

TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

HARMONY IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

PLANS FOR TEXAS ARCHITECTS' WEEK

PRESIDENT VISITS CHAPTERS

BOARD TO MEET APRIL 11

TSA IS INCORPORATED

MARCH
1953

TO BE SURE... LOOK FOR THIS SEAL



Commercial Standard CS 190-53 Effective January 15, 1953

CS 190-53, "a Commercial Standard for Standard Stock Double-Hung Wood Window Units" as promulgated by the U. S. Department of Commerce, Commodity Standards Division, is a long step forward in the direction of public assurance of quality in building materials. This Standard is identical with the Minimum Specifications under which The American Wood Window Institute, Inc., has been operating for many months past. Therefore, when the AWWI Quality Seal is found in the inside sash run at the top of the frame of a double-hung wood window unit, it means that that unit meets CS 190-53 by **laboratory certification** and is quality approved by The American Wood Window Institute, Inc.

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Before the AWWI Quality Seal can be affixed to a wood window unit, the prototype or pattern from which that unit is fabricated must have been laboratory tested and certified to meet or exceed the AWWI Minimum Specifications. Then the fabricator of that unit enters into a contractual Licensee Agreement with the Institute which permits him to affix this seal on all units built exactly as the prototype which met the specifications. Since the AWWI Minimum Specifications and CS 190-53 are identical — then the affixing of this seal automatically **certifies by laboratory test** that that unit meets or exceeds the new Commercial Standard.

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*A non-profit organization conveying information to the public concerning the benefits offered by the Modern, Preservative Treated, Quality WOOD WINDOW Unit.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

April 11—Meeting of TSA Executive Board, 10 a.m., Commodore Perry Hotel, Austin.

April 13-20—Texas Architects' Week.

June 15-19—84th annual convention, AIA, at Seattle, Wash.

November 4-6—14th annual convention, TSA, at Austin.

REPORT ON



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HARMONY IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY

A recent publication of the Associated General Contractors of America is entitled "Just And Harmonious Relationships In The Construction Industry."

Many of the key points stressed in this booklet are very well taken, and should be noted by the contractor, the architect, and the general public alike. With the total volume of new construction, maintenance, and repairs running at approximately \$40,000,000,000 per year, construction is the nation's first industry and one that has a direct effect upon every citizen.

The booklet states that "Fair and bonafide competition is a fundamental service of the construction industry to which clients and owners are entitled."

You will find that The Texas Society of Architects and all architects certainly subscribe to this principle, which is clearly spelled out in the standards set up by the American Institute of Architects governing professional practice. Furthermore, there are instances in which AGC officials and representatives of the AIA have cooperated directly in maintaining the principle of fair competition, thereby protecting the interests of clients and the general public alike.

The AGC pamphlet in question stresses the need for centralizing undivided responsibility for a project in one man—the general contractor. Architects will subscribe to this principle so long as it protects the best interests of the client. They usually will agree also that bids which may be taken separately for certain phases of the work should be combined under one general contract.

The efforts which AGC officials are taking to improve relationships between general and specialty contractors are emphasized in the booklet, which indicates that AGC chapters and branches have been authorized to "initiate cooperative actions . . . in their areas."

This AGC publication also stresses the importance of the joint cooperative committees which are maintained with the architectural and other organizations in the industry. Among these joint committees is the one maintained with the AIA, which has in turn become a pattern for local groups oriented toward more harmony and more economy in construction.

The booklet fails to mention specifically, however, one major point which we believe is harming construction industry relationships and the interests of clients and the general public. We refer to the so-called "package deals" under which some large firms offer every service from beginning surveys through actual construction including planning and even management of the property after it has been built.

We do not believe that the "package deal" is fair either to contractors, engineers, architects, specialty contractors, or the client. It does not lead to the harmony and efficient economy which every segment of the building industry seeks. It is instead an open invitation to inefficiency and waste and to poor planning. It will defeat the principle of giving maximum value for every dollar invested in construction which is the creed of the architect and contractor alike.

