

NEW YORK CHAPTER

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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COMING EVENTS

May 14-17	Washington, D.C.	A.I.A. Centennial Convention
May 23, Thursday	Hospital and Health Gallery A - 5:15 to 6:30	"Coordination of Hospital Service Facilities" with Gordon A. Friesen, Hospital Consultant
June 5, Wednesday	Gallery A - 12:30 P.M.	Annual Luncheon - Election of Officers

A.I.A. CENTENNIAL

Centennial Dinner. About two hundred and thirty A.I.A. members and guests took over Oscar's O. Delmonico restaurant on the evening of April 25th. One hundred twenty-seven of these were from the New York Chapter; the rest were from the other chapters in the metropolitan area. The atmosphere, in case you weren't there, was appropriately and authentically gas-light era; the food was excellent; August Heckscher (Director of the 20th Century Fund and former chief editorial writer for the N.Y. Herald Tribune) delivered an equally excellent speech. Among the honored guests were National A.I.A. President Leon Chatelain, Jr. and Executive Director Ned Purves, and their wives.

Pre-Convention Chapter Meeting. On April 18th Chapter President Cutler called the Pre-Convention Meeting to order at 1:00 P.M.; 44 Corporate members were present. In accordance with established Chapter policy, delegates will be sent to the Centennial Convention in Washington, May 13-17, without mandatory instructions.

The President and Secretary serve as Delegates *ex-officio*. Thirty-two additional delegates and 10 alternates were elected at the meeting as follows:

Delegates

Harold R. Sleeper	Matthew W. Del Gaudio	Antonin Raymond
Arthur C. Holden	Leopold Arnaud	W. F. R. Ballard
Morris Ketchum, Jr.	Olindo Grossi	Walker O. Cain
Robert S. Hutchins	Alfred Easton Poor	David L. Eggers
Frederick G. Frost, Jr.	Lorimer Rich	Clarence B. Litchfield
Walter H. Kilham, Jr.	Otto Teegen	Harvey Stevenson
Alonzo W. Clark, III	Perry Coke Smith	Michael Radoslovich
Geoffrey Platt	Daniel Schwartzman	John C. B. Moore
Edgar I. Williams	Chester B. Price	Lathrop Douglass
Thomas H. Creighton	Harry M. Prince	Hugh Ferriss
Frederick Woodbridge		Elisabeth Coit

Alternates

L. Andrew Reinhard
B. Sumner Gruzen
Arthur S. Douglass, Jr.
Frank G. Lopez

Geoffry N. Lawford
G. E. Kidder Smith
Benjamin Lane Smith

Aaron N. Kiff
Harold C. Bernhard
Eldredge Snyder

The Centennial Convention. There's not space to list all that will be going on in Washington, D.C., May 13-17. The official program raises high expectations; the Host Chapter has many pleasant things in store; a huge attendance is forecast. You'd better be there!

COMPETITIONS AND HONORS

The National Institute of Arts and Letters has announced award of the \$1,000 Arnold W. Brunner Prize in Architecture to John Carl Warnecke of California. The prize and a citation will be conferred on Mr. Warnecke by Ralph Walker, F.A.I.A. at the joint annual ceremonial of the National Institute and the American Academy of Arts and Letters on May 22.

The Institute and Academy have also announced election of honorary members: Benjamin Britten, British composer; Isak Dinesen, Danish author; and Pier Luigi Nervi, Italian architect-engineer, whose visit to this country last year was of great interest.

Fulbright Scholars. American sculptors who have studied abroad on Fulbright scholarships are having a group show of their works at Wellons Gallery, 17 East 64th Street. This is their first group show; most of the work shown has not been seen before in New York.

The Enrico Fermi Competition, to design a memorial to the noted physicist, has been won by an American, Reginald C. Knight of Sarasota, Florida. Considering the international scope of the competition (even Iron Curtain countries competed!) this is an honor to all Americans. The winning design uses a series of tall, tubular bells to symbolize the science of physics, and is otherwise a simple architectural development of an open plaza.

The American Institute of Decorators presented no less than 3 of 16 awards in the 11th Annual Home Furnishings Design Competition to Architects, including a first award to Sven Markelius of Sweden, and honorable mentions to Eero Saarinen and Charles Eames. Perhaps by coincidence Robert Carson of this Chapter was a member of the jury of award

The National Institute for Architectural Education (formerly the Beaux-Arts) has selected Robert P. Burns, Jr. of North Carolina State College the winner of the \$5,000 Paris Prize in Architecture as 1957 Lloyd Warren Scholar. Mr. Burns was adjudged winner of a design competition for "An International Airport." The distinguished jury making this award included Chapter members Messrs. Abramovitz (Chairman), Goldstone, Stowell, Benjamin Lane Smith, Teegen, Cavaglieri, and Walther Prokosch, author of the program.

