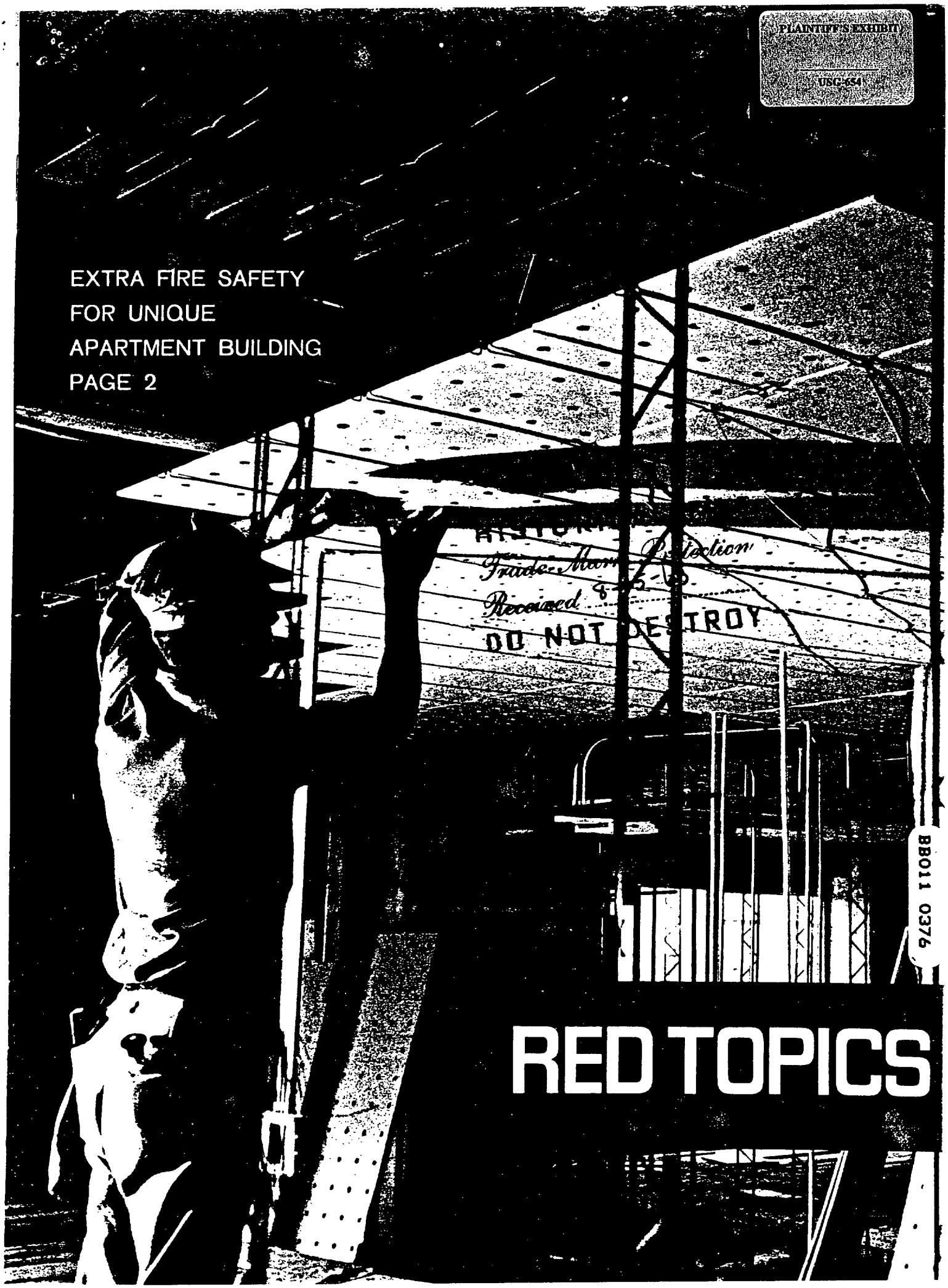
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EXTRA FIRE SAFETY
FOR UNIQUE
APARTMENT BUILDING
PAGE 2

# RED TOPICS

BB011 0376

**'RED TOPICS MAGAZINE**

'treating subjects

vital to lathing and plastering

a UNITED STATES GYPSUM publication
101 S. Wacker Dr., Chicago 6, Ill.

