

THE NEW YORK CHAPTER, A. I. A.

115 East 40th Street,

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BULLETIN FOR DECEMBER, 1944

Dec 7 PAINTERS, SCULPTORS AND LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS. Collaboration with these three groups, and a sincere attempt to exchange information on their respective functions, as well as our own, on a building project, will be developed at this meeting, to be held jointly by the Chapter and the Architectural League.

Kenneth Stowell, the Chapter's "Mr. Denny", will be Moderator, and the topics of discussion will be confined to (a) Schools of Design now current and their exponents, (b) how and when should an Architect select a collaborator on a building project, and (c) contractual relations, estimates and cost considerations.

Fifteen of the outstanding leaders in the three fields of art have been invited to take part, and in view of this the least we can do is to come and hear their story, and show that we are interested in collaboration, and not in just talking about it.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 7, dinner 7 p.m.

Dec 13 CODES. Alfred Rheinstein will be the Chapter's guest of honor at a dinner on December 13, at which time we shall endeavor to develop a point of view within the Chapter on recodifying the Multiple Dwelling Law, which is scheduled for discussion in the State Legislature next term.

MR. RHEINSTEIN will give us the philosophy of code revisions.

IRVIN L. SCOTT will speak on the legal aspects.

JACOB MOSCOWITZ will talk on zoning experience in the field of Civic Design and the general theory of the relationship of techniques in code revision.

JAMES B. NEWMAN will tell of nationwide interest in code revision.

Each of these talks will be limited to fifteen minutes, after which there will be general discussion.

ASSEMBLYMAN MacNEIL MITCHELL, Chairman of the State Legislature's Committee on Recodifying the Multiple Dwelling Law, has been invited to dine with us and help to guide us in our discussions.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 13, dinner 7 p.m.

Dec 21 ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY. The Chapter and the League once more join for a holiday lunch, replete with turkey and all the "fixings", and the lusty singing of Christmas Carols. It is rumored that negotiations are being conducted with "outside talent" for the occasion.

Ladies, guests, and especially members of the office staff will be welcome. Lunch is called for one o'clock but the preliminary festivities will start as soon as the sun is over the yardarm.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 21, lunch 1 p.m.

Seating at these three functions will be by
RESERVATION ONLY. Please call the Chapter
Office (CA 5-6034) or send in a postal card to
115 East 40th Street.

NOVEMBER IN RETROSPECT

Harold Sleeper, winner of the Brunner Scholarship award, given in 1942 jointly by the New York Chapter and the Architectural League, was the guest at a dinner given by those two organizations on Thursday, November 2nd.

Following the dinner, Mr. Sleeper gave us a most interesting report on the study for which the scholarship funds were awarded him, which he called "A Realistic Approach to Private Investment in Urban Redevelopment as Applied to East Harlem." His talk was illustrated by lantern slides as well as by an exhibit of maps and charts shown on the walls.

Arthur Loomis Harmon gave a brief description of the Manhattan Development Committee under whose aegis Mr. Sleeper's work was carried on. That Committee was made up of representatives of the Chapter and the League, and also of various banking and lending institutions whose interest in urban redevelopment was evidenced by financial contributions equal to those of the architects. Earl Schwulst, Vice President of the Bowery Savings Bank, was also a scheduled speaker.

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The current proposal to amend the Zoning Ordinance has been the subject of three recent Chapter meetings. On October 27th, Ralph Walker gave a summary of the survey on zoning made by his firm for Savings Banks and Mortgage Conference Groups, illustrated profusely with charts and photographs. A capacity audience was present to hear Mr. Walker.

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On November 8th, members of the Chapter were fortunate in hearing Mr. Harold Lewis's exposition of the Zoning Amendment as proposed by Major Huie. This was illustrated with plans and diagrams and went a long way towards convincing some of us of the advantages of the bulk and area method over the method proposed by the City Planning Commission.

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As a result of this exposition, a special meeting of the Chapter was requested for the following Monday

afternoon, at which the Chapter's interest in zoning was evidenced by the largest attendance we have had at any meeting so far this year. After considerable discussion, the Chapter finally voted to urge the rejection of the City Planning Commission amendment and to support the method of zoning as recommended in the Huie proposal. This was a disappointment to many, however, who felt that the Planning Commission's proposal should have had the Chapter's support as a matter of expediency in getting the much needed changes.

The outcome before the Board of Estimate is awaited with great interest.

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On November 15th the Chapter held a dinner meeting to discuss the relations of private practice and civil service to Architecture and Public Works. The purpose was to promote better understanding and cooperation between the two groups.

This was the first time that the City's Civil Service bureaus have been invited to participate in our discussions. The Chapter was more than pleased with the interest which the Civil Service employees showed by their attendance at the meeting, and it was a little disappointing that the architects did not do as well.

After some seven short speeches which brought out the points of view of bureau employees, private practitioners, labor unions and civil service guilds, there was general discussion from the floor. The meeting went off exceedingly well, with the general feeling that both groups had been made much more aware of each other's problems. The hope was expressed that further meetings of this sort might be arranged and a vote was taken to form a committee of three Chapter members and three representatives of the Bureaus, to carry on the work.

Mr. Del Gaudio remarked that he had found a new field for recruits for A.I.A. members!

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Our story would not be complete without mention of the Forum on Plastics

held on Sunday afternoon, November 12 at the Waldorf Astoria. This forum was held in connection with the Annual Fall Conference of the Plastics Industry.

Two boards of experts, one from the architectural profession and one from the plastics industry, asked pertinent questions of each other, under the watchful eye of two moderators, Morris Sanders being moderator for the architects and C. W. Blount of Bakelite Corporation, for the plastics industry.

A well planned program of short addresses, followed by the keen and appropriate questions posed by each group, made for a stimulating and very worth-while afternoon, and the Plastics Industry has expressed the hope that similar meetings can be made a part of further plastics conferences throughout the country.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The members' attention is called to the fact that our Executive Committee meets regularly on the first Tuesday of each month. Comments on our current activities and suggestions for improvement are always welcome, and should reach the Chapter Office at least a day before the meeting if they are to be included on the agenda.

The next meeting will be on Dec. 5.

BROADCAST

The following have filed application for Institute membership:

Irvin Clavan

Sponsors: Matthew W. Del Gaudio
R. H. Shreve

Hyman I. Feldman

Sponsors: Sidney L. Strauss
Ralph Walker

Carl Ernest Stover

Sponsors: Francis Keally
Edgar I. Williams
and for Associate membership:

Thomas D. Christiano

Sponsors: Max H. Foley
Ralph Walker

Nicholas Joseph Senesey

Sponsors: William E. Haugaard
Andrew J. Thomas

LOST AND FOUND DEPARTMENT

An A. I. A. Membership Pin has been found, evidently lost at the November 21st dinner.

Will the owner kindly claim it at the Chapter Office?

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