February 1954
Including National Architect

AIA

Monthly Bulletin, Michigan Society of Architects, Volume Twenty-Eight
Planned Lighting Does It

How much detail can you see around the chain-drive on the platform?

New lighting fixtures increased visibility but a further step was needed — transformation of dark walls and ceilings.

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Our mural-like painting montage above shows some of the main steps of Man's struggle through the ages for good sleep. The symbolic moon-lit night scene in upper center indicates that Man slept for hundreds of thousands of years, comfortless on the ground, and exposed to cold and dampness.

The oldest bed ever excavated, dated 8,000 B.C., is seen in the upper left. Found in what had been a hut made of wickerwork, like an upside down basket, it consisted of an insulating layer of clay topped by sand and dry moss banked by stones. Thus, the ground effect was reduced.

The next step in increasing the insulation against the ground came about when bedsteads were made of wood with a very thick oak beam as bottom. On the upper right such a bed, from 1500 B.C. in Central Europe, is shown. Dry leaves for mattress were used with leather skin as cover.

The lower right shows the elevated bedstead type as used by the Lake-dwellers around the European Alps after 1000 B.C. Now the bad ground effects are definitely overcome.

But Man's struggle for more comfort continued. All through Medieval times he attempted to keep the bed warm in the unheated rooms. He put draperies around it (canopy bed) so that the body warmth and his breath would be kept in. Or he made bed closets, shown in the lower left. Bed closets were ideal because they really were warm, particularly when a brass bed-warmer was added. But, through lack of oxygen, many people got tuberculosis, as did Rembrandt's wife, Saskia, for instance.

1704, or only 250 years ago, is the beginning of modern bed comfort. Then the patent for coil springs was issued. Such a coil spring is shown in the lower extreme left. Only from 1704 on were spring mattresses developed and, through progress in home heating, the beds became larger, and were no longer draped or boxed, and modern comfort as we know it today came about.

* This is the second of a series of paintings entitled "Adventures in Time," prepared in full color by Dr. George Lechler, Wayne University scientist, and Marvin Beerbohm, painter, for the Harlan Electric Company.
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Giffels & Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti—Architects
By George W. Stark
in The Detroit News, Dec. 10, 1953

Here are some interesting footnotes on old Jefferson, which Old-Timers remember as the Highway of Our Grace, and these are inspired by the emergence of the monumental City-County Building and the prospect that Old Mariners' Church may be placed across the street from it, at Jefferson and Randolph.

If this should happen, it may have the effect of restoring to the old street at least some of its former prestige. At any rate, attention is likely to be focused on it again and this commentary from the pen of Emil Lorch, of Ann Arbor, one of Michigan's highly placed architects and the chairman of the committee of architecture of the Historical Society of Michigan, is authoritative.

He remarks that the two sides of Jefferson between Hastings and Rivard, have the best preserved houses of 19th century Detroit. Most notable of all the buildings, he observes, is old Christ Church, designed by Gordon W. Lloyd, who was the architect of so many Detroit mansions.

A 3-HOUSE TERRACE

Lorch says: "Beginning at the southeast corner of Hastings and Jefferson, there was, before 1890, the Blodgelt home, which was succeeded by the Blodgelt Terrace, a complex of apartments in brick and stone. "Moving further south, it is an interesting double house, occupied in 1855 by R. H. Hall, beyond which there stood, before 1890, the beautiful Ionic-porticoed house of Gov. Robert McClelland. This was succeeded

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by the three-house terrace built for the late Sidney D. Miller. Then comes Christ Episcopal Church, a well-designed Gothic structure.

"East of that is the famous Solomon Sibley House, perhaps the only remaining echo in Detroit of the classical revival. I think that Robert Stuart of the American Fur Co. occupied the next brick house, where at one time I think Dr. Duff Stewart lived. After that the Hanna Art Gallery was there for a time.

"On the other side of Jefferson, beginning at Hastings, the corner unit of the row of houses was at one time occupied by Dr. H. P. Lyster, a leading physician of his time.

A STOVE PIONEER

"Some houses beyond was a large brick with a one-story stone columnar porch, where at one time lived Jeremiah Dwyer, a pioneer in the great stove industry here. Then came a nice two-story stone house, in which A. H. Dey lived many years ago.

"At the northeast corner of Rivard and Jefferson was a small brick apartment house designed by Mason and Rice (many will remember the late George D. Mason, for long years the dean of Detroit architects) and in the sidewalk corner downstairs flourished the famous drugstore of Frederick Rohnert."

Meantime, the Historical Society of Michigan is hard at work on a descriptive catalogue of early Michigan buildings. In this, many of these famous structures, the tokens of our faded grandeur, will be shown.
That favorite American pastime—looking for a dream house—can now be pursued via television. At least it can in the nation's second largest home market, and the trend may spread.

An unusual Chicago television show—believed to be the first of its kind anywhere—reverses the usual house-hunting procedure, and each week it takes a different model home to prospective buyers, as well as to others interested merely in finding out what's new.

"Not only do we take the model house right into the living room, but we also escort viewers on a visual room-by-room tour through it and tell them more about the house than they'd probably learn if they visited it in person," explains H. D. Bissell, merchandising director for Minneapolis-Honeywell Regulator Company, which is sponsoring the 13-week half-hour show over station WBKB-TV on a test basis.

The tour is accomplished by means of films and pictures. The builder of the house and the architect also appear on the show to explain its features under the guidance of the master of ceremonies, Paul McAllister, well-known Chicago designer.

