

# TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

**TEXAS CIVIL DEFENSE AND DISASTER RELIEF**

WM. L. MCGILL

**A.I.A.—ITS FIRST CENTURY**

**THE TEXAS CAPITOL PLAN**

WERNER DORNBERGER

**DESIGN AWARD GOES TO SWEENEY SCHOOL**

**THE NEW TEXAS ARCHITECT — AN EDITORIAL**

**MAY**  
1951

## TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

To our new readers:

Here is your first copy of the new TEXAS ARCHITECT, the official publication of the Texas Society of Architects. You are a member of one of a few carefully selected groups nominated to receive the TEXAS ARCHITECT, through the courtesy of the membership of the Texas Society.

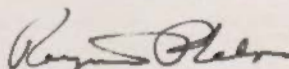
Frankly, we want to tell you about the work of the architects and the building industry in Texas. Many of us take for granted the influence of architecture through the design of the buildings in which we work, live and play.

You, being in a position of leadership and responsibility within your field, may be asked for advice and counsel on construction programs. We hope that information supplied by the TEXAS ARCHITECT will be of service to you in making decisions concerning building, and in helping to select reputable architects for projects with which you are associated.

The TEXAS ARCHITECT is the Texas voice of the architectural profession. In this and future issues, it will bring you each month news, views and helpful suggestions from Texas' architects.

We would welcome your comments and constructive criticisms concerning the architectural profession. Tell us how we can be of greater service to you.

Sincerely yours,



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## TEXAS ARCHITECT

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The Texas Regional District Organization of  
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David C. Baer, Houston .....

Editor

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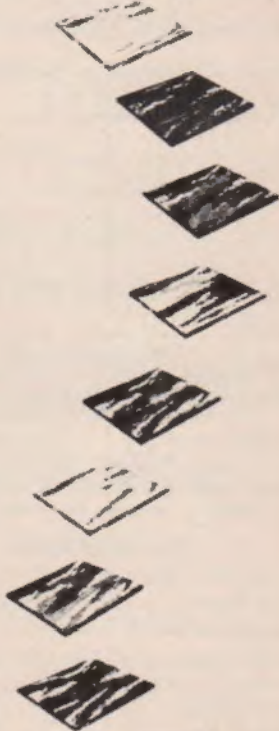
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## A.I.A.—Its First Century

Architects this year celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the occasion when in 1851, twelve New York architects met for the first time, forming what soon became the national architectural body, The American Institute of Architects.

In our national history very little has been written about the formation, growth and activities of the societies of professional groups, such as the doctors, lawyers, and architects.

The doctors were the first to organize for the sake of self-improvement and the betterment of their service to the public, having formed the American Medical Association in 1847. The architects completed their organization April 5th, 1857. Curiously enough, the lawyers, so plentiful in the early days of the republic and so active in its government, did not organize the American Bar Association until 1878.

In Chicago, Illinois this month, representatives of the architectural profession of the United States and its possessions will gather for the 83rd convention of the Institute. The delegates, while looking ahead to the future, will also look back over a conspicuous growth of their profession during the last century.

Long before the founding of the American Institute of Architects, it was learned that the science of building well is not enough. If the hearts of men over the ages had been stirred merely by the science of building, architecture would not have enlisted such minds as those of Ictinus, who designed the Par-

thenon, or Hadrian of Rome, or Michelangelo, or Bramante, or the master masons who gave us the great cathedrals of the Middle Ages. If the science of building well were all there is to architecture, it would not be said to be a history of civilization far more vivid and truthful than the written word. It is as fine art that architecture has found its place in the hearts of men. The architect must be a master builder, able to coordinate the efforts of many men with many skills. He must be a creative artist if what he produces is to be something more than economical engineering.

The respect and prestige which the architectural profession now holds is the result of the profession's aim to provide a public service to a society that has often seemed rather unsympathetic with, if not actually contemptuous of, this professional group. Yet, the objectives of the Institute, which remain in its by-laws clearly stated, are "To better serve society."

During the period dating from the first white settlement along the Atlantic Seaboard to about 1800, building needs were fairly simple—dwellings, town halls, inns, churches, and shops for the most part. The master builders of those days improvised very well indeed, relying on their memories of old world forms and leaning heavily on books of details brought over from England and the continent of Europe, and later, on those written and published by a few of the highly skilled artisans and wood carvers of the American colonies.

(Continued on Page 22)

# TEXAS CIVIL DEFENSE AND DISASTER RELIEF

By **WILLIAM L. MCGILL**

State Coordinator  
of  
Texas Civil Defense and Disaster Relief

Texas, located along the great Gulf Coast and populated with the people and industrial facilities to furnish a large supply of the nation's needs in both war and peace, is more than normally interested in its Civil Defense and Disaster Relief Program.

As the designers of Texas' buildings and industrial structures, the architectural profession in Texas will be asked to give guidance and professional counsel to the more than 900 local defense organizations in Texas.

Because of the training received by members of the architectural profession, their leadership abilities will be channeled into such fields as plant protection, public shelter facilities, inventorying of resources for emergency housing and feeding, making plans for restoring disrupted services and damaged facilities, review of current building codes to contemplate shelter protection provisions, and in many other phases of the overall program.

In the minds of those charged with initial responsibility for developing the defense organization, training, and operational plans, there is no doubt at all that the architects will respond in this crisis as loyally, unselfishly and effectively as they have in every situa-

tion where the public well-being has required their sacrifice and their service.

The entire state organization for civil defense is essentially an expansion of the state disaster relief organization which has functioned for some years.

As in World War II, the civil defense plan on the state level is built around those agencies of state government which are charged by law with the responsibility for

the public safety in all emergency situations.

Under the law, the organization is headed by the Governor. His executive secretary serves as coordinator. Such agencies as Public Safety, Health, Fire, Highway, Welfare, and the Adjutant General's department have their assigned functions. A liaison officer of the American Red Cross is assigned to the state organization.

The Adjutant General is, of course, the Governor's representative in charge of the military establishment of the state.

In the state organization, the director of the Texas Department of Public Safety directs several functions in the civil protection program, including Police Mobilization, Evacuation Service, Air Raid Warning System, Aircraft Warning



Service, and Defense Communications.

Civil Air Force mobilization is under the direction of the Texas Aeronautics Commission, assisted by a State Aviation Advisory Council consisting of representatives of all civilian flying organizations in Texas.