GEORGE E. HARPER, Editor
D. I. PANAMA, Art Director

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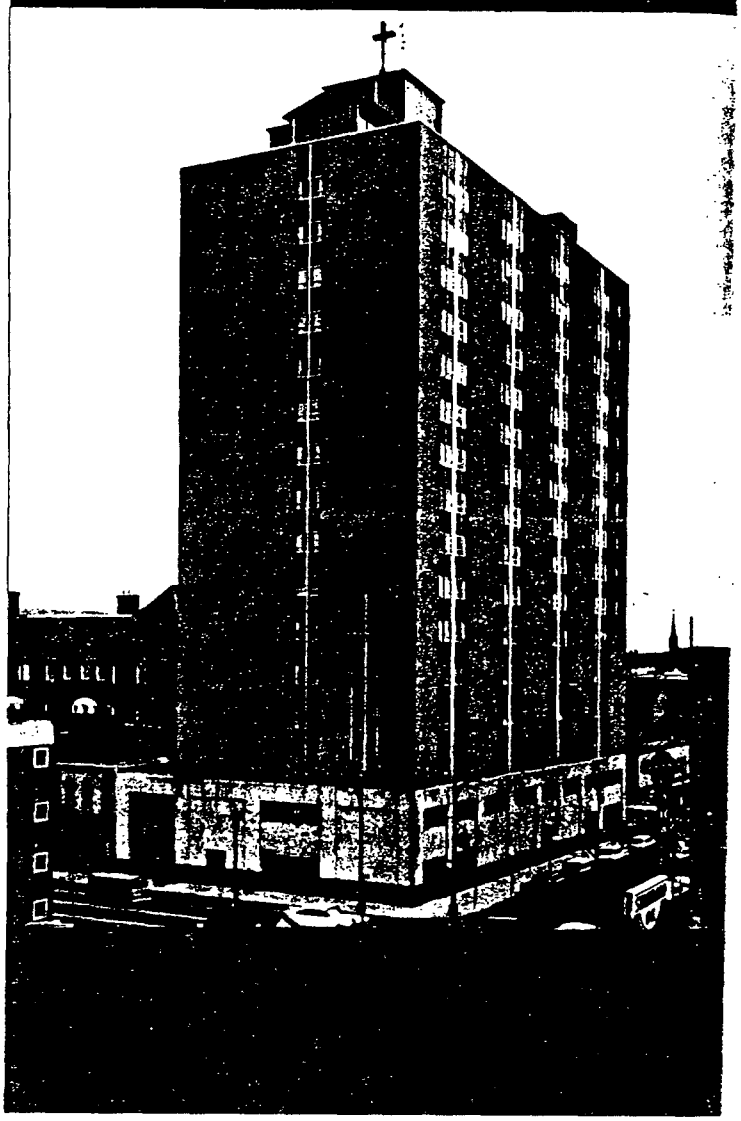
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# TRINITY TOWERS



BB011 0377



**DROPPED CEILING,** constructed with BRACE-TITE system, gives added safety of 3-hr. fire resistance (increase from 2-hr. with 14-ga. diagonal tie wires, 12 in. o.c.) Steel columns are membrane-fireproofed with ROCKLATH plaster base and 1¾-in. RED TOP perlited plaster. Exterior walls are metal lath and plaster.



**COSTS COME DOWN** when RED TOP plasters are spray-applied. Left, plasterer sprays basecoat over ROCKLATH (perforated) in fast-paced operation designed to beat construction costs of concrete-and-block structure originally planned.

Urban renewal, a term connoting many things to many people, means new opportunities for service to Louisville's downtown Trinity Temple Methodist Church. While most inner-city churches are suffering from declining congregations in the move to suburbia, 75-yr.-old Trinity took a pioneering step in another direction, both to preserve its downtown location and to serve, in a unique way, the needs of those who live in the city's heart.

Trinity Towers, in the very center of downtown Louisville, is a pioneer project—and also one which is being watched by both governmental housing authorities and other churches countrywide. Instead of moving, the church congregation decided to raze their old building and build in its place a modern, 17-story apartment building with a church sanctuary on the main floor.