Idea of the show, Bissell says, is to acquaint as many people as possible with the latest developments in new home planning and modern living, including such advancements as electronic temperature controls which introduce a new comfort concept by varying indoor temperatures according to outside weather conditions. The show has a potential 2,000,000 viewers.

Specifically, Bissell adds, the show is designed to do three things. First, provide expert guidance and explanation that is not generally available on personal visits to model homes. Second, help people catch up with the myriad of new features that have been introduced in home building and home living since the end of World War II. And third, to show present homeowners how they can easily incorporate "new-house" features in their existing dwellings.

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Michigan Society of Architects

New Jersey

MARTIN MAHLER, A.I.A., of Union City, N. J., consultant of pre-stressed concrete, has arranged for a number of lectures on the subject to be given by Dr. Paul William Ables, D. Sc., consulting engineer and lecturer on prestressed concrete. The lectures will cover the period between March 1 and April 15, and will be in order, at the following locations: Kansas State College, Iowa State College, Ill. In which Ohio University, Georgia Institute of Technology, Tennessee A. & I. State University, University of Tennessee, Lehigh University, Ohio State University, Cornell, Tufts College, Northeastern University.

Ohio

HAROLD H. MUNGER, F.A.I.A., of Britisch & Munger, Architects, Toledo, is the newly elected president of the Ohio State Board of Examiners for Architects. He formerly served as vice-president. Mr. Munger is serving his second five-year term on the Board, having been twice appointed by Governor Frank J. Lausche.

RUSSELL S. FLING, architect and engineer, announces the opening of his office for the practice of structural engineering at 235 Overbrook Drive, Columbus, Ohio. A graduate of the Ohio State University, where he was elected to Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering fraternity, and where he received the A.I.A. school medal, he has worked for architects and engineers in Columbus and Toledo.

Oklahoma

An exhibition of the house of JOHN LLOYD WRIGHT, California architect and son of Frank Lloyd Wright, have been exhibited at the University of Oklahoma. A total of 255 exhibits (continued)

Rhode Island

FREDERICK N. BROWN, JR., A.I.A., 99 Mel- bourne Road, Warwick, R.I., has written articles on "Advice on Bomb Shelters," which have receive wide recognition in his State, as being a valuable contribution to the subject. Mr. Brown is a member of the Rhode Island Chapter, A.I.A., and he is an associate architect with Charles A. Maguire and Associates, consulting engineers of Boston and Providence.

Tennessee

TENNESSEE ARCHITECTS celebrated "Charter Night" December 14, with participation by Clair W. Ditchy, A.I.A. president, Howard Elchanbaum, vice-president, and Clyde C. Pearson, Gulf States regional director. Tennessee Chapter, A.I.A. has been succeeded by the Tennessee Society of Architects, and A.I.A. chapters have been established at Memphis, Chattanooga, Nashville and Knoxville. William P. Cox will be president of the State Society; and Zeno Bates will be secretary-treasurer. Robert Martin will be president of the Memphis Chapter, A.I.A., and vice-president of the Society.

Texas

TEXAS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS has elected Edwin W. Carroll, president; Grayson Gill, first vice-president; R. Max Binks, second vice-president, and Albert S. Golemian, immediate past president, director.

WILLIAM H. COLLIER, JR., is president of the new West Texas Chapter, A.I.A., Royal Dana, vice-president; Woodlief Brown, Sec.-Treas.; David S. Castle, director. Dana, Doyle C. Maddux and H. Leo Tucker are executive committeemen.

Utah

GEORGE Y. CANNON, A.I.A., of Salt Lake City, will teach a class in the philosophy of architecture at the University of Utah's School of Architecture during the winter quarter, it is announced by Roger Bailey, A.I.A., head of the School, who added that the course would not be limited to architectural students. Said Mr. Cannon: "The course is designed to acquaint all students with the development of architectural style in relation to life. At the present time, whether we realize it or not, we are at a revolutionary revolution for the third time since the beginning of history. The first came when primitive man began building shelter for his family, and the second came around the 12th century."

Washington

ROYAL A. McCLURE, A.I.A., has been named chairman of the Spokane County Planning Board.

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER, A.I.A., recently honored 13 members who are among the oldest in point of membership: John Graham, Sr., B. M. Pirie, Ewall Stroey, Arch Normar Tabbitt, Joseph Wilson, Clyde Glainger, Joshua Vogel, Roland E. Bohbek, Lester Fey, William G. Dust, Russell Morrison, J. Eister Holmes and Robert McClanland.

Wisconsin

DULUTH CHAPTER, A.I.A., has elected M. R. Dolberman president; Rhoburn Damborg, vice-president; Arthur C. Lucas, secretary-treasurer; C. H. Smith, director. Directors continuing are W. E. Ellison and M. N. Willis.

city plan competition

THE CARSON PIRIE SCOTT & CO. CENTENNIAL COMPETITION was announced January 20 by John T. Pirie, Jr., president of Carson's, at the State Street Council dinner honoring the firm's 100th anniversary.

The purpose of the Carson Pirie Scott & Co. Centennial Competition in City Planning is to provide a plan which will serve as an inspiration for the redevelopment and improvement of Chicago's Central Commercial District.

Competition awards total $32,500, with a First Prize of $20,000, a Second Prize of $7,500, a Third Prize of $2,500 and five prizes of $500 each.

The competition which is sponsored by this firm is approved by the Committee on Competitions of the American Institute of Architects, the Western Society of Engineers, and the National Executive Committee of The American Institute of Planners.

It is considered by the Chicago Plan Commission to be a major contribution to planning in Chicago.

