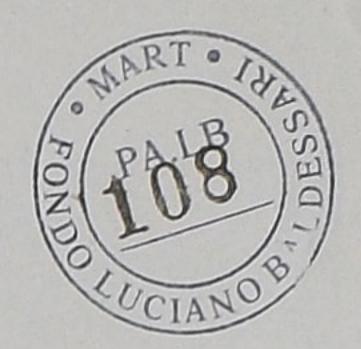
VOLUME 115, NUMBER 5



SCHOOLS:

New proposals to cut school costs

A FORUM inquiry delves into the latest answers here and abroad: Are there advantages in stock plans for schools? (page 112). What England has learned about component prefabs (page 114). U.S. beginnings toward prefabrication (page 120). Next step: a plan for coordinating parts (page 124). Recommendations for a rational new approach (page 128).

Gallery: Fortress for an ancient faith Marcel Breuer's Abbey of St. John is a study in soaring form.

Four outstanding schools:

A miniature prototype unit for Detroit (page 138). An open-air grouping for rural Weston, Mass. (page 142). A space-saving, split-level plan for Gary, Ind. (page 145). A carrousel quadrangle for Charlotte, N.C. (page 148).

152 Daly City's amazing schools Architect Mario Ciampi gives a suburb a new vision of education.

Technology: Flexible teaching space A variety of devices allows a variety of educational choice.

Rebuilding: 162

An elementary school expands under novel skylighting. A high school sprouts faceted classrooms and alcoved halls. Roundup: business builds shelters; citizens unbuild a sign.

DEPARTMENTS

5	News	Cover:	Little Red Schoolhouse, design by Ray Komai.
39	Projects	16	Editorial, subscription, and advertising data.
45	Products	232	Advertising index.
107	Editorials		Published monthly by TIME INC Time and Life Building, Rockefeller Center, New York 20, N. Y.
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236	Editor's note		Circulations and The Associated Business Publications,

Publisher's note

For a long time Forum's editors have recognized that America's continually mounting classroom requirements cannot be met through increased spending alone, that more intelligent spending is also mandatory. This has been the theme of most of Forum's annual school issues—as it is this month.

Looking back, Forum's editors can take pride in their contributions toward stretching the schoolhouse dollar and improving the design of America's educational plant -contributions which have been recognized by award juries and have been quickly accepted by school architects and educators (Forum's 62,000 circulation includes 9,400 subscribers in the educational classification). For example:

In 1935, schools specially designed by leading architects for Forum's November issue got the modern movement off dead center. Within two years modern schools began to appear in force.

In 1949, "Forum's school for 1950," programmed by the editors and designed by the brilliant Matthew Nowicki, broke the monopoly that had accrued to the spreadout "finger-plan" school by setting up the counter-ideal of compact multi-use space. (This issue was judged by Industrial Marketing to be the best among all industry magazines for the year 1949.)

In 1953, the editors introduced a new approach to school costs which lifted the discussion above the usual narrow range of construction economics and placed it in the broader context of school policies, programming, and financing.

In 1957, Forum commanded the attention of hundreds of newspapers with its sharp reply to "That Readers Digest article" which, wrongly accusing school boards and architects of building "palaees," was discouraging voters from passing school-bond issues. (Forum's article earned an Award of Merit from Industrial Marketing and prompted requests for 19,302 reprints.)

In 1959, the editors gave the first rounded analysis of the efforts of the Ford Foundation to encourage school planning and equipment that could expand the effectiveness of teachers. And, Forum's editorial on "Schools for an age of confusion" won an award from the National Education Association.

In this issue, FORUM's editors explore in depth the economics and techniques of schoolhouse prefabrication. The significance of this effort will be seen in the shape and structure of tomorrow's schools and, hopefully, in the further stretching of the school building dollar .- J.C.H. JR.