JOURNAL

ROYAL ARCHITECTURAL INSTITUTE OF CANADA



SCHOOLS





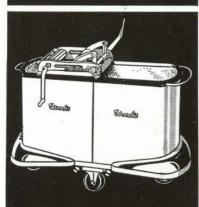
Chrome - plated Lathurn Liquid Soap Dispenser with 18.8 stainless steel valves provides a rich creamy lather.



No. 91 Liquid Soap Dispenser. Leakproof; equipped with stainless steel valves.



No. 94 Liquid Soap Dispenser. Leakproof; pump action; delivers a measured quantity of soap as required.



Mop Trucks and Floor Maintenance Equipment. This Mop Truck is entirely self-contained; two 22½ gailon tanks.



Wood's

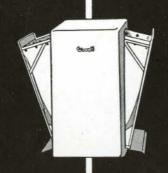
SANITATION EQUIPMENT

- The best equipment for maintaining buildings in the most modern, sanitary manner.
- Wood's has 24 branches from coast to coast and 135 sanitation salesmen.
- May we submit specifications and quotations?





Self-closing, Fire-proof Waste Receptacles (with or without paper towel dispensers.) Various types and sizes.



Foot-operated Waste Receptacle. Operates from two sides; self-closing. 20" x 20" x 36".

Wood's Electric
Water Cooler.
Automatic
thermostatic
conrol assures
constant supply
of cool water.

0





G. H. WOOD & COMPANY LIMITED

MONTREAL

TORONTO

VANCOUVER

Branches throughout Canada

SOFT, warm blends . . bright, gay tones or distinctive solid colours—whatever the type of architecture or natural surroundings, you can choose a Johns-Manville Asphalt Shingle that is perfectly suited to the particular job. In addition, when you recommend Johns-Manville Asphalt Shingles you can be sure of a weathertight roof that will give years of service with a minimum of upkeep expense.

Where conditions call for added protection from fire, weather and wear, specify J-M Flexstone Shingles. Made on a base of fire-proof asbestos felt, they minimize the hazards of roof communicated fires—keep maintenance costs low.



With Johns-Manville Asphalt Shingles the colours are a permanent part of the fire-resisting mineral coating and will retain their attractiveness down through the years. This combination of lasting colours plus long life and economy assures your clients of complete roofing satisfaction.

Colourful beauty that blends with any style of architecture



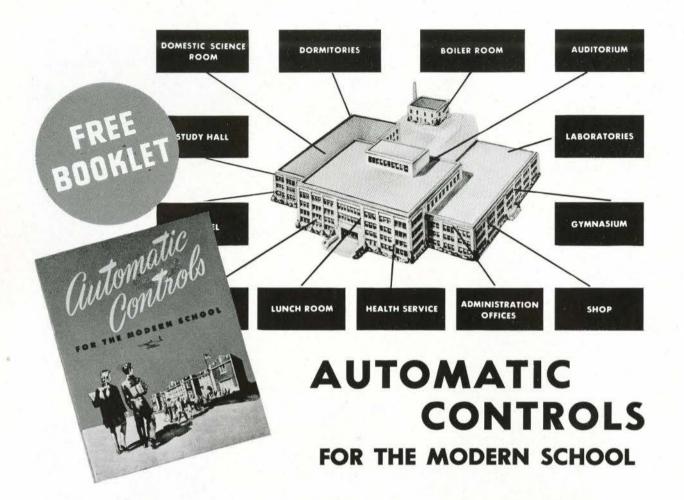
Backed by more than 89 years' experience in the manufacture of Building Materials, the name Johns-Manville on Asphalt Shingles is your assurance of top-flight quality.

For illustrated folder and additional information on the many styles and colours of J-M Asphalt Shingles, write Canadian Johns-Manville Co. Ltd., Toronto, Montreal, Winnipeg or Vancouver.

Colour-Styled Johns-Manville ASPHALT SHINGLES



B-529



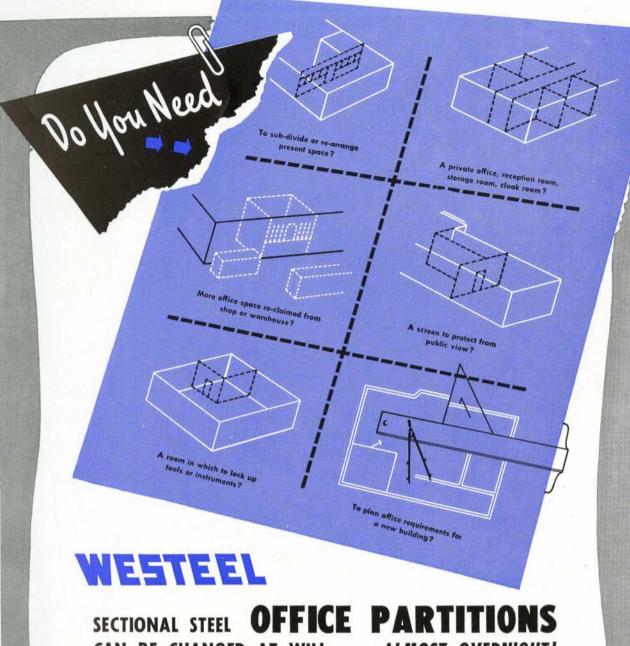
A MODERN control system ensures both comfort for the occupants and efficient operation of the heating plant. The above diagram illustrates the standard and special applications of automatic controls which should be reviewed when drawing up specifications for a new school building. Especially made to meet such requirements

are Minneapolis - Honeywell control systems.

Minneapolis-Honeywell has prepared a booklet setting forth in detail facts you should know when planning an automatic control system. The booklet is yours for the asking. Simply clip the coupon and return . . . it may save both money and costly experimentation. Minneapolis - Honeywell Regulator Company, Ltd., Vanderhoof Avenue, Leaside, Toronto 12, Ont. Branches: Montreal, London, Winnipeg, Calgary and Vancouver.

OOF AVE.,	LEASIDE, T	ORONTO 13	ONT
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Honeywell control systems



CAN BE CHANGED AT WILL . . . ALMOST OVERNIGHT!

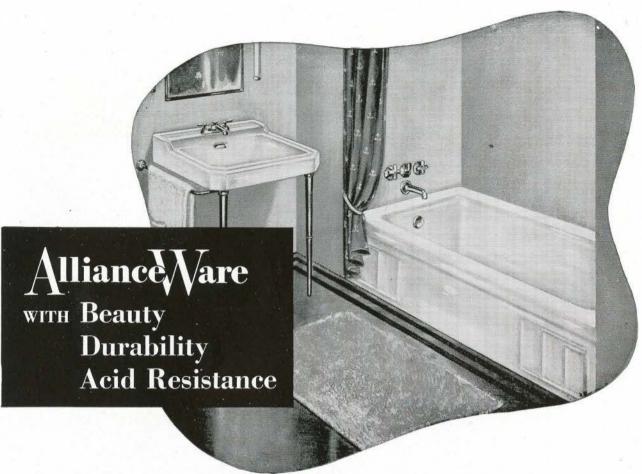
Westeel Office Partitions are substantial and smart in appearance, yet highly flexible . . . can be re-located in a matter of hours to suit additions to staff. changed conditions, etc. No troubleno disorder! Will not mar floors, walls or ceilings. Ideal for new buildings, or to modernize old ones.

Send for interesting Catalogue containing detailed information. Deliveries dependent on steel supplies.

GEO. W. REED & CO. LTD. MONTREAL

METALLIC ROOFING CO. LTD. TORONTO

WESTERN STEEL PRODUCTS



has these PLUS values:

Greater Consumer Satisfaction

Lower Costs of Installation

Easier Handling

More than 157,000 people who stopped to examine the PLUS values of AllianceWare at a display in the Pacific National Exhibition at Vancouver were delighted with the features of this Canadian-made porcelain-on-steel sanitaryware.

Flat-Rim Sinks in popular shapes and sizes are now being produced for Western Canadian plumbing jobbers at the Vancouver AllianceWare plant. These sinks, like the famous AllianceWare bathtubs, have the same qualities of acid resistance that are of extra importance to housewives.

Lavatory shown in illustration is not yet in production. Very well regarded by visitors at the Pacific National Exhibition, Shelf-top Lavatories of this type will be supplied in the near future.

For information, write

ALLIANCEWARE LTD.

1590 Powell Street

Vancouver, Canada









Because It Means LASTING Protection

HOW ABOUT your new roof 30 years from today? If it's a Specification* roof, the chances are it will still be giving excellent service. Building records and owner testimonials show that many Barrett roofs have given trouble-free service 30, 40, 50 and more years ... service far beyond the life of any bond. Some of these roofs actually

outlasted the buildings they covered.

> This is one of a series of advertisements illustrating the links in the Barrett chain of roof satisfaction.

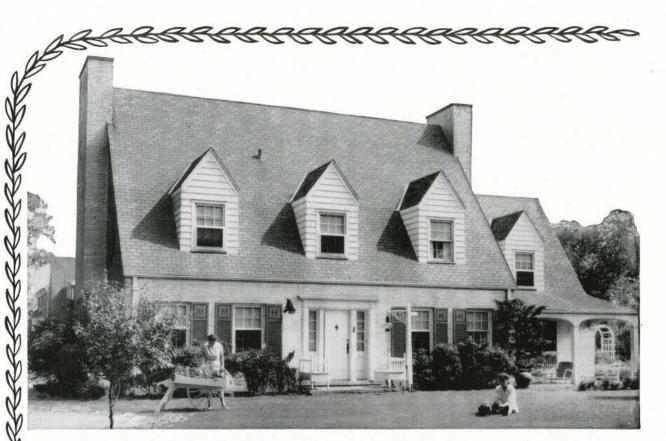
That kind of endurance is worth money. Every year of trouble-free service after the expiration of the bond is a bonus year. And look at it this way: roof failures are more than likely to mean interior damage, and time lost while repairs are being made. Those inconveniences are yours whether the roof is bonded or not. That's why it is doubly important to have proved roof protection.

More sound reasons why building owners, architects, contractors and roofers insist on Barrett Specification roofs.

THE BARRETT COMPANY, LIMITED

Montreal · Toronto · Winnipeg · Vancouver

*Reg'd. trade mark



In Silver it's Sterling...In Plumbing Fixtures it's WALLACEBURG



In Canada's Finer Homes

Many long years of dependable performance without expensive repairs and replacements — authentic, proven styling to suit any interior — lifetime, satin-smooth chromium finish — that's what your clients expect of faucets and showers.

And that's exactly what you give them when you specify Wallaceburg. Sound value for your money every time. Ask your plumber . . . he knows.

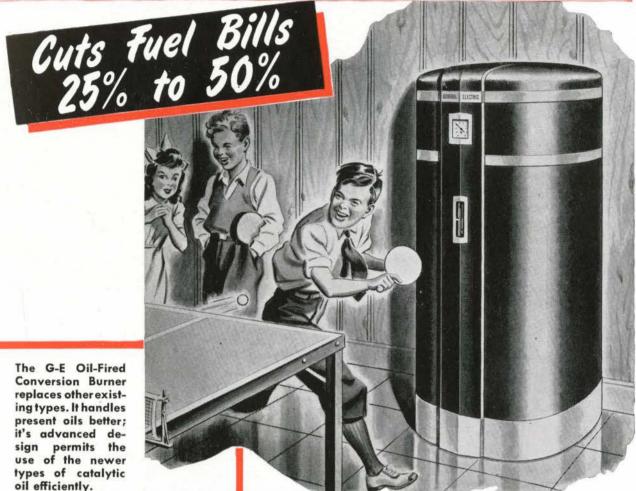
Sold by Better Plumbers Everywhere

WALLACEBURG BRASS LIMITED

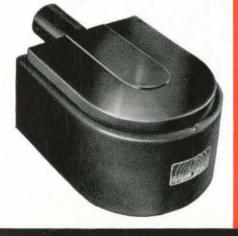
WALLACEBURG - MONTREAL - TORONTO - LONDON - WINNIPEG - VANCOUVER

GENERAL & ELECTRIC





oil efficiently.



General Electric offers five kinds of heating: oil-fired boilers, oil-fired warm air units, gasfired boilers, gas-fired warm air units, and oil-fired conversion burners. Whether your specifications call for steam, vapor, or hot water. G-E produces the right equipment. And G-E Automatic Heating Equipment cuts fuel bills up to 50%—another reason why old oil burners can be replaced economically.

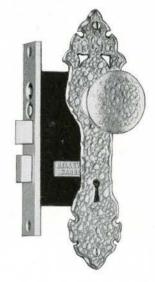
CANADIAN GENERAL ELECTRIC 555

HEAD OFFICE — TORONTO

Matchless

craftsmanship blending with finest materials for beauty to parallel the quality beneath.

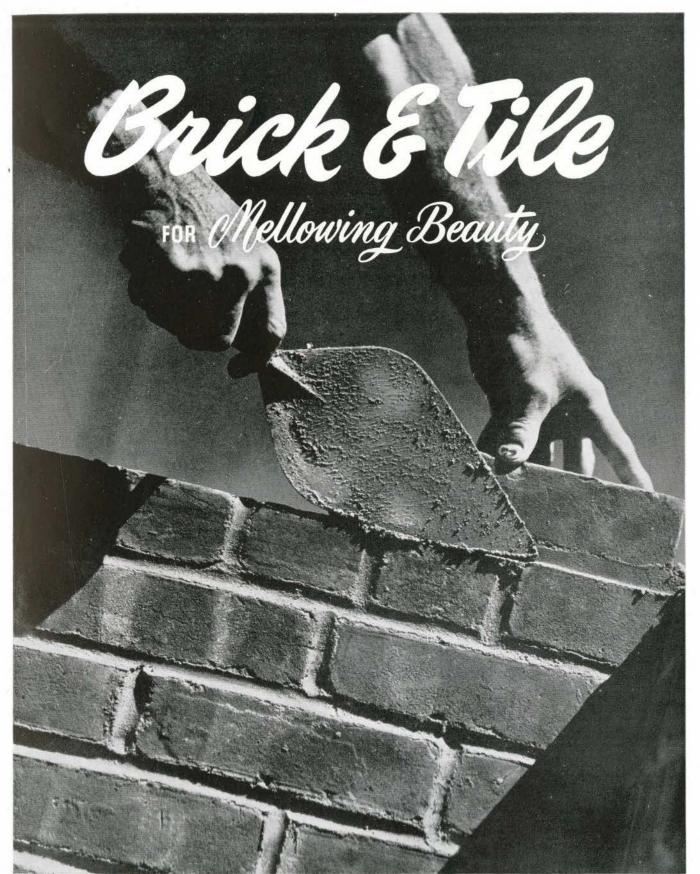




HARDWARE OF DISTINCTION

Belleville

BELLEVILLE-SARGENT & CO. LIMITED
BELLEVILLE • ONTARIO



BRICK & TILE MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

57 BLOOR STREET WEST . TORONTO 5, ONTARIO



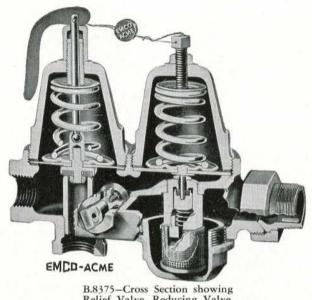
ACME HEAT CONTROL VALVES

For

ACCURATE...

POSITIVE CONTROL

BEYOND CRITICISM



B.8375—Cross Section showing Relief Valve, Reducing Valve, Strainer, By-pass and Union Connection.

SPECIFY with CONFIDENCE

EMCO-ACME HEAT CONTROL VALVES are built to such a fine degree of accuracy they have become standard equipment in Homes, Institutions and Industrial plants throughout Canada today.

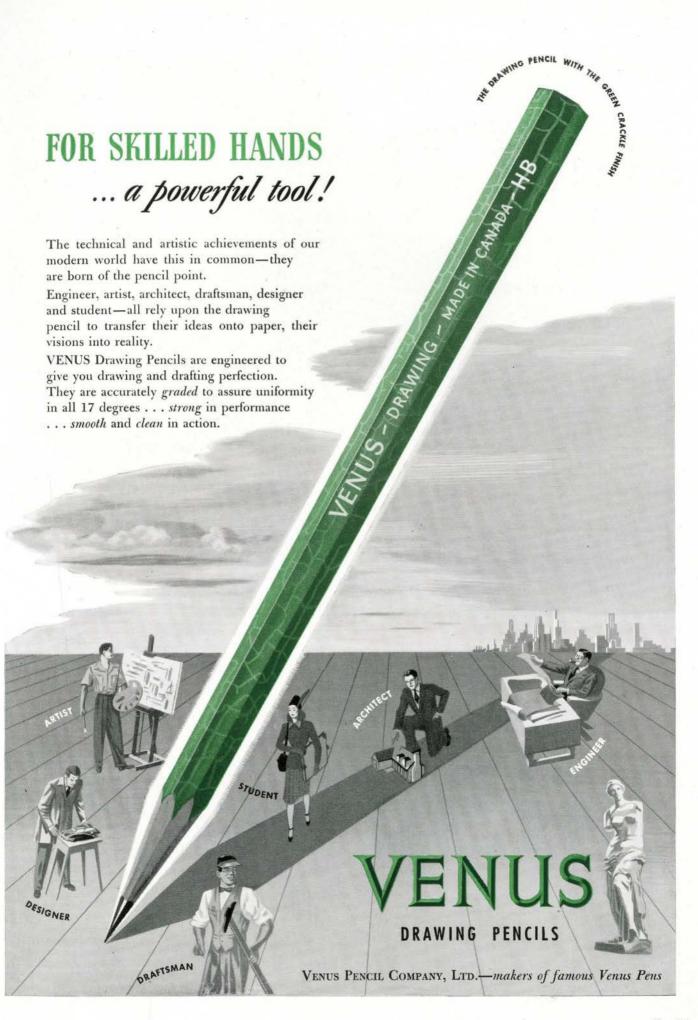
The many Special Features of Emco-Acme Heat Control Valves warrant recommending and installing them.

Specify and help your clients choose EMCO Fixtures and Fittings.

EMPIRE BRASS MFG. CO. LIMITED

LONDON-HAMILTON - TORONTO - SUDBURY - WINNIPEG - VANCOUVER







For CONVECTOR-RADIATORS

You'll find Trane Convector-radiators in homes, offices, hotels and hospitals across Canada—wherever a high standard of heating comfort and economy is demanded.

Trane Convector-radiators occupy little or no floor space. Heating by convection, the entire room is heated evenly from floor to ceiling and from wall to wall—a delightful warmth, pleasant, constant and invigorating, with no trace of stuffiness.

Year after year, more and more Trane Convector-radiators are installed at a cost which today is comparable to less efficient heating methods.

Pioneers in convection heating-with

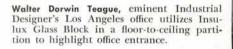
the introduction of the first Trane Convectorradiator some twenty years ago, today, Trane leads the field—the largest and best known manufacturer of heat transfer equipment in Canada.

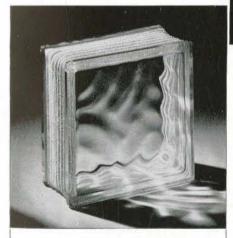
That's why in the field of heating, Trane is the Name. For more information about Trane Convector-radiators write to Trane Company of Canada Limited, address below, Department R9.





Insulux partition provides privacy in reception room of Walter Dorwin Teague's Los Angeles office—adds daylight and more spacious appearance.

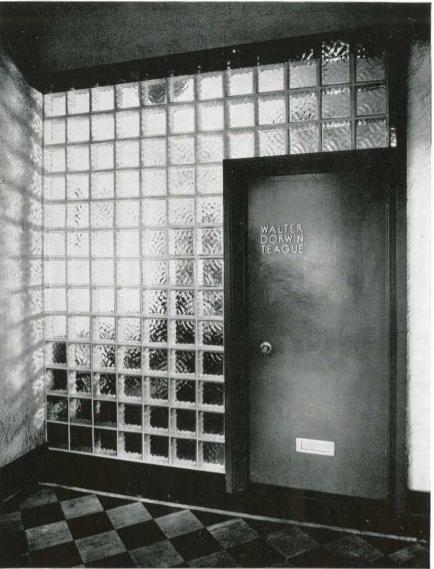




OWENS-ILLINOIS

GLASS BLOCK

Insulux Glass Block is a functional building material, designed to do many things other materials cannot do. It is available in three sizes, many functional and attractive face patterns. Investigate!



Open the door to better lighting

LET outside light in, yet maintain business office privacy . . . that's one of the many problems architects are solving with Insulux Glass Block.

Ideally suited for residences, apartments and industrial buildings, Insulux Glass Block is easily installed. When construction is completed, panels are permanent, high in insulating qualities and easy to clean. There's nothing to rot, rust or corrode.

In keeping with modern design trends Insulux relieves dark and gloomy spots and allows a new flexibility and originality in planning.

For complete technical data, specifications and installation details, see the "Glass" Section of Sweet's Architectural Catalog, or write Dept. D-89, Owens-Illinois Glass Company, Insulux Products Division, Toledo 1, Ohio.

Canadian Representatives: The Consolidated Plate Glass Company of Canada, Ltd. • Pilkington Glass, Ltd.



• A sincere desire to reduce fire risk concentrates attention upon the selection of materials used in building construction.

Use of G.L.A. Gypsum Products assures a high degree of fire protection without necessitating any change in building methods.

Gyproc Fire-Protective Wallboard

Gyproc Sheathing

Gyproc Lath and Flaster

G.L.A. Gypsum Partition and Furring Tile

G.L.A. Gypsum Beam and Column Fireproofing Tile

G.L.A. Gypsum Roofs

G.L.A. Tri-Seal Ceilings

GYPSUM, LIME AND ALABASTINE, CANADA, LIMITED

Vancouver Toronto 5 Calgary

Winnipeg Montreal 2 Illustrated above is one of a forceful series of G.L.A. advertisements, nation-wide in scope, which direct the attention of house-owners to the very considerable advantages of building into their homes the fire-resistant properties of Gyproc Wallboard.



4-G-47-A

GYPROC Fire Protective WALLBOARD

HOW MUCH GYPSUM PROTECTS YOUR BUILDING?

