

TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

LIGHTWEIGHT CONSTRUCTION

1951 TSA CONVENTION

NATIONAL PRODUCTION AUTHORITY NEWS

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY MOVES ALONG

SEPTEMBER

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INSIDE THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

"The Architect and Community Service" — An Editorial	3
Lightweight Construction Saves Steel and Money	4
1951 Student Competition to Feature Lightweight Construction	5
1951 TSA Convention San Antonio, Oct. 24-26	6
Architectural Survey Moves Along	8
National Production Authority News	9
Proposed Constitution Amendment to TSA Concerns Magazine	14

THE TEXAS ARCHITECT

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The Texas Regional District Organization of
The American Institute of Architects

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 15—Board Meeting, Texas Society of Architects, Austin, Texas.

September 17-20—American Hospital Association Convention, St. Louis, Missouri.

October 14-15—Texas Association of School Administrators, Austin, Texas.

October 25-26—12th Annual Convention of Texas Society of Architects, Menger Hotel, San Antonio, Texas.

AN OPEN LETTER TO ARCHITECTS

Subject: 3/16 Inch Thickness vs. 1/8 Inch Thickness Asphalt Tile Floors

Asphalt Tile was originally designed for heavy traffic and for several years, was used almost exclusively in the thickness of 3/16 inch on the floors of schools and other public buildings. With the development of light colors, the 1/8 inch thickness was introduced in order to hold down the cost per square foot, so as to compete with linoleum in light traffic areas. When the demand for asphalt tile outran the production capacity of the industry, shortly after the end of the last war, most of the manufacturers promoted the 1/8 inch tile for all classes of floors so that they would be able to spread their production volume further. That brought about the use of 1/8 inch tile on many floors where a thicker asphalt should have been used.

The thickness of 3/16 inch asphalt tile is 50% greater than 1/8 inch, and theoretically it should last at least 50% longer. However, it will be found in actual use that in most instances where asphalt tile is worn down to a thickness of approximately 1/16 inch that it starts to give trouble because of not having sufficient strength to stand up under traffic. Therefore, a simple calculation will show that 3/16 inch tile will have twice the effective life of 1/8 inch tile.

Although 3/16 inch tile is priced at 50% more than 1/8 inch tile, its cost of labor for installation per square foot is practically the same as the 1/8 inch. This combination of longer wear and with the same cost of labor for installation would indicate a saving to the owner of the floor over the number of years in which it is used.

We have completed expansion and modernization of our Houston, Texas, plant, and with the larger capacity we are able to supply the demand in this area for 3/16 inch AZROCK on jobs on which it is required.



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San Antonio, Texas

THE ARCHITECT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

The architect practicing in Texas is a benefactor of Texas people.

"To coordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture, to insure the advancement of the living standards of our people through an improved environment and to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society," are part of the stated objectives of Texas architects.

The architect's Number One responsibility to his community is to keep his professional service on the highest plane for the people of that community. He does have, however, activities other than those of professional nature that make him a vital part of community life.

Architects like other professional people serve in connection with civic projects. They participate in worthwhile fund-raising drives for city beautification and all programs of community betterment.

Many local chapters of the American Institute of Architects take active interest in community issues by actively supporting or disapproving such movements.

A good example of "community service on a statewide basis," one that affects citizens of every community in Texas, is the architects' Capital Plan Committee which works towards a carefully studied plan for the layout of state buildings adjacent to the capitol in Austin.

The architect's professional work is directly concerned with every aspect of the community and all its citizens. Schools, banks, stores, churches, homes and other buildings he plans are put together only after he has considered every aspect of convenience, efficiency and liveability for the benefit of the many who will occupy these structures down through the years.

The buildings he designs are designed for long life as well as to contribute to the aesthetic betterment of the community.

He puts into his work a warmth and a feeling like that of a fine musician, yet, like the works of the Old Masters, his finished product is sturdy and lasting.

