



INVITED COMPETITION

All members of the chapter are invited to enter a competition to select a name for this leaflet of information. This competition has not had formal approval by the A.I.A. nor has it a professional advisor. Each contestant may submit as many names as he can think of. A competent jury will judge the entries, and the winner will receive a handsome combination T-square and swordcane or some other suitable trophy.

MEMBERSHIP

In connection with the first meeting of the chapter for the year, the committee wishes to call the attention of all members to the need for building up the Associate Membership in the Chapter and to the reasons therefor.

"This class of membership is intended primarily for draftsmen who are not practising architects and whose present or former employers can vouch for their characters and their sincere interest in the profession. Associate members have all the privileges of Corporate Membership except membership in the Institute, the right to hold office and to vote on Institute matters. They may serve on Chapter committees, form committees of their own, attend all meetings, and vote on all chapter matters.

"The Membership Committee urges all members who are employers to encourage their assistants to associate themselves with the Chapter, not so much to combat the current trend in the unionization of draftsmen as to make it unnecessary in A.I.A. offices. With an active associate membership of draftsmen, the New York Chapter can provide a forum where subjects connected with the employer-employee relationship can be discussed and action taken to correct conditions which are of advantage to neither group. Unions, which are the probable alternative to a program of this sort will fail to serve the best interests of either.

"This invitation to architectural assistants is extended with the full realization of their vital importance in the profession and in an effort to make the New York Chapter truly representative of its profession as a whole."

MEETINGS FOR THE YEAR

The committee on Meetings and Public Information has arranged the program for the year well in advance with the hope that these evenings will be definitely reserved by all chapter members.

November 22.

"Unions in architects' offices"

December 20.

"The Public School Problem"

January 24.

"Educate the Public"

February 21.

"Evening of Entertainment"

March 21.

Subject not chosen

April 25.

"The 1939 World's Fair." It is hoped that some of the foreign architects will give us their impressions.

LEBRUN REPORT

The committee on the LeBrun scholarship has just received the report of Harvey P. Clarkson who was awarded the scholarship last spring and sailed for six months in Europe on June 24.

The report covers the first part of Mr. Clarkson's trip which up to the end of September had taken him to London, Glasgow, Edinburgh, Bergen, Oslo, Goteborg, Badstena, Stockholm, Turku and Helsinki. He expects also to visit southern Sweden, Germany, Belgium and France.

In spite of the amount of ground he has covered, Mr. Clarkson has had time to make thirty pencil sketches, six watercolors, and take six hundred photographs, many of which illustrate his report.

CIVIC DESIGN

Gerald A. Holmes, chairman of the committee on Civic Design has informed us that through the good offices of Wallace K. Harrison the Chapter has received a gift of one thousand dollars from Mr. Nelson Rockefeller.

This gift is for the use of the Committee on Civic Design in co-operation with the Architects' Emergency Committee to make studies and surveys which will be of use to the City and the Chapter.

NEW DEPARTURE

From Thursday Oct. 27 to Saturday Oct. 29 inclusive, at the Hotel Pennsylvania, the Joint Committee of Architectural Societies in the Metropolitan Area will act as hosts to a convention of all registered architects of New York State, held under the auspices of the New York State Association of Architects.

Arthur Loomis Harmon, President of the Chapter, evolved the idea of such a convention last summer and turned it over to the Committee on Meetings and Public Information for further development. Representatives of the other Societies sat with the Committee during the summer and this group was later appointed a Committee on Convention Arrangements by President James W. Kideney of the New York State Association.

In making the announcement of the convention last week Mr. Bessell, the Chairman of the Committee on Arrangements, said: "There are many difficulties besetting our profession today which can only be remedied by concerted action, and now for the first time every architect in the State, regardless of affiliation with local societies, will have a voice in the discussion of existing or pending legislation affecting the practice of architecture and the recommendations to be made at Albany as a result of these discussions will have the weight of a united and determined body behind them. For too long architects have suffered from individual and collective timidity and a type of professional aloofness mistakenly called dignity. It is high time that the architects of this State emerged from their false fronts and took collective action in the interest of the public of which they are a part."

The tentative program for the convention is as follows:

Thursday, Oct. 27, 9 A.M. to 6 P.M. Registration. 1 P.M.—Luncheon at the Hotel Pennsylvania to be followed with an organization meeting. There will be a welcome by Arthur Loomis Harmon who will introduce Mr. James W. Kideney who will preside. Mr. Kideney will address the meeting on the general purpose of the convention and what it is hoped will be accomplished. Rich-

mond H. Shreve will speak on the interrelation of various architectural organizations in New York State, and the A.I.A. plan of national unification. Open discussion. 4 P.M.—Visit to The Cloisters and tea at 5. Mr. Rorimer the Curator will be introduced by Wesley Bessell and will speak. Ladies are particularly invited at this occasion.