Howard L. Cheney, of Chicago, Illinois, Fellow of The American Institute of Architects, has been retained as professional advisor for the competition.

Full information is obtainable from Carson Pirie Scott & Co., 1 South State St., Chicago 3, Ill.

died


MAURICE B. BISCOE, A.I.A., in Newton, Mass., Dec. 29. Had practiced in Denver, Colo., and he had designed many important buildings in the State.


EDWIN E. PRUITT, 83, in Columbus, Ohio, Dec. 19. He designed many churches in several states.


HARRY LESLIE WALKER, A.I.A., 76, in Knoxville, Tenn., Jan. 6. He designed churches, hospitals and schools in eastern states.

EVERETT W. WELCH, A.I.A., 56, in Dallas, Texas. A native of Kansas, he went to Dallas in 1934. He was educated at the University of Illinois and Armour Institute of Technology.


M. S. A. Board Appoints Committees

At a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Society of Architects at the DAC in Detroit, January 20, President Linn Smith appointed, with the Board's approval, the following committees to serve the Society during 1954, the first-named being chairman:


ADMINISTRATIVE: King, Leo M. Bauer, Adrian N. Langius, Amedeo Leone, Elmer J. Manson.


EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH: Allen, Paul A. Brysselbout, Phillip C. Haughey, King, Frederick E. Wigen.

PUBLICITY: Haughey, Allen, Talmage C. Hughes, C. A. O'Bryon, Clarence H. Rosco.


SPECIAL FUND: Bauer, Paul B. Brown, Robert F. Hastings.

CHAPTER BOUNDARIES: Hughes, Leone, Peter Vander Leam, Wigen.

INTER-PROFESSIONAL COUNCIL: Leone, Bauer, Hughes.

TECHNICAL PROBLEMS: Cleland, Langius, George L. W. Schulz, Eberle M. Smith, John C. Thornton.


FORTIETH CONVENTION: Lyall H. Askew.

BUILDING INDUSTRY BANQUET: Askew, John O. Blair, Hughes.

MIDSUMMER CONFERENCE: Chase Black.


Directors of Monthly Bulletin, Inc., were re-elected. They were Adrian N. Langius, President; Sol King, Vice-President; Paul A. Brysselbout, Secretary-Treasurer.

Lyall Askew gave a report as Chairman of the 40th Convention Committee, indicating that plans are well advanced.

Chase Black, Chairman of the Midsummer Conference Committee, gave a preview of what is in store for attendants at that event.

Sol King reminds members of the Multi-Color Blue Print Competition and exhibition to be featured at the M. S. A. Convention at Hotel Statler, March 10-12, 1954.

Next meeting of the Society Board will be at the Mayflower Hotel in Plymouth, February 17.

Saginaw Valley Chapter

SAGINAW VALLEY CHAPTER, A.I.A., at a dinner meeting at Zehnder's Hotel in Frankenmuth, January 18, designed a new format for future meetings: five membership meetings a year—in January, March, May, September and November—with the alternate months for meetings of the executive committee only. Most Chapter business will be conducted at executive meetings, leaving more time at membership meetings for speakers, panel discussions, tours, social events, or whatever. It is believed that this will mean "bigger and better" speaker-entertainment programs and, therefore, better attendance, says President Fred Wigen.

The President also presented the matter of the May issue of the Monthly Bulletin, which will feature the work of Saginaw Valley architects. Members will be written, inviting them to submit material so as to make the 16-page Valley issue a creditable one. Material must be in to allow time for processing.

A new plan for the election of Chapter officers is being studied by a special committee, and a report is expected at the March meeting.

Western Michigan Chapter

WESTERN MICHIGAN CHAPTER, A.I.A., and the W. M. Chapter of Michigan Society of Professional Engineers met jointly Tuesday evening, January 12, at the University Club in Grand Rapids.

After a social hour and dinner, chairman of the meeting Robert W. Shed, of MSPE, introduced Mr. Joseph P. Wolff, Commissioner of Buildings and Safety Engineering, City of Detroit, as speaker of the evening.

Mr. Wolff, President of the national body of Building Officials Conference of America, has been active in preparing a proposed code for Detroit along the lines of the BOCA Code. Mr. Wolff outlined progress of this project to an interested audience, and he pointed out the possibility of the State of Michigan, as well as many small communities, adopting such a code.

Mr. Wolff gave an idea of the vast amount of work entailed in preparing such a proposed code for City Council action. He stated that his Committee had received the best of cooperation from the architects, engineers and others interested. After a question-and-answer period those in attendance felt they were fortunate in being able to hear Mr. Wolff present "The Building Code Story."

GEORGE W. COMBS, secretary of the Michigan Joint Cooperative AGC-AIA Committee, reports that a recent survey of architects and contractors in outstate Michigan brought replies, indicating that a large number are using the Specification Outline developed by the Committee in 1953.

Of the 160 architects queried, 62 replied. Thirteen said they had not seen the Outline, and copies were sent them immediately. Seven had not had time to study it, one said that it would take too much time to change, one did not wish to, and two did not approve. In general, a keen interest was shown.

Contractors circularized expressed appreciation, and designated the Outline as a forward step toward better understanding between the architect and contractor, which should eliminate some confusions that have heretofore existed. Some stated that subcontractors using the new Outline were able to submit more accurate prices and that the range of bids was within 15% rather than the usual 30%.

No objections have been received from contractors bidding on projects on which the Outline was used. On the contrary, expressions were most favorable and the Committee was gratified at the general enthusiasm of both contractors and architects.

