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JANUARY, 1959

architect builder

THE OFFICIAL JOURNAL GULF STATES REGION AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

FEBRUARY, 1959 VOL. 3, NO. 8

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DEPARTMENTS

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Letters

Please address all communications to The Editors, P. O. Box 301, Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

- Thank you for your letter of February 11. I received a most interesting note from John Pritchard who spoke highly of you and the publication you are issuing. He enclosed with his letter a copy of the November 1958 issue. This was the first copy of the magazine that I have seen. You are to be congratulated on it from several points of view, and I would appreciate your sending it to me regularly on an exchange basis if this meets with your approval.

Roger W. Sherman
Executive Director
The Florida Association of Architects, Inc.

- Thanks for all your help in drumming up entries for the Homes for Better Living awards program. We've never had finer cooperation than we are getting this year, and we hope that the number and caliber of entries will be ample proof of it.

James P. Gallagher
Associate Editor
House & Home
New York, N. Y.

MEETINGS

- March 12-13—National Concrete and Masonry Association, annual regional meeting, Tulsa Hotel, Tulsa, Okla.
- March 20—Arkansas Engineers’ Club, annual meeting, Hotel Marion, Little Rock.
- April 12-17—National Association of Architectural Metal Manufacturers 21st annual convention, Monteleone Hotel, New Orleans, La.
- April 30-May 2—American Society of Civil Engineers, Mid-South Section, annual spring meeting, Lafayette Hotel, Little Rock, Ark.
- June 21-26—91st Annual Meeting, American Institute of Architects, New Orleans, Roosevelt Hotel.

CHAPTER EVENTS

ALABAMA CHAPTER

Meets three times each year. First meeting is the second Friday in January and held in Birmingham. Second meeting is held Spring-Summer and alternates between Mobile and Montgomery. Third and Fall meeting is held annually at the School of Architecture at Alabama Polytechnic Institute at Auburn.

ARKANSAS CHAPTER

Arkansas Chapter meets four times each year. In January, April, July or August and October. Meetings are usually held in Little Rock at local hotel beginning at 6:00 p.m. July-August meeting includes party for associates.

LOUISIANA ASSOCIATION

Although Louisiana has chapters in Baton Rouge, Shreveport, New Orleans, Lake Charles, Monroe, and Alexandria, the Louisiana Architects Association has an annual meeting usually held in conjunction with the Gulf States Regional Conference plus another meeting which is held in the various chapter cities also annually. The 1959 meeting is scheduled in conjunction with the 1959 National Convention of the AIA in New Orleans June 21-26.

MEMPHIS CHAPTER

The Memphis chapter has twelve meetings annually. The 1959 schedule is as follows:

January 12    July 6
February 2    August 3
March 2       September 14
April 6       October 5
May 4         November 2
June 8        December 7

The July meeting is subject to change. The December meeting features the election of officers and is usually a dinner meeting. One other dinner meeting is held each year.

MIDDLE TENNESSEE

The Chapter holds twelve monthly meetings, held at the Noel Hotel in Nashville beginning at 12:15 P.M. on the Second Wednesday of each month. A special dinner meeting is held in the Spring and Fall.

SHREVEPORT CHAPTER

Chapter has monthly meetings held at the Embassy Restaurant at 12:00 noon and all are scheduled on the third Wednesdays of each month unless changed to special events.

ARCHITECT and BUILDER
Publisher's Letter

We note with considerable interest and entertainment the first issue of the Baton Rouge AIA chapter's new bulletin "Plans and Speculations" which has been edited by the chapter's new president W. J. (Red) Evans.

The thing that seems to stand out from this new editorial effort of Mr. Evans is the very direct and refreshing way he has presented the chapter's hopes and ambitions in the days ahead. He has sandwiched in some of his abilities as an after-dinner speaker with a clear statement of objectives for the coming year. We wish to compliment him on his editorial "character" and approach. He should get his messages across.

* * *

Miscellany: It is always good to break bread and refreshments with members of the Gulf States Regional Council.

Most recently during its meeting in New Orleans the chief topic explored the big National Convention plans for June. Director John Pritchard will privately tell you that the job of Regional Director has been practically a full-time responsibility during the past year. Jimmy Wolf and president Solis Seiforth of the New Orleans Chapter will also tell you that having a National AIA Convention in your town is a lot of work.

But the plans for the big event in June are about as entertaining as the show itself. All of us who have had the opportunity to listen to Convention Chairman Wolfe's description of things to come are intrigued with the idea that those who come to the convention will remember their visit to the South and bits of entertainment by such things as "spasm bands" whatever they're supposed to be.

