the Pensacola area; and the successful conclusion against him was due in large measure to the close cooperation of Pensacola architects. The battle to control this man's activities was a long and arduous one. The case was pushed as rapidly as possible; but not until December 17, 1953—almost exactly a year after it came to the Board's attention—was the final decree of injuncton issued.

The third case involved a most flagrant instance of architectural practice without benefit of license in Sarasota. It was brought to our attention early in July last year, frought with a number of complications that called for the utmost diplomacy to handle on the part of the Board's legal counsel. But it was completed in a relatively short time, for the injunction was issued early in April this year.

There are more such cases pending; and still others are under the necessary preliminary investigation. There is little question that the law enforcement program of the State Board is now on a healthy and practical footing. In due time and with appropriate effort, it cannot help but act as a constructive and stabilizing force for architectural practice in every section of our state.

Chapter News & Notes

Executive Board Meets

As might have been expected, much of the discussion at the July 10th Executive Board meeting—held at Miami's Seven Seas Restaurant—centered about plans for the November F.A.A. Convention at Palm Beach. The fact that Edgar S. Wortman, President of the Palm Beach Chapter, presided at the meeting had nothing to do with this fact, however. He was the ranking F.A.A. Vice-President there; and in the absence of President Igor Polevitzky, he logically took his place in the center of the head table.

But the Palm Beach Chapter was there in force. And, when their time came to open up, Convention Chairman Raymond Plockelman let go both barrels, calling upon a number of his committee chairmen to tell the assembled F.A.A. Directors of tentative plans thus far made. The Directors approved them; and the general outline of what F.A.A. members can expect to enjoy next November is reported on Pages 18 and 20 of this publication.

Another important subject was put before the Board for final approval. This was the Group Accident and Disability Insurance Program underwritten by the Inter-Ocean Insurance Company, of Cincinnati, Ohio. Basic approval of this program was given at the April Executive Board meeting at Daytona Beach, when Mr. Ben W. Balay, manager of the Inter-Ocean company's Florida state office at Jacksonville presented the plan and outlined its various provisions.

Since then Mr. Balay's company has prepared a booklet on the F.A.A. group insurance program. A pasted-up draft of this was presented for the Board's approval by Franklin S. Bunch of Jacksonville in the absence of Mr. Balay. The booklet was approved; and early in August a copy of it will be mailed to every F.A.A. member.

Discussion of both the booklet and the Insurance program itself made clear the fact—to be relayed by Directors to their various Chapters—that enrollment in this program is in no way obligatory. The choice of doing so, or not, is up to each individual; but in its present form the F.A.A. plan is, in many ways, superior—and also less expensive—than many other types of similar insurance coverage. One of the chief points about it is the fact that even those F.A.A. members who are not now "insurable" can obtain its benefits as soon as half the current F.A.A. membership has been enrolled.

Joint Committee, F.A.A.—A.G.C.

Since the suggestion, made by President Polevitzky last March, that a Joint Cooperative Committee of the F.A.A. and A.G.C. be formed at the State level, much discussion has highlighted the idea as being a good one. The A.G.C. immediately appointed a committee to work with architects along these lines. Now two representatives from each F.A.A. Chapter are to be named. Representatives from both groups are currently scheduled to meet at Orlando on August 14. No plans have been announced to include members of professional engineering groups in this first organizational meeting.

(Continued on Page 18)

NOTES FOR YOUR HOSPITAL FILE . . .

Excerpts from "Design Trends In Hospitals," an address given at one of the seminars during the June A.I.A Convention at Boston. The author is Richard J. Adams, *of Sherlock, Smith and Adams, Montgomery, Ala., architects. The project discussed was a group of 10 hospitals developed for the United Mine Workers' Welfare and Retirement Fund in the coal-mining areas of Kentucky, Virginia and West Virginia.*

It is very apparent to all those who are familiar with hospitals that registered nurses in the average hospital become administrative personnel. They are given so many duties, such as filling out forms and inventorying and ordering supplies, and are so saddled with other administrative functions, that they have little time left to devote to patients.

