

# Skylines



Missouri 7-57



KANSAS CITY CHAPTER

AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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Presenting seven answers to

## the \$64 question\*

"WHY SHOULD I REGISTER AS AN ARCHITECT?"

1

"Because your registration is the method by which you acquire the authority to offer professional services to the general public as a legally qualified architect.

2

Because the right to practice architecture as evidenced by your certificate of registration is a property right within the meaning of state and federal constitutional provisions, the same as the right to own and use your automobile, the right to own and occupy your home, the right to hold, use, and enjoy the income and profits arising from the ownership of any other property, tangible or intangible.

3

Because your authority to practice architecture, as evidenced by your certificate of registration, though inalienable and non-transferable, has a value equal to the amount upon which your annual earnings will pay a reasonable return, according to the measure of your success as an architect.

4

Because your registration gives you a professional status and distinguishes you as a professional man.

5

Because as a registered architect you meet on a professional level, members of other legally recognized professions, and readily become identified with the public affairs of your community.

6

Because through your professional associations and institutes, you will be able to exert a direct and wholesome influence in the government of your city, county and state."

7

Because registration will legally validate your architectural education and enhance its value annually through the years of your architectural practice.

\* Answers by Senator A. L. McCawley, Jefferson City, Missouri



# "UNE SOIRÉE À LA FRANCAISE"

(apporter votre propre femme)



This is the report you have all been waiting for --- all the information on the Associate and Junior Associate Party. The Committee has tried to solve the problems and here are the answers.

● The invitation list will include all A. I. A. members and the principal members of the Producers Council. In the next few weeks several reminders will arrive by mail to all those invited.

● The date is AUGUST 25, 1953. This is on Tuesday, get your baby sitters early!

● The place is the SADDLE AND SIRLOIN CLUB, 105th and Mission Road Johnson County, Kansas.

● There will be no required type of dress for this party, come any way you please ( within the law ).

Here is the time schedule :

6pm - Cocktails

7pm - Dinner

8:30 to 11:30 pm Music by the Orchestra for  
Dancing, Listening or Partying.

## ● The Menu

### Le Menu

les aperitifs

le poulet roti tout entier

une salade de chow dechire

les haricots cuit au four de l'ouest

le cafe

le gateau et la glace

les aperitifs

For all you readers who are as dumb as the writer this simply means that we are going to have Barbecued Chicken and all the trimmings!

● The Band will play for your Dancing and Partying from 8:30 to 11:30 pm or maybe later.

The Band this year will be the "Jimmy Kieth All Stars". Jimmy Kieth is a fine Tenor Sax man formerly with the Count Basie Band and now heading his own five piece combo. He records on the Mercury label and just returned from tour with the Jack Benny "Rochester Show". This Band plays ballads, blues and a little jazz --- just ask for it and they'll play.

● Here is the dope on how to get to the party :

1. Buy a ticket from anyone of the following list of Associate or Junior Associate Members :

Bob Baker - Burns and McDonnell - De. 4377  
Evans Folger - Voskamp and Slezak - Gr. 0321  
Roger Frangkiser - Je. 8875  
Martin Moffitt - Sandford and Sons - Va. 8885  
John Adams - Kivett and Myers - Vi. 8110  
Roger Blessing - Neville, Sharp and Simon - Ha. 6804  
Bill Conrad - Don Hollis - He. 0560  
Harvey Fink - Joe Radotinsky - Dr. 3033  
Ed Hartronft - K. O. VonAchen - Je. 6311  
Ralph Kiene - Je. 7700  
Jim Mantel - Peterson and Scharhag - Va. 1883  
John Monroe - Neville, Sharp and Simon - Ha. 6804  
Herman Scharhag - Peterson and Scharhag - Va. 1883

Anyone desiring to buy a ticket by mail send their check and a stamped self addressed envelope to :

Jim Mantel  
c/o Peterson and Scharhag  
1103 E. Armour Blvd.  
Kansas City, Missouri

2. Make a reservation BY NAME at the A.I.A. phone service, Ja. 4439, between August 1st and August 18th. The reason for the early deadline is to allow for the fine food preparation by our exclusive French Catering Service.

We would like to stress the buying of tickets early to help everyone do a better job on the party --- if you think we are asking for your cooperation you are so right.

● All of this is your reward for coming to the Associate and Junior Associate Party AUGUST 25th, 6pm to 11:30 pm, at the SADDLE AND SIRLOIN CLUB, 105th and Mission Road. The inclusive price will be \$3.00 per person with drinks available at the A.I.A. Bar at the usual price or cheaper. Where else in K. C. can you get a fine meal with music for dancing, entertainment and good fellowship that cheap?

● The only other thought the Committee had was to tell all of you who don't want to have the time of your lives to stay at home !

We'll see you at the Party, August 25th.

The Associate and Junior  
Associate Committee  
Kansas City, Chapter, A.I.A.



Efficient, hard work on the part of our Executive Committee during June assured the participation of Kansas City firms in the Shawnee Mission junior high school program and thwarted an effort to reduce fees for work in the Kansas City, Missouri, program. Especially active in these affairs was Chapter Secretary Ralph Myers.

The KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI, case began when Dr. G. Dewey Smith, assistant superintendent, wrote to each firm doing work in the current program, and sent a photostatic copy of an article from the Denver "Post" headlined "Architect Fees Slashed in New School Program." He indicated that the board would consider the Denver action in making further contracts with local architects.

Our chapter contacted W. Gordon Jamieson, regional director of the AIA in Denver, to verify the correctness of the article. Information was also obtained from the Octagon in regard to fees for school work throughout the country.

Mr. Jamieson reported that the "Post" article was written solely from a news viewpoint and was not correct. He explained the incorrectness of the story point by point. The so-called "slash" in fees actually referred to a sliding scale in fees on jobs containing repetitive units in buildings ranging up to \$1 million.

