

ARIZONA ARCHITECT



AUGUST 1960, Vol. 3, No.

12

Architecture for the aged and handicapped

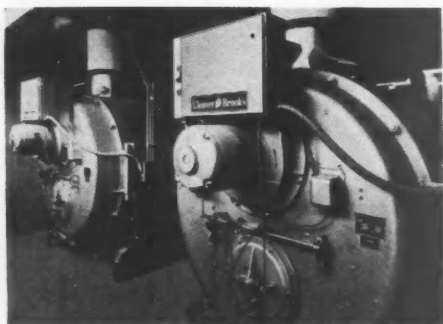
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August, 1960

Volume 3, No. 12

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TO THE POINT

YOU'LL NEVER MISS A WARRANTY UNTIL YOUR ROOF BEGINS TO LEAK!

A frequent grievance among the complaints we hear concerns faulty roof installations where the architect or building owner learns to his surprise that his roof is not covered by a performance warranty. A little investigation turned up some interesting reasons why. It seems that many of the newer metal roofing fabricators are involved in strictly local operations. Most of these firms have had no national experience on metal mechanical batten roofing, and are really graduate built-up roofers taking a fling at metal roofing. Problems relating to climatic conditions, expansion and contraction, and leak-proof engineering design are beyond their ken.

Even for many major-sized companies, roof fabrication has been a recent marketing experiment to make use of idle facilities. Few of these larger fabricators will chance a lengthy warranty on this highly specialized fabrication and erection. As far as we know, no metal roof fabricator offers a warranty comparable to Overly's 15-year, leak-proof performance.

More Innovations were made in door styles and finishes in the year of 1959 than any other, but 1960 promises to set new records. More color variations in textured enamel finishes will be used, indicating a trend to bright, complementary colors in non-residential building. New laminated vinyls and hand-grained finishes will add new color and texture to modern office decors. Regardless of how you look at it, the architect will have a larger selection of door styles, colors and finishes in 1960.

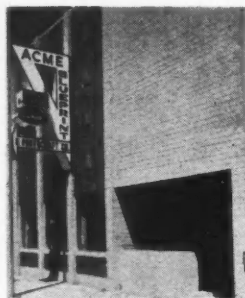
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THE PRESIDENTS' PAGE



**SOUTHERN
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**CENTRAL
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CHAPTER**



Jimmie R. Nunn

GUEST COLUMN BY EDWARD H. NELSON, AIA

I AM SOMETIMES reminded by handicapped friends of the lack of consideration given the handicapped by those concerned with the design and construction of buildings.

A survey of the Tucson community a few years ago showed that 10% of the people living in Tucson were handicapped. This means that ten per cent have difficulty climbing stairs or are unable to negotiate stairs in a wheel chair. Many of this group cannot use the toilet room facilities normally provided. Many cannot open heavy plate glass doors or negotiate narrow doorways. People in wheel chairs have difficulty turning around in narrow hallways. Most arthritics are sensitive to drafty ventilation and air conditioning. Handicapped people would not be able to reach fire exits as fast as able bodied people.

Architects can do a lot to improve the conditions found in our public buildings which give the handicapped such trouble. They can provide ramps, preferably with not over a 1 in 10 slope at all major exits. They can design toilet rooms so as to provide a little more space than usual in one toilet stall and provide a wider door or a curtain to the stall and if they will space one lavatory a little wider apart from the rest.

If architects would provide sliding doors which a crippled hand can operate or at least light-weight swinging doors which do not offer too great resistance, the lot of the handicapped person would be improved.

I am told by a friend, who is president of a group of handicapped persons in Tucson, that there are practically no recreational buildings in Tucson which the handicapped can use conveniently. In fact, this group has started a building of their own which will provide a suitable recreation center for them. But they are still hoping that other buildings such as churches, theatres, meeting halls and restaurants will also be available to them as well as to the able-bodied ninety per cent of the population.

IT WAS MY PLEASURE to show a visiting architect around our Valley recently. Rudi Klimmeck is from Hannover, Germany, visiting our city through an exchange program operated by The Experiment in International Living.

Hannover, Germany, has a population of 600,000 and for this amount of people there are 400 architectural offices. Rudi explains that of these 400 about 60% are one-man offices, where the wife does the typing; 25% are offices with two to four men and a girl; 10% have four to eight employees and there are a few offices that have many employees and are referred to as "factories." The fees charged for their work is about the same as here in Arizona for various types of projects, but they perform a different type of service for that fee.

The first thing the German architect must do is to find a site for the client, and since land, suitable and available, is hard to locate, this could be a task indeed. Next the architect must do the design work and at the same time arrange the financing. He must secure the loan and arrange all the paperwork in behalf of the owner. After this has been done the architect then proceeds to write the specification, before working drawings, that is. Their specifications are very detailed and lengthy, giving all the quantities as well as materials and workmanship. The bids are then taken on these specifications, many items being "unit prices," while the working drawings are being prepared. The drawings themselves are very minimum since most of the detail is worked out on the job by thorough supervision.

On many smaller projects, the architect must also act as the general contractor and sub out the work he cannot do with construction men of his own. This, of course, is all done for the one fee quite similar in compensation to our own.

It was very interesting to talk with Rudi Klimmeck and discuss some of their problems; ours don't seem nearly so big anymore.

Senior Citizens Have Pressing Needs

"We cannot think of older people simply in terms of geriatrics . . . the person, and his whole background, must be understood."

A gradually awakening concern for the welfare of elder citizens is one of the few bright spots in an otherwise murky national picture.

There is, I believe, a distinct parallel between the lack of interest in "our own" and the tragic position in which we continually find ourselves as a nation. National strength and vigor cannot feed upon poverty and useless lives. The elder citizens on whom we too-often turn our backs today represent yesterday's voice in a world which recognized America as a leader and champion of just causes because she led from a position of total inner strength. This strength grew from the very roots of our heritage, which was based upon family, God and country. That heritage cannot survive without its essential roots; ignoring elder citizens' needs hastens erosion of all three roots.

In this article I am thinking about the vast majority of senior citizens who have not been able to provide adequately for their old age, rather than those who have. This majority can and must be better cared for and the first step in learning how to do it is to acquire an understanding of the problem of aging.

We cannot think of older people simply in terms of geriatrics and then, as architects, try to provide the little niceties and gadgets to contribute to their ability to take better care of themselves. While these things are important, they are only crutches or canes; the architect's responsibility looms much larger.

The person, and his whole background, must be understood. Why is it that persons, upon reaching a certain age, suddenly become more of a problem to care for and house than other groups? Why all of a sudden have they become any different from older people of previous generations?

One of the primary reasons senior citizens present different problems today than they did yesterday is the continual and rapid break-up of the three-generation home. Time, circumstances of national origin, changes of custom and transportation, among other factors, have contributed to this break-up. Most modern businesses which arbitrarily condemn a man to

uselessness at age 65, and women even earlier, also contribute to the difference. The irony of present life is that the better nutrition and medical care a man has during productive years too-often simply provides him more years filled with the problems of staying alive.

Our concern for these people should be more than helping them sustain life through these longer years. It should be directed toward helping them live more productive lives. I believe oldsters would prefer a shorter, but full and busy life, than a longer, but forgotten and useless, existence. A life of quality is better than a life of mere quantity.

