



# SPECIFICS

## SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER

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1969 - 70

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## JULY

### MEETING PROGRAM

#### DATE

Wednesday - July 9, 1969

#### TIME

Assembly - Cocktail Hour	6:00 P.M.
Dinner and Program	7:00 P.M.

#### PLACE:

"Iron Horse" Restaurant, 2nd floor Banquet Room, 19 Maiden Lane, San Francisco. Off Kearny Street between Geary and Post. Ample parking is available on nearby city streets.

#### DINNER

Steak - \$5.75 per person, including tax and gratuity. Excellent food. No-Host bar is available on 2nd floor.

#### PROGRAM

"SPECIFYING DRYWALL" as viewed by the sub-contractor, manufacturer and code specialist. The moderator will be Robert N. Gulick, Executive Director of the Drywall Trust Fund of Los Angeles; Panel members will be our Lawrence B. Emery, U.S. Gypsum Co.; Jim Manderbach of Blue Diamond; and Charles Tillotson, ICS, a sub-contractor. Ron Becht, NorCal DIFT representative will participate to answer questions from the floor with several local gypsum manufacturers' representatives also on hand. This program has been presented before several industry and professional groups with marked success. Don't miss it! More details on page 3.

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#### NEXT MONTH-

"A New Look for 'Specifics'..."



SAN FRANCISCO CHAPTER  
254 SUTTER ST. • 6th FLOOR  
SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA 94108





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

This is the start of a new year for CSI. We have many hurdles in front of us, and it is going to take the combined effort of every member to enable us to clear these hurdles and climb higher and farther as a Chapter and Institute.

With the start of a new year there will be some new faces and some old. Wes Page, with the help of Gil Johnston and Dick Swinney, will follow in the footsteps of Clyde Pearson starting with the August issue of "Specifics". Jack Hall is going to be assisted as Program Chairman by Larry Emery, Bob Farros and Don Auker. The Chapter technical program will continue under the direction of Alan Shelmerdine. Bill Camp has agreed to fill the post of membership chairman which is being vacated by Tom Hubbard after many years of faithful and effective service. Jack Kruse is continuing as chairman for the Region 11 Conference. Liaison officers are listed on our cover page. One post left to be filled is that of Products Fair chairman. An announcement will be made as soon as he is selected.

All of these chairmen are going to need your support. Don't wait to be asked. Volunteer to help. If everyone does a little bit, all the jobs will be small. Remember, CSI can not succeed without the help of its membership.

By now you all should have received your renewal notice for membership. The deadline for paying dues is drawing near so if you haven't renewed your membership do it at your earliest convenience.

The Chapter and the Institute have come a long ways in the past few years. Let's not rely on past laurels, but look ahead to newer goals.

See you at the next meeting.

....Doug Day, President

### PEARSON'S APPOINTMENT IS CONFIRMED.

Its official, Clyde Pearson is now a member of the Institute's Publications Committee. O. James Barr of Denver is Chairman, and the other member is John M. Creamer, CSI, of Jacksonville, Florida. It is the first time for several years that the East has not been heavily represented.

### ...from the INSTITUTE...

Awards for the "Specifier" are becoming almost commonplace, particularly in the art field. Our CSI magazine was awarded 25 Gold Medal Certificates for its outstanding artwork during 1968 at the 20th annual Exhibition of the Art Directors Club of Metropolitan Washington. Ten awards were for covers and 15 awards were for artwork and layout. Our art directors, Beveridge & Associates received a Gold Medal for their consistent "high level editorial and cover design."

The exhibition featured 243 winners of gold or silver certificates or merit awards, out of more than 2,000 entries submitted by 88 professional art agencies and/or artists. We can all take pride in the accomplishments of the "Specifier".

### COMING EVENTS: San Francisco Chapter

- July 9 - Board Meeting, AIA office, 6th floor, 254 Sutter St., San Francisco. 4:30 PM
- July 9 - Chapter Meeting, "Iron Horse", 19 Maiden Lane, San Francisco. 6:00 to 9:45 P.M.
- July 25 - Copy deadline for August issue "Specifics" Please mail copy to Wes Page, Editor.
- Aug. 13 - Board Meeting, AIA office, 6th floor, 254 Sutter St., San Francisco. 4:30 PM
- Aug. 13 - Chapter Meeting, "Iron Horse", 19 Maiden Lane, San Francisco. 6:00 to 9:45 PM
- Sept. 26-28 - Region 11 Conference, St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco.

### EXPERIENCED SPEC WRITER SEEKS POSITION

Gene Campbell, formerly Vice President and a Director of the Chapter is seeking a new affiliation as a specifications writer. Needless to say, he has years of experience on all types of projects. If you have information that will be of interest to Gene, please contact him.

Eugene Campbell, CSI, 805 Vendola Drive, San Rafael, Calif. 94901 (Res. Phone: 472-1321) or: c/o Corwin Booth & Associates, 101 Howard St., San Francisco, Calif. 94105 (392-2708)

## Awards & Appointments!

President Grant A. Larsen and his fine team of associates wound up the 1968-69 term in a blaze of glory with a fine meeting June 11th at the "Iron Horse", in spite of active competition from school graduations and related activities that tended to reduce our attendance.

