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kansas city chapter, a.i.a.
january, 1957

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"A New Century Beckons"
## KANSAS CITY CHAPTER AIA

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Frank R. Slezak</td>
<td>18 East 11th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>VICE-PRESIDENT</td>
<td>Donald R. Hollis</td>
<td>9423 West 80th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Overland Park, Kansas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SECRETARY</td>
<td>Frank Grimaldi</td>
<td>3543 Broadway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TREASURER</td>
<td>Henry D. Krug, Jr.</td>
<td>310 Ward Parkway</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DIRECTORS</td>
<td>Angus McCallum</td>
<td>1016 Baltimore Avenue</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>William H. Simon</td>
<td>25 East 12th Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Edmund L. Bower</td>
<td>3543 Broadway</td>
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<th>Position</th>
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<tr>
<td>EDITOR</td>
<td>Betty Mae Brooker</td>
<td>18 East Eleventh Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Kansas City 6, Missouri</td>
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<tr>
<td>ART</td>
<td>John E. Jameson</td>
<td>18 East Eleventh Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CIRCULATION</td>
<td>Ethel Sklar</td>
<td>4127 Locust</td>
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The Centennial Year is here!

Although The Institute will not be able to claim a full one hundred years until late in February, January is not too early to begin celebrating and blowing our horn.

This will be a year of remembering, of comparing and of looking forward as well as back.

The year will be a busy one. Many activities are planned locally and nationally to celebrate the Centennial, and every member is urged to support and take part in all activities so that this year will be the most successful one in the history of The Institute.
CHAPTER AFFAIRS

John Monroe, Chairman
Bob Baker
Ed Lawhon
Martin Moffitt

PUBLIC RELATIONS

John Murphy, Chairman
Bill Conrad
Dave Miller

PROGRAM

Conrad Curtis, Chairman
John Daw
Ralph Kiene

ADVANCEMENT OF PROFESSION

Ralph Myers, Chairman
Joe Shaughnessy
Morris Schecter

ASSOCIATES & JUNIOR ASSOCIATES

Robert Cowling, Chairman
Gordon Jarchow
Jerome Jackson
Roger Blessing
Les Roenigk

OFFICE PRACTICE

Clarence Kivett, Chairman
Guy Sumner
Raymond Schumacher, Sr.

DUTIES

CHAPTER AFFAIRS
To unify the efforts and objectives of all Chapter activities. To determine effectiveness of present Chapter functions. To evaluate new activities, participation with other groups, etc. Report regularly to Executive Committee.

PUBLIC RELATIONS
To work closely with Regional Committee on problem of public relations of the architectural profession. To promote local public relation activities.

PROGRAM
To plan programs for chapter meetings. Overall control of arrangements and operations necessary for conducting chapter meetings.

ADVANCEMENT OF PROFESSION
To determine means of assuring that the preparation for practice, the actual practice of architecture and the impact of the profession on society is at the highest plane possible. To guard against the encroachment of governmental agencies and other groups on the practice of architecture.

ASSOCIATES & JUNIOR ASSOCIATES
To investigate problems affecting associates and junior associates. Report periodically to the Executive Committee. Work as service group for other committees needing assistance.

OFFICE PRACTICE
To explore the possibility of assisting the Architect to perfect himself in his profession through technical improvement in his office organization and techniques and develop office aids to accomplish this purpose. Revise fee schedule when required.
GRIEVANCE
Leslie Simpson, Chairman
Albert Fuller
Robert Earnheart

To receive and consider charges of unprofessional conduct filed against any member. To act as advisory group only.

CHAPTER PUBLICATIONS
Betty Brooker, Chairman
John Jameson
Ethel Sklar
Richard Bills

To edit and distribute all chapter publications.

MEMBERSHIP
Luther Willis, Chairman
Dwight Brown
Arthur Pearson

To develop a program of membership to maintain a strong chapter. To review applications submitted to Executive Committee.

HONOR AWARDS, SCHOLARSHIPS & ALLIED ARTS
John Hewitt, Chairman
Herb Pennington
Peter Keleti
Evans Folger

To foster and direct a program of Honor Awards for current architectural work. To investigate possibilities of Honor Awards for outstanding examples of work done in allied arts. To foster and direct program of Honor Awards to craftsmen.