Copies of the Specification Outline can be obtained at fifty cents each from the office of the Committee secretary, George Combs, 127 N. Cedar St., Lansing 29, Mich.
The proposal for a competition among draftsmen, first made by Joseph W. Leinweber, Chairman of the Detroit Chapter's Committee on Practice, was taken up by the MSA 40th Convention Committee, and the results will be exhibited at Detroit's Hotel Statler, March 10-12, 1954.

Sol King was able to obtain the cooperation of the Multi-Color Company in providing $1,500 in prize money. The competition is open to all draftsmen in the offices of MSA members within the State of Michigan, who are invited to submit blueprints of their work done during the year 1953.

Those submissions selected by the jury as prize-winners will be on exhibition at the Statler, and prizes will be presented at the banquet, closing event of the Convention, March 12.

Also exhibited will be prints and drawings (and some supporting photographs) of early Michigan buildings, to show the development in draftsmanship and reproduction methods through the years. Already, a number of such submissions have been received, and many others are in prospect. Manson & Carver, of Lansing, have sent prints of early churches in Michigan. Morris Webster has hectograph prints, in color, left him by his father. The office of Donaldson & Meier, now in its 75th year, has prints of many of Detroit's most interesting early buildings. The Detroit Institute of Arts, Detroit Historical Museum, the Burton Collection at the Detroit Library contain others.

So, the project has two parts—the old and the new. Old examples should be of Michigan buildings, not necessarily done by Michigan architects. In addition, at the exhibition, Multi-Color Company will show reproduction methods from early days contract work, based on threateningly calculated legalism which may easily kill a collaborative attitude.

In brief we can state that to preserve, elicit and stimulate a collaborative attitude in a trained and skilled crew is the basic purpose of working drawings which should reap the fruits of design in concrete reality.

The method of presentation must surely be that of friendly clarity and guidance. No adverse emotion must be aroused in the persons to be directed.

Production illustration in axonometric or perspective form was proposed by me as such a humanly kind supplementation of more abstract planimetric presentations long before the aircraft companies began using it. In fact, some of the young illustrators employed, I may say, had been influenced by our office practice.

Only an office of steady employment can successfully and in consistent method deviate from haphazard practice, and at the root of the entire issue lies the difficulty of finding a common denominator for a multiplicity of offices, small and large, in changing economic circumstances and with unstable staffs. Perhaps higher schools are destined, in unified research and training action, to take the initiative toward wholesome unification.
MAX ABRAMOVITZ, F.A.I.A., of Harrison & Abramovitz, Architects, of New York will be the speaker at a meeting of the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects, in the Rackham Memorial Building, February 10. His subject will be "The Development of Wall Panel Construction."

The firm, architects for the United Nations buildings, Alcoa building and U. S. Steel building in Pittsburgh's Golden Triangle, has been engaged in studies of panel construction, on behalf of building industry interests concerned. Mr. Abramovitz will give a report on these developments, beginning with his firm's building for the Aluminum Company of America in Davenport, Iowa, and down to the present. His talk will be illustrated by color slides and movies.

Mr. Abramovitz was made a Fellow of The American Institute of Architects at its Seattle Convention in 1952. His partner, Wallace K. Harrison, spoke at a meeting of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., on November 19, 1947.

In view of the importance of wall panels in today's construction, it is believed that this program will prove most valuable to architects and other members of the construction industry.

The address, to be in the auditorium of the Rackham building at 8:00 p.m., will follow a dinner meeting of Chapter members in the same building, at which Mr. Abramovitz will be guest. The address will be free and open to the public.

Mr. Abramovitz

Mr. Burchard

METROPOLITAN ART ASSOCIATION presents a lecture on "The Movies, Painting and Public Taste," by Alan Gowans, in the Auditorium of The Detroit Institute of Arts, at 8:30 p.m., Wednesday, February 17, 1954.

A graduate of the University of Toronto and Princeton University, Mr. Gowans has taught at Rutgers University, and he has given courses at the Universities of Minnesota, Missouri, and Princeton. He has written several articles on the primitive mind in art, and he dealt with the modern phase of this subject in a Popular Arts Course at the University of Michigan last summer. At present he is teaching at Middlebury College in Vermont.

Admission will be by season ticket, or single tickets may be purchased at the box office at $1.00.

Mr. Burchard

Chapter president Amedeo Leone presided at a brief business meeting following dinner, and called upon secretary Gerald G. Diehl to read the proposed changes to Chapter by-laws increasing annual dues of associates and junior associates from $5 to $6.50 and including annual subscription to the Monthly Bulletin at $1.50. The motion passed, and this change is now in effect, having been approved by the Institute secretary, subject to chapter voting.

President Leone mentioned the TV program of Wayne University, which has been presented for several Saturday mornings, with Chapter associate member, Marco Nobili speaking on architecture. Mr. Leone commended the University and Mr. Nobili for their good public relations for our profession.

Mr. Burchard spoke to a well-filled auditorium, and a great deal of interest was manifest.

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The president called upon Leo M. Bauer, who spoke in behalf of the Michigan Society of Architects' campaign to raise funds for its public relations program.

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Detroit chapter

Detroit architect Karl Van Leuven, Jr., A.I.A., has warned that poor location and planning of shopping centers "is tending to surround them with unattractive areas which are rapidly becoming slums." He implied that such mistakes could make it harder to acquire capital for better integrated projects.

Mr. Van Leuven, a partner of the Detroit, New York and Los Angeles firm of Victor Gruen Associates, addressed a New York meeting on shopping centers by the American Society of Appraisers, held January 19, at the Builders Club, 2 Park Avenue.

