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THE TEXAS ARCHITECT FOR JULY 1960

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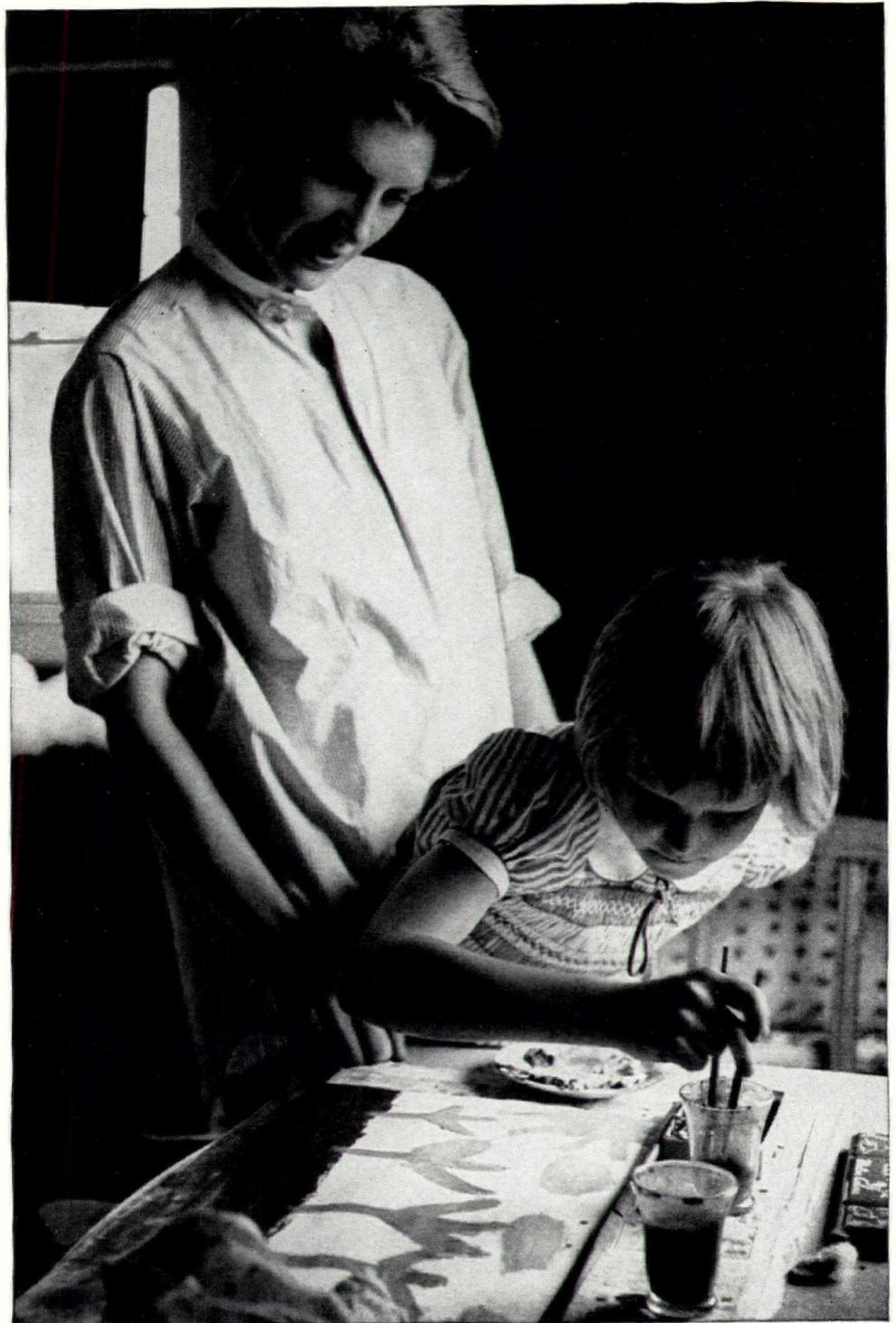
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OUR COVER

Editor Gene George passes along one of the delights of travel by circuitous route. Illustrating Part II of his series on the "Ghost Town" in the Kimball Bend Country is our cover from a Kodachrome by the author. Bee Mountain rises in the background framed by the window of an unidentified building he found in the valley



The President's Letter

By

JACK CORGAN

President

Texas Society of Architects

At the beginning of this year we wrote you in glowing terms of the prospects for the building industry in the United States in general and in Texas in particular. This letter reflected the consensus of opinions of statisticians and economists on business trends and prospects. Our concern, of course, was with relation of the growth of our economy and the resultant effect upon the architectural business.

Now at midyear it seems appropriate to look at the past six months and to take another look into the future.

Shortly after the first of January the effects of tight money and high interest rates made itself felt on the building industry. Architects' offices all over the state had projects stalled because of the difficulty in obtaining adequate permanent financing. Even interim financing was a serious problem when adequate permanent commitments had been confirmed.

In the past our Texas economy has been directly tied to agriculture and oil. In the past few years we have begun to diversify, so that we are no longer totally dependent upon these basic resources for our economic life.

One economist notes that when projecting the local conditions in Texas against the background of the general national outlook for stability, coupled with moderate, though not spectacular advance, the outlook appears bright for not only a sustained high level of business in this state but the achievement of still another new record in 1961.

It is comforting to know that leaders both in business and in government have joined together to create a business climate that is attractive to new business.

The leaders in the Architectural Profession are more and more taking their rightful share of responsibility in the creation of that favorable business climate, and it is our hope they will continue to do so.

Sincerely,

JACK CORGAN

GHOST TOWN

A Bit of History and Legend

Along a Byway of the Brazos

THE KIMBALL BEND COUNTRY
PART 2: THE VILLAGE OF KIMBALL

By EUGENE GEORGE, JR., AIA

THOUGH the dreams of building another St. Louis on the upper Brazos were buried with the people of Kent, there were other dreamers and signs of prosperity yet to come in the fertile bend of the Brazos. Still dreaming was the New York lawyer, Richard Kimball. Also dreaming was the colorful ex-newspaperman from Jamaica, who had by the 1850's acquired title to vast holdings of Brazos land.

De Cordova, as "Publicity Agent for an Empire," had not only lectured on the possibilities of Texas in New York and Philadelphia, but was quick to promote immigration from such centers as London and Paris. Where Jacob De Cordova traveled, interest in Texas traveled with him.

