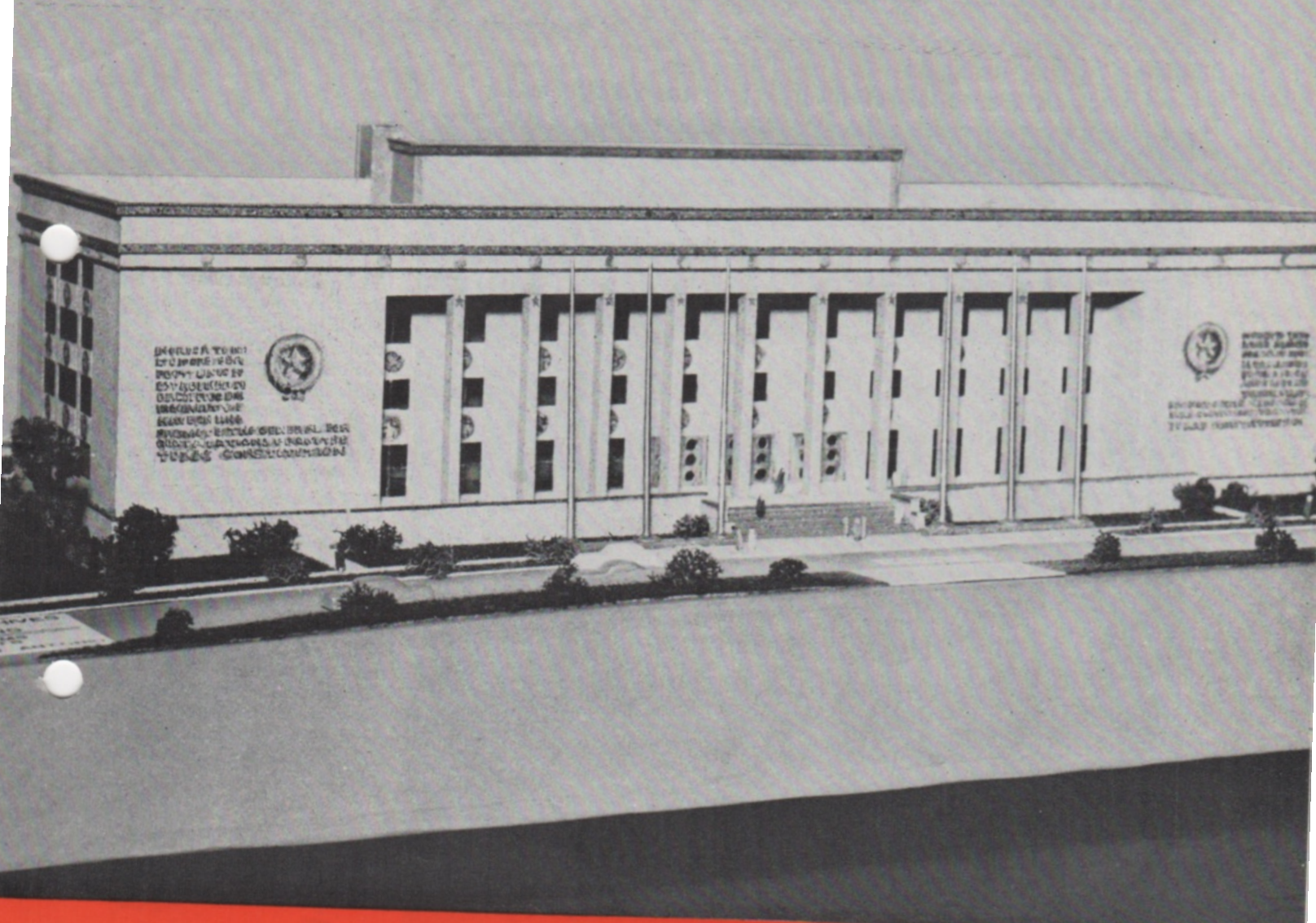


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Denver's First National Bank...

precast concrete panels give these curtain walls their clean, modern look

WHEN AMERICA BUILDS FOR BEAUTY...IT BUILDS WITH CONCRETE



With its tower rising 28 stories, the new First National Bank building, Denver, Colorado, is one more example of concrete's importance as a modern curtain wall material.

Large precast concrete panels, both ribbed and flat, are combined to give the tower its strong and dramatically simple vertical lines. White quartz aggregate, ground smooth, was used to face the panels.

Panels, most of which are 5'6" x 6' x 2", were fastened directly to the structural frame with no back-up needed. The walls are weather-tight, noise- and fire-resistant.

Architects everywhere are finding that concrete is the one completely versatile building material for structures of every size and kind.

Architect: Raymond Harry Erwin & Associates, Denver, Colorado

Consulting and Structural Engineers: Phillips-Carter-Osborn, Inc. and Ruel A. Andersen. Denver, Colorado

Contractor: Mead & Mount Construction Company, Denver, Colorado

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The President's Letter

By

Robert P. Woltz, Jr.
President,
Texas Society of Architects



I have recently had the opportunity and pleasure of visiting several of the Chapters around the state. It is a very pleasant experience to make these visits and counsel with the various Chapter Officers and members. It is amazing to me to find that each Chapter thinks its problems are individual, but one in my position making these visits finds much to his surprise, the problems are virtually common all over the state.

