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OCTOBER

TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

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- ◆ Convention Nears
- ◆ Ceramics Industry In Texas Booms
- ◆ Architecture At Texas A & M
- ◆ Flowers Named TBAE Secretary



The Oak Cliff Savings & Loan Association Building, in Dallas, has been selected by members of the Dallas Chapter, TSA-AIA, as representative of recent work in the Chapter area. This building also won the First Honor Award for non-residential work in "Texas Architecture—1954" competition. Architects: Prinz & Brooks, TSA-AIA, Dallas.

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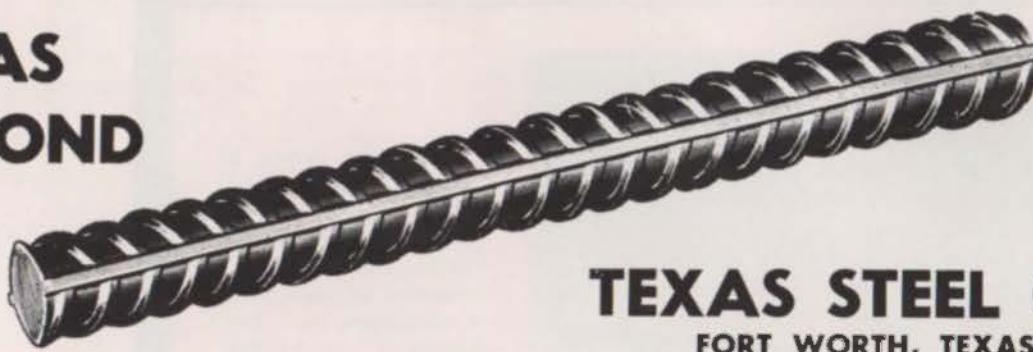
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THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

VOLUME 6

OCTOBER, 1955

NUMBER 6

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APPROACH TO GOOD DESIGN

The rapidly approaching TSA annual convention at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel in Houston, from November 2-4, will be the largest regional meeting in the long history of the American Institute of Architects. A major factor in the extraordinary interest created by the Houston convention is the theme: "Approach To Good Design".

Design is fundamental to architecture. Practitioners over the state have the same problem as other professional men, the necessity of continuous study, observation, and attendance at meetings, seminars and addresses if they are to keep up with developments in their field. The Houston program offers an unusual array of talent in architecture and allied fields from which the alert practitioner can profit greatly.

Another aspect of the Houston meeting has helped to boost advance registration and increase overall interest in the November 2-4 convention. This is the degree to which authorities from allied fields such as city planning, interior decoration, landscaping, painting and sculpture, and industrial design have been brought into the program. Still another attraction is the large number of exhibits by manufacturers and firms providing service in the building products field. These exhibits, of considerable interest to the general public as well as to the architect, are valuable in keeping the practitioner advised of technical advances which can be discussed with trained company representatives.

The President's Letter

By

Grayson Gill

TSA-AIA

President,
Texas Society
of Architects



This issue of TEXAS ARCHITECT carries some information about our annual meeting at the Shamrock-Hilton in Houston, beginning November 2.

Many aspects of that meeting concern not only the clients of our TSA members, but the general public as well. The theme of the convention, "Approach to Good Design" is so basic that it touches upon almost every area of living, architecture, and the allied arts and professions. The convention speeches and seminar discussions, some of which are to be summarized in newspaper reports, should be of much more general interest than the usual convention proceedings.

Another aspect of the November 2 convention which will be of general interest is the exhibits of the manufacturers of building materials. These are relatively non-technical and easily understandable. They are being prepared with great care and are staffed by men who are specially trained to explain the exhibits competently and answer any question regarding them.

It is to the interest of our clients, and profession and the public to make it widely known that these convention exhibits are open to the general public without any registration fee.

Architects in attendance, as well as the manufacturers' representatives and engineers on duty at the exhibit booths, will consider it a privilege to discuss and explain to our lay visitors the modern techniques of building construction and the many interesting products and services on display.

The November issue of the TEXAS ARCHITECT will contain a considerable amount of detail on the program of the TSA convention. Since this Houston meeting contains many elements of interest to the general public, we invite our readers to examine the program, and then look in our December issue for reports of the specific convention speech or seminar session in which they are interested.

ARCHITECTS ARE BUSINESS MEN

By DAVID C. BAER, AIA

Chairman AIA National Committee on
Office Practice

Is your Architect a good business-man? That question is often asked of you as a client and also asked the Architectural Profession itself.

The answer probably will be forthcoming officially from the results of a survey to be made soon. The committee on Office Practice of the American Institute of Architects has been authorized to conduct a nationwide survey of administrative and office practices and procedures among all architectural offices.

Architects are responsible for expending large sums of money for their clients. They are obligated to follow recognized business procedures in handling this money.

Improvement Program

The survey will be pointed toward finding any areas of weakness in the business routine and procedures among members of the Architectural Profession. It is part of the constant program of self-improvement carried on by the profession through its national organization.

