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NOVEMBER
1952

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T H E T E X A S A R C H I T E C T

VOLUME 3

NOVEMBER, 1952

NUMBER 7

Official Publication of

THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

The Texas Regional District Organization of
The American Institute of Architects

1200 Bissonnet Street Houston 5, Texas

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 15-18—Winter examinations for registration, State Board of Architectural Examiners, Texas A. & M. College.

April 13-20, 1953—Texas Architects' Week.

June, 1953—84th annual convention, AIA, at Seattle, Wash.

October, 1953—14th annual convention, TSA, at Austin.

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Central Texas Challenges Woolrich Statement

Editor's Note: Dean W. R. Woolrich of the College of Engineering at the University of Texas wrote to the ARCHITECTURAL FORUM last summer in response to the speech made by Walter Gropius before the Chicago Chapter, AIA (see "The Gropius Controversy," TEXAS ARCHITECT, September, 1952). As chairman of the Public Relations Committee for the Central Texas Chapter, Charles Granger, TSA-AIA of Austin answered Dean Woolrich with a letter addressed to the educator. Since that time, there have been two other exchanges in this correspondence, all bearing upon a vital matter. Because of space limitations, we cannot present the entire exchange in one issue. Instead, we offer this month Dr. Woolrich's original statement as quoted in ARCHITECTURAL FORUM, and Mr. Granger's reply. The remainder in this series will appear in December.

From ARCHITECTURAL FORUM

For June, 1952

An examination of the AIA-approved curricula of architecture in the universities of the U.S. might explain some of the difficulties experienced by the architectural profession, as told by Dr. Gropius. Most of our professional architects are not educated to come to real grips with the more profound mathematical design problems that must meet the rigid engineering and scientific requirements of modern structures.

Although many attractive adjectives have been introduced to explain the new trends in architectural design, the architect's predominant approach remains the historical artistic. Much of his educational preparation is woefully superficial in scientific and economic analyses. The architectural student is led to believe that in his professional work he will be privileged to gather about him the specialists from each field and that he, as architect, will be the master mind to co-ordinate and synthesize. There are many pitfalls for a man so educated.

For example, many modern structures offer limited possibilities in architectural expression. Their major problems are of an engineering and scientific nature, and it is more fitting that the co-ordinator be predominantly a scientist or engineer.

Again, many buildings represent a relatively small potential commission. Under these conditions, the design fees are too small to be split between too

many individuals. An architectural engineer is probably more capable of handling these situations than most architects.

In basic research the architect has given little of his time to fundamental investigations. He has devoted his greatest effort to the more artistic features of his creations. If he would recapture his position as competent adviser to his client, he should give as much time to the inside of his structure as he does to the outside lines and features.

To those who have worked close to the architectural profession there can be no question of the freshness of their approach and the creativeness of their thinking. If Dr. Gropius' recommendations on educational procedure would capture a fair portion of the business now being done without benefit of professional advice of the architect, I believe it would be well to follow them.
W. R. Woolrich,
Dean of Engineering,
University of Texas:

The Central Texas Chapter replies:

Dean W. R. Woolrich
College of Engineering
University of Texas
Austin, Texas
Dear Dean Woolrich:

The Central Texas Chapter of the American Institute of Architects at its

(Continued on Page 16)

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The Society elected two of its tallest members to head up the 1953 administration. Left to right are Albert S. Golemon of Houston, incoming president; and Ed Carroll of El Paso, vice-president. Both tower well above six feet.

George F. Pierce, Jr. of Houston, named to the post of secretary-treasurer by the board, was in Mexico City at the time of the convention and did not attend at El Paso. He is shown separately.

GOLEMON, CARROLL, PIERCE NEW OFFICERS

Albert S. Golemon of Houston, Ed Carroll of El Paso, and George F. Pierce, Jr., of Houston, will take office January 1, 1953, as president, vice-president, and secretary-treasurer of TSA respectively. Mr. Golemon and Mr. Carroll were elected at the El Paso convention, and Mr. Pierce was appointed by the board.

Mr. Golemon, a native of Mobile, Alabama, holds architectural degrees from Alabama Polytechnic Institute, M.I.T., and the Ecole Des Beaux Arts, in Paris. Formerly an instructor in architecture at Alabama Poly (Auburn), he has been a practicing architect in Texas and Louisiana for 20 years. He served with the U. S. Army from 1942-46, and was separated as a lieutenant-colonel.

