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→ A.I.A. Board of Directors has voted Institute's Gold Medal to Frank Lloyd Wright. Wright, often critical of A.I.A., will accept. He tells P/A that when a professional society makes its highest award "regardless of affiliation, bias, or rebellion, it shames non-co-operation." He adds, "My hat is off to the A.I.A." This is result of delegates' resolution passed at last convention.

Other A.I.A. news is that both Ralph Walker, N. Y. architect, and William Wilson Wurster, Calif. architect and M.I.T. architectural Dean, have been nominated for A.I.A. presidency. Thus for the first time in memory of many members there will be a contest for this office.

University of Cincinnati is sponsoring research in reflective radiation for heating and year-round conditioning. Studies will be in house whose walls and ceilings are embossed aluminum foil, reflecting indirectly electric radiant heat, cooling coil sources, and fluorescent light installed in cove.

→ Dept. of Commerce predicts \$18,750,000 of construction in 1949. Producers' Council promises ample materials for this total. (For P/A's analysis of materials supply see this month's PROGRESS REPORT.)

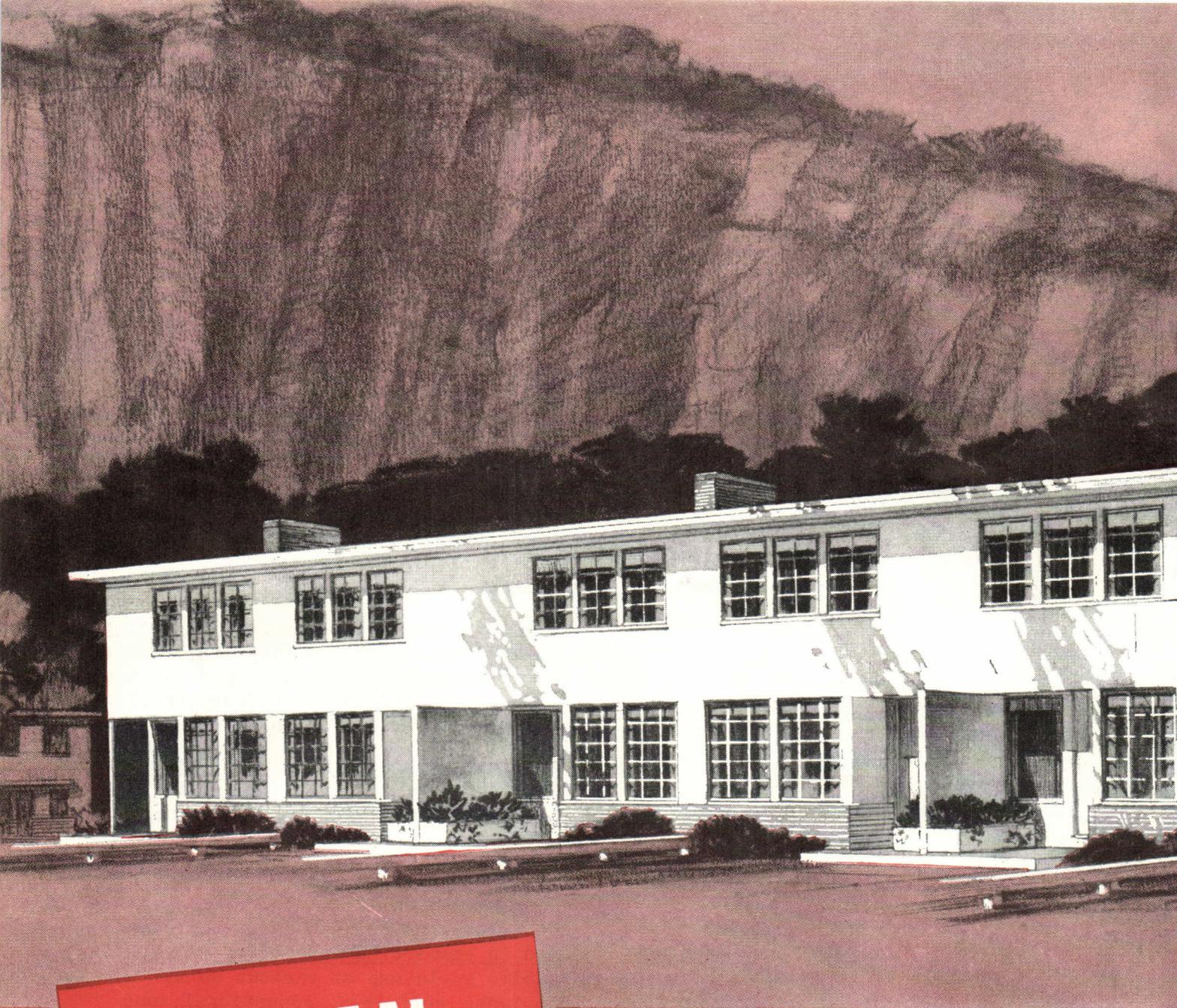
Guesses are that residential construction will decline in 1948 (housing starts are now predicted at somewhat less than 1948's 925,000) as will industrial work and amusement buildings. Increases are expected in commercial categories, in utility structures, and in public buildings of various sorts. Guesses differ on trends in private religious, educational, and health building.