Just how instrumental De Cordova was in the encouragement of Kimball's relocation from Wall Street to the Brazos, no one knows; but at any rate he arrived in 1853 or 1854 to assist De Cordova in the establishment of the village which was to be called Kimball. De Cordova employed excellent judgment in the selection of a site for the city. For miles up and down the Brazos, this site commanded the place most easily forded. Shallow and free from quicksand, the river crossing near Kimball was the logical point for all east-west traffic moving through the area. With rich agricultural potential and on such a heavily trafficked course, the venture could hardly fail to succeed.

Lots were surveyed for sale, and a public square was dedicated. Shortly after 1854, in addition to its residential properties, Kimball's citizens could boast of a good blacksmith shop, a Baptist church, a public school through the elementary grades, and four saloons (all doing a thriving business).

Judge Kimball moved to the bend and built a house with a gallery which could command a view of seventeen miles of the Brazos. From this vantage, he could also envisage the growth of a cotton empire, subdivided so that each negro had his own portion to work and would reap rewards proportionate to individual production. Each cabin had its own area for gardening; and each garden was, in addition, "furnished with a poodle dog to keep the rabbits out." Soon the plantation was equipped with its own gin, and the countryside bustled with productive activity.

Prior to the Brazos venture, De Cordova had built a home aptly named "Wanderer's Retreat" at New Braunfels in 1842. He built his second "Wanderer's Retreat" near the 'ox-bow bend' of the Brazos between Kopperl and Kimball. There he resided until his death in 1868.

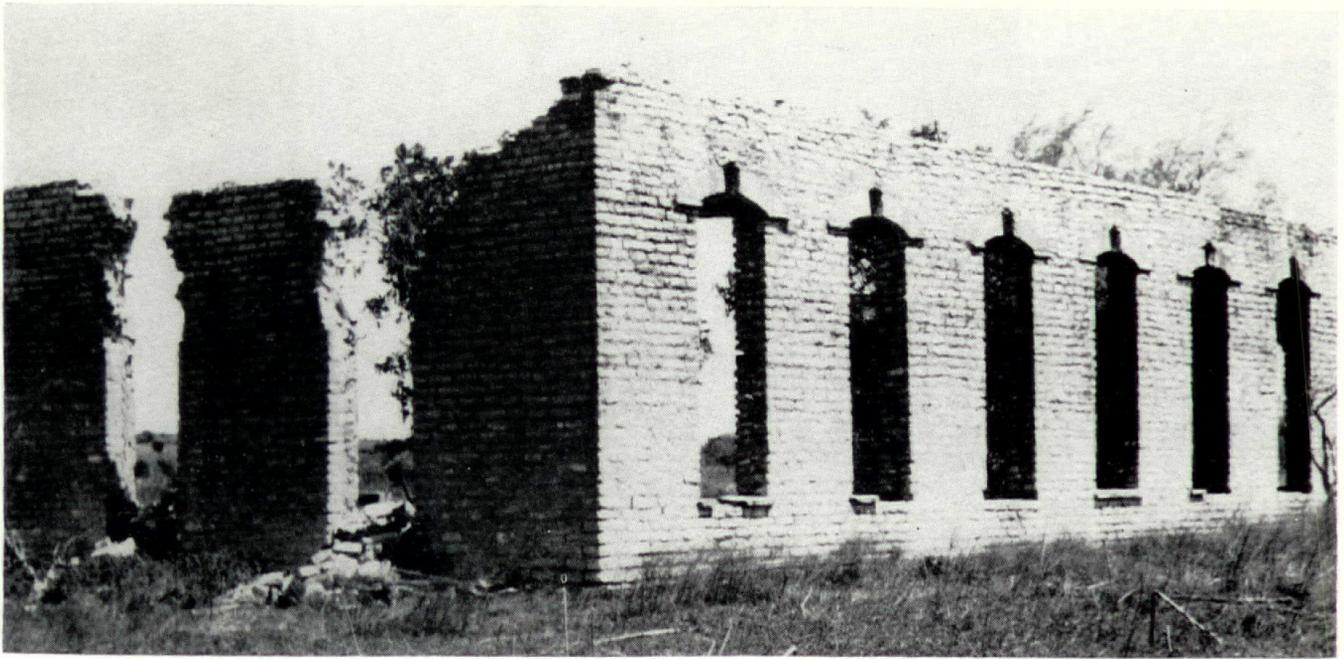
Immediately after the War in 1865, a man named Payne began an operation which was to continue for fifty-three years. Payne had wide planks cut from the oaks which grew along the Brazos. From these he

fashioned a boat which could accommodate a team and wagon, and soon he was ferrying people across the river at fifty cents per head. For a team and wagon, he received two dollars and fifty cents. He reputedly earned as much as a hundred dollars on an especially good day. Payne operated his ferry for thirty years, then sold it to a W. M. Cleveland, who discontinued the service in 1918.

DURING the winter of 1867 and 1868, the settlement at Kimball stabilized itself to the point where it could think seriously of establishing a permanent Masonic lodge. Soon, Kimball Lodge Number 292 was chartered and holding forth in its own building.

The Comanche came to raid near the settlement in 1869. This time, however, the Comanche was defeated by the white men from Kimball, employing the Comanche tactic of utilizing a relay of running horses. Never again did the Indian menace become a reality in the outlying neighborhoods.

Another event took place in Indian Territory which soon was even to affect the frontier town of Kimball. An Indian trader named Jesse Chisholm left wagon tracks in 1865 between the North Canadian and Arkansas Rivers. These tracks remained long enough for Captain Henry Spekes to mark a route for his cattle drive to Wichita in 1866. Soon, the



One of the monuments to the Ghost Town of Kimball are these walls of excellent stonework — probably the remains of the Kimball Academy, from which youngsters gazed wistfully out the windows as great trail herds passed. (Photos by the author)

trail was well marked and extended southward all of the way to the Rio Grande. Though several variations of the route called 'Chisholm Trail' might exist in a given territory, there were several points of convergence—especially at difficult river crossings.

