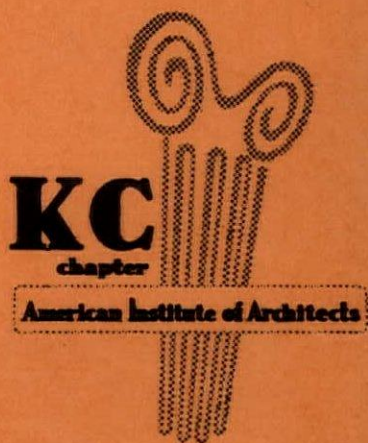


# Skylines



MAY 1954



## SKYLINES

Published monthly by the Kansas City  
Chapter of The American Institute of  
Architects

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# Skylines

Volume 4

Number 5

May, 1954

**kansas city chapter**

**AIA**

**meeting**

**tuesday may eighteen**

**ANNUAL MEDAL AWARDS**

**ad club 913 baltimore**

5:30 . . . business session

6:15 . . . cocktails

7:00 . . . dinner

8:00 . . . awards presentation

The jury for Medal Awards for outstanding buildings completed in 1953: Linus Burr Smith, AIA, Lincoln, Nebraska; Robert Elkington, AIA, St. Louis, Missouri; Dane David Morgan, AIA, Burlington, Iowa.

Results reached by these men after a tour and study of entries on Sunday, May 2, will be announced at this meeting with client-owners of winning structures present as guests.



# calendar

# AIA

## MAY

18 Tuesday

Producers Council Caravan  
Chapter Meeting

26 Wednesday

Producers Council Clinic on Plumbing Products at  
2819 Warwick Trafficway

Producers Council Clinic  
on Plumbing Products  
at 2819 Warwick Trafficway

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May 9, 16 and 30

June 20

## JUNE

15 Tuesday

Chapter Meeting

15-19 at Boston

the 86th Annual Convention



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# **caravan**

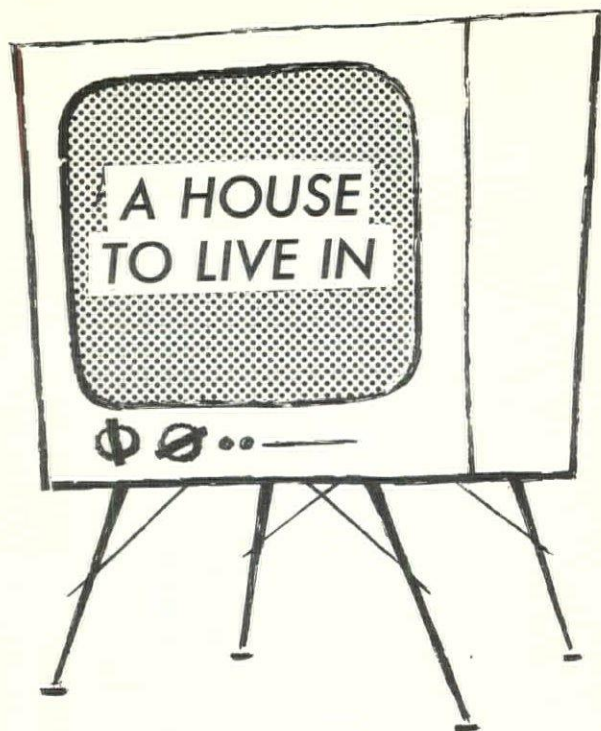
**OF BUILDING PRODUCTS EXHIBITS**

*to be shown at the Hotel Bellerive El Casbah Room  
on Tuesday, May 18, 1954*

*Showing all day*

*from 10:00 A M*

**STERLING RONAL, Chapter President**



***thirteen half-hour television programs***

**CHANNEL NINE**

***sunday afternoons at 4:00***

Following the successful 13-week run of its "Space for Living" program on WHB-TV, the K. C. Chapter AIA has now joined with others in the homebuilding field in the production of a new Sunday afternoon series called "A House to Live In." This series is another public interest program on Channel 9. It features Miss Sue Bowen of the WHB staff who writes and produces the 30-minute discussion-type program.