* * *

One of the seasons biggest promotions in the materials industry is the current series of "Modern Masonry Seminars" being sponsored jointly by the Mississippi-Louisiana Brick and Tile Manufacturers Association, and the Structural Clay Products Institute. Headliner of the series of programs came off last week at a special meeting of the Producers Council, New Orleans Chapter. Brickmen Dean Ramey and Emile Tabb did a splendid job in getting their message across with a live closed-circuit telecast to a packed house. Other shows to follow in Baton Rouge and Jackson, Mississippi.

* * *

We're always glad to hear from our neighbors in other regions. Roger Sherman, exec of the Florida Association of Architects, Miami, is a recent correspondent. We believe some good system of an intra-regional exchange of ideas would be good and hope someone comes up with the idea.

Most cordially,
CSI Chapter

Albert G. Bear, AIA, has been elected president of the newly formed New Orleans Chapter, Construction Specifications Institute.

An inaugural meeting of the group was held February 18 at Lenfant's Restaurant in New Orleans (see story page 16).

Hulse Firm

Albert D. Hulse has announced the opening of his firm's offices at 415 Gravier Street in New Orleans.

Hulse said that his firm, Albert D. Hulse Co., Inc., will serve as manufacturer's representatives for leading lines of building materials.

Mr. Hulse has been associated with the building materials field for several years in the New Orleans Area.

Firm to Design Berlin Hospital

Curtis and Davis, Architects, New Orleans architectural firm, has been selected to design a hospital in Berlin, Germany, estimated to cost $14,000,000.

The announcement of the firm's selection was made by Leon Chatelain, Jr., former president of the American Institute of Architects and now president of the Benjamin Franklin Foundation, an organization established by the United States Government which directs spending of funds for West German projects.

Dr. Russell Nelson, medical administration director of Johns Hopkins University, has been named technical consultant for the new hospital.

Arthur O. Davis, member of the architectural firm, Nelson, and Mr. Chatelain have recently returned from a trip to Germany to meet with German officials and discuss plans for the construction of the project.

Josam Exec

J. S. Newman, executive vice president and general manager of Josam Manufacturing Company, Michigan City, Indiana, announces the appointment of Loren H. Bonnett as General Sales Manager.

Mr. Bonnett, formerly in charge of sales of Eljer Co., is a veteran of 29 years in the Plumbing Industry.

Seafood Party

The Construction Industry Association of New Orleans has scheduled its next seafood party for Lenfant's Restaurant Wednesday, March 11, beginning at 6:15 p.m. A. T. Bremermann is Chairman of the CIA's Entertainment Committee.

New Firm Announced

Frank Repult, Jr., Memphis architect, has announced the opening of architectural offices at 2158 Union Avenue in Memphis.

A native of Memphis, Repult received his architectural degree from Georgia Institute of Technology at Atlanta. Since his graduation, his experience includes three years with Thomas F. Fairies and Associates, Architects, where he became an associate member of the firm; two and one-half years with Robert Thomas Martin, Architect, and a year with Martin and Adams, Architect as an associate of the firm. He has performed architectural services for numerous churches and religious educational buildings, office buildings, custom residences, large housing projects and other buildings of varied type.

Repult is a member of the Trinity Baptist Church, an associate member of the American Institute of Architects; president elect of the East Memphis Civitan Club; an alumnus of Sigma Alpha Epsilon Fraternity, the American Legion. He served with the Marine Corps during World War II.

Recommended Reading

One of the interesting pieces of information about the coming New Orleans AIA Convention is a piece we received this week reflecting sketches and comment concerning New Orleans by Edwin Bateman Morris, Sr., Washington, D. C.

Within a period of 30 pages Mr. Morris has presented excellent sketches of typical scenes in the Crescent City as well as colorful commentary regarding the convention, and such items as his "Scrapple Breakfast" which he says is scheduled for June 25 at the Roosevelt Hotel.

With his pen he has recorded a piece of "recommended reading" for those who plan on travel to America's air-conditioned city on the Mississippi... or for those less fortunate who must, because of some reason, stay at home.

New Officers

The Baton Rouge chapter has elected new officers with W. J. (Red) Evans named president; William Brockway, vice-president; O. J. Champagne, secretary; and Chester Jordan, treasurer. Retiring president Raymond Post, O. J. Baker, Jack Wilson, Dave Perkins and John Desmond were named to the Executive Committee of the chapter.

According to Evans, plans for the chapter during 1959 include an expansion of activity including: a public relations program; the encouragement of aProducers Council Chapter in Baton Rouge; uniform distribution of plans; plus other items to be developed and announced at a later date.

