

## Building Features Creative Engineering

The oldest engineering firm in the United States -- one which has a history of success dating back to 1832 -- designed the ultra-modern new facilities of Observer Newspapers, Inc.

In retaining Lockwood Greene Engineers of New York, Publisher Philip H. Power knew he had the services of an organization which not only possessed the experience of thousands of design projects but also the special skills which are demanded in planning a newspaper plant.

Lockwood Greene's first newspaper project was in 1925, when the firm designed the Brooklyn printing plant for the New York Daily News, and since then its assignments for publishing firms has run into the hundreds.

In fact, so active has Lockwood Greene become in this specialty through the years that its staff in the Graphic Arts Department is made up of engineers particularly attuned to department functions, inter-departmental relationships and the ever-changing technological improvements in the publishing field.

Designer and project manager for the ONI undertaking was Knud Rasmussen, who has done more than 40 newspaper projects in recent years -- the last six of which he has spent as a key member of the Lockwood Greene organization.

Rasmussen was a newspaper consultant for 10 years prior to joining Lockwood Greene, and since completion of the ONI building already is deep into plans for another new newspaper structure in California.

Rasmussen studied engineering at the University of Minnesota, University of Wyoming and Oregon State University, and majored in architecture at the University of Omaha.

"Our design plan was to allow us the smoothest possible copy flow, coupled with the easiest possible expansion and re-arrangement for our predicted growth center," said Power in praise of the conception developed by Rasmussen and his colleagues.

Rasmussen based his drawings on the "open office" concept, this concept of openness being kept in mind to provide for maximum speed and efficiency in correlating the work of all departments.

The 15,000-square-foot central office area is built to house editorial, advertising, accounting and composing operations. There are no walls or partitions, areas being separated by files and furniture arrangement which will lend themselves to easy re-arrangement as the need arises through growth and expansion.

Key in the design concept has been employee comfort and convenience, conducive to maximum yet enjoyable productivity, and in the eyes of those who work in the ONI family Lockwood Greene and their many associates in construction have accomplished their goal.

