

NEW YORK CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS  
ONE FIFTEEN EAST FORTIETH STREET, NEW YORK 16, NEW YORK



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# OCULUS

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## COMING EVENTS

Make a check mark on your calendar for these coming events:

Thursday, December 6 - a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Technical Committee:  
"Submissions to the Board of Standards and Appeals"

Mr. Hugh P. Fox, Chief Examiner of the Board, will discuss procedure for preparing submissions to the Board. It will be a behind-the-scenes affair: How do submissions shape up to the officials who pass on them?

Thursday, December 13 - a luncheon meeting devoted to general Chapter business of interest to all card-carrying members.

Thursday, December 13 - an early evening meeting sponsored by the Technical Committee. Exact time to be announced.

Imaginatively set up by Chairman Harry R. Dowswell as four concurrent Round Table discussions. Sit in on any one of them as long as you like; then move along to the next. The topics and leaders are:

...Design and Presentation - George C. Rudolph.

...The Architect and the Contractor in the Field - E. K.

Abberley of the Turner Construction Co.

...Kitchens and Kitchen Equipment - Anthony Amendola of Nathan Straus-Deparquet Co.

...The Architect and the Mechanical Engineer - John Pryke of Slocum and Fuller.

Tuesday, January 8 - a luncheon meeting sponsored by the Technical Committee:  
"Architectural Contracts with New York City"

Mr. Oren C. Herwitz will speak with special authority.

He has been Assistant Corporation Counsel, Contracts and Appeals Division, and Deputy Commissioner of Special Counsel to the New York City Department of Public Works.





## MEMBERSHIP MEMO TO MEMBERS

Anticipating the time when all persons actively engaged in the practice of architecture will belong to the A.I.A., the New York Chapter is campaigning for more Associate Members. The young men who will, when registered, be eligible for Corporate Membership should be encouraged to become Associates now. Look over your office staff for likely candidates. Send us their names on the enclosed postal for action by the Membership Committee.

### Advantages To Your Candidate:

Associate members enjoy almost all the advantages while paying considerably lower dues.

Technical meetings offer valuable information on new developments and practical problems.

Design discussions offer opportunity for developing one's own convictions and understanding those of others.

Membership in A.I.A. is an honor (about which we are often too modest).

### Advantages To You:

A man's value to his employer increases as his fund of knowledge grows.

The courtesy and personal interest shown in nominating an employee should strengthen his ties to your firm.

A firm well represented in the A.I.A. should gain standing in the public eye as well as in the profession.

If you have any questions concerning the qualifications of your candidate, phone R. Jackson Smith, Chairman of the Membership Committee at MU 2-0670.

## BOOKS and LIBRARIES

"Libraries are not made; they grow." — Augustine Birrell

This is especially true of the New York Chapter of the A.I.A. The few volumes of books that grace our shelves have merely accumulated over the years; no effort has been made to collect a Chapter Library. That is, no effort has been made until this year, when new books, or revisions of old books, by our members have been appearing in increasing numbers.

Of particular note in this regard was the recent publication of "Shopping Centers" by Bruno Funaro and Geoffrey Baker. Advancing beyond the problems of the individual merchandizing concern, their book presents a broad analysis of collective marketing programs and planning, with special emphasis on parking considerations. The possibilities and commercial values of landscaping in connection with coordinated groups of stores are discussed at some length and illustrated by a number of photographs. One critic has described the book as being "especially important at this time, in view of the current increase of new residential communities more or less remote from established shopping facilities."

To start our Library growing, Funaro kindly donated a copy of his book. This should prompt other architect-authors to do likewise. If you write or have written on anything of architectural import, the Chapter would be most happy to receive a copy.

Library buildings as well as books are in great demand around the world. Our Chapter president, Francis Keally, is now in Germany to select a German architect, by competition, for the design and construction of an American Memorial Library in West Berlin. This library, symbol of democratic thinking and ideals, will be erected in memory of those Americans who died in the operation of the air lift during the Russian blockade.



## DEFENSE DEPARTMENT JOBS

Committees of the American Society of Civil Engineers, the American Institute of Architects, and the National Society of Professional Engineers have had several conferences with officials of the Department of Defense concerning the relation of the architectural and engineering professions to the Department.

The main point at issue has been the system of basing fees on the cost of preparing architectural and engineering work rather than on the construction cost, — a system which has been followed by at least one of the agencies of the Defense Department. This practice has led to much misunderstanding: many elements of professional service cannot be precisely evaluated; estimates by architects and engineers of their own costs are frequently challenged by negotiating agents; there is much variance in the definition of "administrative costs".