Health and Emergency Medical Services, including public health and sanitation planning; emergency water and sewer facilities; radiological treatment; disposition of human bodies; disposition of bodies of animals; and cognate matters are handled by special divisions under the direction of the State Health Officer.

The State Department of Public Welfare, in collaboration with the Red Cross, is developing plans on the state level for emergency housing, feeding, and clothing, and for the proper registration and handling of disaster victims.

Under the State Fire Marshal, plans are being developed for the coordination of all fire-fighting resources and facilities of the state. Already complete inventories of all fire-fighting equipment and personnel have been made.

Transportation is placed in a separate division under the chairmanship of the State Highway Engineer. Consulting with him are the Adjutant General, the Director of Public Safety, the State Aeronautics Director, and the Chairman of the Texas Railroad Commission.

The State Control Center is now maintained in the Office of the Governor.

A new state headquarters for the Texas Department of Public Safety is now under construction

and it will contain underground control centers and headquarters for the State Disaster Relief and Civil Defense Organization.

Alternate control centers are designated now for use when the regular headquarters is unavailable.

State Defense and Disaster Relief Headquarters maintain relief resource files on each of the 254 counties of Texas, with large maps of each county — indicating highways, roads and bridges; public buildings, churches, school buildings; rivers and streams; utility and transportation facilities.

Communication facilities utilized include telephone, teletype, telegraph, radio, and courier.

Teletype connections are maintained in State Headquarters at the Governor's Office, in State Headquarters of the Public Safety Department, the Highway Department, the State Health Department, and the Adjutant General's Department. There is direct teletype communication with Federal Civil Defense Headquarters in Washington.

Teletype machines are also installed in the 15 District Headquarters of the Texas Department of Public Safety and of the Texas Highway Department.

Much reliance is placed upon the radio system of the Public Safety Department. This includes 17 radio stations throughout the state, with two more to be added shortly and a portable radio bus equipped to handle any type of communications. This portable equipment is dispatched to any locality in case of a disaster and is used as a headquarters office by the officer in command, as well as a Communications Center.

(Continued on Page 18)



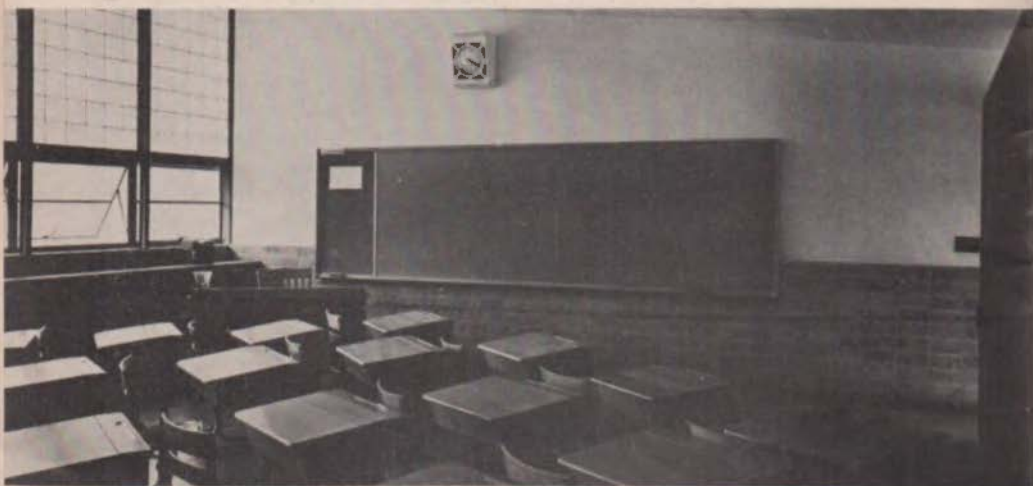
## A.I.A. DESIGN AWARD GOES TO SWEENY SCHOOL

Additions to Sweeny School, designed by Donald Barthelme, A.I.A., Houston, brought to the small community 75 miles southwest of Houston the Medal of Honor for Architectural Merit in Institutional Buildings, given in the 1950 competition by the Houston Chapter, A.I.A. The \$400,000 project required the additions of an enlarged shop, band room, gymnasium and locker rooms, and central administrative facilities to an existing school plane begun under the P.W.A. program. Buildings added later bore little relation to each other and passage between them was haphazard and often muddy. Inherent in the architectural problem was the necessity of providing the School District with a unified

plant in which the additions while containing advances in school planning would not render obsolete the existing facilities. This was the Sweeny Independent School District in 1948.

In the new additions, paved and covered passages between all units and a large paved forecourt for parking and unloading of school buses have been provided. Additional classrooms placed alongside the high school building secures permanently natural lighting with directional glass block in high windows over storage lockers on the opposite side for cross ventilation. Artificial lighting is from recessed troffers set in acoustic tile ceiling.

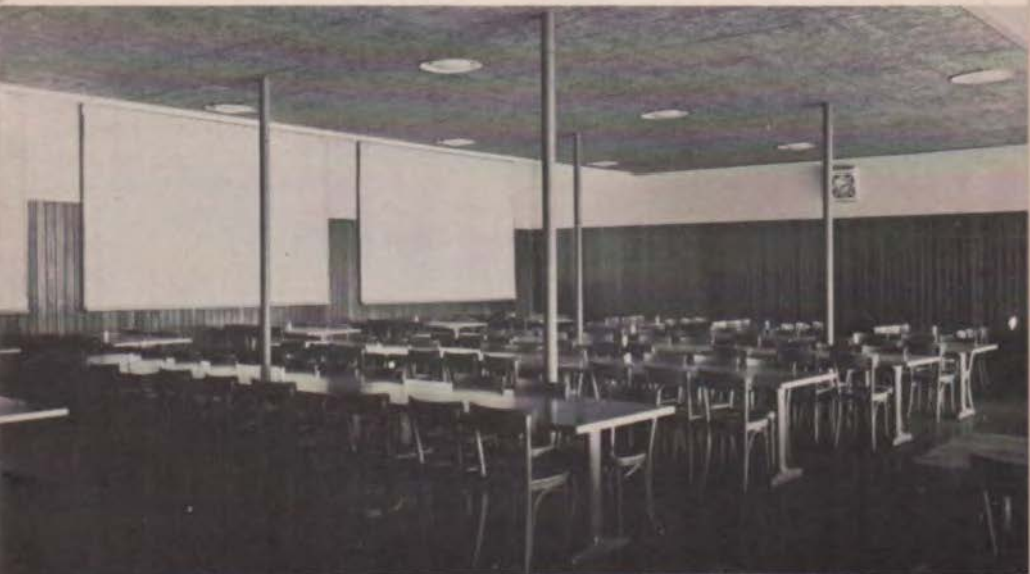
The shop and band building, designed for division into individual classrooms by insertion