The committee on Office Practice of the Institute is a National Committee charged with improving the business and procedural phases of the practice of the Architecture. By developing standardized procedures for the Architects office more time should be available to the Architect for otherwise looking after his client's interests.

Aimed at Younger Men

The Texas Society of Architects, as the Texas Regional Organization for the American Institute of Architects, has a Regional Office Practice Committee which works at the state level and each chapter has a committee which works at the chapter level. All committees at all levels carry on an integrated program of professional self help and betterment. The program is particularly aimed at the younger practitioner, who normally needs this assistance as he starts his practice.

The Institute has developed many standards and aids to practice over the years. The standard forms of Agreement between the Architect and his Client and the Standard Owner-Contractor agreement with the attendant general conditions, are notable contributions to a better relationship

among the three important components of the Building Industry.

The Survey will serve to point to other areas where additional practice aids can assist the profession.

The Committee on Office Practice AIA already has inaugurated and has under way a number of studies which will improve the service Architects can render their clients without any increase in the cost to them or their client.

Practical Suggestions

The fees which an Architect receives are, of necessity, based upon the service rendered. If procedures of practice can be simplified, the service can be improved without increased cost. Such improvement is a major goal of the committee.

The suggestions the committee makes are practical, down to earth solutions to old problems. They are aids to simplifying the office routine of handling jobs.

As an instance, take the forms developed by the committee, for handling the Owner-Contractor job accounts during construction. Three sim-

ple forms were developed to perform through necessary functions. These forms are the owner's Change Order form, The Contractor's Application for payment form and the Architect's Certificate for Payment. All are available at nominal cost to every Architect, Contractor or Owner.

Change Order Form

Suppose an Owner has a Contract with a Contractor to erect a certain building. This contract is being administered by his Architect. The Owner wishes to make a change in the work. This change should be prepared in a business like way with a standard Change Order Form by the Architect for the Owner's signature. Here is a simple Form that makes the procedure easy and definite.

On the same job the Contractor will probably want to draw some money during construction. He can submit an Application for Payment, the simple application form covering the work done during a particular period of time as set out in the Agreement. Developed for this purpose it gives a breakdown for each portion of the work and shows just how much the Contractor has done in each portion during the pay period. The Architect will check this application to see if he agrees with the amounts asked for.

When everything is in order, the
(Continued on Page 10)



TSA Member On National TV Program

Televiwers over the nation and in Texas got a chance to see a TSA member in action on a major TV show recently when Carl H. Stautz of Austin appeared on Old God's "Truth Or Consequences". Left to right are Mr. Stautz, another contestant, master of ceremonies Jack Bailey, and other participants.

Mr. Stautz received a watch and a portable radio for his appearance.

Wide Interest in TSA Convention As Owings, Labatut, Draper Added

National interest in the sixteenth annual TSA convention at the Shamrock Hilton Hotel in Houston has increased with the announcement of four more speakers and seminar participants for the November 2-4 meeting. The convention theme, "Approach To Good Design" has drawn many prominent authorities from areas allied with architecture.

The new speakers are Nathaniel Owings of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, the firm chosen for the architectural design of the Air Force Academy at Colorado Springs, Colo.; Professor Jean Labatut, internationally-famed authority on design who is head of the Graduate School of Architecture at Princeton University; Floyd Rible, Los Angeles architect who has won many awards, and Dorothy Draper, widely known as a consultant on interior decoration for commercial stores, hotels and public buildings and as an editor of *GOOD HOUSEKEEPING*.

Other Top Personalities

This group joins a number of top personalities in city planning, industrial design, landscape architecture, furniture design and the fine arts who will

appear with other nationally-known architects. Speakers and seminar participants previously named for the convention include George Nelson of New York City, an AIA member who specializes in furniture design; Harold F. Wise, Los Angeles city planner who is currently producing a master plan for Austin; Garrett Eckbo, famed landscape architect; and Seymour Fogel, Texas artist, muralist and sculptor.

Many Texans in fields allied with architecture, particularly interior decoration, furniture design and landscape architecture, are registering for the convention after a statewide mailing was sent earlier to these groups.

School Committee To Attend

Announcement that the members of the AIA national committee on school buildings will attend the November 2-4 convention, holding committee sessions there, has also stimulated additional interest in the Houston meetings.

Final details are now being planned by TSA directors, by John G. Flowers, Jr., executive director; and by members of the Houston Chapter headed by Baldwin Young, state convention chairman, and Hamilton Brown, Chapter



CONVENTION SPEAKER—Harold F. Wise, Los Angeles city planner who is currently drawing up a master plan for Austin, will be one of the program participants in the TSA annual convention at Houston November 2-4.

convention chairman. These men have more than 10 committees at work under them, in proportion for a record attendance.

A full and varied social program, including unusual home and garden tours for the wives of convention delegates, is being planned by members of the Women's Auxiliary of the Houston Chapter.

"Texas Architecture-'55" Awards To Be Announced October 3 At State Fair

Awards in "Texas Architecture-'55", annual competition sponsored by TSA and the Dallas Chapter, TSA-AIA in cooperation with the Dallas Museum of Fine Arts, will be announced the evening of October 3 at the Women's Building in the State Fair of Texas grounds.

