

TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

CHROMASTER NEW CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

DALLAS' 1951 COMMERCIAL AWARD WINNER

TSA BOARD PLANS COURSE FOR 1952

**JANUARY
1952**

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THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

VOLUME 2 JANUARY, 1952 NUMBER 9

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THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

January 20-24—8th Annual Convention and Exposition of Home Builders, Stevens Hotel, Chicago.

January 24-26 — Convention of the Texas Society of Professional Engineers, Galveston.

June 24-27—83rd Convention of the American Institute of Architects, Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, New York City.

October—13th Annual Convention of the Texas Society of Architects, El Paso . . . dates to be set.

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WHERE ARE WE HEADED?

These are four main objectives of the Texas Society of Architects.

- To organize and unite in fellowship the architects of Texas; to combine their efforts so as to promote the aesthetic, scientific and practical efficiency of the profession.
- To advance the science and art of planning and building by advancing the standards of architectural education, training and practice.
- To coordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture to insure the advancement of the living standards of our people through their improved environment.
- And to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society.

Members of the TSA in 1952 must re-double their efforts to carry these objectives through. Positive planning and action must keynote activities of the TSA throughout the critical year at hand.

In the face of continued and stronger building curtailments with shortages of materials and with unsteady world conditions, the TSA must remain a strong, close-knit organization of professional people working together to meet their joint problems.

Member chapters must increase their participation in affairs of the Society as all work together on the master plan for service, best results and prosperity.

Looking back across the brief history of the TSA the tremendous progress becomes obvious. When those 87 Texas architects met in the Crystal Ballroom of the old Driskill Hotel in Austin, on June 10, 1939, to found the TSA the men who were present started the move that was to grow and benefit practically everyone in the State of Texas.

The year 1952 will be a difficult one in many ways. To see our progress continued at its past rate cooperation and coordination must come from every member during the new year. Our job is obvious . . . to work for a revision of the critical building material regulations of the National Production Authority. Planning to save critical materials on defense projects and other work must be done with all the skill and planning within our grasp.

We must be good citizens and we must maintain our taste for that which is done well.

DALLAS' 1951 COMMERCIAL WINNER

By Harwood K. Smith and Joseph M. Mills

The management of Geophysical Service, Inc. and Smith and Mills spent a great deal of time together during the preliminary design period of four or five months in order to come to a thorough understanding and solution of problems involved.

Geophysical Service, Inc. is a professional organization. They wanted to have their home in Dallas convey that feeling. They are also a working organization. They did not want a feeling of extravagance or plushness in the building. Since the Dallas laboratory and plant would have the engineering and manufacturing group which designs, manufactures and maintains the equipment used by the field crews operating the world over, it was necessary that the planned building would have all the flexibility and adaptability required of the equipment to be designed and built there.

Throughout the entire administrative and engineering sections on the ground floor of the building, which occupy approximately the front 10,000 square feet, the module principle has been used. All dividing walls are steel partitions made

up in four foot sections. The window mullions are exactly four feet apart, allowing a rearrangement of the steel partitions within these wide open areas at will. Fluorescent fixtures are used throughout the plant, but in this area they simply plug into conduit strips in the ceilings to allow the fixtures to be moved readily, as the partitions are changed. The air conditioning is fed into the areas through a dropped center duct, allowing rearrangement of rooms on each side of the duct readily. Power, gas, air, hot and cold water, sewage and an electrical ground are fed to all of the engineering laboratories by means of continuous ducts and pipes, mounted on the inside rear wall of the single story wing you see in the photographs and running continuously from one end of the wing to the other. These services are then picked off in the individual laboratories as required, using the same plug-in idea as is used in the electrical fixtures.

Trolley duct is used as a power feed to all of the light assembly areas in the Machine and Electronic Shops. This can be seen in the photographs of these two





areas. This allows the assembly benches to be moved at will without rewiring or any difficulty in arranging tools.

Overhead bus duct is used throughout most of the Machine Shop area to give the same flexibility in rearranging machines in that area. The heavier machines are fed from below the floor ducts to keep overhead space clear for an overhead crane service.

The working areas were kept just as free of columns and other structural interferences as possible. The Machine Shop, for example, has two 50 x 110 foot bays. The Automotive and Rotary Shop stands 60 x 120 feet clear without any columns whatsoever and is serviced by overhead cranes.