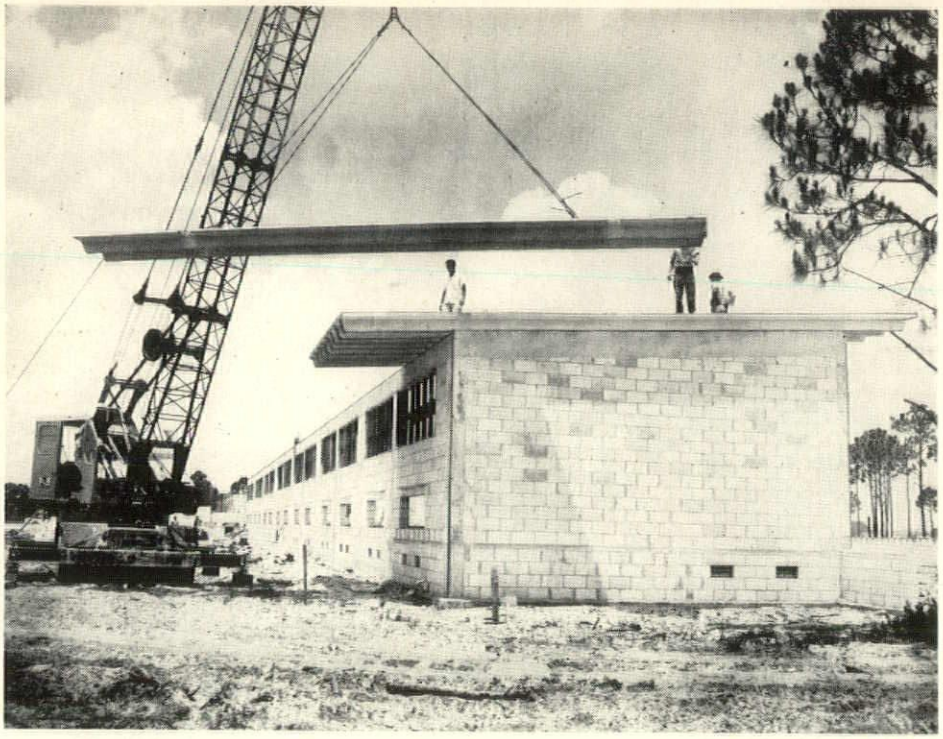
We were determined that in these hospitals this gross error in administration would not be repeated. So we finally developed a system of central supply through which all sterile and non-sterile supplies would be issued to nursing floors by means of specially constructed carts.

These carts carry a full day's complement of supplies for the nursing station. They are removed and replaced during the night hours by a full cart carrying the complement for the next day. This eliminates the necessity of nursing personnel making inventories and turns this duty over to a clerk in central supply where the carts are loaded and dispatched to points of use. Since the carts are storage units as well as a means for transporting supplies, there is no need for intermediary unloading, handling and storage.

During the early planning stage, a thorough field study was made relative to local materials and labor conditions. It was most evident that a lack of skilled labor prevailed. This fact, coupled with our knowledge of atmospheric and climatic conditions in the area, made it apparent that a prefabricated exterior wall panel should be considered.

In view of the presence of coal dust, smoke, smog and the like, we felt that a self-cleaning exterior wall was needed. With the help of the Truscon Steel Company we developed a unit which they have named "Vision Wall."

Built of galvanized steel and porcelain enamel, these walls are 15/16" thick and have the equivalent insulating value of a 12-inch masonry wall. In our hospitals we found that their use produced a saving in floor space alone that amounted to approximately 5 per cent of the gross floor area. The wall units measure 5 feet wide by 10 feet, 8 inches high and are designed to take operating sash, fixed glass or wall panels. The exterior surface of the panel is porcelain enamel for easy maintenance.



36-foot Double-T . . . LEAP prestressed concrete roof slab being placed on the new Dillard Elementary School at Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. Of special interest and importance is the 6-foot cantilever on the south side and the 4-foot cantilever on the north side . . . William Van Knox, Architect.