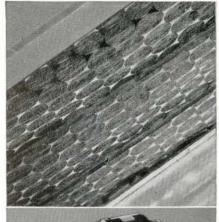




ECONOMICAL FORCED-AIR
HEAT AT REASONABLE COST
with









With confidence select Chatco for your heating jobs. Chatco's Engineering and Product Research Division has designed a winter air-conditioner that will meet the public demand for a well-engineered, streamlined, economical unit for heating, humidifying and circulating clean, warm air using either bituminous or anthracite coal.

CLEAN, HUMIDIFIED AIR

Chatco high quality and dependability throughout. Steel heating chamber is ARC-WELDED eliminating dust, soot, fumes. Removable spun glass filters (at left) purify and cleanse the air. Automatic humidifier adds comfort-giving moisture.

WARM, CIRCULATED AIR

Chatco's thirty years of engineering skill and manufacturing excellence are reflected in the better design, finer workmanship. Fire-brick combustion chamber assures long life. Inner liner insulates and conserves heat, giving optimum heat distribution. Large slow-speed blower (at left) is designed for quiet operation—mounted on rubber. See this finer winter air-conditioner.

SPECIAL ATTRACTIVE DISCOUNTS FOR THE TRADE.

. . . for automatic heat, add a

STOKOL STOKER

The STOKOL Stoker, distributed in Canada exclusively by Chatco, gives automatic heat at lowest cost! Over 140,000 satisfied users testify to its superiority. Write or phone. A Chatco representative will give you full particulars.

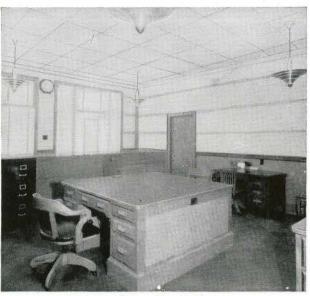
CHATCO STEEL PRODUCTS LIMITED

General Sales Office: Tilbury, Ontario Toronto Branch Sales Office: 69 Yonge Street





An Auto Truck Showroom



An Executive Office

and it's NOT done with mirrors!

There's nothing mysterious about Masonite*
Presdwoods.

They're merely one of the most brilliant and useful building-material developments of modern times.

That's why we can show you here three widely varying Presdwood installations . . . just three of the more than a thousand practical uses for Presdwoods.

All different problems, all different in the effect created . . . and all answered by one superversatile product, Presdwood.

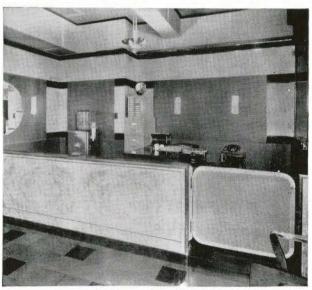
And speaking of mirrors . . . what, other than a mirror, can give the gleaming, glass-smooth surface of Presdwood?

YOU DON'T NEED MIRRORS, EITHER!

But if your clients have building or renovating problems, chances are that they do need Presdwoods for the right answer!

What's the problem? Panelling, flooring, tiling, wainscotting, furniture, gadgets? They're all one to Presdwood.

That's because Masonite Presdwoods are strong, durable, tempered for hardness . . . good looking, water-resistant, glass-smooth . . . easily cleaned.



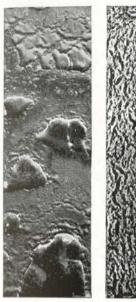
A Reception Counter

With the great demand for Presdwood, it is still in somewhat short supply... but everything possible is being done to overcome the shortage.

It is therefore suggested that you learn now how Presdwoods can help improve your clients' premises . . . quickly, economically. Write for free samples, technical data and 48-page booklet, "What you ought to know about Masonite Brand Products," to International Fibre Board Limited, Gatineau, Que., Dept. 103.



*'MASONITE' IS A REGISTERED TRADE MARK AND SIGNIFIES THAT MASONITE COMPANY OF CANADA LTD. IS THE SOURCE OF THE PRODUCT. FLINTKOTE STATIC ASPHALT OUTLASTS ALL OTHERS





Ordinary types of asphalt coatings crack, alligator and otherwise deteriorate when exposed to the elements.

Here is an unretouched photo of Flintkote Static Asphalt Emulsion after 10 years' exposure.

Lengthening the LIFELINE*

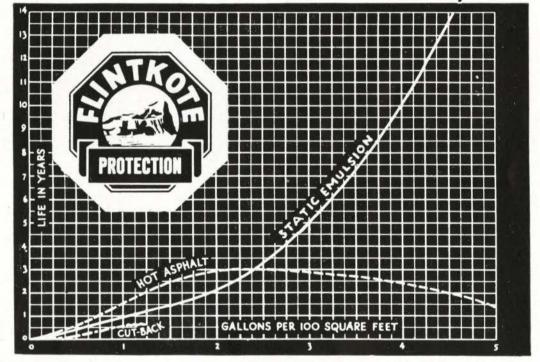
Flintkote Static Asphalt Emulsions greatly simplify many of your construction and maintenance problems. Non-toxic, applied cold and quickly with trowel, brush or spray, each Static Asphalt Emulsion is a specification in itself—designed for its particular job . . . weather proofing, dampproofing, protective coating against corrosion, mastic flooring or other uses.

Emulsions of this type are characterized by reinforcing in the shape of a honeycomb structure, formed by mineral coloid. Hence they give these advantages over hot asphalt and cut-back types:

- Eliminate necessity of heating and fire hazard.
- Eliminate possible impairment of chemical properties of original asphalt.
- Produce film which resists internal molecular flow under heat.

*The result is a film which outlasts any other known form of bituminous coating.

This chart graphically illustrates the average life in years, in relation to thickness of film, obtained from the three types of asphalt coatings.

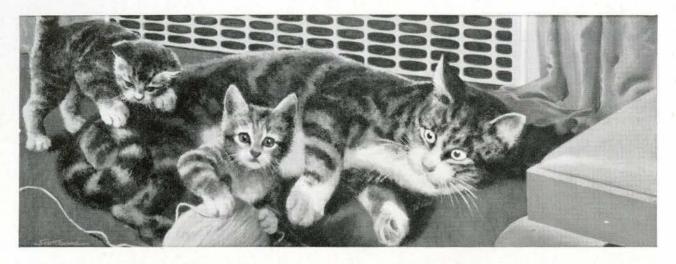




FLINTKOTE COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED

30TH STREET, LONG BRANCH, TORONTO 14, ONTARIO

Sales Offices: Vancouver • Calgary • Winnipeg • Toronto • Montreal • Sackville, N.B. • Charlottetown



Plan your home for family comfort





1. WITH THE RIGHT HEATING EQUIPMENT

No matter how cold it is outdoors, customers' homes can always be cozy and comfortable if you select and install Dominion heating equipment — "Corto" Radiators and the efficient "DoRaD" or "Arco" Boiler for coal, oil or gas.

2. WITH THE RIGHT PLUMBING FIXTURES

You want convenience for your customers, good looks, and healthful cleanliness in their bathrooms, kitchens and laundries. They will be sure to get them—plus years of dependable service—if you install "Standard" Plumbing Fixtures.

Made in Canada for Canadians by

Standard Sanitary

Dominion Radiator

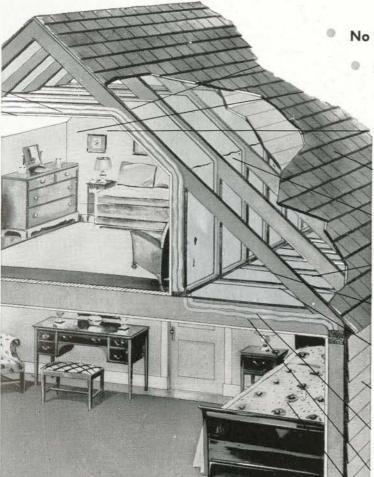
TORONTO

CANADA

For modernization work now Time Payments may be arranged through our affiliated Company – Heating and Plumbing Finance Limited.

SPECIFY

"Standard" Plumbing fixtures • Dominion Heating Equipment



- No Shrinking, Settling, Bulging or Warping
 - Stops Moisture Infiltration
 - Perfect Thermal Seal
 - No Sun's Heat Stored Up in Alfol during Hot Weather
 - Uniform Temperatures throughout the House
 - Unaffected by Roof Leaks
 Vermin Proof
 - Warping or Sagging of Lumber cannot affect Alfol
 - Does not Disintegrate
 - No Dust, Dirt or Fine Particles to Sift through into Rooms
 - Cold Drafts Eliminated in Winter



INSULATION

ALUMINUM FOIL BLANKET REFLECTIVE INSULATION

Alfol's superior qualities have been time-tested and proven, and have made Alfol the favoured insulation with hundreds of builders, home owners, and architects across Canada.

Now available in convenient packaged form, Alfol is easy to handle and can be installed quickly and economically.

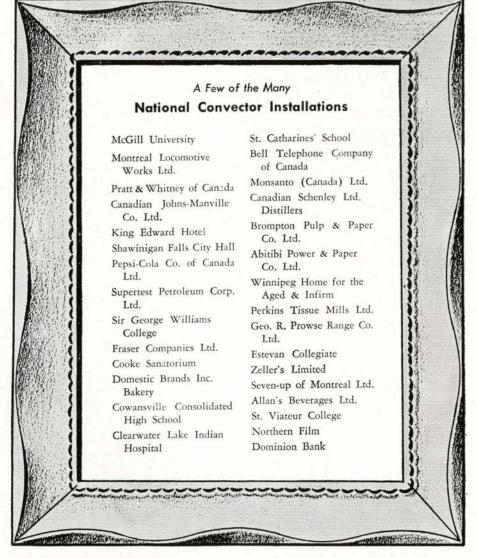
See Your Distributor or Write-

Alfol is the scientific reflective insulation, designed to meet all the requirements of the Canadian climate, with its extremes of hot and cold, dry and damp. It is the Aluminum Foil fashioned into a reinforced blanket with air spaces between.

ALUMINUM INSULATION LTD.

Head Office: 811 Sun Life Bldg., Montreal, Que. Sales Office: P.O. Box 614, Ottawa, Ont.

Just part of the picture.

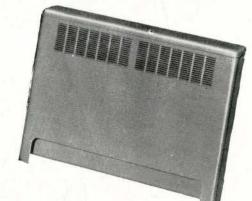


 National convectors are characterized by their high quality of workmanship and their advanced design. Your assurance of dependable balanced heating. Three standard models are available: Floor Cabinets, Wall Cabinets and Flush Panels. Write for further information to -

NATIONAL HEATING PRODUCTS

University Tower Building

Montreal, Que.



Now...



is made in Canada



Architects: Hutchison and Wood

Architects will be glad to know that our new Canadian plant is completed and in production on Armstrong's Asphalt Tile. A high quality product, hard wearing and beautifully finished, it is made on the most modern production line that Armstrong's experienced technicians could devise. The tile is being produced in a range of marbleized and plain patterns, providing practically any desired colour effect or design. Prompt deliveries are being made now in reasonable quantity. You can safely specify Armstrong's Asphalt Tile on all future jobs. Armstrong's Asphalt Tile will be sold directly to flooring contractors. Installations will be made by trained and capable men.

Architects—Write for this valuable booklet "RESILIENT FLOORING IN TODAY'S CONSTRUCTION"

15 pages of useful information for every architect, with illustrations and diagrams, the booklet covers such subjects as Specifications for Resilient Floors, Preparing Old Subflooring, The "Alkali Problem" in Concrete Subfloors, Floors with Radiant Heating, Adhesives for Resilient Flooring, Cove Base Treatments, Functions of Design in Floor Planning. Write today for your copy.

New Canadian Name and Addresses

ARMSTRONG CORK CANADA LIMITED

6911 Decarie Boulevard,

TORONTO

WINNIPEG

Montreal 29, Que.

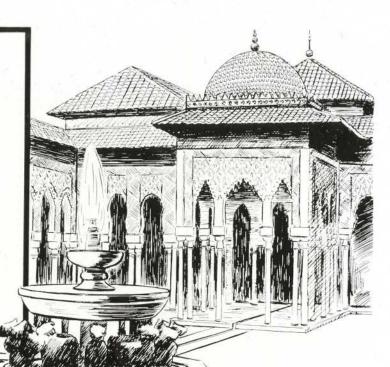
VANCOUVER

QUEBEC



The Moors were Mural Artists

Granada, the last stronghold of the Moors in Spain, is famous for the Moors in Spain, is famous for the beauty and charm of the Alhambra—a magnificent building, half fortress and half palace, set on a hillside amidst groves of cypress trees. An outstanding example of Moorish architecture, it was begun in 1248 but was not completed until 1354. With arcaded courts and sculptured arches, the walls patterned in delicate designs are a constant reminder that the Moors who built the Alhambra excelled as mural artists of conspicuous skill and great competence.



STONESET is the modern way

The task of the modern wall builder has been considerably lightened by Medusa StoneseT. With less volume change than any other white cement, StoneseT doesn't shrink. And because it is, itself, thoroughly waterproofed, StoneseT makes the walls absolutely watertight.

Medusa StoneseT has none of the deficiencies of ordinary mortar. It prevents stain from back-up and stops water penetration and the consequent crack-ups so frequently caused by freezing. StoneseT not only increases the stability and endurance of brick and stone structures but provides mortar joints of uniform colour which greatly enhance the appearance of a building. Being so low in cost, StoneseT can be used throughout the wall. Mixing specification is on the bag.

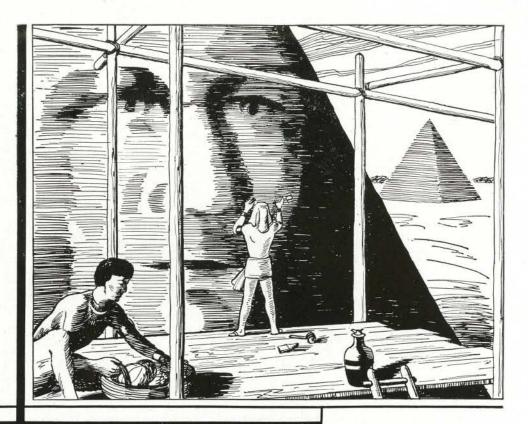
Medusa StoneseT





MEDUSA PRODUCTS

COMPANY OF CANADA, LIMITED
PARIS ONTARIO



Rock-hewn from an enormous block of granite, the celebrated Sphinx, near the pyramids of Ghizeh, stands a colossal monument of imperishable grandeur. Primary contribution to world architecture, ancient Egyptian sculpture was truly created to endure.

ENDURANCE



JENKINS Fig. 470 BRONZE GATE VALVE

Designed for 150 pounds steam or 300 pounds oil, water or gas working pressure.

ONE OF OVER 400 EXTRA
VALUE VALVES MADE BY
JENKINS VALVE SPECIALISTS

Man's record in stone has a lasting quality. In sculpture or architecture, his works stand, a substantial and enduring witness to his creative effort for many generations.

Endurance is also a very practical consideration in the mechanical arts. A valve, for example, is preferred for its long-lasting qualities resulting from expert craftsmanship—the kind of skilled workmanship you will find in Jenkins Valves.

By choosing Jenkins Valves, you get extra endurance that means extra economy and lower maintenance cost.

Consult Jenkins on any question of valve design, selection or installation. You'll get lasting satisfaction from every Jenkins Valve.

Jenkins Valves

For industrial, engineering, marine and power plant service...in Bronze, Iron, Cast Steel and Corrosion-Resisting Alloys.

SOLD THROUGH RELIABLE DISTRIBUTORS EVERYWHERE



JENKINS BROS. LIMITED

617 ST. REMI STREET • MONTREAL Sales Offices: TORONTO, WINNIPEG, VANCOUVER.



We are less concerned with the talk of construction crossing the threshold of a new era than we are with focussing an unprejudiced eye on new materials immediately at hand.

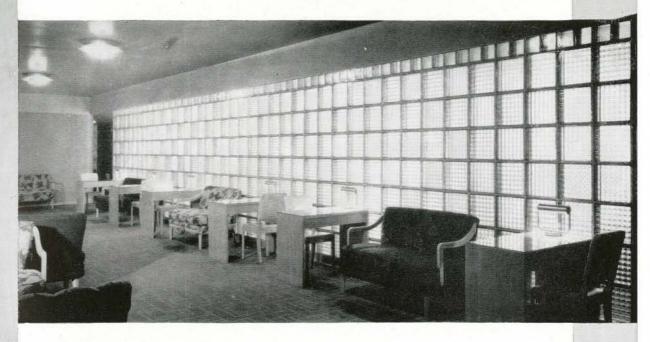
As regards these, it is not our intention to dash in where angels fear to tread; but, on the other hand, this Company could not have stayed in business for 65 years if it hadn't been sympathetic to reasonable progress.

Peterboro
BUILDERS'
Hardware

The PETERBORO LOCK
MANUFACTURING COMPANY LIMITED

PETERBORO ONTARIO

PLANNING THE FUTURE... since 1893



PROGRESS to Help a Nation

For over half a century, Consolidated Plate Glass Company Limited has been instrumental in introducing to Canadians the improvements which have made GLASS such an important factor in our way of life. From these fifty years of progress and experience has been gleaned a vast store of technical knowledge in every phase of glass marketing and manufacture.

The largest independent glass supplier in Canada, Consolidated has worked on the construction of many of the largest architectectural projects in this young country. Whether your uses for glass vary from its myriad of decorative and functional home uses, such as practical table and dresser tops, glass shelves, huge picture windows or glass brick for kitchen or bath to its ever-expanding possibilities as a beautiful, strong and practical construction material --- whatever you desire in Glass, CONSOLIDATED is best equipped to give you the service you need.