Together with Mr. Jamieson's letter and excellent data furnished by the Octagon in regard to architects' fees in various sections of the country, a committee from our chapter met with Dr. Smith to discuss the situation. Those who met with Dr. Smith were Dwight Brown, Clarence Kivett, Leslie Simpson and Frank Slezak.

At this meeting, a review of the facts revealed that the basic rate of 6% on school work is lower than the rate in many sections of the country, and this fee is definitely minimum.

In the instance of the SHAWNEE MISSION JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL PROGRAM, action in behalf of local firms was initiated by Secretary Myers in the form of letter to John W. Puckett, president of that school board, in which it was stated that architects residing in the district should be considered in lieu of the entire program being commissioned to an out-of-town firm. As a result of this letter, the board considered local firms on the following basis:

- 1) A standard form was filled out by all interested firms where in they answered pertinent questions put by the board.
- 2) Interviews of equal time were granted to all firms who applied.
- 3) Members of the board visited the offices of several firms considered qualified for the work as a result of their statements and interview.

Kansas City firms receiving commissions to do the work of this program in collaboration with Perkins and Will of Chicago, are:

Marshall & Brown  
Kivett & Myers  
Voskamp & Slezak  
Peterson & Scharhag

Chapter members interested in this project have stated that it was excellently handled by the Shawnee Mission board, and the presence of Mark Sharp, AIA, on the board has been a definite asset in every respect.

## June Reports

### Chapter Meeting

Vice President Frank Slezak presiding, read a letter from Harold B. Willis, Chairman of A. I. A. Committee for Restoration of Chartres Cathedral, asking that our Chapter make a contribution toward the installation of an architects' window in this cathedral. Bill Simon made a motion that any donation made should be done by the Chapter rather than soliciting the membership individually and this motion was seconded and carried.

The Secretary was asked to review the Chapter's activity with regard to the Shawnee Mission School Building Program. (See Page 4)

A letter was read from Paul Weigel of Kansas State College, inviting the Chapter to a lecture to be given on November 12, 1953, by Willem Dudok, an architect from Holland.

Clarence Kivett reported on the Chapter's activity regarding architectural fees for the Kansas City, Missouri school program.

Motion was made, seconded and carried that a vote of thanks be given to the Secretary for his work in obtaining information on the above matter.

Mr. G. T. Nelson of the Holophane Company gave an excellent talk on "Lighting"

Fifty-Two persons attended the meeting.

Vice President Slezak presiding, read a letter from Dave Clark regarding his criticism of the proposed changes in the obligations of good practice and the mandatory standards of the Institute. After considerable discussion it was decided that the delegates to the National Convention would be made aware of Clark's letter so that they may properly consider the matter at the Nation Convention.

A letter from C. D. Woodford, National Chairman of the Committee on Extension of Private Practice, was read in which he proposed that each chapter establish a committee which would deal with the problems of government, state, and city authorities whose Architectural Bureaus are encroaching upon the private practitioners. A motion was made that the president should appoint such a committee. Carried.

Frank Slezak indicated that he would not be able to be a delegate to the National Convention and asked that a substitute be appointed. Due to the interest of Lou Geis to attend the conference he was appointed as a delegate.

### Executive Committee



# An Important Announcement to all Architects

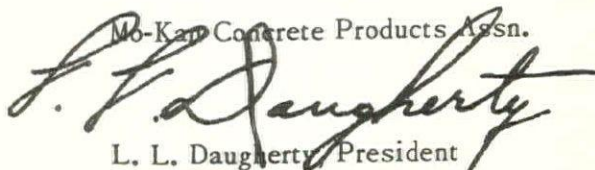
In support of the program of modular coordination established by the American Standards Association under the sponsorship of the American Institute of Architects and the Producers Council, the member companies of the Mo-Kan Concrete Products Association are now producing modular sized concrete blocks as "standard stock items".

We believe that your support of the principles of modular coordination will be for the best interests of the public, the architect, the builder and materials producer.

While "old sized" blocks may be obtained, on special order, during a reasonable period of adjustment to the new sizes, we ask your cooperation by specifying only modular sized blocks on future work.

Sincerely,

Mo-Kan Concrete Products Assn.



L. L. Daugherty, President

Asner Block & Bldg. Mat'ls. Inc.  
Builder's Block Company  
The Carter-Waters Corporation  
Cinder Concrete Products, Inc.  
Slaton's Concrete Products

City Block & Products  
Concrete Building Units Co.  
Eternacrete Products, Inc.  
Kansas City Concrete Pipe Co.



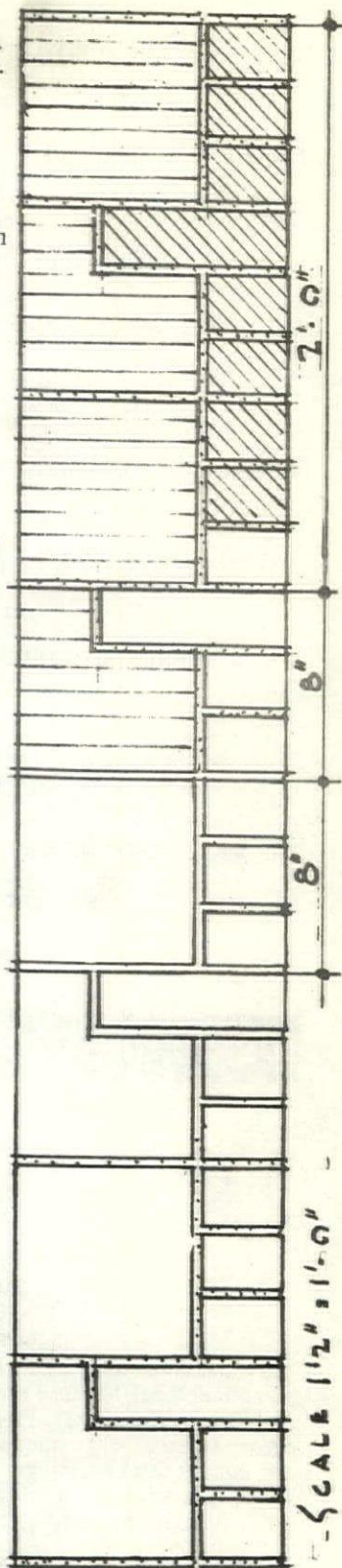
Announcement by the members of the Mo-Kan Concrete Products Association on the opposite page concerning their adherence to the Modular Co-ordination System in their manufacture brings to mind that the only real objection to it is the universal resistance to change. The Building Industry as a whole has been the target for much criticism in this respect and it would seem to be well founded in the instance of Modular Co-ordination by the overwhelming advantages in its favor. It has been the subject of crusading for many years by organizations dedicated to the elimination of waste in time and materials. Our own national group consistently have pressed for the change with great energy.