All men should be given the opportunity to provide for old age, but today's tax structure and living costs make this impossible for all but a very few of our citizens. It is true that the opportunity still exists, but rules enforcing the provision handicap the majority. Social security, which allows some, and forces most, to contribute toward a meager inheritance, has probably kept many a body and soul together. But at the same time its provisions which limit income beyond specific amounts without loss of social security benefits have prevented the use of many years of learned and experienced minds. To be sure, persons on social security can, after age 75, earn any amount without loss of benefits, but national statistics show that after age 75 most persons need fairly constant care and hence are seldom able to contribute to their needs.

To this dilemma is added another source of confusion. While a person works, his main thought and energies are focused on his job. First it is because he is young and ambitious, and his work enables him to raise his family. Then his attention to his job means promotion and getting things he wants for his family. As his family grows up and leaves, the job means building up a nest egg for the future, keeping a large house, continuing social functions and obligations. Suddenly he's 65 and no longer needed.

He now finds himself confronted with his hobbies, perhaps a too-large house and social habits far too heavy to carry on a suddenly reduced income. His free time places him at home a great deal, where,

By

Frederick P. Weaver, AIA



Tucson Chamber of Commerce Photo

because they are constantly together, he and his wife must adjust to a new relationship. The house, because it is too large to maintain on the reduced income, must be sold and the residence changed. This, in turn, means breaking of old neighborhood ties and the forming of new friendships. Smaller quarters and new neighborhoods often change or limit hobbies which have contributed to peace of mind.

In smaller living quarters the oldsters find it more difficult for their children and their growing families to visit, thus beginning further deterioration of the family with its resultant confusion and emptiness. This causes a feeling of loss of the greatest strength of their past, *love*.

Is it any wonder that we see confusion, fear and a little resentment in the eyes of our older citizens? Denied the opportunity to save adequately for their future during their working lives by confiscatory taxes and a drift in our government away from the principles that once helped provide the inner strength of its people to accept its obligations and provide for its future — on their own or with the help of their children — they now are dependent upon social security, small pensions and what little they have been able to save before age 65.

Older citizens can be classified in three groups:

Group 1 — Those whose plans have been successful

and who have been able to provide adequately for their future.

Group 2 — Those whose plans for retirement have been partially successful and will be able to live, but may not necessarily enjoy life.

Group 3 — Those whose lives have consisted of hardships, shattered dreams and plans and those who find their lives lonely after being widowed.

It is obvious that there is no clear distinction between the groups. There will always be overlapping. For example, loneliness caused by the death of a partner, or illness, can affect a person in any group. But for the purposes of this article, the division is primarily an economic one.

It is immediately apparent that those persons in group one need considerably less help than the others. Insofar as building developments in Arizona are concerned, this group is being taken care of, or at least substantial strides are being made by private investors. This is to be commended and is of demonstrable benefit to the state.

(I do, however, question the soundness of these recent developments so far as care for the aged is concerned, since in most instances they are still merely housing developments for an older age group. Even this group will have to undergo additional changes in housing as the people approach the position where

SENIOR CITIZENS

they can no longer care for themselves. These developments can still provide for their necessities in physical space, but cannot provide the *shrinkage* of space required as the oldsters become more confined, bereft and unable to care for their homes and bodies. How much better it would be if they had gone that extra mile and provided for their needs from retirement to death as is being done in some instances. If they had done so, they would not need to undergo another experience of change at a time when they are least able to accept it.)

(Editor's note: See article on "Desert Crest," page 16.)

Since the persons in group one represent only a small percentage of the senior population and are obviously in a financial position to care for themselves, we should focus our attention on groups two and three.

The national average income of the aged is small. Half of the urbanized couples live on incomes under \$2800 per year, and 20% of these, along with half of single elderly women, live on incomes of less than \$1000 per year. In Arizona the social security office reports a total of 33,932 aged receiving benefits, with an average of \$72.69 per month, from social security. However, there are 84,680 people in Arizona over 65 years of age. Therefore only 38.7% are receiving social security benefits. The median of these over 65 with

outside income was \$966.00 for men and \$715.00 for women, while 17% of the men and 71.9% of the women reported no income.

Thus only a little more than a third of the aged in Arizona receive benefits from social security. Very few have disability payments and it is difficult to determine how many are employed full time.

Arizona is below the national average of aged per total population with 6.51%. With our fast growing population and increasing recognition of our climatic conditions and excellent medical and hospital facilities, we will soon reach and pass the national average of 8.35%. Arizona has now passed California in number of aged migrating to our state in proportion to total population.

Two Solutions

This subject is too broad to be adequately covered in the space of one article and there are many types of solutions that should be discussed. However, since there are generally recognized patterns of housing and care for the aged I shall program for the aged in general and discuss two possible solutions.

The planned neighborhood community for the aged is the ideal. Under this solution one must first determine the number of aged people to accommodate in a neighborhood unit. For this answer we would have to find the normal age distribution of the whole community. Recognized authorities maintain that there

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should be from five to eight people over 65 in every 100 people so that in a neighborhood unit of 1,000 there would be between fifty to eighty old people. Therefore, any large-scale development that upset this proportion should be avoided. The aged should not be too widely dispersed in the neighborhood group because of the need for companionship and nursing care as they become more infirm. They likewise should not be placed too close together because oftentimes one old individual of the wrong type can upset and have a disruptive influence on the others. A dozen grouped in single rooms or apartments is a good number to follow. Too many grouped together also takes on an institutional atmosphere.

Grouping of the aged in housing units with young people makes it possible to change age groups from up-stairs to down-stairs. As the older become infirm the younger people can move up-stairs when their children advance in years. We are told that the number of people over 65 is roughly equivalent to the number of children under six or seven, and approximately the same conveniences are required for each of these age groups. Both young and old need special bodily care. They both need to be guarded from moving vehicles. The coordination of the very young is similar to the aged. The very young and the very old should avoid long flights of stairs. The withdrawal of the aged is similar to the absorption of the younger

child. In a well-designed neighborhood unit it would be possible for the aged to go to any part of it with ease and without crossing busy streets. Such a community should include, or be adjacent to, a shopping area, library, variety store, drug store, churches, and theatres, for example.

This type of development for the aged leaves him within the area of established friendships. Even though he has had to move from large, familiar quarters to new, smaller ones he has not been forced to leave old, familiar environments. The association with young adults and children — but without their responsibilities — helps to rekindle a portion of his past life and give him fresh contacts with the new generation, thus encouraging him to develop new interests or keep old ones alive. It is possible to find light tasks to help occupy time or to stretch tight pensions and/or social security checks. Baby-sitters in some communities have become a luxury for young adults. This task can be done by the oldsters and provide both with financial relief. The older women in such a community could occasionally cook or sew for pay. The chance to do these and other simple tasks would give greater happiness for both the young and old. The aged would thus be released from the endless viewing of television, which may become an invitation to second childhood.

Elder people need activities, not just hobbies, and



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SENIOR CITIZENS

normal participation in the activities of a mixed community. This type of relatively small, well-planned, mixed community could provide for both groups one and two. However, it is improbable that it could be financed to care for the really destitute of group three.

Group three, those urgently in need of both housing and medical care can, in this writer's opinion, be taken care of only with help from the state government. This type of development for the aged, while not so ideal as the other, still is a good "half-loaf", and will provide the main needs of our aged. They should still be part of a mixed community. We cannot accomplish this in total for these people but our recommendation of program will accomplish a portion of this philosophy. Their quarters should not be too outwardly different from that of other aged groups in similar group housing. They should be sited, so far as possible, where there is a play of diverting activity, near a shopping center or a school, so their chances of being visited casually and effortlessly will be increased. Frequent short visits are more refreshing than formal visits tediously prolonged that leave desolate intervals of loneliness between them.