114

CONSOLIDATED PLATE GLASS COMPANY

OF CANADA, LIMITED

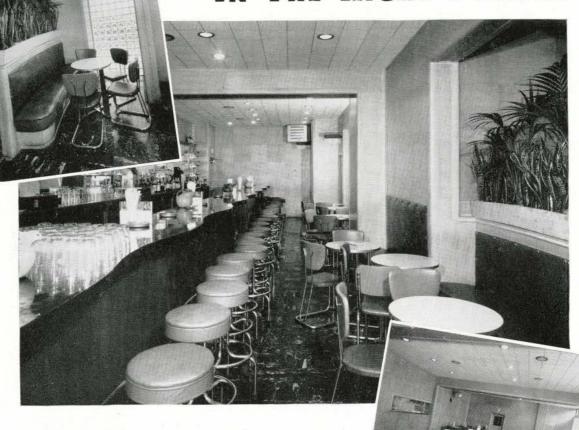
J. W. HOBBS

TORONTO OTTAWA MONTREAL F. S. HOBBS

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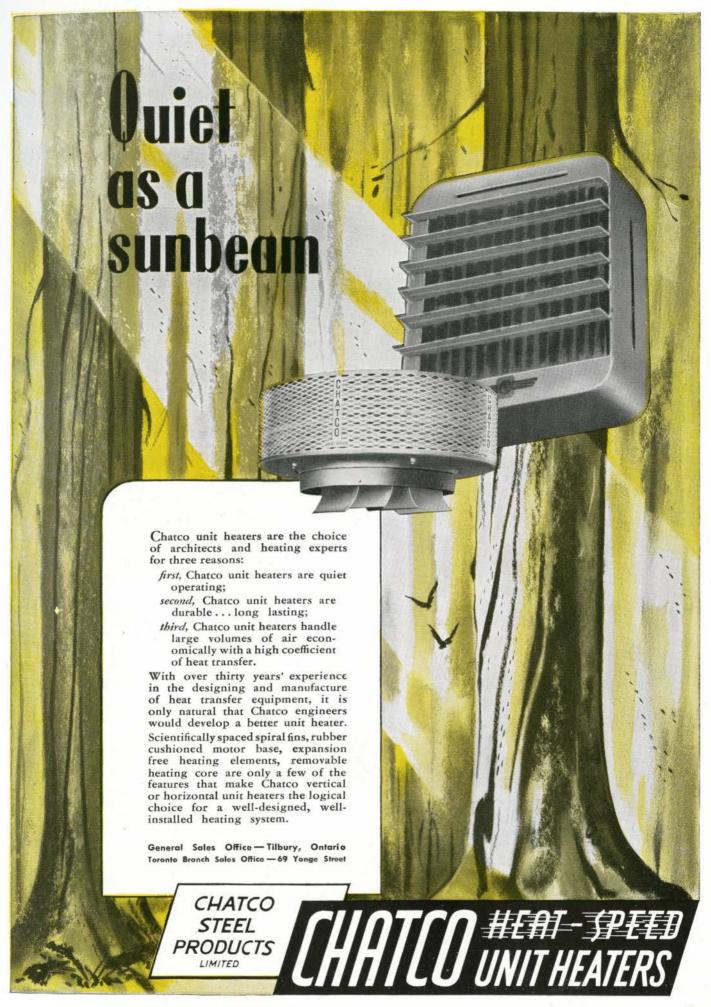
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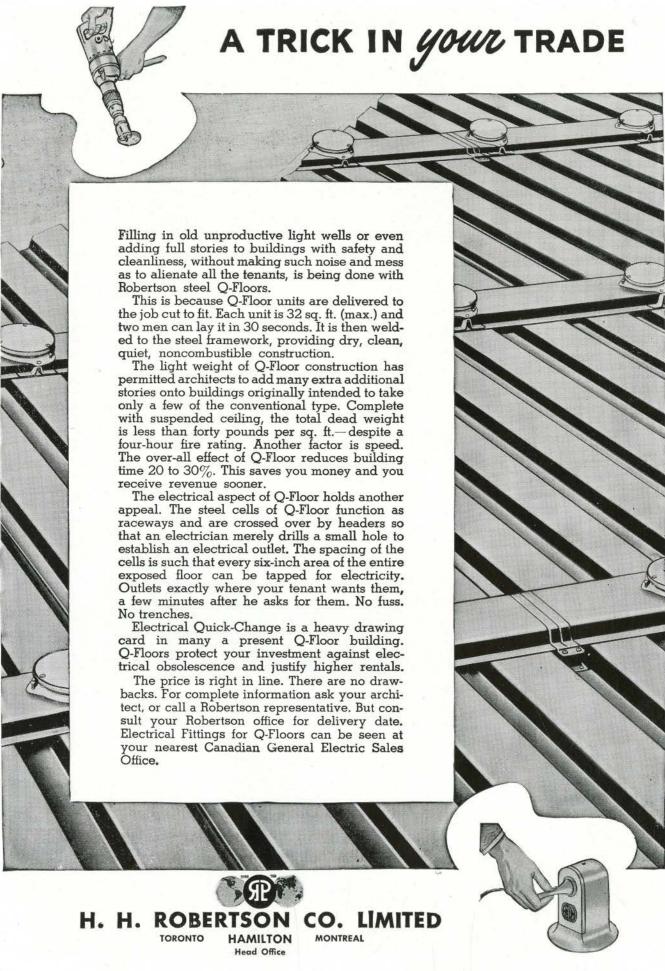
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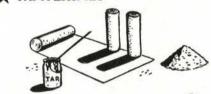
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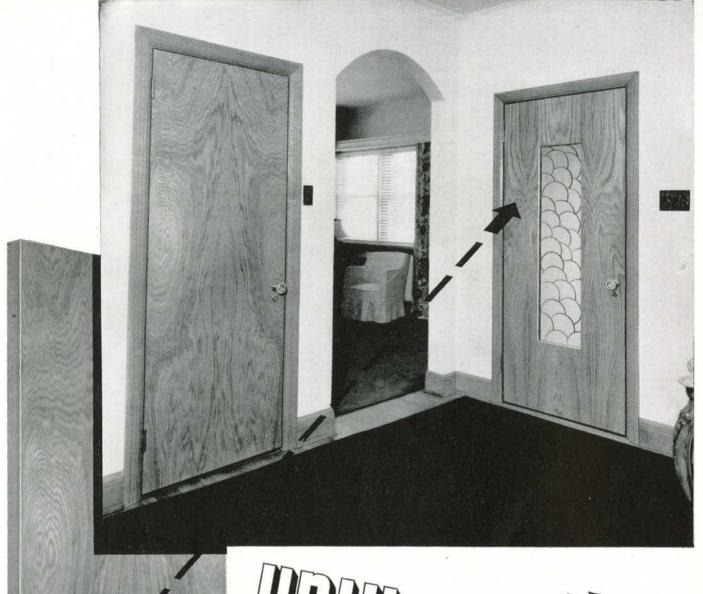
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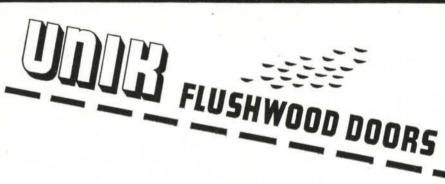
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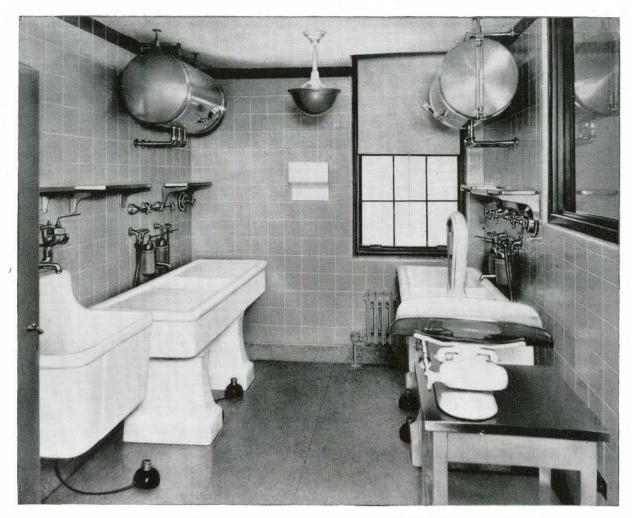
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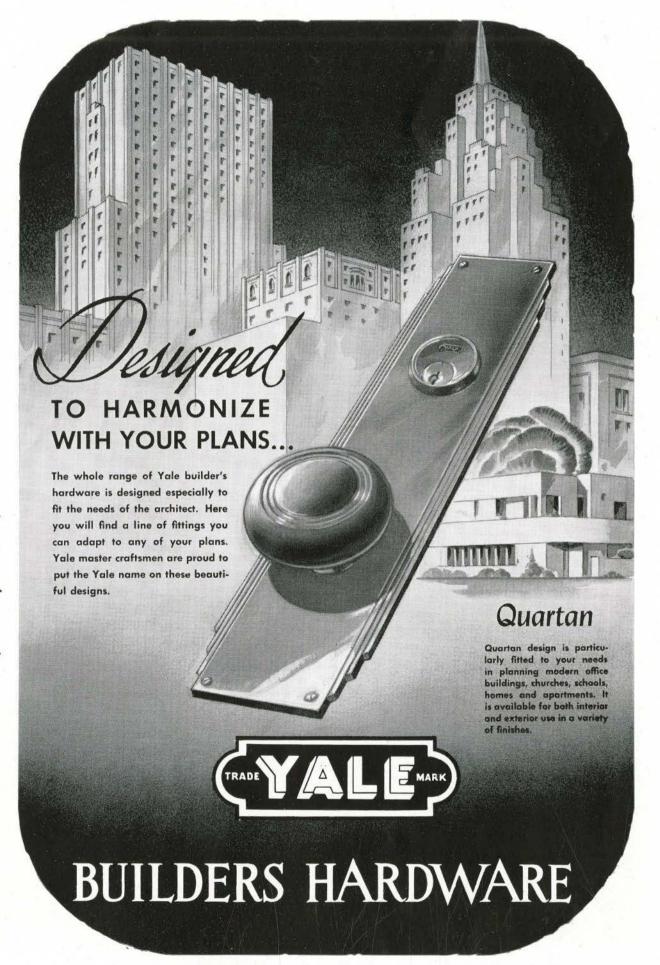


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JOURNAL

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R.A.I.C. JOURNAL

OCTOBER 1947

DROBABLY the greatest victory for modern architecture in Canada has been in the field of school building. Looking back at the achievements of the past, such a victory is remarkable and unexpected. Like the branch library, the school was influenced and bedevilled for decades by that greatest of all menaces to the conscientious designer, the stock plan. In at least one province those plans were the product, a long time ago, of a study undertaken jointly by government departments of education and public works. A pamphlet of plans was the result, and, while a succession of ministers might look askance at them (if they ever saw them), and a courageous individual would, at some stage, cease publication, the little monsters could not be recalled. The fault lay, in the first place, not so much with the architect who designed the stock schools—he, after all, was carrying out the bidding of his minister-but with those who saw merit in the idea of broadcasting plans about a countryside with wide variations of climate, and an infinite variety of sites. The view is widely held among laymen, especially those on public bodies, that they are conferring a great boon on their contemporaries, by recommending and initiating the publication of plans for a wide range of institutional buildings. Schools and hospitals are but two. That they are conferring an evil, rather than a boon, may frequently be the case, but the effect on posterity must, inevitably, be harmful. The stock plan for such purposes presupposes the same level sites, the same climate, the same needs and a static condition in education and hospital care. Only in the one room school can anything like uniformity be imagined, and it is surprising how many variations of the one room school are possible.

WE received, some months ago from a sister province, a book of stock school plans that we believe its authors, or their children, will live to regret. It contained some useful information on the construction of privies for those provinces who have not yet abandoned that abomination. In addition, it showed plans of schools from one to ten classrooms. Such a production would indicate that its authors felt that they had reached the ultimate in school design, whereas actually the flaws accumulated in direct ratio to the number of classrooms; they set a bar to progress in methods of education, and they imagined their schools in a dream world of desert sites in which the North point was always in the same position on the plan. For at least a generation, the young architect with ideas will be confronted with one of these plans by a board who will look with suspicion on every part of a plan he produces where it departs from the false "ideal" of 1945.

THIS number of the Journal will indicate the progress made in school design in the last few years. Probably several committees have been engaged in a study of the problem coupled with an investigation into costs. We in Ontario have been so engaged, but reduction in cost has so far defeated us. Our experience may not be unusual, because, while we examined the problem, costs rose in every trade; and what were once minimum amenities in pre-war schools were considered completely inadequate for modern teaching and decent living. Even in the rural school, oil lamps gave way to incandescent or even fluorescent fixtures; privies gave way to indoor washrooms and the Quebec heater, or equal, gave way to a modern furnace. So that with an attack on costs, one was confronted with twentieth century improvements that were costly, but made for better eyesight, better health and greater working comfort. Other provinces are tackling the problem of better schools on the same basic principles, and it is clear, from only a cursory examination of these pages, that school building in Canada is rapidly approaching, if not passing, the work of countries to which we once went for inspiration.

MODERN SCHOOL BUILDINGS

By R. S. WILSHERE (F), Education Architect, Belfast

Read at the Architects' Conference, Dublin, on 13 June, 1947

Reprinted from R.I.B.A. Journal

The BASIS of all education is tradition, not only by the passing of knowledge from one generation to the next generation, but also by the passing of the accumulated knowledge which each successive generation in its turn contributes. And so in giving a paper on "Modern School Planning and Design" I make no apologies for first giving you a brief historical survey of ideas past schools have provided, and it may be that some moral may be drawn from past achievements in facing the future. I would suggest that the problem of designing a building for educational purposes involves the welding into one unit, three distinct and often very conflicting requirements—education, health and architecture. The balancing of these requirements is by no means an easy one.

At the beginning of the 19th century the standard type plan for a school building was known as "The Lancastrian School". It comprised a large room or hall with a raised platform at one end for the schoolmaster. Desks were placed in the centre and space left all round the desks for children to stand in groups whilst under instruction. A schoolmaster would have control of anything up to 1,000 pupils, his duties really being mostly supervision, the educational theory of those days being largely self instruction by the pupils themselves under monitors.

About 1826, teachers were introduced to assist the principal, and a new type of plan appears, usually called the Stowe System. This school provided:

- A long gallery at one end of the room.
- 2. Desks arranged in groups at the sides.
- 3. Central space left clear.
- 4. One or more small classrooms with galleries.

In 1846—20 years later—the pupil teacher system was introduced and plans changed. Rooms became long and narrow with desks on one side of the room only, divided by curtains into groups each with its pupil teacher.

In 1870, the Elementary Education Act was passed in England and education for all became a public responsibility and School Boards were created to con-

trol education in their own districts. The London School Board at once held a competition for the ideal school building. The Ben Jonson school erected in Stepney in 1872 was the result of this competition. This plan was the famous "central hall" type and comprised:

- 1. A large central assembly hall.
- 2. Separate classrooms grouped round this hall and generally opening direct from this hall.

The following new principles became established by this school:

- 1. All classrooms had left-hand lighting.
- 2. Each teacher had his own classroom.
- The central hall became available for special purposes and was no longer used for ordinary class instruction.

For nearly 32 years this plan held the field unchallenged; practically every successful competition was based on this plan and as late as 1902 an eminent authority expressed the opinion that as a plan for school purposes it was unlikely it would be improved upon.

It was in 1902 a new Education Act introduced school medical services, and with it the appointment of school medical officers, which caused a complete revolution in school design. This was largely due to the energy and enthusiasm of two men—Dr. Reid, the School Medical Officer of Staffordshire, and Mr. Widdows, the Education Architect of Derbyshire.

The experiments of Haldane and Sir Leonard Hill had just thrown new light on the problem of ventilation, and had demonstrated ventilation as primarily a matter of air movement; chemically pure air was not of importance; cooling power and movement were the essentials. Dr. Reid saw that ventilation in the central hall was really little better than the back to back house, and with Mr. Hutchings, the Staffordshire Education Architect, evolved a new type of school called the "Pavilion" type. It consisted of a row of classrooms connected by an open corridor, but with a definite scientific basis, ventilation of the classroom by win-

dows opening on both sides of the room, each window having a hopper just above the level of the children's heads.

After some opposition, the Board of Education agreed to an experimental school being built, subject to each classroom having a ceiling outlet to a Boyle type ventilator. After further pressure the Board agreed to the omission of the ceiling ventilators except in one room, on condition these would be provided should the ventilation prove unsatisfactory. The experiment proved completely successful. The rooms were delightfully fresh and free from stuffiness, and it was found the roof ventilator made no difference at all.

Mr. Widdows developed the principle, and as sites in those days were restricted in area, produced some remarkable plans with classrooms jutting in all directions from the central hall, providing each classroom with bi-lateral lighting and cross ventilation. No doubt, the idea of the central hall still maintained its grip. This new principle of ventilation gradually replaced the central hall type, although many architects did not appear to really grasp the underlying principles, but cross ventilation was established and all classrooms tended to become what one might describe as one room thick.

After the somewhat complicated early plans of Mr. Widdows, there suddenly appeared the logical solution, the "quadrangular plan" (1913), which soon became the standard for school design as the central hall type had been in its day. It has become fashionable to condemn the quadrangular plan chiefly because so many quadrangular school plans ignore aspect. Educationally, however, it makes a good working plan, particularly for the semi open-air type of school where it gives protection to the open-air corridors.

The semi open-air school was the result of the remarkable achievements with full open-air treatment of T.B., and undoubtedly provided very healthy conditions. It was in 1914 Mr. Widdows produced his Wingfield School. This school was designed on a definitely scientific basis dealing with:

- 1. Aspect.
- 2. Proper natural lighting.
- 3. Cross ventilation.
- 4. Open air conditions.
- 5. Heating.

Lighting was by means of 60 degrees continuous glazed north light. Fully opening glazed doors opened into open verandahs on each side of the classroom. The purpose was to eliminate sunlight with its excessive lighting contrasts and to rely on the even and steady north light. At the same time the glazed doors enabled

the sunlight to be seen outside. Cross ventilation was by means of hoppers and heating was solved by underfloor heating. Mr. Widdows claimed this classroom provided a steady light of 5 per cent. of the cill lighting.

During the inter-war years, the break with traditional planning and design and the development of the asymmetrical plan has provided a valuable release enabling a more rational layout to be adopted so necessary to meet the growing requirements of education. The passing of the new Education Act, and the raising of the school leaving age, has still further widened the scope of education; not only have the type and variety of schools been increased, as will be seen from the new Building Regulations, but the whole standard of accommodation and equipment has become much more elaborate.

It will be seen in the earlier plans that methods of instruction directly shaped the plan; later health played a major part. Today educational methods are changing. In the past it may be said pupils were sent to school to be taught, today pupils attend a school to learn. The function of the teacher tends to become more and more that of a guide, philosopher and friend, rather than an instructor pushing definite ideas into their pupils. The pupil is less and less expected to accept what it is taught; the idea behind education becomes more and more to develop the pupils' individuality, but at the same time to make the pupils realize they are members of a community and to adjust their own individuality to the group with which they work. It calls for less regimentation and more freedom for the pupil and for more activity in place of book learning. This new approach is brought out in the new regulations.

It may be said that in the past schools were more or less static, that is, pupils had fixed places in a definite room and the architect's problem was largely to provide rooms to accommodate a given number of desks arranged in a set pattern, only to be moved when the floors had to be scrubbed. Today the classroom tends to become a centre of activity and mobility. Fixed furniture is being replaced by light movable furniture, which can be easily moved to provide different grouping and arrangements, or stacked on one side to leave the floor area clear.

The new regulations revert to the principle followed in the central hall type of school where classrooms of varying sizes were provided. This policy after the 1914-18 war created much difficulty when school accommodation, as today, was inadequate to meet urgent needs and lead to the general practice of all classrooms having the same capacity. The classroom still remains the hub of the pupils' education, and it is from this centre the pupils' activities radiate, but the increasing

use of other rooms and facilities brings the matter of circulation not only by the pupils moving from place to place but also the staff and those in charge.

There has been an increasing tendency for schools to sprawl more and more. This sprawl has been justified on the grounds that "as walking is good exercise this does not matter". A better defence is that it gives a sense of space and freedom, a very desirable quality in any school building.

Today, compared with the past, the pressure of economy on expenditure may be said to have almost ceased to exercise any control, but the last two years have shown us that even if we have unlimited funds to spend this can produce another obstacle, the lack of sufficient labour and materials to meet our demands. The vast demands on the Building Industry envisaged today in every branch of the social services apart from the enormous arrears of normal requirements should be squarely faced.

This tendency to sprawl more and more means that, whereas in a school of the central hall type there are practically no corridors or unproductive areas, and in the average quadrangular school working space to corridors is in the neighbourhood of 2 to 1; in the type of plans now becoming fashionable these figures are revised, being as much as 1 to 2 or even more. This means there is obviously a large amount of building which is in effect unproductive, and I feel we should consider if we can reduce this.

Those who have seen the newer schools round Paris before the war must have been impressed by the sense of space they suggest, although actually they are relatively compact. This sense of space is largely achieved by the skill of the architect, and I would suggest the proper architectural approach is to secure these pleasing conditions by good aesthetic planning and design, as these French architects have done.

BUILDING REGULATIONS 1944

The Ministry of Education's "Draft Building Regulations 1944", and "The Regulations Prescribing Standards for School Premises 1944", lay down in very full detail the requirements that will have to be met in all the various types of new schools that will be erected.

The greater variety of this accommodation and the varying sizes of classrooms add to the difficulties of planning new school buildings, and these difficulties are increased by the adoption of the various functional requirements, which are now being laid down in the Codes of Practice prepared under the authority of the

Codes of Practice Committee. The Codes of Functional Requirements of Buildings, to which reference will be necessary, cover Daylight, Sunlight, Ventilation, Space and Circulation, Noise, Fire, Weather Precautions, Services, Water Supply, etc., Heating and Heat Insulation, Corrosion, Dirt and Vermin, Acoustics, and these codes will have to be followed where applicable.

It is not possible to deal with all the new requirements in detail. In the new regulations school meals now become an essential feature of all schools whatever their size. Gymnasium and changing facilities become of more importance. But the assembly hall, the importance of which for dramatic and other purposes has been increasing and the importance of which for outside purposes—until the building situation eases—are very extensive, appears to receive no special consideration that one might expect. The planning of schools will, however, be dominated even more in the future by the so-called functional requirements, and I propose to deal with the more important of these.

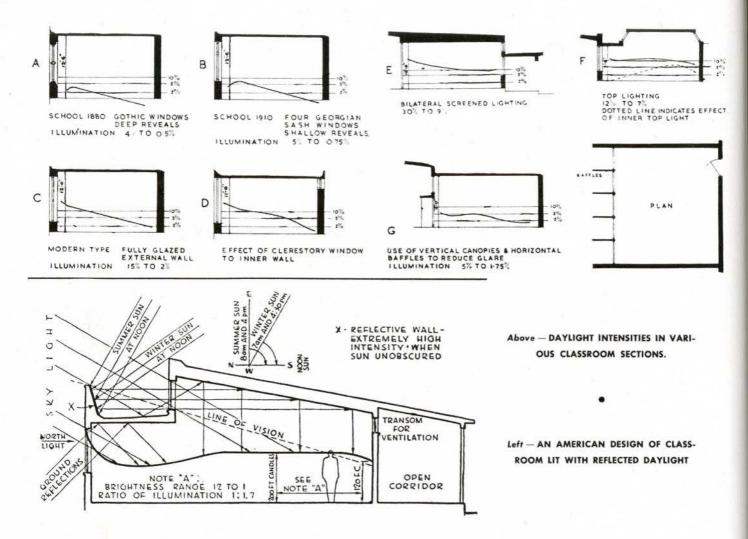
DAYLIGHTING

The factor which affects lighting and seeing is not only the amount of illumination but the quality of lighting, whether natural or artificial. The important effects in seeing conditions, both psychological and physiological are glare, diffusion and direction, composition and distribution.

The first practical approach to lighting of classrooms was the introduction of left-hand lighting. The investigation by the N.I. of I.P. carried out in 1931 dealt largely with the influence of lighting conditions on the pupil's work. These investigations showed the rapid diminution of daylight the farther the pupil is seated from the window, and that the quantity of light affected the quality of work.

Daylighting in buildings, and particularly schools, has as a result now received considerable attention, and the Post-War Building Studies, "The Lighting of Buildings", deals extensively with this problem in relation to schools. It had been generally accepted that the tolerable daylight factor in offices was 0.2 per cent. In 1929 Sir Felix Clay had claimed that 1 per cent. was the minimum necessary in schools, which corresponded to a daylight factor of 0.5 per cent., a figure recommended by Mr. Waldram in 1913. The Board of Education in their regulations of 1936 recognized this standard and laid down this figure as a minimum.

The N.I. of I.P. as a result of their investigations in 1931 considered that a daylight factor of 2 per cent. was desirable, and 1 per cent. the lowest permissible figure. The Lighting Committee of the Building



Research Board, however, advocate 5 per cent. as a minimum, and this figure has been recommended as the standard to be aimed at in the Ministry of Education's new Building Regulations with the higher figure of 10 per cent. where rooms are used for drawing, sewing, etc., and at the same time recommends maximum values should not exceed minimum values by more than 1 to 2, but still allow a minimum of 2 per cent. In modern schools with a large expanse of glass on one side, the daylight factor will vary from 15 per cent. down to 2 per cent.

Thus a very difficult problem has been set if the new standard is to be reached, and the only solution at present appears to be some form of top lighting. This very high standard of lighting intensifies the conditions that larger windows have already created, the problem of glare, which it is recognized is not only unpleasant but is also harmful. The Lighting Committee would therefore like more control to regulate daylighting, but any system which is dependent on the teacher cannot be really regarded as satisfactory.

The Post-War Building Studies No. 12 give a number of examples of the amount of light in different types of classrooms. For example in a school of 1850, with Gothic windows, illumination varies from 4.0 per cent. to 0.5 per cent. near the farther wall. It is commented that the lighting could be quite pleasant, the deep splayed reveals reducing glare.

In a school of 1910 with four Georgian sash windows, lighting is slightly better—5 per cent. to 0.75 per cent.

The modern classrooms with one fully glazed external wall lighting varies from 15 per cent. to 2 per cent.

A clerestory window in the inner wall improves conditions for all except those in the worst position next the inner wall.

