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EDITORIAL


URBAN CHALLENGE

I am pleased to be here tonight to talk with such a distinguished and influential audience. And I confess that part of my pleasure comes from the topic on which I have been asked to speak—The Urban Challenge. There is no greater challenge for our State or for my administration. We hear so much lately about the urban problem, or the urban crisis—so much about the sick cities. There are so many things which need to be done—and never enough resources to do them all. Truly, we are confronted by a sea of troubles. And we can flounder and drown in that sea—or we can master it. The choice is clearly ours, and depends in part on our attitude.

I recognize that there are many urban problems—that there is an urban crisis. But I prefer to believe that there is also an urban challenge. And this is what life is really about—facing up to challenge, and overcoming it. Arnold Toynbee has said that every society, to live and prosper, needs challenge. We know that societies have differed notably in their capacity to see challenges that do exist. John Gardner has pointed out that "no society has ever so mastered the environment and itself that no challenge remained, but a good many have gone to sleep because they failed to understand the challenge that was undeniably there." We are all well aware that there is a challenge before us. The question is whether we will go to sleep—or even a temporary addition to a State Capitol, or a junkyard where a park might have gone, or the gradual accumulation of litter alongside a road. We must be constantly alert to this creeping ugliness. Unless we make beauty as valuable as abundance in this country, shabbiness and bad taste may overwhelm us all.

Sometimes ugliness creeps up on us—in the form of a temporary building—or even a temporary addition to a State Capitol, or a junkyard where a park might have gone, or the gradual accumulation of litter alongside a road. We must be constantly alert to this creeping ugliness. Unless we make beauty as valuable as abundance in this country, shabbiness and bad taste may overwhelm us all.

Something beyond money, governmental regulation, architectural skill, and masonry is needed. What is needed most desperately, it seems to me, is a public demand for order and beauty. People must be made as knowledgeable in the field of good taste and good design as they are now in the field of consumerism. People must begin to be as proud of Woodward Avenue as they are of the Tigers.

We can't drive people to a higher level of aesthetic discrimination and appreciation. We can only lead them. We can encourage them to protest to the litterbug, publicly condemn those who pollute our natural beauty, and raise a collective cry against the construction of eyesores, public or private. Other societies in the history of Western Civilization—and by all means Eastern Civilization, too—have been marked by a high order of beauty and taste. The heritage of Greece and Rome, not to mention the splendor of rural Britain, should inspire us all.

I suspect that in all societies that have been remembered for their beauty and order, the role of government in enforcing standards of taste was reinforced to an important degree by the force of public opinion.

Police can't be on every mile of highway to guard against the discarded beer can. And public officials, where they have a voice in these matters, cannot be expected to approach every decision with the aesthetic awareness of a Frank Lloyd Wright.

Creating a new level of public taste will not be easy. One important objective is to convince people that they are responsible for their own environ-
The designs you create, as architects — long force for good.

City people have no more right to defile the city street than a corporation has the right to pollute the rural stream. If we can bring public pressure to bear upon the slum landlord who neglects his property, upon the private homeowner who fails to maintain his property, we will have marshalled a strong force for good.

Cities can be made livable, and people can be taught to appreciate beauty. The designs you create, as architects — can be the designs for a new Michigan — a new America.

The urban challenge which we confront today has several components. There is a physical element — the task of building and rebuilding our cities to make them decent and dignified places to live. There is also an institutional element — establishing the proper balance between organizations and institutions — between the private sector and government so that each does properly what it does best. And finally, there is a social element — a human element — the construction of a society in which all men are indeed brothers, in which each of us accepts all others as fellow human beings, entitled to equal opportunity and equal justice — and an equal measure of hope. I am confident that we can achieve these three goals. I know that we must. I believe that we will.

The physical component of the urban challenge is the clearest, and the most recognizable — and in some ways the easiest to solve. I need not tell a meeting of architects that this society of ours has the means, and the resources, and the vision to build our cities. What we have lacked up to now is the will to do so, the willingness to mobilize our resources to do the job, the understanding that the job is important to every person in this State regardless of where and how he lives. We are all in this together and we must constantly struggle to overcome sectionalism and selfishness.

This is well-illustrated by the current debate over the recreation bond issue. You will recall that last November, the citizens of Michigan approved a proposal to have the State issue 100 million dollars in bonds, the proceeds to be used for recreational purposes. Now the question is how the funds are to be spent. I recently submitted recommendations on this subject to the Legislature. In brief, I recommended that a major portion of the funds be used in the urban areas of the state as a means of helping make our cities more livable. I can tell you that the response to my recommendations has been strong . . . not all good — but strong.