Locations near existing communities or large centers of population offer the elderly much better medical care since general practitioners and specialists are available when needed. The location near a shopping center gives the oldsters an opportunity to browse and visit the five and dime, have a coke at the drugstore, pick up a cherished magazine, purchase cigarettes, attend a movie, go to church or work in the church. The oldster, when able, enjoys going to bed late. Thus, given the opportunities to become mildly tired, he sleeps better. The worst thing we could do would be to locate the project on cheap land far away from community life. As is often the case, we place the aged in modern buildings set in ample grounds looking inward on a spacious grassy closure, or over a broad beautiful view. At first glance, the peace and beauty might seem ideal — but the old people know better. Under these conditions their one occupation is to remain alive.

The problem of housing the aged is only one part of the larger problem of restoring old people to a position of dignity and use, giving them new opportunities to form new social ties to help replace those that family dispersal and death have broken. Housing the body and filling the stomach will not be enough. The oldsters' station must be one where each new day can be anticipated for the "something" of interest it will bring and where they can have the opportunity of demonstrating in a positive manner how much fuller life can be in the later years under favorable conditions.

We must plan now — tomorrow may be too late.

CRITIQUE

To the Editor:

I have just looked over the last issue of *Arizona Architect* and hope some day you will see fit to let the students here at the University of Arizona do the same thing. The lads at Tempe did a distinctive job and undoubtedly poured out their souls in so doing.

SIDNEY W. LITTLE
Dean, College of Fine Arts
University of Arizona, Tucson

(Editor's note: U. of A. architectural students will have their chance to edit an issue of *Arizona Architect* early next summer.)

To the Editor:

Thanks for the splendid issue edited by the architectural students at ASU. (July). I was completely overwhelmed by the ability of those students to write — by their perception and devotion. I would have thought those were the writings of much older, experienced men.

NICHOLAS SAKELLAR, AIA
Tucson

MESSIEURS,

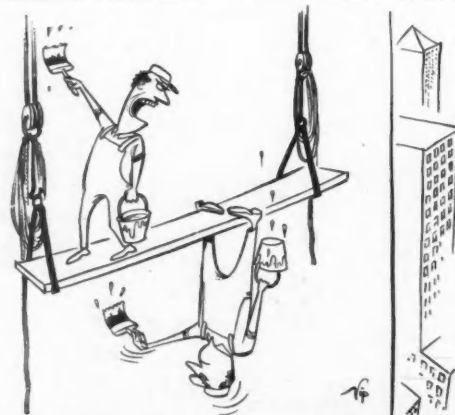
Sous pli separe, je vous envoie un exemplaire du numero 7 de la revue de l'Institut National du Logement, "Habiter", et je serais particulierement desir-eux d'instaurer un service regulier d'echange avec: "The Arizona Architect".

Vous m'obligeriez beaucoup en me faisant connaitre votre point de vue a ce sujet.

Le Secretaire general
C. CRAPPE

INSTITUT NATIONAL DU LOGEMENT
(Brussels, Belgium)

(Editor's note: We are glad to exchange with this official Belgian magazine of housing. Copies of "Habiter" will be on file at our office.)



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Elders' Desires Subject of Studies

Nicholas Sakellar and Associates, Tucson architects, are in the process of designing apartments for the elderly, with three projects on the boards.

In the research and preparation of preliminary drawings, Sakellar has compiled the following information about elderly people which can be useful to architects and others interested in the growing problem of housing for the aged:

1. Fewer than half of the elderly own cars; not so much that they cannot afford them, but that they consider driving more responsibility than they want to assume. The figure would be even smaller if apartments and other housing facilities were located within walking distance of shopping areas, churches, theaters and cultural institutions.

2. Elderly people also prefer being near hotels and restaurants, presumably because they would rather keep a smaller apartment, but must accommodate guests and relatives.

3. We can afford to provide more badly-needed activities such as lawn games, arts and crafts, hobbies, sewing and games rooms, and solariums if we plan more apartments to defray their cost.

4. Elderly people prefer living in apartments with at least a few younger people rather than in those completely occupied by the elderly.



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5. The aged need and want a nearby large area to lease by the day and including a living room, dining room and large kitchen. This enables them to entertain and prepare a meal for a large group occasionally — perhaps only once a year — without having to maintain a large apartment.

6. Retired men still need "to get away from the woman" and would like a "barber shop" with a back room where they can play cards or billiards undisturbed.

7. Elderly people are not "old-fashioned" in their tastes. They want modern furnishings and apartments, with gay colors and exciting accessories. They are sentimental about their possessions, however, and require storage areas for them.

A healthy community, like the many families or individuals which comprise it, is one that is watchfully aware of, and insofar as possible acts with foresight to provide properly for, the needs of its members.

— Frank H. Benecke, Chairman, Committee on the Aged, Tucson Community Council.

Notable Quotes

The greatest pitfall is to think of old age as simply a government problem. It is a *human* problem — and also a great human opportunity. Elderly people are rich in years and potentials, each desiring to fill a useful place. They are all of us — tomorrow or the next day. To discover a fruitful way to use our later years is primarily an individual task, and it is one that should begin in youth. As individuals, we must refocus our sights so that our lifetime purposes and goals embrace the added years that science has given us. For its part, government at all levels must be prepared to supply and expand the services needed to deal with the most striking phenomenon of our century.

— Nelson Rockefeller

We are taking care of our old people inefficiently, especially with regard to finances. Our problem is not *how much* we should spend but how to spend it most effectively, to provide the greater good for the greatest number. Planned housing, taking old people into consideration, would get many of them out of hospitals and institutions and into the community. And that, emphatically, is what most of *them* want to do.

— Dr. Michael M. Dacso



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And You'll Get An Idea Of How 32 Million Americans Feel About

- **STEPS** that prevent, or make painful, entry to churches, libraries, apartments, all kinds of public buildings
- **DOORS** that are too narrow, too heavy, and close too fast
- **ELEVATORS** that can't accommodate wheelchairs and are too hazardous to people using crutches and braces
- **HANDRAILS** that aren't there alongside ramps and unavoidable stairs

Federal Government figures Say There Are:

17 million Americans suffering from some chronic condition that hampers their physical mobility

plus

More than 15 additional millions who, being 65 or over, feel physical limitations normal to advancing age.

That's at least 32 million people, almost a fifth of the total U. S. population. Their lives are made harder – sometimes shortened – by architectural barriers.

These barriers, often felt even by the young and healthy, can be eliminated without adding to costs and without violence to esthetic desiderata.

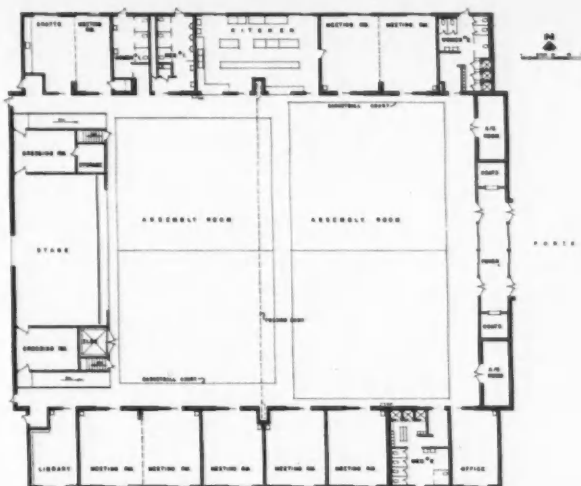
Architects, and teachers of future architects, can do something about this. Keep it in mind, won't you please?