One of the most disturbing factors I find throughout the state, is the fact that information is not being transmitted in the correct sequence from the state to the Chapters, and Chapters to the state. I would like to request that the Chapter Officers make a policy to periodically check Committee Chairmen on all committees to see if mail has been received and answered. It is discouraging to constantly send out mail without any response what-so-ever. A great deal of time was taken up at a recent Board Meeting discussing this very item.

Another interesting fact that seems to be prevalent throughout the state, is the complaint of various members regarding work that has been secured presumably on a lower fee basis, or other means which on the face of it, does not seem to be secured ethically. I have in all cases tried to answer this problem by telling the various members involved to do a better job in selling themselves on a better class of work, then in turn to follow through with a better class of service. I recently had the opportunity to hear a member of the National Secretary's Association speak to a local civic club. She quoted from a statement which I will pass on to you, which in turn answers this very problem.

"I discovered at an early age that most of the difference between average and top people could be explained in just three words. The top people did what was expected of them—AND THEN SOME. They were thoughtful of others—they were considerate and kind—AND THEN SOME. They met their obligations and responsibilities fairly and squarely—AND THEN SOME. They were good friends to their friends, and could be counted on in an emergency—AND THEN SOME."

It is my sincere hope that all of you will read the article in this month's issue about Hugo Kuehne. The outstanding example of civic work and devotion to civic pride that Mr. Kuehne has set, is one that all of us could well use as an example for ourselves.

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The Texas Regional Organization of
The American Institute of Architects

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

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

Next time, send a check to:
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HOME FOR HERITAGE

Texas is finally starting to build suitable housing for its most precious documents and records

IN a "little old shack by a railroad track" in Austin are stored some of the most precious documents in Texas history, including such priceless bits of our heritage as Colonel Travis' original letter from the Alamo.

Proud, boastful Texas has such famous reminders of its glorious past stored in a quonset hut. This hut, now headquarters for the Texas

State Archives, is almost impossible to find—even after you get inside Camp Hubbard, the Texas Highway Department division to which it belongs.

But, at long last, Texas has acted to do away with this disgrace. The days of the quonset hut as the home of the Texas archives are numbered.

Construction is scheduled to begin right away on a new State Library and Archives Building, to be located just east of the Capitol as an integral part of the Capitol Area Development Plan.

The \$2,500,000, four-story building was designed by the architectural firm of Adams and Adams, of San Antonio. Dr. Daniel M. Robinson, state librarian and archivist of Tennessee, which recently constructed a similar building, and Architect H. Clinton Parrent, Jr., that building's designer, served as consultants.

The T-shaped building, containing approximately 95,000 square feet of floor space, will be of semi-classic design with a flame-treated granite exterior, trimmed in polished granite. The main portion of the building—the top of the "T"—will be 257 feet long and 67 feet deep, with a wing 111 feet by 48 feet extending to the rear.

In addition to the library and archives space, the building will contain a complete section with a separate entrance to house the General Land Office.

COMPLETION of the new building will enable the various divisions of the State Library, with one exception, to be under one roof for the first time since its establishment in 1909. The Legislative Reference Division will remain in its present quarters on the second floor of the Capitol, for the convenience of legislators and state agencies in the Capitol.

Gov. Price Daniel, whose leadership is largely responsible for the new building, believes its completion late next year will "herald a new era of library development in our State."

"The wisdom, knowledge, and heritage of the world are preserved and transmitted by books of all types," the Governor said. "In these days of international tension, coupled with the ever-accelerating race for leadership in space flight and technology, an enlightened American public is more essential than ever before to the preservation of our democratic way of life."

THE COVER

Shown on this month's cover is a front view of the soon-to-be-constructed State Library and Archives Building. This realistic picture of the architects' model was made by United Press International.

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Hugo Franz Kuehne's half century of civic service has earned him the undying gratitude of a city, a university and a profession.

Honors continue to mount for this well-known architect who has done so much for so many . . .

Service Unlimited

EARLY this year, an important national organization officially recognized something the people of Austin have been bragging about for years: the varied, outstanding civic service rendered by Hugo Franz Kuehne for more than half a century.

The American Society of Planning Officials presented Mr. Kuehne, who celebrated his seventy-fifth birthday in February, with an honorary life membership. The scroll attesting to the fact notes that it was presented "in recognition of years of service in the field of planning."

So many similar tributes have been paid to Mr. Kuehne during recent years that there isn't room for all of them on the walls of his private office in the architectural firm of Kuehne, Brooks and Barr.

The mementoes which do grace the walls tell a vivid story in themselves.

There is Mr. Kuehne's degree in

civil engineering, awarded by the University of Texas in 1906, and—in a place of particular honor—his bachelor of science degree in architecture, awarded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in 1908.