The new building, within easy walking distance of all downtown activities, has many things in comfort and convenience to recommend it to tenants, the majority of whom are 62 or over. The building, which contains 218 apartments (72 1-bedroom and the balance efficiencies), features a sundeck and garden, a Chapel in the Sky, observation lobby and activity rooms. The $2½ million project was 100% Fannie Mae financed, which specifies that 75% of apartments must be reserved for those over 62. Occupancy is limited to two per apartment.

Built-in features were called for in the revised specifications for the safety, comfort and convenience of tenants —and to keep construction costs down. Completely fur-

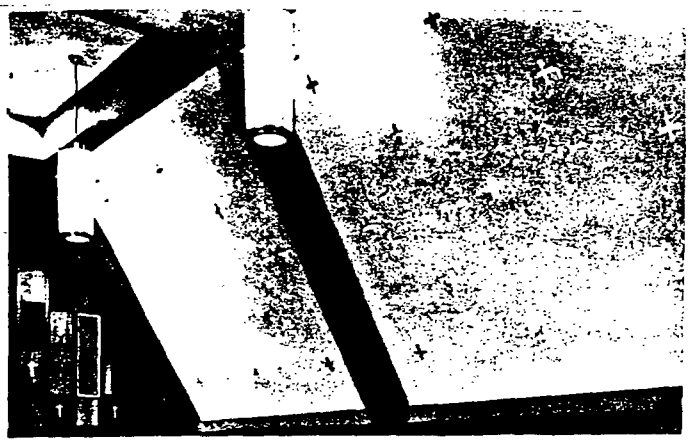
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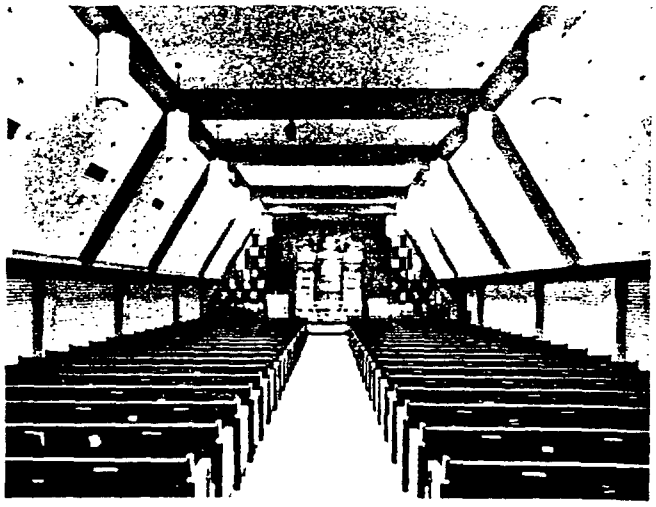
**ULTIMATE IN EFFICIENCY** and comfort, apartments include hideaway electric kitchens. Interior partitions of long-length ROCKLATH and plaster, 2-in. thick (inset), contribute to space-saving and economy in construction.



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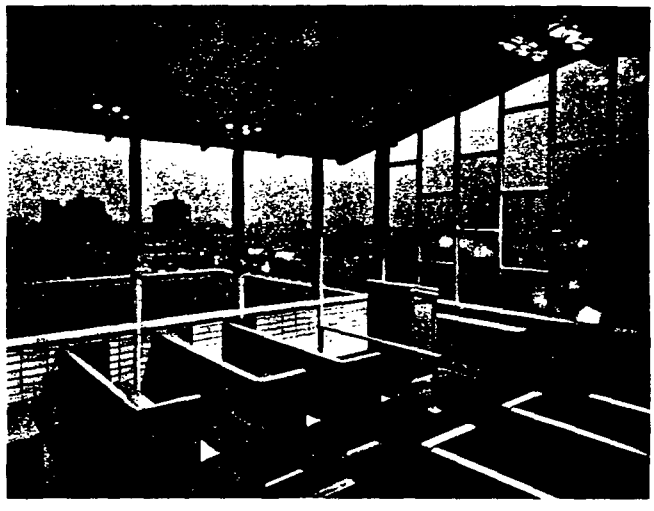


**MAIN SANCTUARY** of Trinity Temple Methodist Church (below) is at street level, seats 550. Closed-circuit camera in ceiling brings view of service to adjacent rooms. AUDICOTE acoustical plaster adds both sound-conditioning and beauty to auditorium. Unusual effects are achieved as light flows through cross-shaped openings in ceiling (left). Openings were created with pre-cast plaster inserts.





