NOMINATE NOMINEES FOR NOMINATION

The next "Regular Luncheon Meeting" of the chapter will be held on Tuesday, January 27 at 12:30 P.M. in Gallery A at 115 East 40th Street, New York.

You must come and help assume your important place in the running of the New York Chapter which you may do by voting for positions on the Nominating Committee. We may also vote on other Chapter business including Honorary Associate Membership for Gov. Rockefeller.

DESIGNING FOR DEW LINE

On Monday, January 19th, Mr. Gannett Herwig, partner in the firm of LaPierre, Litchfield & Partners, will discuss design and construction problems presented by Arctic sites in connection with the establishment of the 58 warning stations of the Line, which stretches across the top of the North American Continent from the tip of Alaska to Baffin Strait.

The presentation will be illustrated by a documentary film in color, prepared for the U. S. Air Force by the Western Electric Company, and will start at 5:15 P.M. in Gallery A.

HOSPITAL & HEALTH COMMITTEE FIELD TRIP

There will be a tour of the New York University Dental School at 421 First Avenue at the corner of 25th Street on Saturday, January 24th at 10:00 A.M. for all chapter members.

The tour will be conducted by Dean Raymond J. Nagel and Mr. Harold J. Olson of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, the Architects of the recently remodeled building.

Please note also, the trip to the Queens Medical Center on February 28th.

MEETING FOR PR MEN

Does your firm have a public relations representative or counsel? If it does, the Public Relations Committee suggests that he join Lathrop Douglass, the Committee's Chairman, and Al Frantz, account executive at Edward Gottlieb & Associates, the Chapter counsel, for an informal lunch at Chapter headquarters 12:30 P.M., Wednesday, January 28.

It is the feeling of the Committee that all those working in architectural public relations would benefit from knowing each other and exchanging experiences. The counsel of various offices might well coordinate their efforts with those of the Chapter.

Please call Mrs. Henkel at the Chapter office (MU 9-7969) to make a reservation for the lunch. Even if you can't attend, call her to give your name and architectural firm affiliation so that the Chapter will have you on record.

COMING EVENTS

January 19, Monday
Technical Committee Seminar
Gallery A—5:15 P.M.

January 24, Saturday
Hospital and Health Committee Field Trip
10:00 A.M.

January 27, Tuesday
Nominating Luncheon Meeting
Gallery A—12:30 P.M.

January 28, Wednesday
Informal Luncheon for Public Relations Representatives
Dining Room—12:30 P.M.

February 18, Wednesday
Hospital and Health Discussion Group
Gallery A—5:15 P.M.
Subject: Automation in Laboratories

February 19, Thursday
Technical Committee Seminar
Gallery A—5:15 P.M.

February 28, Saturday
Hospital and Health Committee Field Trip
Queens Medical Center
"BETWEEN A CELL AND A MONUMENT"

The following is taken from the "Charleston Daily Mail."

The school folk of New York are having a real row over school architecture, and since it has some bearing on any building plans for Kanawha County, we might as well get into it.

The complaint is that the board of education has wasted $100 million in the last eight years, most of it on new buildings which not only house the students, but enshrine them in a good deal of artistic flummery. One of the schools was constructed in the form of a banjo, another in the outline of a French horn. All of them, apparently, were elaborately decked out in mosaics, ceramic trim, anodized aluminum, reflecting basins and, of course, yard after yard of murals and acres of plate glass. The architect's fascination with broad expanses of breakable glass has become a monomania.

Much of this is unquestionably beautiful and often breathtaking. The Little Red School was never like this. Just as unquestionably it raises a question as to what in the world they are trying to do. Because a school should not—and need not—be a cell, therefore, it does not follow that it must be a monument, complete with gilt cupids and art moderne. If this is what is being written and read "down South" we wonder what's being done about it. Mr. Ruge's letter to Oculus last month reminds us that articles in Record, P. A., and Forum will never offset this kind of thinking. We recommend that the Public Relations for the Institute take a hand and recommend that all Chapters intensify their programs of "getting to the public." Certainly a request for "equal space" by the Institute to the Ladies Home Journal and Readers' Digest would be a step in the right direction.

It "shakes us up" when we think that if we had not started our own Public Relations drive we might not have been able to answer Gerosa et al. Ed.

JOURNALISM COMPETITION

We remind Chapter members and public relations chairmen and representatives that the January 30th deadline for the AIA's 6th Annual Architectural Journalism Award submission is just around the corner.

