

How Hughes put Utzon in his place

ONE of the exhibits at last night's special general meeting of the N.S.W. Chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects was a four feet by three feet enlargement of the diagram pictured on the right.

The diagram was drawn by the Minister for Public Works, Mr Davis Hughes, during his meeting with Joern Utzon at the Lane Cove Motel this month. It reveals more clearly than any of Mr Hughes' Press statements have done just how subsidiary a role Mr Utzon would have played in the Opera House project if he had returned on the Minister's terms.

Immediately beneath the Government Architect (who would occupy Mr Utzon's former position) would have been various consultants and an architects' panel consisting of two sub-sections — construction and design.

From the design section, Mr Utzon's only contact with his engineering and acoustic consultants would have been first through the architects' panel, and then through the Government Architect.

**Extra,
extra!**

"CROSS-Section," the influential journal of the Department of Architecture at Melbourne University, has published an "extraordin-

ary issue" devoted solely to the Utzon affair.

After giving its readers a most concise and objective account of the dispute, it concludes:—

"If the Minister and the State Cabinet would only visit the site, study the drawings, read all the reports and fairly investigate all the facts, they could not help but ultimately declare their confidence in Joern Utzon.

"In the meantime, every architect who believes in the ethics of his profession, in the cause of good architecture, in the principles of justice, must support Utzon.

"The Royal Australian Institute of Architects is challenged to declare participation in the Minister's proposed 'team of architects' as an unethical act."

Mr Edward's mission

FOR 46 years Mr Wilford Edwards, the originator of the Perpetual Calendar, has been campaigning throughout the world to have it adopted.

Mr Edwards, a 63-year-old retired engineer from Hawaii, was still campaigning when he arrived in Sydney on a brief visit this week.

In the Perpetual Calendar, each month begins on a Monday, Wednesday or Friday and has 30 or 31 days, with 24 working days plus Sundays. (At present each month has between 24 and 27 working days plus Sundays.)

The Perpetual Calendar uses New Year's Day as a "holiday apart," preceding Monday, January 1 (every year begins on a Monday).

Leap Year Day, a sec-

ond "holiday apart," falls between June 31 and July 1.

Mr Edwards said these two days, considered apart from any week or month, allowed the calendar to become fixed and perpetual.

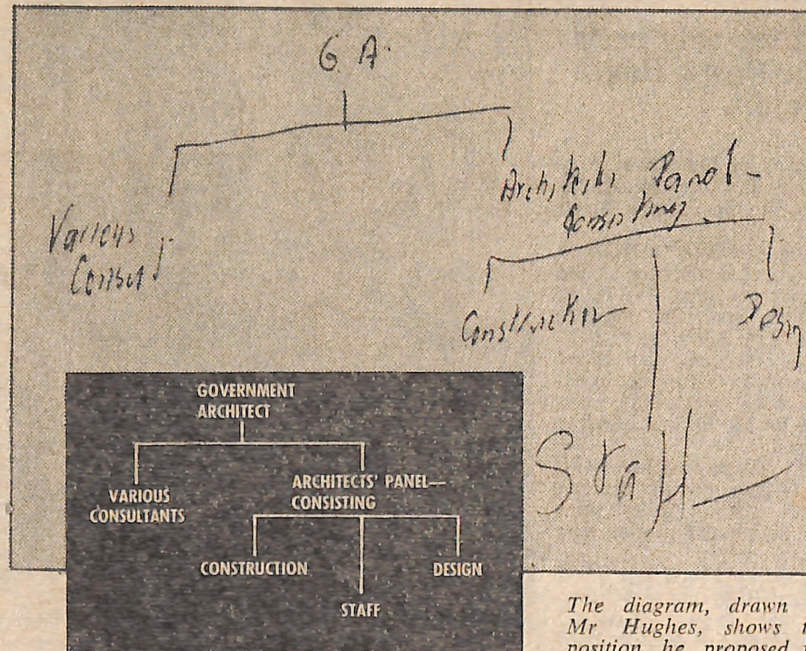
He originated the calendar in 1919, and it was first published in 1922. Hawaii Legislature endorsed it in 1943, and since then it has come before the United States Congress every second year, but discussion of it there has not moved beyond the committee level.

