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- An American Standard Specification for Indiana Limestone, which can be incorporated by reference in an architect's spec., has been adopted by American Standards Ass'n., with approval by all pertinent professional and trade groups.
- This is second such standard specification for a particular material--the other being for Interior Marble. Limestone spec. is A93.1-1948; marble is A94.1-1948. Copies available through A.S.A., 70 E. 45th St., N. Y. 17, N. Y.
- Tired teachers in architectural schools, hoping for a return to "normalcy," can gain no hope from a study made by Turpin Bannister, head of University of Illinois' Architectural Dept. Proceeding from the premise that 33 architects per 100,000 population will continue to be the norm, as it has been for 60 years, Professor Bannister says that population trend figures indicate need for 28,700 architects in 1960. The 1940 census reported 21,900 and Bannister feels that half of them will be inactive by '60. Hence he figures that we will have to produce an average of 1373 graduates per year for next 12 years. Increased use of architectural services would increase even these figures.
- Specification work sheets, prepared by Ben Dyer, associate in the firm of Faulkner, Kingsbury & Stenhouse, Washington, D. C., are available through A.I.A. headquarters in Washington. For \$5.00 a set, they are a sensible way of attacking spec. writing, are streamlined, seem well worth trying. They form skeleton which can be added to or altered for each job.
- Timber resources of French Equatorial Africa are going to be tapped for American consumption this fall. U. S. Plywood announces an agreement with the Compagnie Francaise du Gabon, for fifth of the output of a 10-million-foot-a-month mill producing plywood made of Okume or Gabon mahogany, similar to "African" mahogany, but somewhat lighter in color, not so highly figured.
- At the same time the Mengel Company announced an agreement with the London Gliksten Enterprises for mutual development of timber properties in Africa.
- Lustron, still leading prefabrication possibilities, has obtained another \$7 million RFC loan, raising its total such borrowing to \$32,500,000. The company hopes to be producing 100 houses a day shortly after midyear.
- New York State's proposed state-wide building code, approved by all technical groups called to testify, was passed by State legislature on basis of permissive rather than mandatory adoption by municipalities. When final code is ready, it can be accepted or rejected by cities in the State. It is a fair assumption that those towns which need revision most will deny adoption.

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