The monitor you see in the photographs of the rear of the building with the clerestory windows at all sides allows us to erect the mast of our shot hole drilling machines in the plant. Below the monitor we have two man-hole covered openings about three feet in diameter, extending well into the sub-surface below the building. We can actually test the drilling machines completely inside the building.

An overhead bridge crane extends over the shipping docks outside the buildings proper into the Shipping Department itself, over the warehouse and into the

Machine Shop so that heavy materials can be picked up directly from the delivering trucks and handled into the shipping-receiving areas, warehouse and shops.

The large overhead doors shown in the rear view of the building are so arranged as to allow access to all bays in the Automotive and Rotary Shop. This allows us to insert or remove trucks for repair or overhaul or construction without moving any of the other vehicles which may already be in the production line in the shop proper.

The exterior of the building is of Indiana Limestone, Oklahoma Red Granite, face and common brick. Public entrance is of plate glass and aluminum setting.

How to Build a Church

William Ward Watkins, AIA-TSA, professor of architecture at Rice Institute in Houston, has written an authoritative document on planning and building the modern church.

The book is 176 pages, size 9 x 12 and retails for \$8.50 per copy.

It is available through the A. L. Lamar Agency, Box 5303 Metro Station, Los Angeles 55, California. Information given analyzes the modern church from the preliminary plans to the completed structure.

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DALLAS CHAPTER TO PUBLISH UNIQUE ROSTER IN 1952

The Dallas Chapter, AIA, plans to publish a chapter roster which will include the TSA minimum fee schedule, a brief outline of the functions of an architect and the advantage to a client of retaining architectural service.

Under the name of each firm, the roster will list the names and locations of five examples of that firm's work. Independent work of associates and junior associates will also be listed under the names in those classifications.

The chapter's exhibition, "Architecture—1951," will be shown at Arlington College, A. & M., University of Texas, University of Houston and the Valley Chapter, AIA.

New member of the Dallas chapter is Thomas Dan Canakes, junior associate employed in the office of J. N. McCammon.

Central Texas To Elect

The Central Texas Chapter, AIA, at its January meeting will elect new officers.

A nominating committee was appointed in December.

At the chapter's November meeting in the Engineers Club of Austin members heard a report on the TSA convention and passed a motion for the president to appoint a new committee to recommend disposition of the chapter's excess funds.

Defense Production Data

Information on the defense production program is available in the "Defense Production Record," published weekly and available through the Government Printing Office for \$2.50 per year.

The publication is a guide to regulations and helps clarify them.

CHROMASTER NEW CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL PRESIDENT

C. O. Chromaster, Fort Worth architect, has been elected president of the Texas Construction Council in the Council's annual meeting held December 9.

Long active as a member of the TSA, AIA and numerous other civic and professional organizations, Mr. Chromaster was elevated from the office of vice-president of the Council.

Also the Council at this meeting adopted resolutions pertaining to Texas' water resources and federal regulations of industry under such agencies as the National Production Authority.

Water Resolutions

Three resolutions were adopted which request the State Legislature to pass such new legislation as may be necessary to insure that the present policy of the State Board of Water Engineers regarding the ownership and rights of appropriation of Texas water be retained by the state agency and further that, since Texas State Board of Water Engineers does not have adequate funds to provide for complete studies of water resources, that the next Legislature appropriate sufficient money to enable the State Board to complete studies of the state's water potentialities.

A third resolution contained opposition to a proposed future act of Congress which would approve the reports of present Water Resources Committee since this in general would interfere with the control of water by the states.

Ownership of Water

A committee was instructed to study the rumors concerning the repeal of a public law by the Federal Congress which would place under the jurisdiction of the General Services Administration the disposing of conservation water stored behind dams constructed by the Corps of Engineers. It was felt by the Council that if the GSA was ordered to dispose of

conservation waters that it would automatically incur ownership of the water which at present time, in accordance with agreements made with the Corps of Engineers, is considered to be owned by the states and not by the Federal Government.

Form Standardization

A progress report on the standard form of engineering service agreement which the Council has considered for several months was made by a committee under the chairmanship of George Barber, mayor of Mineral Wells. Through this committee, the Council undertook to compile a model form of agreement or contract to be used between municipalities and engineers covering engineering services on public works.

