

# the philosophy

"The building will act as a mixer of people who ordinarily . . . would not mix," said Andy Brook, SUB expansion chairman, in 1964.

The idea of community is furthered by the design of the building.

"Everything flows in this building," Monsma added.

"There are no real or psychological barriers, no real separation of facilities. For example, the lounge area flows from the corridor and the cafeteria area."

However, while the building had to attain an open and cheerful atmosphere, it had, at the same time, to provide the necessary facilities and privacy for the different activities to act independently as well.

"Each facility must meet some specific human need," said Mr. Brook, "and the whole collection of facilities must meet the widest possible assortment of human needs that can be administered in one building."

The incorporation of custom designed furniture, pleasant and plentiful lounge areas, and subtle color design adds to the effect.

The whole building is done in a low-tone color combina-

tion of white, grey and black. The only real color in the building is the royal blue of the carpets and the flashing shades of the various modern works of art in the halls.

"The idea here," said Monsma, "is that the people are to provide the color. They are supposed to be the center of attraction by virtue of their color.

"In this way, the color scheme and design of the building serves to enhance the human element," he added.

The general design has been geared to maximum mobility, movement and use. Hence we come to the second theme of SUB—multipurpose.

The building is an integrated mixture of function and design. This was a necessity because "people avoid ugly uncomfortable areas; they will be attracted to and stirred to greater efforts by properly and beautifully designed areas," said Mr. Brook.

"No facility is being included that has no positive value" to student life, he added.

This includes the student's life as a member of the student community, his cultural and intellectual life and his social life.

However, these facilities must have a multiplicity of purposes—all of them must meet the widest possible number of interests and activities. In this way, the student can be assured of getting the maximum use out of the SUB.

And it appears, from the crowds that descend upon the building daily, that they are taking advantage of this privilege.

Some officials, at one time, were rather worried that the SUB would be practically empty; that the students would not respond to the new facilities it offered. The students themselves have proven this worry emphatically unfounded.

All of which goes to show that by incorporating the dual theme of community and multipurpose, the SUB planning commission appears to have hit on a near-ideal situation in many ways.

**Lyll photos**