of partition walls, should the need arise, is lighted by skylights shielded with fixed venetian blind slats at the ceiling level. The diffusion effected by the louvers reduces the contrast at the ceiling to within the comfort range. Ceilings and walls above the wainscot are covered with a coated wood fibre material with acoustical properties which, although fireproof and a "hard" material, appears

arch roof which spans eighty-five feet with 2 by 12 inch members, and was found to be the most economical system by far in that it provides the requisite clearances over the court, yet drops to a low eave requiring only a small portion of the exterior wall construction usually necessary. The ends were filled with light directing glass block, which by virtue of the curved roof, employs its light



soft and relieves the usual clinical look of such materials.

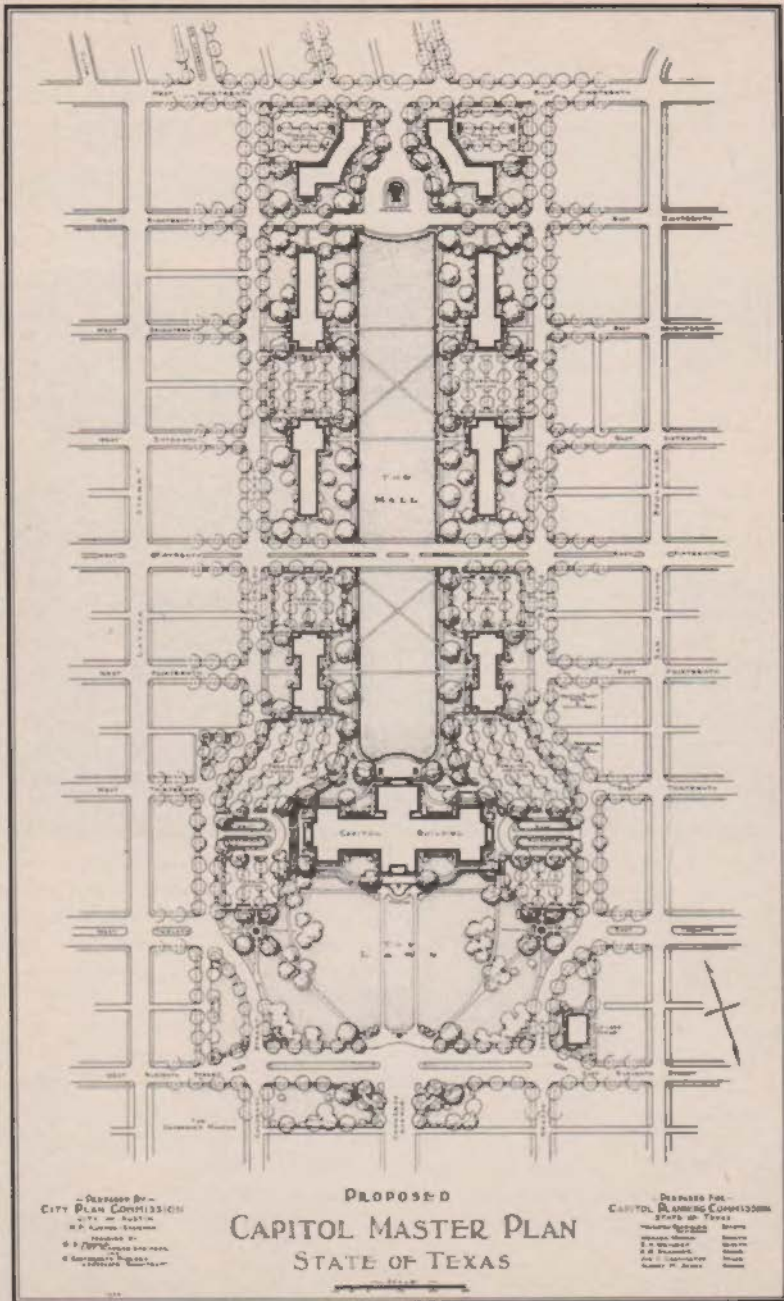
By locating the gymnasium and cafeteria on the axis of the forecourt, parking facilities were provided for the public using the school's facilities. These spaces separate the upper and lower high school levels while making these units available to both levels for use.

The cafeteria, formerly the old shop building, is wainscoted with redwood and the walls and ceilings are painted bright colors, which, together with red floor covering and the natural wood furniture, make for lively surroundings.

The gymnasium employs a wood lamella

directing qualities toward lighting the interior of the gym rather than the space adjacent to the block itself. Actual practice has shown that there is no glare from the glass block wall to the player attempting a basket at the ends.

Artificial lighting in the gymnasium is designed along the same principle with indirect lighting shielded by a hardboard baffle running the full length of each side, the court area being directly lighted from above by eight 1000 watt reflectors with concentric ring louvers. The even quality and lack of shadows and brightness contrast provides easy vision of both the spectators and the players.



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# Texas Needs A STATE CAPITOL MASTER PLAN

By WERNER W. DORNBERGER

Member T.S.A. Capitol Plan Committee

The Republic of Texas in 1839 set aside in Austin a "Capitol Square," now the present location of the Texas State Capitol Building, showing great foresight on the part of our pioneers. It was not, however, until almost 100 years after the adoption of the original plan that a small group of Austin citizens revived interest in the development of an adequate master plan to meet present and future needs of the Texas state government.

A Capitol Planning Commission, created by the 47th Legislature in 1941 and composed of three Senators and three Representatives, working with the City Planning Commission of Austin, surveyed the State's need for future public buildings and their possible location, studied availability of property which may become useful to the state, and worked out a suitable basic Capitol Master Plan. On the opposite page is shown the plan adopted by the Capitol Planning Commission in 1944, but never adopted by the Legislature.

Following World War II, during which the Commission died, the late Governor Beauford Jester became keenly aware of the need for a comprehensive master building plan for development of the Texas Capitol area. Consideration was strongly given to the appropriation of a starting fund of \$50,000 for detailed study and planning. However, the Capitol Planning Commission has never been re-established.