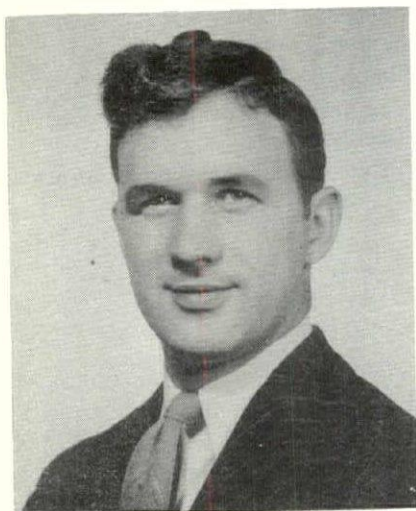
- May 2 Present Building Trends. (Builders)
- May 9 The Building Site. (Architects and Landscape Architects)
- May 16 The Space You Need for Living. (Architect)
- May 23 What Determines Cost? (Builders)
- May 30 What Makes a Good Floor Plan? (Architects)
- June 6 How to Choose Building Materials. (Builders)
- June 13 Financing Your Home. (Builder, Banker, Savings & Loan)
- June 20 Outdoor Living. (Architects and Landscape Architects)
- June 27 Planning Your Planting. (Landscape Architects)
- July 4 Color—Inside and Out. (Painting Contractors)
- July 11 Interior Wall Coverings. (Painting Contractors)
- July 18 How the Decorator and Painting Contractor Work Together.  
(Painting Contractors and Decorators)
- July 25 Protecting the Surfaces of Your Home. (Painting Contractors)

Architects are participating in four of the 13 telecasts which emphasizes display of photographs, scale models and live, quick-sketch illustrations.

Representing the Chapter are Ray Voskamp, Ralph Myers, Jack Morley and John Monroe. Gordon Whiffen, landscape architect with Hare & Hare, participates in the May 9 and June 20 programs. James Mantel has charge of chapter associate and junior associate members working on props and continuity.

Instrumental in arranging and detailing architect participation in this series was Lloyd Roark, Chapter TB liaison man, together with Clarence Kivett, public relations chairman, Frank Grimaldi and Donald Hollis.

APRIL BOARD MEETING summary: Discussion in regard to incorporation of the chapter resulted in instructions to President Simon to contact three or four attorneys mentioned to seek counsel for the chapter. Membership resignations of Wm. Rump and John Ramm were voted. Action in nominating Mr. Frank McNett of Grand Island, Nebraska, for Central States Regional Director was taken. President Simon reported on the river front development project. Committee selected to work on this project includes Edgar Voskamp, John Murphy, and Clarence Kivett.



Louis J. Krueger

#### NEW MEMBERS, April:

Louis J. Krueger, Jr. Associate, 4526 Jefferson, K. C., Mo.; graduate, Emporia High School, and B. S. in Architecture, K. U., 1950; worked for Griest & Ekdahl and R. A. Collidge, Topeka; with Donald R. Hollis since August 1953.

John David Miller, Jr. Associate, 4008 Oak, K. C., Mo.; graduate, Northeast High School, K. C., Mo. B. S. in Arch. Engineering, K. U., 1950; draftsman on K. U. building program one year; with Donald R. Hollis since July 1951.

John L. Daw, advanced to Associate membership; native of Perry, Iowa; graduate of Notre Dame University, B. S. in Architecture, 1952; with Shaughnessy & Bower since September 1952.

