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SEPTEMBER

TEXAS ARCHITECT

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

IN THIS ISSUE

- ◆ Chapter Selection,
Rio Grande Valley
- ◆ Saving of \$6,500,000
On Records Center
- ◆ Planning Proceeds
For Convention



Baptist Hospital and Sams Memorial Children's Center at Harlingen, which was chosen by the Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter, AIA as representative of recent work in the Chapter area. Architects: Cocke, Bowman & York, TSA-AIA of Harlingen.

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WISCONSIN SUIT OF WIDE INTEREST

In Wisconsin, Section 101.31 of the state statutes permits any "professional engineer" to "plan and design . . ." all types of buildings. The constitutionality of this statute is now being challenged in the Wisconsin courts by architect Mark T. Purcell, AIA, of Madison, Wis.

Mr. Purcell and his fellow architects in Wisconsin and over the nation, a number of whom are also engineers themselves, are of course not opposed to the engineering profession in general. They work in harmony almost constantly with engineers. And it is recognized that those with specific types of training, such as structural engineers, design and plan certain types of buildings within the limitations set up by state registration boards.

What the Wisconsin architect is protesting, and properly so, is the issuance of the same registration certificate to all engineers in his state, giving each the same right to design all types of buildings. He maintains that the Wisconsin law permits a chemical engineer, or even 277 so-called "miscellaneous engineers" registered in his state, to practice architecture without any test of qualification to do so.

The Purcell suit asks that the portion of the Wisconsin registration law relating to professional engineers be found unconstitutional, that the present certificate be discontinued, and that existing certificates be cancelled. No damages are being asked.

Proceedings are being followed with interest in many states including our own.

The President's Letter

By

R. Max Brooks
TSA-AIA

President,
Texas Society
of Architects



One very practical aspect of architecture, the savings in hard cash which often offset the entire amount of the architect's fee, is not widely appreciated. The American public has come to an increasing realization that architecture is a key profession which performs vital services. But there is a heavy emphasis, perhaps at times even an over-emphasis, on aesthetic and functional considerations.

Certainly we cannot place too much importance on how a structure looks or fits into its environment, or how it serves the purpose for which it was designed. These matters lie at the heart of architecture. Yet it is also well to consider sometimes how the architect saves money for his client in the most down-to-earth manner.

Consider the case of a most substantial client, the Department of Defense, and architects Hellmuth, Yamasaki & Leinweber, AIA, of Saint Louis. The problem was to design a new Personnel Records Center in Saint Louis for the handling of about 38,000,000 service records. The requirements involved were extremely complicated. After years of preliminary study by various committees, agencies and departments of the Federal government, plus intensive review by Congress, it was determined that the new Records Center would cost approximately \$19,000,000. This sum, in an era of tightening budgets, was allocated for the building. A number of those concerned in preliminary studies predicted that additional sums might have to be appropriated.

The architects were then commissioned, and began their own careful consideration of the problem and the peculiar requirements which it involved.

Their final design, now constructed, was for a six-story building which is both warehouse and office building and one of the 20 largest buildings in the world. It is said to provide a very efficient answer to all the problems brought forward by the client.

The cost? \$12,500,000, or \$6,500,000 less than the amount allocated.

Representative Selection, Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter, AIA

CLIENT: Valley Baptist Hospital & Sams Memorial Children's Center

ARCHITECTS: Cocke, Bowman & York, TSA-AIA, Harlingen

COST: \$2,250,000

Massive yet functional . . . that's the new \$2,250,000 Valley Baptist Hospital and Sams Memorial Children's Center which recently opened its doors in Harlingen.

Voted the outstanding architectural and construction project in the Lower Rio Grande Valley this year, the new 153-bed hospital rises five floors from the level delta country southeast of downtown Harlingen. Long before it was completed, it had become the center of a medical and neighborhood business area development.

Cocke, Bowman and York were architects for the project, and the construction phase was supervised for the firm by Walter C. Bowman, architect-engineer of Harlingen.

MASSIVE APPEARANCE

Completely air-conditioned throughout, the new hospital and children's center has been acclaimed the most modern, as well as the most attractive, hospital in the Valley. And some extend the area to all of South Texas.

The main building was designed to have a massive appearance and to provide patients with a feeling of peace and security. Yet everything about the design, and the building, is strictly functional.

Of concrete frame construction, it is faced with pink brick, with green porcelain enamel sun shades over the windows.

Inside, in both the general hospital area and the Sams wing for children, color has been used extensively to create a cheerful and warm atmosphere.

NUCLEUS FOR EXPANSION

Containing approximately 90,300 square feet, with the cost about \$18 per square foot, the hospital actually is the nucleus of a future 250- to 300-bed structure, with service areas, kitchen, laundry, cafeteria, elevators, storage, loading docks, etc., ample to care for a hospital of that size. Con-

struction contracts totalled about \$1,600,000.

Because of that provision for the future, the cost per bed runs about \$10,000—a figure which will be materially reduced when other patient-room units are added.

A committee from the Board of Trustees, Mr. Bowman, and Administrator Henry Morrison visited many new hospitals before working out the plans for Valley Baptist, and the final architectural design embodies the best ideas from all.

The Sams Center, presented complete to the hospital by the Earl Corder Sams Foundation at a cost of \$500,000, is housed in a two-story wing capable of expansion, and provides a complete children's hospital and poliomyelitis treatment center. It has its own lobby and admissions area, examination facilities, complete nursing unit for acute polio cases, and ample provision for iron lungs, rocking beds and other mechanical equipment for treat-

ment of polio. Equipment includes built-in hydro-therapy tanks, foot and arm baths, mechanical hoists, a convalescent ward with a large recreation and educational room, and air-conditioning with both humidity and temperature control.

SPECIALLY-BUILT FURNITURE

The polio center is on the first floor; on the second is the pediatrics section. Bathtubs are raised so nurses can bathe their young patients easily. Other bathroom fixtures are low, and small, to facilitate their use by the youngsters. All furniture was specially built.

Each room in the Sams wing is individually decorated to interest and entertain children.

Individual, and colorful, decoration has been carried throughout the main hospital, and is equipped with its own air-conditioning control, and is wired for telephone and equipped with nurse-patient inter-communication system.