It has been seen in 40 countries and received the endorsement of Government officials, royalty, businessmen, the Second Ecumenical Council, some Service chiefs, and the late President Kennedy when he was a senator.

Mr Edwards said he had not spent a cent on publicity.

When nobody wanted opals

SIXTY years ago Percy Marks, the founder of the Sydney jewellers, could find no buyers for black opals which he had brought from Lightning Ridge by the sackful.



The diagram, drawn by Mr Hughes, shows the position he proposed for Mr Utzon (design).

Last week, opals worth \$23,000 were stolen from a collection which Marks had given to the Museum of Applied Arts and Sciences in 1934.

Opals have been mined in Australia since the turn of the century, when only the light-coloured opal had any value.

It was Percy Marks who first brought attention to the darker opals, known as black opals, which are now the most valuable. The best black opals can bring as much as \$30,000 an ounce, compared with the best light opals, which are worth up to \$1,000 an ounce.

Today the main opal fields are at Andamooka and Coober Pedy, in South

Australia, and at Lightning Ridge and White Cliffs, in New South Wales.

Opals were recently declared a precious stone in Australia, requiring opal buyers to be licensed under the Gold Buyers' Act. In N.S.W. anyone with a Miner's Right can dig for opals.

Since Percy Marks died in 1935, his sons Rolf and Percy have been joint directors of the jewellery business.

"The more opals mined, the more interest there is in them," Mr Rolf Marks said yesterday. "But Lightning Ridge is running low, and there is a danger of exhaustion in South Australia unless further prospecting is done."

THE REV. L. G. BALL, a 66-year-old retired Anglican priest from Melbourne, is about to have his third try at establishing what he calls "an intentional community."

Mr Ball came to Sydney last weekend to meet several people who had answered an advertisement of his in "The Anglican." The advertisement described his projected community as an Australian kibbutz. Mr Ball used the Israeli term for the sake of its connotations of communal life and ownership, but his intentional (as distinct from accidental) community would be urban rather than agricultural.



THE REV. L. G. BALL
Third attempt.

78-year-old Christian communitarian named Jim Leacock—on Mr Leacock's property, "Glenfield Farm," at Casula, outside Sydney.

"We got further with this one," said Mr Ball. They called themselves the Glenfield Farm Christian Community, and employed a man to look after the organic (compost rather than fertiliser) growing of vegetables.

Mr Leacock's wife had been overseas when they started, but when she returned she quickly made known her lack of sympathy with the Glenfield Farm Christian Community. So that was the end of that.

Not dismayed, Mr Ball is now planning a residential urban community. He has found two very enthusiastic recruits in Sydney—a psychiatrist and his wife—and will start the new community later this year, either in Melbourne or at the psychiatrist's home in Sydney.

First lasted six months

His first experiment in Christian community—inspired by "Riverside," a New Zealand community started by two people on 13 acres of orchard in 1939—was agricultural. It lasted only six months. He and a 74-year-old friend, Fred Wallace, tried to make a go of it in 1955 on "Sunnyside," Mr Wallace's 150-acre property at Slack's Creek outside Brisbane.

"We tried to clear the land," said Mr Ball yesterday, "but as fast as we cleared it the land went back to its original condition. It was a hopeless task without a good deal of help."

In 1958 he teamed up with another partner—a

Utzon states his return conditions

Mr Joern Utzon said last night that the only basis on which he would return to work on the Opera House was as architect in sole control of the project.

"If I can't go and see my consultants and my contractors and have full control of this, I gi - up, I don't care," Mr Utzon said. Mr Utzon was addressing a meeting of more than 650 members of the N.S.W.

Chapter of the Royal Australian Institute of Architects in the Lower Town Hall.

The meeting carried a motion of confidence in the chapter president, Mr R. A. Gilling, and the chapter council by 369 votes to 283.

The meeting was called specially to discuss the handling of the Opera House dispute by Mr Gilling and the council.

Mr Utzon clashed with Mr Gilling towards the end of the meeting, a few minutes before the motion was put.

Earlier, Mr Utzon had said, in criticising Mr Gilling and the council, that no council in the world would client without going then to the architect to check the facts with him.