Another PRESTRESSED CONCRETE WONDER

Prestressed concrete units offer new structural design possibilities for any building in which low cost and high performance are of special importance. Standard unit designs are made in long casting beds by the pre-tensioning bonded system. Each has been tested, and a wide variety of units is now being made under controlled conditions by the firms listed below. These prestressed concrete members are now available. They can be specified in sizes and shapes to meet a range of span, load and design conditions. Prestressed concrete units have low maintenance, high fire resistance, high uniformity, low cost. Standard designs include flat slabs, double-tee slabs, beams, columns and pilings.

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HARRY H. EDWARDS, Structural Engineer . . . . . .
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FLORIDA PRESTRESSED CONCRETE CO., INC. . . . . Tampa
WEST COAST SHELL CORP . . . . . Sarasota
DURACRETE, INC. . . . . Leesburg
HOLLOWAY CONCRETE PRODUCTS CO . . . . . Winter Park

These firms . . . banded together to establish and supervise Prestressed Concrete standards and procedures . . . are pledged to uphold the production control and specifications set up by the Prestressed Concrete Institute.

(Continued from Page 11)

Industry leaders see the possibility of much constructive action in an active coperation of the two groups.

FLORIDA CENTRAL

Because of the area between Chapterter boundaries and distance involved in travelling, regular meetings are held only four times a year. They fall on the second Saturday in January, April, July and October. The July meeting was held at the Tampa Terrace Hotel, Saturday, July 10.

It was an unusually well-attended one. The Executive Committee met from noon to 2:30; and the business meeting of the Chapter followed. At its close, members were entertained by a special feature on the making and use of aluminum products presented by the Reynolds Metals Company. At cocktails and dinner in the evening architects, wives and guests numbered 80 persons.

In line with the latest recommendations of the Institute, this Chapter has already taken the necessary steps toward committee reorganization. New committee memberships will be named in the near future.

Next regular meeting of the Chapter will be in Orlando on October 9. At that time election of new officers will be held.

Membership is growing in this group. At the July meeting the roster showed 77 names; and with the 9 additional approved then, now stands at 86. This represents an 18 per cent membership increase in the last three months.

The following members of this Chapter have been appointed as correspondents for *The Florida Architect* in their respective localities: *Tampa*, Henry L. Roberts, 164 Biscayne Avenue; *Orlando*, W. Kenneth Miller, Washington Street Arcade; *Sarasota*, John M. Crowell, 128 South Washington Street.

BROWARD COUNTY

Those attending the July 2 meeting of this Chapter heard Robert Hansen and Morton Ironmonger, their delegates to the National A.I.A. Convention, report on their trip and on Convention activities.

The August meeting of this Chapter will be held with that of the Florida South Chapter. A suitable meeting place and program is now being worked out; and individual announcements of the joint meeting will be sent members of both chapters by the secretaries. It was suggested also that the three South Florida Chapters, Florida South, Broward and Palm Beach, hold a joint meeting just prior to the 40th Annual F.A.A. Convention next November.

The membership roll was increased by a new corporate member who recently transferred from the Indiana Society of Architects. He is Maurice E. Thornton, A.I.A.

Walter E. Pauley, a former president of the Broward County Chapter, can now be called "Emeritus." He has closed his architectural office in Fort Lauderdale to enter the machine screw business there.

A committee has been appointed to study and report on a matter that has for some time caused hardship to architects doing school work in Broward County. Relations of architects and the School Board have not been good. Primary cause of this situation is a clause in architect-School Board contracts to the effect that the architect must assume, *as a personal liability*, financial responsibility for all mistakes and omisisons on school plans. The clause itself is bad enough; but it becomes an even worse hardship in view of the fact that architects cannot exercise full design control of school buildings, nor are they allowed by their contracts to super-

(Continued on Page 17)

OVERDUE DUES ARE—OVER DUE!

The heading and paragraphs in this box were written at the pointed request of F.A.A. Treasurer G. Clinton Gamble.

Like the policeman in Gilbert & Sullivan's opera, a treasurer's job is not a happy one! He must be a collector, a disburser, an account-keeper, a check-signer. He has the unpleasant duty of saying "No" to nice people whose ideas cost too much money; for his duty is to keep resources intact for the programs that mean progress.