Four major operating rooms are located on the fifth floor, with a recovery ward—an innovation in the Valley—as an integral part of the set-up. In addition, there is an ENT operating room, and a cystoscopic room. The fifth floor also houses the central sterili-



Interior View At Valley Hospital

This is a view of the recreation and educational room in the Sams Memorial Children's Center, wing of the new Valley Baptist Hospital. The school room can be divided from the recreation area, and both open onto an enclosed patio, which can be seen through the floor to ceiling windows. The children's hospital and poliomyelitis treatment center, was provided by the Earl Corder Sams Foundation at a cost of \$500,000.

Civil Service Commission Announces Examination

zation system, and is connected with all nursing stations and the pharmacy by dumb-waiters. A central oxygen supply system pipes oxygen to all rooms, including the operating suite.

ISOLATION SUITES

On the first floor is the all-electric kitchen, a complete emergency ward with major operation equipment, diagnostic laboratory, and complete seriology, bacteriology, and pathology laboratories. Two x-ray rooms, one equipped with the latest GE 100 milliamper machine, and a deep therapy room also are on the first floor. The first also houses the admission facilities, business and administration offices, cafeteria, snack bar and storage.

Isolation suites are provided on nursing floors, and in the children's wing. Prospective fathers have a commodious waiting room of their own on the maternity floor. There are two newborn baby nurseries, each with 14 bassinets, with examination and treatment room between them, and a newborn "suspect" or isolation nursery.

The new hospital replaces a structure started in 1925, and outgrown and outmoded many years ago.

Baptist Sunday Schools Need 23,000,000 Sq. Ft. Of Additional Space

Texas Baptist Sunday schools have doubled in enrollment during the past 12 years. More than 23,000,000 square feet of building space will be needed for the future growth of that work alone. Old buildings will also have to be remodeled and replaced. The churches in Texas own more than \$227,000,000 worth of property. Indebtedness against the property averages only 12 per cent.

Better Fire Rating Now Allowed Where Plaster Coat Used

The Texas Bureau for Lathing and Plastering has called attention of architects and builders to a change in Amendment No. 222 of the General Basis Schedules, effective November 1, 1955.

A four-hour fire rating now can be obtained for steel or cast iron pipe columns, provided they are protected with one and one-half inches of lightweight aggregate-gypsum plaster on three-quarter inch rib metal lath wrapped and wire-tied around the columns, with plaster pushed through the lath.

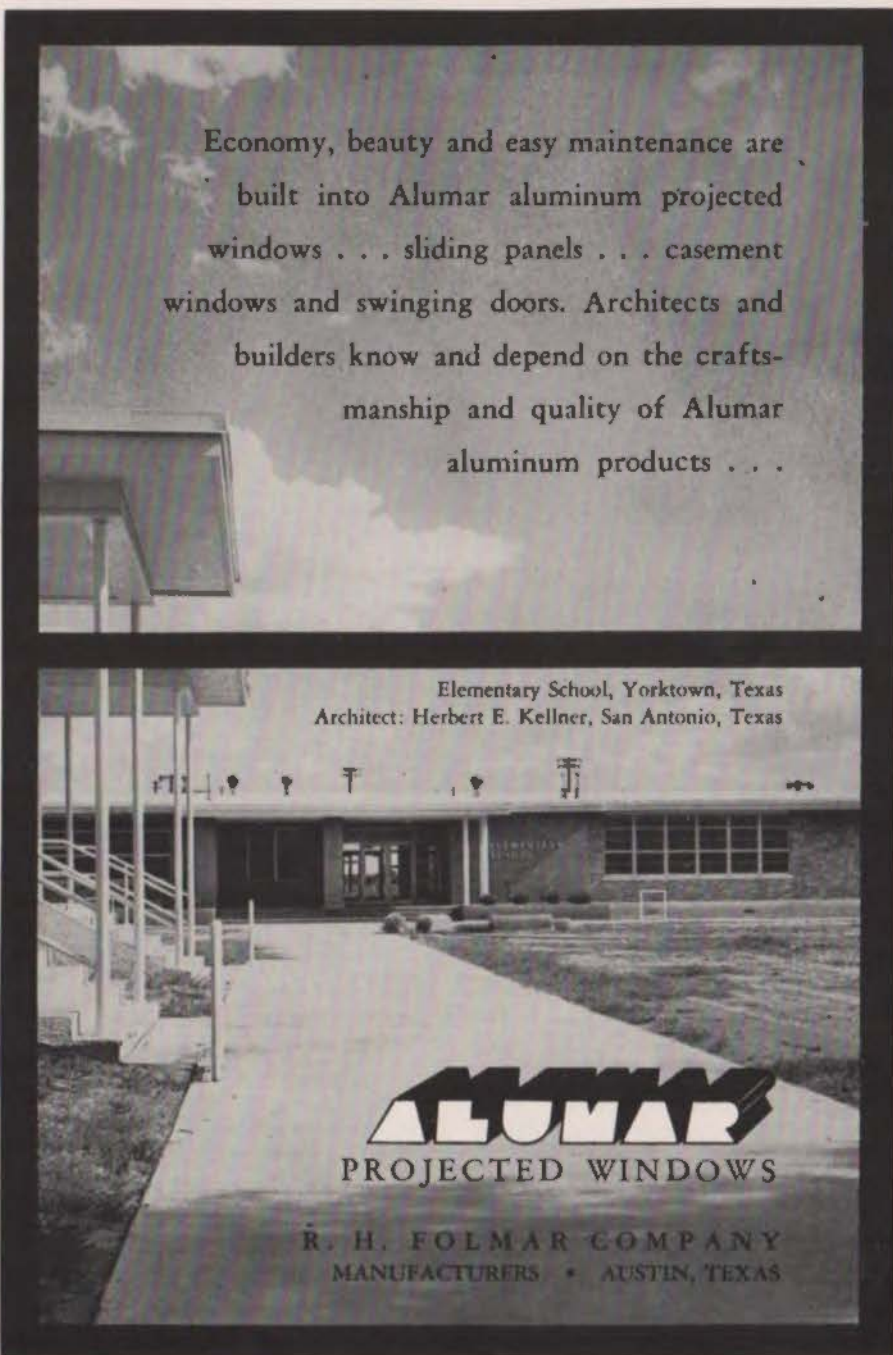
An examination for architect has been announced by the U. S. Civil Service Commission for filling positions paying from \$4,480 to \$8,990 a year in various agencies in Washington, D. C., and vicinity. Optional fields of work include design, working drawings, and general.