From the standpoint of the Architect, alone, it promises better and more economical drafting room procedure. In the modular system, measurements are in multiples of 4" which simplifies dimensioning in several ways. Every nominal dimension is in feet and even inches. It is also definitely located as for example with the nominal 8 x 8 x 16 concrete block, both horizontal and vertical dimensions are designed to be in multiples of 8". One of the great advantages to the Architect is the use of a design module in designing his buildings. This eliminates a large amount of dimensioning and these grids fit in with modular units whether they are masonry, glass blocks, or windows.

An Architect with forty men, mostly graduate architects, working under him reports that many of them are unfamiliar with non-modular designing and cut their architectural teeth on a modular brick. Occasionally, they are called upon to handle a non-modular job and "they scream like they have been stabbed because of all the fractions and foolishness of an obsolete system."

The problem of the Contractor or Mason is purely one of adjustment to methods that also appear to carry advantages for him in getting masonry materials of regular uniformity in size. Picture the situation of a Contractor ordering modular concrete blocks for his job and finding that the manufacturer in trying to maintain "status quo" with his Architectural and Contractor friends has delivered cubes of differing heights through errors of his well meaning yard men. Such job conditions are costly and unpardonable.

From the viewpoint of the manufacturer of concrete blocks, an attempt to meet non-modular demands in the various types of blocks he must carry in storage presents endless chances for errors in delivery and slow-downs of both manufacture and job construction and greatly increased inventories. The latter must some day be compensated for a higher price level for all blocks, a situation that management views with little enthusiasm.



DATES FOR THE CENTRAL STATES REGIONAL CONFERENCE to be held in Des Moines, have been set for October 15, 16, 17, 1953. Headquarters will be the Hotel Savery.

THE KANSAS CITY CHAPTER OF PRODUCERS' COUNCIL installed a new set of officers on June 29:  
President - Sterling Ronai  
Vice President - Roy E. Johnson  
Secretary - M. M. Rivard  
Treasurer - Bruce Coffin

A COLLECTION OF BOOKS AND LITERATURE on the subject of PRESTRESS-ED CONCRETE has been presented to the public library of Kansas City, Mo., by Martin Mahler, consultant on this subject. Mr. Mahler's office is located at 930 Burlington Avenue, Union, N. J.

SPEAKING OF LIBRARIES, THE OCTAGON ANNOUNCES the establishment of the national AIA library from which corporate members may borrow books by mail. The Institute will spend \$65,000 for the purpose of building and equipping the library. Details on the library and loan service is contained in the bulletin "Services of the A.I.A., Report No. 1" dated May, 1953.

A NEW FURNITURE GALLERY HAS BEEN OPENED in Kansas City by Cousins, Inc., at 4534 Main Street, including hundreds of displays from America's leading furniture and appliance manufacturers. Through this new gallery, architects and their clients are invited to buy furniture and appliance needs at a professional discount. This new venture has met with instant approval.

THE MRS. KEMP MEMORIAL FUND is being subscribed to by our chapter. Established in memory of the wife of our mayor, the fund will benefit the many charities in which Mrs. Kemp was active before her untimely death in June.

## architecture in the news

### BOOK REVIEW

The Northwest Architecture  
of Pietro Belluschi

Edited by Joe Stubblebine  
Architectural Record  
262 Pages. \$6.50

This first book-form collection of Belluschi's work and words seems fitting for its conciseness, because much of his architecture is very concise. Editor Joe Stubblebine has captured the "human scale" of Belluschi. This is not a ponderous volume, but rather a simple pictorial collection of houses, churches and commercial buildings, all modern structures, each with individual character. Included are writings on the subject of architecture by Belluschi himself. Also an interesting, though short, biography.





*By T. L. Roark, Jr.*

In reporting on the 85th Convention of the A. I. A. held this year in Seattle, first mention and a word of sincere appreciation should go to the host Chapter Washington State and those other Northwest Chapters who did an outstanding job.

Each year it becomes more evident that the National Convention has become far too large to adequately or properly handle certain things. The Seattle Convention was the second largest in our history. Since the activities are so crowded and overlapping, I have asked that our delegates in attendance to include in their reports a certain phase with particular emphasis.

The logging camp tour conducted by the Simpson Company and staged with the efforts of the Washington Chapter was truly great, probably the finest event ever staged by a host chapter. A fine outline of "things to see" was presented to delegates and a warm invitation to assist in tours was every present (again time being of essence they were a bit timid in arranging more formal tours of their fine region.)

## *The Seminar Sessions*

left much to be desired. The theme was probably a good one with emphasis on the "Wood Industry". There was much duplication of content in papers



read and very little open discussion from the floor. "Oriental Influence" and "Literigical Arts" seminars were excellent (see other report). The seminar on "Home Building Industry" was enlightening but my observation was that there is a frightening lack of interest and understanding in this field by our whole profession. The dollar volume of that phase of construction is a staggering amount.