My recommendation was based primarily on need. Surveys just recently completed demonstrate convincingly that the greatest need for recreation facilities in Michigan lies in those southern Michigan counties where most of the people live. This need isrecognized, and I have attempted to respond to it.

My recommendations also were based on justice. One element which has been overlooked in the debate until now is the fact that the 100 million dollars will have to be repaid — and it will be repaid out of general tax revenue. The bulk of our tax monies in Michigan come from the Urban areas — 80% of tax revenue in fact comes from urban areas. So we are not talking about the sportmen’s money — rather, we are talking about the people’s money, and all the people are entitled to benefit.

One further significant fact has been largely overlooked. Statewide, the recreation bond issue passed by 52.8% of the total vote cast. In the 17 largest counties — the urban counties — the measure received a 54.2% “yes” vote, while in the 66 smaller counties, only 47.9% of the voters said “yes.” So the vote of the urban communities was decisive — and the needs of the urban communities cannot be overlooked.

Recreation is only one need, however, and even the total 100 million dollars, if it were all used in and near the central cities, would not do the job. Other urgent problems face us— including the need for decent housing for people of all economic levels. Municipal services, public works, police and fire protection must be improved. Transportation must be speeded up. And there are many other needs.

Who will meet these needs? One thing I can assure you — Government cannot do it all. Thirty or forty years ago, there was a naive optimism in this land that government could provide answers to nearly all problems. Well, we tried that approach for 35 years, and we now know that government alone is not enough. That raises the institutional problem — who will do the job?

There is, of course, a vital role for government. Yet other approaches, other institutions must also be involved. We are making some progress here, with New Detroit and similar associations, with community participation in model cities programs, and so on. But we have just scratched the surface. We are attempting to develop a new mix — we need ideas and personal involvement from all our citizens.

Finally, we come to the human element of our challenge — the construction of a just society with equal opportunity, equal justice, equal hope for all. And here, I believe, we are not succeeding. Despite all the good resolves and the fine intentions of one or two or ten years ago we simply are not making much headway in the area of human relationships. Perhaps our dilemma comes from the fact that this is a problem to which every citizen must contribute, and many just do not do so. We have all kinds of civil rights laws in the statute book, but they have not made a significant difference. We have a fair housing law in Michigan but we do not have fair housing. We have an equal opportunity in employment law in Michigan but we do not have equal opportunity. The laws require equal educational opportunity and many of our children simply do not receive it. And deep down inside we all know that this is the case.

cont'd pg. 20
ILLUSTRATED:
Formed Aluminum Fascia and Door Hood, acrylic finish for lasting durability.

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Winners of the 1969 Honor Awards Competition of the Michigan Society of Architects were presented plaques by MSA President Jackson B. Hallett, at the ceremony held as part of the program of the final evening of the 55th Annual MSA Convention held in Detroit at the Statler Hilton Hotel, March 19, 20, & 21, 1969.

Entries from the membership of the MSA were judged by Carlos R. Sanz, AIA, Chairman, Augusto Gautier, AIA, and Enrique Soler, AIA, leading practicing architects of San Juan, Puerto Rico. The chairman of the jury, Carlos Sanz summarized the report of the judging by saying: "The Jury was highly impressed with the overall quality of the entries presented, and especially with the concern for harmony within the particular environmental surroundings demonstrated in most of the cases. All entries were judged on the basis of the problem presented and their worthiness for an award of excellence. After exhaustive analysis and careful consideration the Jury found four presentations to fulfill the objectives of the program.

"The Jury feels that the awards program of the Michigan Society of Architects is worthy of commendation, truly conducive to the encouragement for excellency in architecture. The principle of having the entries judged by architects from different parts of the country not only establishes a highly impartial climate of judgment, but also provides for a continued cross pollination of architectural appreciation throughout."

ST. REGIS CATHOLIC CHURCH
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Begrow and Brown Architects, Inc.

Parish church; plan based on new liturgy; intimate relationship between worshipers and altar requested. Identifying tower is part of program.