No written test is required. To qualify, applicants must have had appropriate education or experience. A

sample of the applicant's work must be submitted.

Applications will be accepted until further notice and must be filed with the Executive Secretary, Board of U. S. Civil Service Examiners, Veterans Administration, Washington 25, D. C.

Further information and application forms may be obtained from many post offices throughout the country or from the U. S. Civil Service Commission, Washington 25, D. C.



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Elementary School, Yorktown, Texas
Architect: Herbert E. Kellner, San Antonio, Texas

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LIGHTING

Part 2 INFORMATION

Our first article ended with a brief discussion of visual information. This information is received by us, from the outside world, along two partially different visual and nervous channels. It is also handled in the body simultaneously at two different operating levels, resulting in two types of end response, mental and emotional.

What Happens When We See?

We receive visual signals (light vibrations) from the world outside us and our nervous systems transform these signals into pulsations sent to various parts of the body. Those that go to the higher brain centers are there assembled into images from which we extract MENTAL INFORMATION. Those that go to lower centers influence the operation of the muscular (motor) and glandular (regulatory) systems of the body, and their reports are registered as FEELINGS.

ATTENTION is reserved for information gained along THE LINE OF SIGHT. This data goes to the higher brain centers for evaluation, judgment and action by the will. The confinement of ATTENTION to the line of sight prevents its simultaneous application to the other parts of the field of view, although information in much greater quantity is streaming in from the other parts and is being processed by the body.

While the higher centers of the brain are engaged in processing data coming in along the line of sight the nervous system is extracting data received from the other parts of the field of view, and is routing it to the various organs concerned with the motor and regulatory operation of the body. These organs report to the inter-brain control center, which automatically monitors and adjusts these organs on the basis of their reports.

That is why people can step into a place and feel a pleasant or unpleasant sensation, without necessarily being able to explain what there is about the place that accounts for their feeling.

What is happening is that the information is coming through largely below the level of ATTENTION—for want of a better word, coming through on the "involuntary" level—and the various organs are reporting "all is well,"

so-to-speak, to the inter-brain control center, or "all is not well," which sends its report to the conscious level in terms of a FEELING of security, pleasure or well-being; or insecurity, displeasure or ill-being.

Because we get these two types of response from a visual scene MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL; and because this data is carried by VISUAL SIGNALS, it becomes necessary to know what intensities, kinds and patterns of visual signals will reveal the maximum information of the kind and quantity and at the rate we need.

Illumination Level

A yardstick for the intensity of the visual signal has been developed by H. C. Weston (I.E.S. Handbook, 2nd Ed., pp 2-17 to 2-23). This method has been made simple for field use by the development of an ILLUMINATION LEVELS INDICATOR.

The first question to be answered is "WHAT IS THE VISUAL TASK"? Upon

it depends the scientific choice of the quantity of light, which in turn depends upon:—

A SIMPLE ANSWER ISN'T POSSIBLE. IT DEPENDS UPON:

1. The SIZE of the object. A small object needs more light than a large one.

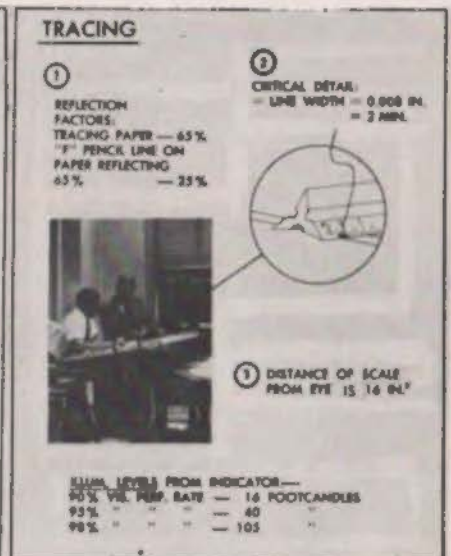
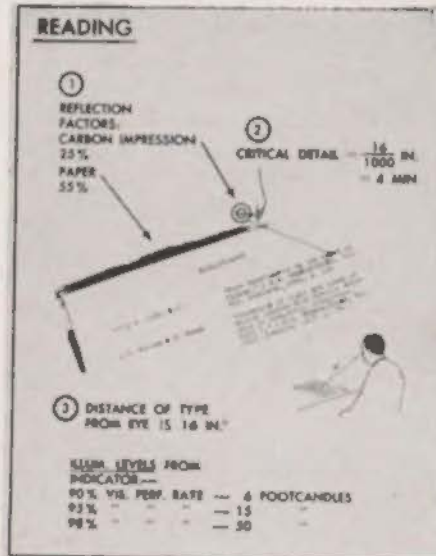
2. The CONTRAST with the background. White beads on a dark ground need less light than on a light surface.

3. TIME: The speed with which the object must be recognized. Work slows at low levels of light. A thrown ball needs more light than one at rest.

4. The EYES. Defective eyes may need more light than normal eyes.

So, in order to scientifically determine the illumination level it is necessary to know the SIZE of the detail that is characteristic of the visual task, and its CONTRAST with the background, and the VIEWING DISTANCE. Two typical tasks are shown below:—

(to be continued)