One of these crossings was at the shallow ford at Kimball. In the late sixties and early seventies, hundreds of thousands of longhorn cattle moved through the Kimball crossing. The village flourished with this new activity. At times the herds would congregate for miles back down the trail towards Morgan as several herds awaited the decline of a swollen river.

At other times, to the concern of the cattlemen in the immediate neighborhood (whose cattle tended to congregate and to join the herds in passing), great single herds would move through. One *such single herd* extended from the Brazos crossing for ten miles *all of the way back* to Morgan.

The movement of a semi-wild herd of cattle across the river was quite a difficult feat. Usually, the drivers would move the herd fairly close to the outskirts of Kimball, then permit it to graze and to bed down prior to the actual water crossing on the following morning.

At sunrise, the herd would be pressed hard toward the crossing — the leaders being pushed from behind by the momentum of the herd. The problem was to keep the leaders directed toward the opposite bank — the cattle instinctively trying to return to the *terra firma* from whence they came. When the leaders began circling back to the shore of departure, the cowboys would push their heads under in the hope that they would lose momentary direction and, then seeing the opposite shore, would strike out for it.

This rather painful technique was soon abandoned when an enterprising citizen devised a 'swimming pen' for cattle. This pen was built of cedar rails, stake-and-ridered ten rails high. Three sides were fenced, and the other side left open. After assembling a small, manageable herd within the pen, the drivers entered and 'jumped off' groups toward the opposite shore. The chuck wagon was ferried by Mr. Payne — some of the cowboys and their mounts going with it to control the wet cattle as they moved up the east bank.

As might be expected, the drivers would sample the delights of the stores and the saloons of Kimball. Unlike the Hollywood pictures of western life, things were usually

peaceful in the town during the cattle drives. On occasion, there would be a drunk, and he might decide to unload his Colt in the direction of a nearby live oak; but there were few who died with their boots on.

The valley thrived. Richard Kimball encouraged further settlers in the 1870's as a final fulfillment of his dream of twenty years before.

THERE was the academy. In 1872, it was decided that higher education should come to Kimball. Directors were selected for the Kimball Academy Building Association, and classes began in the new building in the fall of 1873.

The Kimball neighborhood had not been without rudimentary forms of education since its beginnings. This was, however, the one room school house type of education which served only the elementary grades. Private schools were needed for instruction beyond these levels. In addition, such schools (there were five hundred private schools listed in Texas in 1875) served to train the very necessary teacher for the lower levels.

Kimball was in its zenith, and its future seemed assured.

Things went well with the academy, and education was dispensed

on schedule. The only problem seemed to be that less serious scholars might be diverted by the moving of a trail herd close by the classroom. Even less serious students might be found in the branches of nearby live oaks while cattle moved en masse below. It was a good time to live.

Even though such detriments to good study existed, higher education was destined to make its mark on the community. Some ranchers established residency in Kimball during the winter months so that their families could associate with the benefits of the academy.

There were thrills other than long-horns for the boys of the town. One day in the early summer of 1878, a boy was attracted to the camp of a small group of strangers. They asked if he could get some biscuits and his mother soon provided some in quantity.

Soon, another boy ten miles away was attracted to the morning camp of the strangers. He was impressed by their fine horses and saddles, and by the quality of their boots and clothing. The biscuit request was not long in coming. He hung around while they praised his mother's biscuits and swapped jokes. On their departure, the boy was acknowledged as a 'good kid' and given a two dollar and fifty cent piece of gold.

This group could well afford the gold. It is possible that each was carrying a portion of some \$60,000 in gold taken from a Union Pacific train at Big Springs, Nebraska, in September, 1877. With their young leader by the name of Sam Bass, they had held up two stage coaches and robbed four trains near Dallas in the spring of 1878 without too much booty. Sam Bass was already becoming a legend as he moved toward Round Rock where he planned to rob a bank. Bass stopped a ranger's bullet and died two days later on July 21, 1878. It was his birthday, and he was twenty-seven years old.

It was not too long after Sam Bass' appearance in the neighborhood that other activity began. Irish section hands were laying the rails for



These walls, the remains of a residence at Kimball, were constructed of "Tabby" — a type of concrete used extensively during the Nineteenth Century.

the Santa Fe in the early eighties. Missing Kimball by only a few miles to the south in 1882, the Santa Fe moved on to Morgan.

The trail herds were no more, the difficult crossing of the Brazos was accomplished easily by an iron railroad bridge, and the town of Kimball went into slow decline.

MINNOWS and Coca Cola are available within a few yards from where a stake-and-ridered fence 'ten rails high' once held remnants of vast herds of cattle for their 'jumping off' across the Brazos. Just north and west of the bridge crossing Lake Whitney (State Highway 174), there are the remains of the town of Kimball. There are hulks of stores and houses, though prob-

ably the roofless building west of town was the Kimball Academy. I inquired of local residents concerning the identity of several of the buildings, but they could give few clues. Kimball is a ghost but there are many memories.

Upstream from the present highway crossing (the cattle crossed immediately under the new bridge spanning Lake Whitney), look for a spring under a rocky cliff called Solomon's Nose. It isn't hard to find because there is a log spring house built there by James Frazier in 1857. Or, you might find the remnants of a hydraulic ram built soon thereafter. At any rate, when you finally locate the spring, you will be in the center of the town of Kent — another ghost along the Brazos.

DOLLARHIDE, Diamond M, Tijerina-Canales, Noodle Creek, Possum Corner, Spindletop . . . Which of these would you say are the names of oil fields? They all are, and they were named for better reasons than you may suppose.

The Dollarhide Field, in Andrews County on the New Mexico state line, took its name from a tragedy that some West Texas ranchers would rather forget. Years ago, the story goes, thousands of cattle in that area froze to death during a terrific blizzard. When the ice storm had blown itself out, skinners were permitted to come in and take the hides in return for a fee of one-dollar a hide. Hence the name Dollarhide.

The Spindletop Field is famous for the Lucas discovery of oil on a salt dome near Beaumont almost 50 years ago. It is said that the word "Spindletop" first referred to an inverted cone-shaped tree on a bluff near the turning basin on the Neches River east of Beaumont. The term was used by crews on rice and lumber boats.

Out in Borden County, West Texas, the North Gail and South Gail fields reflect a bit of Texas history and geography. They take the name of the only town in the county. Both the town and the county were named after Gail Borden, Texas patriot, inventor of condensed milk, and surveyor of the townsite of Houston.