The chapter will be a principal participant in a special six-parish Conference on Education scheduled to be held in Baton Rouge at the Bellemont Motor Hotel, April 2. The meeting will feature a special luncheon presentation on school curricula and financing. The meeting is jointly sponsored by the Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce, the Louisiana Teachers Association, and the Citizens Committee on Education.
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Regional Council Meets in N. O.

A special meeting of the Gulf States Regional Council AIA was held in New Orleans, February 21 to discuss plans for the impending national convention of the American Institute of Architects set for New Orleans June 21-26.

Director John H. Pritchard, Tunica, Mississippi, urged various chapter presidents to see that all chapter members were properly notified of this important meeting of the nation's architects, and that every effort be made to insure a maximum attendance by all architects throughout the Gulf States Region.

A. J. Wolf, Jr., general convention chairman for the event said that committee plans are going as scheduled and that all who come to the convention will experience every opportunity for entertainment and relaxation as is the custom of New Orleans hospitality. Wolf said that every effort is being made to insure all who attend a full period of enjoyable relaxation.

In other matters the council heard reports from various areas of the region regarding chapter affairs and methods of stimulation of chapter activities.

Architects to Hear Parking Official

A special program meeting sponsored by the New Orleans Chapter AIA on the subject of Parking Facilities in the Central Business Area of New Orleans has been set for March 10.

Featured speaker for the meeting is William G. Barr, executive director of the National Parking Association. Barr is a national expert on the subject of parking and parking facilities.

The chapter has extended invitations to various civic groups within the area to attend the event.

Malone Named AGC Director

Paul K. Malone has been named managing director of the New Orleans chapter, Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. according to an announcement by M. H. Hogan, chapter president.

Malone has been serving the post of assistant managing director for a number of years, and succeeds Sidney Walker who has retired from the post with the chapter.

The new director attended the Tulane school of engineering and in 1941 became associated with the Department of Engineers, serving with the New Orleans, Lake Charles, Abbeville, and Baton Rouge field offices of the department.

Offices of the chapter are in the Audubon Building in New Orleans.

Malone is a member of the Planning and Zoning Board of the City of Harahan, the Kiwanis Club of New Orleans and a representative of the AGC on various industry and civic committees.

ATTEND NATIONAL AIA CONVENTION JUNE 21-22 NEW ORLEANS
On this and the following pages are pictured winning entries in the 6th Annual Progressive Architecture Design Awards Program. These entries represent proposed projects designed by architectural firms within the Gulf States Region. Awards were presented at a special Awards Banquet in San Francisco.

The New Orleans firm of Carl L. Olschner & Associates won a Public Use Award Citation for its design of the Pascagoula, Mississippi, Public Library and Auditorium pictured on the cover and on this page.

Viewed from the street, the Library will rise from behind a pierced screen white brick wall which also encloses an facade-patio. Most of the main functions of the library are on the ground floor, with the stacks on the mezzanine. The lower floor, glass-walled, is visible from the street through the perforated screen, but enjoys a certain sense of privacy because of the wall. At the rear, provision is made for the bookmobile service which will be part of the library's function. The auditorium, which will be connected to the library by a canopy at its entrance, will repeat the pattern of the wall in its three dimensionally-formed white brick exterior surfacing. It will accommodate 200 people. Structurally, both auditorium and library will be steel frame, exposed portions of steel to be covered with anodized aluminum in brown finish.
The design for his own house by Memphis Architect, Francis Gassner won a residential award citation in the P/A Awards program. Opposite top photo.

Mr. Gassner described his wish in designing his house to “develop a house that could not be encompassed at a single glance but rather one that would unfold as the spectator progressed through it.” The visitor will “progress” through an entry-way which will pass an interior court with pools and landscaping on his way to the living area, which will overlook the rear court. For Mrs. Gassner, a potter of note, a studio complete with kiln has been provided. There will be a master suite and two other bedrooms. The entire scheme will sit in a walled-in “compound” on a heavily-wooded lot in an urban Memphis neighborhood.

A. L. Aydelott & Associates, Memphis architectural firm was awarded a Health Award Citation for its design of the proposed Psychiatric Hospital and Neuro-psychiatric Hospital in Memphis. Opposite bottom photo.