Judges for the event, which has attracted a record number of entries from over Texas, are Harris Armstrong of Saint Louis and Charles Colbert of New Orleans. TSA chairman for the event is LaVere Brooks of the Dallas Chapter.

On Exhibit At Convention

Entries in "Texas Architecture-'55" will be on exhibit at the Women's Building for the duration of the State Fair, and the public is cordially invited to see these examples of outstanding architectural work. There is no charge for the exhibit.

Prize-winning entries in the competition will be shown at the TSA con-

vention in Houston from November 2-4, and will later be exhibited at various

places over the state. Look for the date of these special showings in your area.



Wins Award Of Merit

This design for a "Residence For Family Of Five", by Douglas E. Steinman, TSA-AIA of Beaumont, won an award of merit in the Chapter competition sponsored by the Southwest Texas Chapter, AIA.

The residence is that of Mr. and Mrs. John J. Johns, Jr., of Beaumont.

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Department of Architecture At Texas A&M Began in 1905

By Ernest Langford, Professor of Architecture and Head of the Department of Architecture, Texas A & M College

Editor's Note: The TEXAS ARCHITECT continues a series of articles on various aspects of architectural education, by faculty members of the five architectural schools in the state. The opinions advanced in these articles are those of the individual school and authors involved, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either the Texas Society of Architects or the TEXAS ARCHITECT.

The Beginning

The first formal program in architectural education in the State of Texas was begun at the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Texas, September 1, 1905.

The Department of Architecture at Texas A & M College was organized by the late Dr. Frederick E. Giesecke, an early graduate of the College, having received his M.E. in Mechanical Engineering in 1896. Early after the turn of the century he received his B.S. in Architecture from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology; and his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois in 1924.

The College catalog for the year 1905-06 lists Messrs. F. E. Giesecke, A. Mitchell, and W. C. Nelson as teachers in the department. Professor Mitchell later became head of the Department of Drawing, and now at the age of 85 is living in retirement at College Station.

First Graduates

Three men were graduated in architecture in June, 1906. They were James S. Dean, who stayed on a few years as an instructor and later established a successful practice in Sacramento, Cal. He later became city manager of Sacramento and finally served as Budget Director for the State of California. He is now retired and living at 2908 —24th Street, Sacramento.

A second member of the class was Max F. Mayer. Upon leaving here, Mr. Mayer went to New York and finally to Paris where he studied at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts. Upon his return from Paris, he worked for several years in New York and finally settled in Little Rock, Arkansas, where he established a long and successful practice. Mr. Mayer died some five or six years ago.

The third man of that first graduating class was J. Rodney Tabor. Mr. Tabor was born and reared practically within sight of the College. After graduation, he spent two years at MIT, re-



ERNEST LANGFORD

ceiving his B.S. in Architecture from that school in 1908. He then opened his own office in Houston where he has remained to this day. Because of his love for his alma mater, he and Mrs. Tabor established the J. Rodney Tabor Scholarship in Architecture in 1951. This scholarship is in the amount of \$200.00 and is awarded annually to a fourth-year student in design to help defray his expenses in his fifth year.

Administrators

Key persons associated with the department throughout its fifty years must necessarily include the men who have served as its administrators. Dr. Giesecke was the first, his tenure as head of the department extending from its inception to 1912, when he left here to go to the University of Texas. He later returned to the College and served as head of the department from September 1, 1927, to August 31, 1929.

Dr. Giesecke was born in Washington County, Texas, January 28, 1869, and died in New Braunfels, Texas, June 27, 1953, at the age of eighty-four. A more detailed account of his life's work may be found in the College Archives.

Fountain Second Head

The second man to become head of the department was Sampson James Fountain, son of the late Dr. Charles Perkins Fountain who served for many years as chaplain and later as head of the Department of English.

Mr. Fountain was born in Camden, Alabama, November 15, 1881 and received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Texas A & M College in June, 1901, and his B.S. in Architecture from the University of Illinois in 1905. He spent some thirty months in France and Italy and studied at the Ecole des

Beaux-Arts in Paris. He was appointed professor of architecture and head of the department, Texas A & M College, September 1, 1912. He died August 14, 1914.

Adelsperger In 1915-18

The third man to head the department was Roland Adelsperger. Mr. Adelsperger received his B.A. degree from Notre Dame University in 1890. A full eighteen years later he received his B.S. in Architecture from Notre Dame in 1908. He was on the staff at Notre Dame from September, 1906, to October, 1913, and came to Texas A & M College as professor of architecture and head of the department and college architect September 1, 1915. He remained here about three years.

Mr. Adelsperger was born in La Porte, Indiana, October 9, 1871, and died in Chicago some twenty-odd years ago.

Edwin Bruce LeRoche served as the fourth administrator, coming to the department October 1, 1918, and remaining until April 1, 1925, when he resigned to become associated with the firm of Herbert M. Greene, LaRoche, and Dahl, Architects, Dallas, Texas.