Today, when the Texas state government is in the throes of expanding its office facilities, the findings of the original Capitol Planning Commission point even more strongly to the need for a unified State Capitol Master Plan.

Consideration was given to expansion in each of four directions at right angles to the four sides of the Capitol building. Expansion to the south toward the business district of Austin was objectionable because only two narrow strips of property along the south side of Eleventh street were available even though owned by the State. They were inadequate for suitable multi-story office buildings, and in an area where traffic congestion and parking problems were very acute, even at that time. Construction on this property would make it necessary for citizens who come to do business with the State Departments to park many blocks away. Expansion to the west was ruled out because of high values of property and major north-south streets which carry a large burden of the city traffic that could not be conveniently closed.

Possible expansion to the east was discarded. The steep slope toward Waller Creek would add to the cost of building, and above all, the heavily traveled San Jacinto Boulevard would permanently intersect a development in this direction. Development of the half-block sections on all sides of the Capitol grounds would have only increased traffic congestion and parking problems.

A plan to extend north from the present Capitol grounds was adopted as the most feasible scheme. Almost miraculous is the fact that property values and estimated construction costs were as low as, or lower than, expansion in other directions. Possibilities for a co-ordinated and adequate street and parking system were good. Existing business zones were clearly defined, and near-by resi-

dential areas could be re-developed for desirable apartment and housing areas.

At present, the land required for this northward project is still occupied largely by two-story wooden boarding houses. To wait until this area has been developed by private interest will make acquisition of the needed property much more difficult—maybe impossible. It is today a reasonable, practical possibility. The Capitol Planning Commission concluded that there was no other choice but to plan to the northern area, if the necessity of having space for future buildings was to be squarely faced.

It was felt that it would be better to build permanently according to a carefully conceived over-all plan than to have a temporary expediency of building on isolated parcels of land to avoid the purchase of a larger tract of land. Actually the cost of acquiring the necessary property for the Capitol expansion is comparable to the cost of property required for an expressway through one of our principal cities. The relative urgency to the people of the State of Texas for an adequate Capitol development plan rates equally with the need for an elaborate highway now being built through part of the Capitol City.

As more of the existing buildings around the Capitol grounds are gradually replaced by private developments, the value of the area will increase. Delay in the adoption of the Capitol Master Plan and the acquisition of the land is certain to be attended by increased costs. Modernization is certain to come to this area in time.

The Texas Society of Architects has sponsored and promoted the development of an adequate and foresighted Capitol Master Plan through its Capitol Plan Committee. Such a plan would provide for a unified location of all future state buildings in the Capitol area, and for adequate parking space both for the many Texas citizens who come to do business with our State departments and for State employees. Such a master plan

## STUDENT DESIGN WINNERS

### Texas Architect Cover Competition

Five architectural students, representing four Texas architectural colleges, were named winners in the sketch problem competition of a cover design for the new TEXAS ARCHITECT. More than 15 entries were submitted in the contest, sponsored by the Texas Society of Architects, and judged by the T.S.A. Board of Directors, the Editor, and representatives of the Editorial and Advertising counsel for the TEXAS ARCHITECT.

First place cash award of \$15 was won by William G. Rube, University of Texas student from Beeville. Second place award of \$10 went to W. C. Kuykendoll, Texas Technological College student from Cisco. Two third place prizes of \$5 each were awarded to Thomas M. Mills, Seminole, Texas Technological College student; and to Gilbert W. Thweatt, Fort Worth, Rice Institute student. One honorable mention went to Joseph G. Dunn, Longview, University of Houston student. Texas A. & M. College did not submit any entries.

Preliminary judgments were made by the faculty of the individual colleges, and selected entries forwarded on to Austin for final judging March 31.

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would provide not only for the present development of a Capitol City worthy of the State of Texas, but would also serve as a guide for future generations for further expansion.

The immediate objectives of the Texas Society of Architects is the re-establishment of the Capitol Planning Commission by the Legislature of the State of Texas. The ultimate objective is the realization of a State Capitol development worthy of the State of Texas. Neither objective, however, can be realized without the interest and support of the citizens of Texas, representing all the professions and industries that have made Texas what it is today.

## GROUP INSURANCE

### Charter Enrollment Open On T.S.A. Insurance Plan

Pursuant to a 1950 T.S.A. convention Resolution, and by action of the Board of Directors, an Insurance Plan has been made available on an individual basis to every member of the Texas Society of Architects, and on a group basis to the office staffs of participating Society members. This Insurance Plan is the same Plan which has been in successful operation for two years by the Houston Chapter, A.I.A.

Harry D. Payne, chairman of the T.S.A. Insurance Committee, said that due to the late mailing of the descriptive booklet and the high level of professional activity, that T.S.A. members, their families, and employees may still complete charter enrollment by returning the enrollment cards before June 1, 1951. Charter enrollment is attended by a waiver of proof of satisfactory physical condition. Charter enrollee's insurance will then become effective on the date of the master contract.

Subsequent enrollee's protection shall be in effect on the first of the month next succeeding enrollment. However, a waiver of proof of satisfactory physical condition is not assured to subsequent enrollees. For this reason, candidates for insurance are urged by Mr. Payne to complete and mail enrollment cards immediately.

Individuals and staff groups joining the Program, enter upon an assured and proven schedule; and with the confident knowledge costs will decrease and benefits should increase, with increased numerical and more diversified participation.

### IN MEMORIAM

The Texas Society of Architects extends its sincerest condolences to the families of George Reynolds, Jr., and E. J. Vinour, Dallas architects, whose death resulted from an automobile accident in January.

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## MAKE YOUR PLANS TO ATTEND

- May 8**—Meeting, Dallas Chapter, A.I.A., Melrose Hotel, 6:30 p.m. Arch Swank, President.
- May 8 to 11**—Eighty-third annual convention of the American Institute of Architects and Building Products Exhibit, Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, Illinois.
- May 20 to 24**—Annual convention of the National Association of Building Owners and Managers, Rice Hotel, Houston, Texas.
- May 21**—Meeting, Fort Worth Chapters, A.I.A., 7 p.m. C. O. Chromaster, President.
- May 22**—Meeting, Houston Chapter, A.I.A., 6:30 p.m. C. Herbert Cowell, President. (The date has been delayed from the regular second Tuesday meeting, to give Chapter officials a chance to return from the A.I.A. convention.)
- May 27**—Houston Chapter, Producers' Council. Business meeting for Producers' Council members only.
- May 30, 31, June 1, 2**—Texas State Examination for Architectural License, Texas Technological College, Lubbock, Texas.
- October 25, 26**—Twelfth annual convention of the Texas Society of Architects, San Antonio, Texas.