The best distribution of light is obtained where, in effect, normal vertical lighting is replaced by horizontal lighting. A classroom is also shown which employs a number of vertical baffles and horizontal hoods, and comment is made that the distribution of light is very even and the baffles and hoods would eliminate glare, so that whilst standards of intensity are lower than desirable, I suggest good conditions may compensate for this. I, personally, am not aware of any conclusive evidence that can be said to show this very high standard of lighting is essential to protect the eyesight,

and there are, of course, experts who definitely disagree with its necessity. It may yet prove this excessive zeal for light may have to be modified as have other ideas which have dominated school design from time to time.

Top lighting has many drawbacks, it calls for more elaborate construction and more or less restricts building to one storey; it creates heating problems, provides a maintenance problem both to keep the glass clean and for repairs. Top lighting in schools is not a new idea, and was at one time definitely objected to by the Board of Education. I, personally, have always found top lighting to have a peculiarly depressing effect, but this may be a purely personal reaction. In view of all the complications that arise both in planning and designing a school to provide top lighting, I feel more evidence on this subject is called for. One feels here is essentially a problem to be investigated fully, and that more schools on experimental lines should be built and tested. It may be that bi-lateral lighting is a better overall solution, or that the more free-shaped classrooms popular in U.S. may give a better and cheaper solution.

This daylighting problem has been tackled in the U.S.A. In one design use is made of glass bricks, to diffuse sunlight, whilst low glazed windows still allow the pupils to see outside. This idea is now being developed by using special glass bricks that direct the light to the ceiling, which then acts as a reflector to give even distributed light. Then in a California School a new approach is given; the principle is that the classroom faces north, and sunlight is reflected through a high window into the classroom. It should be noted the pupils sit with their backs to the source of light.

VENTILATION

The number of air changes in each room has now become a "Statutory Rule and Order" under "The Regulations Prescribing Standards for School Premises" and varies from six air changes per hour in classrooms to two air changes per hour in staff rooms, but we are not told how this is to be achieved.

If ventilation was the only problem to be found in planning a school and designing a classroom there is no doubt the principles developed by Dr. Reid in the Staffordshire pavilion school with the low hopper on each side of the room and the open corridor provides a real solution. Mr. Widdows claimed that when this principle was applied by him to the Derbyshire Schools that 10 sq. in. of hopper per child gave ten air changes per hour with a wind blowing at four miles per hour to the face of the building.

The N.I. of I.P. have investigated the problem of ventilation in schools very thoroughly, and no doubt the new standard called for is based on their findings and recommendations. In some early investigations for the N.U.T. a certain classroom was found to have a pocket where there was never any real air movement, and by a coincidence the school authorities had noticed pupils sitting in this part of the room never seemed to do so well either in examination or other work.

There is no need to stress the importance of ventilation, we are all aware of the discomfort we all feel where ventilation is bad.

The N.I. of I.P. recommend that the main school windows should have: top sashes—pivot hung; centre sashes—side hung; bottom sashes—hopper hung; and with a window into the corridor they consider air movement and air change can be satisfactorily controlled. The difficulty, of course, is that the operation of this ventilation falls on the teachers, and where he or she does not like fresh air the system cannot achieve its object.

The N.I. of I.P. appears to be satisfied that with high opening windows directly opposite the main windows, satisfactory air movement will be achieved, but point out that in corner rooms it is not enough to ventilate only from the two adjoining outside walls.

I would still like more evidence that the high level window does make the necessary air movement where it is required; that is, at the children's level, as it seems to me the clerestory window is only a partial improvement on the old-fashioned ceiling ventilators. Of course in theory perfect control could be obtained by mechanical methods, but there is ample experience in the past to realize the superiority of natural ventilation. Natural ventilation reduces the risks of epidemics and respiratory diseases and acts as a stimulus and reduces mental fatigue. Mechanical ventilation tends to slow working output, tends to cause mental fatigue and restlessness; but perhaps the most valuable contribution of natural ventilation is that it teaches children the need to open windows.

ACOUSTICS

I think we should give full credit to Denis Clark Hall for having first focussed attention on the importance of acoustics and sound insulation in relation to school planning. But whilst I personally do not consider this arrangement of classrooms in his interesting design for the News Chronicle School are in fact better arranged as regards sound than the orthodox side by side rooms, he has brought out a point which has perhaps not been fully considered in the past, the relationship between noisy rooms and quiet areas.

I have found the one point on which all teachers seem to agree and have in common is the desire for quiet conditions in which to work and freedom from external noise interference. There are three different problems to be met: (1) The acoustic treatment of the rooms themselves; (2) soundproof construction; (3) planning of rooms in relation to each other.

It is now, of course, generally accepted that the assembly hall should be properly treated to provide suitable acoustic conditions. I am satisfied that proper acoustic treatment inside the classroom can definitely provide less tiring conditions both for the pupils and the teachers. We have all experienced the strain of trying to talk or listen against an excessive background of noise—both internal and external, and a lack of good conditions in this matter prevents children from concentrating and they become restless and fidgetty.

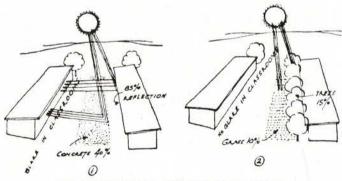
Corridors call for special consideration as they can be excellent conveyors and collectors of sound, and in this respect, of course, the open corridor at one time so popular provided an excellent solution.

It is now possible, of course, to calculate the exact noise level caused by external noises entering an enclosed space, and sound entering by open windows, doors, cracks, heating pipes and vibration of the structure itself particularly in steel-framed building with wall, floor and ceiling panels. The degree of quietness to be aimed at is that noise in a classroom should not exceed 35 decibles, in an assembly hall 30 decibles, and in other rooms up to 60 decibles.

Providing suitable conditions react on our planning and construction, and calls for our enclosing space into what might be described as "Noise Zones". It is well to remember that trees, shrubs and grass all absorb sound and are useful as sound breaks and can assist as a screen between noisy play areas and classroom units.

FLEXIBLE PLANNING

I would like to make it quite clear that in anything I may say with reference to flexible structure I am not



THE EFFECT OF YARD SURFACES AND PLANTING ON GLARE IN CLASSROOMS.

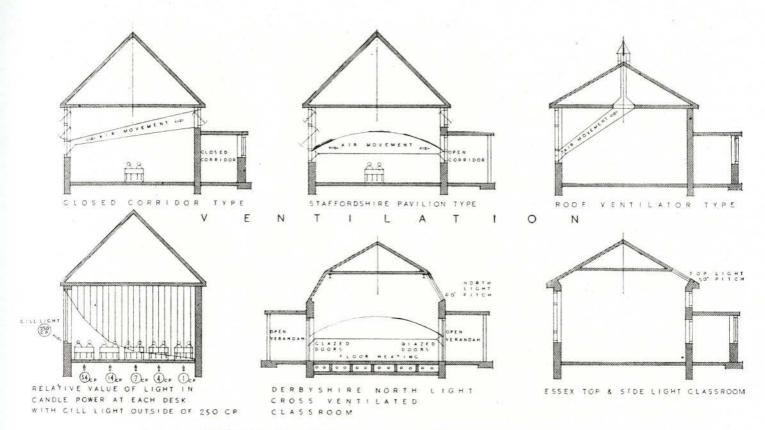
condemning the present popular idea of so-called "flexible schools", but I do want to suggest that we should keep a sense of proportion in considering this new idea. Those of us who were active after the first great world war will remember how when the cost of building rose to what we then considered to be fantastic heights, we experimented with prefabrication and various types of alternative construction which were described as temporary or semi-permanent, and then suddenly realized that what in fact we were doing was to spend more money with much less satisfactory results than we should have done with more orthodox construction; we forgot that new materials should be our servant and not our master.

It was Winston Churchill who expressed the opinion that "We shape our buildings and then our buildings shape us". As an architect, I like to think this is a sound observation, and I believe the buildings in which successive generations are educated can play an important part in their education and development. I have frequently noticed that where teachers are working in a temporary school how remarkable is the urge to have such buildings replaced by a permanent substantial structure, and I believe a school building should not only provide beauty and pleasing surroundings, but it is important it should give that sense of stability and security which is vital for the full development of the child. I sometimes think today we forget we belong to an ancient profession; a profession whose most lasting contribution to civilization is architecture.

I have already referred to the three basic requirements which have to be faced in the designing of a school, and whatever our final solution of each building, it will be a compromise and we should be prepared to sacrifice some so-called efficiency, which by our skill should be more than compensated for by the pleasure our building should give. The basis of the architect's contribution should be to temper efficiency with beauty. If material super-efficiency is all that is required we should not waste our time with aesthetics but concentrate all our energies on science and engineering.

It sounds attractive to design a building so that it can easily be altered to meet future needs, but would any of the earlier types of schools I have referred to really lend themselves to this even if built of some light materials? It is possible that in most cases it would be often a better economic procedure to face up to demolition of a building which no longer serves its purpose. So let us be careful how much of our special contribution to the community which it is our privilege to give is sacrificed for an idea which may not be satisfactory in actual practice.

There was once a proverb: "The bad workman blames his tools". Today, of course, this proverb reads: "Give us new and better tools and then we will give you the



VENTILATION AND DAYLIGHTING IN SOME OLDER CLASSROOM SECTIONS

goods". But how many of us really believe that to replace Oxford and Cambridge with a complete set of new and up-to-date buildings would prove to be a real educational advantage? Is the idea that we should build our structures so that they will only last a few years really quite so rational as it sounds where education is concerned? Should there not be at least some permanent nucleus around which a school may develop?

We should weigh very carefully in the balance prefabrication and structures whose only justification is that they may be flexible enough to meet the unknown needs of the future, but equally we certainly should not condemn the idea; it must have its place and purpose, and it is for us as architects to find the true solution.

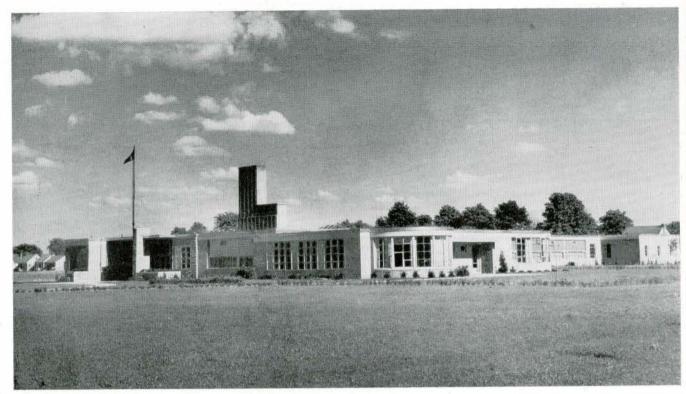
CONCLUSION

After I had written this paper and I was reading it through, I came to the conclusion it had probably got the wrong title, it should have been "A Cautionary Guide to those about to build a School". But today the school architect is facing opportunities and a scope we could hardly have dared to hope for, and when I look back over the past and remember how often the last word in school design has been reached I am a little alarmed at all the committees, all the reports and Codes of Practice which are now providing the readymade solutions to all our problems, lest they are going to stifle all real progress and destroy that initiative which has been perhaps more marked in school design

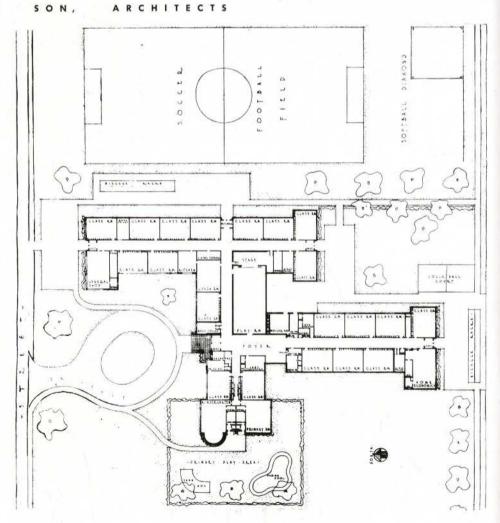
than in any other type of building. There is still so much to be achieved before we find a complete and balanced solution to all the factors involved.

In spite of the admirable desire today that there should be equality of opportunity for everyone, I personally hope this is not to be interpreted that everything is to be standardized. I have a firm belief that every school building should if possible have its own individuality, its own special aesthetic appeal, and if the object of modern education is to develop the individuality of the pupil, should not the architect also give his building individuality?

This does not mean every school should be a different style, but those of us who have tried to add interest in the layout of the temporary prefabricated bungalows know that however well that layout appears on paper, the repetition of the standard building seems to rise superior to all our efforts, and the result still seems to be just a collection of huts, and this is interesting because Dublin, where we are holding this Conference, largely owes its charm and character to repetition-its streets of simple Georgian houses and terraces. Individually these houses are very plain, almost austere and grim, but grouped in masses it gives this city a vitality and charm that makes it a city every architect should visit. Why is it that these Dublin houses give us so much pleasure in contrast to the dull result the repetition of standard units produce? If Dublin can help us to solve this problem, our Conference here will have been more than justified.

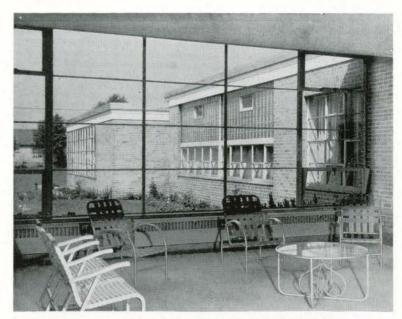


HANNA MEMORIAL PUBLIC SCHOOL, SARNIA, ONTARIO



Photographs by Rolf Sherick Studio

Journal, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, October, 1947



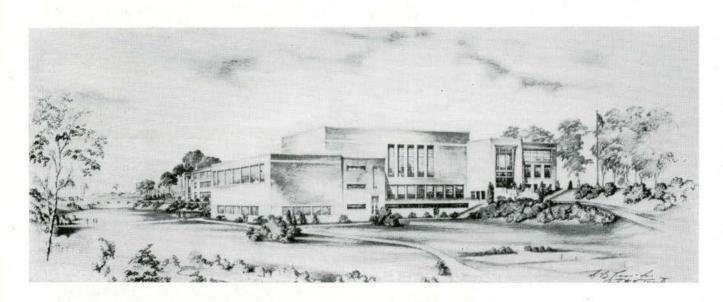
FOYER



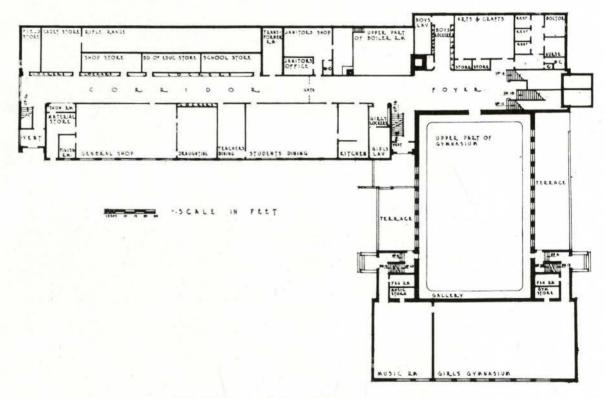
FOYER AND CORRIDOR



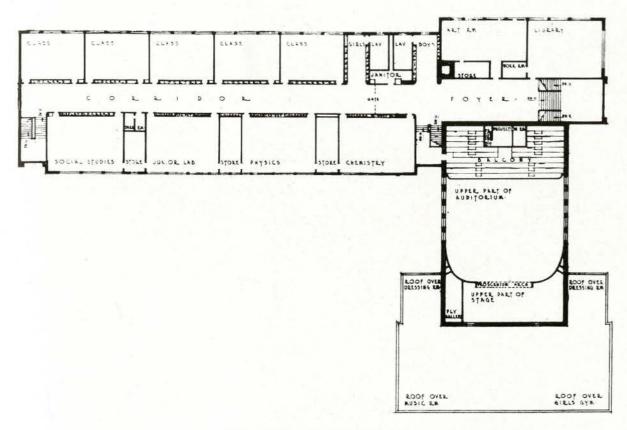
CHILDREN'S SOUTH ENTRANCE



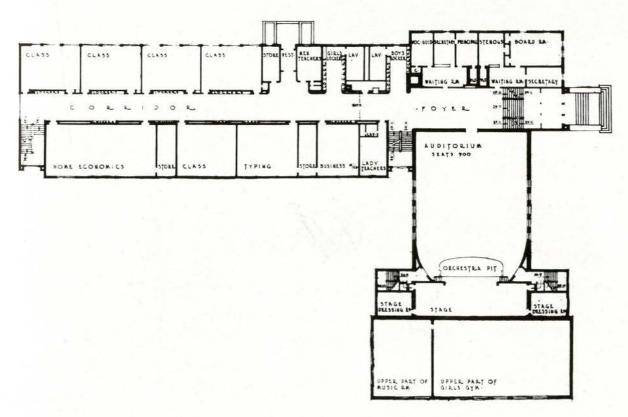
PERSPECTIVE VIEW FROM SOUTH-EAST



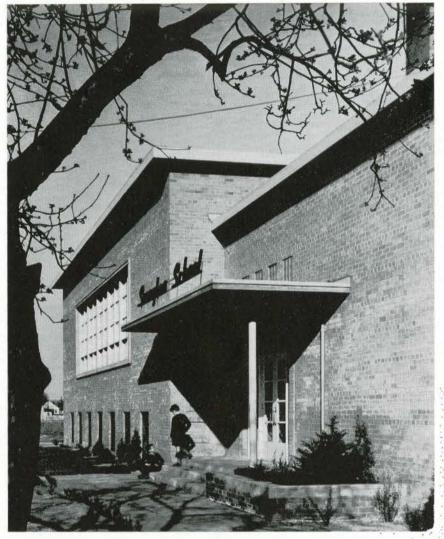
GROUND FLOOR PLAN



SECOND FLOOR PLAN



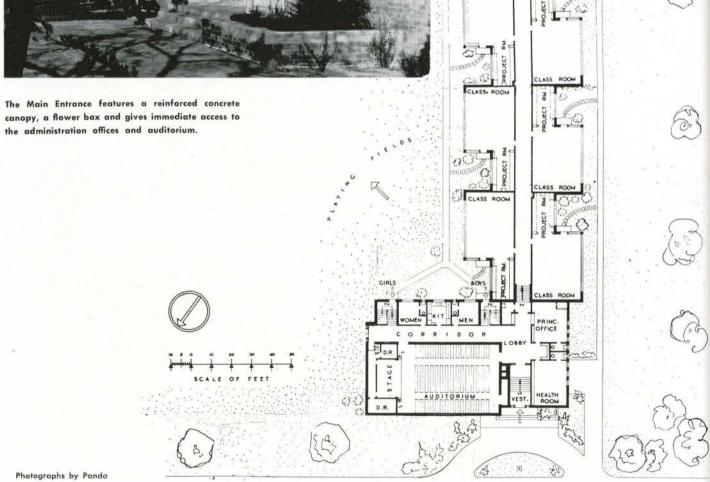
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

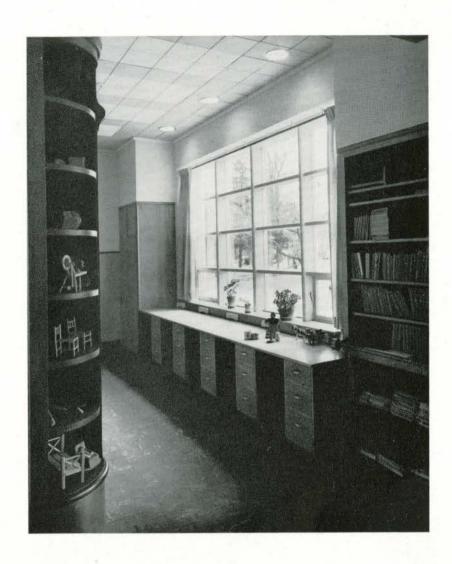


SUNNYLEA SCHOOL, TORONTO, ONTARIO

IOHN B. PARKIN, ARCHITECT

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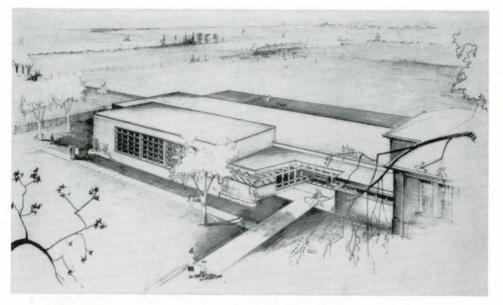




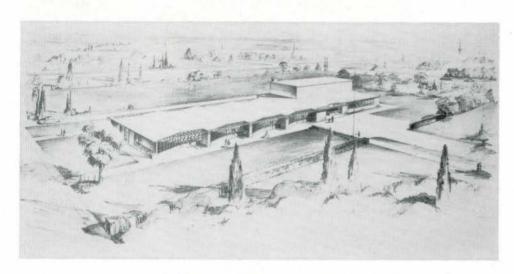
View of Project Room showing work benches, ample storage space and a low counter height placed directly below this large glass area which gives the children of Sunnylea School a pleasant atmosphere for their creative activities.



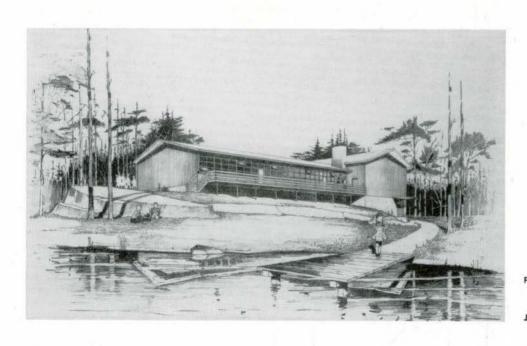
Auditorium — door in left background gives access to main lobby thus facilitating the auditorium's use as a community centre. The door in centre background gives access to the ample storage room where the stack type chairs are placed when not in use.