Friday, Oct. 28. No morning meeting scheduled. A list of suggested sightseeing trips will be available. 12:30 P.M.—Luncheon at the Hotel Pennsylvania. 1:30—Meeting at which Mr. Harmon will preside. Mr. Matthew del Gaudio will introduce the topic and will speak on legislation affecting architects in New York State. Others who have been invited to speak are: Charles C. Platt of New York, Senators Dunnigan and Desmond, James Vetter of Syracuse, C. Storrs Barrows of Rochester and Gilbert L. Van Auken of Albany. 3:30 P.M.—The convention will leave the hotel for a visit to the World's Fair. 4:15—At the Fair Stephen F. Voorhees, Chairman of the Board of Design, will welcome the visitors. Ladies are cordially invited to attend. For the remainder of the afternoon the Fair grounds will be open for inspection. The cafeteria in the Administration Building will be available for the visitors from 6 to 8 P.M.

Saturday, Oct. 29, 10:30 A.M.—Meeting. Mr. Kideney will preside and will give a resume of the previous meetings and will outline various other problems which affect the architects of the State, such as: "Development of Federal, State, and Municipal Architectural Bureaus," "The Private Architect and His Relation to the Public." The meeting will then be thrown open for suggestions as to how to make the profession more useful and effective in New York State. Questions to be considered at this time will be selected from written questions that have been sent in advance to the Committee on Arrangements. 1 P.M.—Closing luncheon.

EXECUTIVE

The executive committee requests the members' co-operation in bringing the Chapter records up to date. During the past few months questionnaires were sent out to all members so that the Executive Secretary could have on file in her office pertinent information concerning them.

The officers were given a mandate by the members to furnish to the public when requested, the names of architects with experience in various classes of work. Messrs. Voorhees, Waid and Kohn have agreed to accept the responsibility of compiling lists for this purpose, but their task is made difficult because of lack of information. Please send Miss Waters the necessary information. Blanks may still be obtained from her office.

OBITUARY NOTICE FOR C. GRANT LA FARGE, F.A.I.A. 1862-1938

October 17, 1938.

For those of us who knew him well, Grant LaFarge's death comes as a great shock, and leaves a void which will not be filled. His abounding vitality, the breadth of his culture and his sense of humor made a combination productive of sheer joy in his society.

His earlier years were marked by his great success in winning in a competition in association with Heins, the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. Then came many years of work almost entirely on that one project. LaFarge told me that most of their clients assumed that they were too busy with that great commission to care to do other things. His replacement as architect of the Cathedral, after the death of his partner, was the great tragedy of his professional life.

Most of his friends are ignorant of the great service to the profession rendered by Grant LaFarge in his later years. At the request of the Committee on Education of the Institute he undertook to visit the various schools of architecture throughout the country and lecture on the cultural aspects of the profession. These trips, extending from coast to coast, took him wherever there was a school, and the contacts he established, the information he secured and, above all, the inspiration he brought to teachers and scholars were invaluable. To this work he gave of himself in the fullest measure.

In recent years, as the Matthews lecturer on Gothic architecture at the Metropolitan Museum he made two trips to Europe, to refresh his memory, the first to France and the second to study the development of Gothic in Germany and Italy.

From his last trip he returned to New York just over a year ago, full of enthusiasm over what he had seen, and went to Saunderstown to prepare his lectures for the following winter. Then he was overtaken by illness and a return of the heart trouble from which he had suffered for some years.

Let me quote from a letter received today from the head of one of the schools he visited on his travels:

"While his going leaves us with a sense of loss, we also feel a substantial sense of good for his having lived and worked in this world. We are grateful that even for one short instant his path could have crossed ours."

A perfect expression of what we all feel.

By CHARLES BUTLER.

MEMBERS' ACTIVITIES

Eric Kebbon was selected by the Mayor to act as architect for the New York City Board of Education. His duties include the design and supervision of construction of all new school buildings throughout the five boroughs of the city. He has a staff of approximately two hundred draftsmen divided about equally between architecture and engineering.

Mr. Kebbon states that he expects that about twenty new schools will be started during 1939 and that the aggregate cost of these buildings will be in the neighborhood of thirty million dollars. His aim is to give each problem individual treatment so that instead of using a set of type plans and designs as has been done in the past, he will approach the problem with a fresher point of view and the design of these buildings will be handled in the way that a private architect would approach it rather than by the bureaucratic method.

Warden H. Fenton was appointed the Director of the Bureau of Architecture, Division of Engineering of the Department of Public Works of New York City, on July first. This post which he occupies arose as a consequence of the new city charter which took effect last January first. Mr. Fenton's office, with its staff of three hundred at present, will produce the necessary drawings and specifications for all public buildings in New York City with the exception of slum clearance projects, and buildings under the jurisdiction of the Board of Education. Mr. Fenton's Bureau will call for assistance from architects in private practice at times of peak loads.

Henry Toombs, a former member of the chapter, has associated with Franklin D. Roosevelt of Hyde Park, N. Y. in the design of an outbuilding. Mr. Roosevelt, we are told, has no license, but as Henry has, it is probably all right.

The recent devastating hurricane (which incidentally arose within the territory of the New York Chapter which includes the Virgin Islands and Porto Rico) has made work for one of our members. Lucian E. Smith and Ken Murchison having survived the blow are now occupied in replanning the town of Narragansett which did not survive so well.

GOUCHER

Members of the Chapter did well in the recent Goucher College competition. The first prize was won by Moore and Hutchins, the second by the Saarinsens, the third by the Frosts, Senior and Junior, and the fourth by Gerald Holmes.