The program on the subject of "Contractors Views on Specifications Problems", featuring: Bert O. Summers, William Irvine, Jr., and Sam Seifert was excellent in all respects. This program was reported on page 4 of this issue.

Grant turned over the leadership of the Chapter to our new President, Douglas W. Day, at the conclusion of the formal portion of the meeting.

Grant also provided special recognition in the form of the President's Award to Wesley W. Page for his outstanding leadership of our very successful Building Products Fair, for the past two years; to Donald E. Auker for his stellar contributions to the Chapter during the past year as Program Chairman; and to Clyde Pearson for noteworthy service as Chairman of our Publications Committee and Editor of "Specifics". Grant noted that Clyde is completing more than four years in this post which has been marked by growth of our newsletter and the publishing of our "Automated Systems Study, 1968", which has been distributed widely and has attracted considerable interest.

Grant invited attention to the fact that for the first time the Building Products Fair was jointly sponsored by the East Bay-Oakland, San Jose, and San Francisco Chapters, with far-reaching results. The stature of CSI locally was enhanced by this move, participation of exhibitors and visitors increased, and the over-all quality of the show was improved. Major credit for this happy state of affairs is due to the strong leadership of Chairman Wes Page. (Continued on page 6....)



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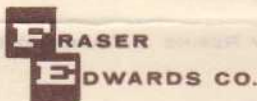
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## PROGRAM-FOR THIS MONTH'S MEETING...

Program Chairman Don Auker winds up his term in this key post with an outstanding program for our July 9 meeting at "Iron Horse" restaurant in San Francisco. This program has been presented before several professional and industry groups in other areas by substantially the same cast of panelists. All reports indicate it is an exceptional show, and one that should be seen by every member of our chapter. The subject, "SPECIFYING DRYWALL".

"Specifying Drywall" as viewed by the sub-contractor, manufacturer and code specialist will have as moderator Robert N. Gulick, Executive Director of the Drywall Trust Fund with his office in Los Angeles. Panel members will include our Larry Emery, U. S. Gypsum Company; Jim Manderbach of Blue Diamond; and Charles Tillotson, ICS, a sub-contractor.

Several local gypsum manufacturer's representatives and Ron Becht, NorCal DIFT representative will also be on hand to assist and help answer questions from the floor.

This program is part of the interesting and vital series we have been offering that deal with the viewpoints of people in the construction industry that must read and interpret the specifications our professionals write, and translate them into structures that hopefully reflect with a reasonable degree of accuracy... the ideas of the designer. Plan to attend, and bring along a guest or two. We need to concentrate on recruiting new members, and this is a fine opportunity to expose some prospects to a fine session.

### OBSERVATIONS on the HOUSTON CONVENTION

The Houston CSI convention was both interesting and enjoyable. Beyond the content of the program was the inter-reaction of this large group of professional men and ladies. A number of observations may be made that show the nature and direction of developments in the architectural and engineering field:

1. The Move Toward Industrialization. The shift from on-site building to on-site assembly is obviously going to accelerate. The blue fog of union regulations, building codes and zoning laws will be penetrated at more and more points until America can again bring her industrial genius to bear on a major need.

Many men at the meeting were reluctant to face this change, but the direction is evident and the time has come.

2. The Move to Computer Processed Data. The introduction of Spec Data II and the Sweet's and "idac" Microfiche systems are creating a corresponding shift in the positions of CSI's Industry Members. These men can no longer hide behind the facade of "keeping our literature up-to-date." The major architect firms will already have the literature. The industry representatives will be received as true consultants, or not at all. With 500,000 pages of data available and retrievable the need for shelves of hard-covered three-ring binders is gone.

3. The Development of a Fraternal Feeling Amongst CSI Members. These men are learning to cooperate with and understand each other. In three days I talked to chapter leadership of San Diego, Los Angeles, San Jose, East Bay-Oakland, Sacramento, Eugene, Portland, Seattle, Hawaii, Spokane and several eastern chapters. These men know each other. They wield tremendous influence in the large project construction field and they are beginning to act as a group to solve urgent, common problems.

(Continued on page 7 ....)



## HIGHLIGHTS of our last MEETING

During past months we have provided a resume of each program with a two-fold purpose in mind - to offer a capsule commentary for reference by those attending, and as a bit of "teaser" to show those not attending (for whatever reason) what they missed by staying away. Such will not be the case this month for reasons we will unfold later.

The June 11 program at "Iron Horse" was excellent, and dealt with a subject of concern to every CSI member, professional or industry. Our Sam Seifert was chairman and moderator. The subject: "Contractors' Views on Specifications Problems". The panel: William Irvine, Jr., Secretary of Jacks & Irvine, Inc.; and Bert O. Summers of Erbentraut & Summers. Both firms are based in San Francisco and highly regarded in their respective fields.