## STATE EXAMINATIONS SET MAY 30, 31, JUNE 1, 2

The four-day Texas State architectural examinations for licenses to practice architecture in Texas will be given at Texas Technological College, Lubbock, on May 30, 31, June 1 and 2. Bartlett Cocke, member of the three-man State Board of Architectural Examiners, said that about 65 candidates are expected to take the comprehensive examinations, given twice a year.

Subjects covered in the 36-hour junior examinations are: Structural Design, Truss Design, Selection and Use of Materials, Mechanical Equipment of Buildings, Supervision, Counselling and Administration, Architectural Design, Composition, Urban Planning, and History of Architecture. Candidates are required to make an average of 75 per cent, with not less than 60 per cent on any one subject. Papers on each of these subjects, by each candidate, must be graded at the time of the examination, and under the direct supervision of the Board.

## NEXT MONTH IN THE TEXAS ARCHITECT YOU'LL READ:

**HUMANITY — OUR CLIENT** by Dean John Burchard of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. This will be a reprint of the Keynote Address given at the 83rd Convention of the American Institute of Architects in Chicago, May 8.

**PHOTOGRAPHY IN ARCHITECTURE** by F. W. Seiders, former head of the Department of Photography, University of Houston, Texas. Mr. Seiders, now associated with Shoemaker and Stiles, commercial photographers, is retained by several architectural firms, and furnished many of the pictures displayed at the 1950 T.S.A. convention. The article, for the layman as well as the architect, will be illustrated with the author's own work.

**ARCHITECTS GIRD FOR THE EMERGENCY** by David C. Baer, editor of the TEXAS ARCHITECT, presenting highlights of the 83rd annual convention of the American Institute of Architects in Chicago.

**PRODUCER'S COUNCIL IN TEXAS**, the story of a 27-year-old founding of the A.I.A., which works closely with the architectural profession to assure quality products in building Texas.

# THE NEW TEXAS ARCHITECT

## An Editorial

THE TEXAS ARCHITECT, with this issue, is another step toward the pledge of the Texas Society of Architects to be of even greater service to the people of the Lone Star state, and to help inform the public of the part architects and architecture is playing in the growth of Texas.

Old friends of the TEXAS ARCHITECT, by opening the new cover and examining the pages will be quickly aware of the many changes that have been made in printing, make-up, and editorial content. Those receiving the TEXAS ARCHITECT for the first time, will witness in future issues, even more changes in the editorial content to provide up-to-date, accurate reporting of various phases of the Texas building industry.

In addition to the mailings to almost 1,000 members of the architectural profession in Texas, copies will go each month to approximately 9,000 executives, public officials, and organizations inside and outside of Texas. These are the people who in the routine of their business and professional duties are associated in some way with the progressive Texas building program.

Advertising appears in the TEXAS ARCHITECT for the first time in this issue. This advertising was, and will continue to be solicited solely on the merits of the TEXAS ARCHITECT as an advertising medium. As such, the TEXAS ARCHITECT is the only magazine in Texas combining in its circulation influential design, specification and purchasing elements. The advertisers in the TEXAS ARCHITECT are helping to build Texas, and want the readers of this magazine to know more about their products.

Advertising revenue will help support the TEXAS ARCHITECT and will release a great part of the Society's funds for other projects helping to advance Texas and its architecture.

The TEXAS ARCHITECT was inaugurated when the Board of Directors of the Texas Society of Architects was directed by the 1949 T.S.A. convention to establish such a publication. The TEXAS ARCHITECT first appeared as a mimeographed magazine, similar in size to the new TEXAS ARCHITECT. Up-to-date information on the profession and carefully chosen general interest articles on architecture helped to make it welcome, and read, almost everywhere it was received.

The Board of Directors of the T.S.A., the seven-man Publication Board which serves as a governing body for The TEXAS ARCHITECT, and the Editorial and Advertising Counselors employed to assist in its publication all feel sincerely that there is a place in Texas and the south for the new TEXAS ARCHITECT.

# MADE IN TEXAS

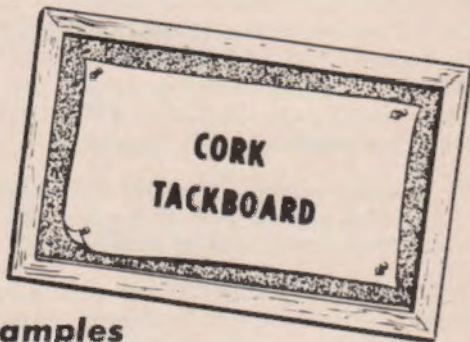
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# TEXAS CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL

## TEXAS CONSTRUCTION COUNCIL STUDIES N.P.A. ORDERS, PRE-QUALIFICATION AND PLAN DEPOSITS AT MARCH MEETING

Members of the Texas Construction Council, meeting in Corpus Christi in March, highlighted their quarterly meeting with several major topics. They were: (1) plans of the N.P.A. for controlling building and building materials; (2) discussion of pre-qualification of bidders for public works for municipalities; and (3) study of a policy on plan deposits.

### **N.P.A. Regulations**

From the regional office in Dallas, managed by Ray Martin, regional director, the National Production Authority has divided the state into four district offices with headquarters in San Antonio, Houston, El Paso and Dallas. Applications to the N.P.A. for construction, maintenance, repairs or operations, where the total cost is less than \$1,000,000 or the total structural steel is less than 50,000 tons, will be served by the district offices. Applications in excess of these amounts will be forwarded to the Dallas regional office and probably to the Washington central office. Proposed projects of less than \$5,000 and not within the specified restricted list of the N.P.A. orders, do not require application. If found to exceed \$5,000, application must then be filed.

Criteria for passing on an application includes: Reducing project scope to a minimum to allow materials for defense, maximum use of most plentiful materials, substitute materials for saving of iron products in every possible instance, and essentiality of project to defense program. Materials, labor, and required utilities must be available before an application is approved.