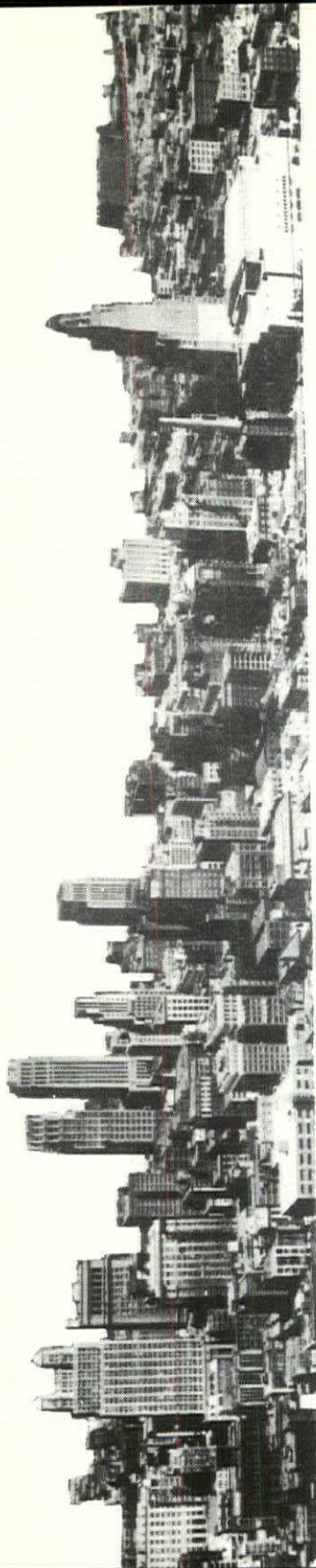
# in the news

K. C. CHAPTER AIA EXECUTIVE SECRETARY, Betty J. Martin, 1016 Baltimore, Room 515, Victor 9737, awaits your call to handle your office overload work. Specifications, stencil work and general stenographic service by a topflight stenographer is here available to architects and producers' council offices. The plan whereby Miss Martin can maintain the central chapter office downtown was devised to split her time fifty-fifty on chapter work and overload work for members' offices. She has on call additional help to accommodate rush jobs. Unless overload work is channeled to this source, the central chapter office will not be a success. Chapter members should avail themselves of this excellent service at every opportunity.

A PLEA FOR HELP from Mr. J. Alan Hammack, 151 Stadium Park, Iowa City, Iowa, has come to architects in this area in the form of a request for information about the original plans for the construction of Pope's Theatre in 1879 or the renovation in 1884, in St. Louis, Mo. Mr. Hammack is making a study of theatre history of St. Louis from 1879 to 1895 with particular emphasis on Pope's Theatre which stood on the site now occupied by Scroggs-Vandervoort-Barney department store. He has exhausted many logical sources of information, and hopes that publication of this plea will bring in some information.

A NEW ORGANIZATION in the masonry industry was formed April 9 here in Kansas City when the Unit Masonry Association met for the first time at the Ad Club. The aim of this new group is to unify the industry to gain increased public acceptance of masonry construction by publicizing good workmanship and design, and to co-operate with other elements of the building industry for improved construction practices. Monthly dinner meetings are planned at which forum discussions will be held with members of the construction industry, including architects.

PUBLIC RELATIONS Chairman Clarence Kivett set a good example in PR activity during April. On the 19th, he spoke at a weekly training program of the inland Steel Products Company, and showed slides taken during his European trip last year. The Inland meetings are designed to better acquaint their employees with the company organization, its products and their relationship with other professions in the industry. On April 27, Mr. Kivett joined with Luther Orville Willis and about 225 persons, principally city officials and others who serve the city without compensation, on the occasion of a dinner given by Mayor Wm. E. Kemp for the Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of the City of Nottingham, England. Mr. Willis is a member of the City Board of Zoning Adjustment and Mr. Kivett is a member of the City Plan Commission. The Lord Mayor Christopher Coffey and his Lady spoke with great feeling regarding Mayor Kemp's visit to Nottingham last year, and were most grateful at the warmth of their reception here in Kansas City.



MARCH 23, 1954.

# SPUR TO STADIUM

L. P. Cookingham Urges That Plans for the Huge Arena Be Expedited.

## TALK OF 100,000 SEATS

Cost Estimates Range From 8 to 15 Million Dollars for Riverfront Project.