To do all these things—and in addition report to the F.A.A. Executive Board a healthy condition of the treasury—he must receive money. The money comes from treasurers of individual F.A.A. chapters. They, poor men, can't send in that money if individual members don't pay their dues on time. So—everything gets fouled up!

You can see how it is. And if, by any mischance, YOUR dues are overdue, won't you write a check for them now?

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the Florida Association of Architects shall be to unite the architectural profession within the State of Florida to promote and forward the objectives of the The American Institute of Architects; to stimulate and encourage continual improvement within the profession; to cooperate with the other professions; to promote and participate in the matters of general public welfare, and represent and act for the architectural profession in the State; and to promote educational and public relations programs for the advancement of the profession.

Not Defense -- Offence!

By CHARLES D. GIBSON

From an address given at the School Design Seminar of the Boston Convention of the A. I. A. The author is President of the National Council on Schoolhouse Construction and Field Representative on School Planning of the California State Department of Education.

Many educators and many architects have assumed a defensive attitude about this clamour for cheap school housing. One or two jobs lost on a cost basis have caused some architects to take the attitude, "If they want cheap schoolhousing I can design it too!" All the brave talk about functionalism and amenities fades to a faint whisper.

There is no way to win this battle by going on the defensive. As one who is in the middle of this fight every day, I believe the only way we can continue to provide adequate, medium quality-level schoolhousing for the generations to come is to develop an offense. This offense cannot be based alone on comparative cost data compiled to counteract the half-truths presented by the natural enemies of progress. This offense, in order to win, must also be founded on basic assumptions which are recognized as such by those in a position to make final decisions. Here are a few such Basic Assumptions:

1. Public education is a basic and permanent part of the continued existence of our form of government and the freedom it guarantees. Therefore the assumption should be made that our society can and will finance adequate, permanent school plants where needed. Current inadequacies for financing permanent school plants where needed must therefore be considered symptoms of poor school districting—poor property assessment practices, poor bonding and taxing laws or perhaps a combination of all —rather than a basic inability of our economic structure to provide the funds needed for adequate permanent school plants.

2. There is a vast difference between a building that is constructed to meet minimum legal and educational requirements and a building that is constructed according to good practice which has been established through experience. Each Governing Board, after full consideration of all the pros and cons, should establish a policy for its school district regarding the minimum standards of schoolhousing its community will support. It should establish a *quality level* of schoolhousing for its children and teachers.

Here is a suggested list of the minimum standards a school should meet:

1. It should be placed on a properly located and adequate site.
2. It should be master planned to provide for a saturation enrollment.
3. It should be master planned to give the saturation enrollment adequate facilities for a well-rounded educational program and to make the greatest possible use of all facilities for educational purposes.
4. It should provide the best we know in terms of structural, fire, and panic safety; properly designed and integrated daylighting and electric lighting; heating, ventilation and sound control.
5. The sanitary facilities should be adequate in number, of appropriate size and properly located.
6. The building should be flexible enough to provide for future reassignment of space and the classrooms should contain the minimum of fixed case work.
7. The over-all building layout should provide for decentralization of student groups.
8. Traffic patterns should be simple and direct with lanes of ample width.
9. Expansion and possible contraction of the plant should be provided for in a planned and simple manner.
10. The building, once constructed, should require a practical minimum of maintenance.

We feel that a school building that does not provide these minimum elements is too expensive even if it costs only three dollars a square foot. The first cost of a building in terms of dollars may be low, but in terms of the health, welfare and educational opportunity for children during the many years of its use, the cost may be extremely high.

A poor school district cannot afford to build cheap buildings. The only place money can come from to pay the constant and excessive maintenance costs of cheap school buildings is out of the funds intended to buy a good instructional program for children. If these already overstretched funds are not used to maintain the buildings, the cheap school plant soon disintegrates into a health and educational hazard for the students we compel by law to occupy it.

The physical environment of the school controls to a large degree the efficiency of the teachers and students living and working in that environment. Because of this fact, it must be assumed that a reasonable capital outlay investment to provide an adequate physical environment is a necessity if we are to protect the much

larger operational investment we make in schools.