Some field are named for "folks in the family." One independent operator in Texas starting naming each new field he discovered for one of his children. That was fine, as far as

•

(Editor's Note: We often wondered where oil fields got those oft-times peculiar names and why. *The Humble Way* with permission of Mr. Franklin Fields has provided the answer and we hope it is as interesting and educational to you as it was to us. We are indebted to the Humble Oil & Refining Company, and its fine staff for permission to pass it along.)

•

Why That Name?

Curious names of oil fields often concern colorful incidents of an era

it went, but he found so many fields that he has run out of names.

Some variation of field names results from their descriptiveness of earth features such as Salt Flat, Round Lake, and Water Valley. The supply seems ample: Gyp Hill, Goat Hill, Flour Bluff, Sulphur Bluff, Cedro Hill, Clabberhill, Riverside, Bread Mountain, Cow Bayou, Honest Ridge.

In certain parts of the oil country, names show the influence of nationalities that predominate in the area. Southwest Texas fields show the Mexican and Spanish effect, in Southern Louisiana, French names are commonly used. In Starr County, Southwest Texas, the Guerra Field takes its name from the family that owns the land. Other fields speak the Spanish language: LaSal Vieja (the old salt), Las Mujeres (the women), Los Indios (the Indians), and Quien Sabe (who knows?). Across the Texas line in Louisiana, the names of oil fields switch from Spanish to French. Here are a few: Cote Blanche (white coast), Bay Marchand (merchant bay), Bayou des Allemands (Bayou of the Germans), Bayou de Glaise (glass bayou), and Bayou Sale (salty bayou).

IN Texas the use of ranch names and cattle brands is quite common for naming oil fields. Witness these: Flying W, Diamond M. Richer A, TXL, C-Bar, "JY" and Three Bar.

Quite obviously some system is needed to take care of naming the new fields that are discovered each year. Each field has to have a name for proration and communication purposes. The system is easy. In Texas, the operator who discovers the field usually has the privilege of naming it. He checks first with the nomenclature committee of the nearest regional geological society, of which there are several in the state. Individuals on the committee help select a name and try to get it accepted for common use as soon as possible by everyone involved in the field.

Most likely the operator and the committee can agree on the name. Members of the group will check the name he suggests to see if it is already being used. If other operators have leases in the area, the committee discusses the naming of the field with them.

AFTER the committee decides on a title for a field, the group sends its recommendations to the Railroad Commission and to other groups that may have use for the new designation.

Up to this point the naming is on a temporary basis. At the Commission's hearing on the field, the operator suggests the name of his choice. Unless someone objects to that name, the examiner accepts it. If more than one name is submitted, the Commission gives the field the name it con-

(Continued on Page 14)

A FEW WELL CHOSEN THOUGHTS . . .

. . . . to review, and to pass along to someone you know who might be considering — or — should be interested in a career in architecture.

ARCHITECTURE is an art, a science, a business and a profession. It is as much an art as painting, as much a science as physics, as much a business as banking and as much a profession as medicine or the law.

You look about yourself and you see evidence of architecture. We are born in architecture, we are trained in architecture, we live in architecture, we work in architecture, and we die in architecture. But architecture is not just a matter of buildings. It is basically a matter of people — how they live, work, play and worship. Architecture encourages and heightens these human activities.

Architecture, like government, is about as good as the community strives for or deserves. We think of an architect as having a unique position in this process. It is not enough that we as a people just build the bare necessities. It is vital that these structures are functional, well constructed and that they are beautiful and livable. It is also important that we organize our space, that we relate one structure to the other, otherwise we may find ourselves in a midst of ugliness, noise and confusion. There is enough evidence of this in our cities.

What should you study to train as an architect? Architectural study is an academic course with includes mathematics, history, language, physics, chemistry and general science, social studies, and art. To put it in simple words, you should be interested in everything. Be in-

terested in everything as much as you can and then forget it. Develop an inquisitive mind. Ask questions. Research. Find out what makes people tick. Travel. Study customs . . . likes and dislikes. When you do this — you are on the road.

Architecture is not static. With every new day there is something new to test, to research, to solve.

Learn to study, learn to budget your time, learn the value of money, earn it yourself, limit your "puppy love" era to a minimum, if you marry young — I suggest, *don't go into architecture*. After graduation from an architectural school, get away from home, make your own way, find graduate studies, travel, sketch, photograph, build up your store house of knowledge and you will be on the road. Find good offices to serve your apprenticeship.

AN architect in serving a client — listen to everyone who has a part or one who will use some part of a building he is designing. With a head crammed full of notes on a particular project, an architect starts sketching just lines on paper planning two dimensions, but visualizing it in three dimensions. Line after line until this doodling takes form and becomes shapes. These lines are then transferred into building materials with an adequate structural system or structural frame. The refining continues until the entire building is built diagrammatically on paper. The structural engineering, the architectural design, the mechanical engineering, are

then all checked and cross checked to be correct and feasible. A drawing tells the quantity and the appearance story — the specification describe the quality of the materials.

Documents so prepared become working directions to a builder. The architect assists in the interpretation in bringing a structure into the three dimensions by supervising the actual construction.

Why should you consider architecture as a career? It is probably the greatest challenge to build for a better world that we have found. Take Austin alone, less than sixty years ago it had less than 20,000 people. Today it is ten times larger. In 1975 we will be twice our present size. Do you see the problem? Lots of people live, work, or go to school in poor facilities because they have not had the technical know-how to better themselves and there was no one to show them. That's why our communities have so much horrible and oppressive architecture.

What can I expect as compensation? You must be your own pace setter. There is no union scale. You are paid for how well you deliver. Most architects live a good life — they are not our richest people. You must have a real love for such a profession to stick. There are ups and downs and there is no set yearly income — unless you end up only a draftsman and then you can expect from \$4,000 to \$10,000 a year, depending on how you deliver.

In U.S.A. there are some 11,000 architectural offices and I would guess some 20,000 to 25,000 archi-

rects — all classifications. Thirteen-thousand of these architects have organized into the American Institute of Architects. Here are the objects of The Institute as set forth in the forefront of its bylaws.