**Arizona Society
for
Crippled Children and Adults,**
(Your Easter Seal Society)
221 Arizona Title Building, 128 N. 1st Ave.,
Phoenix, Arizona

An example of
Considerateness in Oak Creek Canyon

Non-Profit Recreation Center Underway for Tucson Handicapped



With some ten percent of the population of Tucson physically handicapped in one way or another, and with meeting and recreation opportunities for them seriously deficient, a new center for them is needed and being sought.

Homer Dodds, president of the Indoor Sports Club, has announced that his group, which is composed of handicaps of every type and description, including polio victims and arthritics, and the Good Sports Club, which are the able-bodied persons who assist the handicaps, are collaborating to build a new center.

A non-profit corporation formed by the two groups has procured 2½ acres at 1522 South Columbus Blvd., and financing is now being sought for a recreation center designed by Edward H. Nelson, AIA.

The building will be composed of a main auditorium, 100 by 120 feet, with small rooms on each side. The 20-foot ceiling is designed to provide best possible acoustics for the use of the stage.

Underneath the stage and dressing rooms there is a large storage room. An electric lift 8 by 8½ feet will bring articles from the storage room to the auditorium floor. Ramps from the auditorium to the stage level make an easy access for wheel chairs. On the

stage itself is a six-inch railing set back 36 inches from the front of the stage as a safety feature in case a wheel chair were to get out of control. This rail is removable.

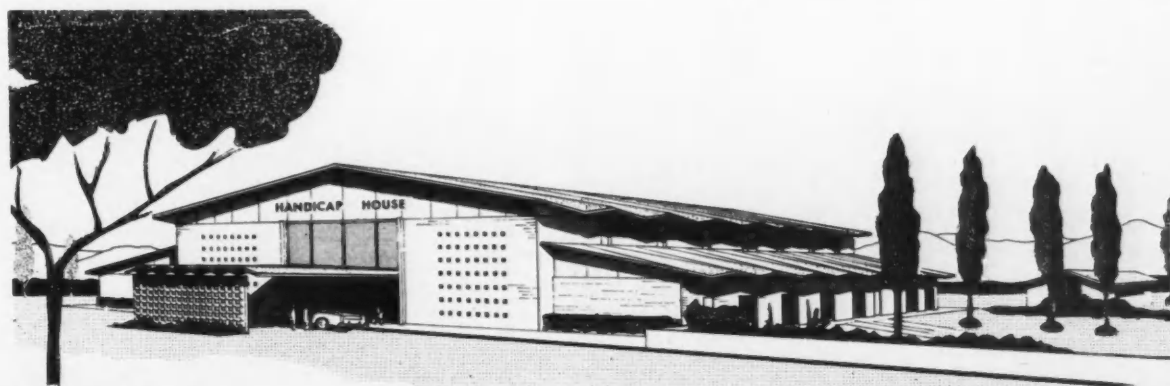
Along each side of the main room are four-foot wide doors leading into a series of 20 by 25-foot meeting rooms. Each has a sliding glass door to the outside. Several of the meeting rooms may be opened up to make double size rooms. A library, craft room and office are also included in plans.

Toilet rooms are designed to accommodate the handicapped as well as able-bodied. Showers are provided for the use of able-bodied in connection with athletic activities.

The air conditioning system is designed to minimize drafts, and a fire sprinkler system will be provided for the protection of the building and occupants and designed to keep annual insurance cost at a minimum.

Contributions for the building fund are tax-deductible and the building will be self-supporting once it is completed.

Present headquarters of the group is at 713 North Desert Blvd., Tucson. Telephone is EAsT 6-8516.



HANDICAP HOUSE, TUCSON

EDWARD H. NELSON, AIA, ARCHITECT

Noted for Quiet Dignity

Desert Crest

Spreading along a shoulder of Squaw Peak in Phoenix is a retirement home whose residents, ranging in age from 65 to 89, can be about as care-free as any persons can be. Each has his (or more accurately her) own neat, air-conditioned apartment or home. There are no steps to negotiate; even persons in wheelchairs or on crutches can travel from one point to any other on smooth covered walkways.

The office is constantly as near as the button on the communications system; all meals are prepared by the staff — there is never a dish to wash. A hospital unit is being constructed on the grounds, and there are hobby and game rooms, library, social hall and large covered porch for games, visiting, and social gatherings.

Operated by Pacific Homes Corporation, affiliated with the Methodist Church, Desert Crest provides paid-up living for the rest of one's life.

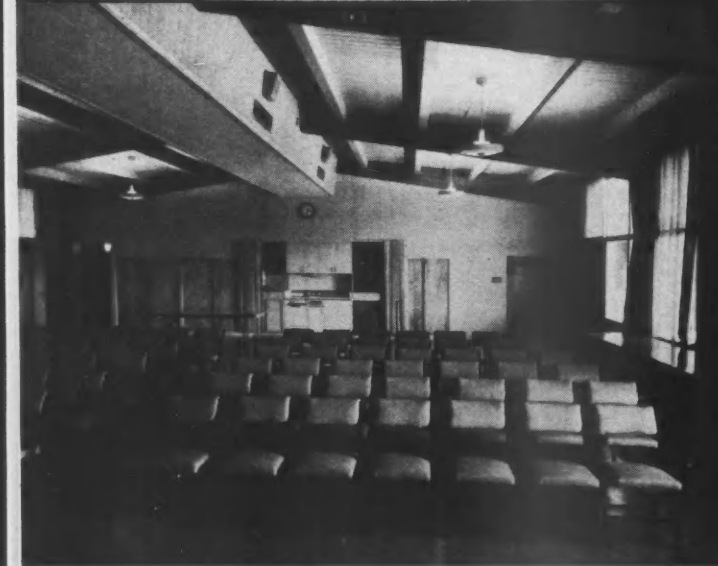
Designed by Weaver and Drover, AIA, Desert Crest was opened in November, 1957. There are now some 53 residents; the capacity of 200 is expected to be reached in three years.

Quiet dignity characterizes Desert Crest. Ceramic bells and other handicrafts, together with limited gardening opportunities, permit individual expression.

Handicraft room is popular, gives opportunity for talents to be expressed. Some very creditable painting is done here.

Movies, church services and other group activities are held in the assembly room.

Covered porch permits games and outdoor social activities to be planned.



Two fees are required of Desert Crest residents. (1) An *accommodation fee* is based upon the size of room or cottage selected, beginning at \$7,500. (2) A *life care fee*, if prepaid, is based on the resident's age at the time he joins.

Desert Crest, like Sun City and many other retirement communities that have been springing up in Arizona, is admittedly for those relatively few persons who have been successful in providing well for their retirement.

At the other end of the scale, destitute aged must find refuge in public facilities or charitable institutions.

Between the two extremes there is a large body of citizens to whom advancing age brings real problems — not only to them but to society as a whole. There is real need for both private and public agencies to concern themselves with this group. Fred Weaver, in his article beginning on page 6, gives some considered suggestions for dealing with the problem.

The great thing that is needed in this country now for modernizing our sprawling urban settlements is not money. It is not cement, steel, and labor. These things we have in abundance now. What we need is awareness; deep concern by the well-informed; local governmental structures laid out for action. But above all we need leadership for action. —Dr. Luther Gulick

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Desert Crest apartments, 2101 East Maryland Ave., Phoenix, was designed by Weaver and Drover, AIA, architects.

Dwyer

Space-Saving Kitchens Offer Compactness and Convenience for Desert Crest apartments, Phoenix.