Our "highlights" are skimpy this month because Eugene Dutchak, publisher of "The Construction Specifier" expressed interest in this program as a possible future article for the "Specifier". At his request the entire program was recorded on tape and sent to the Institute for review and editing. Hopefully, we may see it in print in the "Specifier", so keep your eyes open. Don't expect this to happen soon because the "Specifier" must plan editorial content several months ahead.

Getting back to the program, Samuel Seifert is a noted Structural Engineer and heads the specifications department of Parsons-Brinckerhoff-Tudor-Bechtel for BARTD. He also handles liaison matters with the prime contractors on the many BARTD projects. Sam's background includes extensive experience in design work and field leadership in engineering construction, so he is aware of the views of general contractors. William Irvine, Jr., is an active administrator in a general contracting firm that works primarily in the area of private commercial, industrial and residential construction. He is well educated and experienced in all phases of building. Bert O. Summers, a graduate of M.I.T. is skilled in all types of general construction. He has appeared before our chapter on previous occasions and is noted for his skill, wit, and the ability to "tell it like it is." All three men have long been active in the affairs of AGC and well qualified to present the views of the general contractor.

Bill Irvine led off with some general comments for the edification of specification writers, in general; while Bert Summers covered specific items, division by division in the CSI format. Some of Bill's suggestions: Print & distribute more sets of specs and drawings to bidders so that sub-contractors can work from a complete set, rather than from pieces. Reduce the amount of detail in specs, it's not necessary to spell out the driving of every nail. Keep the list of alternates down and realize that unit prices can be a trap if not well defined as to quality & quantity. Provide an allowance for cost of utilities & save money - they can be way off when bids are based on estimates. When specifying new products, make sure you are aware of their track record...and that the product is locally available. Pre-qualification of sub-contractors should be considered. Expand the list of products that are shown as "equals", for a wider selection if possible. This is just a part of the 20 suggestions offered.

Bert Summers praised the progress made in obtaining adoption of the CSI Format. A few of his comments are: The Owner should specify the soils engineer and testing laboratory and pay for all usual tests. Spell out realistic tolerances, there is not much point in setting up standards that cannot be met economically in the field.

(Continued on page 10....)



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## EDITORIAL

"Eureka", the man said, "I have found it!" To one man this expression meant he had found gold, but to your Editor it means that his 51st issue of "Specifics" has been put to bed. Starting with the August issue, you will have a new Editor, Wes Page. Therein hangs a tale.

After four years + on the job, your Editor asked to be replaced. Our dynamic new President and our Past President (who is no slouch in the arm-twisting department) jointly undertook the job of setting up a luncheon meeting with your current Editor for the purpose of: (a) conserving the support and efforts of your present Editor, (b) lining up new talent, and (c) reviewing the scope of the job.

They were successful in all respects. They agreed to release the current Editor with the understanding he will continue to serve on the Publications Committee as "Advisor"; they sold Wes Page on taking the job as Editor and promptly lined up several other men to assist in addition to conserving the present members of the Staff (Gilbert H. Johnston, Robert J. Farros, William H. McCauley); and developed a job description for future use.

Your present Editor is stepping down for two basic reasons. (1) The job is very time consuming requiring about 20 hours of work for the mechanical functions of editing, arrangements, printing, and mailing per issue. Your Editor has accepted two other voluntary assignments of importance that will reduce his available spare time sharply in the future. (2) For the health of our newsletter, four years under the same Editor is enough. A new Editor will produce a "new look" and come up with new approaches, new refinements, and a fresh point of view. It is unwise for any person to hold down the same spot in a volunteer organization too long, as it tends to inhibit progress.

Wes Page will do a great job! He has demonstrated his ability in many ways...as Products Fair Chairman...as Associate Editor of "Specifics"...as a Board Member (Director) and by his handling of many other assignments. He will be backed by an able editorial staff.

Those interested in statistics may find the following figures will help provide some conception of the scope of putting our newsletter out for the past 51 editions: (1964 thru July 1969)

Over 1,000 man hours of work has been provided by the editor in the mechanical phases of producing "Specifics" which breaks down into 125 working days or 25 weeks. This does not include special mailings, phone calls, correspondence, etc.

We ground out 628 pages of text, which is equal to nearly 2,000 pages of regular "pocket book" size pages. Our issues ranged from 8,000+ to over 12,000 words for a grand total of over one-half million words (or 5 average size novels).

We consumed 245 reams of paper (24½ cases) or 123,000 sheets of paper weighing over 1600 lbs. Typing consumed 25 rolls of carbon ribbon, and we used over five cartons of special paste-up cardboard, 7 boxes of staples, 2 gallons of rubber cement, and 2½ reams of special paste-up paper.

From the foregoing you can readily understand why a change was requested in top leadership for our publications. Two weekends per month are required to do the editing job and mailing, and it frequently worked out that several were three day holiday periods, such as: Independence Day, Memorial Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving & Christmas. So, it will be great not to have another set of deadlines to meet.