NORTH OSHAWA PUBLIC SCHOOL NORTH OSHAWA, ONTARIO JOHN B. PARKIN, ARCHITECT



WHITBY PUBLIC SCHOOL WHITBY, ONTARIO JOHN B. PARKIN, ARCHITECT



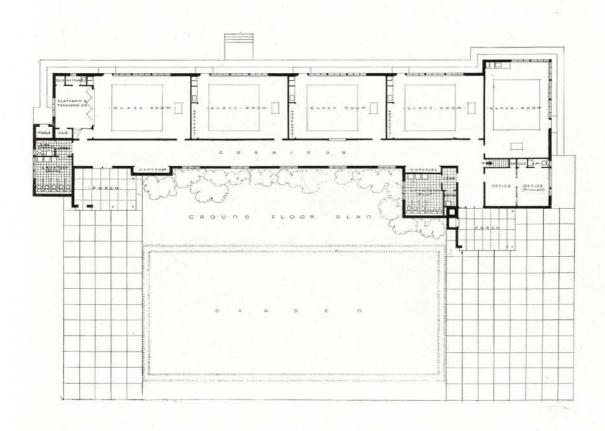
POINTE AU BARIL PUBLIC SCHOOL
POINTE AU BARIL, ONTARIO
JOHN B. PARKIN, ARCHITECT



Photographs by Photographic Arts

CENTENNIAL ROAD SCHOOL, SCARBOROUGH, ONTARIO

MURRAY BROWN AND ELTON, ARCHITECTS





ELEVATION TO CENTENNIAL ROAD

NORTH PORCH





TYPICAL CLASSROOM

VIEW OF AUDITORIUM CLASSROOM VIEWED FROM COMBINED PLATFORM AND TEACHER'S ROOM



A FLEXIBLE PLAN FOR RURAL SCHOOLS

By R. A. D. BERWICK

British Columbia with its vast area suffers from all the headaches of mcving population. In many cases basic logging and mining industries require the establishment of schools that are abandoned after a few years.

In centres where large industries have been established permanently the population has grown from year to year. The demands far exceed the established facilities, and schools have not kept up with the requirements. To add to this, the release of service men from the armed forces has resulted in new residential areas, mushrooming up, generally throughout the province. This problem now has reached an emergency stage.

The present emergency may be divided into two parts: 1. Lack of basic accommodation. 2. General lack of special services required to carry out a complete educational programme.

The problems mentioned in item (2) mainly apply to Junior High and High School educational requirements. Many contemporary well-engineered schools are being planned, but shelved until costs become stabilised, and materials are available. These schools are being planned complete with vocational and industrial facilities, adequate lighting, new type flexible class-rooms, facilities for visual training, etc., far in advance of anything at present established in British Columbia. It is hoped that within three to five years the Province will be well advanced in educational standards and facilities generally.

The real emergency seems to be confined to item (1).

In the writer's estimation present conditions reflect the results of poor planning, lack of new construction over the last ten years, and a complete lack of foresight. In some schools visited, conditions are intolerable—loose floorboards, raw wood without paint, oiled floors saturated with dirt, and many schools up to four rooms are without inside lavatory accommodation. Certainly there is no encouragement for children in this atmosphere.

It is fortunate indeed that the Department of Education is now encouraging good design of small schools in rural areas.

The schools as built in the past, on the square plan, have almost defeated any attempt at addition. One of the most noticeable faults is that the basements are seven feet out of the ground, and usually twelve steps are required to reach the entrance door.

An interesting experiment is now under way at Langley, British Columbia. It has been decided by the Board of Trustees that rather than add one or two rooms to an outdated building, the proper solution is to start with new one or two room flexible schools on the existing sites, and expand from these new units, eventually eliminating the old schools. The principle established is that any small school now built should be capable of expansion at any point. Walls should be removable and no part of the plan should be permanent except the heating plant and lavatories.

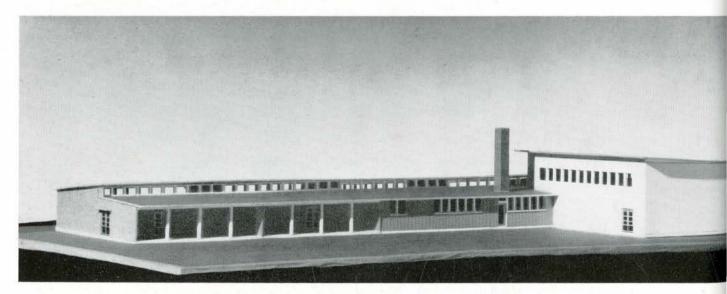
As an example a two-room school will comprise: 1. Large, open class-rooms, well designed, using clerestory lighting. 2. Project areas with sink. 3. Well lit cloak areas that can be used as a small stage, for rural community use. 7. Other basic facilities.

In order to have flexible buildings certain outworn regulations have been relaxed by the Department. When services and structure are properly engineered many of the existing regulations can be withdrawn.

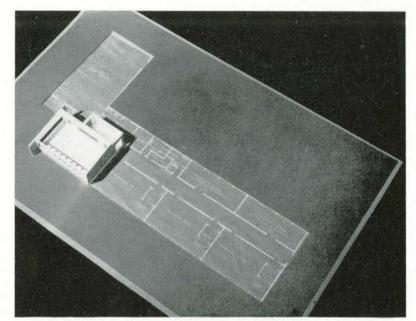
There is no doubt that the conditions at Langley are only typical of many school districts throughout Canada. Schools lend themselves to contemporary design, probably more than any other type of structure. Many of us can remember vividly the dull class-rooms where we struggled through our grades and we will all admit that facilities were generally at a low standard. Many pages could be written on their bad lighting, dull rooms and lack of proper ventilation.

Other school districts are studying the example set at Langley, and the Langley School Board deserves credit for its clear thinking on this problem.

TYPICAL ELEMENTARY EXPANDIBLE RURAL SCHOOL, LANGLEY, BRITISH COLUMBIA
SHARP AND THOMPSON, BERWICK, PRATT, ARCHITECTS

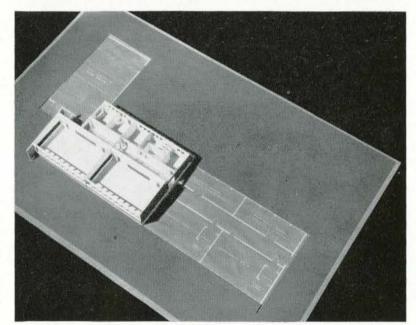


ELEVATION 3. Final four-room unit, from rear, showing covered play areas and clerestory lighting.



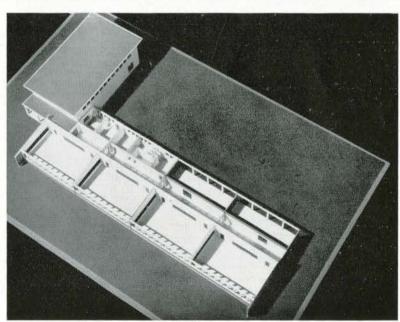
PLAN 1

Temporary Basic One-Room Unit Showing Planned Expansion



PLAN 2

Basic Two-Room Unit Showing Planned Expansion. This basic two-room unit can be erected probably as fast as temporary accommodation and be decidely more desirable. Additional accommodation may be added from time to time as the community grows, on a planned basis. It would be feasible to consider that a school planned in this manner is never finished. The success of the project depends, of course, on the proper engineering of the basic services for future expansion.



PLAN 3

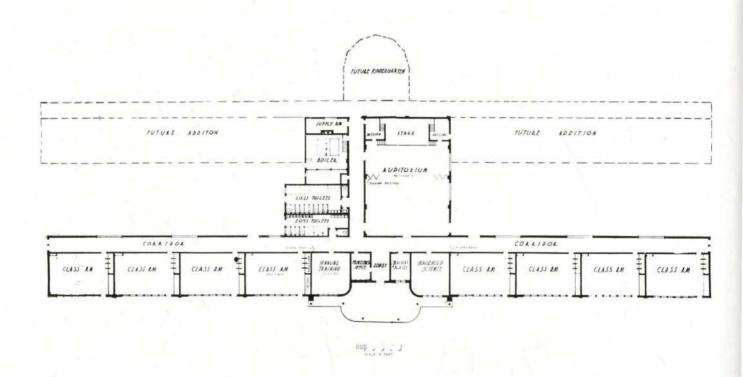
Final Four-Room Unit with Play Room.



Photographs by John Morris

GLENWOOD SCHOOL, NELSON TOWNSHIP, ONTARIO

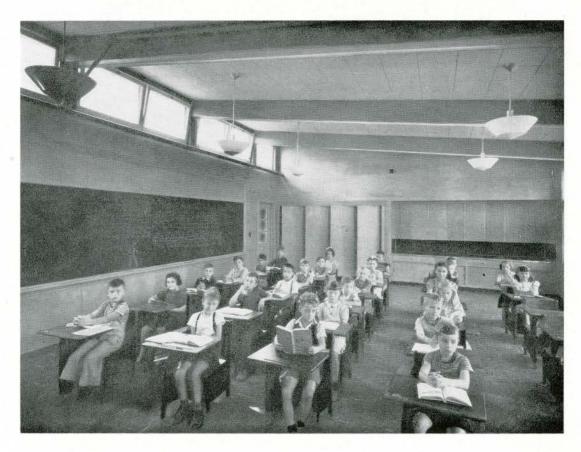
MURTON AND EVANS, ARCHITECTS

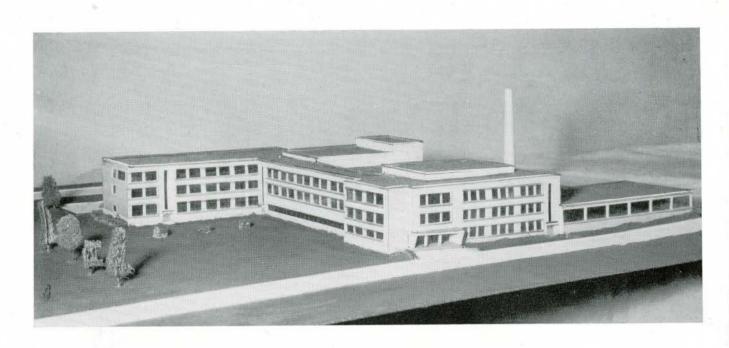




CLASSROOM USED AS KINDERGARTEN

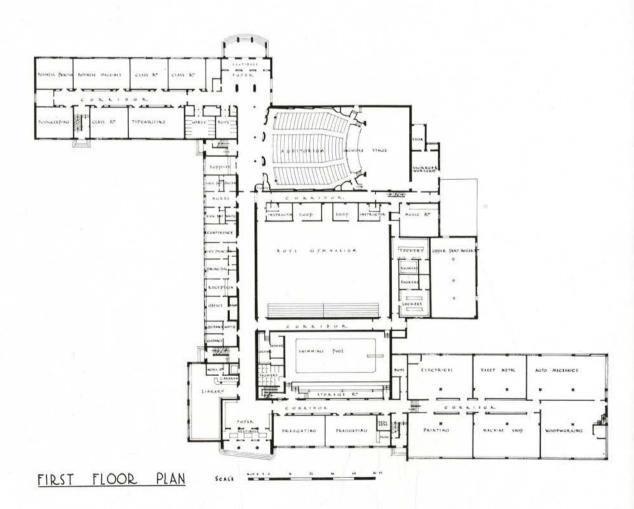
VIEW OF CLASSROOM SHOWING CLERESTORY WINDOWS

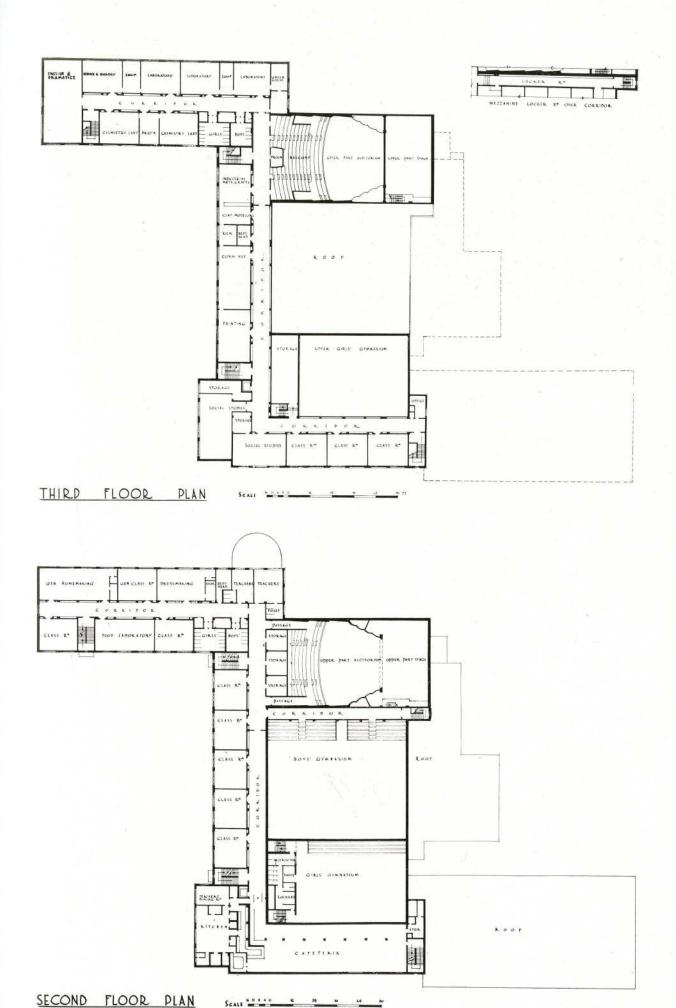


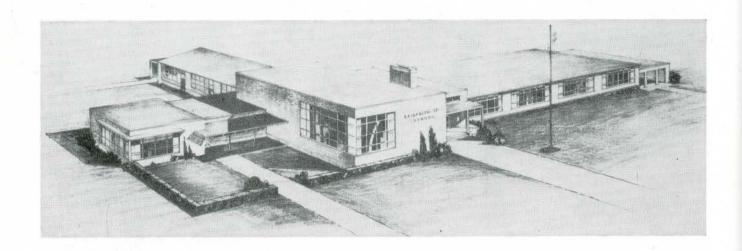


FISHER PARK SECONDARY SCHOOL, OTTAWA, ONTARIO

I. A. EWART AND A. J. HAZELGROVE, ARCHITECTS

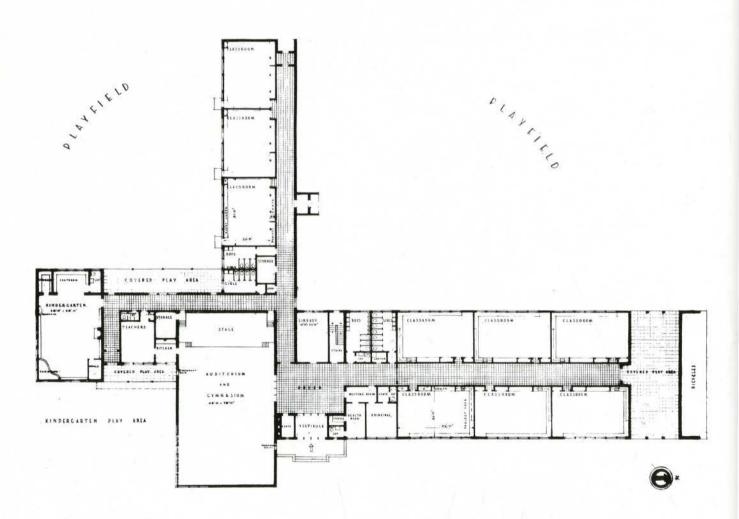






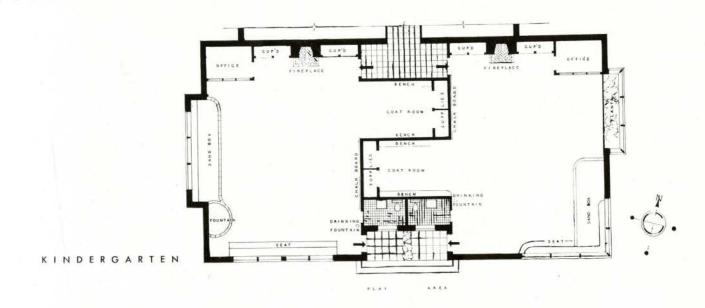
SAULT STE. MARIE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, SAULT STE. MARIE, ONTARIO

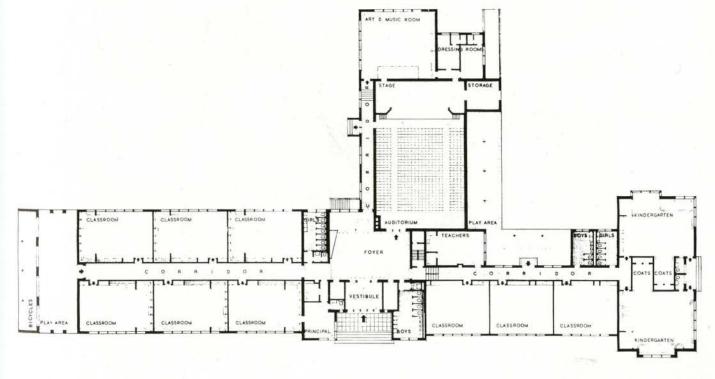
PAGE AND STEELE, ARCHITECTS

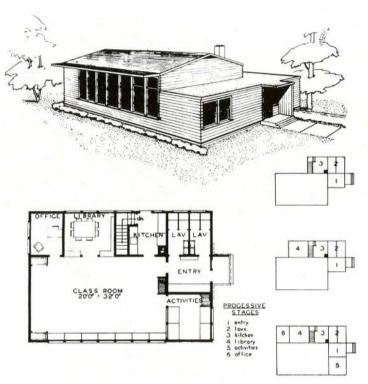




GALT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL, GALT, ONTARIO

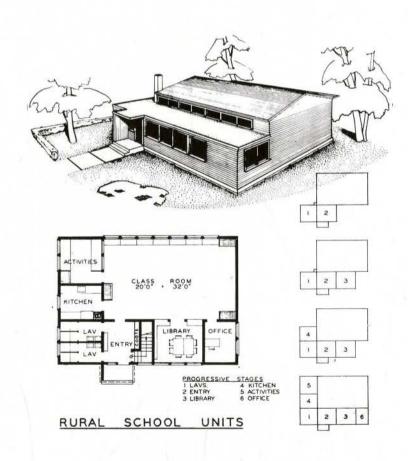


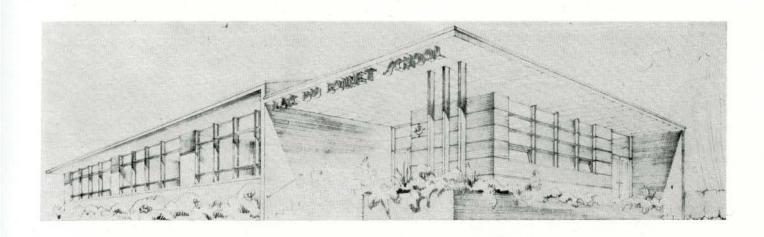




DESIGNED BY KELVIN C. STANLEY, ARCHITECT FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PROVINCE OF SASKATCHEWAN

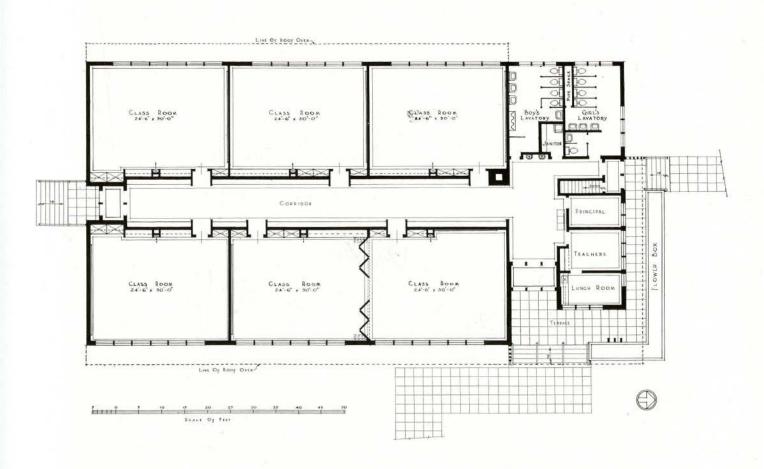
RURAL SCHOOL UNITS

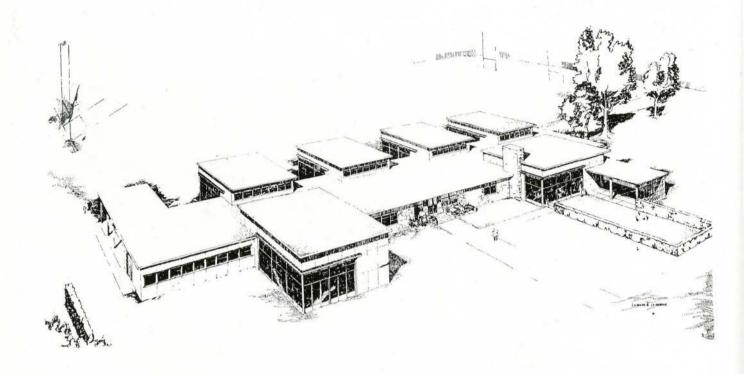




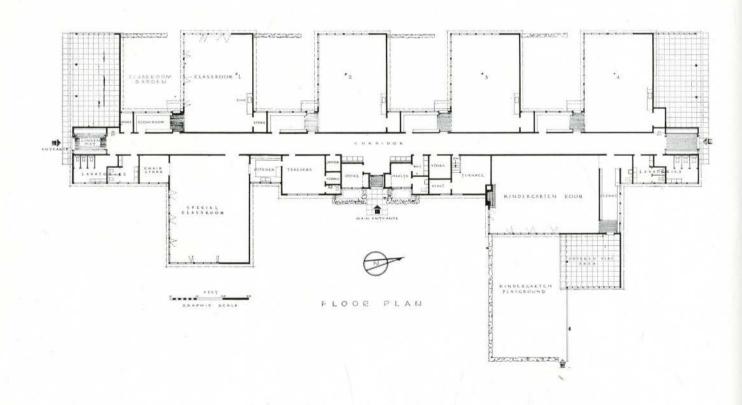
PERSPECTIVE VIEW, LAC DU BONNET SCHOOL, LAC DU BONNET, MANITOBA

MOODY AND MOORE, ARCHITECTS





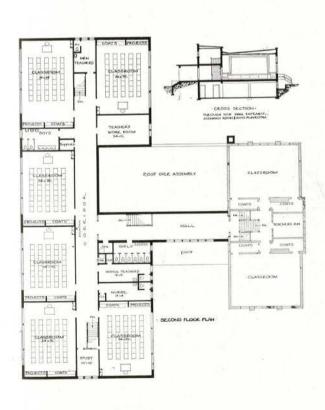
PROPOSED PRIMARY SCHOOL, MACDONALD PARK, VICTORIA, BRITISH COLUMBIA BIRLEY, WADE AND STOCKDILL, ARCHITECTS