Architectural Foundation Provides Speaker

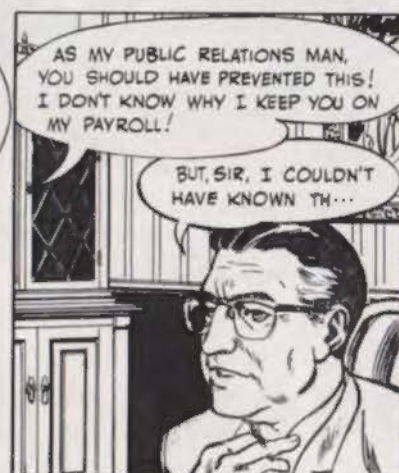
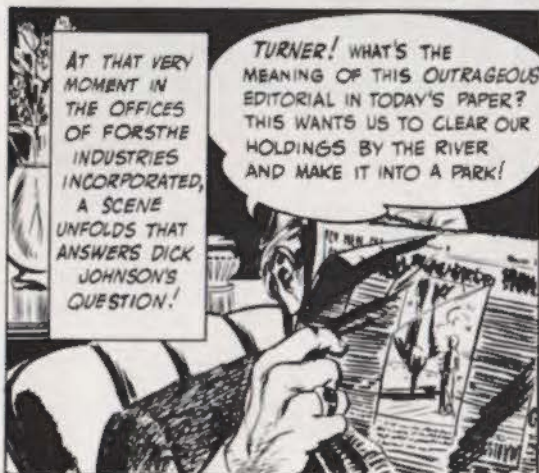
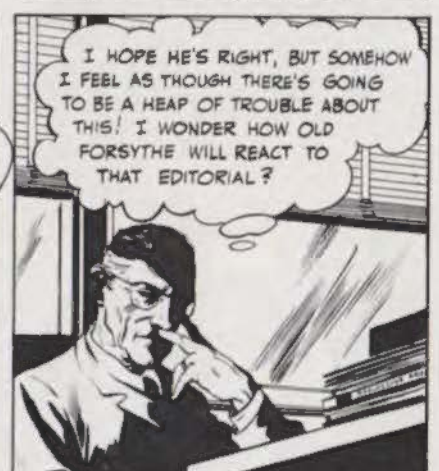
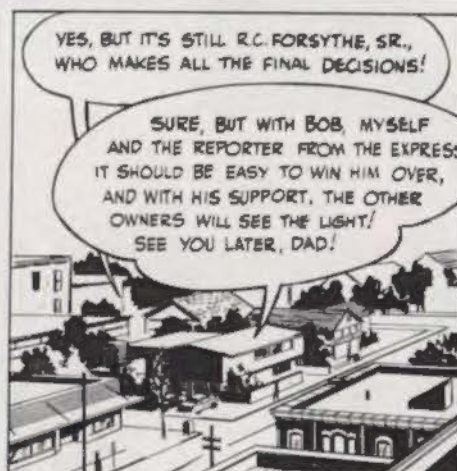
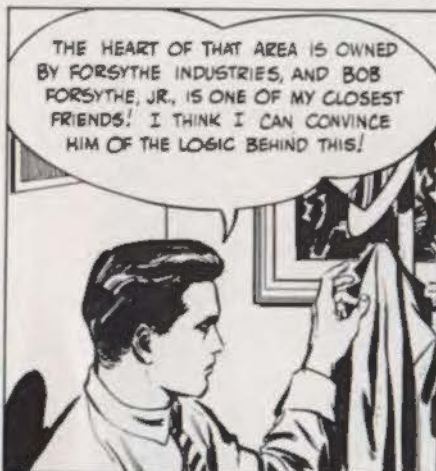
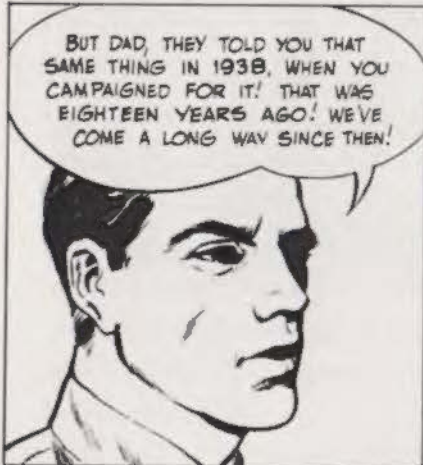
The Texas Architectural Foundation, through funds donated by the Southland Supply Company, provided the principal speaker for the Southwestern Institute of the U. S. Chamber of Commerce held in Dallas July 16 through 18. The Foundation is sponsored by TSA.

Frederick T. Aschman, city planner of Chicago, Ill., spoke at a luncheon meeting July 18 sponsored by the Greater Dallas Planning Council, Dallas Chamber of Commerce and Dallas Chapter, AIA.

The Southland Supply Company and its president, Barney Henegar, donated the sum of \$1200 to the Architectural Foundation last Christmas instead of giving individual gifts to architects in

the Dallas area. The money was given with the stipulation that a portion of the funds be spent along the lines of general educational interest to architects in the Dallas trade area. The Education Committee of the Dallas Chapter, J. Herschel Fisher, TSA-AIA chairman, worked on details of the Foundation a program of community-wide and regional participation.

Mr. Aschman's subject at the luncheon meeting was "The Future of the City." At an afternoon seminar which followed, he spoke on "Urban Redevelopment." Mr. Aschman had addressed Dallas planners and civic leaders earlier this year at a meeting during Texas Architects Week sponsored by the Dallas Chapter.



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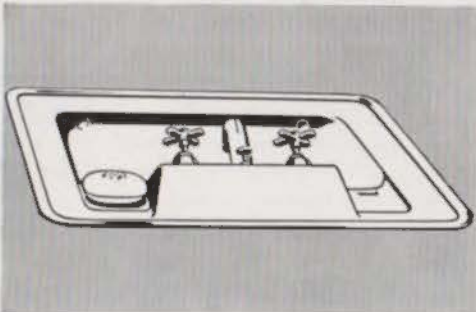
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Elections—What They Mean to Us

Editor's Note: With the presidential election of November 6 rapidly approaching, the following non-partisan article is published by the TEXAS ARCHITECT as a reminder to its readers of the citizen's obligation to vote. The article is based on "World Commerce and Governments," by the well-known economists W. S. and E. S. Woytinsky, a publication of the Twentieth Century Fund.

What do elections mean to us?

Amid the din and fury of a presidential campaign, we may lose sight of—or, worse, take for granted—some of the rights and privileges that we won the long, hard way.

Take the matter of women voting, for example. We never give it a thought nowadays. Yet it was not until 1920 that this was made permanently a part of our Constitution.

So with the whole process of holding free and democratic elections. We get a fine view of where the United States stands today—and the long road traveled in getting there—in a comprehensive new survey of "World Commerce and Governments" by W. S. and E. S. Woytinsky, recently issued by the Twentieth Century Fund. Their study, which is world-wide in scope and was seven years in the making, was financed jointly by the Fund and the Rockefeller Foundation.

