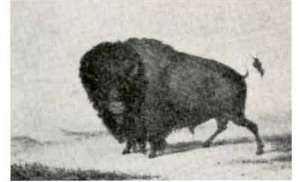


RAIC Annual Assembly Winnipeg, May 13-16



Architecture Canada

NEWSMAGAZINE

Published every two weeks by RAIC/IRAC April 27, 1970

Megastructures – are they the shape of the future?

"Building separate structures is not the way to make 20th century designs," architect Paul Rudolph told the OAA convention recently.

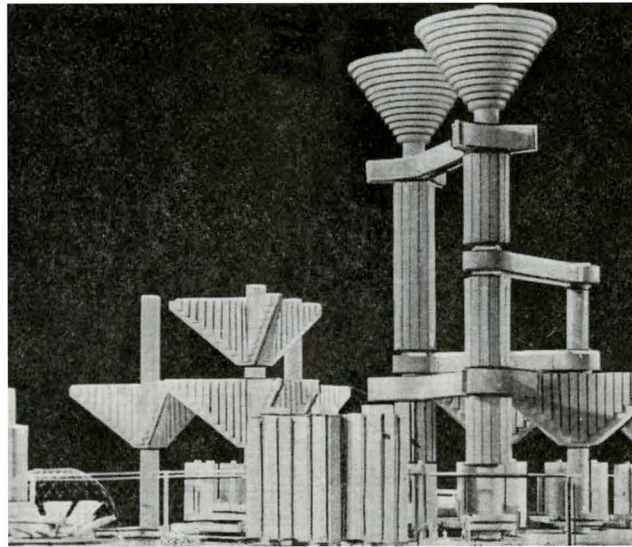
"Buildings," he said, "are going to have to be larger."

Megastructures, in fact.

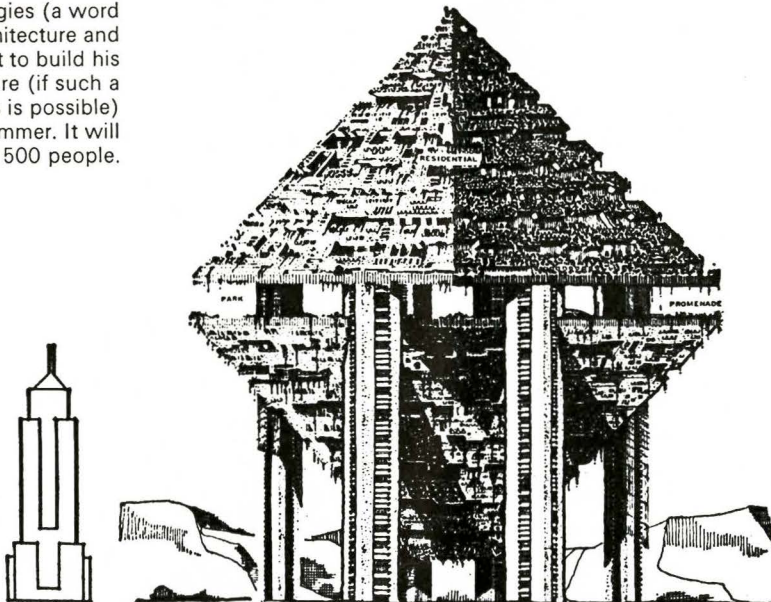
Rudolph said he could not cite any existing example of a megastructure to illustrate his point (the earliest were the medieval bridges lined with stores and houses). But schemes for megastructures crop up regularly. Two of the latest:

a Russian "city of the future" described at a recent Moscow conference on that subject; a series of "arcologies" designed by Arizona architect Paolo Soleri exhibited in Washington this month. Soleri,

50, came to the U.S. 23 years ago to study under Frank Lloyd Wright. He supports himself making bronze and ceramic wind chimes while working out arcologies (a word he coined out of architecture and ecology). He'll get to build his first mini-megastructure (if such a contradiction in terms is possible) near Phoenix this summer. It will be 150 ft high, house 1500 people.



Above: a Russian "City of the Future", below: an "arcology" (with the Empire State Building beside it).