THE objects of The American Institute of Architects shall be to organize and unite in fellowship the architects of the United States of America; to combine their efforts so as to promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession; to advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training, and practice; to coordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture to insure the advancement of the living standards of our people through their improved environment; and to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society.

Besides a strict code of ethics, perhaps the architect's own apprecia-

tion of his responsibility is best expressed by Mr. George Bain Cummings, F.A.I.A., in a parallel to the doctors' Hippocratic Oath:

Humbly and proudly I profess my competence under the discipline of architecture.

Upon my most shining personal honor I promise unending devotion to the task of continually studying, learning, seeking, experimenting, that I may become better educated and trained for my work.

Upon my most shining personal honor I promise to my community undeviating adherence to the ideal of service to my fellow men as the goal of my effort, that I may honestly and fully earn my living — my right to live among them.

Upon my most shining personal honor I promise to maintain that integrity in practice which will insure to each client the finest possible stewardship of his interest.

Upon my most shining personal honor I promise in the execution of

every commission to strive to create beauty as well as order, character as well as safety, spiritual value as well as convenience.

Upon my most shining personal honor I promise to join with my fellow architects to make our profession of greatest possible usefulness and benefit to our society, to share and disseminate all valuable professional knowledge, and to pass on to the succeeding generation the full and fine discipline of our profession, enriched because of my dedication.

To many of you what I have said may be just so many words. If that be the case, I would look elsewhere. To you who would like to learn more of the profession — I, along with many architects in our community, would be glad to sit down with you and tell you of our training, experience, heartbreaks and joyful moments, and tell you why we are proud to carry the label, architect.



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MONARCH glazed ceramic wall tile is being chosen for an increasing number of office buildings. One recent example is the Kansas State Office Building in Topeka, pictured above. Because it costs no more to install, and eliminates costly maintenance, building planners welcome the advantages of this superior wall surface. For full facts, contact any showroom or the General Office.

Houston Chapter Awards

Biennial competition honors twelve outstanding projects

FIVE honor awards and seven awards of merit for outstanding design were presented by the Houston Chapter, American Institute of Architects, at its annual honor awards dinner last month.

Awards were made in four divisions, judged by a panel of three out-of-town architects.

Pierce and Pierce won the institutional honor award for three buildings on the campus of Rice University. The buildings are the Keith-Wiess Geology Laboratory, Anderson Biology Laboratory and the Lecture Hall-Auditorium.

Two honor awards were received in the commercial category. Goleman and Rolfe won one for the Medical Towers on South Main Street. The consulting architectural firm on the Medical Towers was Skidmore, Owings and Merrill. The other commercial honor award went to Graecen and Brogniez for the Gibraltar Savings Building. J. Victor Neuhaus III was associate architect.

The small residence honor award was presented to Robert W. Maurice for his own office and residence at 3222 Mercer Street. Large residence honor award went to Hermon Lloyd and W. B. Morgan for the Master's residence, Jones College, Rice University.

Two institutional awards of merit were presented. Caudill, Rowlett and Scott received one award for St. Joseph's Academy in Brownsville, and Brown and McKim won the other award for the First Christian Church, 1601 Sunset Boulevard.

St. Joseph's Academy was the only building outside of Houston to win an award.

Awards of merit in the commercial category were won by Neuhaus and Taylor for the office building

of Pipeline Technologists, Inc., 3431 West Alabama, and by Goleman and Rolfe for the Twentieth Street Medical Plaza, 333 Twentieth Street.

Arne G. Engberg took an award of merit in the small residence category for his own home at 24 Stillforest.

Awards of merit in the large residence category were presented to Wilson, Morris, Crain and Anderson for the residence of Mr. and Mrs. John Carter, 62 Briar Hollow Lane and to Hermon Lloyd and W. B. Morgan for the headmaster's residence at Kinkaid School, 201 Kinkaid School Drive.

Judges were Hugh L. McMath, professor of architecture at the University of Texas, Edwin W. Carroll, El Paso, and Nolan E. Barrick, head of the department of architecture and allied arts, Texas Tech.

Karl Kamrath is president of the Houston chapter, AIA, and H. R. Winslett served as awards committee chairman.

Editor's note: Across page are shown three Honor Award winners from the Houston Chapter Competition. The remaining Honor Awards and the Awards of Merit will be published in a subsequent issue of TEXAS ARCHITECT.

Texas Architectural Foundation

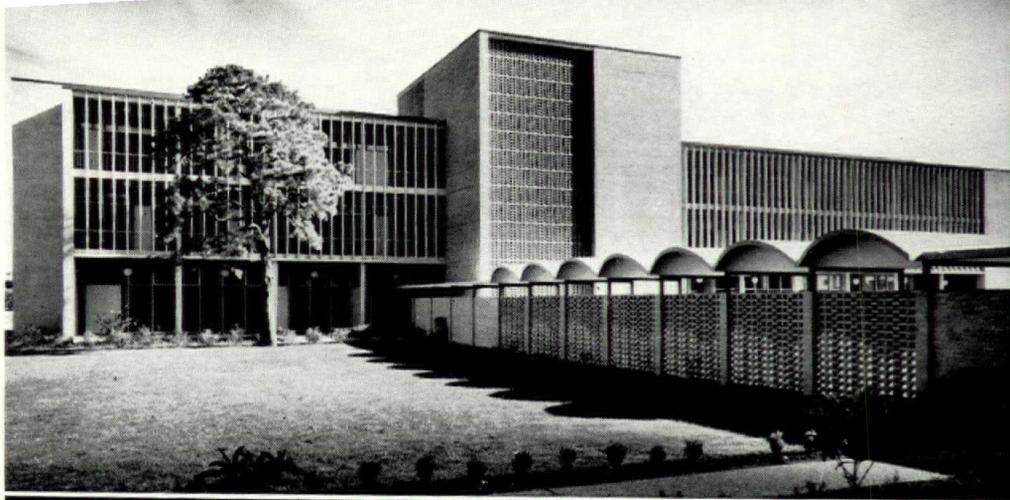
A dignified and thoughtful way to remember a departed friend is to make a donation to the memorial funds of the Texas Architectural Foundation. Chapters, firms and individuals increasingly are taking advantage of this method of demonstrating high regard through a constructive and meaningful expression.