BEST MEASURE OF PROGRESS

The authors say that the best measure of the progress of democracy in any country is the extent to which people choose their government and control its policy. It took mankind a long time to develop this process.

The original Bill of Rights, the Magna Carta that the British barons wrested from King John, removed absolute power from the king more than seven centuries ago. We are the direct heirs of the British tradition. Yet the principle of universal suffrage—as witness the struggle for votes for women—was not fully established in our country until some 35 or 40 years ago.

The republics of the ancient world and middle ages were "democracies," but most of them—including the city republics of Europe in the 18th and 19th centuries—were ruled by small groups of landowners and substantial citizens. They were not democracies, in the modern sense.

Even Aristotle—wise as he was and thoroughly liberal-minded in government—insisted that craftsmen, laborers and "any other class which is not a producer of virtue" should have no



REMEMBER NOVEMBER 6!

Only 52% of the eligible voters have exercised their franchise in some of our recent presidential elections. Don't neglect this great responsibility and duty this November 6. Vote as you like, but be certain you do cast your ballot!

voice in the state. He thought the ruling class should be owners of property.

STATES DEFINE QUALIFICATIONS

In our own country the U. S. Constitution, adopted in 1788, left each state to define its own qualifications for voting. Most of the states placed ownership of property as a condition of the right to vote. This qualification was gradually discontinued and finally disappeared in 1856 when the last state, North Carolina, removed it.

The last vestiges of property qualifications remaining are the poll taxes in a few southern states; and, occasionally, the qualification remains in the case of local elections—especially on questions involving local taxation.

Aside from property ownership, literacy requirements showing ability to read and write are frequently made a condition of voting. In advanced countries—including the U. S.—the literacy qualification does not actually bar many voters, because the countries provide for compulsory education.

The literacy test is important, however, in Asia and South America where this requirement is still widely maintained, and where it often amounts to a disenfranchisement of the poor. The world trend is away from literacy qualifications, although some restrictions remain in Bolivia, Brazil, Ecuador, Peru, Chile and a few states within our own country.

A measure of the relative degree of democracy in a country is the percent-

age of total population that is legally qualified to vote. Unfortunately, the U. S. does not measure up as well as one might expect. Sweden leads with 68 per cent of the population as qualified and potential voters, with Great Britain and West Germany close behind at 67.7 per cent and 66.7 per cent.

44% IN 1944

In 1948 only 44 per cent of all our people in the United States (including infants and children) were legally entitled to vote though this percentage has gradually increased in recent years.

There are two ways by which potential adult voters may actually lose their votes. One way is by a provision of law which bars them; and the other is simply failure to exercise their right. Here, too, the United States record is not impressive. In England, Sweden, Germany and other countries of Europe as many as 80 per cent to 85 per cent of the potential voters do actually go to the polls and vote in an important election. In the United States the figure sometimes reaches a shockingly low 52 per cent of the population of voting age, even in a presidential year.

This is a case where democracy suffers by neglect. It can only be that these voters do not recognize the centuries of struggle that brought to them the privileges of electing their own leaders and representatives.

In the matter of techniques, people generally exercise their control of governments through political parties. This is true in virtually all countries and operates through parliamentary systems of one form or another.

BASIC TYPES OF PARLIAMENTS

There are two basic types of parliaments based on the character and principles of the political parties. One type involves the existence of two strong parties that contest with each other at the polls for the right to stand at the helm of the state. In the other type, the seats are distributed among many parties and a ruling majority is usually achieved through a coalition.

There is a third type of parliamentary system marked by the dominance of one party. Such a development may occur through democratic methods and may result from either a two-party or a multi-party system because of the greater effectiveness and rapid growth of one of the parties.

A fourth type, clearly distinct from the predominance obtained by competition in voting, is a single-party system

that obtains its power by force and, once in power, completely quells all opposition. Here the party is purely and simply an instrument of dictatorship.

ABSENT ON CONTINENT

The two-party system has found its fullest development in the United States and Great Britain and prevails also in most of the British Commonwealth and some Latin American countries. It is conspicuously absent in Continental Europe.

Arguments concerning the relative efficiency of the two-party system have woged back and forth, and the system does have some disadvantages. Chief one is the fact that it is very difficult for an independent candidate to be elected without the backing of one of the two principal parties—especially in a national election.

But the fact is that Great Britain, the members of the British Commonwealth and the United States—with the longest experience in democratic processes—have all arrived at this system of political organization. On the other hand, the instability of the French parliament, so well known, is a demonstration of the fragile quality that accompanies multi-party governments.

The Swiss, it must be added, manage to make the multi-party system work by giving all major parties a share of responsibility in the government.

DOMINATION IN YOUNG COUNTRIES

Of the countries with one-party domination, India, Egypt and Turkey are typical of those where the domination was won by more or less democratic means. This often occurs in young countries where the government has embarked upon a comprehensive reconstruction program.

In Egypt this is true only to a degree. In 1954 Colonel Nasser dismissed the parliament and in 1956 was chosen President in a civil election. In several of the South American and Central American countries also, there are one-party governments in which the people have only a limited control.

But the real jokers in the pack are the one-party parliaments in the so-called "people's democracies," of which the USSR and its satellites are typical. The one-party parliaments installed by dictatorships are a sham.

WIDELY REALIZED TODAY

In their study of "World Commerce and Governments" for the Twentieth

Century Fund, W. S. and E. S. Woytinsky say, "The ideological strength of democracy is evidenced by the fact that the dictatorial regimes feel compelled to pose as people's democracies, hiding behind the facade of parliamentary institutions and mock elections. On the other hand, no democratic regime has ever attempted to gain support of the people by pretending that it is a dictatorship."

Furthermore, measured by the scope of suffrage throughout the world, the authors find that man's age-old aspirations toward self-government have never been as widely realized as they are today. Of the eighty independent countries in the middle of 1952, sixty can be described as parliamentary and eighteen as absolutist (with two divided by opposing forces), although not all of the sixty parliamentary states meet the standards of democracy recognized in modern free notions. In terms of population, 56 per cent of the peoples of the world live in republics or constitutional monarchies.