Since 1946, Mr. Golemon has been a partner in the Houston firm of Gole-

mon & Rolfe. Prior to that time, he was a member of the Beaumont partnership of Steinmann and Golemon. The new president will bring into office a long record of experience on various TSA committees and as vice-president of the Society.

New Vice-President

Mr. Carroll is a native Texan who joined the firm of Trost & Trost, El Paso, in 1936 after graduation from the University of Texas. In Austin, he was a classmate of many present members of the TSA. Mr. Carroll and Louis Daeuble formed the partnership of Carroll & Daeuble in El Paso in 1941. The new vice-president is well known in the Society and in architectural circles over the state. He has served in many key committee assignments.

(Continued on page 16)

SMOOTH-RUNNING CONVENTION BIG SUCCESS

Packed Program Balances Business, Pleasure;
Reports Show Marked Progress In 1952;
Featherlite Competition Continued

The El Paso convention, attended by approximately 100 TSA members and another 130 wives of delegates, suppliers, and guests, goes down in Society annals as a well-planned, well-executed session judiciously balanced between business and pleasure.

Features of the three-day gathering were the full program, following schedule closely throughout; an impressive consolidated report of the president, executive board, and committees; and the 1952 awards in the \$2500 Featherlite competition, which was continued when the board voted unanimously to accept the offer of the Featherlite Corporation to repeat the event in 1952-53.

Golemon New President

Albert S. Golemon of Houston was elected president of the TSA to succeed Herbert M. Tatum of Dallas, and Ed Carroll of El Paso was named vice-president. The Board named George F. Pierce, Jr. of Houston, secretary-treasurer to succeed Jack Corgan of Dallas.

More than 150 attended the opening event of the convention, an October 29 cocktail party at the Cortez Hotel. Business sessions began the next morning after welcoming addresses by Louis Dauble, president of the El Paso chapter, and El Paso's Mayor Fred Hervey. A principal event of this session was the presentation of the president's annual report, which is abstracted elsewhere in this issue. Members also voted unanimously to adopt changes in the by-laws prepared by a committee headed by Edward L. Wilson of Fort Worth, and heard a favorable report from Secretary-Treasurer Corgan. Officers were nominated and elected.

Balance of \$7676.83

The Treasurer's report showed a bank balance of \$7676.83 as of October 20, 1952. The report estimates that 1952 income will be \$9500 against \$7340 in expenses. On this basis, there would be a surplus of \$2160 for the year. Adding \$2160 to a previous carryover of \$4256.08 would leave the Society an estimated \$6400 in the black at the end of 1952, if actual expenditures and receipts follow the budget as is now anticipated.

The convention luncheon for October 30 featured an address by Carl Hardin, Jr., legal counsel for TSA, who emphasized the freedom of choice and its importance in the American concept of government. For every freedom, Mr. Hardin stated, there is an accompanying duty for the citizen to fulfill.

Seminar Report Due

The first-day convention program concluded with the opening session of the seminar and the report of the jury of the Featherlite Student competition. The seminar will be covered in detail in later issues of TA as a stenographic report is made available of the speeches by Richard J. Neutra and Buford Pickens and ensuing discussions by Charles Granger, moderator; and John Gaw Meem and Don Barthelme. A complete story on the Featherlite competition is included elsewhere in this issue.

The delegates were guests of El Paso building material dealers and manufacturers representatives at a splendid dinner-dance in Juarez, Mexico the evening of October 30. The entire Tivoli Night Club was taken over for the affair, which included a special one-hour floor show.

(Continued on Page 9)

SCENES FROM THE EL PASO CONVENTION



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Charter Presented To Brazos Chapter At Student Center

The Brazos Chapter, newest TSA affiliate, received its official AIA charter in ceremonies held the evening of November 13 at the Texas A. & M. Student Center at College Station.

On hand for the presentation and installation of temporary officers were President Herbert M. Tatum and Albert S. Golemon, president-elect. The charter was presented by Ed Wilson of Fort Worth, regional AIA director, at a public installation which followed a dinner at the Student Center.

Temporary officers of the new chapter, serving until an election set for December 9, are Ernest Langford, College Station, president; and William E. Nash, Bryan, secretary-treasurer.