The speaker particularly deplored what he termed the "typical strip development" of shopping centers, which he said have "created patterns of traffic congestion" compounded by poor receiving and delivery procedures and usually inadequate parking space.

"A typical strip development," Mr. Van Leuven held, "is a wild, uncontrolled cancerous growth and a blot on the community. It is in danger of committing suicide by its own over-building, lack of planning and failure to integrate with the community."

Mr. Van Leuven added: "Unfortunately, it is in terms of these facilities that appraisers and important lending institutions are evaluating the new integrated shopping centers which are being planned throughout the country."

He urged, "The architect and the economist must provide for the appraiser and the lending institution a new yardstick, a better yardstick, for appraisal."

The Gruen organization did the planning for the Northland Regional Shopping Center in Detroit, which will be the world's largest when it opens next March.

The Detroit Institute of Arts, in cooperation with the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects, announces "Shopping Centers of Tomorrow," an exhibition sponsored by the American Federation of Arts, as part of its "Traveling Exhibitions" program for 1954, created by Victor Gruen, A.I.A., and Associates.

The exhibition, at the Detroit Institute of Arts, from February 8 through March 31, traces the history of shopping centers, their historical, sociological, cultural and economic factors in the evolution of such modern centers, including architectural designs for Detroit's Northland Center and models of modern sculpture being incorporated in the architectural schemes of such centers.

Lyall H. Askew, General Chairman of the Michigan Society of Architects Fortieth Annual Convention, scheduled at Hotel Statler in Detroit, March 10-11 & 12, 1954, announces that a feature of the Convention will be a competition and exhibition of craftsmanship produced during 1953, under the sponsorship of the Multi-Color Company, of Detroit.

Building material exhibits will occupy most of the Ballroom Bldg., as asked, and he added that registration would begin the afternoon of Wednesday, March 10 and would be followed by a social evening at which there will be refreshments and entertainment, complimentary to registrants.

Thursday morning there will be delegates' breakfast and a meeting of the board of directors, and at 10:00 a.m. a business session. Proceeding the luncheon on Thursday there will be a complimentary cocktail party, Thursday P.M. there will be a speaker on the subject of curtain walls. At 5:00 P.M. the Panels' Participants and Council, Michigan Chapter will be hosts at a cocktail party, followed by a dinner in the Wayne Room. Speaker Thursday evening will be William W. Wurster, Dean of the School of Architecture, University of California.

On Friday morning buses will be provided for a tour of the plant of the R. C. Mahon Company, for an inspection of their plant, and a complimentary luncheon will be served there. At 2:30 p.m., Friday, the speaker will be Robert Newman, and the subject will be Acoustics. Mr. Newman is a member of the firm of Bolt, Beranek & Newman, acoustical engineers.

While the Building Industry Luncheon Friday evening will conclude the convention proper, it is planned to offer those delegates and guests who remain Saturday morning a tour of the J. L. Hudson Company's new Northland Shopping Center.

The ladies program, in charge of Mrs. James B. Morison, will include a complimentary luncheon and program at the Detroit Athletic Club on Thursday, March 11, as well as a luncheon and style show, in the Statler's Terrace Room on Friday.

AMEDEO LEONE, president of the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects, announces the election to Institute membership and assignment to the Detroit Chapter of nine architects in the Detroit area:

Byron H. Becker, 1455 Penniman Ave., Detroit; Ivan N. Guthbert, Jr., 7634 Rosemont Road, Ann Arbor; William K. Davis, 408 S. Seventh St., Ann Arbor; Herman G. Gold, 1550 Marquette Bldg., Detroit; Ralph N. Holzinger, 21820 Lyndon St., Detroit; Edward V. Olencki, 809 Kingsley St., Ann Arbor; Sol Silver, 2709 Richmond St., Detroit; David B. Spalding, 902 Suren Palafian, 153 E. Elizabeth St., Detroit, and Karl O. Van Leuven, Jr., 1905 Industrial Bank Bldg., Detroit.

The appointee is executive secretary of the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects, and the Michigan Society of Architects, and he is also editor and publisher of the Society's Monthly Bulletin, which he founded in 1926.

Following graduation in architecture from Alabama Polytechnic Institute, and graduate studies at Columbia University, he came to Detroit in 1915 and was employed in leading architects' offices. After service in Russia during World War I, he returned to Detroit and entered his own practice. He was registered as an architect by examination in 1917, and he has interested himself in architectural organization and registration since that time.

Michigan's registration law was first enacted in 1915, to safeguard the life, health and property of its citizens. The Board is charged with examining and registering architects, and administering the act. Other architect members of the Board are Wells I. Bennett, F.A.I.A., of Ann Arbor, and Robert B. Frantz, F.A.I.A., of Saginaw. Engineer members are William H. Harvis and Clyde C. Potom, both of Birmingham, Wilfrid C. Polkinghorn of Houghton, and Henry T. McGeough, of Pontiac.

Arthur Lawrence Wilson

ARTHUR LAWRENCE WILSON, who had long been a member of the Michigan Society of Architects and the Detroit Chapter, American Institute of Architects, died January 16 at his home, 154 W. Longwood Place in Detroit, after a long illness.

Born in Washington, Pa., July 16, 1888, and educated at Washington and Jefferson College, Mr. Wilson came to Michigan more than 40 years ago, and later graduated from the University of Michigan. He became registered as an architect in Michigan in 1916, and he entered his own practice the same year.