(The full study upon which the foregoing article is based, "World Commerce and Governments," by W. S. and E. S. Woytinsky, 907 pages, 291 tables, 166 charts and figures, \$10, is obtainable through bookstores or directly from the Twentieth Century Fund, 330 West 42d Street, New York 36, N. Y.)

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Planning Accelerates For November 1-2 Convention

Planning for the seventeenth annual convention of TSA at Corpus Christi November 1-2, the major item for discussion at the July 14 board meeting of the Society, has since been accelerated as time for the convention approaches.

Principal speakers for the Corpus Christi meeting, the theme of which is "The Architect In His Community," will be announced in mid-September. Walter T. Rolfe, FAIA of Houston will preside at the seminar sessions.

The entire membership of the Coastal Bend Chapter at Corpus Christi is busy working on details of the meeting, which will include many enjoyable social affairs in their city and a week-long post-convention tour of Mexico. The membership of the Lower Rio Grande Valley Chapter is also active in planning for the November 1-2 meeting. John G. Flowers, Jr., executive director for TSA, has met three times in recent weeks with officials of the Coastal Bend Chapter and officials of the Corpus Christi Chamber of Commerce and other cooperating civic groups. He will be increasingly in the

convention city in September and October.

FEW BOOTHS LEFT

Only a limited number of exhibit booths remain for the convention, according to TSA headquarters in Austin, with demand particularly heavy because there will be only 80 exhibitors.

Early registration for the meeting begins soon, and there is unusual interest among TSA members because of the attractiveness of Corpus Christi as

a meeting place, and the excellent program and seminars being arranged. Many TSA members are planning to attend the convention as a combination business and vacation trip. This is the first time that a TSA convention has been held in Corpus Christi.

Physical arrangements for the meeting are virtually complete, and will include special temporary air-conditioning for meeting places during the convention. Air-conditioning dealers in Corpus Christi are cooperating to provide this at cost to TSA and the host chapter.

\$635,012,500 APPROPRIATION FOR 1957

Col. W. P. McCrone, district engineer for the Corps of Engineers at Galveston, has recently analyzed highlights of the \$635,012,500 appropriation by Congress for Corps of Engineers civil works in fiscal year 1957.

Among the major amounts are: Rio Grande and Gulf Basin, construction funds, \$20,984,000; Gulf and South Atlantic Basin, construction funds, \$43,436,000.

About 78% of the total approprio-

tion is for construction, and Col. McCrone pointed out that the 1957 allocation is one of the largest annual appropriations to date for the various functions involved.

The nationwide civil works functions of the Army Engineers include investigations and surveys, planning, construction, and the operation and maintenance of Federal flood control, river and harbor, and multiple purpose projects as authorized by Congress.

Charles R. Colbert Head of Texas A & M Architecture Department

Charles R. Colbert, AIA, New Orleans architect and city planner, has assumed his post as professor of architecture and head of the Division of Architecture at Texas A. & M. College, effective September 1.

The appointment of Mr. Colbert, a 1943 graduate of the University of Texas who also holds degrees in architecture from the University of Michigan and Columbia University, was announced earlier in the TEXAS ARCHITECT. The new division head replaces Ernest Langford, TSA-AIA, who went on limited service at College Station September 1.

Mr. Colbert, formerly assistant professor of architecture at Tulane University and supervising architect and planner for the Orleans Parish School Board, has had wide professional and teaching experience.

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This library entrance at University City in Mexico City is typical of the unusual architecture to be seen by TSA members on a post-convention tour. [Photograph courtesy Mexican Society of Architects].

Architects To Participate In Masonry Conference At Washington, D. C.

A group of architects, engineers and builders, masonry industry leaders and consultants, and building authorities in private industry and government will address the Modern Masonry Conference September 19 and 20 in Washington, D. C.

The Building Research Institute, a unit of the National Academy of Sciences, is conducting the conference.

Subjects slated for discussion in five major sessions embrace esthetics, technology, research and new product development, building cost and maintenance, and an analysis of building.

Building types to be discussed in detail include houses, multi-story buildings, hospitals, and schools. The session on research and new product development will mark the first disclosure by participating industry groups of new products and advances in brick and tile, natural stone, and marble.

The Allied Masonry Council is an alliance of the major producers, contractors, and labor forces of the building industry. Industry groups contributing to the conference include the Structural Clay Products Institute.

