



NEW YORK CHAPTER
THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
115 EAST 40th STREET, NEW YORK (16)

THE OCULUS, Vol. VI, No. 7

MAY 1944

NEXT MEETING

Time: Dinner 7 p.m. Tuesday May 16th
Place: Architectural League
Subject: Chapter Medal of Honor
Guest of Honor: Major General William
H. Harrison

The New York Chapter's highest mark of distinction, the Medal of Honor, is to be awarded this year to one of our best known and outstanding members. Presentation of the Medal will be made at the dinner by President O'Connor together with an appropriate citation. Our guest of honor, Maj. Gen. Harrison has agreed to make some informal remarks, befitting the occasion.

We are also to hear the announcement of the Awards of Fellowship granted by the A.I.A. to members of the New York Chapter.

The A.I.A. Board of Directors, meeting at Indianapolis last week, gave careful consideration to every recommendation made by this Chapter. The results will be reported at the dinner.

SCHOOL ARCHITECTS

The New York State Association of Architects, through our Chapter Delegate, William Lescaze, requests that the following be brought to your attention:

The Division of School Buildings and Grounds has compiled a mailing list of architects of New York State who according to the records of the Department are interested in planning school buildings. Any architect in the State can get his name on the list by writing to: Division of School Buildings and Grounds, State Education Building, Albany, 1, N.Y.

NOTICE OF BY-LAW AMENDMENT

The suggestion has been made that the Chairmen of Elective Committees appear in person before the Executive Committee when presenting their reports. The Executive Committee recommends that this be incorporated in the By-Laws.

You are accordingly notified that at the Annual Meeting of the Chapter on Wednesday, June 7, the following amendment to the By-Laws will be voted upon.

To Article 12, Section 4, Reports of Committee, add paragraph (b), so that Section 4, Reports of Committees, shall read as follows:

(a) Every committee shall make an annual report to the Executive Committee at the close of its work, and at such other times as the Executive Committee directs.

(b) The reports of Elective Committees to the Executive Committee may be presented in person by the Chairman or his representative, who shall have the privilege of discussing the subject which may be the concern of his committee.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Committees are the effective machinery of the Chapter. They can make it vital and progressive - or negligible. Definite service to the profession is in direct ratio to the interest of each member. During this season, which will soon come to a close, unusually effective work has been done by our standing committees as well as by a number of new special committees recently appointed. This work must not only be carried on, but should be encouraged by the stimulus of new blood. Our remarkable increase in membership this year has



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115 EAST 42ND STREET NEW YORK 17

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NEW YORK, N.Y., Monday, July 1, 1918

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brought us many new and younger men who may not yet be familiar with our Chapter machinery, and with these particularly in mind, we list below our more active committees with a brief description of the "sphere" of each.

Whether you be a new or an "old" member, we ask that you indicate to us on which Committee you would be interested to serve, also your suggestions as to other appointees whom you feel to be especially qualified. Constructive suggestions about these committees would be more than welcome.

Activities:

Organizes Chapter meetings, entertainments, etc. In effect, keeps the work of the committees before the Chapter membership and suggests to the Executive Committee items of interest to the Chapter.

Admissions:

Interviews and passes upon candidates for membership.

Civic Design and Development:

Is concerned with problems of City design and development; stimulates better City planning and activities for the City welfare.

Education:

Initiates and handles activities concerned with the education of the architect, both student and adult; cooperates with State Board of Examiners and Schools of Architecture on improving architectural education. Has charge of Brunner Scholarship work; will have in charge the very important matter of refresher courses for architects and draftsmen returning from military service.

Technical:

Has general charge of technical aspects of architectural practice; through a sub-committee conducts panel discussions of new building materials and techniques; through another sub-committee is working on the inauguration of an important service center for technical information on building materials and techniques;

through still another sub-committee considers matters relating to the Building Code.

Legislative:

Represents the Chapter's interest in all legislation, federal, state, and local, affecting architects; in connection with the legislative work cooperates with other professional bodies.

Membership and Unification:

Recruits candidates for membership; suggests subjects for the Chapter to take up as further points of interest or help to members and prospective members; works toward unification of the profession within the A.I.A.

Fees and Contracts:

Advises on revision of fee schedules; has in charge general matters of contractual relations between architects and their clients, particularly public agencies.

Public Relations:

Presents the activities of the Chapter to the public and works toward adequate public recognition of the value and scope of architectural services.

Finance:

Handles the investments of funds in the hands of the Chapter with the advice of financial counsel and advises with regard to use of funds and the Chapter budget.

Post-war Planning:

Represents the Chapter's interests in matters of post-war planning; cooperates with other elements in the construction industry in an over-all program of post-war reconstruction and rehabilitation in the New York area.

Fields of Practice:

Stimulates broader extension of architectural services and handles activities directed toward this end.

Surveys of Unsafe Buildings:

Members of this Committee, who are recommended by the Chapter to the Civil

Service Commission are available for making Building Department surveys of unsafe buildings at a small fee.

HOUSING WEEK

May 20th to 27th has been set aside by the Citizens' Housing Council as Housing Week in New York City, and all organizations are invited to plan programs around the subject at that time.

The New York Chapter, in conjunction with the Architectural League, is holding a dinner meeting on FRIDAY, MAY 26th, at 7:30 P.M. on the subject of "Public Housing Agencies and the Architect". The Federal, the New York State, and the City Housing Agencies will be represented at the dinner; the FPHA by John A. Kervick, Director of Region II; the State Division of Housing by Ira Robbins, Acting Commissioner, and the NYCHA by John P. Riley representing Chairman Butler. The City Planning Commission has also been invited to participate.

At the same time the Architectural League will show an Exhibit of recent large scale housing projects in the New York Area.

On the following THURSDAY, JUNE 1st, at 7:00 p.m. there will be a second Housing Dinner on the subject of "Large Scale Private Housing and the Architect".

On this occasion, we hope to have guest speakers representing the bankers' approach, the insurance companies' approach, the State's approach, and possibly the real estate angle.

PANEL DISCUSSION

The Chapter's second Forum on Technics is scheduled for Tuesday, May 23rd, at 8:00 p.m. at the Architectural League. (No dinner)

The subject of the discussion will be "Paints and Coatings".

A more detailed announcement on the subject matter under discussion, with the names of the panel members, will be mailed out shortly.

CANDIDATES

The following names have been submitted for Institute membership:

1. Donald Campbell
Sponsors: J.A. Fouilhoux
Frederick A. Godley
2. John Stratton Van Wart
Sponsors: Francis Keally
R.H. Shreve
3. John Alfred Wahl
Sponsors: Louis Skidmore
William C. Vladeck

SERVICE COLUMN

Our request in the March OCULUS for news of our members in service has so far been ignored, but we are still hoping.

NOTE THESE DATES ON YOUR CALENDAR NOW!

Tuesday, May 16th 7:00 p.m. Dinner
Medal of Honor Presentation

Tuesday, May 23rd 8:00 p.m. No Dinner
Panel Discussion: "Paints & Coatings"

Friday, May 26th 7:30 p.m. Dinner
"Public Housing Agencies & the Architect"

Wednesday, June 7th 12:30 p.m. Lunch
Annual Meeting for Elections

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