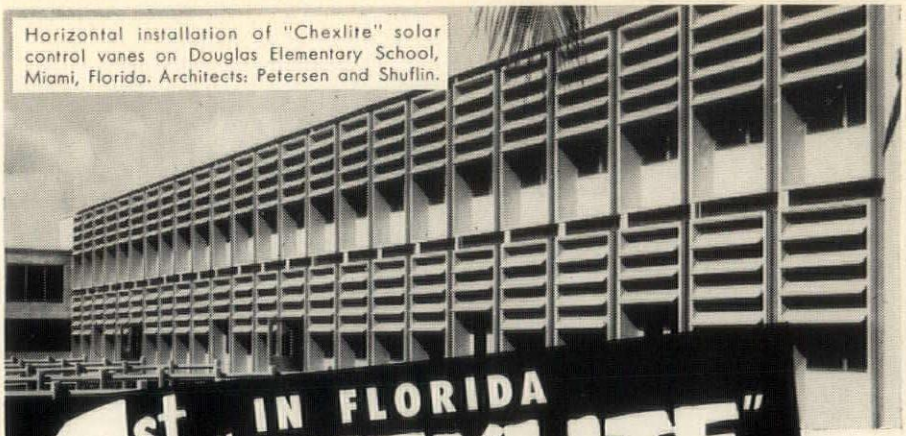
Control of education by local school districts that meet suitable criteria for adequacy must not be impaired by harsh and arbitrary restrictions and limitations upon school plant provisions by the state and national governments as a condition for providing funds for capital outlays. Neither should local school districts be permitted to escape a substantial local tax effort toward financing needed capital outlays.

Local district control of education cannot be exercised properly unless the planning for school plants is done locally by architects and engineers employed by the district. State standards can and should be administered in such a way as to leave the greatest amount of latitude and initiative to local districts consistent with safety of occupants and minimum educational provisions.

Progress in school plant design comes by evolving steps. It requires intelligent evaluation of all the various solutions developed over the years against basic educational concepts. No budding genius will come up with a miracle solution that is the end of all searching. It is the unspectacular — mostly unpublicized improvements made every day in school planning—that accounts for the significant progress being made today. They result from a cooperative analysis of a real problem by educators, plant specialists, architects, engineers, and any other competent source of assistance.

Creating a school plant to meet the educational and personal needs of today and tomorrow is a matter of hard, painstaking work. It is a continuous process, a significant portion of which is done before the pressure for having more pupils and teacher stations becomes so great that constructive planning procedures give way to the quick answer.

The architects of America face a real challenge in the crises of the unhoused and poorly housed pupils of all ages. The manner in which they meet this challenge will determine to a large degree the adequacy of this nation's school facilities for years to come.


Horizontal installation of "Chexlite" solar control vanes on Douglas Elementary School, Miami, Florida. Architects: Petersen and Shuflin.

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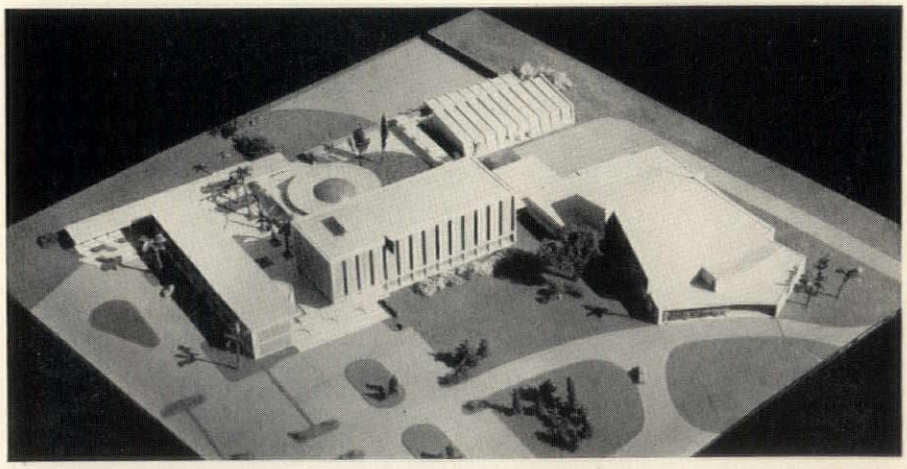

A Client Will Understand This . . . .