A minimum distance from altar to farthest seat, with 1200 seating capacity, and a significant distinguishing spire were the Owners' prime requirements.
TIMBER SHORES
TRAVEL TRAILER RESORT
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William Kessler Associates, Inc.,
Architects

The activities building shown here is composed of 30 identical hexagonal units which house lounge, recreational, nursery, grocery snack bar and kitchen facilities. The hexagon was chosen for its organic qualities and its adaptability for multi-directional expansion. Such flexibility for future growth was essential due to the lack of any precedent for such a resort. Cedar shingles and rough cut cedar boards were used throughout in order for the building to sit well in its environment. Skylights at the peaks of the hexagons introduce daylight into the building. Sited at the edge of the forest, the primary view is toward the east overlooking the sand beaches and Grand Traverse Bay.
The Schmiedeke Residence, designed for a couple with professional occupations, is planned so that space within the home is divided between two levels to set apart the separate functions of different activities. Each level is related not only to the natural environmental characteristics of the site. The lower level is set into the hillside and contains enclosed spaces for sleeping, sewing, laundry, television, and homework of the individual professions of architecture and art education. The upper level is sheathed in glass, floor to ceiling, to relate interior spaces to those of the landscape and is more internally open and free flowing, for the activities of dining, entertaining and overnight guests.
Two Buildings arranged around a landscaped court for teaching liberal arts to 1500 students. Manitou Hall includes a TV production studio, three theater-type lecture halls with approximately 115 seats each, and a resource and arts library for 160 students.

Adjacent Mackinac Hall contains 18 classrooms, 4 conference rooms, 60 faculty tutorial offices, 10 music practice rooms and a fine arts studio. All spaces are served by a central audio-visual center providing TV, tape recording, films, etc.
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"Synopsis of the Michigan Black Architects Meeting"

by Roger W. Margerum, AIA, Moderator. Co-Chairman of AIA Detroit Chapter of Urban Affairs — Member of the National AIA Task Force on Equal Opportunity

(Reply to, 'U of M Architects to Tackle Ghetto', from the April issue of the Bulletin)

Last month you might have seen in the News column of the Bulletin, the notice regarding the meeting of Michigan black architects. It was the first time there was such an assembly of professional men in Michigan. There was a prearranged agenda as outlined in the News release. Perhaps the most important factor which was concluded is, the great deal that could be gained by letting it be known there are black architects in existence, and secondly, at this time their service is potentially among the most marketable in the building business. So far, there are only a few instances where this can be proven. When an item is of limited supply, and it had some initial value, then its value will increase inversely proportional to its rarity, and directly to the demand refinement of the valued item also increases it potential worth, as in flawless coins or expertly cut diamonds.

One could say it is against American principals to identify a valid individual based on skin color. Well, you and I both know it has been practiced before. However, skin color as a mark is no longer valid in terms of black identification, i.e., Adam Clayton Powell, Julian Bond. The emotional elements inherent to social interaction is of prime importance today. (I needn't go into the emotional deprivations of blacks in the past). To deal with emotional responses, given innate instincts even in the most natural circumstances, will involve a time process for resolution; and as Desmond Morris points out, there has to be mutual acceptable communication devices.

Now that inner cities (and small town railroad track developments) have been established with predominance of blacks, problems deriving from this chaotic assembly of people has caused devastating emotional actions. Revolts are emotional. There is a tendency to respond to these actions with total disregard to their causes. Why? First of all it has not been the practice to establish public policy on an emotional basis for laws most times even contradict emotions. Secondly, what "has been done for the" blacks was without knowledge of their characteristics or culture. A Review of a public housing project will substantiate this.

"What can we do?" was the hit question to Mayors Cavanagh, Daley, and Lindsay in 1967; and two years later programs implemented are without basic knowledge of the people involved. I cannot imagine any potentially gainful endeavor that does not require research or a preinformative stage prior to embarkation. So, since John Q is accustomed to being anachronistic with reference to black he naturally perceives his actions as a pacifying agent. To think that if it worked in the past it should work now is a paradox. It is time for introspection and education by those who think they are aware. Understanding a culture involves profound study, as in our humanities; given an ability for discernment, with intense investigation one becomes enlightened. But if given incorrect or insufficient facts, chances are his conclusions will be incorrect.