The project will be on a seven-and-a-half acre site adjoining the Memphis Medical Center. The hospital will be the most prominent element of the scheme, rising seven stories and accommodating 200 in-patients adults. There will be a one-story acute treatment center for children which will have is own outdoor activities area. The Neuro-Psychiatric Institute will contain laboratories and training facilities for psychiatric personnel two floors of adult in-patient nursing units will be added later. The remaining unit of the scheme is a Therapy Building which will include bowling alleys, gymnasium, swimming pool, auditorium, classrooms, and general purpose rooms. According to the architects, “… the design goes beyond the mere physical planning for functional operations. The psychological impression on the patient is considered to the point of creating many features calculated to instill warmth and beauty, friendliness and sympathy to him, and to inspire cheerfulness and confidence in him.” Active on the design of the project were Charles Jen, Sterling Pettefer, and Alston Gutterman.
A.I.A. Student Chapter Activity

A.I.A. Student Chapter activity is increasing within the region with the formation of a new organization at Louisiana State University in Baton Rouge under the sponsorship of the Baton Rouge Chapter. Ralph Bodman, FAIA has been named as Advisor to the student group.

Student competition in the Junior Class at L.S.U. Department of Architecture is also sponsored by the Baton Rouge chapter. A problem includes the design of a new Architecture Building for the University with awards to be presented by the chapter.

Also in Alabama, the Student Chapter at Auburn maintains a full schedule of student activity. In reporting on the Fourth Annual Student Forum of the AIA held in Washington last Fall, Gene Burr, states that the enthusiastic response and increased interest among the students as a result of participation in the Forum is an assurance of the benefits to be derived from similar national and regional gatherings.

Four Auburn students participated in the event, including Huey Wright; Jim Johnson, Chuck Dunseth, and Gene Burr. The Auburn chapter submitted an architectural panel which was displayed at the Octagon through January.

Officers of the Auburn student chapter for 1959 are: Huey Wright, president; Jim Stewart, vice president; Robert Ortega, secretary-treasurer; and Bill Huntington, program chairman. Faculty Advisor is Prof. Howell E. Cobb.

Chuck Dunseth, Auburn architectural student has been selected as Director of the Gulf States Region, AIA to the national student forum.

Arkansas Cement Appoints Miller

John E. Miller, Jr., of El Dorado, Ark., has been named sales coordinator for Arkansas Cement Corp., a wholly-owned subsidiary of Arkansas Louisiana Gas Company. His appointment has been announced by W. R. Stephens, A.L.G. president and board chairman.

Miller will be headquartered in the general sales offices of the new corporation in the Shannon Building, 812 Main Street, Little Rock, Ark. The firm was scheduled to begin production at Foreman Portland cement early in December at its newly-constructed plant near Foreman, Ark.

Home Design Awards Planned

The American Institute of Architects, in cooperation with House & Home magazine and thirteen national trade associations has announced a special Homes for Better Living Awards Program, especially designed for architects, builders and homeowners in the South.

Entries may be submitted by the owner, architect, or builder of houses which have been designed by a registered architect and built and completed in the states of: North Carolina, South Carolina, Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Tennessee, Arkansas, Louisiana, and Texas, since January, 1956.

Entries must be submitted on material 8½ x 11 inches or 8 x 10 inches in size, or smaller, or displayed in the window envelopes that it may be viewed without removal and unfolding.

All photographs must be black and white only, at least 5 x 7 inches in size. They shall show the environment and setting, the exterior design and the interior features and decor in sufficient number and variety to present a comprehensive picture of the homes.

Plot plans are also to be included, showing ground use and planting, with the direction of attractive view or views from the house indicated thereon. Where the building is one of a group, a plot plan of the entire development should be included, the announcement said.

Complete specifications are includ- ed in an entry form available from the Homes For Better Living Award Committee, American Institute of Architects, 1735 New York Avenue, N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Winners will be announced at the 91st Annual Convention of the AIA in New Orleans, June 22-26. The winning houses will be published in House & Home Magazine and exhibited at the Convention and at the Octagon in Washington.

All notifications of entry shall be submitted on the slip attached accompanied by check for $10.00 for each home entered.

All entry slips must be received by or before March 31, 1959.

Upon receipt of entry slip and entry fee, each entrant will receive, for project entered, an 8½ x 11" Ful-Vu Economy Binder, Type CB-10 containing 10 transparent window sleeves for displaying 20 inserts, back to back. All material submitted, photographs, drawings and descriptive matter, shall be inserted in these transparent containers and mailed to: Homes for Better Living Award, % House & Home, Time & Life Building, 9 Rockefeller Plaza, New York, N. Y. This material must be postmarked before midnight May 1, 1959.