BY-LAWS
Herbert Anset, Chairman
Ed Lawhon
Earl Wilson

To prepare the text of all amendments of the By-laws and obtain the opinion of counsel as to the legality and form thereof. To perform other duties consistent with the general duties stated above which are assigned to the committee by the Executive Committee.

REGISTRATION
George Davidson, Chairman
Harold Casey
Lewis P. Andrews

Investigate possible revisions to strengthen existing registration laws. Co-operate with other groups with similar interest.
EDUCATION & RESEARCH
Tom Geraughty, Chairman
David Mackie
James Northern
Max Sandford
The development of long range educational objectives, including education for practice and relations with the NAAB, NCARB and the ACSA. Co-operation with the vocational guidance programs of high schools in the region.

A.I.A. - A.G.C.
Mark Sharp, Chairman
Ed Voskamp
Gene Lefebvre
To co-operate in matters of mutual interest to both organizations.

A.I.A. - PRODUCERS’ COUNCIL
Evans Folger, Chairman
William Linscott
Frank McArthur
To co-operate in matters of mutual interest to both organizations.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Dwight Brown, Chairman

HOME BUILDING INDUSTRY
Louis Geis, Chairman
Edwin Kratz
Gerald Baru
To promote utilization of architectural services by merchant builders and to collaborate with associations in the home building field.

BUILDING CODE
Raymond L. Voskamp, Chairman
Leslie Simpson

COLLABORATION WITH DESIGN PROFESSION
John C. Morley, Chairman

SCHOOL BUILDINGS
Raymond E. Meyn, Chairman

PRESERVATION OF HISTORIC BUILDINGS
Ernest Brostrom, Chairman

CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE
Frank Slezzak, Chairman
Here in the new Blue Cross and Blue Shield Building, Architects Neville, Sharp and Simon state the new elegance in terms of clean lines and magnificent natural materials. They bring splendor and excitement into this supremely tasteful reception area with panels of Bardiglio marble, book-matched for dramatic loveliness of pattern. We hope you will make a point of seeing this beautiful interior, for it shows imaginative use of marble in contemporary design and aptly demonstrates the artistry and craftsmanship of skilled marble installation.
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A Gala Evening

was provided by the Producers' Council at the Town House Hotel, Monday, December 17. Architects and engineers, with their wives and guests, swelled the attendance figure to 618, and all agreed that it was a very enjoyable evening.

Frank Slezak received the "Top Banana" award for 1956, and plaques were presented to all the past presidents of the Kansas City Chapter of Producers' Council. The past presidents are H. C. Davis, C. R. Black, Roy Anderson, Bud Arnold, John Rhode, Sr., E. M. Nichol, Sterling Ronai, Roy F. Johnson and Ross Sable.

The whole evening (cocktails, dinner, program and dancing) was very well planned, and all who had a hand in the arrangements are to be congratulated for a job well done.

It seems that we of the A.I.A. are always saying "Thank you" to you of the Producers' Council, but that seems to be the only way to express our appreciation . . . so, again, Producers' Council, Thank You!
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The American Institute of Architects is dedicated to the betterment of the profession of architecture as a vital social force concerned with the planning of human environment in the United States. It is a national professional organization whose membership includes 11,500 registered architects throughout the nation. There are 124 chapters of the A.I.A. located throughout the United States. Each chapter functions as an autonomous unit in seeking solutions to problems of planning the physical environment of its community. Officers at both the local and national level are elected annually by membership vote.

Architecture, which earlier had been the province of the builder, the carpenter, and the talented amateur, became a profession on February 23, 1857, when 13 idealistic architects met in New York to found the A.I.A. The service they performed to the benefit of the profession and the public will be acknowledged on the founding site on the Centennial date of February 23, 1957, by representatives of five co-sponsoring New York City chapters. The original A.I.A. meeting house has been replaced by a building at 111 Broadway which overlooks the famous Trinity Church, designed by the national organization's first president, Richard Upjohn. During the ceremony, A.I.A. President Leon Chatelain, Jr., will unveil a plaque which will be affixed to the building on the original headquarters site.