Defense Order 97 can be used for maintenance, repairs, and operating expenses, but not for buying inventory, and can be extended to most agencies engaged in producing materials or equipment for which an order is necessary. N.P.A. orders contem-

plate that construction will be commenced within sixty days after application approval. Hardship cases requiring an extension of the sixty-day period can be stated in a letter to the proper office.

### **Pre-Qualification of Bidders On Construction Jobs**

The Committee on re-qualification of Bidders suggested that pre-qualification on public works is good, but that it often tends to reduce bidding. Many prospective bidders do not have time to prepare the forms because the period for pre-qualifying usually ends only seventy-two hours to a week before receipt of bids, and since the size of Texas municipalities vary from small townships to large cities, standardization of the pre-qualification form has not been possible.

It is believed that cities maintaining Engineering and Legal staffs can pre-qualify their bidders, and that pre-qualification for smaller communities could be simplified into an easily prepared form providing sufficient information to determine the capability of the contractor. It was recommended that T.C.C. adopt some simple form to be incorporated with the specifications and submitted with the proposal. A suggested questionnaire would include: type of organization, officers, current C.P.A. prepared balance sheet, list of completed projects, projects under construction, and information on any work the firm or any members of the firm fail to complete.

### **Policy on Plan Deposits**

To encourage a more uniform practice in the participation in the cost of reproducing and distributing plans and specifications for jobs to be bid, and to encourage more competition by wider distribution of plans to prospective bidders, the T.C.C. Committee, headed by W. H. Sindt, Texas Society of

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Professional Engineers, recommended that the policy on plan deposits adopted by the T. C. C. be submitted to the official boards of the sponsoring organizations of the Council.

The Committee stated that any policy on this subject should be general in nature, and be broad and flexible enough to apply to the various situations. The recommended policy is, briefly:

(1) The Architect and Engineer should furnish a stipulated number of plans and specifications to service the job and reimbursement should be made by the owner for all additional sets required; (2) prospective bidders should be required to deposit on amount sufficient to cover the cost of reproduction; (3) no deposit should be required for plans and specifications placed on file with building agencies; (4) the full deposit should be returned for return of plans and specifications by bidders.

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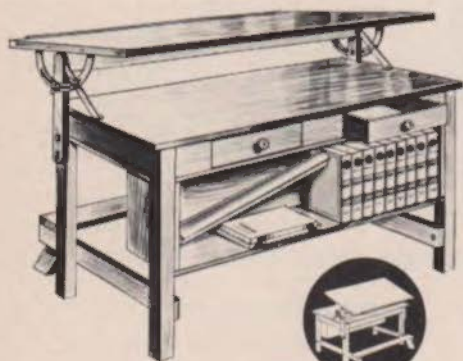
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# SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

## SCHOOL FACULTIES DISCUSS TEACHING PROBLEMS

Philosophies of teaching architectural design occupied the minds of educators and practitioners at the annual regional meeting of the Architectural Schools of the Southwest, in Fort Worth, March 9 and 10. Professor F. A. Kleinschmidt, Texas Technological College, presided as general chairman.

Ernest Langford, Texas A. & M. College, moderated the opening session on "Problems of Teaching 5th Year Design." Professor Buffer, Texas University, reviewed the project method in which a student completes the working drawing and specification stages in collaboration with structural majors, and the instructor as a consultant, with emphasis upon the arts closely associated with architecture. John M. Rowlett, Texas A. & M. College, explained how advanced students made a field trip to "Boy's Ranch," near Amarillo, as a collaborative study on a factual problem. Students were divided into sketch parties for more thorough research and sketching of the various units of the project.

Donald Nelson, Dallas, outlined the program of the T.S.A. Committee on Education; Hubert H. Crane, Fort Worth, presented an outline of services the architect could offer to the builder of multiple house projects; James Chillman, Jr., Rice Institute, pointed out the principal objectives of both education and practice as strong humanitarianism.

"Structures and Designs" and "Grading Design" were the topics of the Saturday morning session led by James K. Dunaway, Rice Institute. Grayson Gill, Dallas, suggested that schools leave off teaching of 'working drawings,' and permit the offices to develop that aspect of the apprentices' needs. Schools could concentrate on a background of techniques, sound structural foundation, knowledge of materials. David Red, University of Houston, spoke on integration of de-

sign and structures as the only true approach to full development in architecture. W. L. Brodshaw, Texas Technological College, outlined their follow-up to a design course project with working drawings of all parts of the building necessary to accomplish construction requirements and to preserve the architectural design. Specifications are integrated in a concurrent parallel course in building materials. A. A. Leifeste, Rice Institute, suggested scale models of projects give clarity to the relationship of design and structure.

Robert Lockard, Texas Technological College, proposed a jury system for rating of sophomore level design work. Bartlett Cacke, San Antonio, member of the State Board of Architectural Examiners, discussed the grading plan of the state examiners, later emphasizing the decline of achievement in architectural history on the examinations. Functions of the history courses were the subjects of two papers by Elizabeth Sasser, Texas Technological College, and Robert Talley, University of Texas.

Weakness in design, Talley said, was evident because of lack of sufficient historical background and lack of knowledge of fundamentals so often restated throughout history, explaining the modern, non-chronological, survey type course at Texas which brings alive the fundamentals mentioned.

Thomas Broad, regional director from Texas to the Institute, closed the meeting with a report on the extent and scope of the educational survey being conducted by the A.I.A. An invitation was accepted to have the 1952 Regional Meeting in Austin, as guests of the University of Texas School of Architecture and Planning. Representatives from Arkansas University and Oklahoma A. & M. were in attendance with the schools from Texas.

(Continued from Page 5)

All cars operated by state law enforcement personnel are equipped with what we call a three-way radio; car-to-car, car-to-station, and station-to-car.

Names, addresses, call numbers, and other essential information is maintained on all ham operators in the state. The state is divided into regions and these ham operators have emergency networks organized for service when required.

As a channel for information from federal and state sources to the local communities, state disaster district organizations for fifteen districts have been established. These district organizations include representatives of the State Departments of Highways, Fire, Public Safety, Public Welfare, Health, and the Adjutant General's office. The American Red Cross has also designated liaison officers to serve in each district.

It is emphasized by the State Defense and Disaster Relief Headquarters that the state disaster district organizations will in no manner duplicate or conflict with disaster relief and civil defense programs of local communities, but will merely constitute the representatives of state government who are available for such information and assistance as may be requested.

