

As of July 1 of this year the masonry industry has joined together in a cooperative effort and formed the International Masonry Industry All-Weather Committee.

It is composed of the Bricklayers, Masons & Plasterers International Union, Laborers' International Union of North America, Mason Contractors Association of America, National Concrete Masonry Association, Portland Cement Association, and Structural Clay Products Institute.

This committee, international in scope, will undertake research for new and improved methods so the industry's available manpower can be used to its fullest extent despite adverse weather conditions. I am sure President Thomas Murphy, of the Bricklayers, Masons & Plasterers International Union, will, or has already, discussed with you the great loss of manpower that our industry suffers due to lost time directly related to inclement weather.

This seasonal fluctuation greatly affects the scheduling, completion dates, as well as the entire work force that contractors have upon their projects, besides the great losses in revenue to all the parties concerned.

During this year of scarcity in skilled craftsmen this association and the international union are doing everything within their power to promote and conduct an ever-increasing apprenticeship program; however, there is no other single item that we know of that could add skilled manpower hours to our working force than the implementation of an all-weather construction program.

To search out and attempt to solve some of the problems on a local level, MCAA will again sponsor during the fall season a series of all-weather conferences, which will bring to the various communities in this country and Canada, speakers who will show them new ideas and techniques which will make weather enclosures and heating much more practical and desirable.

We might point out that there has been some reluctance on the part of the masonry industry to bear the entire cost of the enclosure. When a structure is enclosed by a mason contractor each and every trade that is working on this building will benefit, yet the burden of cost, no matter how large or small, has been resting solely with the mason contractor if no allowances have been made to offset this item.

I digress to say that when we talk about allowances there, we are talking about the allowances in the general conditions of the contract set up in one way or another to provide for the enclosure of the building.

The masonry industry has seen that there is a great benefit in an all-weather construction effort.

For example, I refer to the enclosure in our file folder produced by Structural Clay Products Institute entitled "Cold Weather Construction Techniques."

The Jordan Marsh Department Store at Braintree, Mass., was done by the firm of G. Salvucci Co., of which I am an officer. You will note that the estimate for the protection of this work to continue under cold weather conditions was approximately 1 percent of the total job cost.

In our files in the executive offices in Chicago we have photographs of projects that used enclosures and heating that date back to 1950. For example:

The TB sanitarium in Hancock, Mich., done during the years of 1950-51, used suspended scaffolding covered with tarps. The estimated