Prompt preliminary planning for Kansas City's new stadium a spectacular arena that may have a seating capacity of 100,000 persons, was recommended today in a conference among city officials.

Attending the session also was W. H. Simon, president of the Kansas City chapter of the American Institute of Architects, who offered full aid of architects in the big project. L. P. Cookingham asked for advice from the Kansas City chapter and Simon agreed to meet with the board of directors and report to the city manager in about two weeks.

### Figures in Millions.

The cost of the huge arena, to be constructed on a 135-acre site now owned by the city on the Missouri riverfront near the Paseo bridge, may run to 8, 12 or 15 million dollars, Cookingham said.

"But I don't think this will scare the people of Kansas City," Cookingham said. "Originally, I was lukewarm on the stadium, but now I have been sold on the idea. We must think big to do a big thing like this. We must have proper financing. It cannot be done with borrowed money, but it can be done."

Cookingham said he has had many letters in support of the stadium.

"I don't think 100,000 seats is too many," the city manager added.

# BOOST TO STADIUM

Three Committees Are to Be Formed to Study All Phases of Municipal Proposal.

## FOR BEST IN NATION

L. P. Cookingham Asserts City Should "Think Big" in Considering the Project.

The plan to construct a huge municipal stadium here moved another stride forward today with the announcement of a program to appoint three committees to study all aspects of stadium construction.

The new program was disclosed following a meeting among L. P. Cookingham, city manager; Reed McKinley, director of public works; William H. Simon, president of the Kansas City chapter of the American Institute of Architects, and Philip E. Geissal, chief planning engineer.

### Architects Are Enthusiastic.

Three weeks ago the four men met and Simon was asked to discuss stadium possibilities with the architects. Today, Simon reported that architects here are enthusiastic about the construction of a stadium and are favorable to the idea of a contest for the appropriate design.

It was agreed at today's session that three committees, each composed of architects, will be named to further the stadium plan. The first committee will be a fact-finding group; the second will be an evaluation committee, and the third contingent will prepare a program to be presented to architects.

The job of the fact-finding group will be to meet with representatives of all groups that conceivably would have use for a stadium plant, including both outdoor and indoor arenas.

This committee will talk with promoters of baseball, football, track, basketball, wrestling, boxing and other sports; American Royal officials, hockey interests; rodeo showmen; concert and show promoters, and others. The committee members will seek to determine precisely what type of a stadium most people want.

The second committee will consider the facts uncovered by the first group and will seek to determine exactly how far Kansas City can go in developing a stadium.

### For Bold Plan.

On this point, Cookingham again reminded Simon and the others that Kansas City should "think big" in planning a stadium.

"What Kansas City should have," the city manager said, "is the outstanding stadium plant in the country. Anything else will be unworthy of Kansas City."

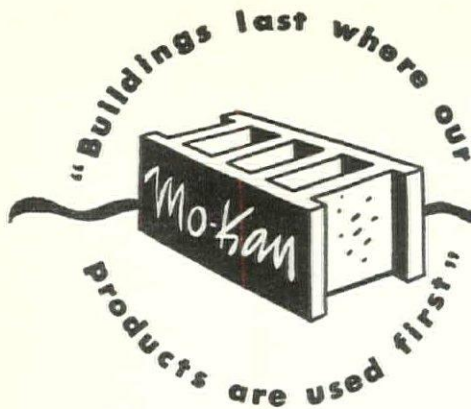
Cookingham reiterated his belief that a facility with a seating capacity of 100,000 or more would not be too large.

"We have to do this thing big," he declared. "Otherwise we might as well not do it. Even if it means a small increase in taxes, we should think big."

The final committee would take recommendations from the evaluation group and prepare a program for the architects. This likely would include a type of competition for the design of the stadium, plans for a jury to judge the entries and a basis for awards.

Cookingham said he would discuss the stadium matter at length with the city council and with civic interests.

After the three committees have completed their tasks and the program is further along, the city manager said, a large civic committee will be named to work out financing and construction details for the stadium facility.