In matters relating to mutual aid between cities, the evacuation of people from one community to another and in other phases of the program affecting more than one community, the state will, of course, serve as the coordinating agency.

The Governor has designated the 713 mayors of Texas as Municipal Defense Coordinators for their respective jurisdictions and the 254 County Judges as the County Defense Chairmen for the areas outside the corporate limits of municipalities.

Working arrangements are also encouraged whereby the County Judge and the Mayors of the County will constitute a central council and usually have a coordinator or director designated to look after the program.

There is now pending before the Congress recommendations of the President as to appropriations for civil defense purposes. The recommendations include provision for organizational equipment which would be paid for: half by the Federal government and half by the states and local governments, separately or jointly. Such items as heavy fire fighting equipment, special rescue vehicles, hose, resuscitators, fire extinguishers, state and local communications and alert equipment, first-aid station supplies, and the like would be covered here. The tentative allocation to Texas of federal funds under this heading is \$4,052,000.

Recommended also by the President are amounts estimated to be needed by "mobile support units" for special tools and equipment over and above that which such units may be able to equip themselves. The tentative allocation of Federal funds to Texas under this classification is \$445,000.

An allocation of \$8,800,000 is recommended by Texas for preparing shelters. This amount will cover principally the preparation and adaptation of present structures for use as shelters. It will not cover extensive construction of new shelters.

In civil defense planning in this atomic age, consideration must be given to the classification of communities as to protective needs and as to functions in the total preparedness program.

In the first category will be areas of top priority in the industrial production of the nation, and therefore primary targets for attack. Such areas must receive the latest intelligence on the type of attack which they could reasonably expect—from the ground, from the air, from underwater and the predicted effects of such attacks on designated targets.

Upon suburban communities will fall the assignment of emergency service to the stricken target area—emergency service in the fields of medical care, decontamination, fire-fighting, policing, water supply,

sewage, shelter, hospitalization, clothing and food.

More distant communities will have to provide housing and employment for those displaced semi-permanently or permanently, and refuges for children, the aged, and the injured.

Everyone is on the team this time; there are no "bench-warmers," no spectators. Each and every community—large and small, far and near, and each and every person in that community will have an essential part to play.

Only through the fullness of that participation and the effectiveness of this common endeavor can this nation be prepared to the extent that its enemies will deem an attack upon it to be an act of such foolhardiness and folly as to go beyond the realm of reason.

#### **WILLIAM L. MCGILL**

William L. McGill, executive secretary to Governor Allan Shivers, was appointed by the Governor as State Coordinator of Disaster Relief and Civil Defense in 1950. Years of experience in the service of the State qualify McGill, having been on the Executive Staff of the past four Texas Governors. Just this past month he was elected Chairman of the State Polio Planning Committee. From 1944 to 1946, McGill was Director of Personnel, American Red Cross, Mediterranean Theater of Operations. He is a former professor of Journalism and head of the Journalism department at the University of Texas.

#### **THE INSTITUTE NEEDS A DELEGATE**

The Octagon has requested all Chapters, A.I.A., to notify the Institute if any member plans to be in Australia in November, 1951, when the Royal Australian Institute of Architects will hold its annual convention.

The Institute would like to delegate a member to be its representative.

#### **FEE SCHEDULES AVAILABLE**

Members of the Texas Society of Architects approved at the last convention a "Statement On The Services Of The Architect And A Schedule Of Proper Minimum Fees," as prepared by the Committee on a Statewide Fee Schedule and presented by Albert S. Golemon, Committee Chairman.

This statement has now been printed as an attractive document on 8½ by 11 inch, four page, single fold paper. These are available directly from Richard Vander Stroten, T.S.A. Secretary, 1546 Milam Building, San Antonio; or through the Secretary of the individual Chapters, A.I.A., within Texas.

Costs of the statements are: One to 99 copies, 6c each; 100 to 249 copies, 5c each; over 250 copies, 4c each. All prices include handling and prepaid postage. Checks should accompany each order, made payable to the Texas Society of Architects.

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# T.S.A. COMMUNIQUE

## Fort Worth Chapter, A.I.A.

L. R. Riggs, stone mason (1950 winner of the Fort Worth Chapter's Craftsmanship award), presented a large group of color slides to the March 26 meeting of the Fort Worth Chapter A.I.A., and explained examples of good and bad stonework found in Texas. Preston M. Geren suggested that a standardized sign for members to place on jobs under construction be adopted. The idea received favorable comment but no action was taken. Delegates elected to the Institute convention were Hubert H. Crane, Paul T. Cahill, William M. Collier, Jr., Edward L. Wilson, and Joseph J. Patterson. Guests at the meeting included E. D. Alexander of the Fort Worth Star Telegram, and Keith Oliver, Fort Worth Press. President C. O. Chromaster presided.

## Dallas Chapter, A.I.A.

"The Past, Present and Future of the Dallas Master Plan" occupied the program spotlight at the March 31, 1951 meeting, Arch Swank, President, presiding. Charles C. Ford, Dallas city manager, reviewed statistics on the growth of the city and attending problems.

Marvin E. Springer, city plan engineer, said planning must have three phases: (1) the day to day aspect, (2) the money that must be spent for changes in framework of a plan, and (3) the plans for the future.

Haskell Cooper of the Dallas City Plan Commission, speaking on the matter of county zoning suggested, "We cannot dictate use of county land under the present set-up unless we buy it, or unless we have power to zone it in great plots." "The green belts are ahead of our time for the same reason." Lloyd Braff, Dallas traffic engineer, said that all angle parking would have to be off the streets eventually.

Scheduled for the next meeting is the topic, "What's Wrong With Architects?" The two guests to answer this question will

be the managing editors of the Dallas Times Herald and the Dallas Morning News. Other guests will include the city editors, business editors, home editors of the two papers, and representatives from the United and Associated Press.

## Houston Chapter, A.I.A.

Howard Tellepsen, immediate past president of the Houston Chapter, A.G.C., and current president of the San Jacinto Chapter, T.S.P.E., addressed a recent meeting of the Houston Chapter A.I.A. Tellepsen is the first representative of various phases of the building industry to be invited to speak to the architects. Tellepsen reported on the national A.G.C. convention in Boston. President Herbert Cowell presided.

Houston Chapter Public Information Committee members are working on a revival of the 15-minute radio forum, "Architecturally Speaking," which ran for eight months in 1950 over KTRH, Houston. Drafts are also being prepared for a possible weekly column in one of the daily papers on helpful hints to attain quality and beauty in buildings.