## *Convention Politics*

The Presidency was unopposed and there is much unrest on this subject - much feeling that the presidency should be a one year term - that elections be by national mail ballot, and all offices should have at least two nominees. Some of these items will come in for study this year. Our Chapter had backed Howard Eichenbaum of Little Rock for Second Vice-President - he won in a very spirited contest with Allison of California (a very capable man) by 312 to 301. So as you can see, our meager seven vote count can make a difference. It was noticeable that new regional directors coming onto the scene from all sections of the country are young and aggressive men which shows a change in attitude from other years when they sometimes were "Hon- or Awards." Eichenbaum was the leader in a complete reorganization of the National Committee frame work which streamlined the whole system from fifty-seven to twenty-some Standing Committees (with much change in personel to be announced shortly). The important thing is that all such Committees will from now on be manned with much continuity ranging from National Committees thru Regional, and Chapter with a direct chain of manpower.

## *Practice of Architecture*

Beryl Price and his Committee have done a remarkable job on this work. He made one of the best reports at the Convention. This Committee along with "Public Relations" really are geared to cope with what they refer to as the grass roots of our profession. Their surveys have revealed some amazing facts and from their findings have come up with some fine conclusions. Comparative fees, Chapter Handbook, money raising methods, Associate and Junior Associate problems, legal aspects of the profession, legal council methods, close assistance to the Public Relation Council, are all examples of their fine work.

## *Public Relations*

John Root of the Chicago Chapter and his committee are doing an outstanding job. Much of the efforts of this committee is already evident. Their "Facts Package", searching self-analysis of the profession, explanation of technique, etc., have been good. Their problem now is to go beyond Chapter level and see that each member is afforded real Public Relation help. This they will do with a new piece which will be sent shortly, called "Public Relations Manual". It is pointed at the individual man, or his use, and portends to be a real help. It was pointed out that from that point on EACH MAN must give to receive for it is at that point that the very subtle link in this powerful chain can break and lose much of its effect. They plea for inquiries of all kinds. The Ketcham Company, Inc., of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, are doing a job far beyond the usual call in this field and will answer many questions for Chapter or private practitioners.

## *Chapter Affairs*

An evening seminar on this subject was well attended and informative. The Kansas City Chapter is no longer an unknown orphan in the midwest somewhere. Our activities are widely known. "Skylines" has been to a great

means responsible for this. Many chapters are frankly amazed that we accomplish what we do without a Chapter Office or for that matter without an Executive Secretary. Another point of amazement is our low dues structure. Our work far exceeds any chapter of like size and rivals much of that which is done by some of the largest chapters in the institute. Much information on chapter affairs was exchanged at this meeting and our delegates will attempt to be vocal on this subject in our future chapter work. One particularly good idea from the Baltimore chapter concerned the preparation and reading at chapter meetings of professional papers, much the same as medical or legal papers. They found that among their members were men eminently qualified to give such papers, relating to segments of practice, which were really outstanding. A secondary and unexpected good of this activity was the "good press" received. We feel sure that our chapter can do a similar job in this field and contribute greatly to our programs. A fine presentation of a TV program presented by the So. California Chapter was good. We brought back data for Clarence Kivett's chapter committee who are studying this medium.

## *Miscellany*

The awards conferred at this convention were nicely handled. We were quite proud of Emil Frei from St. Louis who received the "Craftmanship Medal." Mr. Frei, Doug Haskell, and many others remember quite favorably our regional conference for the outstanding program and active participation of those in attendance. The national conventions do not achieve such results. The Producers' Council exhibit was good, differing from our K. C. effort only in the "very new" product display. Anyone who ever attends a Convention will quickly see how outstanding was the job of our K. C. Producers' Council Chapter at our conference.

Much discussion on the A. I. A. Doc. 330, "Standards of Professional Practice," and many changes of wording will occur before it is ready for adoption. Action on this item and observations from the floor will be published in our national publication shortly.

In closing there is one thing that stands out quite forcibly at the National Conventions. There is an amazing amount of devoted service to our profession by men at the national level. Many times you may wonder what good your membership is to you. What results can you see? The answer is a very simple one -- there would be no profession of Architecture without our Institute. The road to public acceptance is a long hard one and we have come a long way, but there is much to be done. It becomes even more apparent that the activity of the smaller practitioner in behalf of his profession is the most important. He meets a public, with little time for understanding, and his actions have a profound effect on the whole fabric of the profession.



# 85<sup>th</sup>

## annual convention

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE  
OF ARCHITECTS

JUNE 15-19 1953

SEATTLE, WASHINGTON

# DITCHY ELECTED

## Schlossman, Eichenbaum Named Vice Presidents

By ERNEST MICKEL

SEATTLE, Wash.—Clair W. Ditchy, Detroit, Mich., was chosen unanimously at the 85th annual convention of the American Institute of Architects to head the organization for the next year. He succeeds Glenn Stanton, Portland, Ore., who closed a two-year term as AIA president.

The next meeting of the Institute will be held in Boston the third week in June, and the organization is scheduling Minneapolis for its 1955 convention.

Norman J. Schlossman, Chicago, was chosen by the architects as their first vice-president for the ensuing year. Since AIA prexies usually remain in office for two year terms, Schlossman is likely to preside at the centennial meeting in Washington, D. C. in 1957.

Howard Eichenbaum, 'Little Rock, Ark., was elected second vice president of the architects' group. He defeated George B. Allison, Los Angeles, in a close contest. It was the only contest of the convention.

**Name Cummings**

George Bain Cummings of Birmingham, N. Y., was selected for the position of Institute secretary succeeding Ditchy. The treasurer, Maurice J. Sullivan, of Houston, Tex., was re-elected.

The race for 1953-1954 president left Ditchy as the sole contender when Kenneth E. Wischmeyer, formerly first vice-president, withdrew for reasons of health. The convention passed a resolution extending him its greetings and sincere early and com-



C. W. Ditchy

## W. B. Greeley Sees Bright Timber Picture for Nation

"Our greatest assurance of sufficient timber in the future is not the 700,000-odd square miles of forest in the United States. It is that we have discovered that it pays to grow trees."

So spoke W. B. Greeley, vice-president of the West Coast Lumbermen's Assn., Seattle, as he drew an optimistic picture of America's forests of the future at the A.I.A. convention.