Don't get the idea that this was a one-man show, it wasn't. It was a team effort involving every man on the editorial staff (9 during the past 4 years); 5 Program Chairmen, 4 Chapter Presidents, 3 Technical Committee Chairmen, 2 Products Fair Chairmen, and many others. At least 30 members have been contributors at regular intervals.

I want to thank every participant for their fine contributions. The job has brought many rewards in terms of satisfaction; and the lavish praise that has been given to our efforts from members and people from other chapters and sources within the construction industry are deeply appreciated.

Again, my thanks for this opportunity to serve. I offer an earnest plea to all members to give Wes Page the same high quality of support. Deadlines have a habit of sneaking up rather quickly, and it sure helps to have material submitted on time, and have the guidance of comment and constructive criticism from our membership.

....Clyde Pearson, Editor

### REGION ELEVEN CONFERENCE St. Francis Hotel, San Francisco, Sept. 26-28

Conference Chairman John W. Kruse has mailed out the preliminary Region 11 Conference data to all CSI members in our region early in June. These notices were not sent to members of our Chapter because few will require hotel accommodations and the supplemental data about San Francisco that was sent in the first mailing. A second mailing with program details will be sent out to all members of the Region in late July. St. Francis Hotel will be the headquarters for this event, hosted by the San Francisco Chapter.

The preliminary program is as follows:

- |   |                   |
|---|-------------------|
| <b>Friday - September 26</b>  | <b>Afternoon:</b> |
| Sports, Golf, Sightseeing.  |                   |
| 3:00 - 6:00 PM Registration (St. Francis)   |                   |
| 6:30 PM Welcoming Mixer (Cocktail Party)  |                   |
| <b>Saturday - September 27</b>  |                   |
| 8:30 - 10:00 AM Region 11 Business Meeting  |                   |
| Please note that ample time has been allowed for discussion of <u>all</u> business matters (until noon, if required). |                   |
| 12:30 - 2:00 PM Regional Luncheon. (Ladies are invited)   |                   |
| 2:00 - 4:30 PM Technical Program (Being arranged by David Maurier)  |                   |
| 5:30 - 7:00 PM Bay Cruise (Cocktails)   |                   |
| 10 AM to 4 PM Ladies Program (Includes tours and Regional Luncheon)   |                   |
| <b>Sunday - September 28 (Optional Activities)</b>  |                   |
| 12 Noon, on .... Golf, Sailing on the Bay, Sightseeing tours.   |                   |

(Continued on the next page....)



## "ERASE - ERASE - ERASE"

In our May edition we carried brief biographical sketches on our new slate of Officers and Directors, and boy did we "goof". The profile on our new/old Director, Frank Barsotti, we said:

"He is married, lives with his wife and four children (3 girls & one boy) in Belmont." "Not so," says Frank, "they live with ME in Belmont." The record stands corrected. Mrs. Barsotti and their four fine children live in Belmont with our good friend, (husband & father) FRANK.

Seriously, we want to set the record straight on a couple of other points that were omitted in the brief article. Frank served a term as a Director for our Chapter several years ago, so this is his second performance in this key role. In addition to being the Head of the Specifications Department for the San Francisco office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (as reported) he is also an Associate in the firm. He is also a fine fellow to be associated with at a CSI Convention. He sure does get around.

### Region 11 Conference - continued:

Registration Fee	Members:	Ladies:
Prior to September 3rd.	\$20.00	\$10.00
After September 3rd:	\$25.00	\$15.00

**Hotel Reservations:** (St. Francis Hotel)  
Make reservations directly with the hotel.  
Business reply cards will be provided in next Conference mailing in late July.

Rates:	Standard:	Medium:	Deluxe:
Single Rm. (for 1)	\$18-19	\$20-25	\$26-32
Double (for 2)	\$23-24	\$26-30	\$37
Twin Bedroom (2)		\$25-30	\$31-37
Suites (2 rooms)		\$50-65	\$70-80
Rollaway bed	\$5		

plus 5% City tax and 1½% telephone service tax.

**Conference Fee:** Payable to Roul D. Shelly, Chairman, Registration Committee, 850 S. Van Ness Avenue, San Francisco, California 94110. Please use the Registration Form (provided in next Conference mailing) to transmit your fee to Roul D. Shelly. The following activities are included in the Registration Fee: Fri. Mixer & Cocktail Party. Sat. Regional Luncheon and Bay Cruise (including Cable Car Bus transportation). Not included: Other meals, parking, sightseeing, and transportation. Parking is available at Union Square Garage or Financial Center Garage.

### AWARDS and APPOINTMENTS (Continued from page 2...)

Of course, the over-all success of the Chapter's program of activities this year can be traced directly to the top leadership provided by President Grant A. Larsen. The Institute's Award for Meritorious Service was presented to Grant by his successor in office, Douglas Day. All our members agree that Grant richly merits this recognition for his strong and inspired leadership. The results speak loudly. Chapter membership is at its highest point, fiscal matters are in fine shape, and all of our activities have been successful. Grant leaves the Chapter in good hands and in great shape.