EDUCATION NOTE

The Chapter's Education Committee held a student discussion session at Columbia University's Avery Lounge last February, attended by student chapter members from Columbia and Cooper Union. Giorgio Cavaglieri and Chairman Benjamin Lane Smith

EDUCATION NOTE (Continued)

presented the students with enlightening dissertations on what they might expect, and what would be expected of them, in a very small office such as Cavaglieri's (2 men) and in a very large operation such as Voorhees, Walker, Smith & Smith (over 500). It is intended that this meeting will be the first of a series designed to enlighten students on problems encountered at the practicing level, for the benefit of both themselves and their future employers.

Pratt Institute, Brooklyn, last March sponsored its annual design competition for High School Seniors. The problem, on the subject of "A Kindergarten," and executed in six hours, was this year taken by 67 students representing 18 schools, a record for the series.

Attention is called to the International Exhibition of Architectural Student Work originally announced in the March "Oculus". The Exhibition will be on view until May 4th, at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Building, United Nations Plaza and 46th Street.

"..... THROUGH THAT REMEMBRANCE GAIN STRENGTH"

Talbot F. Hamlin,	1889-1956
Grosvenor Atterbury,	1869-1956
Cameron Clark,	1887-1957
Ben John Small,	1908-1957

The profession of Architecture, and specifically the New York Chapter, has this year sustained the loss of four prominent members. Fellows of The American Institute of Architects, the men were similar in achievement and honors while individualists in thought and interests. As such they are representative of the great architects of our time:

Cameron Clark, a skillful traditionalist in residential and civic design, was active in city planning and served as consulting architect to the Borough President of Manhattan.

Grosvenor Atterbury, community planner and inventor, pioneered several technical advances in building and prefabrication and was Medal of Honor winner of the New York Chapter in 1953.

Talbot F. Hamlin was without peer as an author and historian. As Professor at Columbia, his penetrating research and analysis will remain a continuing contribution to the study of Architecture.

Ben John Small, partner in the firm of LaPierre, Litchfield & Partners was known throughout the profession for his substantial contributions to the art of specification writing. His books on architectural practice and his monthly column in "Progressive Architecture" will keep his memory fresh.

It is for us who remain to reflect upon these men and their achievements, their thoughts, their ideals. It is for us who remain to gain strength through that remembrance.

100 YEARS OF AMERICAN HOUSE

We don't cry "Help" very often but when we do, we have a very worthy or interesting project in mind. This time we have need of volunteers for a job that is both interesting and fun.

At the Coliseum this year the program of "100 years of American House" is being devoted entirely to the Centennial Celebration.

Mr. Vladimir Morosov of the House Consulting Committee describes to us a large circular exhibition area with large two foot square photographs of American Houses today and then, showing the good examples of Architects' work of these periods. The theme will show that Architects have been and are a valuable asset in planning.

There will be one member of the House Consulting Committee present each day May 4th through May 12th from 11 A.M. to 11 P.M. except Sunday from 2 P.M. to 11 P.M. and with him, and here is our request, will be one of us as volunteers. You will be helping by answering questions which may astound you, parrying advice from "sidewalk architects" and giving out booklets and literature.

We request that you volunteer just two hours of your time by calling Mrs. Henkel at the Chapter Office. You will receive a schedule of who will be there so you may know with whom you will be working. From the stories that we have heard from last year's helpers we know that things will not be dull. For the more common inquiries you will receive a check list of information.

RAPHAEL HUME BEQUEST

The Chapter has received a bequest of \$500.00 from the estate of Raphael Hume. The Executive Committee, upon accepting the Deed of Gift, decided that rather than permit the bequest to be dissipated in some inconsequential fashion, the money should be set aside for an appropriate future worthwhile project of distinction. The motion to this effect was unanimous. Mrs. Hume is being notified of the action.

BUILDING COSTS

The rate of increase of general building construction costs in the New York areas slowed substantially early this year, Dow Service reports. Their Real Estate Valuation Calculator, issued by F. W. Dodge Corp., showed an average increase of only 1% for the six months ending March 15. The overall conclusion for the Metropolitan N.Y.-N.J. area, according to their Spring 1957 Construction Cost Survey, was that a trend which had been in the making for a year was beginning to become evident. Not until after the crest of the building season has passed, in September or October, will it be possible to say whether the trend is premanent, the editors state.