Copies of the program may be obtained from AIA Headquarters.

REMINDERS

The 1959 Conference on Church Architecture sponsored by the Church Architectural Guild of America and the National Council of Churches will be held in Los Angeles, February 17 through 20, 1959. Persons interested in attending or submitting photographs and/or models for the exhibition should address:

Mr. Robert H. Orr, F.A.I.A.
Registrar: Church Architectural Guild Conference
3142 Wilshire Boulevard
Los Angeles 5, California

requesting reservations, instructions and rules for exhibition.

The AIA Honor Awards Program entry slips must be submitted by February 1st for work completed since January 1st, 1954.

HOUSE CONSULTING PROGRAM

The House Consulting Committee in line with this year's program is making an effort to reach the development builder. A symposium during the International Housing Exhibit at the Colosseum in the Spring would seem to be the best proving ground for a discussion of the services of the Architect. The broad effect would be a hope for saving the American landscape and improving the community appearance.

COCKTAIL PARTY FOR NEW ARCHITECTS

The Chapter invites architects newly registered in 1958, and members of the 3rd and 4th years of the architectural schools of Columbia and Cooper Union to cocktails in their honor, February 10th at 5:30 P.M. at the Chapter Headquarters Gallery A.

STUDENTS

The Student Chapter Committee met to formulate a program to develop more active contact between the New York Chapter and the Student Chapters of Cooper Union and Columbia. Among the topics discussed were field trips to projects under construction; lectures and discussion groups on material not readily available to the students and cocktail parties to afford an opportunity for Chapter members to meet the students.

Investigation is being made into exchange exhibitions between the schools of this Chapter and European schools, including those of Eastern Europe, if possible.

When Chapter committees plan meetings which would be of interest to the Students it is hoped that invitations will be extended to the Officers of the Student Chapters by the Committee Chairman.

1st NOTICE—ANNIVERSARY SUPPER DANCE

Operating on the idea that it's never too early, we would like to announce that the Anniversary Supper Dance will be held on Friday, April 10, 1959 at the Park Lane Hotel, 299 Park Avenue between 48th and 49th Streets, 9 P.M. to 2 A.M.

The Meetings Committee has voted to maintain the same $10.00 per person price as last year but will offer better food, waiters to serve and lots of dancing. You can reserve now.

ATLANTIQUE

"Atlantique," a French-American Association founded in 1947, has recently expanded the fields of its exchanges to Architecture, and nine young French architects have come to the United States for a year's experience since 1955.

Three French Architectural firms are now willing to offer similar opportunities to young American architects. Candidates should meet the following requirements:

1. Be graduated from an accredited American School of Architecture
2. Speak French
3. Be interested in International Relations

The Grant will cover full maintenance in France, Health Insurance and eventually, tuition for evening courses. For information write to:

Miss Yvonne Bourguignon
Executive Director
Atlantique
972 Fifth Avenue, New York 21, N. Y.

The deadline for application is January 31, 1959.
SOME OBSERVATIONS ON EUROPEAN HOUSING DESIGN

My European study trip was made possible by a Brunner Award given by the New York Chapter of The American Institute of Architects. Perhaps an explanation of the reason why I applied for the grant—and why the Brunner Committee gave it—would be meaningful and relevant to this evening’s discussion. For many years I have worked in the planning and technical aspects of housing at Federal and local levels. During the early USHA days, I participated in the formulation of design standards, plan types, and administrative regulations, which, with the wisdom of hind-sight, appear to have been conceived within the narrowest interpretation of the Law’s directive that housing be “decent, safe and sanitary,” and with more concern for the attitude of private real estate investment than for the quality of living that such housing contained or the quality of neighborhood and community that such housing created. This was not the result of any lack of idealism, or deplorable conduct on the part of an acceptable and desirable housing, but the concept of public responsibility in this field was new, the motivation humanitarian, the politics expedient, and the planning concepts rudimentary or non-existent. Then, for many years, at the City level, I participated in a large planning and building program with an increasing awareness that these same standards and regulations, which had changed little over the years, had by now become ossified into a procedure which produced stereotypes with little distinction as Architecture or as community.