The birth of the A.I.A. followed establishment of the American Medical Association by ten years. It preceded the formal organization of the nation's lawyers by 21 years. Like the other two great professional bodies, the A.I.A. has maintained throughout its history a high code of professional standards and ethics which govern the practice of the profession and the relationship of the architect to his client. Today, at the urging of the A.I.A., state registration laws require the architect to demonstrate his competence.

The A.I.A. was instrumental in the establishment of the nation's first architectural schools at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Columbia University, and the University of Illinois. It continues to guide and support accredited schools of architecture.

Following the Civil War, A.I.A. chapters began springing up throughout the nation. The organization's scope was further broadened by the merger, in 1889, of the A.I.A. and the Western Association of Architects. At the present time, there are A.I.A. chapters in every state of the Union.

In the 1890's, one of the A.I.A.'s earliest public contributions was its fight to restore to the nation the original concept of the national capital in Washington, D.C.
as formed by Thomas Jefferson and L'Enfant. Few will remember, or even believe, that this national shrine had been desecrated to the point that a railroad station squatted at the foot of the Capitol building and railroad tracks ran across the Mall. Led by its president, Daniel H. Burnham, a renowned architect of his day, the A.I.A. waged a determined fight and ultimately succeeded in having the original plan restored and the eyesores were removed. In the twentieth century, both the national organization and local chapters of A.I.A. work perpetually to safeguard and restore the esthetic, functional, and economic values of the community.

The headquarters for the national organization is housed at the famous Octagon House in Washington, D. C. which was occupied by President Madison after the White House had been burned in 1814. The A.I.A. has restored the historic building to its former grace as one of the most beautiful structures in Washington.

Today, the national organization is planning a major cultural contribution to the nation to mark the national Centennial Celebration. In this program, to be held May 14-17 in Washington, D. C., distinguished representatives of government, science, business, labor, and the arts have been invited to participate in a grand forum. This forum will define the forces which will shape the environment of the future and guide the planning of man's shelter of tomorrow. The theme for the national program is "A New Century Beckons." The prospectus for the Centennial Celebration states, in part:

"It is recognized that the forces which shape human environment are infinitely more complex today than at any time in the past century. One hundred years ago, the architect was concerned principally with the problem of providing shelter for a pioneer society which was expanding its boundaries and bridging its frontiers.

"Today, the architect must consider, simultaneously, man's physical environment in relation to his new social aspirations and spiritual needs; to a host of new contrivances which afford him new comfort and leisure time; to new problems of traffic flow, land use, and urban congestion; even to the problem of shielding him, not from the elements alone, but from the hazards of a world whose skill at making weapons has outstripped its ability to live without them.

"In the contrast provided by these two eras, we may see, if only dimly, the enormity of the task we face. Our vast new knowledge of the nature of matter must be matched by an equivalent understanding of the nature of man. The architect can and must contribute to a closure of this gap in knowledge. This, then, is the aim of the Centennial Program of The American Institute of Architects."
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On January 9, Emil O. Bayerl was elected illustrious potentate of Ararat Shrine temple . . . we wish him every success in this new office.

January 30 (Wednesday) is the day the architects take over at the Chamber of Commerce. The program, "Architecture on Parade," will consist of slides showing work of Kansas City architects. Bill Conrad and Angus McCallum will present the program and all architects should plan to attend.

The Fourth Annual Architects' Conference will be held at the University of Kansas on February 13 and 14. The theme this year is "Industrial Forces and the Architect." The past conferences have been very successful, and this one promises to keep up tradition. It will be well worth the trip from Kansas City to Lawrence. This conference is sponsored by the Kansas City Chapter and the Kansas Chapter, the Department of Architecture at K. U. and the University Extension.

COMING EVENTS

Wednesday, January 30— "Architecture on Parade" at the Chamber of Commerce meeting.

Wednesday, February 13 and

Thursday, February 14—Fourth Annual Architects' Conference, University of Kansas.