Mr. Wilson aided in the design of the Davison superhighway. He drew plans for the Highland Park Police Headquarters, and he was architect for the Humber Building at 13355 Woodward Avenue in Highland Park, where he maintained his offices for many years. He had also been architect for the Home Owners Loan Corporation and the Federal Housing Administration.

Surviving are his wife, Ethelyn, and a daughter, Mrs. Ardeth Healy.
PRODUCERS' COUNCIL held its annual business meeting at the Hotel Fort Shelby, Detroit, on January 11.

At the speakers table were Bill Snure, Paul Marshall, Bill Portland, Fred Muller, Clyde Oakley, Bill Ogden who brought his boss, John J. Marsh, general sales manager of the Marsh Wall Products of Dover, Ohio, to the dinner; R. B. Richardson, Louie "Broken Arm" Ollesheimer and Bill Mulcahy. Portland has just been transferred to Armstrong Cork Company's Philadelphia branch.

Tie of the evening was worn by Wilfred Woods of Royal Oak Wholesale.

Others at the dinner were Sam Burtman, Al Hann, Bill Taliaferro, Chuck Garascia, R. G. Paulwetter, Herb Starkey, Art Armstrong and L. W. Ward.

Harry Fritzam brought his father, Emil Fritzam of Portland, Oregon, to the meeting.

Also enjoying the dinner were C. W. Burrows, Johnny Casella, Herb Broughton, Don Burford, Lysle Wagner, Don Ollesheimer, O. F. Preuthun, Tom Schwer and Don Johnson.

New Producer member Alex Moore of Mills Co. was introduced to the gathering. Alex wore the bow tie of the evening.

Walt Sandrock heads the new committee for college liaison work.

Various companies will have the opportunity to send their representatives to the schools to inform the students of their products.

The next meeting, at the Fort Shelby, on Feb. 8, will be "Mechanical Trades Night."

Harry T. Wunderlich, for more than 30 years a carpenter contractor in Detroit, announces his withdrawal from the firm that bears his name.

Ownership of the firm has been assumed by Robert E. Wunderlich, son of the founder, and his partner, William E. Bates, under the name of Wunderlich & Bates. Both of the new owners have been with the firm for many years.

The firm's offices are at 12045 12th St., Detroit 6, Michigan.

PAT AND JACK SHINGLEDECKER, well known in the building industry, have formed the firm of Shingledecker Sales Co. with offices at 16027 Plymouth Road, Detroit 27, Michigan. Phone Broadway 3-0055, handling a line of leading products with sales and service.

The new firm are sole distributors for Arnold aluminum awning windows and jalousies and Chesko wood overhead doors.

HEATING, PIPING & AIR CONDITIONING CONTRACTORS DETROIT ASSOCIATION each year devotes its December meeting to what has become known as the "Duck Dinner."

This event began many years ago—an a small scale but fun none-the-less. Credit goes to Ray Spitzley, who each season obeys his instinct and love for the outdoors, to bring home the ducks. It was his idea to share the delectable morsel with his friends, so what began as a luncheon was too good to remain small. It gathered momentum and became a dinner.

On December 2, 1953, 66 men, representing all HP&ACC members in Detroit, were present at the Harmonie. Attendants included the active, retired, successors, sons and staff members. Cocktails were by L. L. McConachie Co. and the Lloyd S. Thornton Co. Russell Winkler was the toastmaster.

Thus, the light luncheon of yesterday becomes the Annual Duck Dinner of today.

Below: Duck Diners Fred S. Lome, Clyde Johnson, Ray L. Spitzley and Edward M. Harrigan.
SUBJECT: COPIES OF PUBLICATION

Mr. Ted Seemeyer  
Michigan Society of Architects  
120 Madison Avenue  
Detroit 26, Michigan

We're wondering, Mr. Seemeyer —

as to the possibility of sparing us as many as 25 or 30 left over copies, if readily available, of the interesting December issue of your — monthly bulletin publication — regularly printed for you on Warren's Cumberland Gloss paper. 

Frankly, we have in prospect distributing these samples to advantage among a few selected advertising customer-contacts throughout the country. Seaman-Patrick Paper Company, our distributor in Detroit, thought there may be some left over copies of the publication available. In that case, we'd try to spot them around to mutual advantage, so far as possible. Would you care to be of service to us in this way?

Our people here are quite impressed with the clarity and smoothness of the halftone printing results the publication so ably represents on Cumberland Gloss paper. Of course, too, we also realize the considerable amount of constructive information you present in the bulletin. And perhaps we should further mention that it strikes us as being a well-arranged production from a pictorial-typographic angle. We merely pass along these observations for whatever satisfaction you may derive from them.

Please believe, sir, we'll be truly grateful for whatever consideration you care to extend to us in response to this inquiry.

Promotionally yours,

S. D. WARREN COMPANY

Advertising Department

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Here's an advance sketch, based on the architect's drawing, of the $3,700,000 plant which The National Supply Co. is building on a 96-acre site near Gainesville, Texas. At right is the manufacturing building, a single-story steel structure, faced partly in brick and partly with aluminum sheathing. The building contains more than 100,000 square feet of space. At left is the single story office building, also of steel construction, faced in brick.

Giffels and Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti, Detroit, Mich., are the architects. Brown and Root Inc., Houston, Texas, are the contractors.

At right is shown the 1000-bed Naval Hospital, addition to the existing Naval Hospital at San Diego, California. Welton Becket, F.A.I.A., and Associates are architects.

The Becket firm is also architect for the $17,000,000 medical center and cancer research laboratory at the University of California in Los Angeles.