"The overall forest growth of the United States has increased steadily during the last 25 years," Greeley said.

## Cleric Urges Unity in Church Design

SEATTLE, Wash. — "Today we are witnessing a revolt in church architecture," the Rev. Marvin Halvorson, executive secretary, Department of Worship and Arts, National Council of Churches, New York, told a seminar meeting on liturgical arts during the AIA convention. The Rev. Mr. Halvorson represented the Protestant churches on the panel.

He declared, "if you will look at some of the early churches in America, you will discover there was a unity of internal arrangement. Today these patterns have vanished."

He called on his listeners not to forget that the church, is "a community of believers, and therefore, it should be a community building."

Other speakers on the seminar were Maurice Lavanoux, secretary of the Liturgical Arts Society of New York, representing the Catholic churches; and Harry M. Prince, AIA, New York consultant for the Union of American Hebrew Congregations.

Lavanoux emphasized that contemporary church architecture must escape all the "false trappings and pseudo-styles" of the past and at the same time avoid the "clippical look" of modern functionalism. He stated that the "building of a church is not the exercise of an architect's virtuosity, no matter what his eminence may be in other fields of architectural practice." "Since liturgy is a public act," he said, "it follows that the community for whom the church building is erected, must be taken into consideration."

Prince warned architects the must not divest the design of a symbolism of the synagogue heritage. "It should be an organic entity, free of any chains other than its basic intent of establishing a free, unfettered style of synagogue architecture. I insist that it look like a house of worship and not a municipal building, fire-house or public library."

## Big Builders Need Architect, Eichler Says

SEATTLE, Wash.—The big merchant builder of homes is unwise not to employ the talents of private architects, Joseph Eichler, Palo Alto, Calif., builder told the 85th national convention of the American Institute of Architects here.

"We build homes by the hundreds," Eichler said, "and we consult with our architects every step of the way."

"Furthermore, we're building houses today at the same cost we built them in 1950, and yet, our homes are much superior. We give the buyer more, and that is due to the skill of the architects."

Attempting to explain the hesitancy of some builders to retain architects, Eichler said they regard architects as an "additional expense" and "seem to feel that because architect-designed houses look different, therefore, they must cost more money."

"That simply isn't true," declared Eichler.

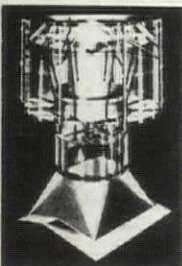
"We merely want our homes to be more liveable, more comfortable, and better looking, and the architects are helping to provide the answers."

Other members of the panel were Edward H. Fickett, architect, Los Angeles, and L. Morgan Yost, Chicago, moderator.

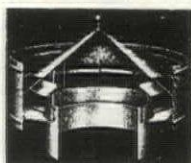


# fan **Burt** gravity ventilators wall louvres

Write for Bulletin SPV-17



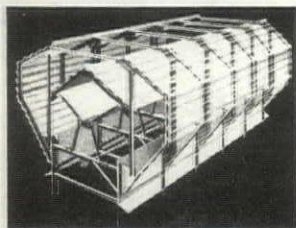
BURT FREE FLOW FAN VENTILATOR  
WRITE FOR BULLETIN SPV-10A.



BURT STANDARD GRAVITY  
WRITE FOR BULLETIN SPV-8A



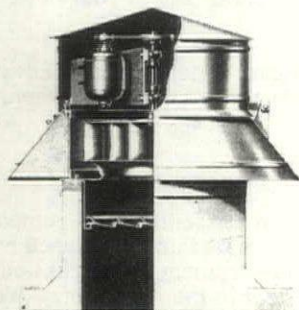
BURT "TREE-FLOW" GRAVITY  
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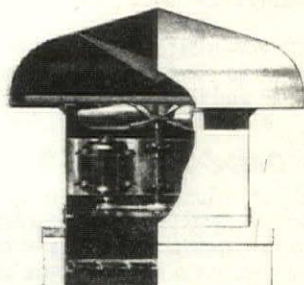
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GRAVITY VENTILATOR  
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**bases**  
WRITE FOR BULLETIN SPV-15A

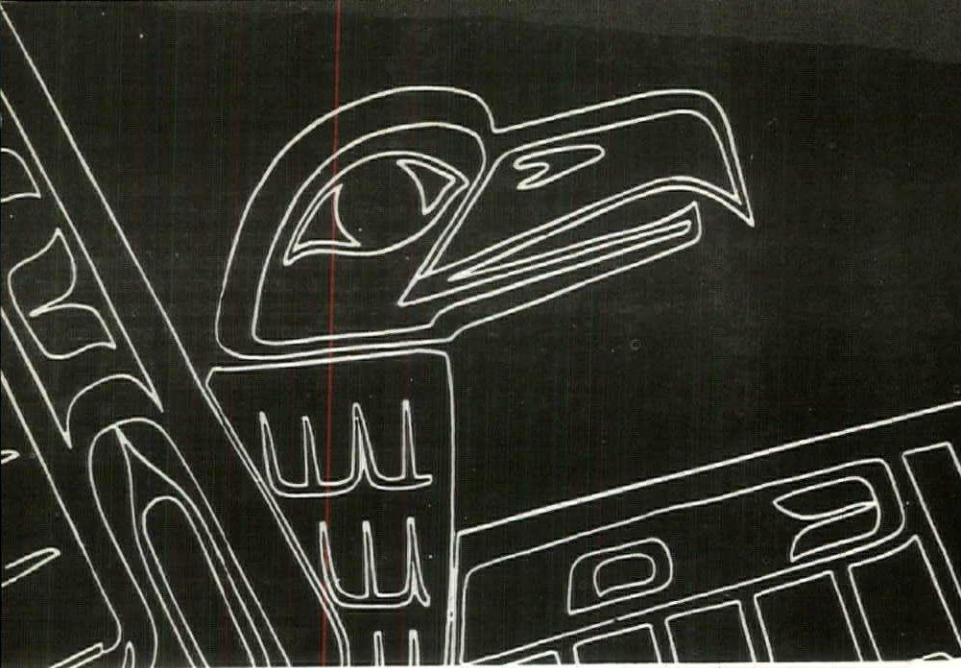


## B-D-R ENGINEERING CORPORATION

HEADQUARTERS FOR QUALITY MATERIALS

4243 Pennsylvania  
Kansas City, Missouri

Telephone  
Jefferson 8366



## *Seeing Seattle Architecture*

*By Louis H. Geis*

It was the good fortune of the writer, Roark and Monroe, to meet a former classmate of mine (Kieth Woollen - M. A. Nebraska - 34) who worked in Seattle during and after the war, and who is now practicing in Longview, Washington.