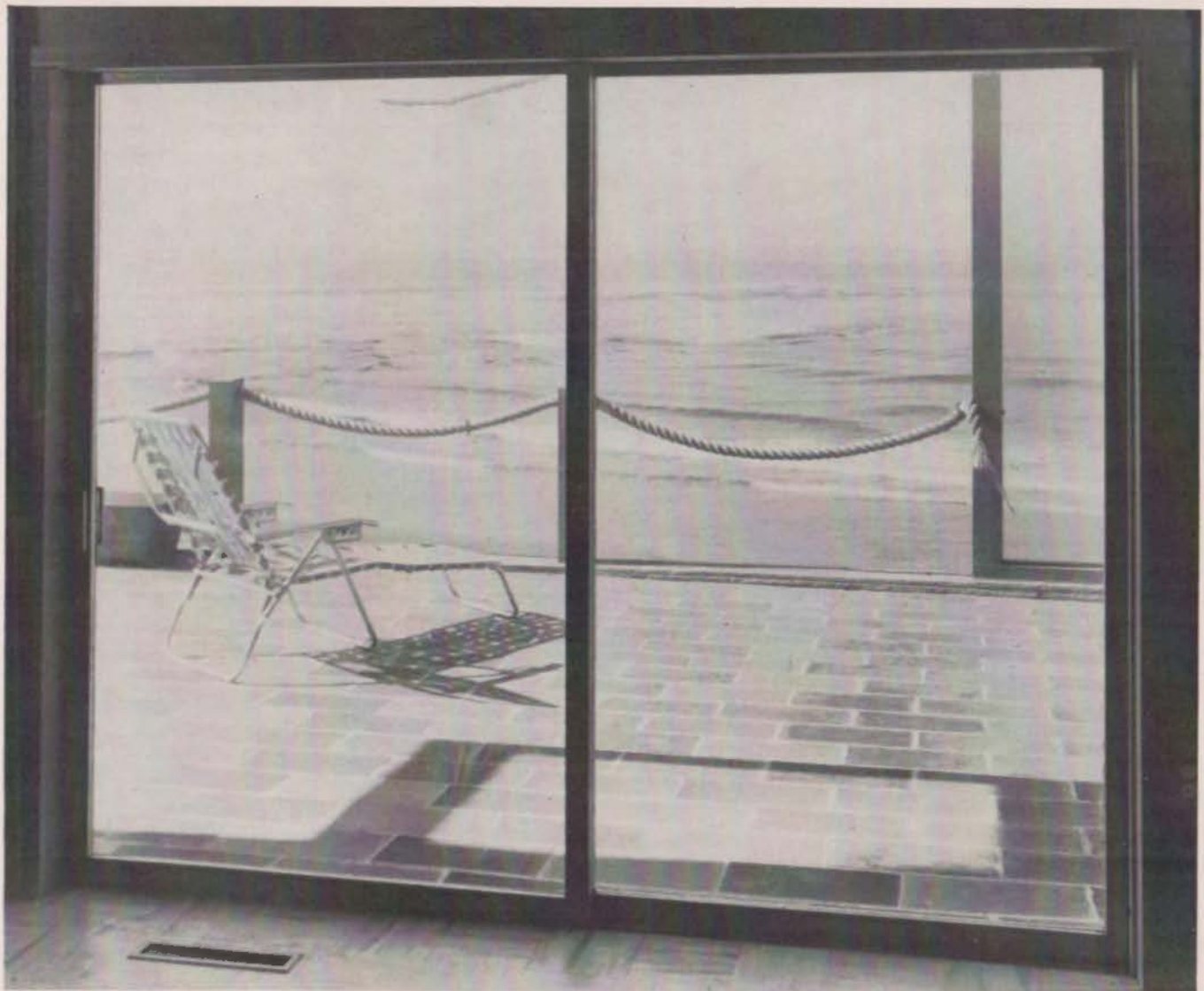


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Roy E. Lane, 72, Pioneer Texas Architect, Dies In Dallas

Roy E. Lane, 72, one of Texas' best known architects, died August 7, in Dallas after a short illness.

He had been a member of the American Institute of Architects for 38 years, longer than any other currently-active architect in the state. He was elevated to honorary membership in the Institute's Dallas Chapter in 1954.

His most active professional period lasted from 1907 until 1936 when he worked in Waco and Central Texas. His best-known work is the Amicable Building in Waco, the 22-story structure which has dominated the Central Texas skyline for years and, in 1953, withstood a devastating Waco tornado.

Mr. Lane also designed Waco's Public Library building and the famous W. C. Cameron residence there, the courthouses of Bosque and Runnels Counties, and the Southwestern Motor Freight Bureau Building the Hoagor Slacks Company plant and the Guiberson Corporation office building in Dallas.

SERVED AS TSAA PRESIDENT

He was a leader in the early establishment of some of Texas' first professional organizations, the American Institute of Architects and the Texas

State Association of Architects. He was admitted to the AIA in 1918 and later served as an officer and director. He was president of the TSAA in 1918-1919.

Born in 1884, in Kansas City, Mo., Mr. Lane studied in the public schools there and at the University of Minnesota, where he received degrees in both architecture and civil engineering.

He came to Texas in 1907, settling in Waco. He moved to Dallas in 1936.

DALLAS CHAPTER PALLBEARERS

Survivors include his wife, two sons, John J. Lane and Robert O. Lane; a daughter, Mrs. Dorothy Lane Childress; eight grandchildren and a great-grandson, all of Dallas.

Funeral services were held August 9, in Dallas, with Dr. Arthur V. Boand, associate pastor of the Highland Park Presbyterian Church, officiating. Burial was in Restland Memorial Park, Dallas.

Members of the Dallas Chapter, A.I.A., served as honorary pallbearers.

Houston Chapter, AIA Announces Honor Awards In 1956 Competition

The Houston Chapter, AIA, has announced honor awards in seven classifications of the Chapter competition, which was held under AIA-recommended procedure.

The awards were presented at a dinner meeting at Lakeside Country Club in Houston. Winning entries will be shown in the TEXAS ARCHITECT.

The winners were:

Small residence, Pierce and Pierce, for the residence of one of the partners, George F. Pierce.

Large residence, Bolton and Bornstone, for the home of Gerald S. Gordon.

Commercial, Pierce and Pierce; office building for the Kirby Lumber Company.

Small commercial, Christiansen and Cannata; Weingarten Nursery.

Institutional building, Golemon and Rafle; Bellaire High School.

Institutional building, another class, Paul A. Elliott; parish hall of Holy Cross Lutheran Church.

Unnamed classification, Greacen and Brogniez; Sylvan Beach project.

Judges were Ernest Langford of College Station, Hershel Fisher of Dallas and Milton A. Ryan of San Antonio, all TSA-AIA.



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NEW PRODUCTS

Azrock Products Division of the Uvalde Rock Asphalt Company, San Antonio, Texas has added four new colors to its line of resilient floor tile.

In the Azphlex vinylized tile line two new colors 3/32" Cork Terrazzo Tone patterns, PK-751, Lisbon Cork and PK-752, Dakar Corp have been added. These two colors have a similarity in appearance to natural cork.

In the Azrock asphalt tile line two colors in Terrazzo Tone patterns also been added. One is a reddish brown background with multi-colored chips, and the other a white background with gray and black chips.

★ ★ ★

Semi-rigid duct insulation designed for application to exterior or interior duct surfaces is now manufactured by the Baldwin-Hill Company of Trenton, N. J. and Huntington, Ind. Felted from longer, finer spun mineral wool fibers, the material, it is claimed, will not absorb water, and is available in three types: plain, with an integral vapor barrier for application on duct exteriors; and neoprene-coated for application on duct interiors.

★ ★ ★

A ceiling-suspended air conditioner, claimed to be the only one of its type on the market, is being manufactured by the Union Asbestos & Rubber Company of Chicago.

Navel features incorporated in the unique air conditioner for industrial, commercial and store use include a built-in winch which permits two men to easily and economically install the

unit within a few hours, without the need for expensive rigging.