Where does the black architect come in? Nowhere yet. Of the urban challenge programs I have observed black architects are not involved nor consulted. Endeavors for technician training and more blacks in architectural schools, etc. have all been initiated on a grass roots level by whites who have assumed that there were no black architects before. You might ask where the black architect has been. The answer is working with his community without assistance from whites. Some architects who attempted to get into the established offices were identified with the narrow social strata, in terms of total worth. At this stage in our circumstance, the black architects can exhibit some up-tight credentials: his personal experience with the community or inner city, or with those people, his atunement to the emotional thrusts of other blacks, and his cognizance of the established systems of academic and fundamental order as taught in architectural school and as signified upon obtaining a license. The validity of these credentials have yet to be tested, never the less they view themselves as architects credibility and very relevant to today's conditions. They sort of wonder why the architectural fraternity brothers are remiss to take advantage of relevant consultation. Urban planning, redevelopment, rela-
They wondered since the theme of the MSA convention was the "Urban Challenge," assuming that the urban challenge is to resolve the conditions of the ghetto inhabitants now, there were no black architects consulted or represented, why there were no black students at the discussion, and why no action programs were instituted? (Governor Milliken's speech was timely).

Why with technician training programs being instituted in suburban colleges there aren't inner-city colleges establishing similar programs where they are most needed?

Why do the University of Michigan architects believe they can be successful in inner-city community programs with no experienced individuals or personnel to assume leadership, or direction, and by virtue of the college personality, it is least qualified to cope with urban conditions? Now the U of M has established some sort of program, then they intend to seek the help of black architects.

Why aren't state organizations (MSA included) delving into the inner town conditions of smaller settlements— an example is Benton Harbor, Michigan — to promote programs for ghetto community redevelopment? There are places in Michigan as bad as Mississippi! What are the AIA chapters in these locations doing?

These comments are not meant to be criticisms, but rather identifying some of the problems that are consistently overlooked, mainly because few program developers know what to look for.

Too many have a tendency to point fingers at his neighbor or just remain quiet when attitudes and facts such as brought out in the Kerner Report, for fear that it will disrupt established ways of life. Black architects think it is time our profession discovered where it's at.

Relocation of Firm

Wah Yee Associates Architects announce the relocation of their Southfield firm to 17500 Ten Mile Road in Southfield.

Wah Yee and Rourke Haas announce the appointment of two new partners and three associates to positions within the firm.

Indulis Liepins, who has been with the firm for six years, has been elected as vice president in charge of the firm's production departments. Liepins is a graduate of the University of Michigan and is a registered architect in the State of Michigan.

Joining the firm as a partner and vice president in charge of design is James Ryan. AIA. Ryan is a graduate of Lawrence Institute of Technology, and he is a registered architect in the State of Michigan.

Associate, Marvin Epstein, has been appointed to serve as Director of Field Operations.

Newly elected associates in the firm are Tom Ray and Erwin Prisel.

Robert E. Greager Elected Pleasant Ridge Commissioner

Robert E. Greager, AIA, was elected to the Pleasant Ridge City Commission April 7, defeating an incumbent by nearly 200 votes for the two-year position.

Greager is an associate in O'Dell, Hewlett and Luckenbach Inc., of Birmingham. He is a graduate of the College of Architecture and Design, University of Michigan.

Principal issue in the Pleasant Ridge election was city land the current I-696 route controversy in the Detroit suburbs. Greager stressed investigation of the principal of air rights use in planning and developing the city's land.

CSI Director

Andrew D. Rae, President of Williams Products, Troy, Michigan, has
been re-elected Director of the Great Lakes Region of the Construction Specifications Institute.

The institute is international in scope, covering eleven thousand members in one hundred and ten chapters. This society, headquartered in Washington, D.C., is composed of architects, specification writers, engineers, suppliers and others interested in standardization of specifications in construction. At present there are three hundred and five professional and industry members in the Detroit Chapter CSI. They meet every second Tuesday at the Engineering Society of Detroit for programs slanted towards the technical aspects of construction.

**Officers — Michigan Roofing Contractors Association**

New Officers of the Michigan Roofing Contractors Association were installed recently at Lansing. They were: President, Ben MacArthur of MacArthur Roofing & Sheet Metal Works, Saginaw; Vice President, L. R. DeRyckere of Wallace Candler, Inc., Detroit; Treasurer, R. A. Reynolds of Firebaugh & Reynolds Roofing Company, Farmington; and Executive Secretary, E. Burleigh Grime, Detroit.

The first announcement from MacArthur was that the Fourth Annual State Convention will be held July 31-August 3, 1969, at the new Holiday Inn on Traverse Bay.