Upon assuming the President's chair, Doug Day announced the appointment of several key committee chairmen. Jordan D. (Jack) Hall, one of our award winners in the annual CSI Specifications Competition will assume the vital post of Program Chairman; William H. (Bill) Camp, will assume the very difficult job of Membership Chairman; and Wesley Page will take over as Chairman of the Publications Committee and Editor of "Specifics". John W. Kruse will continue as Chairman of our Regional Conference Committee; and Alan G. Shelmerdine will continue to serve the Chapter as Chairman of the Technical Committee. Other appointments will be announced in the near future by President Doug Day who has demonstrated his ability in the gentle art of persuasion (also known as "arm twisting").

## PERSONALITY

PROFILE... by Gilbert H. Johnston

### JORDAN D. (JACK) HALL

Our honored personality this month is Jordan D. Hall, AIA, CSI, who received a Third Place Award in Category C at the CSI Convention in Houston for his entry in the annual CSI Specifications Competition for the new Eastman Kodak Distribution Center project.

When the name "Jordan D. Hall" comes up in conversation, it is not recognized immediately because he is universally known as "Jack", rather than "Jordan".

Jack Hall was born in Oakland on June 7, 1927 and obtained his degree in Architecture from the University of California (Berkeley) and has been licensed as an Architect in this State since 1962.

Jack's military service has been as a member of the Naval Reserve. He earned his commission through the NROTC unit at Cal, and then served with a Sea Bee detachment, working in the field he knows best, construction.

Jack has been a member of the staff of Kitchen & Hunt for the past seven years and is an Associate and Project Architect for this noted firm of architects. Previously he was employed by several outstanding architectural and engineering firms, including: Leonard Michaels, AIA; Barbachano, Ivanitsky & Associates, Watanabe & Associates; Reid & Tarics; and most recently with Kitchen & Hunt.

He is married and the proud father of two lovely daughters. Jack has been an active professional member of the San Francisco Chapter, CSI, and in the A.I.A. His major hobby is active participation in the Sierra Club, with its hiking and river touring section.

Jordan D. Hall has brought considerable credit to his firm, our Chapter and himself through his recent activities in the CSI Specs Competition. Keep up the fine work, Jack. It should be noted that Herman Hoyer and Jack Hall earned 20% of all the Specs Comp awards between them at the Houston Convention of CSI. They have demonstrated "it can be done". Their efforts should spur more local CSI members to enter the Competition, and we hope it happens.

....Gilbert H. Johnston, Assistant Editor



OBSERVATIONS on HOUSTON (Continued  
from page 3....)

4. The Unanimity of Feeling on the Subject of "Peddlers." These men have tremendous pride in their own work and effective resistance to the hard sell as the emphasis turns more to systems, components, and units - the man with a "product" to sell has little to offer these men.

There were many other impressions of Houston. I admired the efficient and lovely Civic Center while feeling exasperated by the bus situation between Civic Center and Hotel.

I felt the Pittsburgh School presentation illustrated our problems, rather than our solution - (the new schools figured out at \$44.00 per sq. foot).

I felt the contrast between the hundreds of lovely exhibit booths representing the newest and latest gadgets and the speakers representing realistic programs to provide good housing at prices that can be paid.

I feel, as an industry member, honored to have an opportunity to work for the development of CSI. Houston was part of that development.

.... Wesley Page

Editor's Note: We believe the expressions of Wes Page mirrored the viewpoints of most of our delegates. Each is well qualified to speak for himself. The Houston Chapter did a great job of hosting the event, under rather difficult conditions because of the travel between hotels and the Civic Center that was involved. One highlight in our view, not mentioned by Wes, was the "film festival" featuring continuous color movies with English sound tracks and commentary, covering all of the industrialized building systems from various countries, in impressive detail. In short you were able to ingest, in minutes, what would otherwise take weeks of travel at great expense. Moreover, the details depicted were far more complete than the usual visitor would be able to observe in the course of his travels. Oh yes, the buffet luncheons were exceptionally good each day.

MORE CONVENTION NEWS:

The San Francisco Chapter delegation of 15 plus a few wives gathered in Houston from all points of the country because several made use of the long Memorial Day weekend to do other things in widely separated areas. The Convention provided a number of expected experiences, and a few not fully anticipated. This saga might well be titled: "Adventure, Fun, Fellowship, Information and Involvement in Houston".

Our golfing enthusiasts arrived early to test their skill on the Houston courses, not realizing that the game is somewhat different in that part of Texas. It combines golf with a form of big-game hunting in the Houston area. When an early drive ended up in the rough, our transplanted Texan, Harvey Boyce advised the player to exercise care in attempting to locate the ball - the reason - the local climate is ideal for breeding rattlesnakes & water moccasins. They later learned that Harv's warning was valid, as several snakes were killed

on that course during the day. It also explains why some of our fellows bought new balls to replace some "lost" in the rough.