At the same time this Unarco unit can be serviced by one man, if it becomes necessary, by means of the same winch which permits lowering of the entire one-piece power unit.

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Building industry experience has produced a revolutionary wall material which is manufactured from the world's most abundant and cheapest raw material. The product possesses natural beauty with a variety of textures and almost infinite color. The material is permanent, invulnerable to fire, decay, insects, and weather.

Laboratory tests indicate compressive strengths as high as 4 tons per square inch.

To meet the ready market, manufacturing and distribution facilities have been established throughout the country and the product is immediately available to the construction industry. The revolutionary material is called . . . "brick."

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A new kind of window made of plastic reinforced glass fibers and special ingredients that filter sunlight like a sunton oil—has been developed for buildings where industries store materials that can be harmed by ultraviolet light.

The window panes, made by the Reinforced Plastic Division of The Firestone Tire & Rubber Company, permit up to 50 per cent of visible light to pass through them but keep out the ultraviolet rays, it is claimed. In much the same way, lotions prevent ultraviolet from burning a sunbather's skin.

To manufacture the panes, workmen place glass fiber sheets in a mold, add a compound of polyester resin, color pigments and other ingredients, then close the mold and bake the panes.

Bid Invitations Out On Academic Complex At Air Force Academy

The Air Force Academy Construction Agency, P. O. Box 1670, Colorado Springs, Colo. issued on August 21 an invitation to bid on all plant, labor, equipment and materials (except foundation caissons and structural steel) for the academic complex at the Air Force Academy 10 miles north of Colorado Springs.

The deposit for one set of plans and one set of specifications is \$150. Bids are to be opened on or about October 9, 1956. Inquiries or replies to the AFACA should bear the notation: "Invitation No. (IFB) 05-613-57-3. Deliver unopened to AFCIE-6/CC."

Bill Southwell Named President Of AMT & LMA

Bill Southwell of San Antonio has been named president of the Architectural Metal Tablet and Letter Manufacturers' Association. Head of the San Antonio firm which is now the largest manufacturer of art, bronze and metal letters in the South, Mr. Southwell was named the most outstanding young man in his city in 1953.

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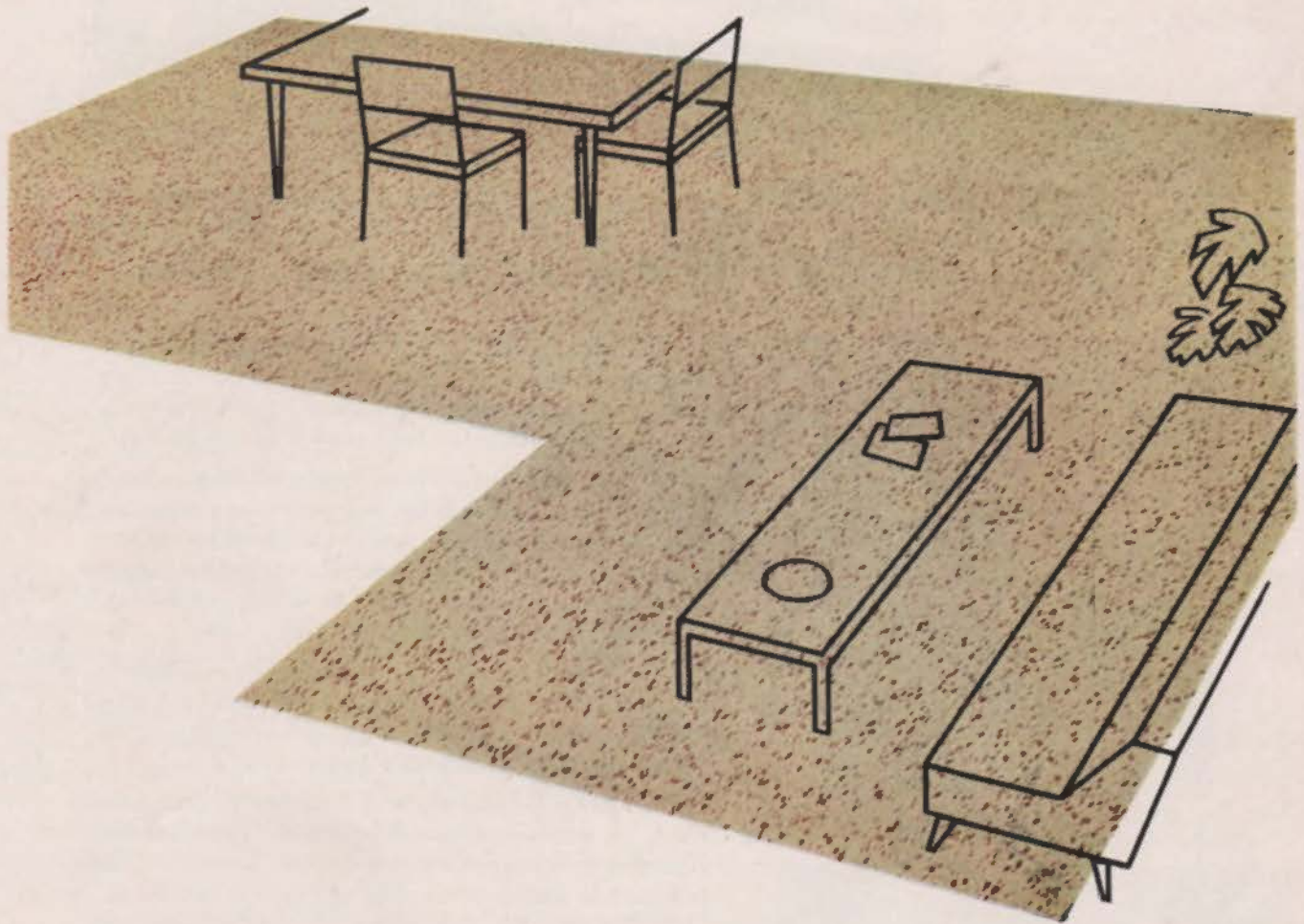
Texas National Garage, Houston, Texas
Architect: Kenneth Franzheim, Houston

Municipal Parking Garage #10, Chicago, Ill.
Architect: McClurg, Shoemaker and McClurg, Chicago



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