Mr. LaRoche received his B.Arch. degree from Cornell University in 1912. He was born in Young's Island, South Carolina, February 2, 1885, and died in Dallas, Texas, some ten years ago.

Dr. Giesecke Returned In 1927

Henry Norton June succeeded Mr. LaRoche as the fifth administrator, serving in that capacity until well into the summer of 1927. He later established a brief practice in Corpus Christi and went from there to the University of Florida as professor of architecture in 1930.

Mr. June was born in Towanda, Pennsylvania, February 28, 1872, and received his B.S. in Architecture from the University of Pennsylvania in 1896. He was engaged in general office practice in New York from 1897 to 1904, and was head of the Department of Architecture in Ohio Mechanics Institute, Cincinnati, Ohio, from 1909 to 1920. He died in Gainesville, Florida, about twenty years ago.

Dr. Giesecke returned to the college in September, 1927, as head of the department and college architect. Upon his request, he was relieved of the administrative duties of the depart-

(Continued on Page 11)



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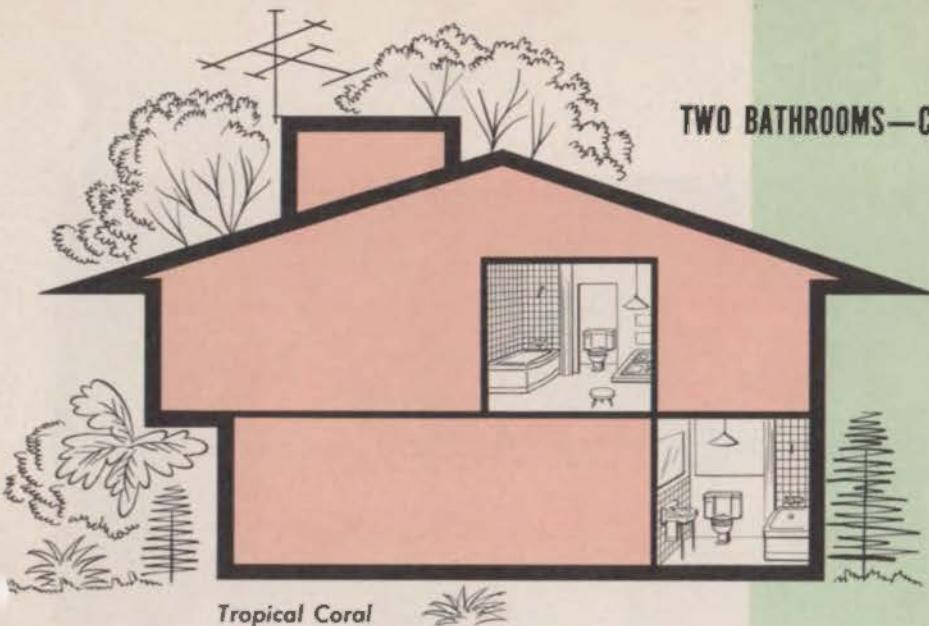


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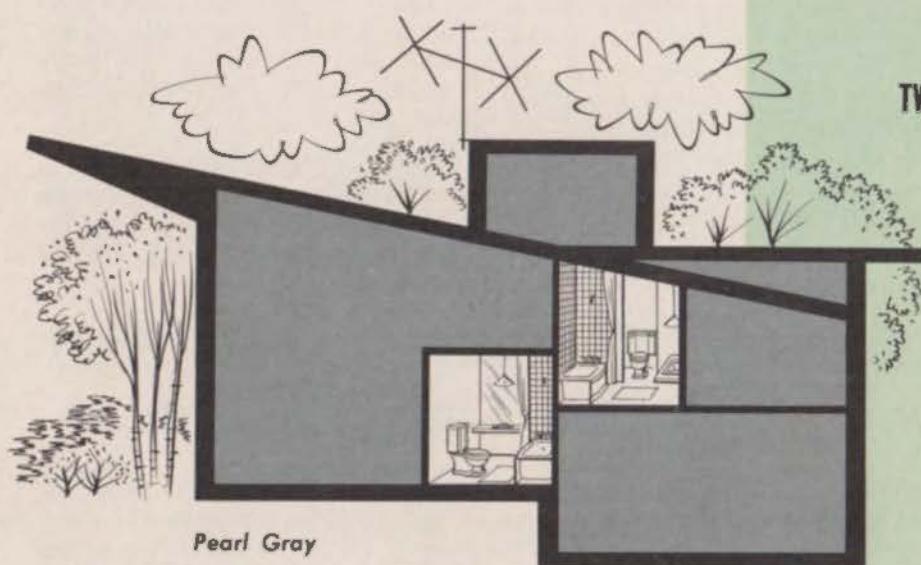
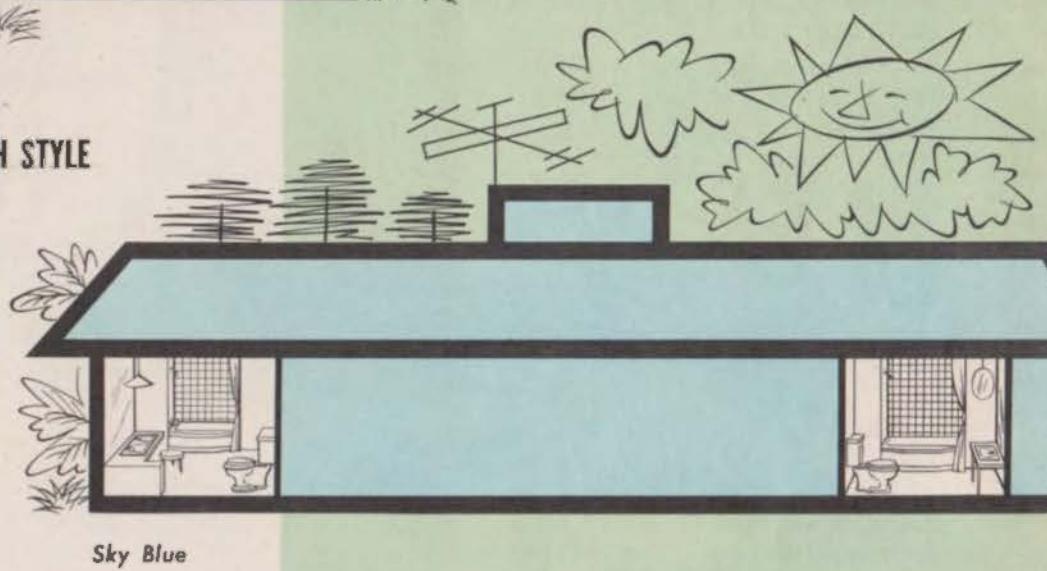