William Orr of Mt. Morris Products; Don Ollesheimer of L. T. Ollesheimer & Son, Ferndale, and Gene LeFond of Owens-Corning Fiberglas, Southfield, were reappointed associate member representatives to the board.

Other Directors are: George F. Steyer, Jr., Warren F. Willson; Detroit; L. F. DeMarias and K. B. Donaldson, Lansing; J. Bagladi, Holland; O. Gingrich, Bay City; A. LaFurgey & M. Stephenson, Flint; E. Gibeau, Traverse City.

**Flint Firm Name Change**

The Flint Architectural firm of Gibbs, Tomblinson & Harburn, Architects, Inc., announces a change in corporate name to Tomblinson, Harburn & Associates, Architects, Inc. The business address remains at 705 Kelso Street, Flint, Michigan 48506.

**“A Night To Remember”**

The Tenth Annual Dinner Dance of the CSI will be held Saturday, June 14, at the Bay Pointe Golf Club in Walled Lake.

The evening will begin with cocktails at 7:00 P.M., followed by dinner and dancing until 1:00 A.M. The cost is $30. per couple, dress semiformal.
Michigan's is one of the first professional doctor of architecture degrees in the United States, and is in keeping with a developing trend in architectural practice and education.

It will replace the former master of architecture degree which had been offered by U-M's Horace H. Rackham School of Graduate Studies.

The U-M College of Architecture and Design is moving from a five-year to a six-year program, and is making its own master of architecture degree the first professional-level degree.

This makes it necessary to upgrade the advanced professional program to the doctoral level, Rackham Dean Stephen H. Spurr said.

The doctoral program will require at least two years of advanced graduate work beyond the six-year master's program.

Dean Spurr said the doctoral degree does not represent a new program but

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rather a strengthening of an advanced professional program which has been carried on successfully for many years.

The doctor of architecture program is professionally oriented, and is offered for those wishing advanced study in preparation for a career in architectural practice.

WALD Sponsors Evening at Meadowbrook

The Women's Architectural League of Detroit have arranged an evening at Meadowbrook for Sunday, May 25, 1969, beginning at 6:30 P.M. The production is "Joan of Arc" which will be followed by a light buffet supper.

The cost per person is $10.00. For more information or reservations contact: Mrs. F. P. DeConti, 20205 Winchester Dr., Southfield 48075, telephone 356-8508, or Mrs. Walter Pfandtner, 12704 Kilbourne, Detroit 48213, telephone 371-3206.

Design Chief Named by Kingscott

Brooks Godfrey has been elevated to the position of Chief of Design of Louis C. Kingscott & Assoc., Inc., Kalamazoo. Since August of 1965, he has been a designer on many projects including the Otsego Middle School, locally, which is now nearing completion.

A registered architect, Godfrey is a native of Kalamazoo, having attended the University High School. He went to the Rice University in Houston, Texas where he earned his Bachelor of Science in Architecture degree in 1961. Currently he is serving on the Board of Directors of the Boy's Club of Kalamazoo.

KMM Election

KMM Associates, Incorporated, Architects, Engineers and Planners, of Ann Arbor held its annual corporation meeting at which new officers were elected for the coming year.

Elected as President is Eino O. Kainlauri, AIA; John Christiansen, AIA, Vice President and Treasurer; Walter W. Kettler, AIA, Vice President; Walter J. Myers, P.E., Secretary; and Gordon Sluiter, AIA, Assistant Secretary.

At the same time the Board of Directors was increased from 3 to 5 members. Present members include Kainlauri, Christiansen, Kettler, George Giguere, P.E., and a yet unfilled position.

Binder Joins Eb Smith

Detroiter: Harold Binder, AIA, long associated with leading architectural firms in Detroit, has joined the firm of Eberle M. Smith Associates, Inc., architects and engineers.

Mr. Binder is a native of Boston, Mass. He earned his A. B. at Harvard College in 1948 and won his Bachelor's degree in Architecture at the Harvard Graduate School of Design in 1951.

Coming to Detroit immediately after graduation, he has served as an architectural designer for several prominent architects. He has won awards for his work in the small homes field, public housing and church design.

Prize Drawing

Winners Announced

Frank North and Adam DeMartino, Co-Chairmen of the prize committee for the 55th Annual Convention announce the names of the winners of the prize drawings held on March 19, 20, and 21, at the Statler Hilton Hotel, Detroit.


The R.I.P.F. will be happy to provide you with technical data reprints on recently published articles pertaining to new developments in the moisture protection trades.