Those who seek the counsel of the architect before they build are seeking the advice of a member of one of the most highly specialized professions. The average architect attends school from five to seven years to learn his trade and he never ceases studying to keep abreast of new developments. He grows with his experience.

Truly, the architect serves mankind.

Without his skill, the sky-scraping giants of steel and stone that magnify and mark our cities would not be possible. Yet the architect is equally capable to design homes, filling stations and grocery stores.

Architects have been leaders in civilization since it began. The first man who carved a home out of forest or rock was the first architect.

The word as we know it today has become synonymous with creative ability more so than has any other word or phrase.

Truly, the architect serves his community and all mankind.

LIGHTWEIGHT CONSTRUCTION

Saves Steel and Money

While lightweight construction may not be the answer to the steel shortage many architects are finding that use of the aggregates saves structural steel and at the same time saves money for their building clients.

Lightweight construction is not new. Various aggregates, insulators, fills, plaster compounds and concrete mixtures have been used for more than 30 years. And they have proven structurally sound.

By using lightweight materials to eliminate heavy wall construction the architect can cut huge chunks from the amount of structural steel normally required in construction of office buildings.

Structural and fire prevention parts of a building represent some 30 per cent of the cost and about 50 per cent of the dead load. Little weight can be reduced in the mechanical and electrical portions of construction so the answer to weight reduction apparently is imbedded in the structural and fire prevention parts.

An Example

The Mercantile Bank Building in Dallas is an example of dead load reduction through lightweight construction. In this structure, steel columns and floors were fireproofed with one of the lightweight aggregates and the dead load of the building was reduced by more than 15,000 tons.

Figures have shown that when stone concrete is used to obtain a four-hour rating as protection for structural steel beams, the concrete weighs approximately 190 pounds per linear foot for a 15-inch I beam. This same beam may be just as well protected by materials which weigh about 19 pounds, thereby rendering a 90 per cent weight reduction.

Concrete Insulation

In concrete insulation, one inch of concrete combined with a type of lightweight material contains a rate of heat transfer equal to 20 inches of ordinary concrete. Yet this mixture has sufficient strength (from five to 20 tons per square foot, depending on the mixture) to withstand all but the most unusual load conditions.

The average cost of fire protection for a structural steel beam with concrete is nearly twice the cost of the beam itself before fabrication and erection. It has developed that fire protection through lightweight plaster can be provided for a less cost than that of the forms required for concrete fire protection.

Another example of weight saving is the use of a plaster aggregate mixed with gypsum which weights some 200 pounds per cubic yard as compared with ordinary sand at more than 2500 pounds per cubic yard. This material is becoming more widely used for conventional plastering or fireproofing. It also adds crack resisting and ease of application benefits.

Insulation materials of lightweight construction are made 100 per cent fire-proof, rotproof and odorless. They are virtually unaffected by moisture and are non-conductors of electricity.

As was pointed out by Welton D. Becket at last year's T.S.A. convention, "If those responsible for our building codes can be made to recognize and acknowledge the recent development in materials and the new methods of construction, and if we are permitted to design and construct buildings with reasonable factors of safety consistent with the anticipated loading force and fire hazards, we should be able to go a long way

towards saving millions of more dollars for our clients."

Atomic Blast

In the matter of safety from earthquakes, atomic blasts and similar occurrences, many architects believe the lighter the building the better it can withstand such force.

How It's Made

Expanded clay or shale aggregates are produced by introducing specially selected materials into a rotary kiln of substantially the same type used for the manufacture of Portland cement. Here the material is expanded at a temperature of approximately 2,000 degrees F. and discharged from the kiln in the form of cellular clinker.

This clinker is allowed to cool and is crushed, screened and graded to the various aggregates sizes. The entire process is under rigid control, assuring a uniform product with each of the various grades conforming to ASTM specifications for lightweight aggregate.