Kieth was most willing to show us around in his car, which was most advantageous to covering a lot of territory with a little time, as he knew where to take us and how to get there.

### *Homes Tour*

Our first sojourn was to Hilltop Community, a new residential area composed mostly of architects. The area was originally purchased and developed by a group of architects who have control of future development and expansion. (The mountain did not come to them, so they went to the mountain.) We couldn't find a bad location in the whole area - in any direction there were mountains or water or both, an ideal place to emphasize the outdoor, within the residence, and believe me, they know how to do it. The houses are so well nestled within the hills and foliage, that it was easy to pass some of them by unvisited, yet when one was on the inside looking out, there seemed to be no barrier between you and the universe.

One of the best examples of contemporary residential architecture was the P.B. Johnson home. Its many terraces, views and exceptionally fine interior made us stay longer than at any other residence. Mrs. Johnson was most charming as a hostess, and most artistic as a designer and manufacturer of



# VIBRACRETE

## LITE-WATE MASONRY UNITS

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ceramics. The home contained her studio and examples of her work were in evidence in every room. The Johnsons' took advantage of every possible item of existing terrain and plant growth.

Other homes visited in Hilltop were those of Bassetti, Morse, Lovett and others of equal note.

After leaving Hilltop, we were taken to see the Burnette Home (Tucker-Shields, and Terry). The architects, in order to take full advantage of a sweeping view, set the floor thirty feet above the sidewalk. This is a grand house on a grand scale.

Kieth then took us to see one of his own houses - a very clever smaller home, with, as usual, a gorgeous panoramic view of water, mountains and space. After seeing these and other houses, it was easy for us to believe that seventy per cent of the homes in the Seattle area have been designed by architects. It appeared to us that of the homes built about Seattle since the war, the traditional is the oddity - while K. C. where the contemporary is seldom seen.

## *University of Washington*

After seeing these homes, we visited the University of Washington campus where we witnessed the greatest architectural contrast within the same area that revealed a heavily ornamented library building, just a short distance from the new Electrical Engineering Paul Thiry building which to the writer was one of the finest campus buildings he had ever seen. The most impressive campus building of all, however, was the Health Sciences Building (Naramore, Bain, Brady and Johanson). Then to the Seattle Historical Society Building (Paul Thiry), an excellent and most functional building.

Then more and more buildings, among them the Seattle National Bank (John W. Maloney), a drive-in of exceptional, at first unnoticed detail.

## *Shopping Centers, Etc.*

Then to North Gate and Bellevue Shopping Centers. The former, being much larger, contained the Bon Marche' department store and restaurant - a huge structure, very well done. The main attraction of Bellevue was the Crab-apple restaurant and cocktail lounge, featuring a madrona tree of huge proportion near the entrance. It was at this lounge that our president added a better punch line to the bartenders story, and where we decided to finish up our day with dinner at Wilderness Lodge (Young, Richardson, Carleton and Detslie). An at this place we had ATMOSPHERE - this was dining amid grandure, even though we ordered from the lowly end of the menu. The architects have done a wonderful job in the use of heavy timbers and beams, and of course the spiral stairs supported by a curved steel pipe about the huge totem pole makes a most interesting interior. The main dining room overlooks a lake, with a beautiful background nature.

A detour on our way home via Portland was most enjoyable and enlightening from an architectural standpoint, but this is another story - a long but interesting one.



# *Associate Report*

*By John C. Monroe Jr.*

It was indeed quite an honor and wonderful experience to be able to participate in this year's National A.I. A. convention in Seattle.

The first days tour of the Simpson Logging Company Project was a masterpiece of organization. This tour involved transporting almost a thousand Architects on a 175 mile trip to the Olympic Peninsula to witness the manufacture of wood fiber products and plywood. At noon a tasty picnic lunch was provided at the edge of a beautiful lake in the forest. Following lunch, an exhibition of the sport of log rolling took place. The World's Champion log roller was on hand with a former World's Champ and these men proceeded to give an exhibition of log rolling that couldn't be equaled. This display of agility, balance, and sure footedness proved to be one of the highlights of the day!

Following this, we were taken into the forest to witness the actual felling of two giant Douglas Fir trees. The trees were two hundred feet tall and over three hundred years old. During this actual logging operation, they also had a Champion "tree topper" top one of these trees. It was certainly something to see a man climb 150 feet up a tree and cut the top off. As soon as these trees were cut, men were out planting young trees to replace the ones destroyed. Actually, as we stood there and witnessed the cutting of these sturdy old forest giants, it made us just a bit sad to see them fall. These old forest patriarchs, after all these years, going under the saw!

On the way back to Seattle, we visited the Bremerton Navy Yard which is the largest on the West coast. We left the navy yard aboard a Navy P. C. which is a fast minesweeper for our trip across the sound to Seattle.

The regular convention convened on Tuesday and followed a rapid pace until adjourning. The discussions on the convention floor proved very interesting.

The seminars throughout the convention were interesting and informative, but in many instances, members lost interest due to lack of pre-coordination between the panel speakers.

One interesting point that was stressed by the lumber industry speakers was the fact that we as Architects could help in wood conservation by not "over specifying" lumber. It is the opinion of the industry that in many instances Architects specify grades of lumber that are far better than is actually required, thus causing shortages in the better grades when a lower grade material could suffice.