All donations are acknowledged by the officers of the Foundation to the donor and the family or associates of the person memorialized. The application of the gift to further architectural education in Texas is explained.

Next time, send a check to: Texas Architectural Foundation, 327 Perry-Brooks Bldg., Austin.

Honor Award, Institutional Division
Houston Chapter AIA, 1960.

Keith-Wiess Geology Laboratory,
Rice University. One of a group of
three buildings at Rice University.
Pierce and Pierce, Architects.



Honor Award, Commercial Division
Houston Chapter, AIA, 1960.

Gibraltar Savings Building, Hous-
ton. Graecen & Brogniez, Archi-
tects; J. Victor Neuhaus III, Asso-
ciate Architect.



Honor Award, Commercial Division
Houston Chapter, AIA, 1960.

Medical Towers. Golemon & Rolfe'
Architects-Engineers; Skidmore,
Owings & Merrill, Associate Archi-
tects.



Drive Right Inn!

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to your room

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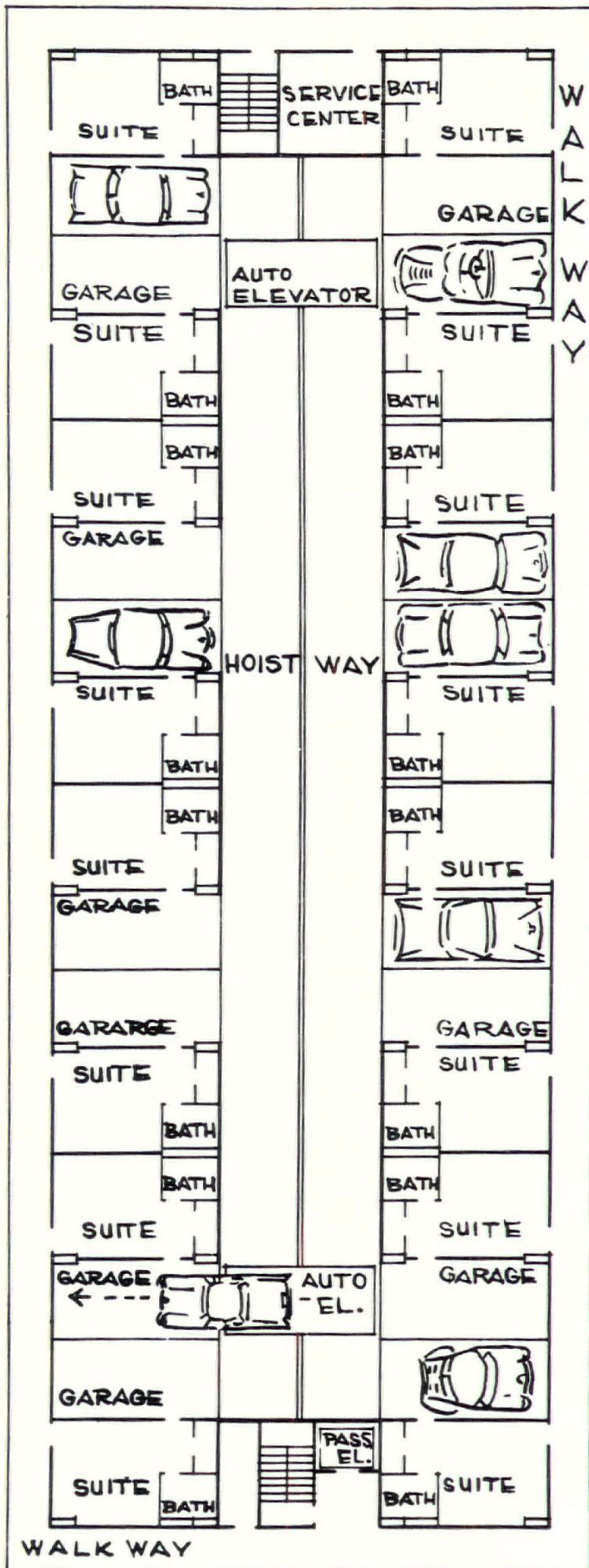
unique hotel

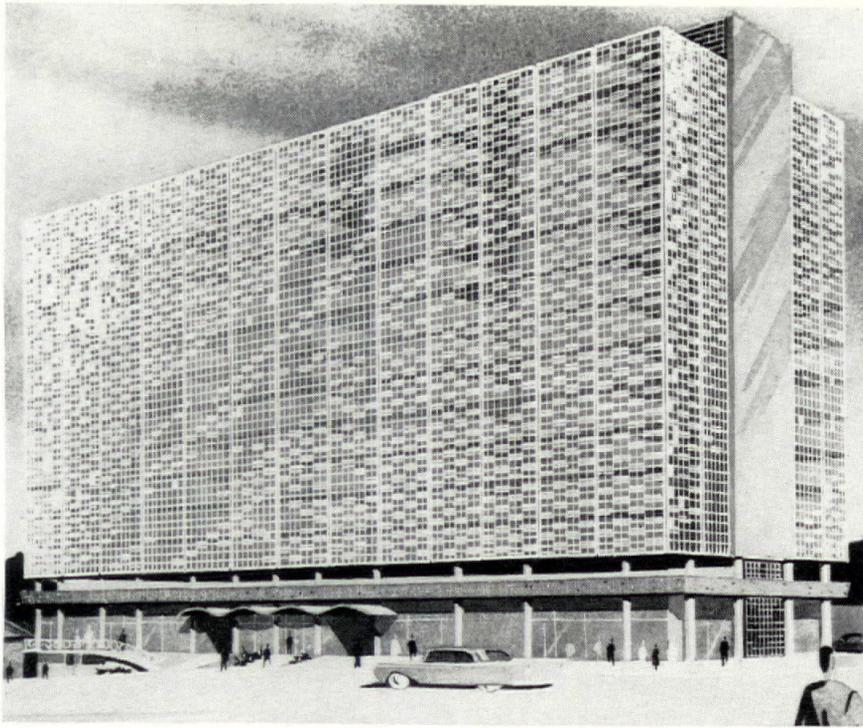
A revolutionary hotel designed in Dallas, will whisk a guest, in his car, right to his suite on any one of 12 floors — and he can buy a pack of cigarettes while he is going up.