Experience has shown that it is impossible to obtain the same uniform high quality by using natural materials which

varied from place to place in the deposit or by using processed by-products of other industries.

Great strides have been made in Texas during the past few years in the mixing, placing and finishing of monolithic concrete produced by expanded clay and shale aggregate.

By developing proper methods of control, the proper use of certain inexpensive admixtures and improving aggregate gradation, it is now evident that expanded clay or shale aggregate concrete can be produced by either the ready-mix plant or mixing equipment at the job at costs for mixing, placing and handling which are in line with similar costs for heavy concrete.

This also includes the production of lightweight, low-strength, high-insulating "fill" concrete floors and roof decks.

In evaluating clay or shale aggregates and considering their use, the different properties of the various basic types of lightweight material should be taken into account. During the past few years, many lightweight materials have been developed and put on the market with the result that the term "lightweight aggregate" now covers a broad field.

1951 STUDENT COMPETITION TO FEATURE LIGHTWEIGHT CONSTRUCTION

A total of \$2,000 in prizes will be awarded fifth-year students of Texas architectural colleges in the special student competition to be held in connection with the 12th annual convention of the Texas Society of Architects.

This year's convention will be October 24-26 in San Antonio.

Money for the prizes was given by the Featherlite Corporation.

Don Nelson, O'Neil Ford, Karl Kamrath and Marvin Eickenroht are members of the contest committee with Mr. Nelson chairman.

He said \$350 each will be given the five architectural colleges in the state for winners of contests carried on by those schools.

These winners will enter the final contest at the convention with the first place drawing to receive a special prize of \$200.

The problem will deal with building a structure incorporating advanced techniques in the use of expanded shale aggregate lightweight structural concrete. All drawings are to be on 40" by 30" illustration board placed horizontally.

1951 TSA CONVENTION

San Antonio, Oct. 24-26

The biggest and best convention yet! More than 250 architects expected to attend!

That's the 12th annual meeting of the Texas Society of Architects which will be held October 24-26 in San Antonio's Menger Hotel.

And the wives haven't been forgotten in planning for the three-day meet. Among other items, they will have their own special contest on the night of October 25 at the big Western Party in the Corral Room of the Pearl Brewery.

At this event, which will include food and dancing, delegates will dress in Western costumes and a special prize will be given some lucky wife.

Seminars

Highlight of the convention will be the seminar sessions with a special panel made up of outstanding architects and engineers.

Alfred L. Jaros, Jr., a practicing engineer of Jaros, Baum & Bolles, New York City, and a leader in mechanical research, will speak on latest developments in engineering. His talk will be supplemented by P. M. Vinther, a consulting engineer of Dallas, who will tie in the production of working drawings, the mechanical equipment and the problems of the consulting engineer collaborating with the architectural designer.

The final seminar session will keynote the convention. It will deal with what the future holds for mechanical work and for the building industry as a whole. Grayson Gill, seminar committee chairman, expects to secure a government representative to speak on what the government expects to do about the construction industry.

Exhibit

The winning designs of the Browns-

ville Municipal Center competition will be on exhibit during the convention.

The West Texas Chapter, hosting the event, has worked nearly a full year on plans and preparations.

Organization for the meet includes Bartlett Cocke and Reginald Roberts as general co-chairmen, West Texas Chapter; Mr. Gill and Albert Goleman, seminar; Don Nelson, O'Neil Ford, Karl Kamrath and Marvin Eickenroht, student competition; E. I. Freeborn, registration; Dahl Dewees and Richard Vander Stratton, budget; DeHaven Pitts, reservations and arrangements; Atlee B. Ayers, entertainment; Charles Huie, sergeant-at-arms; Clarence Rinard, Robert Ayers and Allison Perry, publicity and program. Mr. Eickenroht is general chairman.

President Raymond Phelps urged all TSA members to get their room reservations in at the earliest possible time.

Arrangements for rooms have been made at the Menger, Plaza and St. Anthony hotels. The Menger will be headquarters hotel.