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Increasing Use of Color Fixtures Booms Ceramics Industry in Texas

Increasing use of color is helping to bring about a boom in the Texas ceramic industry, manufacturers report.

Completion of a \$350,000 expansion program in 1955 has more than doubled the output of products of the Kilgore Ceramics Corporation, manufacturers of vitreous china plumbing fixtures and one of several firms now emphasizing color in their products.

Kilgore Ceramics and similar companies in the field are rapidly making ceramics a key Texas industry, with plentiful supplies of raw materials, skilled labor, and an expanding market.

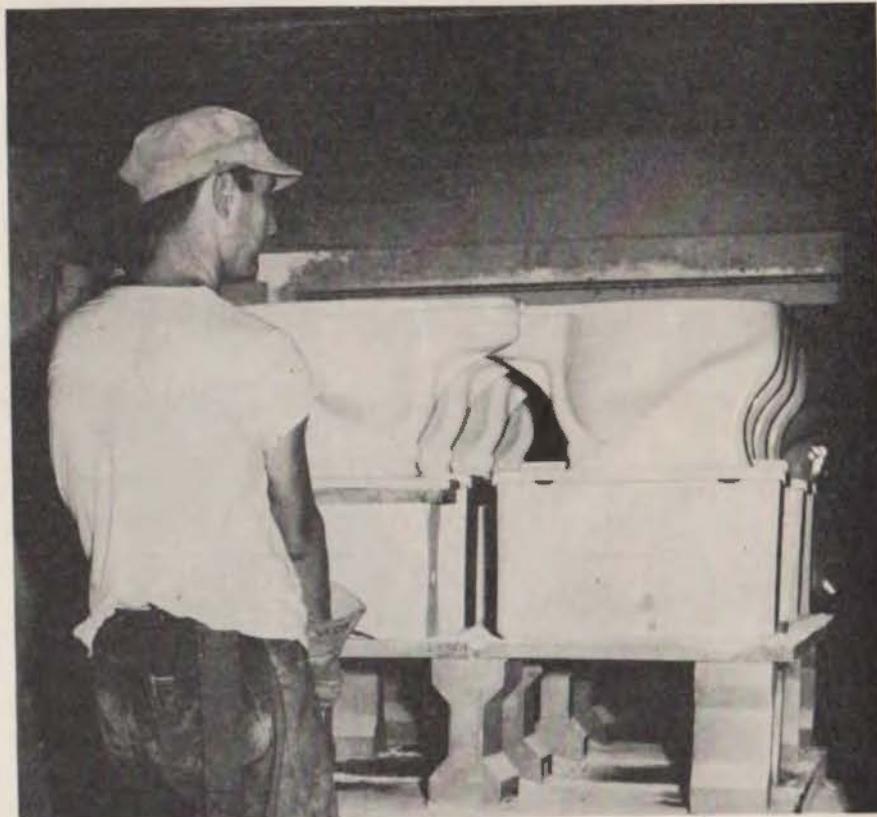
Construction of a tunnel kiln 265 feet in length and the addition of 45,000 square feet of new plant and warehouse area is already underway. This expansion, the third in its five year history, will provide this "home-grown" East Texas industry with 100,000 square feet of plant and 440 linear feet of firing kilns on their piney-wooded plant site adjacent to the city of Kilgore.

Color Fixtures Big Factor

"The great acceptability and immediate success of our new color line of bathroom fixtures has been a big factor in our need for added manufacturing facilities", D. H. Walkup, president of Kilgore Ceramics, stated recently.