Winter Examinations Set For 15-18 December At Texas A. & M. College

The winter examinations of the state Board of Architectural Examiners, for registration to practice architecture in Texas, are to be held December 15-18 at Texas A. & M. College, College Station, Texas.

Announcement of the examinations was made by the Board through its secretary-treasurer, Bartlett Cocke of San Antonio, TSA-AIA.

Houston Chapter Preparing Special Allied Arts Exhibit

Graham Jackson of Houston is chairman of a special committee from the Houston Chapter which is preparing an exhibit "Houston Builds" to be shown at Foley's downtown department store, during the city-wide Art Festival being held by the Allied Art Association of Houston from November 16-27.

Smooth-Running Convention

(Continued From Page 6)

Government Interference Rapped

The final day of the convention included a 16-hour program that began with an 8 a.m. breakfast given by the Acme Brick Company. The seminar then continued from 9 a.m. until noon, and business sessions were resumed at 2 p.m., with an opening address by Glenn Stanton of Portland, Ore., AIA president. The details of this session are contained in a report elsewhere in this issue on Society business transacted at the convention.

Mr. Stanton praised the TSA for its continued record of progress. He told the delegates that government interference in architecture is one of the major problems which his administration is confronted with. This interference, he said, has led to waste and duplication while discouraging private indus-

try. He criticized wasteful practices of government bureaus which request alternate designs from the same firm.

Producers Council Host

A cocktail party, with Producers Council chapters in Dallas, Houston, and San Antonio as hosts, preceded the final event on the program, the president's dinner and ball. During the dinner, special entertainment was provided by Uncle Willie, one of the nation's leading pantomime artists, through the cooperation of Jack Corgan and the Dallas Variety Club.

President Tatum paid tribute to the El Paso chapter, to general convention chairman Arch Swank, and to all who cooperated to make the event a success. He also made awards in connection with the "Architecture—1952" exhibit at the State Fair and presented the winners in the Featherlite Competition.

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BOARD IN BUSY SESSIONS AT EL PASO

1953 Convention At Austin;
Texas Architects' Week Set;
Incorporation Of TSA Proceeds

Following are principal actions taken by the TSA board of directors at sessions in El Paso during the convention:

Picked Austin as the site of the 1953 convention.

Heard a report by Terrell Harper of the Professional Practices Committee on developing a form of owner-architect service agreement for Texas use, and referred it to the individual chapters for discussion.

Approved sending the exhibit "Architecture—1952" to Phillips Andover Academy, Andover, Massachusetts, for a 30-day showing from November 7.

April 13-20, 1953

Set Texas Architects' Week for April 13-20, 1953.

Heard favorable reports from Secretary-Treasurer Jack Corgan and David C. Baer, editor of the TEXAS ARCHITECT, on the state of TSA and TA finances.

Noted that regular members with dues currently paid up now total 416 corporate, 28 TSA, 75 associate, and 62 junior associate members, or a grand total of 581.

Assumed one-half of the expenses of

"Architecture — 1952," the exhibit shown at the Dallas Fair, as a statewide showing, although all expenses were paid by the Dallas Chapter.

Discussed current policies of the State Highway Department in regard to fees.

Planned to resume work toward the Capitol Plan, with the recreation of a commission for this purpose as a first major step.

Heard legal counsel Carl Hardin, Jr., report that incorporation of the Society is proceeding and plans are underway to bolster all relationships with state officials and members of the House and Senate.

Featherlite Offer Accepted

Affirmed fact that retiring presidents of the TSA continue on the board the next year.

Approved offer of the Featherlite Corporation to continue student competition for 1952-53.

Met with new officers.

Appointed George F. Pierce, Jr., of Houston secretary-treasurer to succeed Jack Corgan.

More Complete Convention Coverage Scheduled

The annual convention is one of the primary sources of news about the Society, and of reports and information for the membership. Due to space limitations, it is not possible to present a complete report of the El Paso convention in this issue, but additional coverage is already scheduled.

The December issue will carry an analysis of the consolidated reports of the President, Executive Board, and committees; a list of those who attended the convention; first reports on the seminar; details of the convention meeting of the Publication Board, and similar material. Additional convention pictures are also planned for the December issue.