The West Texas chapter promises it. . . "This is one meeting you definitely won't want to miss!"

HURRY!

There are plenty of rooms available now but they can disappear in a hurry when convention fever spreads around. Make your reservation now. Convention officials have reserved blocks of rooms in the Menger, St. Anthony and the Plaza hotels. Remember, some 250 architects are expected to attend. Better not delay. Get that room reserved now.

TENTATIVE PROGRAM

Wednesday, October 24

- 4:00 p.m.—Registration—Menger Hotel. Registration desk will be open until 8:00 p.m.
- 6:00 p.m.—Cocktails—Minuet Room, Menger Hotel. Host: West Texas Chapter of A.I.A., C. C. Simmons, president

Thursday, October 25

- 9:00 a.m.—Registration, Menger Hotel
- 10:00 a.m.—Business Session
- 12:00 noon—Luncheon—Latin Quarter, Menger Hotel. Dutch Treat
- 2:00 p.m.—Seminar: Mechanical Equipment of Buildings, Minuet Room, Menger Hotel
- 5:00 p.m.—Adjourn
- 7:00 p.m.—Western Party at the Pearl Corral, Pearl Brewery, Host: Uvalde Rock Asphalt Co.

Friday, October 26

- 8:00 a.m.—Breakfast—Minuet Room, Menger Hotel, Host: Acme Brick Co.
- 9:30 a.m.—Seminar: Mechanical Equipment of Buildings
- 12:00 noon—Open
- 1:30 p.m.—Registration closes
- 1:30 p.m.—Closing Business Session
- 5:00 p.m.—Adjourn
- 7:30 p.m.—Cocktails—Minuet Room, Menger Hotel. Sponsor: Dallas and Houston Chapters of the Producers Council
- 9:00 p.m.—Presidents Dinner and Ball—Colonial and Minuet Rooms, Menger Hotel. Mexican Orchestra and floor show. It is suggested to dress formal according to precedent, but this is not mandatory.

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ARCHITECTURAL SURVEY MOVES ALONG

Texas architects theoretically average between 5,000 and 10,000 people who look to them for their architectural work.

This and other factual information comes from a pamphlet titled "Progress Report" of the 1950 survey of the architectural profession. It was compiled and published by an 11-man AIA survey committee headed by Dr. Edwin S. Burdell, honorary member of the American Institute of Architects. Their work provides a view of the profession by its members.

The committee mailed general questionnaires to architects throughout the nation and sent more specific questionnaires to teachers, registration secretaries, individual members of boards and others. The answers to these questions were interesting.

For the survey data as a whole, 4,016 establishments reported a total employment of 30,129 persons or an average of 7.5 persons per establishment. AIA members averaged 8.9 employees while non members averaged 4.6, according to the report.

In the matter of income, the progress report showed that the average individual AIA practitioner of architecture reaches his income peak at about 62 years of age and that average annual income is approximately \$14,000, while non AIA members who are individual practitioners reach their income peak at about 57 years of age when that average annual income is about \$9,000.

Probably the most notable proof offered by this progress report that AIA architects fare considerably better than non AIA members is from answers to questions on income, specialization, number of employees and other items associated with successful architects.

Actually, as Doctor Burdell pointed out, this is only a progress report. He said the final report of the Survey with opinions and recommendations of the Commission will be available to all members of the profession and to the public by the end of this year.

Additional copies of the progress report are available at 25c each in the Department of Education and Research, AIA, The Octagon, Washington 6, D. C.

BOARD MEMBERS NAMED

Gov. Allan Shivers late in August announced the appointment of four architects to the State Board of Architectural Examiners.

The last Legislature increased the board membership from three to six.

The new board members are Frederick J. MacKie of Houston, Edwin W. Carroll of El Paso, Harold E. Jessen of Austin and George Dahl of Dallas.