Emerson said, “Those who would carry on great public schemes must be proof against the worst fatiguing delays, the most mortifying disappointments, the most shocking insults, and, worst of all, the presumptuous judgment of the ignorant upon their designs.” But after watching a score or two of talented Architects and designers try and fail, I came to the view that perhaps these did not qualify as “great” public schemes, and that the “insults,” “delays” and “disappointments” were perhaps implicit in the programming, in the procedures and in our own understanding, or lack of understanding of the goal.

I had not been in Europe since the war years, but in magazines and technical publications I saw photographs of contemporary housing and town planning that caused me to remember hearing Mrs. Roosevelt say, in 1942, that after World War II most of the European countries, because of the impact of the war on their social, political and physical structures, would spontaneously accept change and give people a greater sense of belonging and caring. Further, in evaluating European experience, we must remember that there are differences in relative costs of labor and materials which would make prohibitively costly here some of the most charming features of design and uses of materials—colored and patterned pavements for example; and that, finally, codes are more lenient and living patterns and status symbols different. The less restrictive attitude toward fire exits almost universally makes possible the use of the stair as a major architectural design element. And although Americans would find some of the arrangements for space heating primitive and would miss the individual electric washing machine, almost everywhere they would find more effective and integral provision for clothes drying than we customarily make. The Dutch, incidentally, from long exposure to visiting Americans, apologize in advance for the lack of drying clothes which festoon their balconies, although the clothes are very clean and the patterns charming. What, then, are the aspects of current European housing design which, though existing in varying degree in different countries, seemed to me most significant in relation to our own work? I have assembled my observations into six main groups:

First, the Planning function has greater status,

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and is more controlling. Housing is part of an overall planning concept and goal. Examples of this abound, and are almost too well known to require mention here. In Stockholm the planning of the subway and of residential communities, with their schools and corollary facilities, proceed in a logical sequence, with the requirements of community living establishing the planning modules. In connection with the last link of the subway system, through downtown Stockholm, enough land has been acquired to make possible a great commercial and business center, with articulation of pedestrian and vehicular traffic. Vällingby Centrum, the main center serving the communities to the northwest, with its related industrial area, has been conceived on a large enough scale and with enough diversity and interest to serve as a compelling alternative to downtown Stockholm and in practice its pull is turning out to be greater than anticipated.

Thus housing is being provided, on open land long since urbanized but considering community and phased in carefully studied relationship to transportation, shopping, schools, industry, and recreation areas and this entire undertaking is correlated with a program to increase commercial space in downtown Stockholm.

In Rotterdam the planned reconstruction of the destroyed center of the city is based on a decision to put back fewer residential accommodations than existed there prior to the War. Out of this decision flowed naturally a decision to develop garden communities along the perimeter, and, most interestingly, a decision to include, within the core, a variety of housing types and building heights. In Rotterdam, which was for me the high point of my trip, I learned that one of the most acutely felt lacks, after the total destruction of the central city, was pavement: what the planners learned to call "Asphalt Recreation": areas for promenading, for window shopping, for congregating, and for that vital urban pastime of seeing and being seen by others. Perhaps we can learn from this a lesson well-known to earlier planners—that verdure is fine in its place, but that open spaces are for people in pursuit of urban pleasures.

Second, a greater understanding of and concern with density concepts as instruments of local and national policy. Perhaps the most interesting evening of my trip was one I spent in London in a discussion of densities with a group of people all of whom were interested in politics and social philosophy, but not one of whom was a planner. Several of them felt that densities had been set too low in the new towns to achieve a "town" quality. In the Netherlands, where land for building has to be made and jealously guarded, and where the population is increasing at the fastest rate in Europe, density of development is obviously a vital factor in national planning. In the face of this, how good of the Dutch to include in their designs the planting of a forest and the making of a hill. Everywhere I went in Europe I found a concern with the meaning and effect of density in the lives of people and the patterns of cities. To a New Yorker, who deals in astronomical densities as the inevitable end-product of administrative ceilings on costs or cost pressures, this experience was uniquely meaningful.

Third, a greater interest in and appreciation of the aesthetics of structures and of neighborhoods. People care more about their cities and the architecture of their cities, and are willing to give Architects and Planners the freedom and the money to do things just because they are more beautiful. Certainly the longer historical tradition of most European cities is a factor in this; and where the city frequently is older than the nation its power is respected and its individuality cherished. All the more surprising, therefore, is the fact that almost everywhere one finds greater architectural freedom, variety of materials and forms, and more adventurous use of color. There are differences everywhere between Planners and Architects—good, healthy differences—but nowhere the attitude that they are people to be humored, but watched, and not really as sound and practical as the Engineer and the Cost Estimator.

