

NEW YORK CHAPTER

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

O C U L U S

VOL. XVI, No. 4 January 1955

COMING EVENTS

JANUARY 17th through January 28th, Architectural League, "Light in Architecture", an exhibition by the Residence Lighting Forum, co-sponsored by the Chapter.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 5:30 to 7:00 P.M., Architectural League, Cocktail party given by the A.I.A. Membership Committee. All Chapter members are cordially invited. Bring a Candidate!

JANUARY 28-30th. Metropolitan Museum of Art, Annual Meeting of the Society of Architectural Historians.

JANUARY 31, for one week, Dining Room of the League, exhibit of Homes designed by the Architect for the Speculative Builder.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEETINGS

The Technical Committee sponsored a well-attended Joint Meeting, New York Chapter A.I.A. and American Institute of Electrical Engineering at the Minor Latham Auditorium, Millbank Hall, Barnard College, Monday, December 13th, 1954.

Alexander Sitkin gave an interesting talk on minimum stage lighting with emphasis on the problem of lighting the school auditorium-stage on a small budget. His most salient point: provide for panelboard space and power facility (conduit raceway, etc.) for future maximum lighting. He pointed out that the auditorium should have a sound system and that it is a minimum essential to have overhead lighting (ceiling spotlights) to see the stage.

Stanley McCandless, Professor of Stage Lighting at Yale, spoke on a more extensive degree of stage lighting, giving an excellent talk illustrated by slides. The various lighting and control equipment was discussed, including border spotlights and strip lights, side lights, rear stage cyclorama lights and foot lights. Use and effect of dimmer panels and color in stage lighting was explained and illustrated by means of the excellent equipment in the Latham auditorium. Mr. McCandless' most salient point on stage lighting: "light the people on stage".

At another Technical Committee meeting on December 28, Dr. Gunnar Pleijel, the eminent Swedish architect, brought our Chapter members up to date on current architectural developments in Sweden.

Among the interesting new developments were the new method of handling outdoor space created by the Olgyay Brothers with their abstractly painted exterior walls, the new sun study techniques developed at the Royal Institute of Technology and the pleated accordion sun control device for use between the panes of double glazing.

CHAPTER MEMBERS

Few architects in this city will have missed the excellent set of three Profiles of Wallace Harrison in recent issues of the NEW YORKER. It was a little like amateur dramatics; you recognize all the people but you've never seen them in quite that light before.

The Chapter has Douglas Haskell and the architectural forum to thank for the constructive pamphlet "A Pocket Guide for Better Public Relations" which was recently sent to the membership through the agency of the Public Relations Committee. John Hancock Callender contributed significantly to the text.

Morris Ketchum, Jr. is serving as Chairman of the Architects Division of the 1955 Greater New York Campaign of the National Foundation for Infantile Paralysis. He will be assisted by Lathrop Douglass, Harmon H. Goldstone, George Cooper Rudolph, Matthew W. Del Gaudio, Jedd S. Reisner and William N. Breger. Greater New York is seeking to raise \$4,000,000 as its share of the \$64,000,000 urgently needed by the National Foundation for next year.

A THIRD TERM FOR MAX FOLEY

At the annual meeting of the Architects' Emergency Committee held recently, the following officers were re-elected to the Executive Committee to serve three years: Max Foley, Chairman, Lucian E. Smith, Vice Chairman, William F. R. Ballard, Frederick G. Frost, Jr., Chairman, Finance Committee. Other members of the profession serving on the Executive Committee are: Julian Clarence Levi, Honorary Chairman, Adolph Goldberg, Secretary, Henry Hofmeister, Treasurer, Albert, W. Butt, Jr., Robert Allen Jacobs, Edgar I. Williams.

As many of us remember, the Committee was formed in 1930 during the great depression, to help the unemployed in the profession. Much has been accomplished during these past twenty-four years for the draftsmen and architects.

Through the years great efforts have been made to strengthen the financial position of the Committee as a backlog against less prosperous times. It is hoped that the entire profession will respond generously to the annual drive for funds which will be made shortly. As Julian Clarence Levi, founder of the Committee has said, "We are not conducting an employment agency. Better than that we are offering, without any remuneration, friendly cooperation to all who bring their problems to us. It is not an obligation nor is it a responsibility. It is an evidence of the fine spirit of comradeship that animates the architectural profession."

MEMBERSHIP

The National A.I.A. has stated that the trend in the United States is toward a growth of membership - New York is one of the few sections that shows a falling off.

One of the means by which the Membership Committee hopes to reverse this Chapter trend is the furnishing of names of prospective candidates to the committee by the members. This program which started out so promisingly has come to a dead stop.

The time to look over your personnel list for prospective members is NOW. Call Roger Spross, LExington 2-1600.