TAX

RAIC brief on Benson white paper well received

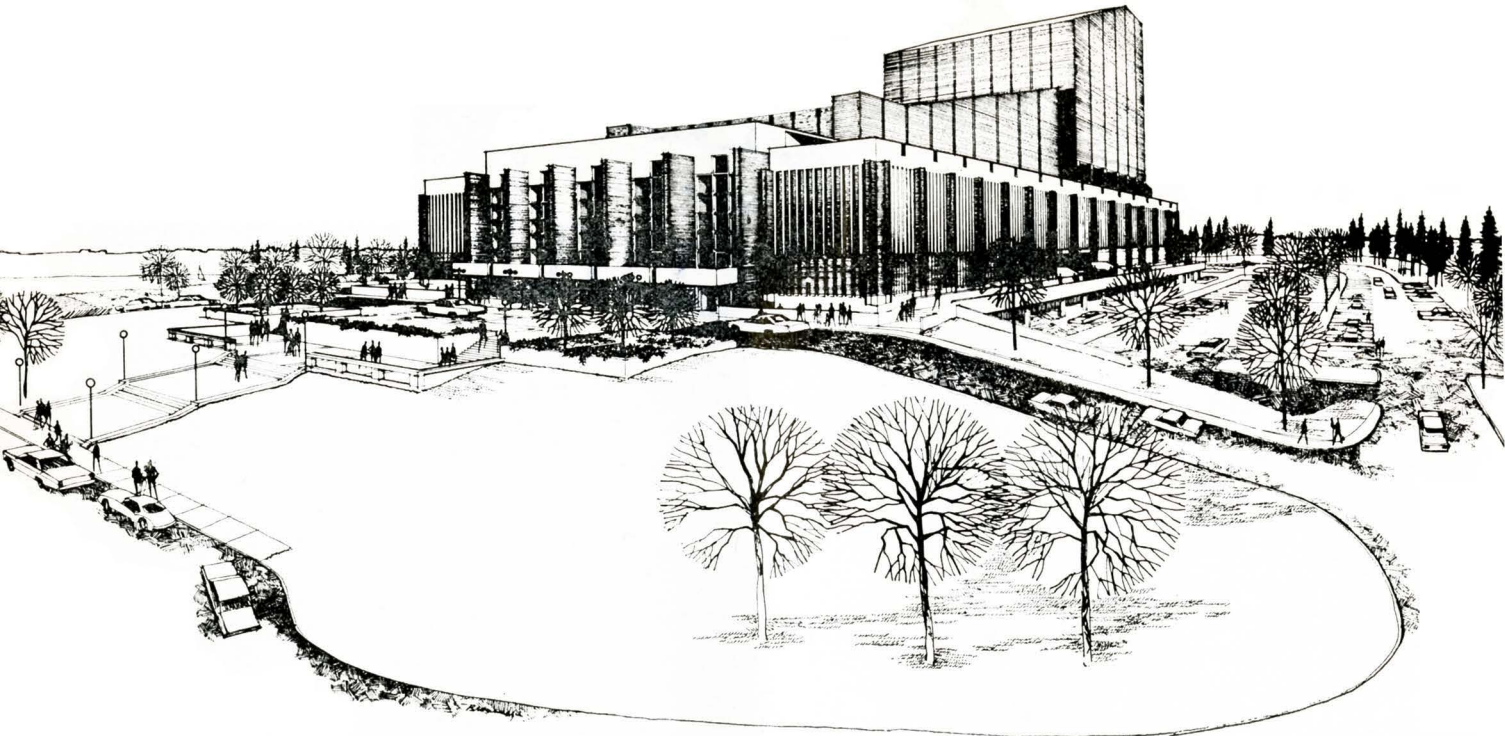
The "sympathetic and courteous hearing" given to the RAIC views on the Benson white paper suggests there may be hope that some of the architects' arguments will have effect.

That's the prospect, following an Ottawa visit by RAIC president W. G. Leithead of Vancouver, treasurer C. F. T. Rounthwaite of Toronto, Director of Professional Services Wilson Salter and the Institute's solicitor, John P. Nelligan. The delegation went through a point by point discussion of a brief, prepared by Salter, with the Senate Committee on Banking, Trade and Commerce.

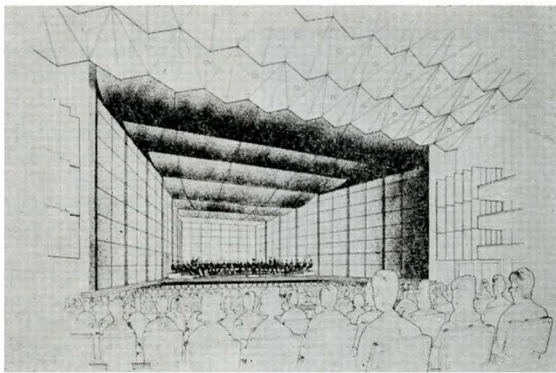
The 20-page brief, with its eight recommendations, stressed the differences between the practice of architecture and certain other professions and businesses.

For example, a change from a cash to an accrual basis of reporting income would not recognize that "in architectural practice, accounts receivable are not the 30-day commercial variety. Normally they will run for months before a progress invoice is submitted, and frequently with provincial and federal government work the period extends for a year or longer." This could create serious financial problems for the architect, forcing him into bank loans to pay tax on potential income which he has not yet received (or even billed). Architects, argues the RAIC brief, should continue to have the choice of operating on either an accrual or cash basis.

The Senate committee appeared particularly sympathetic to the Institute's recommendation that architects in private practice should be allowed to deduct as business expenses such items as promotion, entertainment, club dues, travel and



NELSON MACDONALD



An intimate theatre for Regina

Construction of the \$8 million Saskatchewan Centre for the Arts nears completion although a strike by electrical workers has delayed the May 4th opening. The Centre, located in the city's Wascana area, houses a multi-purpose auditorium, a convention and banquet hall, an experimental theatre plus meeting rooms. According to the architect, Gordon R. Arnott, for live productions the whole stage of the main hall can be brought to within 65 feet of the back row by lifting the orchestra pit. The building was designed for the Saskatchewan DPW.



Architecture Canada is published every two weeks by the 5th Company (Greedy de Pencier Publications Ltd.) for the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada / l'Institut Royal d'Architecture du Canada. The Company also publishes Architecture Canada Journal twice a year, and Architecture Canada Directory once a year. RAIC/IRAC office 151 Slater Street, Ottawa 4. William N. Greer, MRAIC, chairman RAIC publications board; Walter B. Bowker, managing editor of publications.

Subscriptions are \$10 a year.

Architecture Canada editorial, circulation and advertising offices are at 56 Esplanade St. E., Toronto 1 416-364-3333.

5th Company editorial committee: Annabel Slaight, Patrick Hailstone, Ron Butler, Fiona Mee, Janeva Van Buren, Michael de Pencier.

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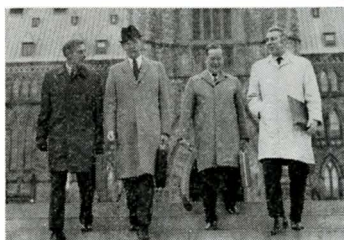
536 volume 47

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attendance at conventions. Provincial association regulations strictly limit the advertising and promotional activities normally associated with the solicitation of business (the taboos are less strict on engineers, doctors, lawyers and members of the Royal Institute of British Architects). Because conventions, seminars, assemblies and professional workshops are among the chief means by which the profession continues to educate itself on constantly changing technical, professional and social needs, the cost of such education should not be subject to tax, RAIC says.