Questionnaires were sent to some 42 practicing engineers in the state and a

(Continued on Page 8)

JUST ONE VOTE?

What good will one vote do?

It has done a lot of things that have vitally changed the history of the United States of America.

Thomas Jefferson was elected president by one vote in the electoral college.

So was John Quincy Adams. Rufus B. Hayes was elected president by one vote, and it was referred to an electoral commission. Again he won by a single vote. The man who cast the deciding vote for President Hayes was a congressman who was elected to Congress by one vote. And that one vote was cast by a client of his who though desperately ill insisted on being taken to the polls to vote.

Just one vote gave statehood to California, Idaho, Oregon, Texas and Washington. The Draft Act of World War II passed the House by just one vote.

Think it over. Then, if you haven't done so, buy your poll tax. And while you're at it, get one for your wife. And ask the neighbors to get their poll taxes. Mister, your one vote counts!

Chromaster . . .

large number of replies were received. Discussions indicated that the practicing engineers, Texas Society of Professional Engineers and Texas Section of ASCE are enthusiastically in favor of a standard form of professional engineering agreement which would be used by municipalities for contracts with engineers.

This document would contain an outline of the services rendered as well as the compensation to be received. Accompanying the form of contract would be a brochure indicating in detail the services to be rendered.

It was the consensus of opinion that such documents would enable municipalities to determine definitely when the engagement had been concluded and whether the services for which payment was being made had actually been rendered.

Fort Worth Appoints Committees

At its November meeting held at Charles Restaurant, the Fort Worth Chapter, AIA, announced the following committees:

Membership, Joseph J. Patterson; Relationship With Construction Industry, Earle E. Koeppel; Practice of Architecture, Alfonso W. Malin; Public Relations, John W. Floore; Government Relations, A. J. Capelle.

Thomas B. Lippincott was elected a corporate member and James A. Clutts an associate member.

Jackson Appointed

Graham R. Jackson, Houston, has been appointed to the AIA national committee on standardized accounting and office practice.

David C. Baer of Houston is committee chairman.

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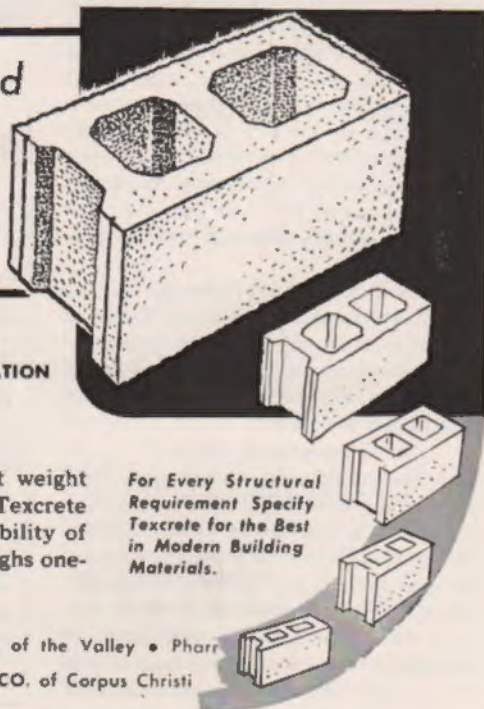
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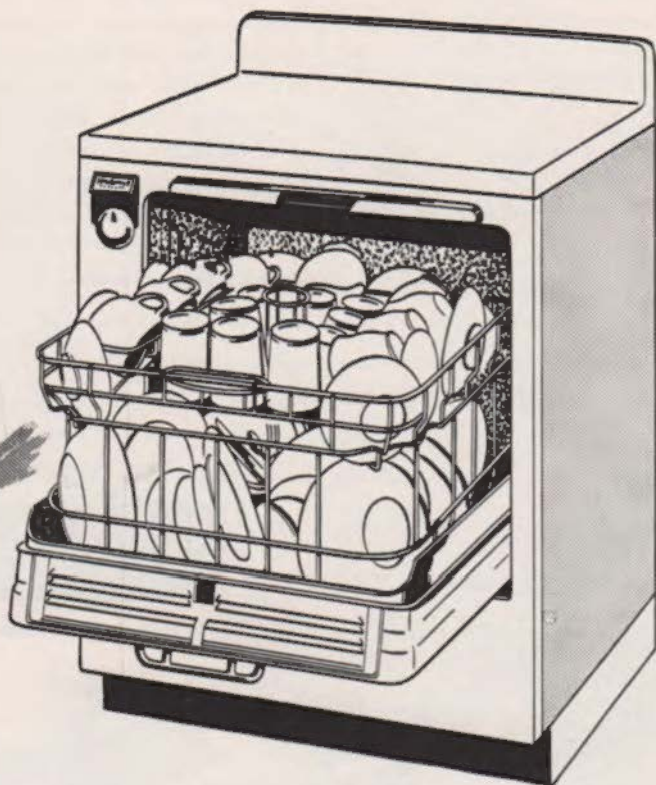
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AGC Adds AIA Forms