Modern Houston, the nation's sixth largest, and the birthplace of Texas independence is a very interesting city. Our meetings were held in the new Civic Center complex which is massive and very impressive. Delegates were housed in three hotels which required a lengthy bus ride from hotels to the Civic Center. Lapsed time for the trip was 15 to 35 minutes, depending on traffic conditions. This situation fouled up the presentation of awards to winners of the annual CSI Specifications Competition, the first order of business after the Mayor's welcome which was delivered to less than half of the delegates.

The Mayor's talk was apparently shorter than had been anticipated, and awards were made ahead of the scheduled time with less than half of the winners (including our Herman Hoyer) on hand to receive them. This was a sorry situation, but about the only major "foul-up" in the entire three-day program. Incidentally the Mayor indicated one area for improving specifications is in establishing realistic completion dates. He complained that Houston's new \$100 million airport had been promised for 1967, but would not open until the week following our convention! It seems this problem is universal, and not confined to the Bay area.

To most of our delegates Houston is rather perplexing because it has no zoning laws and high-rise office buildings are located next to hospitals and industrial complexes, and spread over a large area.

New structures are everywhere and they are very beautiful and functional. The Civic Center comprises five huge structures; Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts (site of our opening meeting), the Exhibition Center (site of most other meetings and the building products exhibits), the Music Hall (closing business meeting), the Museum of Art, and in the center of the complex a huge underground garage connected by passageways directly to the four buildings in the area, so you don't have to get wet in the rain after driving into the garage. And it did rain most of the time we were in Houston.

This complex was large enough to accommodate two events of the size of our convention, at the same time, without undue inconvenience. The Houston Chapter did a fine job making and maintaining arrangements, but the bus situation was rather poor and created some problems - particularly after the last session when the bus fleet had to make two trips in heavy traffic while delegates waited in the rain. There are no cruising taxi cabs and the distance was far too great to walk.

The language barrier created a small problem with a couple of our speakers from foreign lands, but the day was saved by the fine colored slides they used to illustrate their talks. The program was very impressive and complete. Wes Page provides his careful and articulate appraisal in the article on page 3. Industrialized construction in other lands is far ahead of the U.S. for a number of valid reasons. The countries involved in this program were devastated by the bombs of war, skilled manpower had been killed off and was not available to undertake the huge job of rebuilding cities, providing housing, and reestablishing industry.

(Other side, please.....)



## HOUSTON CONVENTION (Continued)

Conventional methods and materials, without skilled workers could not do the job. So, these nations developed new systems and methods to attack the massive problem. The approaches took many forms and undoubtedly some fell by the wayside, but the surviving systems are successful and impressive.

The key to each system presented at the series of meetings involved making the best use of relatively unskilled labor, on an assembly line basis, employing materials readily available in each country - concrete, plastics and wood. The emphasis varies from country to country according to their needs and resources. Systems range from ready-to-erect small components up to factory finished (and furnished apartments) and homes ready for placement on the site. Components may be panels and floor-roof slabs up to complete multi-room units. Large and sophisticated factories have been built to provide continuing output without concern for weather conditions.

The results are surprising in terms of beauty, variety, and composition. It takes a real expert to discern the difference between conventional U.S. type construction and the wide variety of attractive structures produced in factories, and assembled quickly on the site. It is apparent that designers are not inhibited in their utilization of the prefabricated components and units. Textures, colors, and finishes have been assembled in hundreds of exciting combinations and variations.

Each speaker outlined the programs and systems used in his country, and colored slides were used to illustrate his message. In addition, a continuous "film festival" featuring sound movies in full color (with English commentary) were provided to depict every step in the various patented systems from raw material thru the finished structure ready for occupancy.

These presentations offered some exciting concepts for the future, but it will take time and diligence to overcome the problems of building codes, labor restrictions, and zoning laws here in the U.S. if similar large scale development is to be achieved. But, the writing seems to be on the wall in large letters - if we are to transform our blighted urban areas at costs we can underwrite.

The featured U.S. presentation dealt with the new high school construction program in Pittsburgh. Twenty-two old high schools are to be junked (all built before 1927, and some over 100 years old). They will be replaced by five massive complexes on brand new sites at a cost of \$240 (or as Wes says, \$44 per sq. ft.). The speaker was H. King Graf of Hellmuth, Obata & Kassabaum, (St. Louis, Mo., S.F., Pittsburgh, etc.). His presentation was excellent by your reporter frankly admits mistification re: the rationale behind the project. It appears that they added 2+2 and got 7 as the sum. There is very little doubt the end result, as structures will be little short of sensational - but why? Land is scarce in Pittsburgh and the sites selected were remote and expensive to build on. Bussing costs will be high and the problems of merging students from several high schools into one huge impersonal complex will provide some interesting and difficult puzzles - for someone to solve, and at what cost. Something seems to have whizzed by us on this one!

Which brings us to the Annual Business Meeting of the Institute, and the closing session of the Conference. The customary oral reports were not given, they had been printed in advance and issued to the delegates upon arrival, a nice touch because it provided time to review the reports prior to the business session.