Habitat Announces New Address

Habitat, Inc., designers and manufacturers of lighting fixtures and lamps formerly located at 235 East 58th St., New York, has moved their offices and showrooms to new quarters at 336 Third Avenue, New York.
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FEBRUARY, 1959
Albert Bear Heads CSI Unit

Albert G. Bear, AIA, New Orleans architect has been named president of a newly formed chapter of the Construction Specifications Institute in New Orleans.

Other officers of the new group organized at its initial meeting February 18 include: T. G. Chachere, Sr., vice president; Charles M. Barnes, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer. Board members in addition to the officers named include, Allen M. Anthony; Mary Mykolyk; G. Stanley Beck; and Jack Enyart.

The purpose of the Institute and its chapters is to foster and promote the interests of persons, firms, groups, associations, corporations and others engaged in any phase of the business of writing, preparing, compiling or in any way utilizing specifications in the construction and allied industries.

According to the organization's by-laws, the Institute is designed to "promote improved specification practices in the construction and allied industries; to gather, compile and analyze statistics and information relating to or useful in the conduct of such activities; to engage in research and study of any and all problems and aspects of specification writing ..."

Active members are required to be individuals who are concerned professionally with the specifications and documents used in connection with the design, construction, maintenance, and equipment for construction projects ... "such as architects, professional engineers, teachers, and research workers in architectural and engineering fields."

Associate members are said by the by-laws to include, "individuals who use specifications in purchasing or procuring construction materials and equipment; individuals who are or who have been engaged in selling construction materials and equipment; who are or who have been engaged in the processing or manufacturing of such materials, equipment and products; and individuals who are engaged in contracting in the construction industry or in enterprises which are closely related there-to ..."

Other CSI chapters organizing within the Gulf States Region include: Birmingham — Jack Yaeger, president; Memphis — Frank A. Weber, Temporary Chairman; Nashville — H. Clinton Parrent, Jr., Temporary Chairman; and Jacksonville, George C. Griffin, Temporary Chairman.
Should Private Firms Plan Public Work Projects?

"In various parts of the nation renewed efforts are being made to force public officials to use only permanent civil service technicians in the preparation of engineering, architectural, landscape and related plans and specifications for public works and for supervision of construction of such works. Civil service associations and groups, ambitious and jealous bureaucrats and innocent people misled by plausible propaganda have been triggering these attacks for years. Contrary to the old aphorism, opportunity to swell the ranks of government employees in these days of huge armament, arterial, housing and building expenditures knocks again and again and may, if we do not think and act, become irresistible."

The above comment is the lead paragraph of an article entitled "Should Private Firms Plan Public Works?" written by Robert Moses and which appeared in the New York Time Magazine of November 16, 1958 and now being circulated in reprint form by a nationwide group of architects and engineers. Mr. Moses is chairman of the New York State Power Authority, chairman of the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority, Park Commissioner of New York and City Construction Coordinator.

While pointing out the fact that top so-called civil service career men, the skilled professional and technical people in Government and "not the hidebound, old-fashioned bureaucrats"—have no superiors, and few equals in private practice and corporate business, Mr. Moses presents what he states is "an honest, impartial analysis of the reasons why relying on the rank and file of public employees to furnish all professional advice, diagnosis, plans and supervision to the exclusion of outside consultant would be suicidal."

"There is unfortunately a prevalent type of engineering and architectural and planning bureaucrat who measures his power and prestige by the number of subordinates working for him, or the space they occupy in public offices, by the length of the rows of drafting tables and typewriter desks, and by the accumulation of instruments and other paraphernalia. There are, too, the rarer ones who take up little room, command only a few good men and farm out the work to rms which operate in rented space, hire their help in the market, sharpen their own pencils, pay the lighting company, and, like Rufus Rastus Johnson Brown, have to figure out what to do when the rent comes 'round.

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ARCHITECT and BUILDER
Sears, Roebuck & Company’s Tampa store ... concrete folded plate roof achieves large, unobstructed floor area

One of the basic requirements here was to achieve unobstructed floor space with economy. Architects Weed, Russell, Johnson & Associates found the answer by using a concrete shell in the form of a folded plate. This construction made it possible to span the entire floor area with only one interior row of columns ... and suspend the second floor from the roof. The result: 163,715 square feet of fully flexible floor space, so important to any retail selling operation.

Folded plate design is, in itself, unique and interesting. And only concrete can give the added boldness of the wide, cantilevered overhang.

It’s one more example of the way new uses of concrete are bringing big economies and added vitality to both conventional and modern architecture.
Architects know quality counts most

in WINDOWS

A typical arrangement above of a Curtis Silentite picture window, with two Silentite double hung units for ventilation requirements. For your next job, examine the fine Curtis Craftsmanship that spells quality in window construction.

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