Quality compact kitchens were planned for Desert Crest — the delightful retirement center in Phoenix operated by a unit of the Methodist Church. A Dwyer Space-Saving* Kitchen was not only selected for the large meeting room, but is being installed in individual apartments whenever a resident desires the extra convenience of his or her own private kitchen.

*Available in 39" to 72" widths, with and without ovens. Exclusive Supplier of Dwyer Kitchens for Arizona and New Mexico.

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24 Retired Couples Daily in Arizona

Variety of Aids to Aged Tried in Other States

Retired couples are moving into Arizona at the rate of one an hour, it was recently estimated by the Arizona Development Board, which predicted that by 1963 retirement will become the state's second or third greatest growth factor.

Several planned communities for retired people already are successful in Arizona, but they are formed primarily for people who can take care of themselves, financially and — for the time being, at least — physically.

Other solutions, too, must be found to appeal to, and take care of the aged; both those groups coming into the state and those already here.

Three cities — Cleveland, San Francisco and New York — have reported success with different types of solutions devised for different categories of the aged.

In Cleveland, the city has provided a low-cost housing project for the aged. To qualify for an apartment, the resident must have an income under \$2,400 yearly. The rent averages \$30 per month.

Significant in the Cleveland project is the careful planning which keeps young people in the commun-

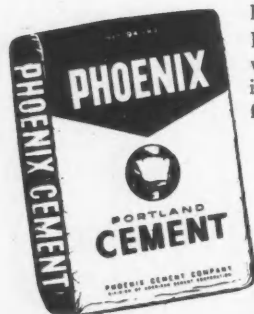
ity. Four of the 12 apartments on each floor are occupied by young adults with children under five. Multi-storied, the buildings are equipped with elevators, nonskid floors, bars over tubs and toilets and other features designed to make them physically liveable for older residents. Yet the key remains the presence of youngsters.

Cleveland's housing director, Ernest Bohn, explained this in *Life*: "We realized that old folks want more excitement than the going and coming of ambulances."

This same realization is evident in the location of San Francisco's Senior Center, one of the few in the country open all-day, every day of the year.

Boasting 700 members, the Senior Center was placed next to the Acquatic Park public swimming beach, where life surges each day. The center is supported by a united fund, private donations, and a membership fee of up to \$1 per month. Average age of its members is 74.

Complete facilities to give lonely people friendship and something to do are provided. According to a *Life* report, such centers are recognized as a vital aid



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"LOOK ABOUT YOU — what you will see is ugliness."

No. 1 SEDONA



for the aged, and a New York study showed that when old people joined a full-time center, their visits to a medical clinic dropped by 70 per cent.

"In seven years," said Life, "when statistically over 50 members should have entered a mental hospital, there was only one who did."

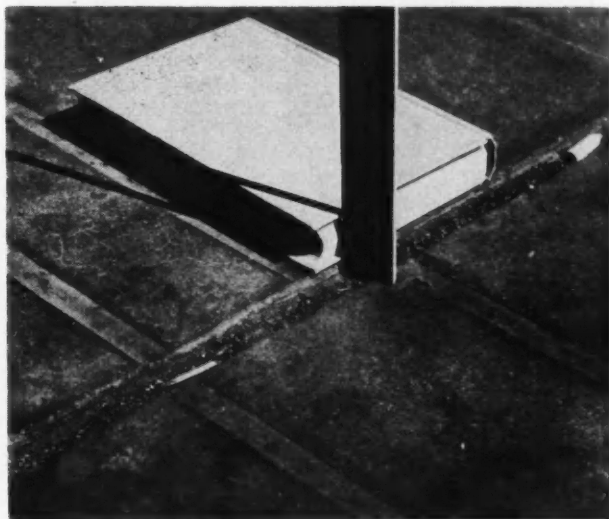
New York also operates a specialized employment service for the aged and attempts to counteract the widespread belief among employers that the aged are too weak or too slow to work.

It seeks to disseminate results of surveys like that

made over a five year period by Consolidated Edison which showed that 20 per cent of its employees at age 65 were still rated far above average.

The company now has a flexible retirement plan and keeps several hundred workers until age 68. It expects to save \$680,000 a year in pension payments while the government saves over half a million dollars in social security.

Community enlightenment and education for retirement would seem, therefore, to be the first steps toward solution of a U.S. — and Arizona — problem.



The elderly and the handicapped could be special victims of your neglect.

Don't let your client be sued for accidents that you could have anticipated — and prevented — by taking adequate soil tests.

This photograph was presented as evidence in a damage suit for injuries sustained in a fall because the walkway had settled and separated.

Rain damage, weakened walls, broken pipes and inoperable doors may also ultimately result when competent soil tests are omitted before construction.

Remember: A structure is only as sound as the foundation on which it is built.

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Old Man...

Institution...

Senile...

Recall for a moment the picture in your mind as you read each of the words above.

They're stark, unwelcome, somehow related, naked.

So they don't involve you directly. Not yet. Your attitude toward them — and what they represent — is colored by your prejudice. Ever since you heard your first children's story, every villain, every repulsive person was *old*, wrinkled, ugly.

Your heroes, though, were young, athletic. As a result of your training, youth, you believe, is everything. Age, at best, is something to be pitied, laughed off, or at. But it will happen to you unless you plan to die young.

There are 18 million Americans alive today over 65 years old. Our life expectancy — and yours — has increased by 20 years in the last half-century. We, victims of the same attitudes toward age, aren't ready for our suddenly changed circumstances. And because we didn't get ready when we were young, we have to depend on younger people today to help us. They, and the country, aren't ready, either.

Three million of us live with our children, loved and loving, but also somewhat useless, interfering, in the way. We're quarrelsome, given to tears, demanding attention and privacy at the same time. We know it. We're most often a burden. But we can't help it. Still, deep down, we know we're better off than others.

Many of us are sick, mentally or physically, and are sent to hospitals and nursing homes to die, forced to sit idly by in overwhelming emptiness. We eat up our own savings and dip deeply into the resources of our families; we cost the government millions in welfare, and we're treated as hopeless. Yet it has been proven in several experiments that half of us could be rehabilitated and directed to useful lives once again. Rehabilitation is costly, but less so than welfare.

Another large group finds only one place to go — a state mental hospital. Yet only about 15 per cent of those of us consigned to an asylum are insane. The other 85 per cent need only supervisory care. We are sent to asylums, usually as a last resort, because our distraught families just don't know what else to do. We haven't learned the difference between senescence — the mere fact of aging — and senility. We refuse to recognize that few people who retain various interests and an enthusiasm for life, become senile. We learn this too late.

Nursing Home...

Asylum...

Pity...

Then there is another group among our number. They can afford comfortable retirements, with useful leisure. But they are few. Senescence inevitably will catch up with them, too. Many will need help before they die.

Yet another group has been able to take advantage of the interest in our problems that has been translated into action and solutions. They live in planned communities and contribute to them. They are ready for death when it comes.

Our numbers are growing. You'll be among them before you know it. Which category will you fall into? Like most of the rest of us, do you expect to be able to retire in leisure? Most all of us expected that. We often lie awake nights wondering what happened to those dreams.

If all responsible citizens and agencies concerned with the problem of aging were to get together and coordinate their efforts, it would not cost any more than is now being spent. Great strides could be made, beginning with education of the young, teaching children that there is nothing to be feared in old age, that it is inevitable.

Attempts starting today to solve these problems won't help most of us now retired.

Will solutions be found before you join us?