It's an accurately-scaled model, in full color, of the new Music School of the University of Miami. The architect is Robert M. Little, A.I.A. He is one of many architects I've served during my twenty years of experience in model building. They've found that models pay. Clients can see a design from all angles. Models bring understanding that a one-view drawing doesn't. And an understanding client is usually a happy one.

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Producers' Council Program

For many years The Producers' Council, Inc., has been working side by side with the A.I.A. Basic policy of the Council closely parallels that of the architects' organization — to develop and maintain as high standards in its general field of activity as do the architects in theirs.

The parallel is a natural one. Both producers and architects are important members of the huge, nationwide building industry. The design of a building comes from architects. But it cannot be realized without use of a vast range of manufactured products. Similarly, no manufacturer who makes products for building can exist and prosper without the ideas, drawings and specifications of the architect to fit them into an overall building design.

It was this inter-dependence that, almost 35 years ago, moved a group of architects to propose the formation, by product manufactures, of an organization to work with the A.I.A., then growing into a professional body of national scope. The idea caught on; and ever since its formation the Producers' Council and the A.I.A. have worked together, have exchanged ideas, have each held annual Conventions at the same time and at the same place.

Today there are Producers' Council Chapters everywhere that any substantial group of national building products manufacturers are represented by official distributor organizations or branch offices. There are two such Chapters in Florida—one in Miami, the other in Jacksonville. There is the nucleus of another in Tampa. And, with construction volumes in Florida continuing to swell as the development of our state progresses, other chapters will undoubtedly be formed.

Much of the Producers' Council work has gone generally unrecognized by most other members of the building industry. The extremely important work of establishing safe and practical material and structural standards has long been a Council concern. Council members have had an important hand also in developing acceptable specifications in almost every phase of building construction and equipment. They have helped greatly to raise technical and business standards in the entire building industry as well as in their own fields of specialty.

More lately, the Council has been the practical stimulus for vast improvements made in technical advertising and literature, both of which are needed to tell architects what building products are available and to give information about them needed for intelligent use.

Chapter-wise, the Council's activities necessarily vary relative to local conditions. In Miami, for example, the Chapter started in 1947 with some six distributor representatives of national firms. Today the Miami group numbers 50 firms on its membership roster. At first the group of representatives met as a kind of luncheon club. But in three years membership had grown to a point that required organization and a planned program for the year.

Business meetings are held each month. Every year there is a gala Christmas party for members, architects and their ladies. And periodically during the winter season a series of "Informational Meetings" are held, to which all architects are welcome. Four such meetings are planned for this year. Each will offer, new and significant facts on some phase of structure or equipment. And in October, Council members will be hosts to architects at presentation of "The Caravan" an elaborate travelling exhibit of member companies' newest and most novel products.

Announcements on details of all these events will be posted from time to time—through the columns of this publication.

Chapter News

(Continued from Page 13)

vise the construction of the building.

PALM BEACH

Little is now happening here—EXCEPT arrangements for the 40th Annual Convention of the F.A.A., for which this Chapter will act as Hosts. John Stetson recently returned from a five-months trip abroad. He visited Europe, the Near East and North Africa. (*It is hoped that some account of his trip and his comments on some of the new buildings he saw will shortly appear as a feature in this publication.—Editor*).

And another member, Byron Simonson, is planning a trip to Brazil. This one won't be all pleasure, however. He's scheduled to design a large hotel while there.

This Chapter's mark for members who are carrying their full share of civic responsibility should be high. On various boards of the City of West Palm Beach are: Maurice Holley, City Planning Board; Harold Obst and David Scoville, Building Board of Appeals; and Robert Nevins, Jr., Contractors' Examining Board.

IT'S NOT ALL SAD WORK!