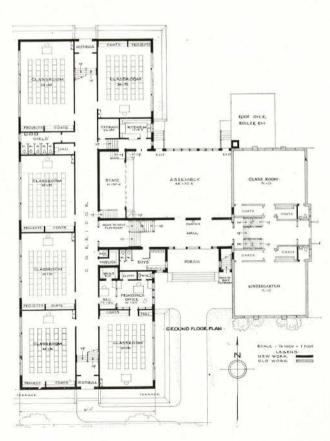


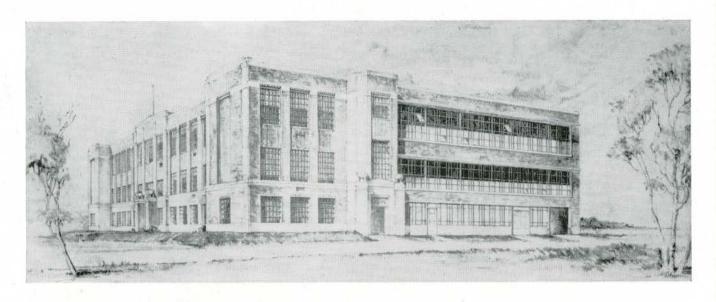


ADDITION TO PUBLIC SCHOOL, NEW LISKEARD, ONTARIO

BRUCE BROWN AND BRISLEY, ARCHITECTS



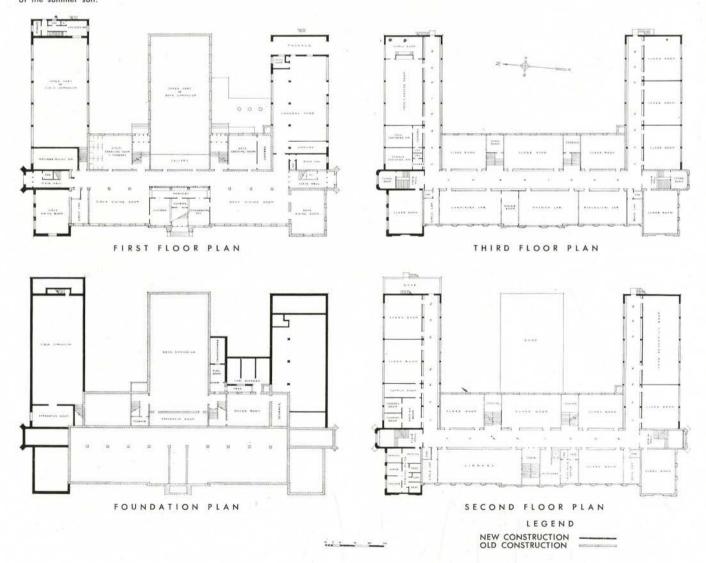


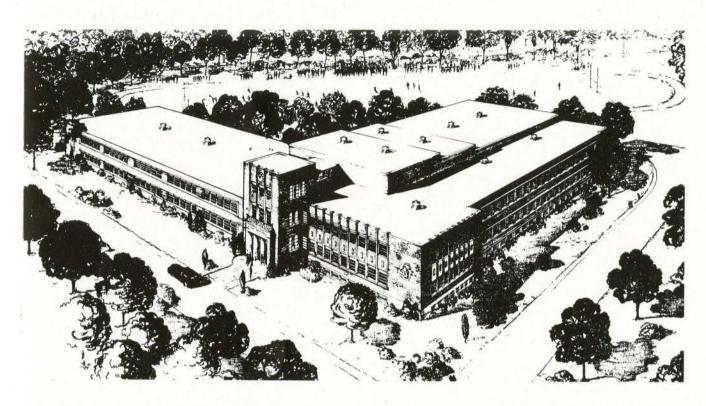


ADDITION TO EARL HAIG COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE, WILLOWDALE, ONTARIO

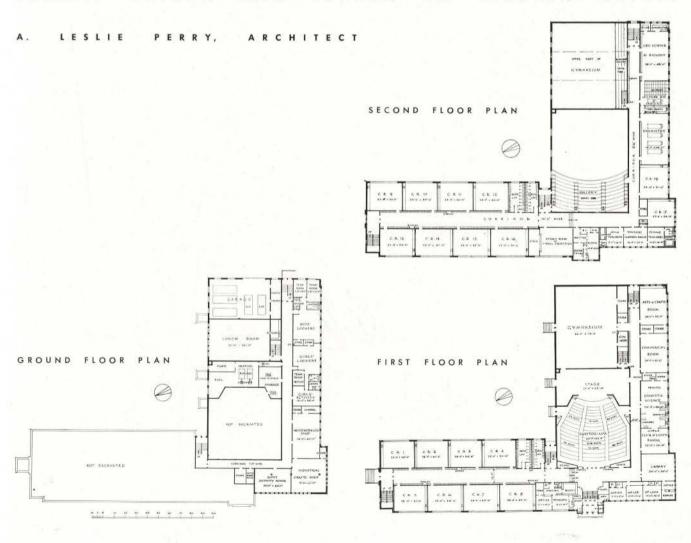
The drawing shows an added southerly wing and the projection of the northerly wing, which is also part of the additions to the school designed by Craig and Madill a number of years ago. The facade of the building is being completed in the same formal style as the existing building but the new wings projecting to the east show a departure in style in order to provide more adequate light. In the case of the southerly wing, solar screens have been adopted to protect the classrooms on the second and third floors from the direct rays of the summer sun.

CRAIG AND MADILL, ARCHITECTS





CHAMBLY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL, ST. LAMBERT, QUEBEC



THE MATHEMATICAL BASIS IN GREEK DESIGN

BY BRYANT FRYER

THE late Jay Hambidge, in his work on "Dynamic Symmetry" showed that some order and method existed in Greek design, and showed a construction that established a general series of proportion.

Dynamic symmetry, however, did not adequately explain the operation of the method used by the Greeks to obtain the moving curves, which are the real foundation of the greatness of Greek design.

Because a knowledge of such a method, if it existed, and could be described, would contribute to the solution of problems of modern design, and to the understanding of the matter of design in general, an examination of Greek forms was begun by this writer.

It was not long before it was apparent that, in all the forms examined, both architectural and ceramic, a method existed.

The Greek method of determining form and proportion and of originating curves was so arranged that almost any craftsman, without reference to his artistic abilities, inventive powers, or refinement of taste, could with the simple use of compass and straight edge produce masterly designs. It is, however, so flexible that any powers of invention have full play.

It is easy to believe that the master designers would understand the virtue and danger of such a scheme and would take very positive steps to guard its secret.

It may be interesting to note that the application of mathematics to art was not confined to Greece. There is evidence that other ancient peoples, especially the Chinese, in very early times, based their forms on geometric plan. In a reconstruction of Chinese shapes, the use of a method very much like that of the Greeks is apparent. The operation of the two methods is much the same and, in places, identical. The mathematical

c d

FIG. 1

idea underlying the Greek method was more complex and mature than that of the Chinese.

The differences between the two national forms are quite appropriate to the difference in fundamental idea. The Chinese, building on a simple balanced division of the square, obtained pure and beautiful but static forms, while those of the Greeks, based also on the square, but divided in square root proportions, were moving and dynamic.

Hambidge shows a construction in which intersections of the principal dividing lines originate a series of related proportions. These proportions can be shown to be similar to the logarithmic series. This does not suggest that the Greeks knew logarithms, but were aware of a series, indicated geometrically, much like the logarithmic series, and which presented a set of proportions of aesthetic merit.

The rectangles we discuss can be called "root-rectangles", that is, rectangles in which the short side, representing unity, is to the longer side as one is to the square root of a whole number. The number in Greek design rarely exceeding 5.

Figure 1 shows the Hambidge construction:

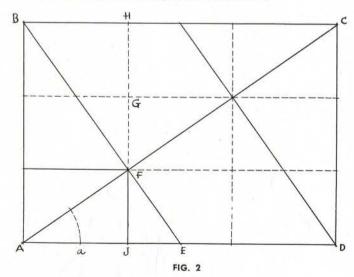
In Fig. 1:

ABCD is a rectangle in which AB = unity

 $AD = \sqrt{a}$ whole number

AC is the diagonal from A to C and BE is drawn from B perpendicular to AC and intersecting it at F ab is drawn through F perpendicular to AD cd is drawn through F parallel to AD

F is a focus within the rectangle through which, by means of ab and cd, a series of subordinate shapes, all related to the parent shape, are originated.



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Journal, Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, October, 1947

This is called by Hambidge a "grid", the use of which is said to produce a balanced design. Only root-forms may be divided symmetrically by lines originating from the intersections of diagonals, and perpendiculars to the diagonal.

In Fig. 2:

AB and CD = unity, and
$$\sin a = \frac{\text{CD}}{\text{AC}}$$
$$= \frac{1}{\text{AC}}$$

The angles ABE and CAD are equal.

$$\frac{AF}{AB} = \frac{AF}{1} = AF = \sin a$$

$$\frac{\text{FJ}}{\text{AF}} = \frac{\text{FJ}}{\sin a} = \sin a$$

FJ == sin2 a

If AD = x and x is a whole number $AC = \sqrt{x^2 + 1}$

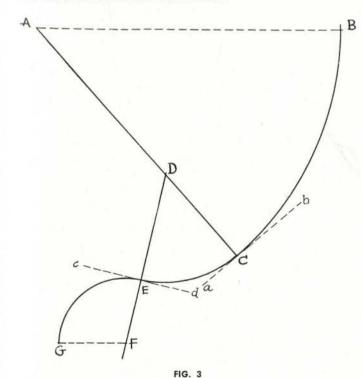
and $\sin a = \sqrt{a}$ whole number 1

sin³ a = a whole number

and the intervals FJ, GF, HG, etc., will be equal and symmetrical.

If AD (x) is not the square root of a whole number, the intervals will not be equal.

The curves in Greek design are not abstract or empiric, but are composed of arcs of circles, so related and joined that they form a continuous uninterrupted curve. The centres of these arcs are located upon intersections of the lines of the underlying construction, and their radii are intervals between intersections.



The principle of the Greek curve may be stated as follows:

"Any two arcs of different radii and in the same or opposite directions will form a continuous and uninterrupted curve if the tangents at the point of juncture are common to both." (Fig. 3)

In Fig. 3:

With centre A and radius AB draw arc BC (of any desired length)

Join AC

D is a point at any position along AC

With centre D and radius DC draw arc CE

Join D and E and produce DE to F (anywhere on DE produced at the opposite side of the curve from D) With centre F and radius FE draw the arc EG

The curve BCEG is continuous and uninterrupted and changes direction at E. ab is the tangent common to BC and CE at C: cd is the tangent at E common to the arcs CE and EG.

In figure 4 is a construction for drawing the oval which demonstrates both the principle of the joining arcs with common tangents, and the result of a discipline in the location of centres.

In Fig. 4:

ABCD is a rectangle of any proportion and which contains the oval to be drawn.

Draw the diagonals AC and BD establishing the centre at E.

Through E draw FG and HJ horizontal and vertical.

From B draw BO perpendicular to AC and produced to intersect the centre perpendicular at J.

This line intersects FG at I.

Bisect the angle BIF and produce the bisector to meet AC at K.

Join JK and produce it to meet BC.

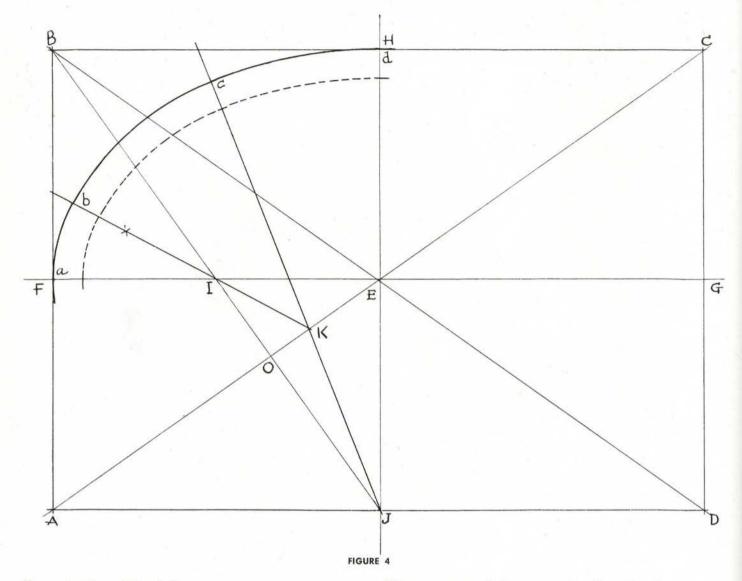
This completes the construction.

To draw the oval:

- With centre I and radius IF (F is on AB) draw the arc ab (b is on bisector IK etc.)
- With centre K and radius Kb draw the arc bc (c is on KJ etc.)
- With centre J and radius Jc draw arc cd (d is identical with H and on BC).

To complete the oval continue the construction in the other three quadrants.

Concentric ovals may be drawn using the same centres.



Reconstruction of Greek Forms

In the three examples of reconstruction of existing Greek forms given here no attempt is made to set down the reasons underlying the construction, or to explain WHY it is done as it is done. The purpose is to show that they were apparently designed in this way.

In two examples are very different shapes, and the constructions vary between the very complex, in the case of the cup, and the very simple, in the construction of the vase.

In Fig. 5:

This cup, an existing form, is typical and well known in Greek design.

Its outer proportions (in elevation) can be seen by simple measurement to be contained in a rectangle $1 \times \sqrt{10}$.

This shape can be divided into other related shapes:

The rectangle ABCD is $1 \times \sqrt{10}$ ABGH is $1 \times \sqrt{3}$ ABEF is $1 \times \sqrt{2}$ It is necessary to find a construction based on the square that will originate these shapes and divisions.

In Fig. 6:

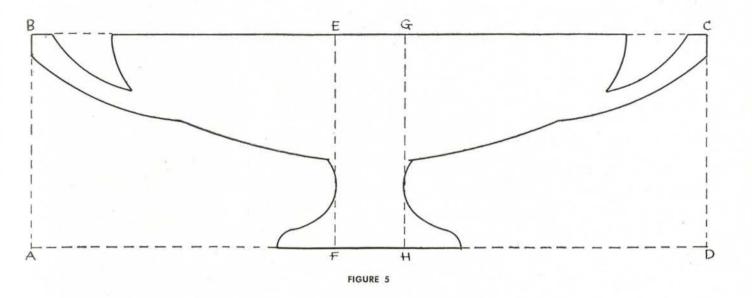
ABCD is a square and AC is one diagonal.

- With centre A and radius AB draw arc from B to D. The arc BD intersects AC at E.
- 2. Through E draw FG parallel to AD. The rectangle AFGD in which AF is unity is $1 \times \sqrt{2}$.
- Draw AG the diagonal of AFGD intersecting the arc BD at H.
- 4. Through H draw JK parallel to AD. The rectangle AJKD in which AJ is unity is $1 \times \sqrt{3}$.

To avoid confusion of line, Figure 7 is a continuation of the construction in Figure 6.

In Fig. 7:

- Draw JD the opposite diagonal in AJKD, intersecting AG at L.
- Through L draw NO parallel to AD and intersecting AK at M.
- Through L and M draw RP and SQ perpendicular to AD.



The rectangle ANOD will be found by measurement to be identical in proportion with the rectangle ABCD in figure 5, and the proportions originated by LP and MQ are also identical.

Figure 8 shows the construction with the curves completed. The process is more easily seen in figs. 8a, 8b, and 8c.

In Fig. 8a:

With centre S and radius SN draw arc ab (refer to Fig. 8).

In Fig. 8b:

Draw AR the diagonal of $\sqrt{5}$ rectangle ABRP intersecting JK at 4.

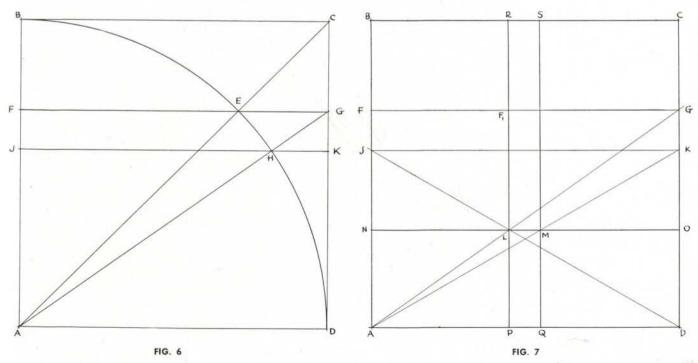
Draw FP the diagonal of AFF_1P intersecting NO at 2 and AR at 3.

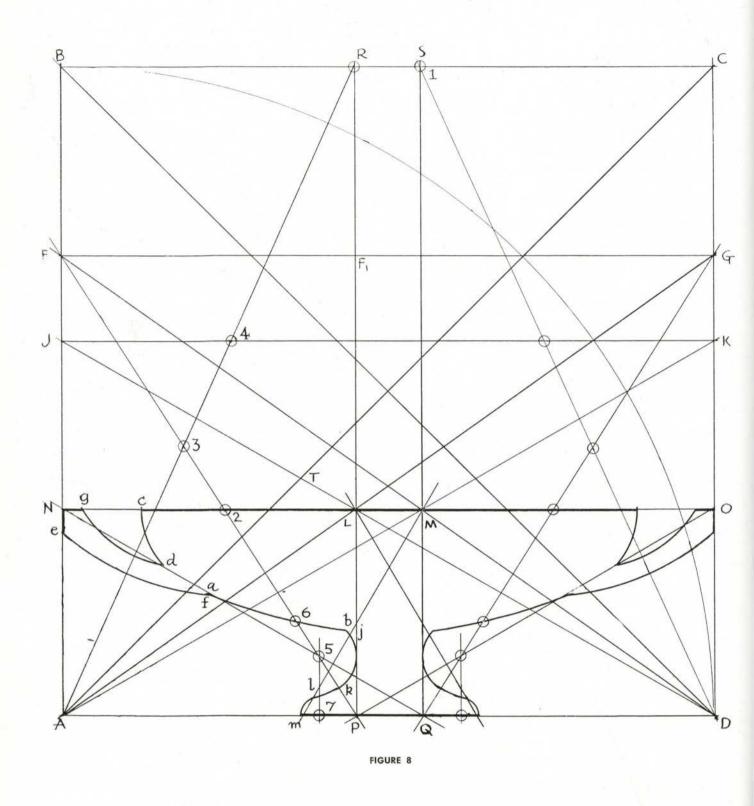
Draw diagonal AC intersecting JD at T.

With centre 2 and radius 2 to T draw arc cd

With centre 3 and radius 3 to T draw arc gd

With centre 4 and radius 4 to M draw arc ef





The centres for the curves at the base are shown in Fig. 8.

Centre 5 is on the intersection of NQ and FP.

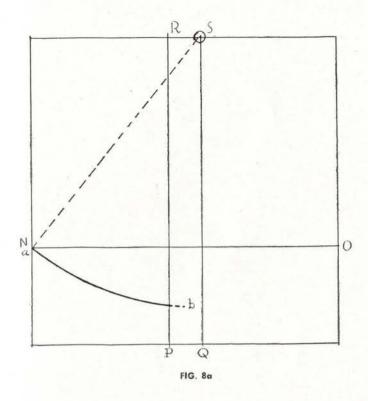
Centre 6 is on the intersection of arc ab and FP.

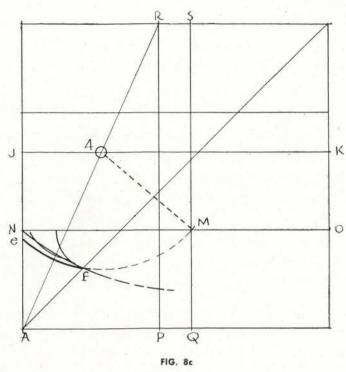
Centre 7 is on AD on a perpendicular to AD through centre 5.

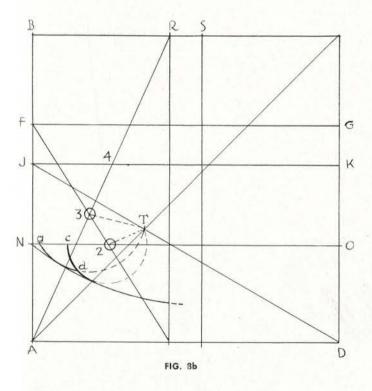
With centre 5 and radius 5 to 6 draw arc jk. With centre 6 and radius 6 to k draw arc kl.

With centre 7 and radius 7 to 1 draw arc lm.

This construction results in a characteristic Greek form and is identical with the original.







used in projection for centre 7, the curve at the base.

Figure 11 shows a reconstruction of an existing Greek cup, (F 124: Louvre) together with measurements made

from the cup itself.

has avoided the completely static form by the use of unusual centres. Note specially centre 5 figure 10. A lesser man might have chosen as centre 5 the point O or for centre 6 point H. If these centres had been used

In figure 9 the outside proportions are contained in a

rectangle 1 x 2 and the construction consists of a series of diminishing squares divided into fourths and ninths. (See figure 10.) In figure 10 the construction should not be difficult to follow. It will be noted that an extension of the square is used to obtain the centre for the arc de of long radius. Also to be noted is the construction for centre 5, one third of the side of a square, which is also

the result would have been much less lively.