Helabird & Root and Burges, of Chicago, are architects for this Armour Pharmaceutical Center in Kankakee, Illinois. Fifty tons of wrought iron pipe were used, says Byers.
architecture and environment

BY CHARLES BURCHARD, A.I.A.
in Detroit, January 13, 1954

Our Century has two peculiarities: One very old, the other brand new. Its turbulence is not merely institutional, but historically goes back, with eras of blood and hate, of times when unresolved conflicts reverberate throughout society and within every individual. But its scientific technology is totally without precedence. Life in mechanicalized countries has changed more in the past fifty years than in the previous three thousand. Perhaps your grandfather drove oxen. So did the warriors in Homer's Iliad. An oxen team is now more effective for new solutions. And all this at a time of change so great we could not comprehend the relatedness of our own experience; we interpreted our new world in terms of isolated facts, functional entities, which reflected imperfectly, if at all, the twentieth Century reality, and which, as we can now see, unbalanced our living, fragmented the structures of our environment in which we live. We have not, in other words, given our life a form, a design for living as other cultures on occasion have done before in other historic periods.

(Editors note: the following portion of Mr. Burchard's address was made in connection with slides.)

Yet, for the past century, there has been evidence of continuous activity to realize the consequences of our age in terms compatible to our living. We have begun to question many things previously taken for granted. To illustrate with one example, we are beginning to understand that it is not on the basis of modern needs but of human experience; of houses on either side of traffic routes instead of (for example) in groups of houses placed in a park with automobile traffic kept on the outside. Once we separate the concept and the place, these functions see that perhaps the park could contain all the walking lanes. It could become a continuum of space through which our children could walk to school without crossing traffic lanes; through which a mother and her child could walk to stores, or to rest or play in, which could contain recreational areas and which could contain meeting places for the socialization of families, relating as one functional entity, those basic functions which are part of our everyday living.

In pre-industrial days, these functions (work, residence, play, and development) were largely contained within the walls of the home; within the environment of the family unit. But, as we know, the industrialization of our work, the mechanization of our lives, has transformed man's interactions of shelter, work, play and development and has exploded these aspects of individual life into the community as a whole. The functions of living in the twentieth Century, have new boundaries shared with many neighbors. A man goes by car or train to his work, remote from home, occasionally miles and hours away. Mother shops in stores for food for her family and for the clothes the family wears. Children are educated away from the hearth, in community schools, together with many other children. New inter-relations such as these, part of contemporary life, call for new solutions to the form of our environment. It calls for a new architecture: a continuous architecture that cannot be conceived by thinking only in terms of a separation of house here, a separate school or workplace there.

And this architecture will not be formulated, nor the problem of community solved by working as an architect here, scientist, engineer or technologist there, but only by devising ways of pooling essential human strengths. The program results from a process in which technique, education and growing children are related and seen as an aspect of living as a whole. Its school buildings have a new architecture, a new social pattern, resulting from many individuals, working in groups, architects, builders, educators, manufacturers and local authorities, people who had assimilated knowledge of a special kind and sharing it. They must find the common denominators, and new ways of working, by which these skills can be applied in reference to each other and focused as an unity on the solution of the problems of living in a continuously contemporary terms.

There is clearly evidence today of groups of people working together in a new way; in new relationship with each other and their environment. Among these, the Herefordshire School Building Program of London perhaps most clearly reflects an emerging pattern. Its results come from a process in which technique, education and growing children are related and seen as an aspect of living as a whole. Its school buildings have a new architecture, a new social pattern, resulting from many individuals, working in groups, architects, builders, educators, manufacturers and local authorities, people who had assimilated knowledge of a special kind and sharing it. They must find the common denominators, and new ways of working, by which these skills can be applied in reference to each other and focused as an unity on the solution of the problems of living in a continuously contemporary terms.

Schools today must provide an organic housing for an organic educational process. Today the emphasis in teaching is on learning, not on the subject matter to be learned. Learning, as a result of experience, of inter-related activities, needs a flexible and adaptable new kind of space not to be achieved in the usual form of school building.

By inter-relating the talents and knowledge of architect, educator, builder and manufacturer, new solutions were found simultaneously in space, structure and execution to provide the environment necessary for the development of the growing child.

And these schools are friendly in appearance...
nance, particularly to children, and do not have long forbidding corridors, forbidding flights of exterior stairs and ornate porticos which reflect a false civic pride, but frighten children. Our schools today are low, human, and in scale.

To structure such forms, an erecter set type of construction permitting a four way assembly was evolved to receive prefabricated panels of various sorts. This system complements to the utmost, maximum flexibility of educational method. All partitions free of structural responsibilities, taking the entire internal shape of the building to change as needs may arise, and the building to change as needs may arise.

As the system of building became clarified in use, it was no longer broken down into trades in the manner architects and builders are today familiar with. It approximated more the assembly of aircraft, composed of factory made sub-assemblies, finished in the factory and assembled on the site. Sub-assembly drawings were developed common to all production jobs and the working drawings for a specific job became almost a matter of symbols on a plan profile.

A year's production run of schools (about 20) would grow out of the experimental prototype of the year, before and in each year one or two schools would be devoted to experiments in time and space variation, to eventually develop improved production models. In the Herts program, we perceive this new frame of reference, a new attitude of mind and a new way of working toward an inter-relation of knowledge, a means of communication among the specializations of modern life to provide a frame of reference in which the creative sensibilities can perceive directions toward a potential unity among the confusions of today.