The Constructor, the national monthly magazine of the Associated General Contractors, lists all standard forms of use to general contractors on its order form carried monthly in the magazine. The AGC office in Washington maintains a supply of these forms in its stock room, which are available to contractors.

The latest addition to this list is AIA Accounting Form 702, "Request for Partial Payment."

This form is used for submitting the contractor's periodic requests for payment. It is one of a series developed by the Institute's committee on Standardized Accounting for use in handling the contractor-owner finances. The Certificate for Payment form (A-703) and the Change Order form (A-701) complete this series. Architects may procure these last from Institute headquarters in Washington.

West Texas Chapter Elects

At its annual meeting, December 6, the West Texas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects elected the following officers for 1952:

President, C. C. Simmons; First Vice-President, E. I. Freeborn; Second Vice-President, Charles Huie, Jr.; Secretary-Treasurer, Henry Steinbomer; TSA Director, Reginald H. Roberts.

Critics Honored

The University of Houston Junior Chapter, TSA-AIA on December 10, honored Harwell Hamilton Harris, chairman of the University of Texas Department of Architecture, with a reception in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Jean de Menil in Houston.

In addition to students and faculty others present included Arthur Fehr of Austin, and Douglas Haskell, architectural editor of Magazine of Building.

These three architects were judges for the 1951 Houston Chapter, TSA-AIA honor awards competition.

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AUSTIN, TEXAS

TSA BOARD PLANS COURSE FOR 1952

The TSA Board of Directors held its initial meeting of 1952 January 6 in the Commodore Perry Hotel in Austin to plan and approve activities for the year.

By-Law Study

Edward Wilson of Fort Worth, TSA regional director, was asked by the Board to continue to study and edit the TSA by-laws. President Herbert M. Tatum of Dallas asked that copies of the by-laws be mailed all members for suggestions on changes or additions.

It was pointed out that to function smoothly, an organization must have clear-cut and up-to-date by-laws.

Capitol Plan

Karl Kamrath of Houston, chairman of the TSA Capitol Plan Committee, reported his committee's major activity for the year will be working for a re-creation of the Capitol Plan Commission at the next regular session of the State Legislature.

He described the public relations value of the project as its successful completion will benefit all Texans. Mr. Kamrath said his committee will work to interest other state organizations in setting up their own committees on this project or to have representatives join the TSA group.

Fee Committee

Albert Golemon of Houston, TSA vice-president and chairman of the Fee Schedule Committee, outlined two major steps for his committee during the year.

Besides the regular work of keeping up a supply of the fee schedules and answering questions regarding the schedule he said his committee will urge the professional engineers of the state to adopt a schedule of fees which applies to associate work. He said discussions will continue with the engineers on this subject. The second major project for his committee will be producing a

pamphlet describing the services of the architect.

Mr. Golemon said there are approximately 2000 copies of the fee schedule now on hand.

School Plant Study

Chairman of the School Plant Study Committee, Lee Buttrill of Temple is now member Texas Education Agency's School Plant Study Section.

Mr. Buttrill said his committee will work to develop a plan for submitting drawings to the Texas Education Agency. He said earlier the procedure was for the architect to make special drawings of each school he planned, later this was amended so the architect could submit working drawings. The TEA really does not want the working drawings, which besides being bulky and difficult to file, are highly technical and complicated.

He said his committee will develop and recommend a specific size and a convenient form in which plans can be submitted by architects to the TEA.