President Grant Larsen controiled the S.F. delegation with an iron hand, when the time came to act on the three resolutions that had been proposed. No. 1 and 2 were related to changing the voting status and eligibility for certain offices by Industry Members. Impassioned arguments were heard on both sides of the questions before they were put to the vote. Of course, before balloting, all the delegations had to be certified; and Tom Hubbard, chairman of the Resolutions Committee read each of the proposals that had been submitted according to plan, for the vote of the delegates. Here is a summary of the results:

No. 1 (Giving Industry Members the right to vote on all matters of policy) was passed by a poll of the delegates by a ratio of about 3:2.

No. 2 (Making Industry Members eligible for the Institute offices of Vice President, and/or Secretary and Treasurer.) Seth Jackson of Seattle, chairman of the task force studying the composition of the Institute, urged that this vote be deferred until the report of his group could be considered, because it would bear on this problem. He reminded all that the President of the Institute was selected from the ranks of the Vice Presidents, and an affirmative vote would narrow this selection. His recommendation was not approved and the resolution was passed by voice vote.

No. 3 (Urging the establishment of a study group to reappraise the current programs of the Institute) was not approved.

What is the effect of this vote on Resolutions 1 and 2? Very little, because they are simply the considered views of the delegates to the Board. To make them effective a change in the By-Laws is required. This means a mail ballot will be sent to qualified voting membership (Professionals) for approval of a change in the By-Laws.

How did our Chapter vote? As individuals, not as a delegation, with slightly more than 1/3 approving, and in two slightly smaller groups as disapproving or abstaining. Our industry members generally were not in favor of the change and voted the measure down. But they were unable to convince our professional delegates that they "did not feel like second class citizens, and did not require the authority to vote, to feel wanted". So, our professional members split by either abstaining or voting to approve the proposals. This action gave the industry members a very warm feeling of "belonging". But when the mail ballot comes out most of the industry members will urge that the measures be defeated! They feel that the right to vote belongs just where it is, as present, and should not be changed. They reserve the right, however, to attempt to influence the professional members in any direction that bears on/or proprs the general good of the Institute. CSI is a professional society, and the vote on policy matters should remain with the professionals if we are to continue our present progress and increase our stature as an organization. So, don't rock the boat!



"PEOPLE FOR SALE"

The following is a portion of Gordon Conklin's editorial, "People for Sale", that appeared in the Empire State Architect (July-August issue).

A woman slips on her neighbor's steps, falls... and sues for \$50,000.

A teenager being pursued by police wraps himself and his car around a tree at one hundred miles per hour...his parents sue the village for \$100,000.

A boy drowns in a city pool after diving in the deep end, even though his doctor had warned him about a heart condition that made swimming dangerous...another \$100,000 law suit is underway against the city. Or rather underway against neighbors who live up and down the streets, for the city government creates no wealth, but merely uses that created by the taxpayers who support it.

Amidst the rising tide of such law suits are we aware of the fact that insurance companies do not create wealth either? Or have we reached the point where we are eager to reach into the pockets of our neighbors and force them to pay for our misfortunes, whether or not negligence is involved? Make no mistake, all of us pay...in the obvious way through higher insurance rates and added taxes, and in the less obvious fact that 4-H leaders, Scout leaders, teachers, and other community-minded folks are reluctant to accept responsibility for situations where they might find themselves in court because someone was injured.

When you next serve on a jury, do some hard thinking before allowing indiscriminate cashing in on some circumstances beyond anyone's control

...from Metro N.Y. Chapter's "Addendum", Nov. '68

"EQUAL CIVIL RIGHTS FOR ALL"

Virtually all Americans staunchly support the doctrine of fair and equal civil rights for all.

But - our public officials have permitted - and in some cases, even fostered - a weakening of some of the basic civil rights which all Americans have considered a part of their heritage for almost two centuries.

There's been a serious abridgement of the civil rights of a man who seldom makes the headlines. He's the hardworking, tax-paying, law-abiding citizen who demands nothing and expects nothing except the right to provide for himself and his family by honest toil.

We predict that, before long, he will be moved to speak out...and list these, his civil-rights "demands":

1. The right to walk the streets of any American town or city without fear of being mugged, maimed or murdered.

2. The right to send his child to a public school or college with the confidence that his teachers will be good Americans...and will teach him to be a good American.

3. The right to travel throughout his city and nation without being stopped, delayed, or impeded by any other citizen or group of citizens attempting to force respect for their rights by abridg-

ing his.

4. The right to enjoy good drama on TV or at the movie without having to watch and listen to filth as an essential part of every show.

5. The right to bow his head in prayer to God and proudly salute the flag of his Country without being tagged as "some kind of a nut".

6. The right to expect his representatives in Congress to legislate in the interest of all of his constituents...rather than primarily in the interest of those who either patronize or intimidate him.

7. The right to depend upon his courts and mental hospitals to protect the public by refusing to permit habitual criminals and criminally insane persons to roam the streets at will.