Mr. Walkup, a recipient of the Texas Jaycee's Outstanding Young Man Award for his part in the development of the thriving local industry, reports that over 350,000 pieces of chinaware fixtures manufactured by his company have been sold and installed in Texas. "And the Texas market is just a fraction of our total output", he adds. Other manufacturers also report that Texas ceramics makers are capturing an increasing amount of out-of-state markets for their products.

Kilgore Ceramics was established some five years ago as a project of the Chamber of Commerce and its citizens to insure themselves against the perils of a "one-economy" community. Until that time Kilgore had been known primarily as the "capital" of the vast East Texas oilfield. Now the products of their new industry are earning fame in a different field carrying the name "Kilgore" far and wide into ever-increasing markets.



Cooling After Kiln Firing

Kiln-car loaded with plumbing fixtures being dollyed to cooling area after firing in 175-foot tunnel kiln in plant of Kilgore Ceramics Corporation.

Other Factors In Success Cited

Consistent high quality, proximity to markets, rapid adjustment to customer demands and consumer savings are credited with the success enjoyed by the company's operation. Other Texas ceramics manufacturers cite similar factors in discussing reasons for the growing boom in this state industry.

Research activities of the Kilgore concern include having successfully

manufactured fixtures made entirely of native Texas clays. Though still in the experimental stages this accomplishment is important to the entire Texas building industry and those who utilize its products.

President Walkup believes that it is feasible to use all-Texas clays for the volume production of plumbing fixtures, and believes his company will be the first to do so.

Walter H. Steitler Elected President Of Carrier-Houston

Walter H. Steitler, Carrier Corporation executive who has been with the company for more than two decades, has been named president of Carrier-Houston Corporation, a newly formed subsidiary of the national air conditioning firm.

"Mr. Steitler is uniquely qualified to head a firm organization to deal with the rapidly expanding air conditioning

requirements of the Houston area," Cloud Wampler, chairman and president of Carrier pointed out in making the announcement.

As part of his long experience with Carrier, leading air conditioning manufacturer, Mr. Steitler served from 1943 to 1951 as head of Carrier's Southwest territory.



SECTIONAL CHAMPIONS—Karl Kamrath, TSA-AIA of Houston and his son Karl, Jr. were Texas Sectional father and son champions in tennis again in 1955 for the fifth straight year, winning the right to compete in the national doubles competition at Longwood near Boston, Mass.

The Kamraths were national father and son champions in 1952 but were eliminated this year although seeded second at Longwood. Karl, Sr. is a former intercollegiate star and champion. Karl, Jr. is a rising star who played well this year on the Middle West and Eastern circuit before returning to the University of Texas where he is on the tennis team.

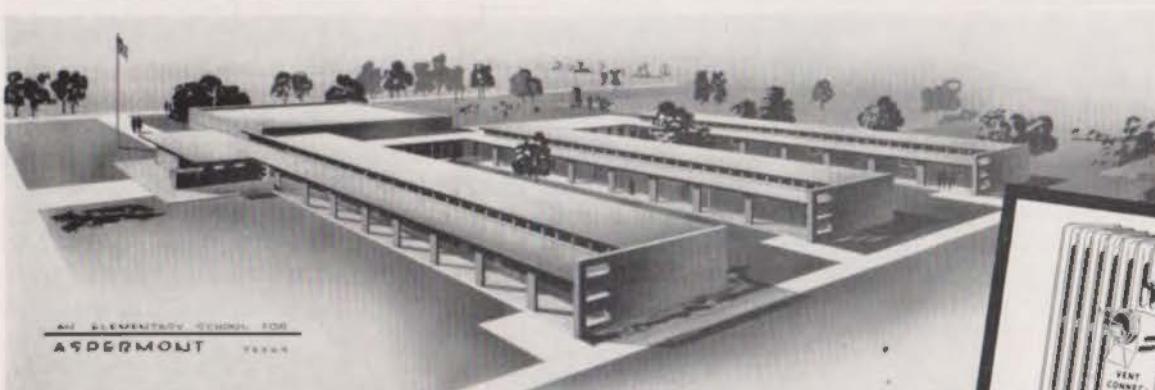
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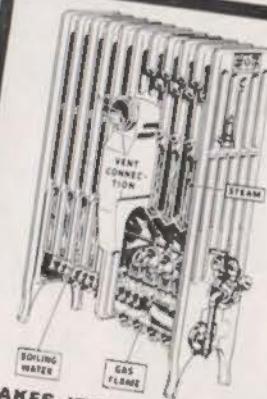
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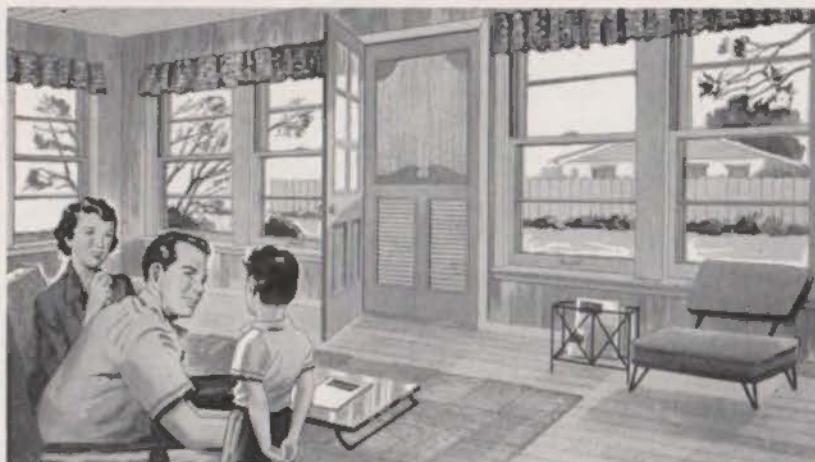
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John G. Flowers, Jr.
Austin