The Institute also expressed concern about two white paper proposals



Rounthwaite, Nelligan, Salter and Leithead after presenting RAIC Brief on Benson White Paper

which could reduce the effectiveness of the College of Fellows scholarship program. One would tax the income of the Foundation Fund which every other year finances two student scholarships; the other would add the amount of a scholarship to a student's taxable income. This double taxation could seriously reduce the availability of the scholarships (fewer and less often) and their value to the recipients.

Other recommendations were that the existing system of computing capital costs be retained (the proposed changes would curb new building); and that the existing rate of corporate tax on the first \$35,000 of income also be retained.

LETTERS

Incorporation

Sirs:

Your February 16 issue carried news of the incorporation of our firm. It was correct except for the last paragraph.

The SAA by-law allowing incorporation requires that drawings be stamped by the individual registered architect, not the corporation.

This retains the practice of personal legal liability.

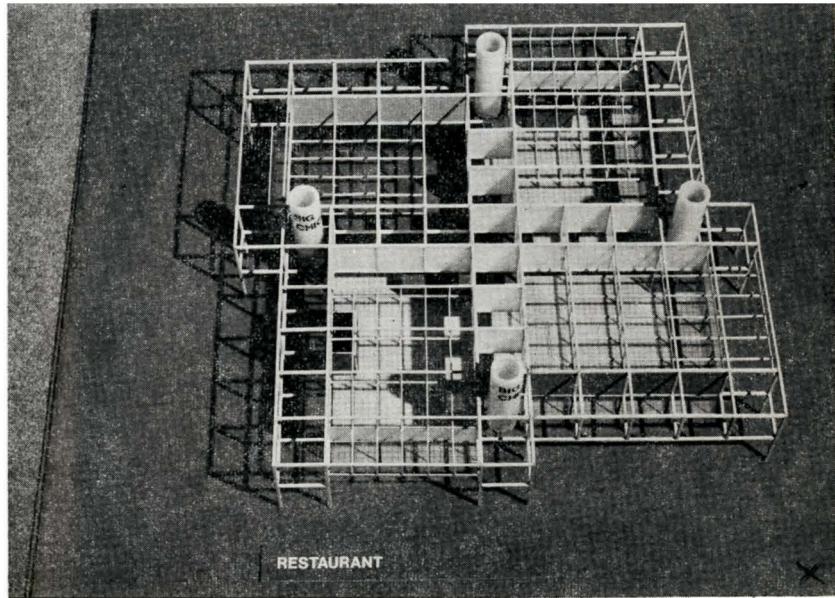
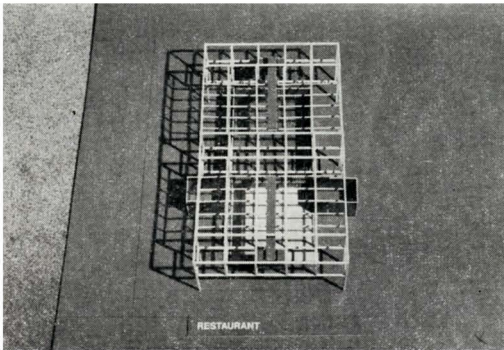
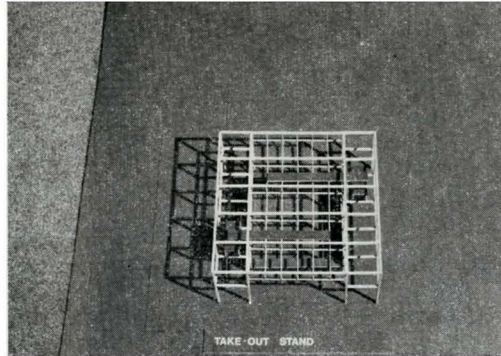
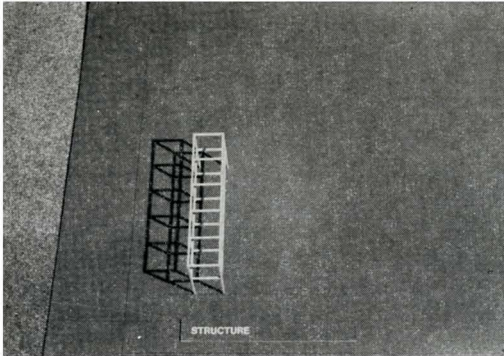
The corporate structure for an architectural firm is a business arrangement with legal safeguards for the general public and particularly corporate clients.

In our opinion, Professionalism is the responsibility of the individual registered architect. It is no less a responsibility whether that architect is working within the framework of a one-man operation, a partnership, a corporation, or one of the three levels of government.

W. F. Kelly,
D. H. Stock & Partners Limited,
Regina

Sirs:

With respect to the article Regina practice first to have corporation status (A/C, 2/16), I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the Legislature of the Province of Nova Scotia proclaimed the Nova Scotia Architect's Act on February 22, 1969 which had been passed by the Legislature in the spring of 1968, which permitted the incorporation of architectural practices in this province.



Big Chick – a systems study

Toronto architects Gordon S. Adamson and Associates feel that the systems building approach is particularly applicable to the franchise restaurant business. They explored the problem with a hypothetical chain called Big Chick. The benefits, they suggest, are flexibility and a minimum time lapse between land acquisition and starting operation.

Our firm was incorporated in March of 1969 under the provisions of the new Architect's Act and to my knowledge we were the first in this province to do it. Perhaps the general statements referring to the Nova Scotian situation in the above mentioned article might be corrected to show that it was indeed Nova Scotia that pioneered this legislation and that it was a Nova Scotian firm that first made use of it.