— AIA —

To use increments of our growing wealth wisely and prudently for public and immaterial ends: that is the goal, so I believe, toward which our national purpose will now be directed. We have to pay for defense, and there can be no serious dispute that we must pay for it. But we have also to be able and willing to pay for the things which cannot be consumed privately, such as the education of children, the development of beautiful cities and the advancement of knowledge. We have to be able and willing to pay for what is, to put it briefly, civilization itself.

At bottom, we have to do these things because they need to be done, because they have to be done, and because they are supremely worth doing. Even if we were not challenged, we would need to do them for their own sake. We would need to do them even if Russia were still where it was 50 years ago.

— Walter Lippmann, in *Life*

New Products, Publications, Personnel



A new material that makes practical a long-accepted but seldom used concept of room acoustical treatment has been developed by Pittsburgh Corning Corporation.

Named "Geocoustic," the material is acoustical cellular glass; the concept is distributed or "patch" absorption. Featuring rigidity and dimensional stability that allow the material to be precision engineered, the high absorption efficiency of Geocoustic makes it possible to achieve desired acoustical results with smaller and fewer patches. This greatly reduces the cost, and gives the architect a material that is relatively simple to handle from a design standpoint.

Geocoustic is incombustible, rigid, strong, and unaffected by moisture. It is mounted with special acoustic cement, or mechanically.

Mounted on four square pads, each unit sits out 1/2-inch from the wall or ceiling, creating the effect of a resonant chamber.

Available in two standard colors, white and gray, the units can be spray painted before or after installation. For additional information, see page 31.



Patents Pending

Astro-Domettes have been developed for high schools and junior colleges. These units are fabricated on an assembly basis, resulting in high quality yet modest cost. Because sections are stamped or molded, dome components are uniform and interchangeable. Astro-Domettes are available in sizes of 8, 10 and 12 feet outside diameters. A ten foot Fiberglass Astro-Domette weighs about 500 lbs. Each Astro-Domette is equipped with an "Up and Over" shutter system and is manually rotated. Electric drives are available as an accessory.

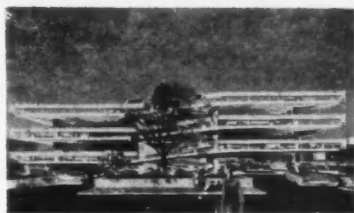
Manufactured by Astro-Dome, Inc., 1801 Brownlee Ave., N.E., Canton 5, Ohio, the units are immediately available.

Superior Sand and Gravel, Division of Fisher Contracting Co., has been licensed by Tishman Research Corporation to fabricate components for "Tierpark," a new precast and prestressed concrete parking facility estimated to cost an average of \$1,200 per car.

The new facility produces a single-tier parking structure that can be erected in days, or a multi-tier structure that can be erected in weeks. It is possible to first build a structure to accommodate present needs and later to expand it by either increasing the number of tiers or by extending the existing tiers.

The structure is readily demountable with minimum cost and time loss and can be reassembled at a new location.

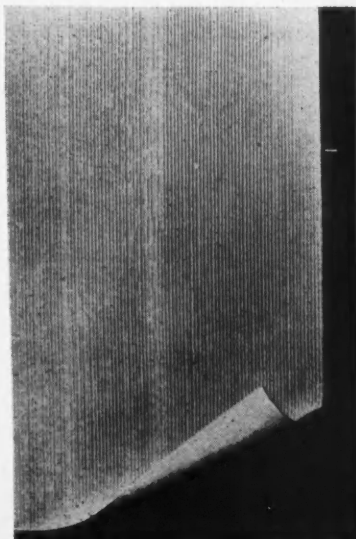
Designed primarily for structures above ground, Tierpark can also be adapted for underground parking.



New Vicrtex VEF Veluto has been announced as a long-lasting, attractive vinyl wallcovering for lightly trafficked areas. It blends its lighter weight with a distinctive tri-dimensional rippled texture, and was specifically designed by L. E. Carpenter & Company, New York, to meet the needs for decorating-beauty-on-a-budget.

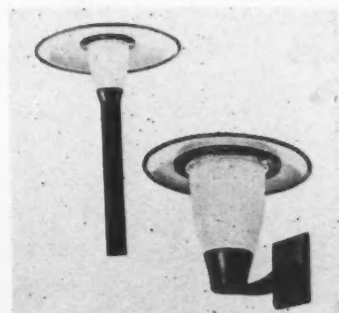
Like all the more than 50 Vicrtex wallcoverings, Veluto will not chip, crack, peel, fray or scuff. It resists stain, flame, soil and weather. It may be cleaned with a damp cloth, and comes in a range of 17 colors.

Prices, sample swatches and full information on Veluto, as well as a colorful brochure of all Vicrtex VEF vinyl wallcovering patterns, are available from L. E. Carpenter & Company, Inc., Empire State Building, New York 1, N. Y.



SUPER CONCRETE EMULSIONS LTD. has announced that Charles B. Locke of their Concrete Additives Division is representing the firm in the Arizona area working with architects, engineers, testing laboratories, contractors and concrete plants, making a background of years of specialized experience available anywhere accurate concrete and additive formation is desired. S. C. E. concrete additives include Red Label Suconem, Economix and Sica Products such as Plasti-ment.

Mr. Locke has extensive background and experience in the Southwestern construction industry.



Holophane Company, Inc., announces its entry into the residential lighting field. In entering the field, the Company has custom engineered a new series of lights, including three models of a "post-top" (see photo) unit for illuminating walks, drives, patios, gardens, etc., a two-lens multi-purpose light for indoor use, and several versions of a prismatic "drum type" unit for porches, breezeways, carports, etc. Each is specifically engineered for its particular function and, through prismatic control, actually multiplies light emitted from the bare bulb.

Also announced by Holophane is a new two-lens luminaire for kitchen, den, playroom, family room, living room, breakfast nook, dining room or most any home location. It is the first all-purpose indoor residential unit to be offered by Holophane. For additional information write to Holophane Company, Inc., 342 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

To what Sort of Persons the Architect ought to offer his Service.

TH E R E is one Thing that I must not omit here, which relates personally to the Architect. It is, that you should not immediately run and offer your Service to every Man that gives out he is going to build; a Fault which the inconsiderate and vain-glorious are too apt to be guilty of. I know not whether you ought not to wait till you are more than once importuned to be concerned. Certainly they ought to repose a free and voluntary Confidence in you, that want to make use of your Labours and Advice. Why should I offer those Inventions which have cost me so much Study and Pains, to gain perhaps no other Recompence, but the Confidence of a few Persons of no Taste or Skill? If by my Advice in the Execution of your intended Work, I either save you from an unecessary Expence, or procure you some great Convenience or Pleasure; surely such a Service deserves a suitable Recompence. For this Reason a prudent Man should take care to maintain his Reputation; and certainly it is enough if you give honest Advice, and correct Draughts to such as apply themselves to you. If afterwards you undertake to supervise and compleat the Work, you will find it very difficult to avoid being made answerable for all the Faults and Mistakes committed either by the Ignorance or Negligence of other Men: Upon which Account you must take care to have the Assistance of honest, diligent, and severe Overseers to look after the Workmen under you. I would also have you, if possible, con-

cern yourself for none but Persons of the highest Rank and Quality, and those too such as are truly Lovers of these Arts: Because your Work loses of its Dignity by being done for mean Persons. Do you not see what Weight the Authority of great Men is to advance the Reputation of those who are employed by them? And, indeed, I insist the more upon this Piece of Advice, not only because the World has generally a higher Opinion of the Taste and Judgment of great Men, than for the most Part they deserve, but also because I would have the Architect always readily and plentifully supplied with every thing that is necessary for compleating his Edifice; which those of lower Degree are commonly not so able, and therefore not so willing to do: to which add, what we find very frequent Instances of, that where the Design and Invention has been perfectly equal in two different Works, one has been much more esteemed than the other, for the Sake of the Superiority of the Materials. Lastly, I advise you not to be so far carried away by the Desire of Glory, as rashly to attempt any thing entirely new and unusual: Therefore be sure to examine and consider thoroughly what you are going to undertake, even in its minutest Parts; and remember how difficult it is to find Workmen that shall exactly execute any extraordinary Idea which you may form, and with how much Grudging and Unwillingness People will spend their Money in making Trial of your Fancies.