Franchise operation plans have been formulated for the Skyhost Motor Hotel, a unique structure which will offer motel privacy and drive-in-and-out convenience in a tall building on a downtown lot. Williford & O'Neal of Dallas are architects and engineers for the project.

Skyhost eliminates bellmen, parking garage attendants, and elevator operators, yet delivers the guest, his car and his luggage to his suite two minutes after he drives into the hotel.

The traveler drives right up to a "Floating Lobby Car Lift," an auto-passenger elevator that also contains a newsstand, cigar counter, cold drinks, an ice machine, and all the other essentials of a front office — room service center combined. The room clerk in the elevator registers





This architect's sketch shows the exterior, featuring walls of pre-cast concrete of the new motor hotel in which guests go up to their rooms in their own automobiles.

the guest while the car is being hoisted to his suite. And the minute the patron's car is delivered to his private car port next to his room, the door to the elevator shaft is electronically locked for complete safety.

Skyhost will cost approximately \$10,000 a unit to build, as opposed to \$15,000 and up, per room, for a conventional type hotel, according to Paul C. Bryant, the Dallas hotel man who invented this "pigeon-hole parking" room plan.

The Skyhost plan includes pool, coffee shop and lobby.

The salesman who carries expensive samples needs the security of his own locked garage combined with the convenience of a central location. The traveling family appreciates having the car accessible day and night without the bother of unloading. The modern luxury of the living room-type units, the absence of tipping, which is prohibited, and the time saved, appeals to all.

The owners of Skyhost, Inc., esti-

mate that more than 100 of these hotels will be built during the next five years under franchise agreements. Patent has been applied for.

Original plans call for 240 suites with a private car port adjacent to each room. All rooms have outside exposure and will be 13 feet by 22 feet, including baths, and will feature convertible sofa beds. The car ports are 12 feet wide by 22 feet long.

There will be two "Floating Lobby Car Lifts" and one self-service passenger elevator.

Skyhost is designed for small lots in downtown areas. The minimum lot is 72 feet wide, 80 feet deep. Basic plans call for a 12-story structure, although it could range from five to twenty stories.

The operation has been planned to give a maximum of service with a minimum of personnel. One person handles the job of room clerk, bellman, and elevator operator, eliminating waiting time. Service centers on each floor can vend anything from aspirin to club soda, thus reducing calls for room service. The guest serves himself and saves the tip.

The floating car lifts will operate in a central shaft which will be com-

pletely enclosed for safety. Only the guest rooms, elevators, and main floor areas will be air conditioned as the car ports and walkways will be open to the outside air.

The entire building, of contemporary design, is to be constructed of reinforced concrete with outside walls of pre-cast concrete, fireproofed and easily maintained.

Except for the self-service passenger elevator, all elevator service will be controlled from the elevators themselves. When a guest wishes to leave with his car, he merely phones and within two minutes he can drive into the floating car lift and be on his way down to the street. He does not have to wait 15 to 30 minutes while a garage attendant delivers his auto to the hotel door.

Each room will have its own refrigerator and ice cuber, which will be stocked each day with soft drinks, at no extra cost. Most rooms will be of the studio type, parlors by day and bedrooms at night. Executive one-room suites will have a desk and typewriter.

The coffee shop, pool, and main lobby will be combined into one large area on the ground floor so that guests may have breakfast, lunch and dinner around the pool if so desired. The heated pool will be arranged for inside swimming in the winter, and outside swimming in the summer or a combination of both in all seasons of the year. Pool and sun decks can also be placed on the roof of the building, along with club rooms and lounges. Room service will be provided for dinners from the coffee shop.

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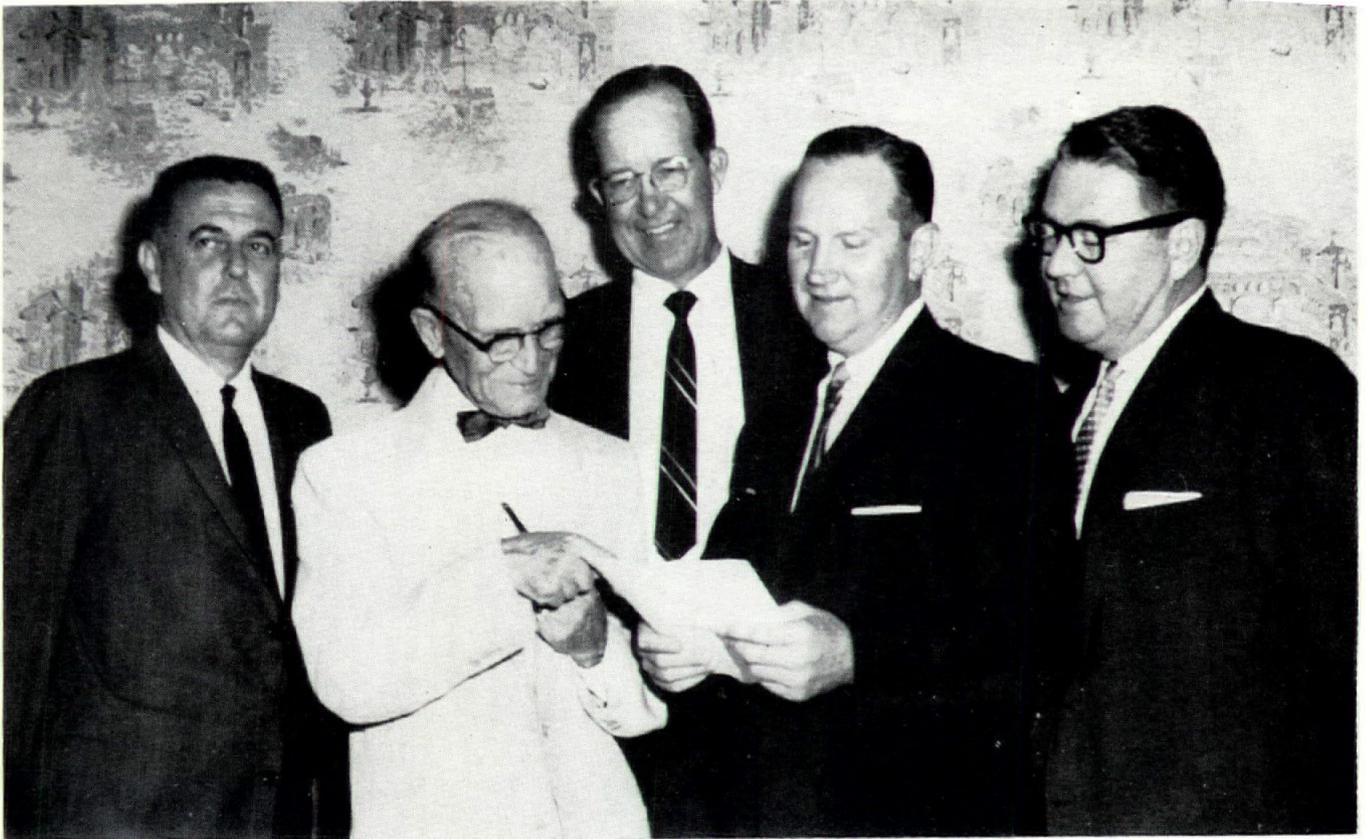
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Plans for the T. S. A. Convention and interchange of chapter ideas, problems and possible solutions were paramount topics recently when TSA President Jack Corgan and Executive Director John Flowers visited in El Paso with Louis Daeuble, Jr., TSA director; William G. Wuehrman, chapter president; and Edwin C. Carroll, TSA convention chairman. The T. S. A. Convention will be held November 2, 3, and 4th. (Photo is by Don Lund of the El Paso Times.)