Other members are Bartlett Cocke of San Antonio and William C. Baxter of Weslaco.

Capital Plan Endangered

Werner W. Dornberger, member of the AIA Committee for the National Capital, this month warned TSA members of legislation introduced to Congress to sell the Nevis Tract to private enterprise. The tract lies across the Potomac in line with Memorial Bridge from the Lincoln Memorial. It has been reserved for a national monument. The legislation is HR-1901. A counter measure, HR-5176, has been introduced to establish a National Monument Commission. Mr. Dornberger urged TSA members to write their Congressmen to oppose HR-1901 and support HR-5176. He pointed out that early action on the part of the individual members and chapters is needed to meet the situation.

NATIONAL PRODUCTION AUTHORITY

The National Production Authority in mid-August announced the criteria which it will use as a basis for determining whether or not authorization of a construction project will be granted and materials allotted under the new regulations adopted August 3.

N.P.A. said no non-essential construction which can be postponed will receive allotments for the fourth quarter (beginning October 1) and no commercial construction will get fourth quarter allotments unless the denial will adversely affect public health, safety or welfare.

The new regulations issued August 3 which bring all construction under provisions of the Controlled Materials Plan beginning with the fourth quarter enable a builder to authorize his own orders for controlled materials without going

through N.P.A. for approval, provided the amount of materials does not exceed certain specified limits.

The four classes of priority (or essentiality) have been established as follows:

Class 1 Priority: Construction projects

(Continued on Page 12)

BOND ISSUE ENDORSED

The Fort Worth chapter in its August meeting endorsed the city's forthcoming improvement bond issue, Chapter President C. O. Chromaster reported.

In a resolution unanimously passed by the chapter, it was pointed out that the "proposed improvement bond election for the city of Fort Worth appears to be vital to the continued progressive growth of our city."

Mr. Chromaster said the chapter made a thorough investigation of the issue before the resolution was passed.

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necessary replacement. Truscon Double-Hung Steel Windows are available for residential use in a wide range



of types and sizes to harmonize with traditional or modern architecture. See Truscon's complete window catalog in "SWEET'S" or write for free literature.



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For the first time the builder may procure from a single source a steel door frame, flush swing door and choice of four types of high quality hardware. Outstanding economy of labor and material for installation is a major feature. Steel construction protects against warping, shrinking or sagging during the life of the structure. See "SWEET'S" for complete details, or write for literature.



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CONSTRUCTION FEATURES

DURABILITY

Sash and frame members are electro-galvanized, bonderized and primed with one coat of Bakelite (phenol-resin base) paint, oven-baked. 18 gauge throughout except sill of frame which is 16 gauge.

HEAD

Motor-spring type spring balances with Enduro stainless steel tapes. Two balances for each sliding sash. Windbreak flange set back to allow room for lintel. Stainless steel weatherstripping attached to sash. 18 gauge frame and sash members.

MEETING RAIL

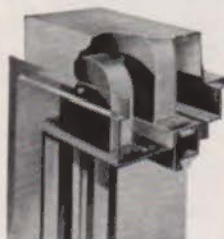
Interlocking tubular sash rails with stainless steel weatherstripping. Bronze sweep lock and strike. Rust-proofed pull-down handle. 18 gauge sash members.

JAMB

Full length stainless steel weatherstripping attached to frame assures weathertightness and also serves as sash way for both upper and lower sash for easier operation. Plaster stop provided on interior and rebate for screens and storm sash on exterior. Deep bead. 18 gauge frame and sash members.

SILL

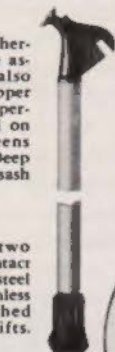
Double step design forms two point weatherstripping contact with sash. Heavy 16 gauge steel for strength and rigidity. Stainless steel weatherstripping attached to sash. Two bronze sash lifts.