**PLASTERING CONTRACTOR** Charles J. Knight (right) explains time-and-money saving effected (in conduit installation and chase walls) on Trinity Tower job to U.S.G. Salesman Jim Sauter. For sound-comfort (46 db), units are isolated with 3¼-in. TRUSSTEEL stud party and corridor walls, finished one side with TR-1 resilient clips, ROCKLATH plaster base and plaster; opposite side is conventional wall of ROCKLATH and ⅜-in. sanded RED TOP plaster.



**CHAPEL IN SKY**, for quiet meditation, seats 40 in glass-enclosed roof-top area overlooking city.

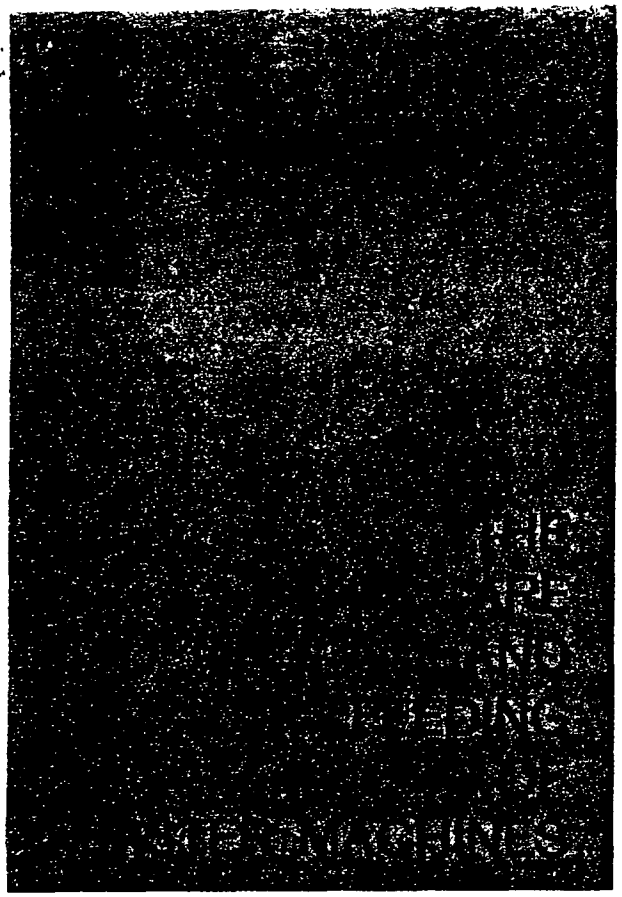
ARCHITECT: E. J. SCHICKLI, A.I.A.
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GENERAL CONT.: WHITTENBERG CONST. CO.
PLASTERING CONT.: CHARLES J. KNIGHT & SONS

**TRINITY TOWERS** *continued*

nished efficiency and 1-bedroom apartments rent for $90 to $130 per month. The original specification of a poured concrete-and-block building was changed to a steel structure with plaster walls. Result: considerable savings.

A combination of systems was employed to obtain 3-hr. fire rated ceilings — the BRACE-TITE attachment system was used to install ROCKLATH plaster base and perlited plaster ceilings 8 ft. from the floor in a 10-ft. floor-to-floor height. Interior partitions are long-length ROCKLATH and plaster. "This 2-in. thick solid plaster wall saved considerable floor space within units," volunteered Plastering Contractor Charles Knight. He also pointed to considerable savings in time by spray-applying plaster. This is the first job on which Knight went "all-out" with spray operations. His crews first went through the entire building, spraying only walls—then came back and did ceilings last. Knight indicated further savings in overall construction time, especially in installing conduit and chase walls, through use of U.S.G. plaster systems.

Trinity Towers, opened last November, is the realization of five years of planning and dreaming. Countless changes in design, to best meet needs of tenants, city and congregation, have been made to create a structure as comfortable, safe, convenient and attractive as the builders could make it. We like to think products manufactured by United States Gypsum contributed their part!