WHEREEVER YOU SEE THIS SIGN...

MICHIGAN IS ON THE MOVE
I cannot solve this dilemma, the legislature cannot solve it, you cannot solve it individually. But all of us together can solve it — if we wish to do so — and then work to do so.

As I moved around Michigan people frequently say to me — "what can I do to help, Governor?" Well, I am not sure that you asked me here tonight to answer that question, but I am going to answer it anyway.

As architects, you can and do contribute in a very direct way to the physical improvement of Michigan. As taxpayers and voters and members of private association you and I can demand and support changing relationships between institutions and governments and we can be willing to contribute our just share to their support. And as citizens and parents we can treat our fellow man with decency and justice and above all we can make sure that our children do not grow up with the same prejudices of the past.

If each of us does these things our society will be well on the way to recovery — well on the way to achievement of a system in which the quality of life will be enhanced for all.

John Gardner recently said, "there is something disheartening about the modern scene — the confusion, the disorder, the changing values, the constant push and pull of conflict, the vastness and impersonality of the system that governs our lives. But at the same time the possibilities of an improved life for mankind are more exciting than ever in the long history of the race. We hold in our hands the tools to build the kind of society our forebears could only dream of ...."

Far less than in any generation in the entire history of man are we the pawns of circumstance and of uncontrollable forces unless we make ourselves so. We build this complex, dynamic society, and we can make it serve our purposes. We designed this technological civilization, and we can man it. If we can build organizations, we can make them serve the individual.

At base then, this is the urban challenge, and it is in fact the human challenge. It is a challenge to each of us — to our minds and our hearts. It is the challenge to make the American reality conform to the American dream — the construction of a fit place for the human being to grow and flourish.

Letters

David L. Williams

May I, through the Bulletin, respond to Phil Meath's excellent remarks at the Feed Forward Seminar in February — and to your March editorial — to suggest that we architects might expand upon the architect's role as civic activist.

I was particularly impressed by Meath's incisive comments on land use, and on the common attitude of absolute individual land use rights, an attitude at variance (as he pointed out) with history: strong community attitude having produced, for instance, the lasting charm of New England village greens.

From the vantage point of a public planner, it is apparent that stronger respect for community values is more important to solving many urban ills than are advanced technical solutions or great amounts of new information. Individualistic attitudes are daily seen to preclude even today's adequate architectural level of environmental design or community value. The needed attitude of respect, and its expression is skillful design for environment, cannot, of course, be legislated, but are fruitful areas for education in the broadest sense.

In planning, we are well aware of limits in the powers of land use control, for instance, framed in legislation of 40 years ago as tentative first steps to introduce community planning. It is high time for more advanced powers on behalf of better planning and environmental control. But any new powers must be sensitively devised, and then strongly supported—demanding tasks for anyone! And the support of community attitudes must be there.

Thus, to attempt an answer to the good questions in your editorial, it may be that the architect in lines of regular practice is just too busy to afford time to further either legislation or education for better environment or community values. A large educational task can be seen to lie directly with the profession, however, in finding new clients to bring architectural skills into more of development taking place, and in enlightening present clients. Each day city building departments see plans by non-architects, which could benefit from even moderate architectural skill and sensitivity. Can we bring in those new jobs? And perhaps in present jobs on the boards, community values can be brought to the fore. How will your latest project relate (or not relate) to adjacent property? How could several projects by several architects be designed to produce greater design form and public significance? The prospects are intriguing, and the opportunities all about us, for design not negating individual values, but enhancing them through consideration of the public interest.

Beyond this 'in house' education of present and prospective clients, there may well be a 'staff' level of effort needed by the profession, through its associations, in launching new programs of education for the general public, and in proposing and supporting new legislation, for the public interest and better communities.

Stephen W. Osborn, Principal Planner, City of Ann Arbor, Michigan, Planning Department.

Mr. Robert Yokom, AIA
Smith, Hinchman & Grylls Assoc., Inc.

Dear Bob:

Since the time I attended the Detroit Chapter, AIA Board of Directors meeting, in which the Chapter decided to commit itself to the creation of an urban architectural and planning workshop in the Woodward East area, my life and my involvement in the community have taken a sudden twist. In a short while, I will be moving permanently to New York to begin work as an associate with Robert Damora. Although no one can know or would really care, I have labored over the decision to leave for some time—and it has been one of the most difficult.