# MO-KAN

## *The Trend is To Concrete*

The method of control joint construction illustrated on the opposite page is concerned with a specific condition where it is desired to preserve the lateral stability of the wall and, at the same time, to provide a continuous vertical separation through the wall thickness.

Simplicity is emphasized in the construction of this joint since it is composed of materials which are normally found on concrete masonry jobs.

The joint requires no special shapes to build it and consumes very little, if any, laying time in excess of that required to build the wall without control jointing.

The units illustrated that go to make up the joint section are those produced by all concrete masonry manufacturers and the material from which the joint key is made may be the same as that used in the horizontal and vertical joints of the wall.

**Experience indicates the necessity for placing control joints in exterior concrete masonry walls at approximately 25 foot intervals.**

Horizontal reinforcement placed in mortar joints between concrete masonry units provides a relatively inexpensive and very valuable means of strengthening concrete masonry walls and aids materially in a more equitable distribution of the results of stresses in the masonry. This type of reinforcement is obtainable in pre-fabricated form, dimensioned for use on walls of varying thickness and in lengths well suited to easy handling on the job.

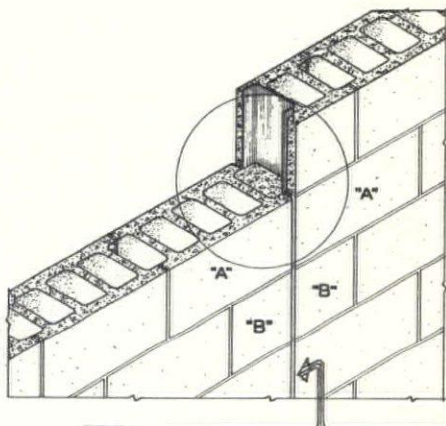
**The matter of placing horizontal reinforcement above and below openings in concrete masonry walls is very important.**

The frequency with which it is placed in unbroken sections of the wall will, in general, be determined by the type of wall under construction, the loading conditions on the wall, and by any other requirements for strength or durability.

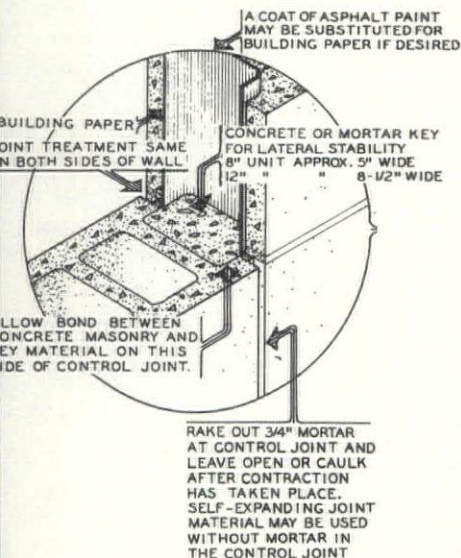
# Concrete products Association

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APPLICATION OF CONTROL JOINT  
IN A CONCRETE MASONRY WALL



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KEY ONE COURSE AT A TIME TO COMPLETE  
OTHER SIDE OF CONTROL JOINT.



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Slaton's Concrete Products

# COMMENT ON A TOUR OF THE GERMAN FEDERAL REP.

ANGUS McCALLUM AIA

The most fitting preface to a record of the impressions gained during the course of the tour must certainly be an expression of sincere appreciation to the German Federal Republic for the opportunity which was afforded us, and a tribute to the excellent manner in which the program was planned and conducted.

Our itinerary was developed with the greatest possible understanding of the breadth of architectural interest. Buildings are, after all, the end result of the architect's knowledge and comprehension of the problems, needs and capabilities of his clients; and only when one can see beyond a building or a plan into the mould of the philosophy from which the completed structure has found its form, can a reasoned judgment of the finished work be accomplished.