Reconstruction of Vase

The reconstruction reproduces the proportions and curves accurately, with allowance for small shrinkage in firing. The design scheme based on the same division of the square as the vase in fig. 10, that is, squares divided and subdivided into fourths and ninths.

It may be noticed that this shape resembles some of the typical Chinese forms. This resemblance is not odd because the construction underlying the curves is derived from a simple division of the square closely resembling the Chinese method. The designer, however, In fig. 11 the centres of the arcs are circled with their numbers touching the circles and their arcs numbered correspondingly at each limit.

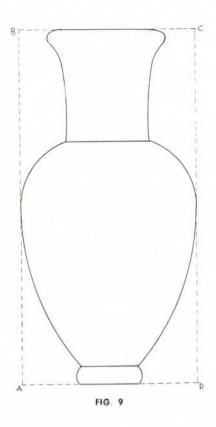
The variation of the main design theme, that is, the basic division of the square, or other parent shape, into equal parts, root shapes or combinations of both, produces much variation in the finished form.

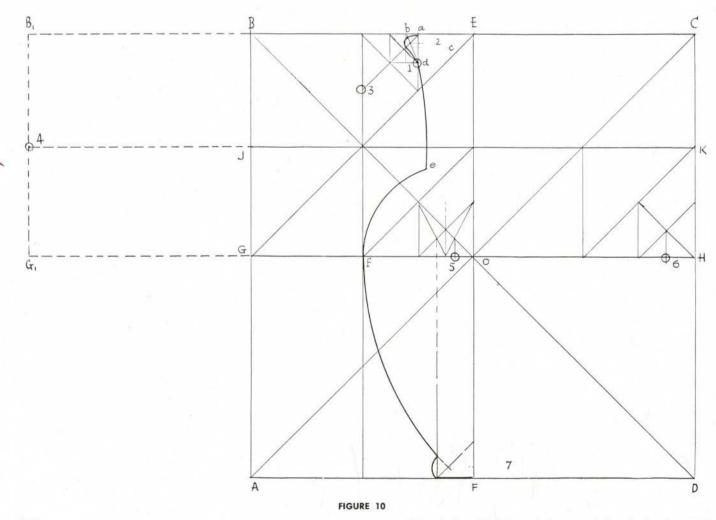
Variation in the detail of curve is obtained by transposition of centres and radii. The pattern for the disposition of centres for any basic shape does not seem to change greatly.

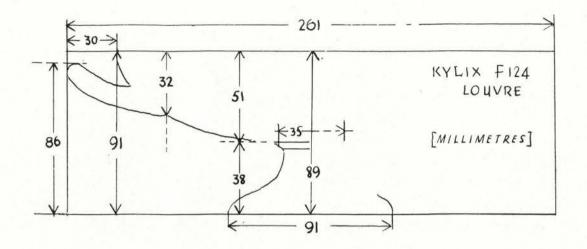
The Greek method, with its flexible curve, and with the discipline of the underlying construction applied to that flexibility, might well show the way to new and better forms in modern design.

Simplicity is a great virtue. Greek design lost something of its original purity when the Greeks became sophisticated, and their designers abandoned the simple themes for those based on more complex mathematical conceptions.

The point of the matter is, not that the Greeks did thus and so, but that their design was planned logically, or, if you will, mathematically, on a simple basic idea. It gave expression to the grandeur that can repose in a fine conception of form and proportion.







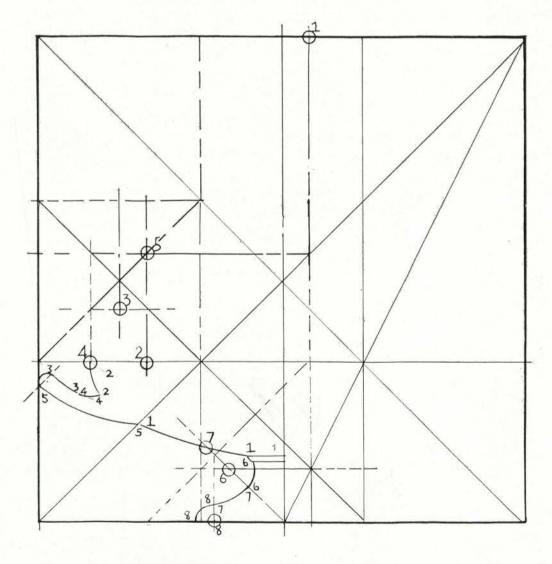


FIGURE 11



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NEWS FROM THE INSTITUTE

ANNUAL MEETING

Arrangements have now been made to hold the 1948 Annual Assembly of the Institute in Ottawa, at the Chateau Laurier, on February 23rd, 24th and 25th. Every effort is being made to prepare an interesting and varied programme for the three days of the convention, and several innovations are being introduced which should add to the success of the Meeting. One of these innovations will take concrete form in January, when every member of the Institute will receive an advance copy of the Programme, together with a printed copy of the Reports of the Standing Committees. These Reports can then be discussed at the Assembly without the necessity of a preliminary reading during the course of the meeting. Several other suggestions offered by members are being incorporated in the Programme, and it is hoped that the 1948 Annual Assembly will be an outstanding event for members across Canada.

SPECIFICATION:

The Institute has received a Specification for Mineral Wool from the Canadian Government Purchasing Standards Committee, which is reproduced below for the information of any interested members.

No. 29-GP-1-1947 Issued 29 August, 1947.

CANADIAN GOVERNMENT PURCHASING STANDARDS COMMITTEE

 $\begin{array}{c} {\rm Specification~for~MINERAL~WOOL-} \\ {\rm Insulating,~for~Buildings} \end{array}$

1. Scope:

This specification provides minimum requirements for thermal conductivity, fire resistance and apparent density of three types of mineral wool for use in the insulating of dwellings and other building structures, and also defines the forms, standard sizes and dimensional stability of these products.

2. Definition:

For the purpose of this specification mineral wool used in the manufacture of building insulation is rock, slag, or glass, processed from a molten stage into durable and permanent fibrous form.

3. Types:

This specification applies to the following types of mineral wool:

(a) Type 1, Batts — Batt insulation shall consist of mineral wool fibres fabricated in felted form with

- or without membrane facings, to approximately uniform thickness. Adhesives and bonding materials used to attach membrane facings, shall be substantially insoluble in water.
- (b) Type II, Loose Fill Loose Fill insulation shall consist of mineral wool as originally processed and collected in a fluffy mass without regard to form or dimensions.
- (c) Type III, Granular or Nodular Fill Granular or Nodular Fill insulation shall consist of mineral wool fibres mechanically processed into nodules.

4. Thermal Conductivity:

The thermal conductivity (k) of the mineral wool in the as applied condition shall not exceed 0.30 British Thermal Units per hour, per square foot, with a temperature gradient of one degree Fahrenheit per inch thickness, when tested at a mean temperature of $75^{\circ}F$. Method A.

5. Fire Resistance:

When tested in the manner specified the mineral wool shall be fire-retardent.

Method B.

6. Lubricant or Binder:

The material shall contain mineral oil, asphalt, wax or binder, in minimum quantity required to control dusting, and in the case of Batts to provide dimensional stability.

In no case shall the type and quantity of oil, asphalt, wax or binder used be such as to prevent the material from complying with the requirements for fire resistance.

Method B.

7. Apparent Density:

- (a) $Type\ I-$ The apparent density of Batt insulation including support membrane, if any, shall be specified by the supplier. Method C-1
- (b) Types II and III The apparent density at which all Type II and Type III mineral wool is to be applied shall be specified by the supplier. For all but horizontal surfaces this value shall be not less than the apparent density determined by the specified method. Method C-2

8. Forms of Batt Insulation, Type I.

(a) Type Ia Batt Insulation — Type Ia Batt insulation shall consist of mineral wool Batts without membrane facing.

- (b) Type Ib Batt Insulation Type Ib Batt insulation shall consist of mineral wool Batts with a membrane facing resistant to the passage of water and vapour affixed to one principal face. (Note 1). The membrane facing shall extend at least one and one quarter inches beyond the insulation on the two longitudinal edges so as to provide nailing flanges.
- (c) Type Ic Batt Insulation Type Ic Batt insulation shall consist of mineral wool with enveloping membranes. On one principal face of the Batt, the membrane shall be resistant to the passage of water and vapour (Note 1); on the other face of the Batt and enclosing the longitudinal edges, the membrane shall be vapour permeable. The two membranes shall be joined along the longitudinal edges, to form nailing flanges at least one and one quarter inches wide.

9. Standard Dimensions, Type I Insulation:

Batt insulation shall be supplied to the following standard dimensions, with permissible tolerances as indicated:

- (a) Thickness 2 in., 3 in. and 4 in. ($\pm \frac{1}{4}$ in.).
- (b) Width $-15 \pm \frac{1}{4}$ in.
- (c) Length Type Ia, $24 \pm \frac{1}{2}$ in. Types Ib and I c, 24 in., 48 in. or greater lengths ($\pm \frac{1}{2}$ in.).

Note 1: The water and vapour transmission shall not exceed 0.5 gram per square meter, per 24 hours, for each millimeter of mercury vapor pressure difference.

10. Dimensional Stability:

The density cohesion, and dimensional stability of mineral wool Batts shall be such that under normal conditions they retain their original position in a vertical wall without settlement. (Note 2).

11. Sampling:

Samples shall be taken at random from unbroken packages which have not been damaged or mistreated in any way whatsoever.

- (a) Type I, Batts Three packages shall be taken at random from each lot of 1,000 packages or less.
- (b) Types II and III, Loose and Granular Fill At least three packages shall be taken at random from each lot of 1,000 packages or less. The contents shall be dumped, thoroughly mixed and quartered down to provide a 25 pound sample.

12. Methods of Testing:

The methods of testing shall be as described in the following paragraphs:

(a) Thermal Conductivity - The thermal conductivity

- shall be determined in accordance with ASTM Method C177: Method of Testing for Thermal Conductivity of Materials by Means of the Guarded Hot-plate.
- (b) Fire Resistance The fire resistance shall be determined in accordance with the procedure described in Section VI of United States Commercial Standard CS131-46.

Note 2: Standard testing procedures are being developed and will be specified as soon as they have become available.

(c) Apparent Density - C-1 Type I, Batts - The Batts shall be removed from the packages and allowed to stand for at least four hours before measuring. Density shall be determined by means of ASTM Method C167: Method of Testing for Thickness and Density of Blanket Type Thermal Insulating Materials. C-2 Types II and III, Loose and Granular Fill - A rigid open box weighing approximately nine pounds, and having inside dimensions of 12 by 12 by 12 inches shall be filled loosely with insulating material which shall be screeded flush with the top of the box. The box shall be dropped on a cement floor from a height of 6 inches. This operation shall be repeated three times, filling the settled space again loosely with material and screeding flush after each drop. After the third drop the box and contents shall be weighed and the tare weight of the empty box deducted. The net weight of the insulation material thus determined shall be taken as the apparent density of the mineral wool in pounds per cubic foot.

Correspondence regarding this Specification should be addressed to The Secretary, Canadian Government Purchasing Standards Committee, National Research Council, Ottawa.

ALBERTA

There is a saying that Art is essentially one, meaning that all arts have the same ultimate aim and function. The arts, however, are various in their methods and the various types of artists are not noticeably given to associate together. In any one form of art there is apt to be several "schools" in apparent variance and even in some degree hostile one with another. It may be asked which art gives the lead as one phase follows another; whether literature, painting, architecture, the drama or some other. Probably in this matter each makes its own peculiar contribution.

In towns across Canada we have the most frequent exhibition of paintings and the graphic arts. Architectural exhibitions are comparatively rare. But buildings, whether they be works of architecture or not are always with us. Literary works are soon broadcast through public libraries and in private purchase. These are discussed in private and publicly in reviews.

Works of architecture are probably, of all the arts least subjected to criticism. We have need of a school of criticism-itself a high form of art requiring as much skill as any. So little are works of architecture discussed and in such lame fashion that the conclusion can scarcely be avoided that there is little public interest in the art. Buildings themselves are of general interest inasmuch as they are perpetually and everywhere in use. The chief criticism which the general public will take upon itself concerns the relative utility of arrangement in plan of a building. Many people are capable of observing an arrangement that clearly interferes with the common use of a building. Even fairly competent architects may occasionally be guilty in this respect. They may be led into mistakes through faulty or imperfect instructions. It is part of their duty to ascertain that their instructions are full and complete. This is not always easy. The dreams of clients may require some prophetic ability for their true interpretation into form.

On looking over an exhibition of pictures one may ask oneself what lessons are to be found there for architects. Such exhibitions generally present a bewildering medley of subject matter and of presentation. An architect will naturally examine such pictures as include some views of buildings. Of these the painters generally select the most dilapidated and decayed examples that they have been able to discover in the most out-of-the-way-places. This seems to have suggested an article in the issue of last September of the English "Architectural Review" by John Piper on the beauty of decay. Amongst other examples are illustrations showing the picturesque effect of scaling stone on some of the eighteenth century buildings in Oxford.

Do works of architecture really look their best when new or when in stages of decay? Plutarch attributes as a great merit of the Parthenon that, even in his day it preserved a "certain sort of flourishing freshness" as if still new. Several writers have endeavoured to enhance the reputation of the great medieval cathedrals by conjuring up their image as they first stood "fresh from the mason's hand". The grime of industrial cities has blackened the work of many a mason's hand. In the period between wars a process of steam cleaning was applied to a number of old buildings. This was done in the interior of Henry VII's chapel at Westminster. This, with the addition of brilliant colour and gold to the many carved bosses of the vaults and to coats-of-arms, certainly gave a "certain sort of flourishing freshness" to that building, and this met with very wide approval. An architect will rightly refuse to select a stone that will readily scale or to design a really convincing version of a slum.

In our exhibitions of pictures we meet with something more modernistic than the cult of picturesque decay.

There are many efforts to employ the fascination of geometric forms in some complexity of combinationin surface pattern or in three dimensional masses. Not infrequently amongst these abstract or mechanical shapes there appear some fragments of humanity, an eye or so, two, or three odd legs, or something dimly suggestive of a human body disquised by emphatic malformation. Perhaps this sort of thing aptly expresses suffering humanity hopelessly entangled in the cogs and wheels of its own invention. This, indeed, seems to be the case in which our generation unfortunately finds itself. The expression may be true but it conveys little beauty to the eye and the architect will find it difficult to derive inspiration for his own sphere of art from this. Geometrical form indeed he handles in plenty. We have to make the best of rectangular sites and our general social economy directs us in straight vertical and horizontal lines. These, even if they do rather tightly tie us, at least keep us out of bewildering entanglements, impose an order and preserve us from chaos. The typical plans of the most academic school of architecture, cleanly laid out in black and white produce a pattern which, if placed beside many of this modernistic school would, quite apart from the meaning behind them, shine forth as objects lovely to the eye. Is not the eye the ultimate judge of beauty? Is not beauty one of the ultimate values?

Cecil S. Burgess.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

The school building program in B.C., delayed by depression and war, has received impetus from the adoption of the Cameron report, by which the Provincial Government assumes half of the approved expenditure for new schools and alterations, including the cost of equipment.

This eases the financing of schools, especially for the cities which heretofore received far less provincial help than rural districts. The Vancouver School Board plans a big building program, giving priority to junior and junior-senior high school accommodation. Thus the senior students from the elementary and the junior students from the secondary schools will be drawn into the new buildings, relieving the overloading in both. The Bureau of Measurements (V.S.B.), charting births in the city, estimates that Vancouver's growing population will require additional school plant by the year 1956 of 958 rooms.

The shifting of family residential communities has resulted in some of the older schools having vacant classrooms, whereas others are overloaded and have been forced to give up rooms devoted to libraries, etc., to accommodate extra classes. Two small elementary annex schools have recently been built to take care of this overloading, these being frame buildings which

fit well into the new residential communities, and are esteemed by teachers and pupils. Some auditoriumgymnasium additions to older elementary schools are also under construction.

The cost of school buildings is mounting steadily, making cost estimating in the planning stage increasingly difficult. The conditions imposed by the Provincial Government grant require a fixed sum contract, not now a popular form with contractors owing to unstable wage and material cost rates. Also a school is becoming a more complex building, providing services such as a cafeteria, a library, counsellor's office, technical shops, custodian's receiving room, visual education room and such like, which make it difficult to give a pat answer to the "how many classrooms" question.

Mr. E. D. King, the Vancouver School Board Architect, has recently returned from a cross-continental junket, which he and two B.C. educationists made for the purpose of observing vocational training schools. The constantly reiterated advice his party received was first to integrate closely the training program with laobur and management organizations, and, second, to develop a flexible plan, particularly with regard to services such as power. Mr. Dean Goard, a technical school teacher with industrial experience, is now organizing trade committees which will be advisory to Vancouver's Vocational Training School. The response of labor and management indicates considerable demand for such education.

The location of a large school to train or to upgrade tradesmen must be as central as possible, with due regard for the industries it will serve. The present Technical High School, an excellent school on an adequate site, serves the eastern portion of the city, but enrolment indicates a "geographical lethargy" among young people suitable for skilled trade training, and it draws far more from adjacent high schools than from distant ones. In general, it can be said that the recommendations of the Vancouver Town Planning Commission with regard to school sites agree with the planning program of the school board.

Two excellent studies have been made by the Vancouver teachers on modern school building requirements. The "Report of the Elementary Schools Building Committee, June 1944," and a similar study for Secondary Schools dated June 1945, are a very useful reference in our office.

Very helpful in school design is the willing exchange of information between architects, and the guidance of the Provincial Department of Education will prove more and more valuable as the financial assistance program develops. Visitors to school systems in the U.S.A. and Canada have been accorded universal kindness, and the Vancouver School Board makes every effort to reciprocate this co-operation.

G. W. Peck.

MANITOBA

September, the month of clear breezy days and frosty nights, was no exception this year on the prairie. With the sudden termination of summer, the usual acceleration in tempo has taken place in almost every phase of community life: the one exception is our return to "slow time"! Already, the winter programme of meetings, concerts, and exhibitions is in full swing. Almost over night the students have flocked back to the University leaving the architects to adjust themselves to greater limitation of staff within the office, while feverishly trying to get the "job" enclosed before the real cold weather sets in.

After its summer recess of three months, the Council of the Association has resumed its monthly meetings. In September several applications for membership were reviewed and accepted and plans for the coming season were discussed. It is expected that the revised requirements for entrance to the Association by examination will be completed shortly for ratification and adoption.

Dr. B. Ifor Evans, vice-chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain spent three days in Winnipeg during his tour of Canada under the auspices of the United Kingdom Information Office. He addressed a large public meeting in the Winnipeg Art Gallery as well as two luncheon meetings. The Manitoba Association was represented at a dinner meeting arranged by the Federation of Canadian Artists for the purpose of motivating the co-ordination of the eighteen creative art organizations into a provincial arts council. This opportunity of informal discussion with Dr. Evans proved to be both helpful and stimulating.

The end of the month saw the members of the Federation of Canadian Artists busily arranging for their third annual Non-Jury Show at the Art Gallery. Each year this show arouses keen interest amongst the painters and the gallery public as well as giving encouragement and inspiration to new artists.

At the School of Architecture, the month has been an extremely busy one Many alterations have been necessary in the two army buildings which have been added to accommodate the school. These, together with the installation of fluorescent lighting in all the drafting rooms, should result in greatly improved conditions for work. At the moment of writing it is impossible to forecast accurately the enrollment in the School. It is expected that, with a smaller entering class and with an unusually high failure rate in last year's freshman class, the enrollment will be somewhat less than last year's. This will enable the increased staff to give more personal attention to the individual student development. We are very fortunate in having a staff every member of which has excellent qualifications and, at the same time, is most enthusiastic about the task of co-ordinating and improving the various elements of architectural education. The combined educational background of the thirteen full time and four part time members includes training at the London Architectural Association, Harvard University, University of Minnesota, Rennselaer Polytechnic Institute, New York University, University of Illinois, Columbia, Vassar, the Art Institute of Chicago, and The University of Manitoba.

J. A. Russell.

ONTARIO

Scarborough Township: below the cliffs, the shimmering multi-coloured sweep of Lake Ontario; beyond, from a dip in the far-off hills, the perpetual cloud of Niagara Falls. How could a region set in such beauty be so full of problems?

Nearer at hand one sees small children playing "choo-choo," and adolescents on bicycles. Problem number one: the provision of adequate schooling.

Scarborough is about twice the area of Toronto, with some twenty-six thousand people settled in scattered communities; but since Toronto is almost built up, the larger centres are rapidly joining together to form ribbons from the city.

Owing to wartime restrictions and uneconomic costs of individual homes, many "dolls' houses" were built here in the last few years. The assessment on these is far too low to begin to pay for the erection and running of schools needed for the new swarms of children. We have found that small houses alone cannot support schools. Industrial and commercial enterprises can and do take a large share of the costs. Unfortunately for Scarborough it was only within the past two years that a Planning Board was established, replacing the struggling Zoning Committee. Consequently houses are scattered all over the countryside, and when a commercial building is proposed, the residents in the area often band together, and sometimes force it out of the district. They then wonder why the more houses, the higher the taxes! Being a member of this Planning Board, the writer knows how uncomfortable these deputations can make one feel. One said, "You're a bunch of half-pint Hitlers!" However, we are evolving a plan by degrees. Tentative industrial areas have been mapped out, an attempt to control ribbon development has been made, residential areas have been set aside, and so on. The conditions are somewhat different from those faced by similar boards, chiefly because of the great area to be studied. We are trying to resist the scattered cutting up of the farm lands beyond the water and sewer areas. We examine plans by the dozen. If a well and septic tank are needed, the Province requires a lot of at least 12,500 square feet per house-to mention one item to be checked. For subdivisions, we reject lots that are far too deep for their width, and require, in large projects,

that an area of up to 5% be given to the Township for recreational purposes. Curved and winding streets, though attractive, are frowned upon, because we do have a climate. Snow ploughs go in straight lines. So do pipes.