Legislative

Raymond Phelps of San Antonio, immediate past-president of the TSA, now chairman of its Legislative Committee, reported on goals of the committee for the year

At the suggestion of Mr. Phelps and Committee Member Max Brooks of Austin, the Board voted to establish headquarters in Austin at 311 Capitol National Bank Building and to retain Carl Hardin, Jr. of Austin as TSA legal counsel.

Duplicate records of TSA activities will be kept in the Austin office.

Texas Architect

Publication Board of the Texas Architect was appointed under the provision

(Continued on Page 15)

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TSA Board Plans . . .

of the amendment to the by-laws passed at the 1951 TSA convention.

Members having unexpired terms under the previous arrangement were appointed to complete their terms. David C. Baer was reappointed for a full three-year term. Ernest Langford of Texas AGM was appointed for a one-year term as representative of architectural schools, and Herbert C. Tatum, as TSA president, was appointed for a one-year term.

Mr. Baer was named acting chairman pending further organization of the Publication Board.

Insurance Program

Harry D. Payne of Houston, chairman of the Insurance Committee, reported on the committee proposals for 1952 activities.

It was proposed to make a brief analysis and statement of the protection afforded, a statement of apparent defects and/or deficiencies with suggested corrective provisions, a statement of desirable additional coverage and procedures whereby such coverages might be effected, list the technical designations of the current policies which will afford the desired protection.

The Insurance Committee also proposed to cooperate with the Legislation Committee as the analysis will reveal real

defects which would require legislation in their correction.

Mr. Payne requested the Executive Board to authorize the president and secretary to execute contract papers with the State Mutual Life Assurance Company for the renewal of the policy as of its April 1, 1952, anniversary date; appoint and designate John W. Richey as the committee's consultant and as central agency for collection of premiums, filing of claims and distribution of claim payments; approve the committee's proposals for activities; commend participation in the program.

The Board accepted and approved the report and proposals.

Public Relations

David C. Baer, chairman of the TSA Public Relations Committee, outlined the most intensive PR program in the organization's history.

His committee this year for the first time will function as an integral part of both the state organization—TSA—and the Texas region. Committee members will be the public relations chairmen from each of the TSA-AIA chapters.

Objectives for 1952 include expansion of the Texas Architect; creation of a coordinated program of work among the TSA committees and the committees

(Continued on Page 16)

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South Houston, Texas

Officers Elected; Awards Announced

The Houston Chapter, AIA, in its December annual meeting announced awards for its chapter competition and elected officers to serve in 1952.

New officers are Stayton Nunn, president; Harold E. Calhoun, first vice-president; William B. Morgan, second vice-president; Arne G. Engberg, secretary; Milton Foy Martin, treasurer; John F. Staub, director.

C. Herbert Cowell is immediate past-president.

The awards jury of Harwell Hamilton Harris, director of the University of Texas Department of Architecture; Arthur Fehr, Austin architect, and Douglas Haskell, architectural editor of Magazine of Building, announced the following as competition winners:

LARGER HOUSES: Honor—Cowell & Neuhaus, home of Hugo V. Neuhaus, Jr.; Mention—Lloyd & Morgan, home of Mrs. Ann Bart; Mention—MacKie & Kamrath, home of Dr. Burton McCollum.

SMALLER HOUSES: Mention—George Smart, own home.

INSTITUTIONAL: Honor — Lloyd & Morgan and Milton McGinty, Rice Institute Stadium; Mention—MacKie & Kamrath, Wheatley High School; Mention—Wilson, Morris & Crain, Bastian Elementary School.

COMMERCIAL: Mention — Wilson, Morris & Crain, Luttrell Office Building.

Also at the meeting, Golemon & Rolfe and Stone & Pitts were presented their national AIA awards announced at the 1951 national AIA convention.

TSA Board Plans . . .

of the chapters that will establish the architectural profession as being progressive, civic-minded and united; coordinate the statewide phase of public relations activity among the chapters and

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to strengthen the position of TSA as the Texas regional organization of the Institute.

First meeting of this committee was held concurrent with the Board meeting.

George Kirksey & Associates was retained as public relations counsel.

Other Action

In other action taken during the day-long meeting, President Tatum appointed a committee of Marvin Eickenroht, chairman, Robert Ayres and Bartlett Cocke to select a seminar subject for the 1952 TSA convention to be held in El Paso.

Richard Vander Stratten, 1951 TSA secretary-treasurer, made his final report which was approved by the Board.

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