While we had a completely thorough view of the whole of the Federal Republic, in an all too brief period, at no time did we feel that we were simply a tourist group rushing through a superficial inspection of a few highlighted elements of post-war activity; but rather we moved as a professional group calling upon professional colleagues, guided by them, welcomed by them to investigate, question and comment upon those elements which were of most interest to us.

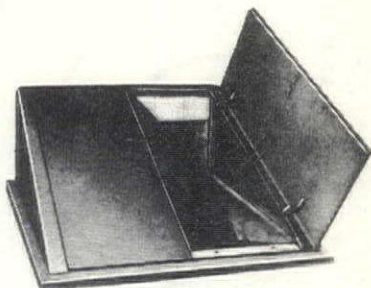
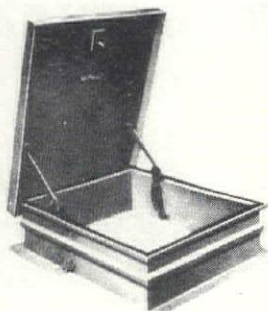
City planners have exploited in a highly competent fashion the tragic challenge and opportunity which was presented to them by the widespread destruction of so much of congested urban areas. Development of new traffic arteries, relocation of old patterns of movement, alleviation of high density housing proceeds here along the patterns so familiar in theory to planners internationally. Although German planners have taken full advantage of their opportunities, they, too, are restricted in a degree by the same sort of opposition which hampers their colleagues in other countries. The resistance and selfish interest of individual land holders and obstructionist groups to enlightened city planning seems to hold to a common pattern all over the world.

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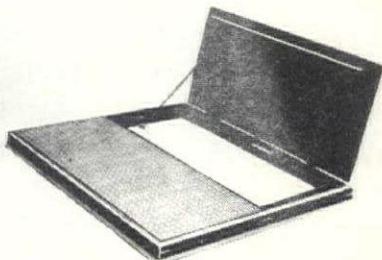


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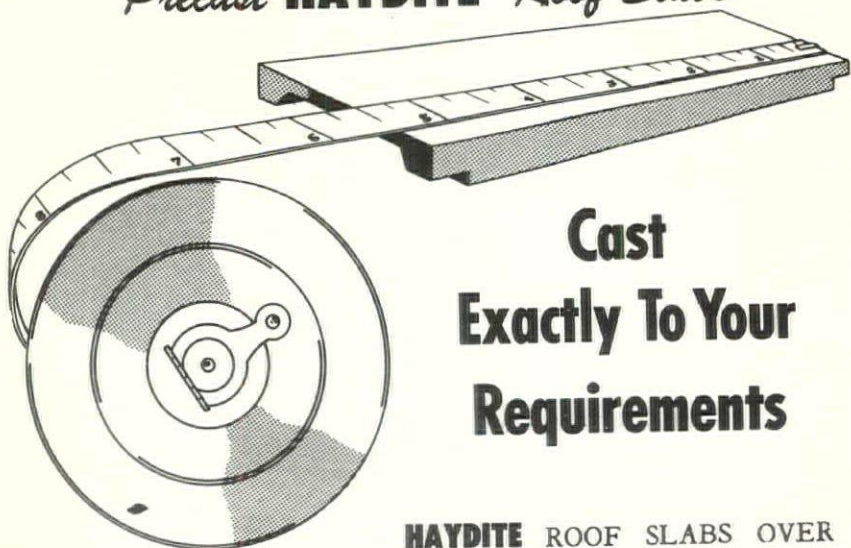
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"greenbelt" element in the city plan. Initiated by city planners on a smaller scale, and from perhaps less enlightened motives centuries ago, these beginnings have been expanded, extended and improved upon to produce wonderfully integrated patterns of urban complex and fresh open green spaces. The scope, refinement and excellent maintenance of public gardens have, of course, always been recognized as typical of the German City; but when experienced in its delightful integration with the whole of a city pattern, the public garden is seen to be perhaps the most highly developed example of the competence of the planners.