We approve in general this statement in which AGC stresses the need for harmony in the construction industry, but we respectfully suggest another section: One on "The dangers inherent in the 'package deal' plan."



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Telling The Story Of Architecture In Texas

Second Texas Architects' Week Finds All TSA Chapters Busy With Projects

Members of the Texas Society of Architects pick one week per year in which to tell their fellow citizens the story of architecture. The week of April 13-20, beginning with Thomas Jefferson's 210th birthday, has been chosen for the 1953 observance, which will be statewide.

Success of the 1952 Texas Architects' Week has encouraged the 10 TSA chapters (Panhandle, Central Texas, Brazos, Dallas, Fort Worth, West Texas, Coastal Bend, Houston, Lower Rio Grande Valley, and El Paso) to extend their activities this spring in a series of projects about the profession of architecture.

Function Of The Architect

The central idea in each case is to explain the function of the architect and his place in modern life. This is done in many ways, through projects such as exhibitions or tours of architectural work, a special Chapter competition, special luncheon club programs, or showings of architectural models, materials or literature.

Some chapters will aim their project at the younger generation, either through a program based on Thomas Jefferson, the great architect-president, or a special student competition. Others are scheduling special joint meetings with some allied professional group, such as the engineers.

Regardless of the exact means used, the 10 TSA chapters are telling the story of their profession in terms of something with local interest, and they are generating good, positive reaction over the state.

The Fort Worth Plan

The Fort Worth chapter, headed by Hubert H. Crane, was among the first to

complete its plans for the second annual observance of Texas Architects' Week. Here is the Fort Worth plan, which is a good example of how TSA members are taking the opportunity to explain just what architecture is and what it means to their fellow Texans.

Early in February, President Crane completed the first stage in plans for Texas Architects' Week by placing details in the hands of an overall committee directly responsible to him. As plans progressed, TSA President Albert S. Golemon was invited to attend the February meeting and discuss developments to date.

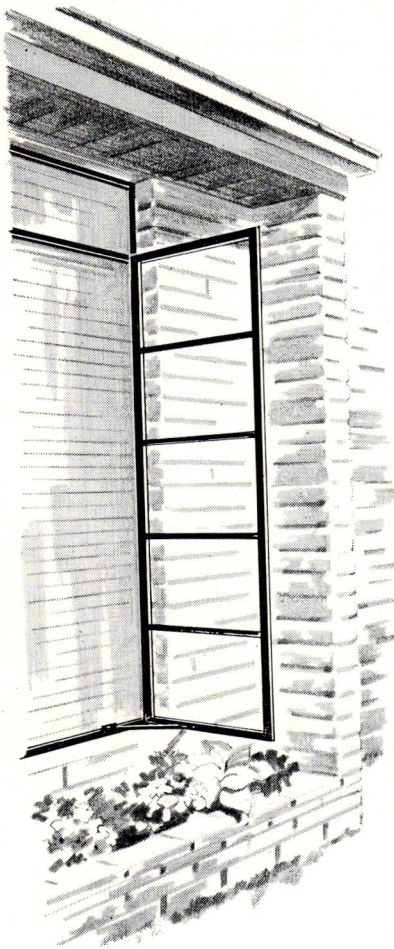
While President Golemon was in town, the mayor of Fort Worth, Hon. J. R. Edwards, signed a proclamation setting aside 13-20 April as Texas Architects' Week in his city. The TSA head then discussed with Mayor Edwards some of the chapter plans for observing the event, and spent several hours going over detailed plans with officials of the Fort Worth affiliate.

Will Honor Craftsman






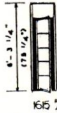














Fort Worth will feature during TAW the selection of an outstanding building craftsman who is to be honored for his skill at a chapter dinner. Other allied projects will be special exhibits of work by chapter members, and the showing of a moving picture on Thomas Jefferson as an architect. Last year a similar craftsman award won editorial acclaim and did much to explain to the public the functions of the architect and how they are related to other skills in building.

(Continued on Page 12)

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