Members of the State Board of Architecture have found that a good laugh now and then breaks the grind of correcting examination papers. The papers themselves often provide it. For example:

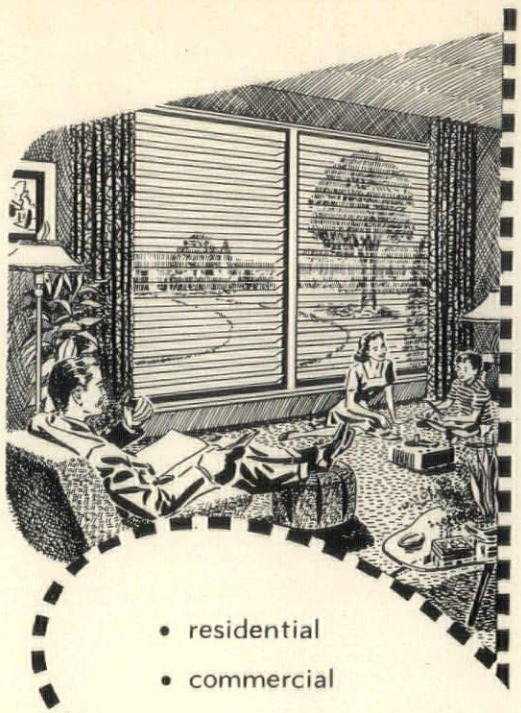
In answer to a question on proper fenestration, the examinee came up with, among other things, "*West light is best for sunsets.*"

And here's another one in answer to a question. "What is meant by 'Placing a Lien'."

Placing a lien is the act of declaring a debt as unpaid and that the person to whom the debt is owed declares that if the debt is not paid, he will take possession of the "object." Said "Object" being the article for which the debt was incurred. WHEW!

To which the Board also said, "Whew!"

Definition: "*A gate valve has a flat gate which is screwed by the handle closing or opening the hole which the liquid flows through.*" No comment here!



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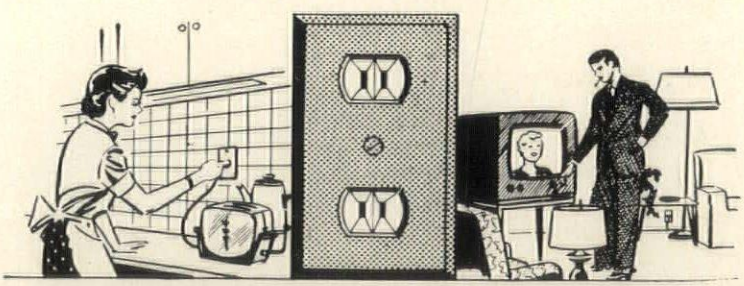

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F. A. A.'s 40th Convention

La Coquille Hotel

Palm Beach -- Nov. 18-19-20

Mark Thursday, Friday and Saturday of November 18, 19 and 20 as red-letter days on your fall calendar. And plan right now to be absent from your office during that time.

Reason? That's when the F.A.A.'s Fortieth Annual Convention will be held. The place will be Palm Beach; and Convention Headquarters will be the fabulous La Coquille Hotel.

To hear committee members of the Palm Beach Host Chapter tell about plans for the Convention, it's destined to be tops in everything. The location certainly points to that. Designed by Byron Simonson of Palm Beach, La Coquille has all that a group of convening architects could wish for. It will accommodate 114 guests in one and two-room suites. It's completely air conditioned. Most rooms face toward the ocean and overlook also a terrace court and a huge and magnificent swimming pool. Now under construction and scheduled for completion by Convention time is a 40 by 90-foot assembly hall. All this will be entirely at the disposal of FAA members and friends at the Convention.

At the present writing details of the program are not yet completed. But here in brief is a general outline.

Thursday, November 18—Executive Board Meeting; Registration; Opening of Architectural and Manufacturers' Exhibitions; Committee Meetings. In the evening all Convention registrants are invited to attend a cocktail party to be given by the Palm Beach Chapter President.