The need for economy through efficient material handling and increased productivity in high-rise construction has led to the development of today's efficient plastering machines. But with their development have also come a few problems. One centers around trying to force too much plaster too fast through the machine. Another is use of the wrong materials, or material improperly proportioned and mixed. Other problems result from inadequate cleaning and maintenance. Here are a few suggestions on the proper care and feeding of this intricate equipment.

## FEEDING

Planned job layouts and location of machine set-ups are essential to economical operation. Materials — and only those designed for machine application — should be spotted to avoid unnecessary handling. Machine and mixer should be located so that all areas of a job can be reached with the shortest possible length of hose. Unnecessary hose lengths result in the need for higher pumping pressures. To reduce friction, use as large a hose as possible — 2-in. is most popular, with only 15 ft. of 1½-in. at nozzle for ease of handling on scaffold.

## PROPER CARE

Equipment which is clean and in proper working order can save a lot of headaches later. Worn parts should be replaced and all hose wetted and pumped clean with water and sponge. Machines should be run only at the speed at which they were designed to run, providing materials can be handled efficiently. Too fast a rate only results in wasted materials, higher cleanup costs and abnormal equipment depreciation.

One of the biggest causes of plaster machine problems is negligence. The wrong ratio of aggregate to gypsum, careless aggregate gradation or improper mixing methods may team up with worn pump parts or leaks in hose and fittings to cause sand packs and play havoc with production costs.

Frequency of cleanup is of utmost importance. When pumping a cementious material, such as gypsum, the machine should be cleaned *at least* as often as the length of the setting time of material being pumped. With most cementious materials, noon and night cleanouts are sufficient. A noon cleanup means all material is pumped out of the machine, sponge forced through hose and nozzle cleaned. Night shutdown calls for a double wash and sponge through hose, replacement of any worn parts, a complete check of all couplings and fittings and lubrication according to manufacturers' specifications.

## SHORT TIPS FOR LONG WEAR

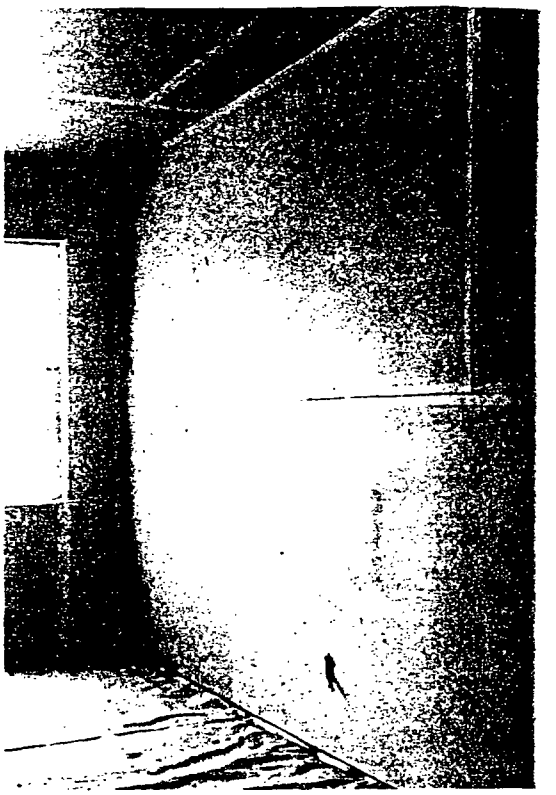
- *Establish regular maintenance schedule*
- *Clean all set materials from pumping parts daily*
- *Inspect and replace all worn parts daily*
- *Disassemble and clean couplings, fittings frequently*
- *Keep air hoses, fittings and nozzle clean*
- *Lubricate properly and often*