The magnitude of the program of reconstruction is most clearly evidenced in the development of housing. To the American architect, accustomed as he may be to large-scale construction programs, the volume of construction which has been accomplished in the housing field during the past five years is almost unbelievable.

Much of the work which we saw was of excellent character in design and construction, with full recognition of the problems of unit and project plan, orientation, open spaces for light, air and view; service areas; play space for children and recreation areas for the adult. The best of these projects were very evidently the products of highly-trained architects, completely devoted to the production of the best possible building types. Very much as here in America, however, a distressing number of the projects were the obvious results of less conscientious effort, devoid of originality in conception and almost tragic in their failure to recognize and profit by the outstanding work which has been done in this field.

Although we found, throughout Germany, ample evidence of the excellent craftsmanship which to the American mind typified the German workman, it was found particularly in the construction of the housing projects that the tremendous volume of the effort had of necessity resulted in a lowering of standards of apprenticeship and a consequent acceptance in some cases of lower standards of craftsmanship.

In the design and construction of elementary and secondary school buildings we found a high quality of professional effort. Basic plans are advanced in concept with good scale and excellent fenestration; structure has been admirably adapted to the requirements of the academic building; entrances, lobbies, corridor and stair elements are well handled. The consistent use of mural decoration and imaginative application of color, both interior and exterior have all combined to produce what one of our group very aptly described as "happy" schools; and schools ideally planned certainly, as the best possible environment for a democratic educational process.

Although the principal effort in construction for the Church is being devoted to the reconstruction and rehabilitation of Germany's historically famous old buildings, the design character of such new church buildings as we saw was exceptional.

The relatively few new Institutional buildings which we visited were most interesting.

We particularly admired the pavillion-type hospital at Essen and a Children's Hospital at Garmisch-Partenkirchen. A multi-story hospital under construction near Marl, in the Ruhr District, while only in the concrete-frame stage, gave promise of being a truly outstanding building both in plan and in design concept. Throughout Germany, hostels and recreation centers for the young adult were of uniformly good architectural character. If I may be allowed a personal observation, the almost completely secular atmosphere of the majority of these institutions, the fact that in none did we see any provision for the conduction of religious services was disturbing in that in this very environment so very much could be done in directing these new generations along the patterns of faith and morality so desperately necessary in the youth of today.

Office buildings, with a few outstanding exceptions, were disappointing in their rather uniform reliance upon the "mullion-spandrel-window" pattern which, in its early conception, had been so successfully employed. Even the "penthouse" treatment of the top story has been repeated so often as to have become a quite dull, and we suspect, unjustified cliché.

The theatre buildings which we saw were uniformly good. We were impressed by the lavish assignment of area to foyers, promenades and other public spaces which is almost always denied to the American architect by the economic pressure which is so intelligently relieved in Germany by participation of local governments in cultural undertakings.

I should like to make especial mention of the radio station building in Hannover. Every element has been exceptionally well done; and the principal studio in my judgment, is one of the most successful interiors of its kind which has ever been produced. From the use of the thin sheet brass "free forms" on acoustically treated auditorium side walls, to the light, almost gay, character of the lobby-corridor-court elements, the whole character of this structure bespeaks an unusually fine accomplishment in design.

One more category of architectural accomplishment should be commented

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upon. The objective approach to much of the reconstruction and rehabilitation of historic old buildings is so excellently done as to be worthy of very especial mention.

The interior of the venerable Marktkirche in Hannover, rebuilt in all of the warm honest character of exposed brickwork, with delicate contemporary lighting fixtures and church furniture; the fine contemporary interiors of the old city buildings at Frankfurt and Ulm; the bold imaginative glazed panel between the medieval wings of the Rathaus at Hildesheim; the brave, clean-lined character of the interior reconstruction at the technical University of Berlin; these are the work of men of clear professional philosophy. Theirs is no irreverent attitude. This refusal to compromise the integrity of the past with the sentimentality of the present bespeaks a real understanding of the fundamental of architecture most difficult of comprehension to the layman. Good design of any era stands by itself, a record of its period. No good thing honestly designed in its own time is out of keeping, or anything but sympathetic with any other well designed thing of another time; each complements the other and both dwell together in a complete harmony.