From The Architecture of Leon Batista Alberti, 1755 edition, loaned by Robert Cox, AIA.

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Brenner Renamed To Three-Year Board Term

John Brenner, AIA, past president of Central Arizona Chapter, has been re-

appointed to a three year term on the Arizona Board of Technical Registration.

First appointed to fill a Board vacancy May 26, 1954, Brenner has served continuously since that date, and last year served as Board Secretary.

Representing the state on the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, Brenner is now treasurer of that organization. His new term on the Arizona Board, by appointment of Governor Fannin, runs until June 30, 1963.

— AIA —

We still have the possibility, here in America, of building a civilization based on Man, where the importance of an enterprise is judged less by its financial profits than by the kind of community it creates; where the measure of a man is his own character, not his power or his wealth.

—Charles A. Lindbergh

It's Only Skin Deep!



A building's facade may take many shapes and forms. It may be modern and functional. It may stress the beauty of Colonial lines. Or it may stress the baroque and bizarre.

No matter what its contours, one fact remains — the basic structure is most important.

A major part of that basic structure is a well-planned layout covering plumbing, heating and air conditioning. That, of course, is because good mechanical plans assure speedy and clean installations.

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 Cummings, John 607 E. 4th St., Scottsdale
 Glasco, Dean Lydell 8146 E. Palo Verde Rd.,
 Scottsdale
 Greene, Montgomery Adams 8134 E. Palm Dr.,
 Scottsdale
 Guttman, Herman Beverly Hills, California
 Harman, John J., Jr. Glendora, California
 Liberty, James S. Albuquerque, New Mexico
 Lindlan, James F. 110 E. Claremont, Phoenix
 McDaniel, James Brooks Las Vegas, Nevada
 Mackie, David Kansas City 3, Kansas
 Miller, L. Don 4138 E. MacDonald Dr., Phoenix
 Miller, Richard M. 1401 E. Camelback Rd., Phoenix
 Murphy, Roy D. Urbana, Illinois
 Oberg, Kenneth I. 3326 W. Glenn Dr., Phoenix
 Parish, William Lane 143 W. Oregon, Phoenix
 Schauer, Glen R. 2124 W. Cactus Wren Dr., Phoenix
 Seader, Philip Joseph 4517 E. Eastland, Tucson
 Smith, Waugh Long Beach, California
 Taylor, Dee Raymond Provo, Utah
 Welch, Wallace Edward 2218 N. 72nd Pl., Scottsdale



HARDWARE TIPS

by Veron Junger, A.H.C.
THE FINISHING TOUCH

There seems to be a trend among architects toward more accent on accents. One place this trend shows up in the builders hardware field is in a greater demand for distinctive and decorative push and pull units for commercial and industrial buildings. This demand has caused a number of manufacturers to come up with a wide variety of new designs in wood and metal blended together. There are standard designs and also made-to-order service for people who wish to design their own hardware around a theme such as a company trade mark or a cross in the case of churches.

Various metals such as brass, chrome, aluminum and bronze are intricately worked with domestic and foreign hardwoods such as teak, walnut, oak, birch and African mahogany to provide door hardware of durability and artistic interest. Designs run the gamut from light and delicate to massive and dignified. This new trend toward art in door hardware for commercial, civic and organizational buildings is a welcome companion for the imported Spanish and Italian ornate brass hardware enjoying increased use in high-quality residential work.

It's something to be proud of, too, especially since it's made in U.S.A. and, in its own way, helps to fight, with a welcome note of individuality, the increasing sameness of our mass-produced society.

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"Feeling" Distinguishes Architecture from Building

What distinguishes architecture from mere building is feeling. Such feeling has little to do with cleverness or even intelligence as such because it is found in humble people living simple lives; but in so far as architecture is an art complicated by the diversity of its social demand and the materials and structures of its composition, and being in addition long drawn in its process, temptation towards superficial activity and cleverness is strong and the maintenance of true feeling the more difficult.

Yet the richness of architecture and the depth of the response it invokes is directly proportionate to the range and intensity of feeling available at the moment of intuition. And it is personal experience. No amount of knowledge and experience held by a group, no quantities of libraries, no store-houses of statistics, unless they have been absorbed through the consciousness of an individual, are of any value.

So, therefore, I have to imagine the truly dedicated architect as one lying open to all the impressions of the world about him, but particularly to the effects of nature and nature's substitute, art; who is of the world and yet apart from it because it is his particular task to seek the reality underlying appearances; to

find the structure of human associations equally with the simpler structures that are the mechanics of his construction; to feel the nature of the materials he is to bend to his purposes; to sense the onslaught of the seasons, and the beat of time; and finally to know within him, and to trust, the promptings of his own heart and the stirrings of those instincts that shape his mind and guide his hand to the creation of the unities that are the reflection of complete small worlds of idea and matter.

— E. Maxwell Fry. C.B.E. (F)

in *Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects*

AIA

The architecture we seek shall be as a man active, alert, supple, strong, sane. A generative man. A man having five senses all awake; eyes that fully see; ears that are attuned to every sound; a man living in his present, knowing and feeling the vibrancy of that every moving moment, with heart to draw it in and mind to put it out: that incessant, that portentous birth, that fertile moment which we call Today!

— Louis Sullivan



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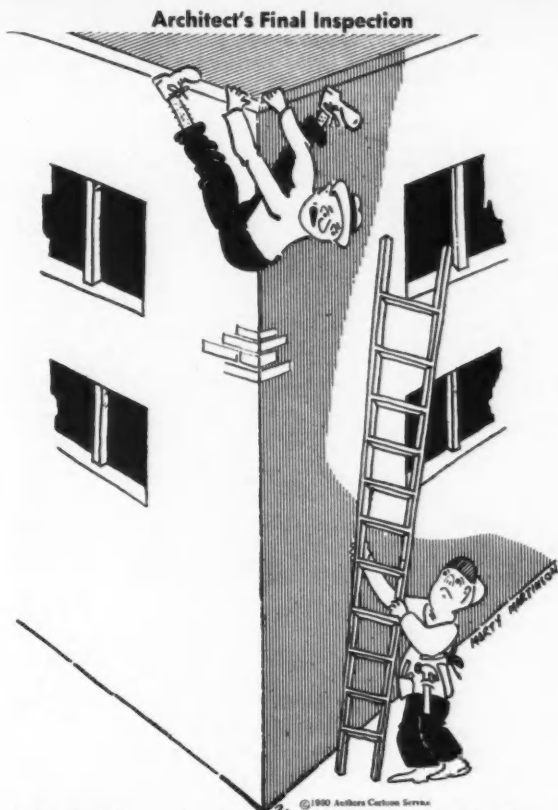
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Presentation of insignia plaques to members of the Arizona Masonry Guild, Inc., highlighted the August dinner meeting of the group, at which Governor Paul Fannin made the presentations. Receiving plaques were, back row, from left, Charles DeWitt, masonry contractor; Bob Tucker, representing Marion Evertsen, masonry contractor; Governor Fannin; Bill Blaser, masonry contractor; Clint Campbell, Phoenix Brick Yard; Tom Boyle, representing Carlson's Brick and Builders Supply, Tucson; Jack Bishell, U. S. Lime Products, Los Angeles; C. L. Woodworth, Ari-Zonolite Co.; front row, from left, Jack Dameron, Tri-Delta

Products Co.; Milton Harvey, Wallapai Brick and Clay Products; Orville Gannon, masonry contractor; Virgil Griner, Arizona Flagstone; Bart Del Duca, masonry contractor; Bert Phlegar, Fisher Contracting Co.; Norman Hoff, Union Rock and Material Co.; Merle Wagoner, Superlite Builders Supply; and Lee Churchill, Churchill-Bailey masonry contractors. Receiving plaques, but not pictured, were William Birmingham, Don Dorsey and John Vickers, masonry contractors, and Ace Springfield, of Springfield Contracting Co.