The appointment of John G. Flowers, Jr. as executive secretary of the Texas Board of Architectural Examiners has been announced by George Dahl of Dallas, TBAE chairman. Mr. Flowers is also executive director of the Texas Society of Architects.

Architects Are Business Men . . .
(Continued from Page 2)

Architect will issue a Certificate for Payment. This certifies to the owner that the amount asked for is, in the Architect's judgment, fair and equitable and that it is due and payable. There are blanks on this form which provides a full accounting of the financial aspects of the job to date. Approved Change Order amounts are added to or deducted from the contract price; the total amount due the contractor to date is shown. The amount of money retained to date is set out and the balance of the contract to finish is noted. The Owner can see just how he stands each period before he pays the certificate.

The above is one example of committee work already finished. Presently under way are revisions to the Owner-Client Agreement Forms to bring their content down to present date. This will include a redefinition of the Architect's responsibilities to his client. Also under way is a re-survey of the Owner-Contractor relationship. This is being conducted jointly with the Associated General Contractors of America to re-orient it to today's particular problems.

A number of office forms that will simplify procedure, are also in the course of preparation.

All these studies and development are an effort on the part of the Architectural profession to render better and more comprehensive service to the public as a whole and to the Architect's Client in particular.

Texas A. & M. . . .

(Continued from Page 5)

ment September 1, 1929, but continued as college architect and director of the Engineering Experiment Station until his retirement.

Ernest Langford, a graduate of the department with the class of 1913, succeeded Dr. Giesecke and became the sixth administrator of the department September 1, 1929. From his graduation in 1913, to September 1, 1915, Mr. Langford worked in the office of A. O. Watson, Architect, Austin, Texas. He returned to the College as instructor in drawing September 1, 1915. He resigned August 31, 1919, to go to the University of Illinois as an instructor in architecture. He remained there until September 1, 1925, but during the time he was at the University of Illinois he completed work for his M.S. degree, which he received June 9, 1924. He returned to the College as professor of architecture September 1, 1925, and was promoted to head of the department September 1, 1929. He will go on modified service September 1, 1956, which means that he will remain as a professor but will be relieved of administrative duties as head of the department.

It is an interesting fact that of the some 900 men who have been graduated from the department, Mr. Langford has come to know all of them personally save for some ten or twelve who graduated prior to his entering the College or during the years when he was at the University of Illinois.

Langford Active In Profession

In addition to serving as administrator of the department, Mr. Langford has found time for many other activities. He has been a member of the American Institute of Architects since 1926, and was advanced to the College of Fellows, AIA, at the 87th Annual Convention in Minneapolis in June, 1955. He is presently serving as a member of the AIA Committee on Education, is a charter member of the Texas Society of Architects, and presently is a member of its Board of Directors. He is secretary-treasurer of the Board of Texas Architectural Foundation, and a registered architect in the State of Texas.

Along with Meers, Arch C. Boker, Wm. M. Caudill, Henry D. Mayfield, Jr., and Wm. E. Nash, Mr. Langford

was instrumental in the organization of the Brazos Chapter AIA which was chartered by the Institute July 1, 1952, and served as its first president during the following year.

In one capacity or another he has been associated with the city council of College Station since its incorporation in 1938, having served continuously as mayor since April, 1942. Mr. Langford was named "Man of the Year" by the City of College Station in 1955, in recognition of his long civic service.

Teachers

Many able teachers have been associated with the department through the years. Among those best remembered by former students and gradu-

ates may be mentioned: Samuel E. Gidean, Gilbert Allan Geist, Rexford Newcomb, Joseph M. Kellogg, Clarence J. Finney, Charles M. Brooks, J. Marshall Miller, William W. Caudill, to name only a few who have contributed materially to the progress of the department and who have achieved national reputations here or elsewhere.

EDITOR'S NOTE: The fact that Professor Langford was named "Man of the Year" by the City of College Station, together with other material on his honors was added by the editor, the author having characteristic omitted this honor paid him by his fellow citizens and profession. Professor Langford has also prepared biographical detail on many of the teachers at Texas A. & M., and this material will be published during the coming year as the Department of Architecture celebrates its golden anniversary which is also the 50th anniversary of architectural education in Texas.