Spring Balances



Sweep Lock
P-7330-CB



Pole Hook
and Pole P-7318
Furnished at
extra cost.
Lengths 6'-8'-
10". Bronze
hook, steel
tube shaft,
rubber tip.
NOTE: Not
furnished for
"A" or "B"
types over
3'-0" wide.

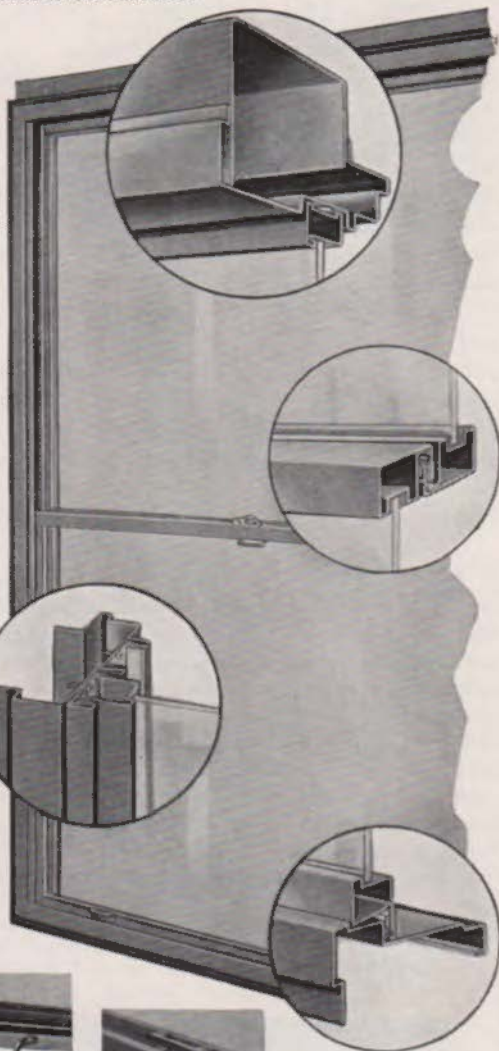


Lock Keeper
P-7367-R

Pull-Down Handle
P-7281-R



Lift Handle
P-7425-CB



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PRIORITIES

(Continued from Page 9)

which further defense effort or provide facilities in areas adjacent to military establishments or defense plants which N.P.A. considers necessary to furnish or supplement facilities in connection with activities of the Defense Production Administration, Department of Defense or the Atomic Energy Commission, including the programs for increasing production capacity.

Class 2 Priority: Construction classified as essential to the maintenance of public health, safety or welfare. All industrial construction and plant expansion, following issuance of certificates of necessity, construction of which began before August 3, 1951, will receive Class 2 Priority.

Class 3 Priority: Construction required as result of fire, flood or disaster materially affecting the public interest or where it is essential to meet the needs and requirements of the community. This community need will be considered only when certified by responsible government officials. Industrial construction and plant expansion with certificates of necessity issued after August 3, 1951, or where the certificate was issued before that date but construction didn't begin until after that date, will be given Class 3 Priority.

Class 4 Priority: All other industrial construction will be given a Class 4 Priority in the allotments.

General Construction

On the subject of "general construction," N.P.A. said no allotment will be made for construction of recreational types of construction in the absence of proof that an unreasonable hardship will be suffered if the allotment is denied.

However, public construction sponsored by states, municipalities and other public bodies will be given consideration. Also office buildings, stores, service facilities, warehouses, radio and television facilities, public utilities and similar types of construction will be examined for possibilities of allotment. This includes construction for religious purposes.

In determining the relative essentiality of construction projects, N.P.A. said no unessential construction which can be postponed will receive allotments for the fourth quarter. The Authority said no commercial construction will receive allotments of materials for the fourth quarter unless public interest would be so adversely affected by such a denial that it would be a serious and unreasonable hardship on the community involved or would have an adverse effect on the defense effort or would seriously affect public health, welfare or safety.