Fourth, the concept of the total housing supply as a public utility and as a major tool in the planning and replanning of cities results in a rearticulation of housing programs—in types of housing for the aging, for single persons, for large families, for children without families, even for artists—and in greater variety of building types—gallery buildings, point blocks, maisonettes, flats, and row houses—used in more varied combinations (sometimes with beautifully studied and sensitive site-planning) both in inlying and outlying sites. Of notable interest, but perhaps selected at random, I found the "Willem Dreeshuis" in Amsterdam, which offers an institutional or communal type of living for older people with both dignity and charm; the group of row houses in Harlow New Town by Powell and Moya which capture, in contemporary terms, the scale and color and quality of an older London street; and the magnificent Torre Velasca in Milan which expresses a multi-purpose structure in terms which are strong and fresh and uniquely Italian. This last, which combines in one building both commercial and residential uses, lesser examples of which can be found throughout Europe, might have useful application in our downtown areas because of its value in diluting high land costs, spreading investment risk, diffusing commercial traffic, and minimizing dead spots in the City pattern.

Fifth, the essential living quality offered by tall buildings, which are now used widely in combination with other types, generally is higher than we offer in ours. I am not referring to color-coded-kitchen-cabinets or to a common standard of central heating, because allowances must be made for differences in values, habits and standards. But in basic amenity, in intensity of occupancy within the structure, in quality of ventilation, in daylighting in public halls, in the universal provision of the balcony, the European buildings are superior to ours. I do not know how this difference is justified cost-wise, and I do know that recent British students of housing design have concluded that our buildings are more "efficient." But the effect is to make life in a European tall building very different, and very much sweeter, than life in one of ours.

And sixth, because housing design generally is better integrated, through planning control, with other types of building and city development, because most European programs are less unilateral than ours, and because in most of the countries

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SOME OBSERVATIONS (Continued from Page 4)
many more instrumentalties for initiating, building, owning and operating housing have been developed, new neighborhoods are more diversified, more interesting, more complete and more normal a part of the City pattern than in much of our work. Our simple O.A.D. administrative ruling which says that no public housing funds may be used to build retail shopping facilities and that no land “in excess of project needs” may knowingly be acquired in advance not only results in the total dislocation of the small, local merchant but robs our developments of the charm, the texture, and the value of the local neighborhood shopping center and makes more difficult the provision, or planning for the provision, of all the other facilities and structures which make a neighborhood rather than a project.

To sum up, the European cities, most of which are feeling acutely the impact of the enormous increase in incidence of car ownership since the end of World War II, and which have had to deal with even more acute housing shortages than ours, have, in my opinion, developed broader and more effective planning and housing programs, and designs which are at once more sophisticated, more appropriate, even more acute housing shortages than ours, have, in my opinion, developed broader and more effective planning and housing programs, and designs which are at once more sophisticated, more appropriate, more varied and more exploratory.

If these observations, made over ten hurried and reaction-packed weeks, appear too generalized, or too categorical, may I lean on the words of Hippocrates who, after saying that “Life is short; and Art is long,” added, “the occasion fleeting; experience deceitful and judgment difficult.”

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HERE AND THERE

Ralph Walker is a member of the Regional Plan Association’s Nominating Committee ... Ely Jacques Kahn is honorary chairman of the Architects, Engineers and Designers Division of the Federation of Jewish Philanthropies ... The Sidney L. Strauss Memorial Award Committee of the New York Society of Architects recently presented its 1958 Award to Bernard J. Gillroy, until recently Commissioner of Buildings, City of New York, in recognition of his service to the architectural profession ...