You might also do well to examine what reduction of personal legal liability this legislation affords. There is no such relaxation of responsibility referred to in the Nova Scotian Act and I would be very interested to hear of any other Act which permits it.

*E. Michael Byrne,
Dumaresq & Byrne Limited,
Halifax*

RESEARCH

RAIC Probe ready for discussion at Winnipeg

Final results of the RAIC Delphi Probe on how to achieve a better environment in the '70s have now been tabulated and analyzed.

The probe, based on Rand Cor-

poration's technique of polling and presenting expert opinion, has been underway since the first of the year. In three rounds of questionnaires, 131 "experts" were given the opportunity to express their opinions as to the likelihood and desirability of 20 events occurring which would affect the ground rules for urban change. Nolan Consultants and Sussex Research of Toronto, who have been conducting the study, say they are pleased with the results. Their findings will be presented for discussion at the RAIC Annual Assembly in Winnipeg, May 13/16.

The probe has not gone without criticism. Ken Smith, veteran building and real estate writer for the Toronto *Globe and Mail*, reported that "about half of the 20 statements are poorly phrased, too sweeping, occasionally naive, or even loaded". He added that "as only 53 respondents lasted through the three rounds . . . obviously many extremely interesting Canadians became bored with the exercise".

Walter Wright of Sussex Research replies that "the questions were worded not to provoke the experts but to allow them to raise issues

themselves. Our intention was to identify the kinds of solutions experts are likely to come up with". After Round One even some of the participants were critical of the questions, but Wright suggested that perhaps at this stage they did not understand how dialogue among respondents would develop.

Wright called the drop-out rate "less than anticipated". He felt that some of the most "promising experts" participated right to the end and that their interest grew with each new round.

Larry Zolf, CBC current affairs reporter, has accepted the Manitoba Association Host Committee's invitation to moderate an informal panel discussion of "experts" and convention delegates. On the day following, students will hold their own discussion and prepare an assessment of what came out of the probe.

ENVIRONMENT

Neo-Georgian campus architecture called irrelevant today

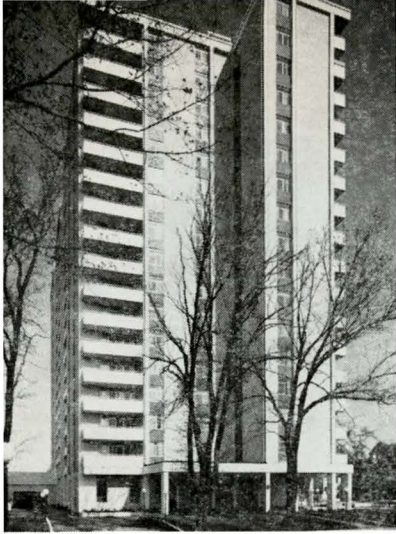
The Mysterious East, a new maga-

zine out of New Brunswick, is showing some sharply worded concern for the quality of life and the environment. A fair share of the darts in the first five issues have been thrown at architecture and planning. And the attacks seem to be getting some good feedback.

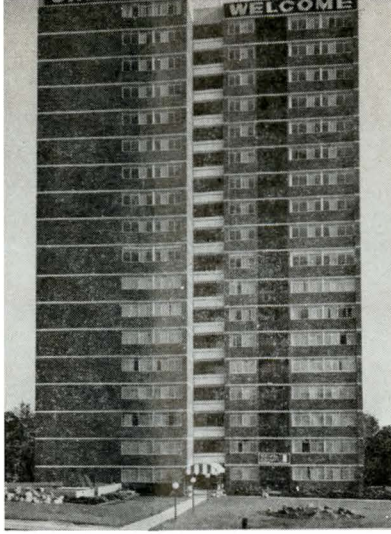
One December article questioned why mock-Georgian buildings were still being constructed, at the University of New Brunswick, when "what was bad in 1937 is inexcusable in 1967". It called the buildings unfunctional, and backed the attack with stinging quotations from Nova Scotia Technical College School of Architecture staffers who called the architecture "spiritually squalid and physically shoddy . . . completely arbitrary and completely irrelevant".

The charges led the university governors to ask the two architectural and engineering firms mentioned (Larsen and Larsen of North Carolina, and Associated Designers and Inspectors of Fredericton) to answer the criticisms of their work.

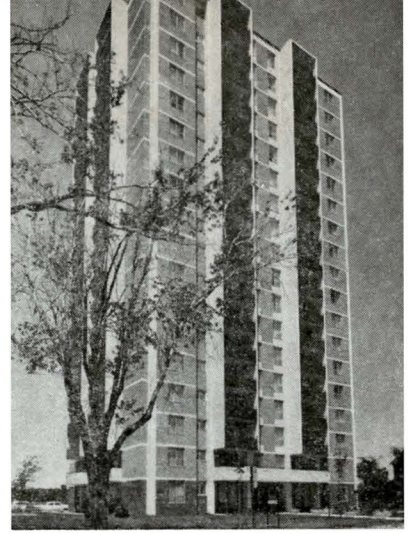
The Mysterious East is one of the latest in the burgeoning new breed of "protest" periodicals. It began



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Arch: Petroff & Jeruzalski. *Cons. Struct. Engr:* Alex Tobias & Associates Limited.
Masonry Contr: Gottardo Contracting Company Limited. *Concrete Masonry Units:* Hogg Fuel & Supply Limited. *Ready-Mixed Concrete:* H. Boehmer & Company Limited.



Top of the Valley, Toronto. *Owners:* Rubin Corporation Ltd. & Yorkwood Investments.
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Concrete Masonry Units: York Block and Building Supply. *Ready-Mixed Concrete:* McCord & Company.