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# "TUFCON

## Alabama plastering contractor fills gaps in commercial work with residential jobs



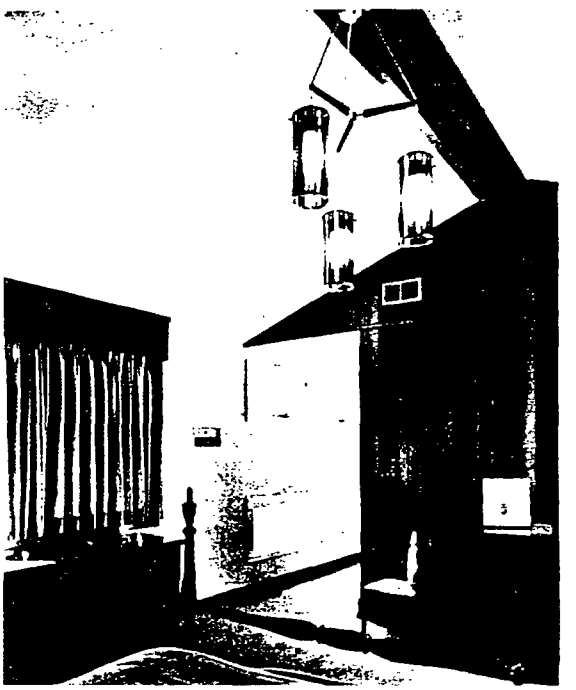
**ONE . . . TWO . . . THREE** — applying TUFCON finish is as fast as that. TUFCON base is fastened to studs, joints covered with special glass mesh tape (above). Super-hard TUFCON is spray-applied (right), trowelled lightly and then fog-sprayed to create durable textured finish.