At a meeting last April, in the Office of the Chief of Engineers, the professional societies were informed that the Army, Navy and Air Force had been directed to formulate regulations which could be utilized by all units of the Department of Defense. The proposed set of regulations, however, met with unanimous opposition on the part of the professional societies.

On July 16, the professional societies presented a joint statement of principles for the determination of proper fees, together with a recommendation that a commission be created for the purpose of developing a procedure acceptable to all concerned. It was recommended that the commission be composed of a representative from each of the three armed services and from each of the professional groups and that a delegate from the Munitions Board serve as chairman.

This proposal has been discussed at length, but the Department of Defense has not as yet released a reply.

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With a view to clarifying certain points relating to architects' employment on Navy projects, J. Bruno Basil recently interviewed Rear Admiral A. D. Alexis, Director of the Atlantic Division, Bureau of Yards and Docks. He learned that architects, interested in work of this sort, should visit the local representative of the Bureau of Yards and Docks in order to present their qualifications. The Navy has standard forms for this purpose to which may be added a description of any special qualifications or experience. Probable types of construction, for which architectural services will be required, range from maintenance projects for existing facilities to the complete development of new air fields.

## MULTIPLE DWELLING LAW

Richard Roth, representing the Chapter at a recent meeting of Senator Mitchell's Joint Legislative Committee on Housing and Multiple Dwellings, recommended eleven bills for re-introduction. Eight of these received general approval. They are concerned with the size of interior kitchens, breaking up of large apartments into small ones, location of garage doors in multiple dwellings, open automobile parking on large apartment house plots, sprinklers in the business portion of apartment buildings, glass in basement windows, tenements with single stairs, alteration of old-law tenements. It was also agreed to re-introduce a bill dealing with fire-retarded cellar stairs in tenements. Recommendations for a more liberal regulation of "garden apartments" are to be re-written and re-submitted after certain objections are removed.



## PUBLIC RELATIONS

Thomas Creighton, in his "P.S." column of November's Progressive Architecture, gives the architect the two fundamentals of publicity:

Have real news to present to the public.

Use imagination in presenting it.

May we add that members who are using the Chapter's new stickers, on the back of material released to the press, report surprisingly good results in getting their names mentioned. A pad of 100 stickers costs \$1.00 at the Chapter office.

## WAR IS OVER

The war between the United States and Germany was officially terminated October 19, 1951. Building Commissioner Gillroy calls attention to the fact that deferments of prosecution on violations, "for the duration of the war, and one year thereafter," will terminate on October 18, 1952.

## DELINQUENT DUES

The Executive Committee announces with regret that the following members have not yet paid their 1951 dues.

Probably there are many good reasons for this, but unless all dues are paid before December 31, 1951, these members will unfortunately have to be suspended:

J. H. Bennett, V. Bohm, C. A. Bradbury, B. Ferrara, N. R. Ginsburg, H. C. Hahn, E. J. Lang, S. Levy, G. S. Marvel, A. Nathanson, G. A. Paul, G. F. Poehler, E. A. Salmon, B. Schlanger, N. Seiderman, F. B. Smith, R. G. Spross, T. Stapleton, J. A. Wahl, L. S. Weeks, S. E. White, R. I. Lindheim, D. W. Butler, V. Caruso, M. Colli, V. R. deStefano, F. J. Forte, J. H. Livingstone, R. S. Lundberg, J. H. MacFadyen, R. M. Recker, S. M. Shelov, J. W. Conkling.



## CANDIDATES

Information regarding the qualifications of the following candidates for membership will be considered confidential by the Admissions Committee:

### Corporate Membership

Louis Gardner

Sponsors: Benjamin Gruzen and B. Sumner Gruzen

Nicholas Kaitin Lucas

Sponsors: Snyder I. Williams and Max H. Foley

### Associate Membership

Pierre Albert Bezy ✓

Sponsors: Robert Jacobs and Ely J. Kahn

George H. Carlson ✓

Sponsors: William Platt and Geoffrey Platt

Walter McQuade ✓

Sponsors: Huson Jackson and Abraham Geller

Robert Cooley Penn ✓

Sponsors: William Platt and Geoffrey Platt

## OCULUS ART

We are indebted this month to Richard B. Snow for "Christmas Greetings" and "Warning to Delinquents". Who will volunteer for next month's sketches?