The convention seemed to be well received by those in attendance and certainly the Washington Chapter should be congratulated for the excellent handling of the many details that are necessary to make a convention successful.

Aside from the regular convention activities, we took the opportunity to visit some of the fine buildings and residences of the Seattle area.

We were impressed by the high grade designs produced by the Architects of that locality. Certainly it seems that they are doing a very fine job of producing



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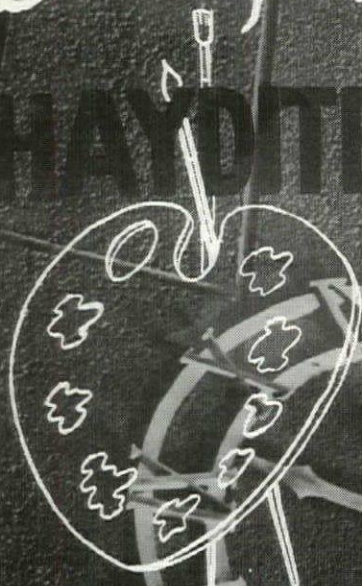
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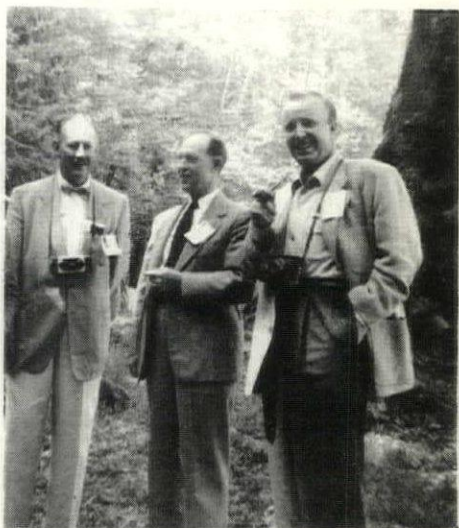
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thoughtful forward thinking contemporary design rather than falling back on old styles, cliches, and just plain attempting to copy old medieval structures and make them fit the modern idiom!

And with all of this, the temperature in Seattle during the convention was just right. It was a pleasure to be in the cool Northwest climate, if only for one week! I am looking forward to being in attendance at National Conventions in the future. I believe they are very worthwhile in giving a person a much clearer understanding of our problems nationally as a profession. Then too, it gives one an opportunity to see and hear what the Octagon is doing in our behalf.



# Don't Cut That Madrona Tree! It's Sacrilege, Says Architect



**PIETRO BELLUSCHI**  
Now dean of the School of Agriculture and Planning at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, after 26 years of practice in Portland, Ore., where he designed many Seattle residences, Belluschi probably exerts more influence over American home design than Frank Lloyd Wright ever exerted over all American architecture.

And many of Belluschi's homes, those he designed for the Pacific Coast from San Francisco to Victoria, B. C., contain courtyards which feature madrona trees.

"Don't cut them down," he urged. "It's sacrilege! People call them a 'dirty' tree, but the madronas peel bark and drop leaves and scatter their flowers—all good humus. A client.

"The people out here are—well, not pioneers, but they are the people who want homes, places to enjoy. They want places they enjoy living in."

Some Belluschi maxims: "Furniture for effect is bad! It must be comfortable. There may always be ugly, comfortable furniture, but why not have attractive, comfortable furniture?" "Architecture today must be concerned with human beings, not abstractions . . . and you cannot make formulas for it . . . " "Don't scoff at the man who

designs a brilliant house with a leaky roof. You can fix the leak . . . " "What matters about a house is not just what you feel about it from the outside. The important thing is that you feel good when inside it."

**85th annual convention**  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
JUNE 15-19, 1955  
SEATTLE

## Architects Get First-Hand View of Timber Production

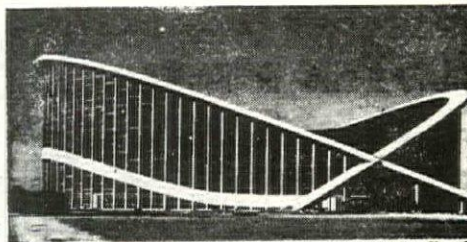
SEATTLE, Wash.—Some 500 of the country's leading architects penetrated the deep timber lands of Washington to view first hand the manufacture of products they specify daily in their work. Delegates to the 85th annual convention of the American Institute of Architects were guests of the Simpson Logging Co. Covering 175 miles of heavily forested area, the visitors were shown the inside operations of a plywood production plant, a fiber board production plant, and climaxed their day in the woods with a perfect demonstration of tree felling and tree toppling.

It was not all business and no play, either. After a swiss steak lunch on the shores of Mason Lake deep in the heart of the Douglas Fir district, the architects watched a half hour performance by the country's champion log rollers, the two loggers, Russ Ellison and Edie Herron, each has held the world's championship and will compete again for the world's title at Albany, Ore. on July 4.

The days climax came with the tree felling exhibition in a forest clearing prepared by Simpson. Here the architects were privileged to view a show seldom seen by visitors, even though they penetrate the heartland of lumber regions. The 500 touring designers were spellbound as the loggers topped two forest giants, each approximately 400 years old. Then Harold Johnson, a working logger ship in his own right, provided the final thrill with his topping feat 150 feet above the ground. This expert of 15 years at the logging game, entertained the spectators with the ascent of the giant fir a little over one minute. He came down in just 28 seconds and received a tremendous ovation from the architects.



**HONOR AWARD WINNER**—The building above was one of two to win highest honors at the A.I.A. convention. Saarinen & Associates, Cranbrook, Mich., were architects for the structure, which is an engineering staff building at the General Motors Technical center, Warren, Mich.



**WINS FOR DEITRICK**—Pictured is the North Carolina State fair pavilion at Raleigh, a product of architect William Her Deitrick. Deitrick-Knight & Associates, Raleigh. It captured two of two honor awards at the A.I.A. convention.