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- ★ Window Institute "Quality Ap-
- ★ proved" Seal. Look for it inside
- ★ the window at the top of the
- ★ frame on IDEAL double-hung All-
- ★ Wethr Window Units. They meet
- ★ the AWWI Quality Specifications
- ★ . . . covering quality of wood,
- ★ Preservative Treatment, efficiency
- ★ of balancing devices, minimum
- ★ air infiltration and proper con-
- ★ struction.
- ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



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Proposed Amendment to TSA Constitution Concerns Magazine

To provide for a continuing management for the TEXAS ARCHITECT, the TSA Board of Directors on March 30, 1951, approved a publication plan for the magazine.

This plan included setting up a semi-autonomous publication board to assume the responsibility for the affairs of the Society's magazine. When approved, this will become the 11th article to the TSA By-Laws.

To make this plan operative, it is necessary to amend the By-Laws. In order to provide regular notice of this By-Law change, the text of the proposed amendment is published below.

ARTICLE XI Official Publication of the Texas Society of Architects.

Section 1. The name of the publication shall be the "Texas Architect."

Section 2. The objectives of the publication shall be:

(a) To inform the public of the service architects render, architectural trends and progress of building in Texas.

(b) To impart to the TSA members information of technical developments.

(c) To work toward the advancement of the architectural profession.

(d) To bring about a stronger and more active TSA.

(e) To be self-supporting through the medium of advertising.

Section 3. The management of the publication will be vested in:

(a) A publication board composed of seven members and one ex-officio member. Membership shall be composed of the following:

(1) Three corporate members at large from the Texas Society of Architects (3 year terms).

(2) The current Texas regional director of the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Architects.

(3) The current President of the Texas Society of Architects.

(4) A member of the TSA Board of Directors (2 years).

(5) One representative from the architectural schools of Texas (1 year each to insure rotation).

(6) The editor of the "Texas Architect" (ex-officio) who shall be a corporate member of the Texas Society of Architects.

(b) Positions on the Publication Board except for the editor will be appointed by the President of, and with the approval of the Board of Directors of, the Texas Society of Architects: as they shall become vacant. Terms shall begin December 1 and continue for the period noted above after each. The editor will be elected by the Publication Board.

(c) The duties of the Publication Board shall consist of:

(1) Setting the general editorial and other policies pertaining to the conduct and operation of the "Texas Architect."

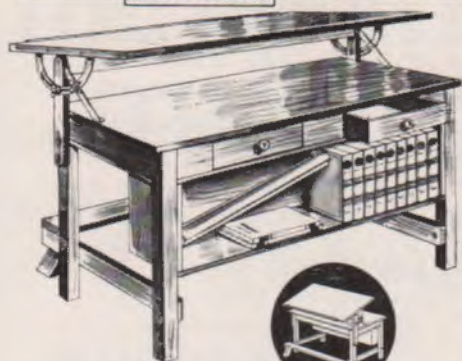
(2) Directing the advertising and other business matters of the magazine.

(3) Being responsible for the financial management.

(Continued on Page 16)

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PROPOSED AMENDMENT—

(Continued from Page 14)

ment of the magazine and including negotiating and signing of contracts for the conduct and printing of the "Texas Architect."

(4) Setting up the rules of the Publication Board which shall govern the conduct of the Board and of the "Texas Architect."

Silverson Plan Important

The "Earned Income Tax Adjustment Act of 1951" has been refiled by Congressman Clifford Davis of Tennessee.

Known as H.R. 1173, the bill proposes to equalize taxation on earned income—that is, professional fees—by allowing the purchase of bonds to bear interest at the rate of two per cent annually, payable only upon redemption. The bonds, which must be held at least five years to maturity date, be registered in the name of the taxpayer, and be non-negotiable or transferable.

The bill is known to be of advantage to architects and all professional people. They should write to their congressman and representatives in Washington urging passage of H.R. Bill 1173.

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