In that most intimate of environments, the home, which shelters the basic social unit of the family, we find reflection of the contemporary situation expressed in new patterns and forms. In mechanized society, functions once contained within the house are today community wide. But the home has a new scope, a role which cannot be fulfilled in the shrunken, sardine version of the house of our grandparents, that is offered us today. For the adult, working far less hours than ever before, and apparently to work even less in the future, has increasing amounts of time for leisure pursuits, for development of mind and body. The adult needs to find the home new spaces for creative tasks and opportunities. The child, no longer looked upon as merely an immature adult to be seen and not heard, is now considered a growing personality, within the unity of the family and needs outlets for an active body and mind.

The modern home has new spaces where the family can be active together as a group, general activity areas both indoors and out. It has spaces for creative pursuits, spaces for individuals to retreat, to away from the family. It has a new visual language related to contemporary living and using contemporary techniques. It is easily cleaned, efficient and time-saving, appropriate to new family needs.

But as far as the individual house may go to satisfy such needs, we today have to balance out the needs of the family, and each individual, in relation to the community. For example, today the relation between kitchen and dining area in the home is important, but no more so than the relation of the home to the school, or to the stores. Our communities need adjustment to also provide spaces for recreation, leisure-time pursuits to insure intellectual and emotional growth, to be enjoyed together with one's neighbors.

Together with home in a park-like setting and where the pedestrian is separate from the car, where the park is a continuous, definable space inter-related to the home with shops, with play and resting places, and where a new type school is the focus of the community, providing in the quality and quantity of its spaces, a place not only for children to learn but where neighbors may meet, learn together and play together, we are beginning to establish those functional relationships of everyday living in such a form as to nourish and restore the sense of community and with it the opportunity for healthful, wholesome living pointed to by the Peckham experiment.

The basic community unit has become a unifying conception, a common denominator for thinking about our environment and for the ordering of its visual effects toward the largest unit in its visual and functional relationships, the common denominators about which we are planning today new developments from the small to the largest unit in the 20th Century world. What has been done in new community formations, new towns and redevelopments, in new structures for schools, homes, is encouragingly similar to what the Peckham biologists find we need to live more abundantly and with it the opportunity for healthful, wholesome living pointed to by the Peckham experiment.

It is perhaps the truest tangible expression of a frame of reference, of a new vision sufficient in scope to give meaning and comprehension to 20th Century situations in terms of the human scale. A unifying conception to nourish creative sensibilities toward genuine art forms of our own times, contributing to the development and growth of our lives.

But these dimensions are of a different order and transcend the boundaries restricting professional activity as is most common today. For concepts of professional activity, of service, must also adjust to new situations. The isolated architect, the isolated artist, the isolated engineer, the isolated scientist — each highly skilled within his own orbit but without a means of communicating, of pooling skills toward a better life for all of us, no longer sufficient. Our professionals, separated by innumerable barriers from one another and from the events of today, can only each separately offer a haphazard accumulation of facts and techniques.

The artist, architect, and designer who most clearly understand the implications of contemporary phenomena see that the space they work with is inter-related and continuous. That the ordering of our visual and functional environment in terms of man's new interactions of residence, work, play, and development will require that the efforts of all men-layman, artist, scientist, technologist—must contribute to a total human adventure. It will mean a new way of working, an architecture conceived in terms of all human activities, expressed in forms which simultaneously grow out of and facilitate these activities.

The rough patterns have already been sketched out of what is environmentally needed to lead a fuller, healthier life in the 20th Century world. What has been done in new community formations, new towns and redevelopments, in new structures for schools, homes, is encouragingly similar to what the Peckham biologists find we need to live more abundantly and amidst our abundance. To find these common denominators is encouraging for it furnishes multiple yardsticks by which to measure, not herefore available.

We shall find that as we continue art, which for the past 150 years has been considered something to be found only in museums, to be studied from history books, it will again become part of our lives.

Our new needs, our new methods, a new mentality are producing the art forms of our own times.

A new visual language, which has a direct relation to life and to useful things. This will increase our understanding of its purposes and intent. It will help to sharpen faculties long deteriorated and encourage us to new creative activities on a dynamically accelerating scale, tending still further toward the emotional and intellectual balance and growth necessary for each individual and in turn for the benefit of society as a whole.
Frantz and Spence Building
Saginaw, Michigan, 1952
Frantz and Spence, Architects

above: library (conference room)
left above: office
left below: entrance lobby

page 33: street front of building
Saginaw High School
Saginaw, Michigan, 1953
Frantz and Spence, Architects
work nearing completion

Arthur Hill High School
Saginaw, Michigan, 1940
Frantz and Spence, Architects
right above: east front
below: school auditorium
Sears Roebuck and Company
Saginaw, Michigan, 1940
Frantz and Spence, Architects

formerly Bank of Saginaw

Saginaw Savings and Loan Association
Saginaw, Michigan, 1952
Frantz and Spence, Architects

right above: lobby
below: east front
St. Andrew Parish School
Saginaw, Michigan, 1950
Frantz and Spence, Architects
left: figure in Minnesota Mankato stone
below: street entrance detail

Port Huron High School
Port Huron, Michigan
Frantz and Spence, Architects
comprising vocational building, classroom building, health and recreation building and central administration building. construction pending
General Hospital Building
State Home and Training School
Lapeer, Michigan

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Frantz and Spence, Architects

project now in construction

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Employees' Residence Building
State Home and Training School
Lapeer, Michigan

Frantz and Spence, Architects
work in progress
FIRST FLOOR PLAN

SCALE: 1/16" = 1'-0"
Woodrow Wilson Elementary School
Port Huron, Michigan, 1951
Frantz and Spence, Architects
entrance detail, community room, kindergarten wing
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