Nearby are his licenses—Registered Architect Number Six in the State of Texas, Registered Engineer Number 104.

Hanging near the door is a small, simple scroll in which Mr. Kuehne must take a lot of pride.

It tells its own story:

"The students of the School of Architecture at the University of Texas present this scroll to

HUGO FRANZ KUEHNE
first professor of architecture and founder of the Architectural Library at the University of Texas in recognition of his services to the School.

Nov. 6, 1953."

Mr. Kuehne had returned from

M.I.T. and established private practice in the Littlefield Building in Austin only about one year before University of Texas officials approached him on the possibility of establishing the School of Architecture. He founded it in 1910 and taught there until 1914, when he returned to private practice.

"Our first classes were held in the Engineering Building," Mr. Kuehne recalls, "and, of course, there were only a handful of students."

SHORTLY after he returned to private practice, Mr. Kuehne launched an amazing career of civic service. It resulted in his being named Austin's Most Worthy Citizen for 1954 and, more recently, in a special tribute from the Austin City Council.

"I'm a native of Austin and I've always been interested in having a nice city," Mr. Kuehne explains his many varied activities. "I wanted to do everything I could to help build

(Continued on Page 6)

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(Continued from Page 5)

it, so we could all be proud of it. The City has been growing so fast that there has been more and more to do."

A lot of the things which have been done to aid the City's growth probably wouldn't have been done at all had it not been for the energy and zeal of Mr. Kuehne.

He served on the City Parks and Recreation Board from 1932 until 1934, the City Zoning Commission in 1932-33 and 1952; the City Planning Commission for thirty-one years, the City Building Code Commission in 1931 and 1932 and the City Zoning Board of Adjustment from 1932 through 1951.

He also has rendered outstanding service to the Texas Inter-professional Commission on Child Development, the American Society of Planning Officials, the National Association of Housing Officials — and to his own professional organizations, the Texas Society of Architects, the American Institute of Architects (he is a member of the College of Fellows), and the state and national Society of Professional Engineers.

In his "spare" time, Mr. Kuehne has managed to serve with distinction the Rotary Club, the Austin Chamber of Commerce, the Austin Club and Sigma Chi Fraternity.

It was Mr. Kuehne's unselfish civic service in so many fields which led to his selection as Austin's Most Worthy Citizen for 1954. He was honored at a banquet sponsored by the Austin Real Estate Board and drew high praise from the main speaker, Allan Shivers, then Governor of Texas.

LATER, the Austin City Council expressed itself rather eloquently on Mr. Kuehne's contributions to his native city.

Said the Council's resolution, adopted unanimously:

"Whereas, Mr. Hugo Kuehne,

a native of the City of Austin and a practicing architect therein for a half century, has patiently and consistently devoted his skill, ingenuity, experience, and time, during a large part of his professional life to helping our beloved City in its continuing growth in convenience and beauty;

"Whereas, Hugo Kuehne's talents have been most valuable to his fellow citizens by his selfless service as a member and as chairman of the City Planning Commission for 31 years, during which time the first Master Plan for the City of Austin was developed and consummated;

"Whereas, our City is the beneficiary of much strength and utility derived from the perspective seen through the trained eyes of the said Hugo Kuehne as he witnessed the past growth and present momentum of the City;

"Now, therefore, be it resolved: That the people of Austin, through their City Council, express their gratitude to Mr. Hugo Kuehne for his long public service, on their belief that his intelligent foresight has made a permanent contribution to the growth of this City."

While he is grateful for all of the tributes being reaped by the seeds sown in civic endeavor for half a century, Mr. Kuehne — with typical unselfishness — is most grateful for the opportunities he has been given to serve his fellowmen.

Young architects, he believes, can gain real personal satisfaction through initiating worthwhile civic projects, without sitting back and waiting to be "drafted" for some task.

"If you see something that needs to be done," Mr. Kuehne says simply, "you should call it to the attention of your City Council, get it approved — and then help get the job done."

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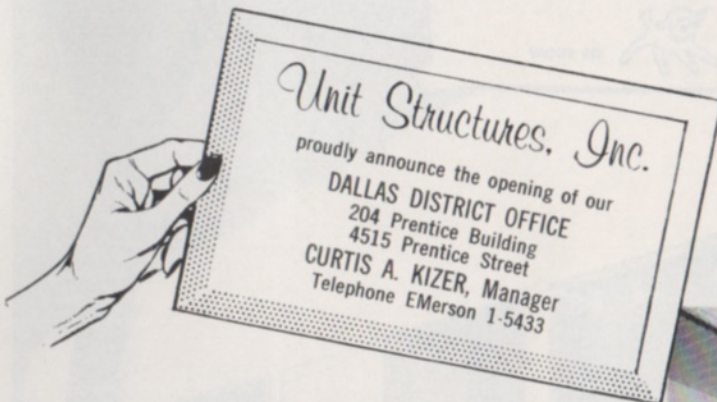
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