→ Release of State surveys under Federal Hospital Act shows need for double present number of acceptable beds—about 900,000 exist, about 900,000 more are needed for adequate care.

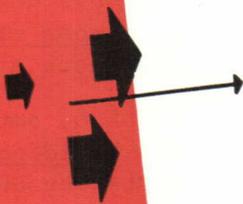
→ Model State legislation, empowering municipalities to adopt standard up-to-date building codes or code sections "by reference" has been drafted by HHFA with assistance of other agencies. Such state enabling acts would save excessive publishing costs standing in way of local code revision in many places.

First FHA loan under new housing act for prefabricated houses went to house designed by architect William Lescaze for Reliance Homes. 230 of the houses will be erected near Philadelphia. Second such loan was for 100 poured concrete prefabs to go up in N. J.

→ Several new board products promise useful application to construction problems. For example, Stramit, heat-pressed dry straw, will be low in price, fire-resistant, various thicknesses, 4' x 8, 10 or 12'. Coston & Frankfort are designing a handsome plant for the manufacturing company in Oklahoma City, using the material for construction.



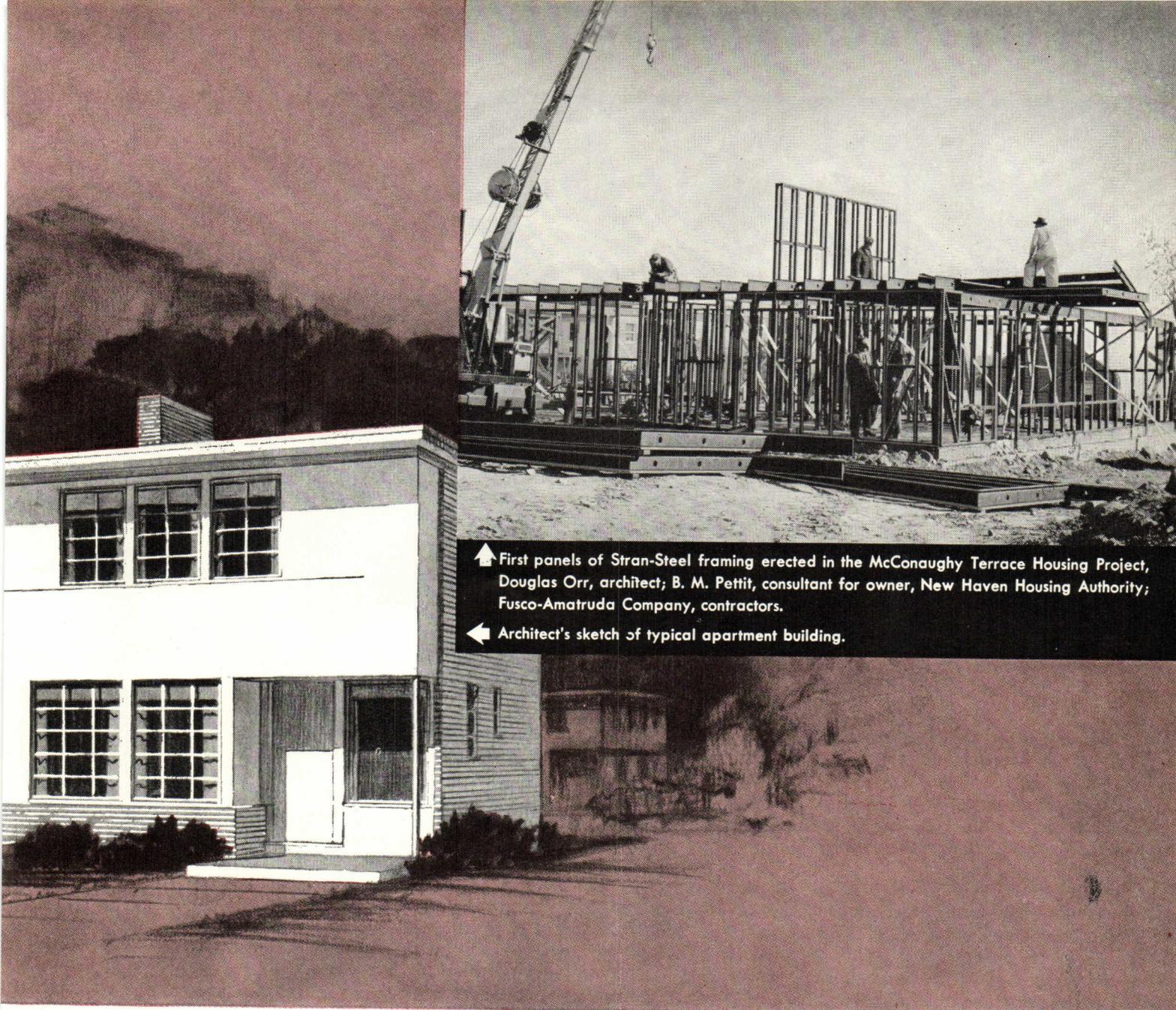
STRAN STEEL FRAMING



selected for

Use of Stran-Steel framing throughout the fifty-nine buildings of the \$2,752,000, 300-family McConaughy Terrace garden-type apartments, now under construction in New Haven, Connecticut, is providing fire-resistant, long-life buildings with real economy.