E. M. Coleman, Architect, is also a member of this Board. The firm of Carter and Coleman made a first-class plan for an urgently needed extension to Scarborough Collegiate. This school is housing over twice as many pupils as it was built for years ago. As the taxes would have been affected, the matter of building was put to the vote. The writer, being a voter, arranged to have the facts placed before a citizens' organization, made independent inquiries before the vote, and checked afterwards to find out why the public rejected the project. With a light vote, the ratio was about two to one against, in most districts.

The Province pays part of the school cost, although the municipality takes full responsibility for debentures. Because of this Government interest, they will not pass a plan until their own requirements are met, regardless of the advice of the local School Board. In Scarborough's case, the Province demanded far more than the people felt the present tax base could support. As a consequence, no one had anything. The general opinion was, "At a time like this, with only a few industries and excessive building costs, why do we have to have a Vocational Guidance Room, a second gym, and other costly frills? We must wait until we can afford them." A considerable group of voters felt that the first section of a new building on another site should be erected. This idea had been rejected by the Trustees. At a public meeting, the School Board were left to argue alone, without the help of an expert from the Government, to explain why these "frills" are a necessity for a school to-day. The minority generally felt that contribution of a few extra dollars a year each towards a first-rate school would be a very worthwhile investment indeed. The School Board was bitterly disappointed. There will be new developments, as the situation is fast becoming imperative. The Township is in excellent financial condition, by the way, and is going to extend some of its services for new industry and housing. Two smaller schools costing about a hundred thousand dollars each were financed recently.

Many of the school tax difficulties would be mitigated for the province in general, in the considered opinion of one official, if the Government took over all educational costs. They should then translate the total amount into an average cost per pupil for the whole province. Each municipality would be charged according to the number of its pupils. This general levy of fifteen or so mills would be added to the local general tax rate in place of the present unsatisfactory arrangement. The suggestion came from an essentially practical man who knows his subject.

The July Letter by Mr. Cox impels me to take issue with at least some of his views, which, after all, was what he asked for. First, Mr. Cox, anyone can see that the meetings are efficiently guided by architects who have had years of experience with building projects. If you find a meeting quiet, blame yourself! In the second place, publicity. Mr. Cox, you have us there! Where was the O.A.A. exhibit at the C.N.E.? What an opportunity missed! Third, the schools. "Let us teach theory for a few short years-students can spend the rest of their lives being practical." Look at the resultsthe versatility of the grads-as shown in the July issue. We have seen their well-designed buildings, so look, say, at Parkin's jolly helicopter and other designs of such pure beauty that old Ictinus would say, "Well done."

J. H. W. Bradfield.

QUEBEC

It is difficult to write a letter which would pretend to include news from the whole province when so much is happening close at hand. The McGill School of Architecture has pulled up its roots and moved from the Engineering Building into two houses on University Street. Anyone who has moved household effects will understand the hardship of packing and the confusion of moving, and will appreciate how shabby the dear old furniture looks when it is brought out into the daylight and piled on a truck. Moving, however, provides the opportunity for a fresh start.

Those who remember the old school when it had about fifty students may be surprised to learn that we have had one hundred and nine students in the last four years. The first year is common with the engineers. Consequently we could not fit in our old accommodation and we have been given new quarters in two old buildings which had been used originally as houses, then for Law, Physical Education, the McGill C.O.T.C., the School for Graduate Nurses, and, during the war, as the International Labour Office. The rooms are very pleasant, smaller than the old school rooms, but we feel that the domestic scale is charming, and here and there a piece of soulful decoration in the form of a slightly pointed plaster arch will be a good environment for those of us who are mechanically minded.

There will be space for workshops, a photo studio and dark room, things which were very inadequately accommodated previously. "Focus" the exhibition room is replaced by another not quite so interesting in shape but with more usable walls for pinning up drawings. We hope this room will be used every day of the session and that its exhibitions will be a useful campus activity. The new lecture room will seat about fifty. It is on the ground floor and we hope that it will be used by campus groups interested in social and artistic matters. Our

new buildings make possible integration and a unified spirit which are important in a school of architecture, but we do not intend that they should lead to isolation.

This year, with the confusion of moving and the confusion of registration, comes the Community Planning Association's first national conference which we hope to attend in our spare moments.

The Planning Conference coincides with a special meeting at the Engineering Institute and will be followed directly by a National Conference on Housing. It seems a good idea to have meetings of various national associations coinciding in this way as interests overlap and it becomes possible for a man from distant parts of the country attending one to attend another. Perhaps in future it may be possible that the architects as well could have their annual meeting at the same time and place as these other associations.

John Bland.

CONTRIBUTOR TO THIS ISSUE

Bryant Fryer: Graduate of the Ontario College of Art. Studied design and painting at the Art Students' League of New York and under Laurens and Peughon at the Academie Julien in Paris. Made motion pictures in New York with Tony Sarg and in Hollywood. Served in both World Wars with the Royal Air Force and the Royal Canadian Air Force. In the recent war he designed and executed a great number of murals for the Visual Link Trainers, and designed the equipment and settings for the Overseas Entertainment Units of the R.C.A.F. At present completing a book on "Basic Design".

NEW PARTNERSHIP

The formation of a new partnership has been announced by J. Cecil McDougall, Architect and Engineer, Montreal. The principals in the new arrangement will consist of: J. Cecil McDougall, B.Sc., B.Arch., F.R.A.I.C., F.R.I.B.A., A.M.E.I.C., P.E.Q.; J. Roxburgh Smith, F.R.A.I.C.; R. P. Fleming, B.Arch., M.R.A.I.C. The title of the firm will be McDougall, Smith & Fleming, Architects. They will continue to practise at the present address: 1235 McGill College Avenue, Montreal 2, P.Q.

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Facts by Pilkington about Glass FOR ARCHITECTURAL STUDENTS

13 MIRRORS

USE OF GLASS MIRRORS TRACED TO 2000 B.C.

Of all Decorative Glass the mirror is the most important. The first requisite of a mirror is that the glass should possess perfect planeness and parallelism. For this reason the development of the mirror depended on the development of Polished Plate Glass. Though of course not so universally used as today mirrors were known in quite different parts of the world several thousand years ago.

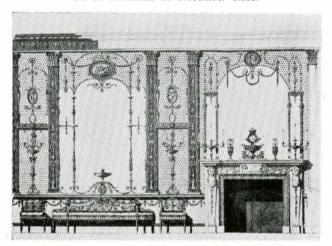
The Chinese seem to have used mirrors even of glass, more than 2,000 years B.C., although this information is gleaned from Chinese Classics, it is unfortunate that details are unknown. Among the Japanese the metal mirror had a most prominent place and was thought so important as to have been almost an object of worship. Egypt is a land whose mirrors are the best known of the ancient cultures. Obsidian was employed as well as metals and glass. From the Egyptians the art of mirror making passed to the Hebrews. In Ceylon there are records showing that "Mirrors of Glittering Glass" were carried in procession in 306 B.C. Mirrors are to be found in ancient Burmese and Hindu idols. Pliny mentions that the use of glass mirrors at Sidon in the occidental culture sphere had its origin here rather than in Egypt. In Greece, the miraculous properties ascribed to mirrors made them attractive not only to Poets and Magicians, but also to Philosophers. Socrates (469 - 399 B.C.) employed a mirror for moral instruction. The Greek tragedians about the same time frequently mention mirrors. Praxiteles, the Sculptor, taught the manufacture of mirrors in the year 328 B.C. It is assumed that the Greeks became acquainted with mirrors about 600 B.C.

Similar to the Greek mirrors were those of Etruria in the middle west of Italy. The Romans, well acquainted with the Greeks and Etruscans, produced, as a rule, similar mirrors to these. Their mirrors were chiefly made of a mixture of copper and tin, of zinc or silvered copper and sometimes of pure silver: — others were made of glass. Wherever Roman civilization spread the use of mirrors was introduced.

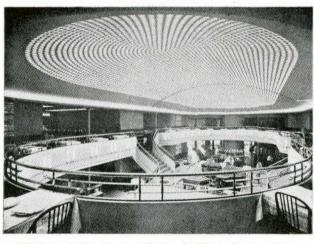
A mirror found in Cornwall, now in the British Museum, shows that the Celtic population of England had adopted the form and substance of the mirror from their Roman conquerors.

We find that for ten centuries, that is up to 1500 A.D., there was no noticeable change in the manufacture of mirrors. The year 1500 A.D. or thereabouts saw the birth of the modern mirror when the Tin-Amalgam process was introduced.

To be continued in November Issue.



The Glass Drawing Room in the wing of Northumberland House, London, designed by Robert Mylne, appears to have shown not only consummate decorative use of mirrors but a decorative use of glass that we can hardly surpass, even only quantitatively, to-day. It was demolished, along with the rest of the house, in 1874.



The use of the mirror wall for doubling the size of an interior and giving its design a symmetrical completion is well illustrated in this example. The shallow 'beton-translucide' dome, for instance, has been designed to play up to its own reflection.

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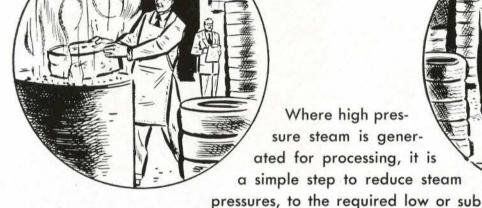
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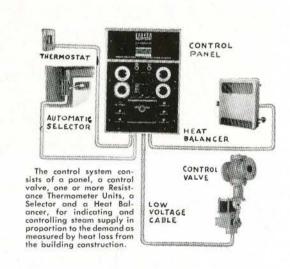
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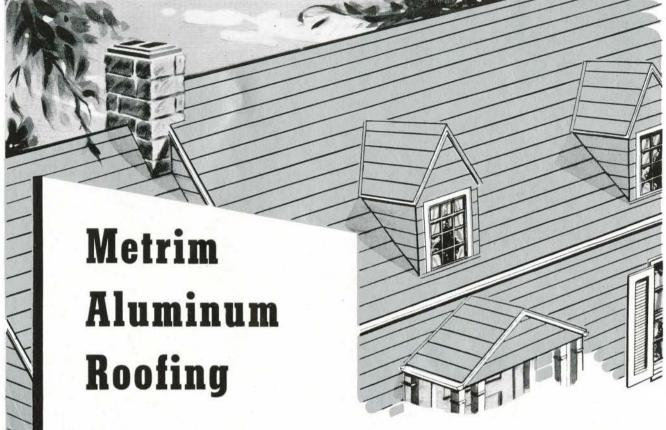
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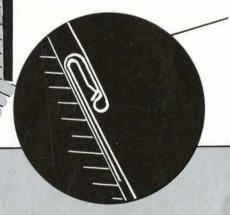
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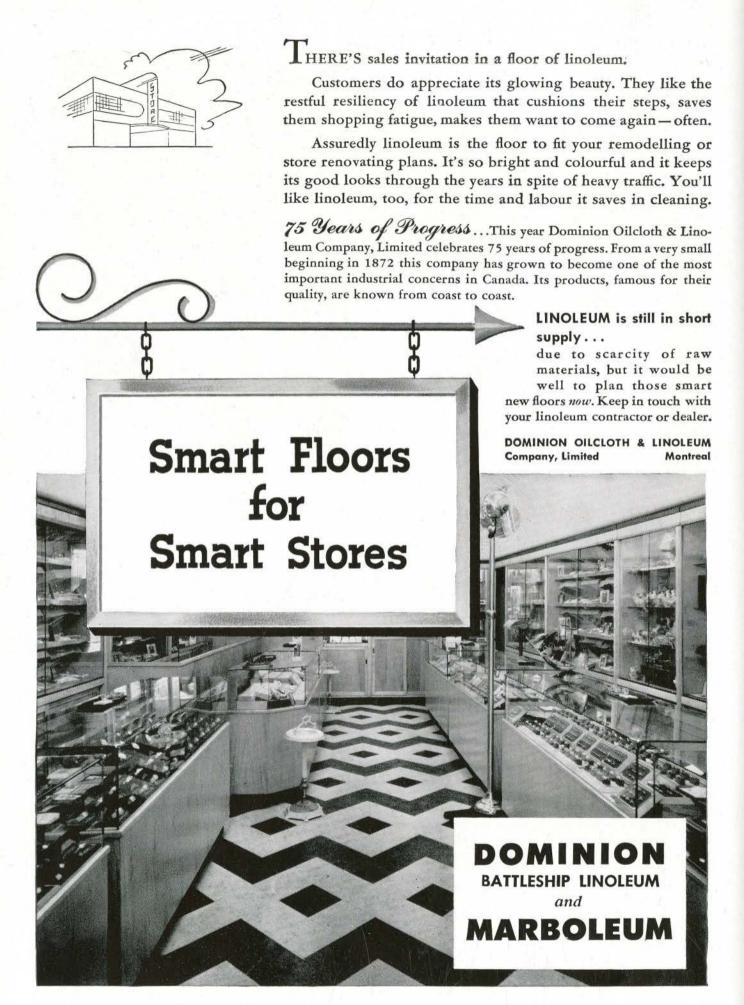
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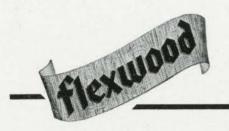
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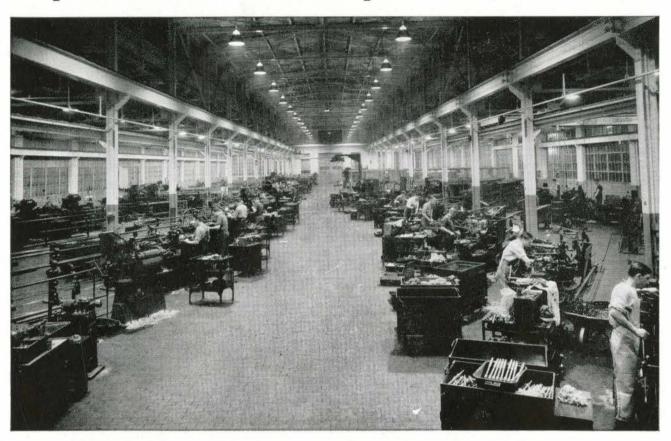
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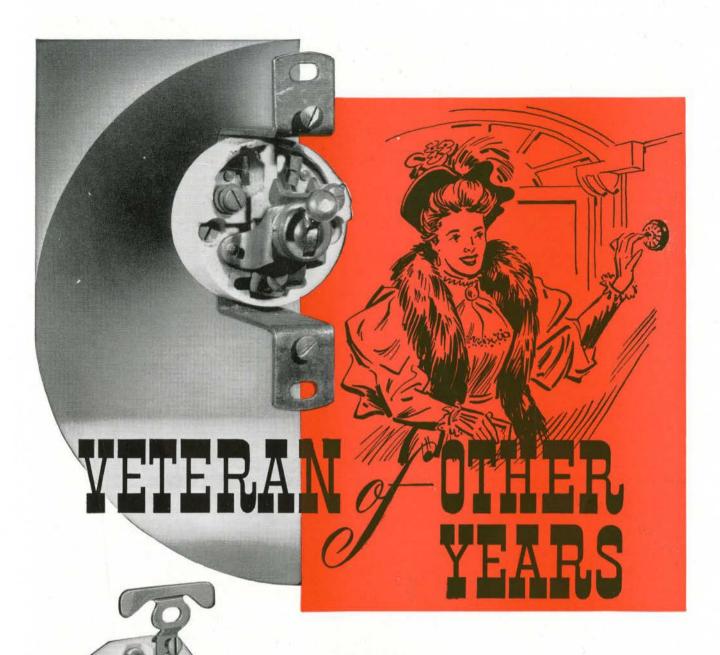
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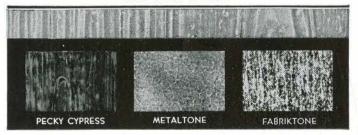
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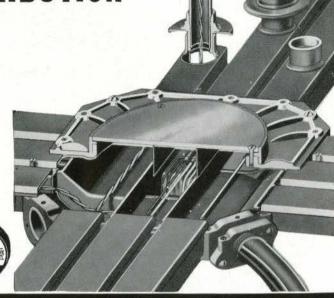
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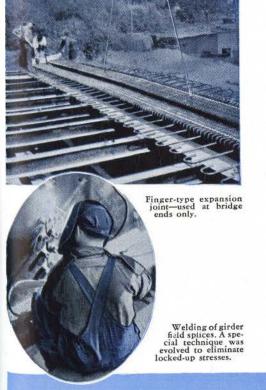


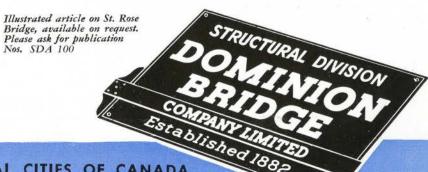
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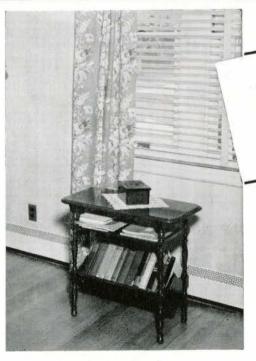
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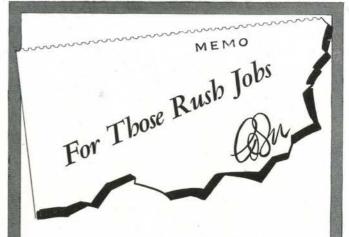
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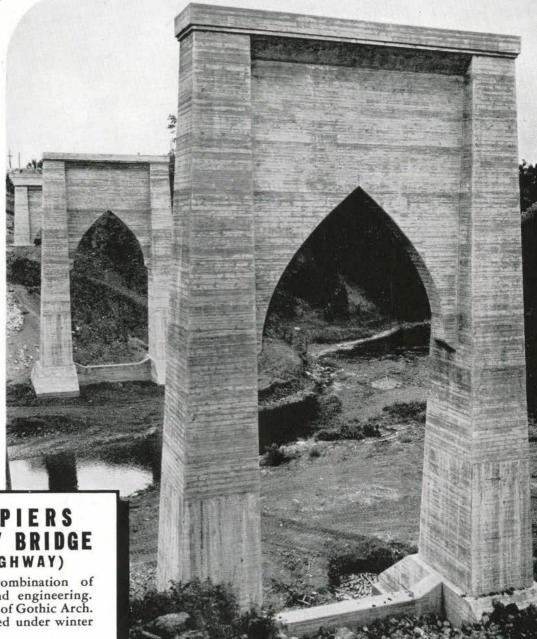
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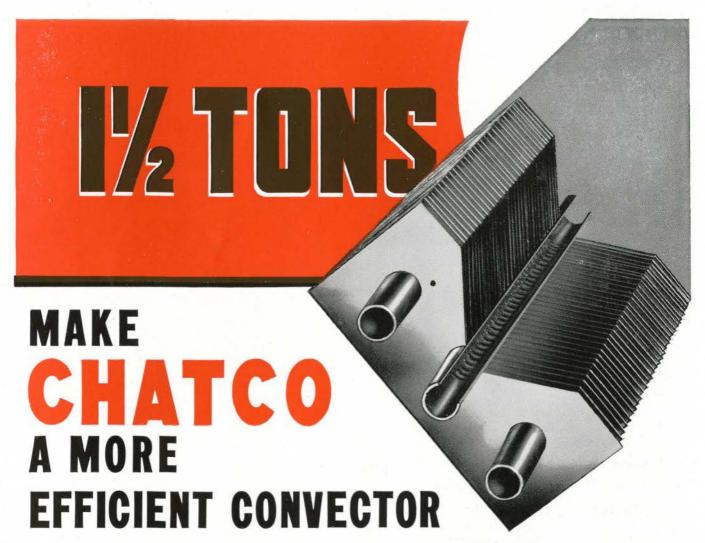
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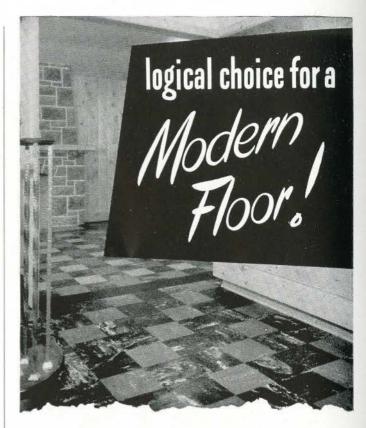
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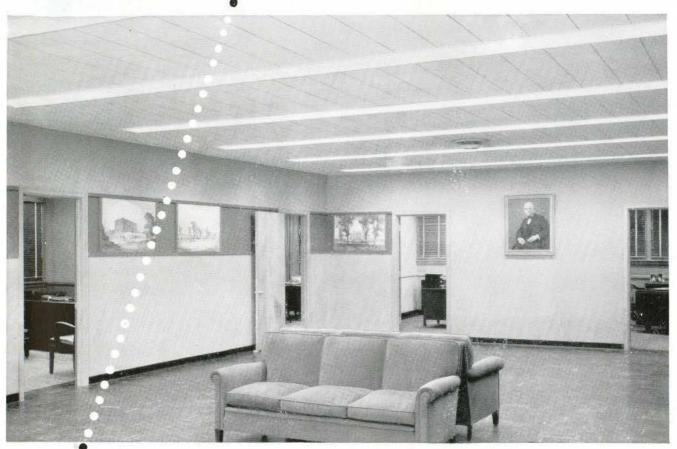
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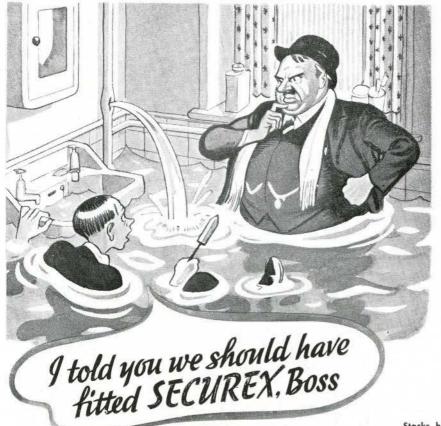


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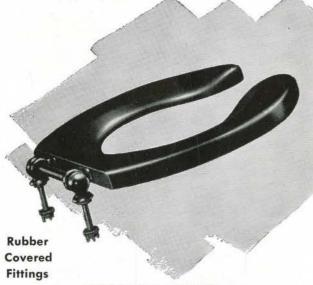




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