The enumeration could be lengthy. Everywhere in the Federal Republic we saw architectural expression of a truly accomplished professional. Free, open, easy-flowing plans; volume, space and mass interrelated and counterpoised; color, light, and texture assigned with firm, sure judgment; all of the evidence by which the architect, whatever his national origin, recognizes a vital architecture, was apparent.

We saw, only briefly, the incredible tragedy of Eastern Berlin. No propaganda of liberalism, no sophistry of dialectic materialism can explain away the tragedy which has come upon these people. Their faces gaunt in hunger, immobile in fear, their carriage as they walked the ruined streets, confirmed our horror of the evil which has come upon the eastern world.

Overhanging all that we saw and admired, enjoyed and appreciated, was the insistent perspective of the incredible tragedy of war. Even those of us who had known with personal experience the hardships and privation, the terror and pain of conflict, felt a new horror as we saw again the consequences of the incredible folly of twentieth century man.

But particularly in our social meetings with our confreres of Bund Deutscher Architekten, were our spirits encouraged. In the community of interests which we discovered we found the hope that perhaps haltingly though all of us move, all nations may someday come to reason with the fraternal understanding which we can all find in each other as individuals.

# 86<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS



## BOSTON

JUNE 15-19,

### THEME:

Forces That Shape Architecture.

### HEADLINE SPEAKERS:

Christian A. Herter, Governor of Massachusetts.

Edward A. Weeks, Editor, Atlantic Monthly.

John B. Hynes, Mayor of Boston.

James Lawrence, Jr., Pres. of Massachusetts Society of Architects.

### SEMINARS:

Government's Impact on Architecture.

Changing Philosophy of Architecture.

Design Trends of Hospitals.

Design Trends in Schools.

Architectural Education.

Technical Developments

### AWARDS:

Fine Arts Medal—Julian Hoke Harris, sculptor, Atlanta, Georgia.

Craftsmanship Medal — Maria Montoya Martinez, Indian potter, Santa Fe, New Mexico.

Honorary Memberships — Morton O. Withey of Madison, Wisconsin  
and Dr. Richard Eugene Fuller of Seattle, Washington.

The Gold Medal will not be awarded this year.

# nineteen fifty-four committee assignments

## PUBLIC RELATIONS:

Clarence Kivett - Chairman

John R. Adams  
Harold A. Casey  
Frank Grimaldi  
Donald R. Hollis  
I. Lloyd Roark  
Maxwell T. Sandford

## MEMBERSHIP:

John Murphy - Chairman

Edmund L. Bower  
Ernest O. Brostrom  
Robert E. Earnheart  
J. Carl Jourdan

## BY LAWS:

Mark Sharp - Chairman

I. Lloyd Roark  
Joseph B. Shaughnessy  
Frank R. Slezak

## COLLABORATION WITH DESIGN

### PROFESSION:

Robert S. Everitt - Chairman

Earl W. Allen  
Dave P. Clark  
James E. Fennel  
Edward Lawhon  
David Mackie

## ASSOCIATES & JUNIOR ASSOCIATES

Roger F. Blessing, Jr. - Chairman

James R. Baker  
Edw. Grant Hartnoff  
Ward H. Haylett  
James E. Mantel  
Dorothy L. Quant

## SKYLINES:

Frank Grimaldi - Editor

John Adams  
Betty Braaker  
Peter Keleti  
Herman Scharhag  
James E. Mantel

## ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE:

Raymond L. Vaskamp - Chairman

J. Everett Johns  
Homer F. Neville  
Angus McCallum

## URBAN DESIGN & HOUSING:

Luther O. Willis - Chairman

Cecil E. Cooper  
Raymond E. Meyn  
Robert P. Weatherford, Jr.

## CHAPTER AFFAIRS:

Dwight Brown - Chairman

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