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The plumber wrote back his thanks for telling him that the method he asked about was all right. The scientist was disturbed by this misunderstanding and showed the correspondence to another scientist, who promptly wrote the plumber:

"Hydrochloric acid generates a toxic and noxious residue which will produce submuriate and invalidating reactions. Therefore some alternative procedure is preferable."

Again the plumber replied that he was glad again to know that hydrochloric acid works just fine on plugged pipes. So the scientists took the correspondence to the top boss, and the next day the plumber got a wire that read:

"Don't use hydrochloric acid. It eats hell out of the pipes."

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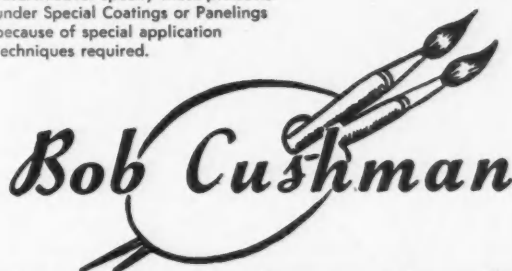
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—Robert S. DeRopp, in *Man Against Aging*, published by St. Martins Press, \$5

An excellent book on man's struggle against the aging process from the earliest times to the latest scientific discoveries. Amusing, philosophical, useful . . . P.S.

THE EYE OF THE PAINTER by Andrew Loomis. The enormously popular author-artist analyzes various components of beauty — unity, simplicity, color design, rhythm — from the practical standpoint of the working artist. Art instruction of a superior nature, it will also help laymen to "see with the painter's eye." Illus., many in full color. October. Viking. \$6.00.

THE PAHLMANN BOOK OF INTERIOR DESIGN, new edition by William Pahlmann. The famous interior designer brings his popular book up to date with many fascinating new decorating ideas. Illus., many color. October. Viking. \$7.50.

MOTELS, HOTELS, RESTAURANTS and BARS by the editors of *Architectural Record*. Completely revised and expanded, the informative book presents in one place a detailed study of physical design in motels, hotels, restaurants and bars, and successfully shows the important relationship between good design and good business. Presented in these pages are illustrations and plans of successful establishment. Each case study is profusely illustrated with interior and exterior photographs and floor plans. In many cases, structural diagrams are also included for clarity. Designed to save time and work in countless ways, and to open up new opportunities in the field, this book is invaluable for anyone planning to build, remodel, make additions, expand into a chain operation, or invest in this type of enterprise. Dodge. 324 pages. Illus. \$9.75.

MODERN MASONRY: NATURAL STONE AND CLAY PRODUCTS. This book resulted from the first industry-wide examination of masonry's place in contemporary building. Scope is limited to brick, tile, natural stone and marble. Papers deal with architectural design, technology of building with masonry, research and new technical developments, costs and maintenance, and building type analyses for residences, multi-story buildings, hospitals and schools. BRI (1956). 163 pages. \$4.50.

LINEAR PERSPECTIVE WITHOUT VANISHING POINTS by Stanley B. Parker. This book has been prepared expressly for those who wish to use a quick and dramatic method of picturing the three dimensions of objects at an accurate scale. Its compact, lucid presentation will be of great practical value to anyone actively concerned in this field. Dealing with all aspects of orthogonal perspective, the book is organized in two sections, including an elementary presentation for those not interested in the geometry of the system, and an advanced discussion for those interested in mathematical theory. Parker, author of *The Vertical Vanishing Point in Linear Perspective*, is a practicing architect in Mass. 100 pages. Illus. Harvard. Paper, \$2.50.

THE DYMAXION WORLD OF BUCKMINSTER FULLER by Robert W. Marks. Here is a thorough presentation of the life and work of one of the most original and controversial men of our time. It is the outcome of a long and close friendship between the author and his subject. In this book the author explains even the most complex of Fuller's ideas in a way that makes them accessible to all readers. Included are all the provocative Dymaxion projects — car, house, deployment units and transports, as well as Fuller's more recent work on Geodesic domes and space frames. The book also reveals the principles behind all these highly original design concepts. 232 pages. Illus. Reinhold. \$12.00.

MATERIALS FOR ARCHITECTURE by Caleb Hornbostel. This big handbook presents authenticated, up-to-date data on materials for building construction. It is useful to the practicing architect, and the student, as well as to engineers, contractors, specifiers, interior designers, decorators and others in the building industry. This book will clarify and integrate current information in an easy-to-find format giving basic data, definitions, and formulas with lasting values. It will point up the future possibilities of materials, broaden the architects' viewpoint on the possibilities of available materials, and give up-to-date data by using the latest research information. In addition, this publication will give comprehensive scientific information useful for the student who will save much "book hopping" when in search of basic data. 500 pages. Illus. Reinhold.

HOUSING DESIGN by Eugene Henry Klaber. Emphasizing the design of housing rather than its social aspect, this book contains practical information on housing developments from its simplest to most complex form. It points out the standard essential to successful room layout, floor planning, site orientation, etc. 250 pages. Illus. Reinhold. \$4.25.

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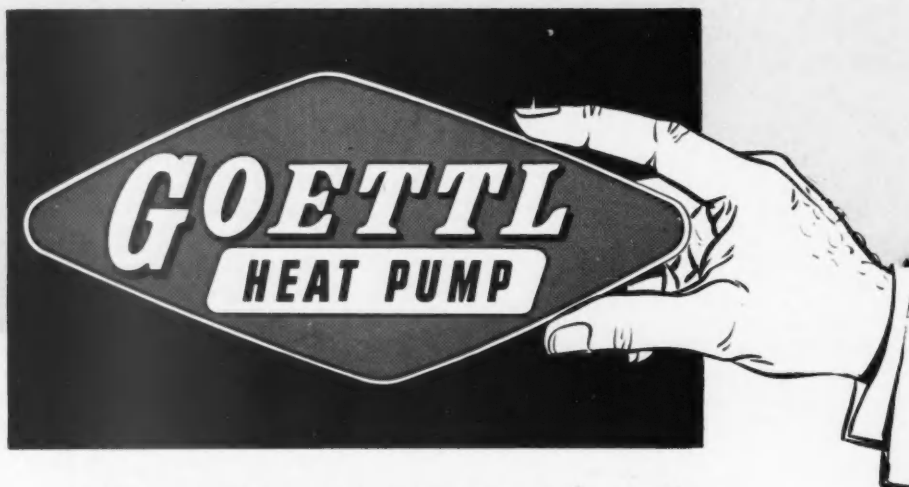
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