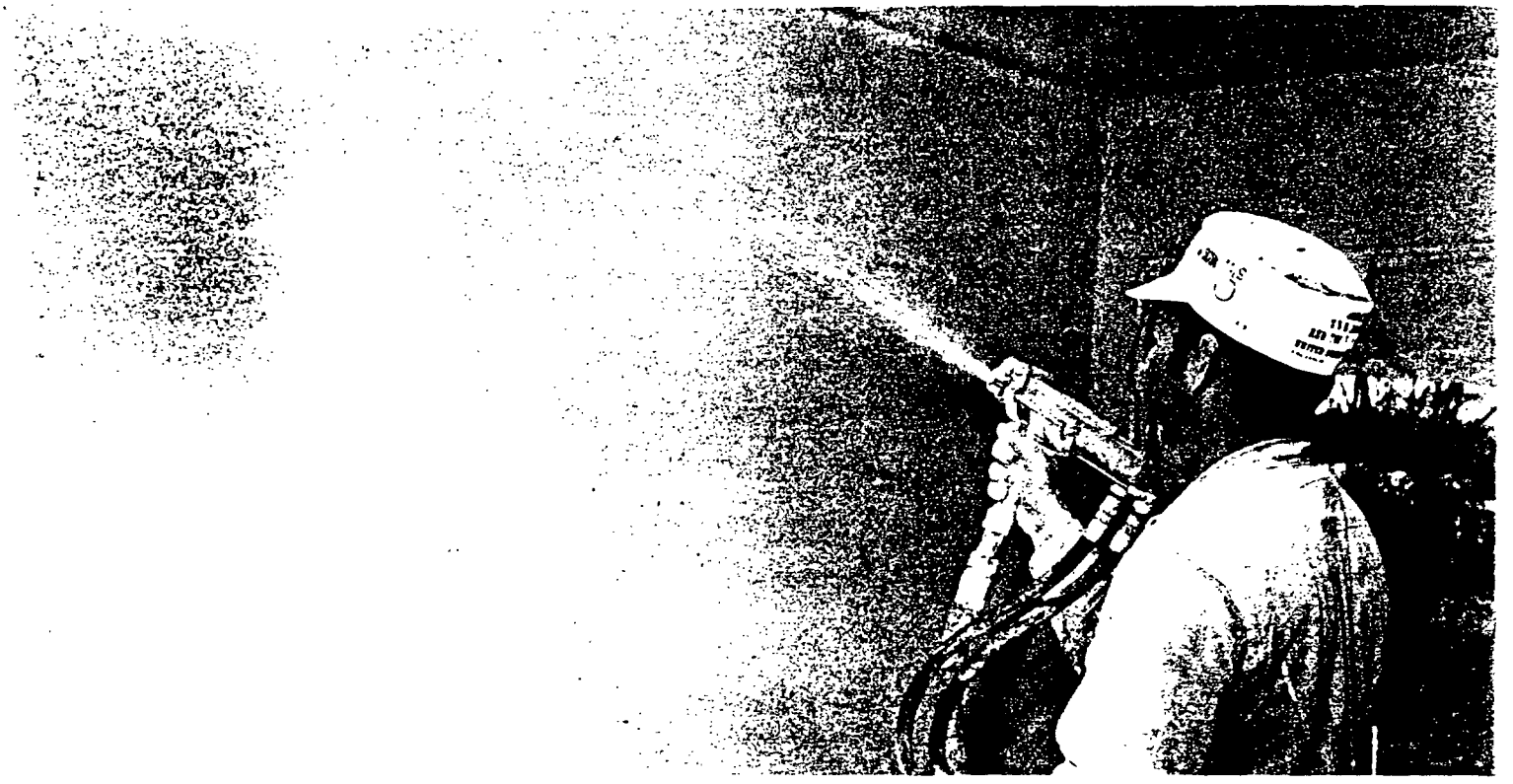


**ALL AROUND** the Walter Dean house in Tuscaloosa, Ala. — in kitchen, bathroom, bedrooms or halls — TUFCON provided economical, but hard-to-damage surfaces.



BB011 0381

# system put us back into homes"



The ups and downs of commercial plastering jobs are always a problem. But Osco Simpson, owner of Simpson Plastering Co., Northport, Ala., found at least a partial solution. He is now applying TUFCON finish in both residences and apartment structures and has plenty of future jobs in sight.

Previous to his starting a TUFCON operation in the Fall of 1962, Simpson had not done any residential plastering for more than two years, although he had done a considerable amount of commercial work. Now he feels TUFCON is bringing the plasterer back into the residential field. "We're delighted to have this work to supplement our commercial jobs," he says.

Simpson has been well pleased with both the new system and the business increase it has brought him. Since he started applying TUFCON finish he has completed several homes and an apartment building. After his crews became familiar with the system and erection of the large TUFCON base, he has been able to trim costs. Simpson now offers a TUFCON job for only 10.3% more than drywall — with the goal in mind to reduce this figure even more and become completely competitive.

To Simpson Plastering, TUFCON finish means new life, new interest in their plastering services. "When we are diligent in selling and careful in bidding, we have no trouble in attracting favorable attention among potential customers," Simpson declares. He is convinced that when his crews become more familiar with erection procedures — with close supervision and attention to details — they will have few problems with either job performance or the finished product.

Another TUFCON system enthusiast is Walter Dean, a commercial building contractor whose TUFCON-finished home is shown on the opposite page. After seeing the new system demonstrated, he chose it for his large, new home. The finished result left him even more favorably impressed, and he looks forward to long and damage-free service from the extremely hard surface.



BB011 0382

Mr. J. K. Wise
Manager
Patent Department
Dept. 157

**SCOOP** DEPT. 126 CREATIVE SERVICES
DEPT. 132 BUSINESS SERVICES
a/p

Dec 15

To U.S.G. Salesmen:

Why not take your plastering contractors to church -- in this case, Louisville's Trinity Temple Methodist Church -- and show them how U.S.G. materials met the special requirements in constructing this most unusual 17 story church-apartment building? Capture customers' attention by calling attention to this unique structure. Then show them how U.S.G. plaster systems satisfied every demand for speed, quiet, fire-safety and economy -- and can satisfy them in any building.

There seems to be a week for everything else. Why not a "Be kind to plastering machines" week? Use the short, packed-with-facts article on "Care and Feeding of Plaster Machines" to help your contractors get more mileage out of their machines -- and tempers. It's to your advantage that they do. Broken-down machines don't use much plaster.

Osco Simpson found a way to fill the gaps in commercial work with residential jobs in "TUFCON System Put Us Back Into Homes." Pass Osco's secret along. It may be just the ticket to increased business for your customers -- and for you. It will get people excited over economical, but hard-to-damage TUFCON.

The formula on the back page can give you the key to some mighty big sales. Look at the size of that Apollo Savings and Loan building fireproofed with FIRECODE "V"! Are there some big jobs coming up in your territory that could use the six strong advantages of job-tailored FIRECODE "V"?

Take this issue of RED TOPICS along on your calls. It's thin to carry, but it's in the thick of selling for you.

M. P. Reed
Manager, Creative Services

BB011 0375