RICHARDS HONORED

John N. Richards, Toledo architect, was awarded an honorary fellowship in the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada at ceremonies held recently in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.

At the same time the Institute also awarded honorary fellowships to John G. Diefenbaker, Canadian prime minister, and to Sir Basil Spence, president of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

Mr. Richards, senior partner of Bellman, Gillett & Richards, Toledo

architectural and engineering firm, has recently completed two years service as president of the American Institute of Architects.

Earlier, Mr. Richards was made an honorary corresponding member of the Canadian and British architectural groups, an honorary fellow of the Philippine Institute of Architects and a member of the Mexican Society of Architects.

"Pat" Morcom Joins PCA

James A. "Pat" Morcom has joined the staff of Portland Cement Association. This announcement was made recently by the Texas District of that organization. Morcom will serve in the capacity of structural engineer in the Houston area. He is a graduate of the University of Texas with B.S. and M.S. degrees in Architectural Engineering. His previous professional experience includes service with the Bridge Division of the Texas State Highway Department as well as employment with Walter Moore, Consulting Engineering firm in Houston.

Why That Name?

(Continued from Page 7)

siders best; or if no name is suggested, the Commission designates one.

The first announcement of the new name given by the Commission appears on the proration schedule when the field's production allowance is assigned.

The reasons for following all these steps in giving a name to each field is fairly obvious. To prorate oil, regulatory bodies set up records on each producing area; oil companies keep production and other types of records on all fields; individuals talk and correspond with one another about the oil areas. A common term for each area speeds communication.

So, while members of the oil industry — individual operators, companies, and regulatory bodies — name oil fields primarily because names are useful and necessary, they unconsciously preserve through a variety of names many of the local oddities and much of the romance and flavor of the past.



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EACH IS THE

Architect of His Own Future

(Editor's Note: The following is the winning essay in the 12th annual Essay Contest conducted by the Optimist Club of Fort Worth. It was written by Miss Patricia Ann Williams, senior, Arlington Heights High School. She was awarded a \$100 scholarship for first prize in the competition. The second place winning essay, written by Paul Blackwell, Jr., appeared in the May issue. We are grateful to Earl E. Koeppe, president of the Fort Worth Chapter, A.I.A. for forwarding Miss Williams' essay.)

By PATRICIA ANN WILLIAMS

EVERY person is, in a sense, an architect. Not necessarily as a constructor of buildings but in the science and art of the creation of one's future life and goals.

As in every vocation there must first be a dream of the finished ideal. I am the doctor—I am the lawyer—I am the scientist—I am the laborer—I am the leader—of tomorrow. Why? Because I am the teenager of today. This is my dream—to be worthy of my country and my people.

Before my final dream can be realized I must first clear a space for my construction. In my character I must wipe out hatred, prejudice, envy, and deceit, so that I may have a clean, clear basis for the foundation outlined on the blueprint of my life. This "blueprint" is the science of my architecture. It is made up of my desires, interests, and imagination.

My beginning foundation has been partially started for me by those with whom I am associated — my parents, friends and teachers. I must always be mindful, however, of the fact that the crowd cannot follow me if I follow the crowd so I must, of necessity, possess a certain quality of individualism.

The next progressive step toward my dream is that of a protective

wall from the world and society. This wall is provided through education and experience, as they are vital to the maturity of an individual. Maturity cannot be measured in years alone. This stage of life comes through the realistic acceptance of disappointment and failure, together with the determination of will to overcome defeat and strive for victory. My past experiences should serve as a guide to the future.

The art involved in the construction of my dream combines all the elements of today's life and hopes for tomorrow's. It has been said that "The symmetry of a beautifully-designed building is like a rhythm of poetry and music." Such is the well-founded personality development of an individual.

Before my dream can be fulfilled I must, of necessity, have the desire and the will to put forth the needed effort for achievement. The ever-changing social and economic conditions of my world demand that I develop myself into a mature, well-rounded person, capable of meeting these demands. I must always keep in mind that a life well-conceived and executed is a source of perpetual satisfaction not only to myself, but to my country and my fellow citizens as well. As was once said by A. A. Hodge, "No one can ever rise above that at which he aims."

The best ideas are more exciting
in **concrete**



Robin Lake dining pavilion, Ida Cason Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia. Architects: Aeck Associates, Atlanta, Ga. Structural Consultants: Drake, Funsten & Harrison, Atlanta, Ga.

Gay parasols of concrete add a festive touch to eating out

Conical bowls atop slender concrete stems create a roof that's unusual and dramatic. For a pavilion where informal meals are meant to be fun, these parasols give just the right atmosphere.

Only in concrete do such architectural flights of fancy become so down-to-earth practical. With its unique plasticity, concrete provides endless creative potential.

Architects today are finding more and more new uses for concrete — as a basic structural material of exciting natural beauty as well as great strength. It's stimulating a whole new trend in contemporary American structures.