Since this project is being amortized over a 50-year period, these factors are of vital importance. When plans for the project were formulated, Douglas Orr, architect, and the New Haven Housing Authority, owners, believed that the precision, simplified Stran-Steel framing system could provide premium quality and fast construction.



▲ First panels of Stran-Steel framing erected in the McConaughy Terrace Housing Project, Douglas Orr, architect; B. M. Pettit, consultant for owner, New Haven Housing Authority; Fusco-Amatruda Company, contractors.

◀ Architect's sketch of typical apartment building.

McConaughy Terrace Project

Cost of McConaughy Terrace's fire-resistant construction is on a par with ordinary frame construction, because of the savings in time and the simplified procedures possible with Stran-Steel framing. Moreover, a permanently rigid, rot and termite-proof Stran-Steel framework insures lower maintenance costs and long life.

Fabrication and partial pre-assembly of Stran-Steel framing panels off the site during foundation work simplify and speed erection on the site. Delays in close-in time are further reduced by the nailability of Stran-Steel framing, which permits carpenters and almost all other trades to work simultaneously on both interior

and exterior construction.

Stran-Steel framing is making McConaughy Terrace apartments *better buildings* without increasing costs. If you are planning new construction—commercial, industrial or residential—you can get the same advantages from this modern framing system.



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