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The Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation is now offering consulting service on construction design problems for architects, through newly-established Technical Services Offices. Information on the program may be obtained from local Fiberglas sales offices in principal cities, or from Fiberglas Technical Services, 16 East 56th Street, New York 22, N. Y.

* * *

Ceratile, a decorative ceramic tile manufactured by the Pacific Tile & Porcelain Company, Paramount, Calif., is now available through outlets of the U. S. Quarry Tile Company.

* * *

The new "Glider" blue print rack, made by Momor Industries, 4323 West 32nd Street, Chicago, has a clamp which eliminates the need for punching holes in blue prints before filing them.

* * *

A 20-page booklet on the manufacture of plywood has been released by Associated Plywood Mills, Inc., Eugene, Oregon.

The booklet, designed for distribution to visitors at Associated plants in Eugene and Willamina, is of interest also to architects, builders, and retail lumber and building materials dealers.

A new type of hasplock, manufactured by the Master Lock Company, Milwaukee, Wis., offers the triple protection of a laminated padlock, safety hasp, and slide bolt attachment. It also features concealed screw seatings and pinless hinge, eliminating the possibility of getting around the padlock by removing exposed screws or filing off the head of the pin in the hinge.

A complete new line of steam unit heaters to meet a wide range of heating needs in factories, stores and offices has been introduced by Ilg Electric Ventilating Company, Chicago.

* * *

A two-compressor year-around air conditioner for homes that provides ideal humidity as well as ideal temperature at all times has been introduced by Crane Co., Chicago, Ill., it was announced by George L. Erwin, Jr., vice-president in charge of heating soles.

* * *

One of the compressors in the cooling part of the unit operates almost constantly during warm weather, while the other starts only when needed. This means, Erwin points out, that dehumidification is carried on more of the time without requiring operation of the complete cooling unit.

* * *

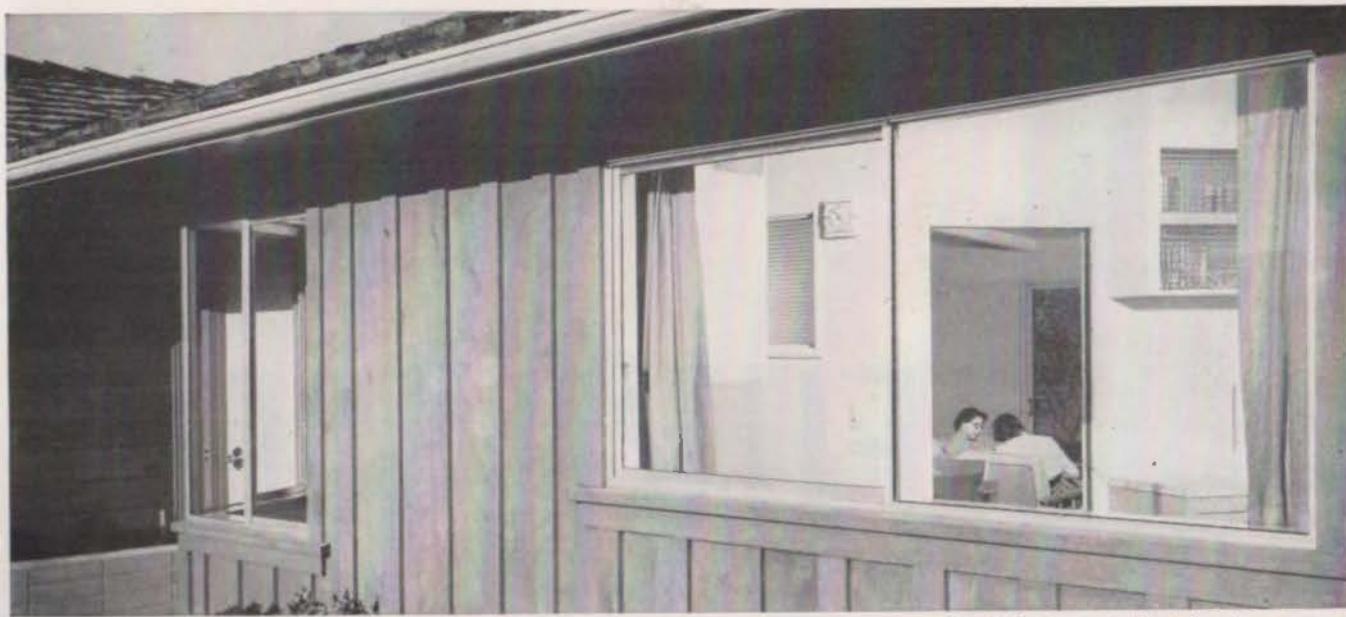
Crane Co. has also introduced a new hot-water boiler designed to heat houses in the four-to-eight-room range.

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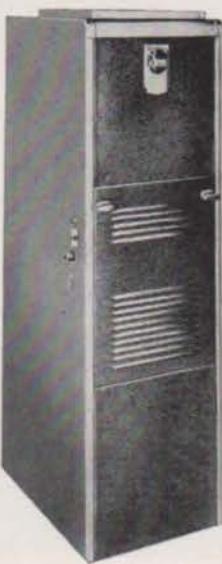
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