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WINS FEATHERLITE COMPETITION FOR 1951-52

At the President's Dinner, Herbert Tatum presents a \$500 first prize check to Thomas Conger of El Paso, architectural student at the University of Texas who carried off top honors in the \$2500 Featherlite Competition. Conger won over 20 other entrants in the statewide contest, the preliminaries of which had been judged at the five architectural schools of Texas.

Subject for the competition was an interstate bus station. Special commendations went to Ben Lee Wilson of Texas Tech, James B. Gatton and Langston M. Smith, Jr. of Texas A. and M., and John A. Toline, University of Texas.

The five schools had previously awarded \$400 each in Featherlite prize money on the basis of choosing entries to be forwarded for final judging at El Paso.

Judges were John G. York of Harlingen, chairman; Carl J. Young, El Paso, and Baldwin N. Young, Houston, all TSA-AIA, and John M. Dockery of Fort Worth, a technical adviser for Greyhound Lines.

The Featherlite Corporation offered during the convention to continue the competition for 1952-53, and the offer was unanimously accepted by the board.

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J. H. GAYLORD, SON DROWNED IN TRAGEDY

Joseph H. Gaylord of Fort Worth, TSA-AIA, and his eight-year-old son John were drowned October 19 in the Vermillion River near Abbeville, La.

According to press dispatches, the Gaylord family was aboard their cabin cruiser during the afternoon when John fell overboard. The father dived in to help the boy in cold water about 16 feet deep and some 25 feet from shore. He was apparently rescuing his son with little trouble when both went under.

Other members of the family went in to assist Mr. Gaylord while Galen Black, a business associate who was also on board, brought the boat around to expedite rescue. Rescue attempts were unsuccessful. It was surmised that Mr. Gaylord might have struck a knee, which he had injured some time before, against the side of the cruiser in diving, and have been hampered in swimming back to the boat.

Wife, Daughters Survive

Both bodies were recovered after several hours, and joint funeral services were held in Fort Worth. The survivors include Mrs. Gaylord and two daughters, Susan, 13; and Judy, 11.

Mr. Gaylord specialized in church architecture and was widely known for his work in this field. He was commissioned in 1948 to draw plans for Lady Doak College in India. A native of West Brookfield, Mass. and graduate of M.I.T., Mr. Gaylord had moved to Fort Worth from Dallas in 1945. He was formerly an assistant director of both the USHA and FPHA.

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George F. Pierce, Jr.

Golemon, Carroll, Pierce

(Continued from page 5)

Secretary-Treasurer Pierce

Mr. Pierce is a 1942 graduate of the Rice Institute and a native of Dallas. He served in the Central Pacific as a Navy ensign, and returned to Houston as an instructor at Rice after separation from the service. In 1948, he formed a partnership in Houston with Abel Pierce, Jr.

Central Texas—

(Continued from page 3)

first fall meeting 15 September had brought before it for discussion your comments as presented in the June 1952 Architectural Forum in response to Dr. Gropius' challenge to architectural education.

It was the feeling of the group in view of the fact that the Department of Architecture had until very recently been a department of the College of Engineering of which you are dean, that your statement is a serious condemnation of the teaching of a department of your own college.

The engineer with his scientific training is without question eminently qualified to evaluate the structural re-

quirements, the heating and/or air conditioning requirements, the lighting and sanitary requirements of any modern structure; but we question if, by the very nature of his training and by his deducting an end result by formulae, the engineer is equipped to evaluate the human element and the environmental effect of a structure on human beings. It is the architect's responsibility to draw together into proper relationship all phases of technical advancement and to produce a physical environment which is not only engineeringly correct, but which is also conducive to the cultural and spiritual development of the occupants.

To cite more specifically the position of the architect, we refer you to two recent building projects of outstanding merit, Lever House in New York City, and the General Motors Technical Research near Detroit, Michigan. In each case, these projects are beautiful expressions of structure, material and correlated spaces. In each case, it was an architectural firm of highest qualifications who conceived, coordinated, and nurtured into realization these magnificent structures. If your attitude is predicated on your experience in engineering education, and research, housed in renaissance palaces, we feel that this attitude is as unfair as would be a blanket condemnation of the engineering profession because of a few poorly engineered heating, air conditioning, lighting and structural designs.

It is our hope that you will reconsider your expressed attitude and re-evaluate your position as related to the architectural profession and will correct the misconception which your statement may have caused in the minds of many readers.

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Charles Granger, Chairman.

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