Recent approval of two student chapters, A.I.A., at Rice Institute and the University of Houston, sponsored by the Houston Chapter, A.I.A., have kept chapter members busy appearing as critics and panels to answer student questions. Development of builder-architect teams has roused much interest in student-proctitioner discussions, as well as the ladies' place in architecture.

Delegates elected to the Institute convention in Chicago were: David C. Boer, C. Herbert Cowell, Karl Kamrath, Fred MacKie, Foy Martin, James Morehead, Seth I. Marris, Stayton Nunn, A. E. Nutter, Maurice Sullivan, and Herbert Voelcker. Alternates are: Eugene Werlin and Tolbott Wilson.

## Central Texas Chapter, A.I.A.

Members of the Central Texas Chapter, A.I.A., meeting recently in Austin, have approved appointment of Committee Chairman for 1951, and are at work on several projects to be announced upon completion of plans.

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## T.S.A. SUPPORTING SULLIVAN, WILSON

SULLIVAN AND WILSON UNOPPOSED  
FOR INSTITUTE POSITIONS

Maurice Joseph Sullivan, Houston architect and a Director of the Houston Chapter, A.I.A. was unopposed as candidate for Treasurer of the American Institute of Architects at the closing date for receiving nominations. Also unopposed from Texas was Edward L. Wilson of Fort Worth, nominated for A.I.A. Director from the Texas Regional District. Election of officers will be held at the 83rd annual convention of the Institute, May 8 to 11 in Chicago, Illinois.

Retiring Treasurer is Charles F. Cellarius, Cincinnati, Ohio.

Edward L. Wilson, immediate past president of the T.S.A., has been nominated to succeed retiring Director, Thomas Broad of Dallas.

(Continued from Page 3)

From about 1850 to 1870, with the rapidly increasing scope of our needs aided by our infatuation with the machine, particularly the scroll saw, our architecture fell to what now seems an alltime low—the Dark Ages of Architecture in the United States. Yet it was in this period of dim thinking, when public regard for technical knowledge and orderliness was at such a low ebb, that twelve architects met in New York City to consider how they might improve their individual competence by sharing knowledge and experience, and thus become better able to serve society as it unknowingly deserved to be served.

So barren was the field, even in the country's largest metropolis, that the twelve founding architects were hard put to it to find eighteen other fellow practitioners of sufficient competence to share their responsibility in organizing a new professional group. As already stated, however, on April 5, 1857, the organization was completed, a constitution adopted, and the first officers elected. The war between the states followed soon after the founding of the Institute, and while it prevented meetings, it was not able to quench the smoldering spark. Other chapters were formed across the nation, and the Institute began the publication of its proceedings, technical papers, and discussions, thus sharing a growing knowledge.

Meanwhile another group had come into existence in and about Chicago—the Western Association of Architects. In 1889, the two bodies merged, retaining the name of the earlier organization, The American Institute of Architects, in which there were now 814 members. More chapters were added and by 1894, the Institute was a growing force toward better relationships with private client and government bureaus, and an architecture worthy of its name.

An important result of the Institute's activities were the new laws being enacted by the states, based on the police power to

protect public safety, health and welfare, requiring evidence of competence before issuing a license to practice as an architect. Just as the young doctor must submit to examination by a board of competent doctors, so must the young architectural aspirant submit to examination by the state Board of Architectural Examiners. Just as the young doctor must serve a specified term as intern, the prospective architect must show a term of years, usually three, of practical experience in a practicing architect's office.

The Institute undertook in 1942 the task of improving the standards of architectural education, through the National Architectural Accrediting Board. By actual visits to the architectural schools, and appraisals of the objective phases of these schools, the Board and the Institute exercise a tremendous responsibility in the interests of the architectural profession.

As the Institute ends its first one hundred years, its members can look aloft to the high goal to which the American Institute of Architects aspires—the constant betterment of the architects' competence through mutual sharing of knowledge and experience, the constant improvement of the safeguards that law and codes impose, the constant betterment of an atmosphere of public taste and social responsibility in which this nation will want—and may finally achieve—great architecture worthy of our civilization.

The professional body has now come of age, with 97 chapters and nine state organizations serving the whole of the United States and its possessions. The schools look to the Institute and its individual members for guidance. Architects outside the membership look to the Institute to frame and to maintain a plane of ethics in keeping with the importance of architecture in our social fabric. The courts have long recognized the basic principles of practice for which the Institute stands. The government, through its various departments, comes to the Institute for help in selecting competent practitioners

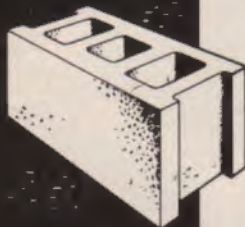




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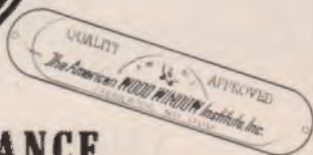


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Today, in 1951, there are more than 19,000 persons who are registered by the various states as competent to practice architecture. Of this number, over 1,000 Texas members of the architectural profession are licensed to practice.

Annual conventions, such as the one that convenes in Chicago May 8 through 11, in which chapters are represented by the delegates in number proportional to their membership, are the ruling power of the Institute. This convention voice is translated into action by the Board of Directors of the Institute, one from each of the 12 regions, meeting twice a year, and the Board's Executive Committee meeting in between these Board meetings.

May the American Institute of Architects work to make the architectural profession of ever-increasing service to society during the next hundred years, just as it has done during its first century.

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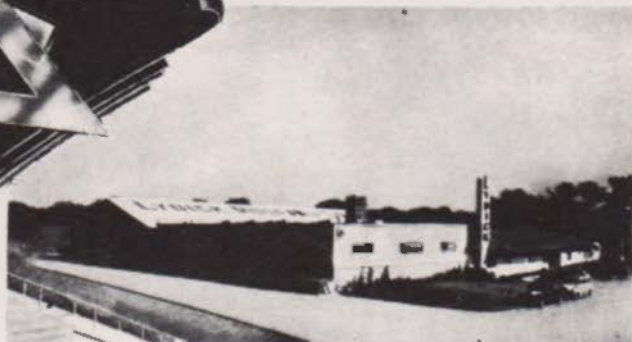
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