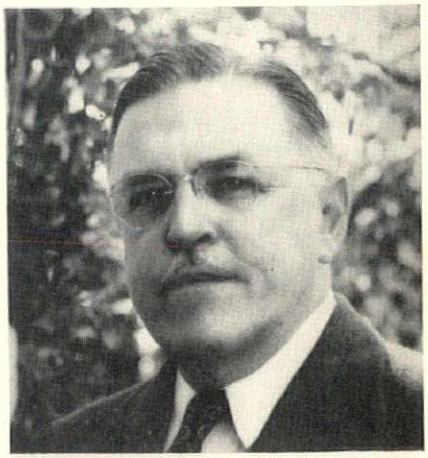
Friday, November 19—Registration continues; Business Session for Reports of Officers and Committees; a stag luncheon will be the occasion for some of the few formal speeches scheduled. In the afternoon another short business session is planned, followed by a Seminar and Panel Discussion on the Convention theme, "Architecture Under the Sun." The evening is planned for fun—a cocktail party and buffet dinner, followed by an evening of dancing.

Saturday, November 20—Another business session, the final one, with adjournment scheduled prior to lunch time. It will be devoted to Commit-

(Continued on Page 20)

RAYMOND H. PLOCKELMAN, of Palm Beach, heads planning activities as Convention Chairman.

FREDERICK G. SEELMAN, one of the two Co-Chairmen of the 40th FAA Convention.



GUSTAV A. MAASS, selected by the Palm Beach Chapter as other Co-Chairman.

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LOOK FOR THE EXPLANATORY BROCHURE NOW BEING MAILED TO YOU

Photo by Ernest Graham

Swimming pool, lounging terrace and room wings at La Coquille Hotel at Palm Beach front on the ocean. The ingenious sawtooth plan of the wings give most of the rooms direct views of the ocean. This is the site of the 40th Annual Convention of the Florida Association of Architects to be held November 18-19-20. It's a perfect setting for the Convention's theme, "Architecture Under the Sun".

40th CONVENTION

(Continued from Page 18)

tee Reports, Resolutions, New Business and Election of Offcers.

After that, Convention visitors are on their own for the week-end. Host Chapter Committee Chairmen are right now busily arranging open doors to all sorts of interesting possibilities. Tours are being planned, to the Norton Art Galleries, to some of the magnificent homes that have given Palm Beach its world-wide reputation. Guest privileges are being made available at some of Palm Beach's finest clubs. There'll be plenty of time and opportunity for golf, swimming, fishing, sightseeing.

As to expenses, hotel accommodations are available—while they last—at $7.50 per day per person. Now under consideration is an all-expense "package" to include costs of both room and meals. Details will be released later. Also for later announcement are cost details of registration and various entertainment functions. Relative to this matter of expense, Convention Chairman Raymond H. Plockelman wants all to understand that its Palm Beach location won't make the Convention expensive.

As with other Conventions, exhibits of architectural work and manufactured products will occupy important places in the Palm Beach program. It's not too early now to prepare material for an exhibit. Requirements can be obtained from Architectural Exhibit Chairman, Belford W. Shoumate.

The manufacturers' exhibit will be housed in a great 60 by 100-foot tent, easily reached from the hotel lobby. Exhibit spaces will be offered in units of 10 by 10-feet. This part of the program is in charge of George J. Votaw. He will welcome suggestions for exhibitors.

Here are Convention Committee Chairmen who are working without reserve to make the 40th Annual FAA get-together a success from every point of view.

Registration Secretary—Maurice E. Holley, Plaza Circle, Palm Beach.

Treasurer—David S. Shriver, 335 Worth Avenue, Palm Beach.

Architectural Exhibits—Belford W. Shoumate, 222 Phipps Plaza, Palm Beach.

Building Products and Student Exhibits—George J. Votaw, 210 Okeechobee Road, West Palm Beach.

Program and Entertainment—Hilliard T. Smith, Jr., 1122 N. Dixie Highway, Fort Worth.

Publicity—Emily and Harold Obst, 289 Hibiscus Avenue, Palm Beach.

Hospitality and Ladies Entertainment—John Stetson, 217 Peruvian Avenue, Palm Beach.

Transportation — William Ames Bennett, 361 S. County Road, Palm Beach.

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