1000 Broadview Apartment Building, Toronto. *Owner & Builder:* Tova Developments Limited. *Arch:* Grozbord, King & Associates Ltd. *Masonry Contr:* Prime Construction Company. *Concrete Blocks:* Meteor Building Supplies Ltd. *"Canada" Masonry Cement:* Blair Supply Company Ltd.

"Canada" Masonry Cement

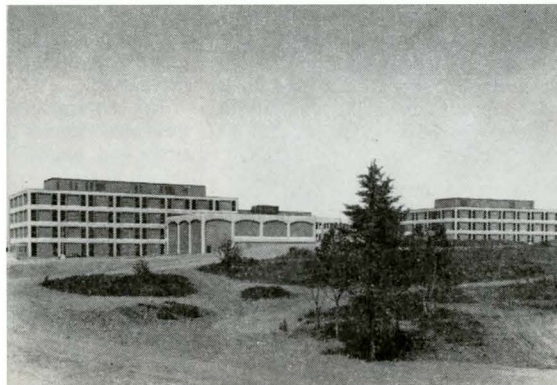


El Mirador Motor Inn, Ottawa, Ont. *Owned, designed and built by:* Gillin Engineering & Construction Ltd. *Masonry Contr:* Federal Masonry Contractors Ltd. *Ready-Mixed Concrete:* Francon Limited.

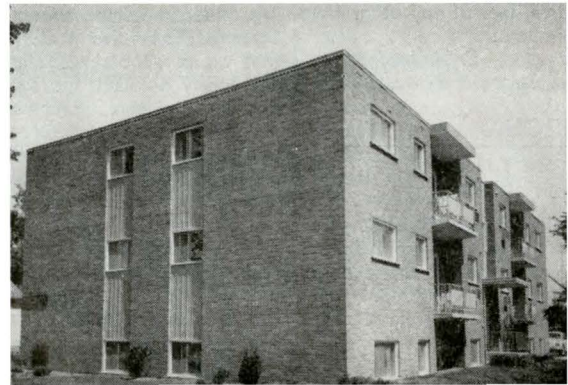


Fire & Welfare Building, Toronto. *Owned, designed & built by:* City of Toronto. *Masonry Contr:* D.M.S. Contractors Limited. *"Canada" Masonry Cement Supplied by:* Community Building Supplies Ltd.

University of Saint John, Saint John, N.B. *Arch:* Mott, Myles and Chatwin. *Gen. Contr:* Dineen Construction Co. Ltd. *Masonry Contr:* Saint John Bricklayers Ltd. *Precast Concrete Panels:* Strescon Ltd. *Ready-Mixed Concrete:* Jos. A. Likely Ltd.



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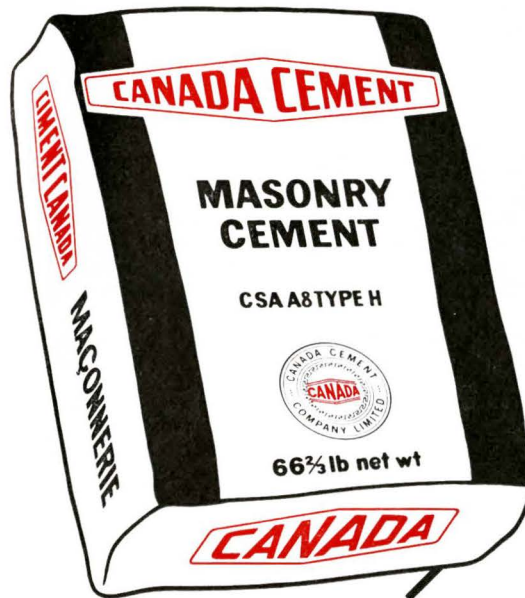


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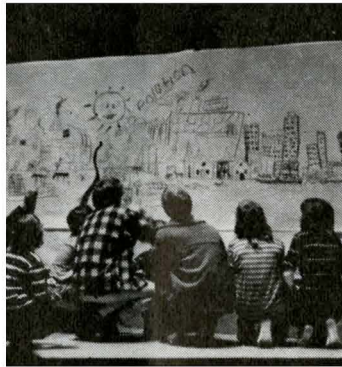


Adventure in Architecture

Vancouver students played architect three weeks ago at a "draw-in" sponsored by the AIBC. Their results: a messy overcrowded city on a 30' drawing board and a new awareness of the complexity of the planning process. Leader-moderator Stanley King says that as students fought for space they learned that "the future will be as big a mess as the present unless it is given some thought and order".

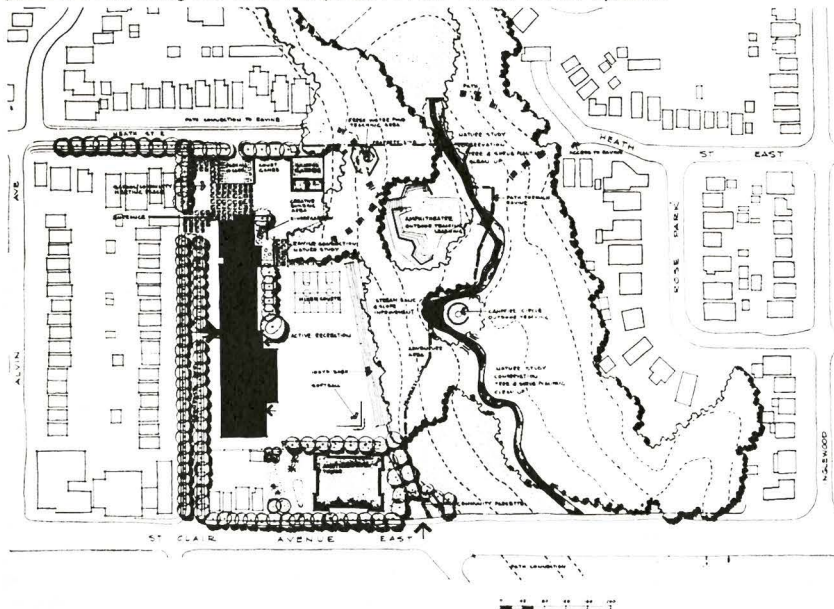
The first Vancouver student-architect experiment was held last year and its success demanded a repeat. This year's participants had two cracks at city-building: first in a CBC studio for tv taping and second in a show complete with audience at the Vancouver Playhouse Theatre. Both times they discussed life and environment in the future and created a city of their own.