FEDERAL HOUSING AND THE CITY

In its April issue the Architectural Forum charges that today's federal housing policy cannot serve today's cities. Urban renewal, they state, is dragging along so slowly that there is despair of even keeping pace with the growth of blight. Reasons given include lack of a central policy, confused legislation and regulation, a fear psychosis and lack of administration backing. Rental housing for low-income families, they say, is stagnating. This is strong language, and to us in New York, with our City and State Housing Authorities at work, perhaps seems unwarranted. But consider what is happening to the Lincoln Square project, which has been looked upon as solving one of the city's most difficult problems! Does the Forum article seem too strong now?

THESE ARE URGENT MATTERS!

Telephone Book Listings. The Executive Committee has asked that we repeat the warning against permitting use of display type in the "yellow pages", "red book", or whatever you choose to call the Classified Telephone Book. Even so innocuous a device as bold type is completely counter to the Institute's mandatory rules. Nobody wants to take disciplinary action, but the rules must be enforced. Unfortunately the publishers of the Directory state that they cannot control the forbidden practice, so each Chapter member will have to be held responsible for guarding his own reputation.

Outstanding Dues. Every year there is a certain portion of the Chapter's expected income - the basis for our budget - which is not received: some members' dues. This year the figure is \$2,999., which is a little more than 10% of anticipated revenue from dues; and in turn, dues account for almost our total income. We do not post delinquent members' names. Often dues are simply overlooked. Sometimes there are genuine financial difficulties, but not often. Curtailing our income means curtailing Chapter activities. Do you want to have Chapter work cut 10%? Well -

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE DINNER

The complex problem of designing the Air Force Academy for 2,500 cadets, expandable to 5,000, was presented at the Technical Committee Dinner Meeting on March 28th by Walter A. Netsch, Jr., partner of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill. Mr. Netsch, with the aid of colored slides, very ably traced the beginnings of the project to the present day construction phase. In presenting the problem, Mr. Netsch discussed the exhaustive regional planning studies that were required and the problems to be solved in locating an academy and its airfield and services in the mountainous area of Colorado Springs. The difficulties that were encountered in providing for 750,000 visitors each year, and the complex circulation problems within the area itself were brought out. In addition, the individual problem of the cadet and his surroundings were discussed with relationship to the whole complex.

The development of the building group itself was explained and slides of the various materials that were considered, of the mock-ups, of the interior layouts, of lighting studies were all shown.

At the end of the meeting, in answer to questions about the controversial issues that arose when the design was presented, Gordon Bunshaft, partner of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill stated that the Academy "is everything that we wished for". Mr. Bunshaft elaborated further on the undeveloped chapel shape shown in the slides of the model of the Academy. He said that it had been "well received" by the new Secretary of the Air Force, Donald Quarles, and that approval is expected within the next few weeks.

The meeting, directed by A. Gordon Lorimer of the Technical Committee, was attended by a crowd of 107 people.

FIRE PROTECTION

The Brooklyn Public Library, Fire Protection Section Central Building is open seven days a week for research by industry, architects, fire students, fire officials, chemists, engineers, installers and others interested in advancing fire science.

In return, the Librarian, Francis R. St. John, requests that any of us who can lay our hands on pamphlets, catalogues and magazines that would help build up this library, please do so and send them to the Brooklyn Public Library, Fire Protection Division, Grand Army Plaza, Brooklyn 38, New York.

CANDIDATES

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

Corporate Membership

William Wilson Atkin
Joseph M. DeChiara
Linn Ericson
Edwin Harris, Jr.
John A. Hlavaty

Paul W. T. Pippin
John Joseph Schlick
Herbert Tannenbaum
Charles Edward Tilton
W. Miller Wilcox

Associate Membership

Jane Elsie Becker
Borys Bielajew
Robert P. Fox
John Frazier
Saul Kitt
Adam Krivatsy-Szuts
Joseph D. Krusko
Stanley H. Pansky
Norman F. Paulsen
Thomas H. Price, Jr.

Sponsors: Wayne Sovers and J. Walter Severinghaus
Sponsors: Adolph H. Knappe and John J. Andres
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Sponsors: Adolph H. Knappe and John J. Andres
Sponsors: Adolph H. Knappe and John J. Andres
Sponsors: Lester G. Abramson and Benjamin Goodrich
Sponsors: Adolph H. Knappe and John J. Andres
Sponsors: Ernest A. Durhan and Natalie G. de Blois
Sponsors: Adolph H. Knappe and John J. Andres
Sponsors: George S. Holderness and David L. Eggers

NEW BOOKS

Figure Drawing Comes to Life
by Calvin Albert and Dorothy Gees Seckler
Reinhold Publishing Corporation

Watercolor A Challenge
by Leonard Brooks
Reinhold Publishing Corporation

Sweden Builds
by G. E. Kidder Smith
Reinhold Publishing Corporation

Fabricating Houses from
Component Parts
by Norman Cherner
Reinhold Publishing Corporation