PROPOSED REPEAL OF THE LYONS LAW

City Council Member Stanley M. Isaacs and his colleague Councilman Barnes have joined in introducing a bill in the City Council for the repeal of the Lyons Law, a statute which forbids the appointment of anyone to city office who has not resided in the City of New York for three years or more, and removes from civil service anyone moving from the city. Exceptions are permitted only by vote of the City Council and the Board of Estimate. Mr. Isaacs has written forcefully to President Hutchins explaining his opposition to the bill as hampering the city in getting the best personnel into departments. He plans a public hearing in the coming year.

Mr. Hutchins and the Executive Committee recommend that Chapter members inform themselves on this matter and act individually as they set fit.

ALTERATIONS IN 40th STREET

In accordance with the irresistible trend toward the open plan, the flexibility of space, and the increasing consumption of stimulants, the Architectural League has developed a scheme for extending the bar through an existing coat closet to the Pine Room. Thus the capacity of the bar will be greatly increased, space will interpenetrate (or at times be sundered by a folding partition) and League members and their friends enjoy every advantage from this proposed alteration. It's only a question of funds.

President Lewis G. Adams announces that the League is asking for contributions from members, friends and organizations to finance the alteration. A model is on display in the Lobby with pledge blanks conveniently attached.

CIVIL SERVICE POSTS IN THE F.H.A.

In his desire to have his organization staffed by the best possible Civil Service personnel, William Adam Schulz, director of the New York office of the Federal Housing Administration calls to attention of Chapter members to the posts of Appraiser, Construction Examiner, Construction Inspector and Loan Examiner (Realty) which are under the jurisdiction of the U. S. Civil Service Commission and its Board of Examiners at the F.H.A., 655 Madison Avenue, New York 21, N.Y. These posts pay \$4,205 and \$5,060 per annum and lists of qualified personnel are now being established.

LAND OF THE MIDNIGHT SUN

On June 10, 1955 an exhibition of architecture and allied arts will open in Halsingborg, Sweden. In connection with this attractive exhibition the World Travel Plan Corporation is organizing an A.I.A. sponsored tour of the Scandinavian countries. It will leave New York May 29th and return June 15th. Cost, \$750 per person, \$100 deposit, closing date for registration, February 10th. Full details at the Chapter office, in the January issue of the Journal of the A.I.A. or at the World Travel Plan Corporation, 125 East 50th St., New York, PLaza 3-2077. Better still, talk to Edgar Williams about it. None of our members has a more informed or more devoted appreciation of these great lands, and he is a warm supporter of this exhibition and tour.



THE 1955 BUILDING PRODUCTS LITERATURE COMPETITION

For the past six years The Institute and The Producers' Council, Inc., which is affiliated with The Institute, have sponsored Building Product Literature Competitions. These Competitions provide the architect with the means of demonstrating, by selected examples, what he considers literature of technical and practical informative value.

Chapter members are urged to participate by sending the title and name of the producer of product literature deemed to be of informative value to the architect, to The A.I.A. Department of Education and Research, 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., Washington 6, D.C. Full details are available at the Chapter office. Entries close March 1st and awards will be announced at the A.I.A. Convention in Minneapolis, in June.

FELLOWSHIPS AT COLUMBIA

Leopold Arnaud, Dean of the Columbia University School of Architecture, announces the William Kinne Fellows Memorial Fellowship Fund, which was established in 1953, has now been increased to \$652,202.56 through a recent grant. This fund was established by the late Mrs. Elizabeth Steele Fellows in memory of her husband who was a member of the class of 1894 in Architecture. Thanks to this endowment, the School of Architecture finds itself in the enviable position of being able to grant from \$2500 to \$4000 for extensive travel and study abroad. These fellowships are open to students receiving the Bachelor of Architecture degree or the degree of either the Master of Science in Architecture or Master of Science in Planning and Housing.

The first group of traveling Fellows has now returned, bringing a wealth of slides, photographs, and films. Some of the water colors and sketches done on these Fellowships are currently on loan exhibition on the fourth floor gallery of Avery Hall.

CANDIDATES

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

Corporate Membership

Natalie Griffin deBlois	Sponsors: Roy O. Allen, Jr. and Gordon Bunshaft
Thomas F. Hennessy	Sponsors: Francis Keally and George Cooper Rudolph
William J. Modin	Sponsors: Robert W. Cutler and Thomas H. Creighton
Lloyd Howard Slomanson	Sponsors: Serge P. Petroff and Howard H. Juster
Wynant Davis Vanderpool, Jr.	Sponsors: Walker O. Cain and C. Dale Badgeley

Associate Membership

Harry Taylor Gherardi	Sponsors: Perry Coke Smith and Roger Gilbert Spross
Daniel Markowitz	Sponsors: Stanhope B. Ficke and Lester H. Maxon