Frustration ran high as they saw old problems recurring. One 14-year-old during the second run dismayed, "we've messed up the future again!"



A playground for learning

Protest turned to positive action at Toronto's Deer Park Elementary School. When protest against the siting of an apartment tower on school property proved futile and parents and children saw what was to be left of the asphalt playground, they decided to take steps not only to improve it but to develop the adjacent ravine property into an adventure playground. The school board gave the go-ahead and children will start cleaning up and planting this summer. Parents, including landscape architects Michael Hough and Walter Kehm, hope that further pressure will bring about development of the whole ravine system.



publication last November under the guidance of a group of Fredericton academics who felt their role was to "help the community make intelligent, informed decisions about its future". The magazine got its name "not because there is anything particularly inscrutable about the Maritimes, but because the most suitable editorial stance seemed to be one of puzzlement".

CITIES

Experts (from out of town) brainstorm urban growth problems in Halifax

An unusual experiment has just been tried in Halifax, N.S., to involve more people in the planning of orderly urban growth. The "Encounter on Urban Environment" involved exposing a group of 12 urban affairs experts to a week-long series of meetings with local citizens, and groups "for the purpose of ascertaining the aspirations and concerns of the community, its assets and the opportunities for development of the area, possible barriers to such development and how they might be overcome".

The sessions were given wide public exposure through newspapers, radio and tv to arouse public concern for the experiment. The visiting experts had almost no previous knowledge of the area (deliberately, to promote fresh thinking). Most are internationally known in their various disciplines. They are now at work on a written report on their findings which, it is hoped, "will become a basic reference point of future plans" by all three levels of government. Meantime, a 90-page transcript of the final day's "report to the people" is available for \$1.00 (PO Box 187, Halifax). One specific outcome: a recommendation to establish a permanent institute to train people in such techniques as advocacy planning.

The project was sponsored by the Nova Scotia Voluntary Planning Economic Board, and was largely financed by a \$75,000 Central Mortgage and Housing Corp. grant.

PROJECTS

The cosmopolitan downtown Vancouver shopping area around Robson Street may get a facelift.

Consulting architect Warnett Kennedy and Swan Wooster Engineering Co. have been commissioned by Devanco Corporate Enterprises Ltd. to design a two-block international marketplace which maintains the character of Robsonstrasse, the nickname given by Vancouverites to the street which abounds in small, European specialty shops. A city planning report has recommended a mixed use high-rise redevelopment with two levels of small shops, pedestrian walkways on both levels and underground parking.

Architects Gagnon & Archambault are both designers and developers of a \$10.5-million Place du Cercle at

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RAIC RAWIN.

NIPPEG

MAY 13-16

Berri and Sherbrooke in Montreal. Work has just started on a 300-suite apartment building; a 24-storey office building will be started next to it within six months.

It was erroneously reported in the February 16 issue of *A/C* that Montreal International Airport Consultants Ltd. had been awarded architectural and management contracts for the initial stages of the new airport at Ste Scholastique. The consortium was, in fact, awarded a management contract only. Papi-neau, Gerin-Lajoie, LeBlanc, Edwards are the architects for the first terminal building.

COMPETITIONS AND AWARDS

RAIC scholarships awarded

William D. Hulme, 25, formerly of Montreal, and Thomas D. Martin, 26, of Don Mills, Ont., have each won \$3,500 RAIC College of Fellows scholarships. The biennial awards are made for the advancement of architectural knowledge through travel, study or research.



Martin

Hulme

Hulme, a '68 McGill graduate, is studying for his Master's degree at the University of California in Berkeley, specializing in urban design and development coupled with real estate and urban economics. Martin, a 1967 University of Toronto graduate, is studying methods for problem solving in environmental design towards his Master's degree in Urban Design at the Harvard graduate school.

There were 20 applications for the two scholarships.

New student design competition

InterRoyal Corporation (formerly RoyalMetal) is extending its annual U.S. student design competition this year to include Canadian schools of architecture and interior design.

Theme is "The Design and Furnishing of a Floor of Faculty Offices for a University". Students will get an actual program, submitted by a U.S. university. They will have to submit a floor plan, with an overlay showing furniture arrangement. Top prize is \$500, plus a trip to New York. Deadline for entries is June 1. Write: Carl Bachrach, InterRoyal Corp., One Park Ave., New York, N.Y., 10016.

MISCELLANY

... Theme of this year's Stratford Seminar will be high-density living. The conference, to be held in early July, will attempt to identify some of the forces creating such develop-

ments and consider possible alternatives to high-rise living. Chairman is Anthony Adamson.

... Systems housing is the topic of yet another meeting; this time at the US National Urban Coalition Group's conference May 6-9 at Harvard. For information, contact the conference director at 2100 M. St., NW, Washington, DC, 20037. Meantime, Toronto developer A. E. Diamond, himself involved in a systems building consortium, says he wants "to destroy the myth about systems building—it's not going to drop costs".

... The Canadian Construction Association is recommending that professional fees be allowed as "current operating expenses" for income tax purposes, rather than be considered as a "capital expense" as at present.