"Checking the facts"

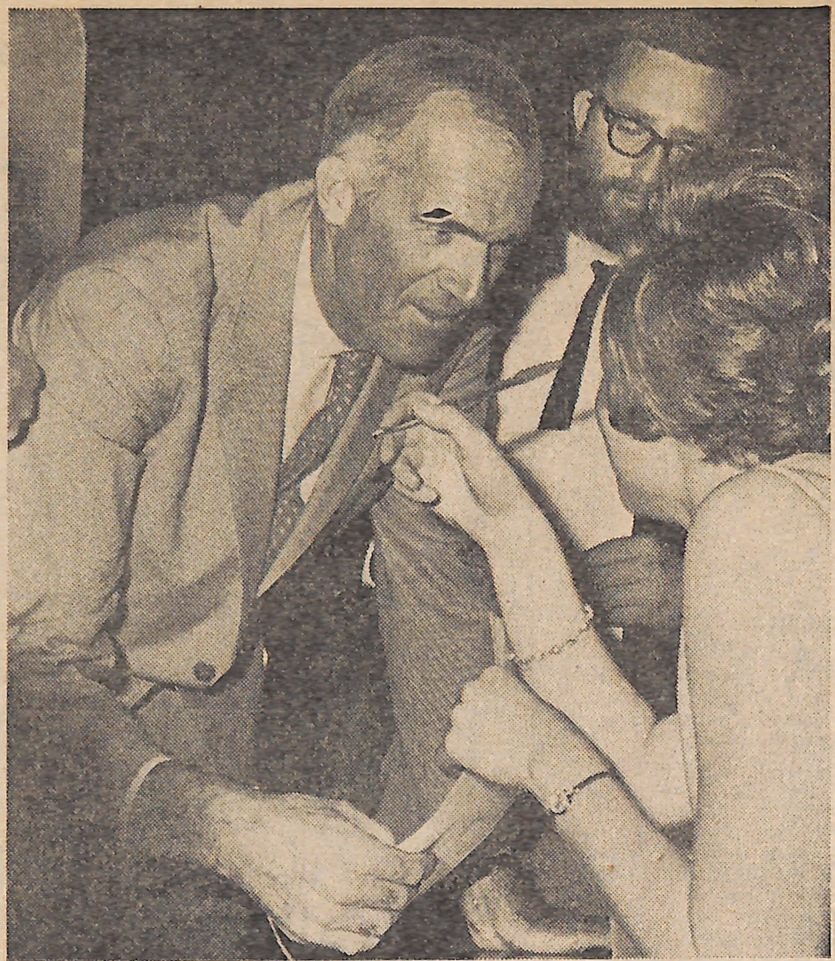
But this had never been done in his case.

Turning to Mr Gilling, Mr Utzon said with considerable emphasis, "You should have come straight to check the facts."

A questioner wanted to know if Mr Utzon would resume work at the Opera House under a normal client-and-architect relationship.

Mr Gilling reframed the question and said Mr Utzon was being asked to say if he was prepared to negotiate with the Minister for Public Works, Mr Davis Hughes.

As Mr Utzon moved to



The former Opera House architect, Mr Joern Utzon, about to sign the attendance list before entering the meeting in the Lower Town Hall last night.

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TV educational body proposed

CANBERRA, Monday. — An advisory committee is believed to have suggested that the Federal Government should set up an independent authority to control educational television.

The authority would be responsible for the content of all programs now telecast to schools and univer-

master-General's Department are still studying its recommendations.

The committee is reported to have recommended that the A.B.C. should still transmit the programs.

The use of a cheap video recorder in schools to record transmitted lessons for agent for the new authority.

But it would only act as future use is being considered.

One of the main obstacles to educational television at present is the problem of integrating transmission times with the daily timetables of schools.

Schools working to varying timetables can miss programs which would help students.

The use of a video recorder to play the programs

transmit only education programs.

This would become feasible if the use of such programs became widespread.

Mr Hulme said when the Weeden Committee was set up that it would consider what services and facilities might be needed to supplement existing services.

Membership of committee

He said its report could lead to "significant contributions" in the development of television.

The membership of the committee as appointed was: The Director of the Commonwealth Office of Education, Mr W. J. Weeden, chairman; Monsignor J. Bourke, director of the