8. The right to count on his government to spend the money he provides in taxes wisely, efficiently, and economically for the good of all...and not as a reward to an obedient legislator or as a means of influencing voters.

9. The right to full protection of well paid and well respected law-enforcement officials at the city, state, and - if necessary - the national level against mob sacking or burning of his home or place of business.

10. The right, once again, to be justifiably proud of his Country, and its leaders...in the full and glorious knowledge that this is truly the land of the brave and the home of the free.

....from Babson's Report, Washington  
Forecast Letter; April Issue of "Or Equal"  
Milwaukee Chapter, CSI newsletter.

"Tips to the Specifier"

DIVISION 8 - Glass and Glazing

Paragraph: Cleaning

Many Glass and Glazing Specifications contain a paragraph entitled "Cleaning" which requires that this contractor wash and clean the glass at the completion of the job and before final acceptance. Standard Glazing Bid forms contain a paragraph stating that the bid price does not include cleaning of the glass, and almost all glazing contractors take exception in their proposals to any washing or cleaning requirements in the specifications.

The General Contractor usually includes washing the glass in his final clean-up, and rarely does a Glazing Contractor perform this function.

I suggest that the specifications require the Glazing Contractor to remove all excess putty and sealants from the glass, metal and adjacent construction and that final cleaning be the responsibility of the General Contractor and be listed with the special conditions. This would prevent misunderstanding and need for clarification between the General Contractor and the Glazing Contractor. In this way the specifications would reflect the manner in which construction actually proceeds, and this would be a step toward "better specifications".

Under certain conditions glass washing should be specified which is not associated with final cleaning. Glare-Reduced Heat Absorbing Rough rolled glass should be washed immediately after installation to remove putty stain which will be difficult or impossible to remove later. Any glass, and particularly Heat Absorbing Glass, on which the resi-

(Continued on next page...)



## Cleaning Glass (Continued from the previous pg.)

due from the run-off from unweather masonry during construction would remain for a considerable time, should be washed or flushed as necessary.

....Ralph M. Thompson, Architectural Representative, PPG Industries, Inc. (From the Cincinnati Chapter, CSI Newsletter)

## "PUT THE GOOD CHINA BACK UP?"

We reprint an Editorial written by Daniel Shapiro, President of the Structural Engineers Association of Northern California, published in their May newsletter. Sam Seifert our SEAONC Liaison Officer brought it to our attention. It's impact would have been greater if we had carried this article in an earlier issue, but space would not permit...and better late than never! Editor.

Almost nobody had been listening to the Structural Engineers' unhysterically stated message that research into the fields of Seismology and Earthquake Engineering is in the public interest.

Then a peculiar thing happened. A popular author, Curt Gentry, chose the literary device of an earthquake so violent it submerged all of California west of the San Andreas Fault. The imagined earthquake was contrived simply as a vehicle for a book focused on the foibles, oddities and importance of California, its people and politics. To add drama, the author quoted a seer named Cayce who, in a series of pronouncements, told of an earthquake that would destroy California in the latter part of this century. Gentry placed the event "on a Friday afternoon in 1969" which happened to fit neatly with the April 18 anniversary of the 1906 earthquake and fire. With this as an incentive, every seer, mystic, psychic and just ordinary nut began to predict earthquakes at various times in April.

There are documented cases of people who had lived much of their lives in California, constantly exposed to the danger of a major seismic disturbance, suddenly becoming fearful and leaving the State (some for the month of April, others for good). Housewives took the good china off the shelves and stored it in safer places. Newspaper reporters, TV reporters and others sought out the "experts" for a few profound words. Suddenly the public was listening and Structural Engineers had a platform.

April and May have passed and June is here. There have been minor temblors, but nothing sufficiently dramatic to qualify any of the self-styled prognosticators as experts in their field.

With the disappearance of the sensational and terrifying aspects of earthquake predictions, the public is returning to its indifferent attitude and will probably soon be accusing Structural Engineers and Seismologists of crying wolf.

The true test of our professionalism will be our ability to remain standing on the platform built for us. Can we now, by means of continuing research, education, and attention to responsible design, prevent the construction of new seismic hazards and continue the campaign to remove old ones - without the apparently invaluable aid of the outer fringe?

## Contractor's Views (Continued from page 4)

Finishes should be spelled out in specs...are holes to be patched, concrete surface "sacked" ? Money can be saved if surface treatment is spelled out. Shop finishing or on-site finishing? Who does what about application of sealants and caulking, moisture proofing, etc. Keep hollow metal doors and frames in same section. Leveling of floor slabs under resilient tile should be spelled out in terms of who does what. Availability of products is a continuing problem. List the number of colors per room, so bidding can be more accurate. Painter should be responsible for "touch-up" on completion, so he can include in his bid an item for this necessary work. Bert came up with many fine suggestions, in considerable detail and occasioned much "feed-back" in questions from the floor. Sorry we don't have space to do justice to this meeting.

.... Bill Camp and Clyde Pearson

## "OPEN HOUSE" INVITATION

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