CLASSIFIED ADS

Positions wanted

English student from the School of Architecture, Hull, Yorkshire, seeks a position in Canada for one year before returning to complete his fifth year. Available October 1, 1970. Write Neil Cawley, 159 Annesley Road, Hucknall, Nottinghamshire, England.

Graduate architect, 1961, six years' experience in European architectural work, specializing in working drawings, detailing, perspective, design and planning, seeks immediate employment. Samuel Gonzales, 86 Albany Ave., Toronto 4. 533-5803.

Scholarships available

Nova Scotia Technical College School of Architecture. A small number of graduate scholarships for studies of the application of scientific methods to assist the solution of building design problems have been made available by grants to members of this School from the National Research Council.

Scholarships have a value of about \$3,000 per annum and may be awarded to Canadian citizens (or persons obtaining landed immigrant status) who possess a Bachelor's degree from a recognized university school of architecture. Studies to begin in September 1970, would lead to the award of this university's degree of Master of Architecture.

In the first instance please address enquiries to: Dr. Peter Manning, Director, School of Architecture, Nova Scotia Technical College, P.O. Box 1000, Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Change of address

Morris Charney, MRAIC, CUQ, architect and planning consultant, announces a change of address to 448 Lansdowne Ave., Montreal 217, 514-937-5100. (The new address was noted incorrectly in a previous issue.)

Professional services

Perspectives of architectural projects in black and white or colour, from plans, Stanley Wyatt, Artist. Phone, (416) 923-6510.

OPINION

Industrialized building at the service of the people

Your "opinion" columnist, Roger Kemble (*A/C*, 4/13), opened his carpet bag and spread his collection of fetishes in front of the perplexed reader. Acting as the evangelist for the people, he lambasted almost everyone in the building industry, from property owner to building contractor.

While I happen to agree with Mr. Kemble that the building industry happens to be quite "sick", I also claim that changes beginning to stir in the industry point towards significant improvements in quality where it matters, namely, for the user. If we are to get these improvements, however, we must not begin by alienating all parties in what is already a fragmented industry.

For this is the fundamental characteristic of our industry: it is fragmented; indeed we can be more specific: its internal organization is dispersed and discontinuous. Each person in the industry fulfills a certain limited role, e.g. designing, or manufacturing, or promoting, with only ritualistic links with the other people he needs — without whose involvement nothing would get built in the first place; this organization I call "dispersed". Furthermore, such ritualistic links as do exist (e.g. bidding procedures, specifications, the client's brief) only serve one project and one only; new links, built up from scratch, have to be created for each successive project; these links I call "discontinuous".

Within this dispersed and discontinuous situation, it is hardly surprising that problems are "solved" inadequately. How can an architect solve a social housing problem, for example, for his fee on one single project — starting from scratch? How can a contractor develop efficient ways of using resources, when he has to devise and control complicated processes for constructing each single, unique, building — starting from scratch? How can the developer do anything more than make a "fast buck" within this small scale situation?

Society is already showing that it is not satisfied with these methods for obtaining the buildings it requires, and in the flux of finding new procedures such things as the "package deal", design-and-build contracts, predesigned buildings, etc. are coming onto the market. Though they may not solve every maiden's prayer, they at least respond to the calls for new methods.

Industrialization and building systems represent another class of innovation. Though their present showing may not be encouraging, they happen to point in a significant direction, I believe.

For there is a chain of constraints in industrialization and building systems which causes the traditional rituals of dispersion and discon-

tinuity to be challenged. This chain is as follows: (i) traditional building — because of its dispersion and discontinuity — is characterized by variety (accidental and deliberate); (ii) variety leads to mass production of only the most simple components (glass, bricks, blocks...) and demands manual processes for their assembly; (iii) manual processes consume too many resources for results of variable quality (i.e. do not give value for money) so alternative, organized and mechanized processes, are sought; (iv) organized and mechanized processes require investment — in tool costs and in design costs — which has to be spread over a long run of production; (v) spread of costs requires continuity (which is, of course, the converse of discontinuity); (vi) continuity requires coordination amongst all the parties (which is of course, the converse of dispersion).