The purpose of this letter is multifold. The first is to thank you for your interest in and active concern for the problems which exist within the Woodward East community; and for the already tremendous amount of work done by Joe Savin, John Suhr, Chuck Marks and Jack Brown in helping the Woodward East Community to reach its goals.

The second purpose is to urge that the renovation of 205 Alfred be completed. It is extremely important that the building be re-outfitted and in operation as soon as possible. There are many reasons for this. Woodward East, as a community organization serving the entire community, can then proceed and engage activities which are extremely difficult to achieve right now. Another reason is that the completion of this building will become a symbol — not only for what can be done by a group of people determined to set things straight, but for the so-called Architectural community — as to what can be done when good people act out their convictions.

Forgive me for digressing, but I have been involved with architecture all of my life, and it is my opinion that architecture cannot be practiced without becoming a human being.
first. A human being is not pretentious, is not sophisticated, and is able to see all that surrounds him. There is no fee, or kickback or future work derived from the recognition of being human — you merely are one. I must say, therefore, that the action the Detroit Chapter is taking now on 205 Alfred represents to me the first time I have seen architects as human beings. It is very encouraging, and I desperately hope that this is the beginning of a tidal wave.

I guarantee to you and all those concerned, that the Woodward East Project leadership will make certain the efforts of everyone will multiply and spread for the benefit of all.

Sincerely,
John McCombs

Three Architects Join Albert Kahn Associates

The affiliation of three well-known architects with Albert Kahn Associated Architects and Engineers, Inc., has been announced by Sol King, president.

King said the three, all of whom left private architectural practices to join Albert Kahn Associates would add significantly to the impetus of the AK.A campaign to give "human priorities" to the design of buildings and communities in order to spare mankind from "a computer-card destiny."

Suren Pilafian, FAIA, who previously practiced under his own name, is a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects and designer of many award winning buildings, and now becomes a principal architectural designer for AK.A.

The others are:
Roderick E. Warren, AIA, who was in private practice in Detroit for 10 years before joining AK.A; Harold C. Cunningham, AIA, who was a principal of Strong, Drury and Cunningham in Traverse City, Michigan, for more than six years.

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Teaching Position Open
Architect desired to teach in a community college Architecture-Technology Program. Teaching contract would begin late August, 1969. For more information contact: Mr. Wilbert Klein-smith, Chairman, Technical Division, Delta College, University Center, Mich.

Field Inspector
Wanted: Field inspector; professional registration preferred or commensurate experience. Project locations in Michigan and Mid-West. Salary and benefits based on qualifications. Ellis, Arndt & Truesdell, Inc., Architects, Engineers and Landscape Architects; 402 Garland Street, Flint, Michigan 48503. Phone (313) 238-3645.

Heritage Day Chairman Appointed
Mott Foundation president announced the appointment of Lansing architect Richard C. Frank as state chairman of Heritage Day of Michigan Week.

As Michigan Week state Heritage Day, Tuesday, May 20, chairman, Frank coordinates the efforts of local communities to appraise and dramatize their local history and heritage. His committee is suggesting particular attention to Michigan's Negro heritage this year.

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Calendar
May 20 WALD 10:00 A.M. Meeting at Detroit Institute of Art, Holley Memorial Lecture Room. 11:00 A.M. Gallery Lecture “The Fisher Family Gifts”. Lunch in the Kresge Court.
June 22-26 National AIA Convention—Chicago.
August 7, 8, 9 Mid-Summer Conference—Mackinac Island.
September 20 Allied Arts Festival—Fisher Residence, University of Detroit.

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Consumers Power Company ................................................................. 1
Darin and Armstrong, Inc. ................................................................. 19
De Clerk Industries, Inc. ................................................................. 17
Detroit Edison Company ........................................................................ 5
Detroit Roofing Inspection Service ....................................................... 21
Dondero Sash & Screen ......................................................................... 22
Eisen, Robert A., Associates .............................................................. 18
Glanz and Killian .................................................................................. 14
Great Lakes Fabricators & Erectors Assoc. .......................... 2nd Cover
Kimbell & Russell, Inc. ................................................................. 15
Levy, Edw. C. Co. ................................................................................ 14th Cover
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Michigan Consolidated Gas Co. ......................................................... 4
Michigan Drilling Co. ........................................................................... 18
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Precast/Schakleton ............................................................................... 16
Roofing Industry Promotion Fund ...................................................... 19
SMEAD ................................................................................................... 3
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