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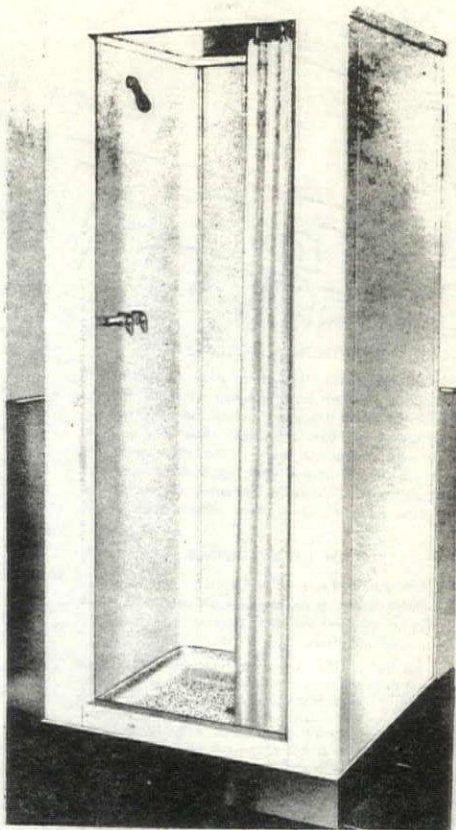
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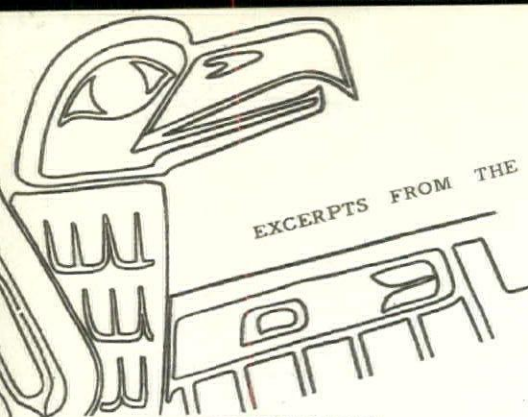
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## EXCERPTS FROM THE BOARDS REPORT

85TH CONVENTION

### ARCHITECTURAL ACTIVITY

Architectural activity throughout most of the nation remains at 1952's high level, according to reports from our twelve Regional Directors. Schools are the leading building type in all twelve regions, followed closely by industrial and commercial work in the majority of the areas covered. Residential activity is still strong, and successful building fund drives by numerous religious groups are reflected in eight regions where church work is substantial.

### STUDY OF AIA SERVICE

The American Institute of Architects is essentially and fundamentally a service organization. Its objectives which can never be reviewed too often are contained in the By-laws and read as follows:

"The objects of The American Institute of Architects shall be to organize and unite in fellowship the architects of the United States of America; to combine their efforts so as to promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession; to advance the science and art of training, and practice; to coordinate the building industry and the profession of architecture to insure the advancement of the living standards of our people through their improved environment; and to make the profession an ever-increasing service to society."

### MEMBERSHIP

Secretary Ditchy reported to The Board that at the present time there are 9,487 corporate members of The Institute. Incidentally, it has been roughly estimated that the figure of 14,000 probably represents the maximum membership obtainable at the present time—a goal to keep in front of us.

### SUB-COMMITTEE FOR EXTENSION OF PRIVATE PRACTICE

This Committee has formulated a guide to aid chapter committees in collecting and reporting cases in their efforts to promote or maintain private practice in their local and state governments.

The Institute has continued to send out material at the request of chapters seeking ammunition with which to fight proposed detrimental legislation. The South Carolina Chapter is an example where cooperation on the part of The Institute has enabled the Chapter to defeat a bill devised to promote the use of stock plans for schools. The South Carolina "case history" is available to other chapters facing similar situations.

### COST ESTIMATING

It was pointed out forcibly to representatives of the architectural profession in a recent roundtable discussion that one of the great (if not the greatest) detractions of engaging architects is the failure of architects to be competent in the matter of estimating construction costs. If we architects could perfect ourselves in this essential aspect of our services, and if we could acquire a reputation for reasonable accuracy in cost estimating, then to a large extent we could successfully ward off the encroachment of the "package dealer," to say nothing of enhancing the prestige and reputation of the professional. It is understandable that during an inflationary period the difficulties of cost estimating are aggravated, but surely with the assistance of cost indices and other data, cost estimating would be facilitated. There is an obligation on the part of The Institute to make a study of this problem and to afford its membership such guidance, advice and statistics as it can. The architect must be courageous enough to furnish his client with the real facts even at the apparent risk of losing a possible job. Probably in the long run more jobs will be gained through an honest and courageous approach than will be "gained" through timidity.

Work has been started in assembling helpful data on this subject for publication in The BULLETIN.

### LIBRARY

At the March 1953 meeting of The Board it was stated that the 1953 Convention would be asked for authority for The Board to build the Library of The Institute from monies in the General Reserve Fund, and that the architects of the Library be requested to have firm bids for consideration at the time of the Convention. Firm bids have been received and a resolution for the transfer of funds for construction follows.

The need for the Library should be apparent to all. The present valuable collections of The Institute have been largely unavailable for the past twenty-five years and even now are not suitably shelved. To perform its present functions efficiently and to develop the service required of a first-rate library, the new quarters are required. Incidentally, this will relieve somewhat the pressure for space in Institute headquarters.

The return of the books which were loaned to George Washington University has been completed. These number some three hundred volumes.

### FUTURE CONVENTIONS

As previously announced, the 1954 convention of The Institute will be held in Boston, Massachusetts. The original dates mentioned, however, have been changed and are now definitely determined as June 15-19.

It will be recalled that the 1955 Convention is to be held in Minneapolis; the 1956 Convention in Los Angeles, and the 1957 Convention, commemorating the founding of The Institute one hundred years ago, will be held in Washington, D. C.



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Grievance Section: Robert S. Everitt, Harold Casey, William Simon, Luther O. Willis.

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