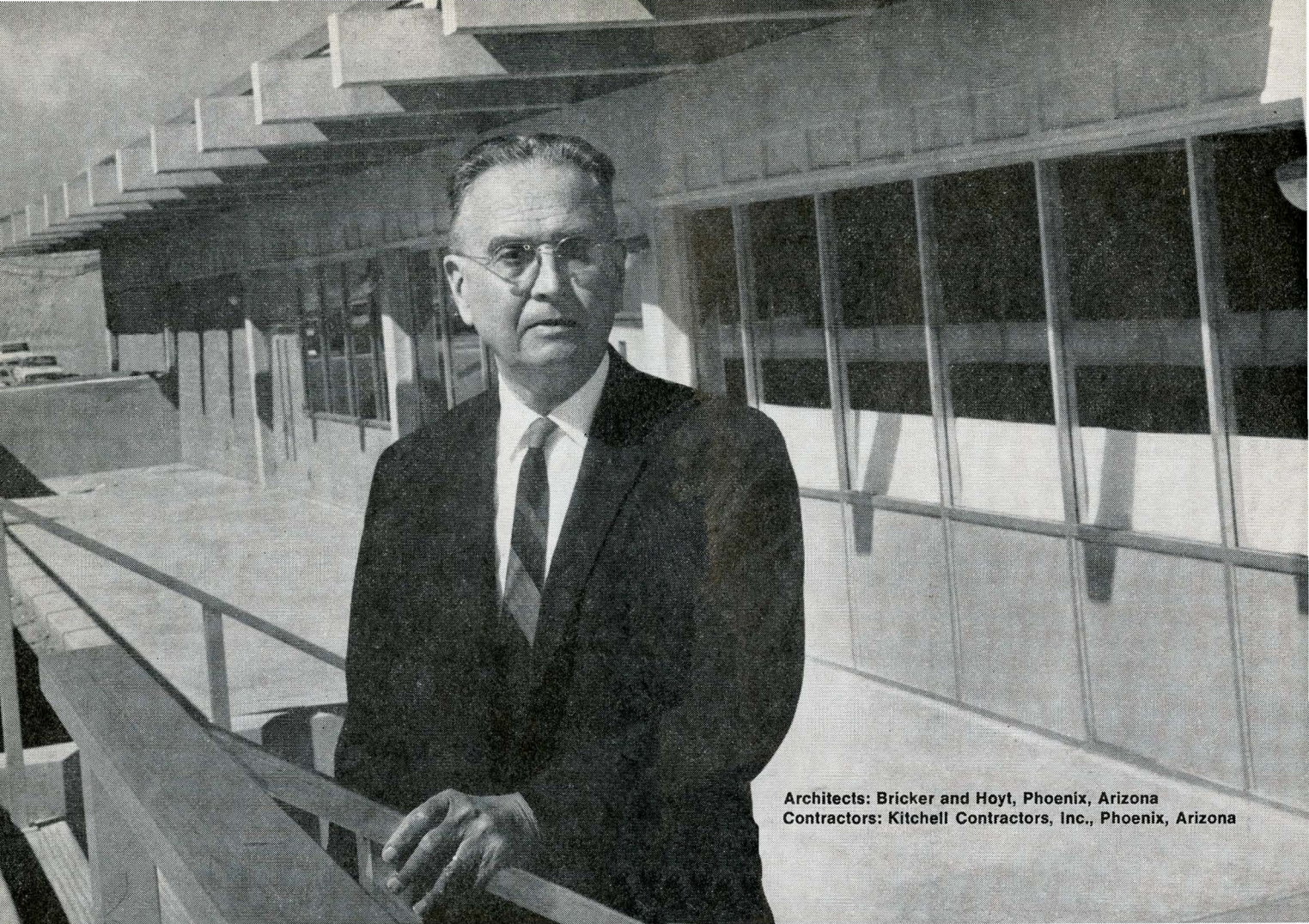
At present, progress along this chain is limited and unsystematic — Building Systems are being sponsored by pressure groups within the industry, who (a) tend to favor their own aims above all (the considerations of others, such as the user, come in indirectly through such concerns as the marketability of the product); note that this tendency to favor the sponsor's own aims is common to all of today's systems, whether client sponsored or proprietary; (b) tend to break out from existing contract procedures, primarily by getting away from the "or equal" status (which upsets normal control routines to ensure value for money). Consequently, it is unwise to generalize about industrialization and building systems on present showing only.

When, however, coordination and continuity (as opposed to dispersion and discontinuity) become commonplace in building, we can expect, demand and obtain adequate solutions to the problems, if only because the scale of operation demands that they be tackled properly. This is really what the "systems approach" is all about.

Like many buzz-words, the systems approach carries over- and under-tones that alienate many people. I feel optimistic that the systems approach will provide the framework within which all the building industry is cooperating towards an effective use of resources for quality products, i.e. value for money.

From the architect's point of view, this is important, because there will be roles for him to play in contributing to a balance between quality provided versus resources consumed at all of the many places in the industry where major decisions are made, not just the 6% slot between client and producer, as today. The user will benefit, if the architect is man enough to get in where the action is.

Professor Colin H. Davidson
Editor, "Industrialization Forum"



Architects: Bricker and Hoyt, Phoenix, Arizona
Contractors: Kitchell Contractors, Inc., Phoenix, Arizona

Maurice Case, Superintendent of Schools of the Miami district

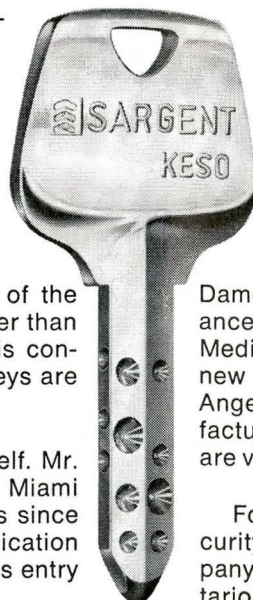
Sargent Maximum Security System locks in key control at Arizona's Miami High School

This new model school includes the most advanced architectural lock system now available: the Sargent Maximum Security System.

Key control had been a serious problem in the high school, now replaced by the new regional school. Unsupervised play in the school gymnasium raised the specter of injury, and the likelihood of liability suits in the wake of such incidents.

The unique key which operates the cylinders of the new system has precision-milled depressions rather than the conventional serrations. Duplication of keys is controlled by the building owner, and unauthorized keys are virtually eliminated.

The new keying system has already proved itself. Mr. Maurice Case, Superintendent of Schools of the Miami School District, puts it this way: "In the two years since the school was occupied, there has been no indication of unauthorized duplication of keys or surreptitious entry into any of the school areas.



"I credit the Sargent Maximum Security System with having brought this about."

The new cylinders have proved unusually pick resistant, and they offer seven levels of master keying, permitting 24,500 computer-scrambled unduplicated combinations.

Other outstanding installations of the Sargent Maximum Security System include the new Notre Dame Library — the largest of its kind; the Allstate Insurance headquarters in Chicago; the Los Angeles County Medical Center; the Pier 66 luxury hotel in Florida; the new Forum exhibition hall and sports arena outside Los Angeles; and a number of other institutions and manufacturing plants where key control and pick-resistance are vital.

For additional information on Sargent Maximum Security features and installations, write to Sargent & Company, 100 Sargent Drive, New Haven, Conn. 06509 • Ontario, Canada • Member Producers' Council

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