Tuesday, February 19—February Chapter meeting, Golden Ox.

Saturday, February 23—100th Anniversary, The American Institute of Architects.
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CHARTER MEMBER

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Probably, the major project of this committee during 1956 was in cooperation with the Medal Awards Committee in promoting the highly successful Awards program and following up with the public showing of all the Medal Awards submissions.

The first showing of these submissions was held, for a period of four weeks, at the Art Gallery of the Kansas City Public Library; and following this, they were on display for another four weeks at the Gallery of Fine Arts in Springfield, Missouri. This latter showing being arranged with Harold Casey.

Reports from both exhibits were that they were most enthusiastically received by the public, and that future shows will be received with even greater interest.

This is something which should be continued and expanded. Plans were made by Dave Miller to reproduce the Award displays to form the basis for a permanent exhibit, but this was not done. We still think it is a good idea and should be considered in the future.

This committee has been instrumental in the planning and arrangements for showings of the film, "Architecture U. S. A." to groups of students at most of the city's high schools, to various civic groups in Kansas City and adjoining communities, and to several church and educational groups. Reports from practically all showings were that it was very well received and generally created a great deal of interest among those who saw it.

While the film was shown probably thirty times during the past year, it actually reached only a very small percentage of the people who should see it. We suggest that in the future greater effort should be made in getting "Architecture U. S. A." before the public.

Our committee has also been active in placing speakers at several high schools to participate in their annual "Career" days. These speakers are always very well received, and we should do everything possible to encourage and expand this program.

We have recently been in conference with representatives of the Kansas City School District, concerning the possible use of the national Public Relations educational material.
"At Home With Architecture," in the Kansas City elementary schools.

This material was given a most favorable review by the school authorities and the indications are that if this publication, and its accompanying visual material, were to be distributed nationally its use would be recommended to the Board of Education.

The committee, at present, is working on a program for "Architecture on Parade" to be presented at the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce meeting on Wednesday, January 30, 1957. Bill Conrad has been working for several months assembling 35 mm slides of the work of many Kansas City architects, and is now in the process of editing the material and coordinating it with the live commentary which is to be conducted by Angus McCallum. Dave Miller is now beginning to re-assemble many of the panels from this year's Medal Awards exhibit, to form an entrance display for the "Parade" program.

We wish to thank the Medal Awards Committee for their help and cooperation and, also, many individual members of the Chapter for their assistance in our various activities of the past year.

Respectfully submitted by the Public Relations Committee:

John Murphy, Chairman
Bill Conrad
Dave Miller
Ralph Myers

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Our Apologies to
Past President Glenn Stanton

Last month, on page 4, we stated that President Chatelain's visit to our Chapter would be the first visit by a national president since President James R. Edmunds, Jr., was here in 1947. It seems we were wrong. President Glenn Stanton visited our Chapter in April of 1953, and a special luncheon meeting was held at the Hotel Phillips. We hope you will forgive us, Mr. Stanton, and not let this oversight keep you from visiting us again.
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eliminate all windows, construct all walls and ceilings of 24-inch thick reinforced concrete and, then, do away with all doors. Only that way will your building be burglarproof. This was the advice of Major Eugene Pond, Chief of Detectives, Kansas City Police Department. Then, the Major seriously added that the police do prefer the type of building that can be glanced into easily.

The architects and engineers who attended the third monthly luncheon sponsored by the Producers' Council in the Tower Room of the Aladdin Hotel, also, heard Major Pond tell of his duties with the Police Department and of some of the methods used in solving crimes in Kansas City.

The third luncheon was every bit as successful as the first two, and the Major's talk was enjoyed by all. The chairman for this meeting was E. M. Hopkins of Minneapolis-Honeywell.

The next luncheon meeting will be on Tuesday, February 5. The speaker of the day will be Dr. G. Dewey Smith of the Kansas City, Missouri, School District. His topic will be "Relationships."
Mesker Intermediate Auto-vent windows feature simultaneous and automatic opening and closing of the upper ventilator in unison with the lower vent, when the lower vent is actuated by hand. As illustrated, the top vent always opens out, while the sill vent can be made to open in or out.

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