John Normile, A.I.A., building editor of BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS, advises architects that the use of “legitimate” publicity is a duty for them; he emphasizes that more widespread publication in general consumer magazines could build prestige for the profession among the lay public ... Senator Joseph Clark of Pennsylvania intends to re-introduce his bill in the new Congress to create a Department of Housing, with Cabinet rank for the top man ... The Women’s City Club of New York reports on interviews conducted with specialists in public housing in New York City. Among the conclusions: projects should include more community centers, nurseries, child rooms, more play areas of all types, medical and dental clinics, assembly areas, etc. “Gothic Architecture and Its Offspring” is the subject of ten lectures to be delivered by Professor Éverard M. Upjohn of Columbia’s Department of Fine Arts. The first will be January 10, the last, March 21; all are to be in the Rodgers Auditorium of the Metropolitan Museum ... Harry M. Prince has been appointed to the Advisory Council of the Art School of the Cooper Union for 1958-60 ... Dean Leopold Arnaud delivered an interesting talk on the History of Grace Church last month at the site. The Dean was presented a memorial plaque in honor of his approaching retirement as Dean of the School of Architecture—a position he will have executed for 25 years ... We are sorry to hear of the death of Howard S. Patterson, Chapter member and partner in the firm of Keally and Patterson ...

The first gold medal ever given to anyone was presented together with a scroll to Jose A. Fernandez, A.I.A., by the Instituto de Arquitectos de Puerto Rico during a dinner at the Caribe Hilton Hotel in San Juan on December 18th. Four years ago Mr. Fernandez was made an honorary member of that Institute.

MANNERS PLEASE

May we remind all our Members once again that the courtesy extended us by the lovely waitresses in the League Dining Room should be rewarded by a gratuity, as the Chapter does not make any direct contribution for this purpose and it seems only fair to the ladies.

POLYSULFIDE SEALANTS FORUM

Thiokol Chemical Corporation will sponsor for the building industry a forum on the subject of polysulfide sealants on Wednesday, January 28th, at the Terrace Court of the Hotel Roosevelt at 4:16 P.M. with cocktails to follow.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

CIVIC DESIGN COMMITTEE

Henry D. Whitney

PUBLIC RELATIONS COMMITTEE

Ralph Mignone

PUBLICATIONS COMMITTEE

Robert A. Djerejian
DELEGATES AND REPRESENTATIVES TO RELATED ASSOCIATIONS, 1958-1959

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
Robert A. Jacobs, representative
William Potter, representative

ARCHITECTS COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY
A. Gordon Lorimer, delegate
Frederick G. Frost, Jr., Alternate

ARCHITECTS' EXCHANGE
 ElderIDGE Snyder, representative

FINE ARTS FEDERATION OF NEW YORK
Frederick J. Woodbridge, delegate

NEW MEMBERS
The New York Chapter extends its welcome to the following new members:

Corporate
CECIL C. BRIGGS (Readmission)
PAUL JULIUS BUHL
MARVIN KAY GEASLER
ANDREW MITROPOULOS
JORGE JULIA PASSARELL
CLARENCE ERNEST WEIGOLD, JR.

Associate
DAVID E. GUISE
MRS. VIRGINIA S. STEVENS

Student Members
115 STUDENTS FROM COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

OFFICERS:
President
Paul Zafren
Vice President
Carlo R. Hollenbeck
Secretary
Manuel D. Hers
Treasurer
Thomas Gilhenny

2nd YEAR—DAY
Berman, Leopold
Berzak, Neil R.
Clark, Dennis
Danzig, Phil
Falliek, James
Gilheany, Alfred Maria
Gilheany, Thomas J.
Jordan, Richard
Kemper, Alfred Maria
Loder, John
McDonald, Robert
Mann, George J.
Mark, Herbert M.
Momey, John
Orofino, John J.
Ryan, James J.
Scharmann, Morton B.
Shein, Joseph
Spereos, James
Thompson, Jacqueline
Frost, Frederick J., Jr.
Flagg, Thomas R.

4th YEAR—DAY
Doremus, John M.
Breno, Robert F.
Dornier, Robert F.
Durovic, Michael H.
Dwyer, John
Feldman, Sanford
Feldman, Richard
Feinblum, Maxwell
Finkelnburg, Miriam
Fisher, Richard A.
Ghassemian, David E.
Grassini, Gerald
Jauslands, Victor
Jaynes, Vaidotas
Jones, William R.
Kamalak, Wallace
Kappel, Fred
Kaufman, Julius
Keeler, Carol L. (Miss)
Kennedy, Stanley
Kondratiuk, George H.
Lower, Thomas M.
Lundin, George
Matthey, Robert
Meyer, William W.
Michals, Stephen
Mills, Marvin H.
Mycin, Robert
Peters, Arthur J.
Prell, London
Rona, Pedro
Rosett, Basil
Rowan, Robert H.
Sarris, Nicholas
Shenton, Frank R. (Jr.)
Singer, David C.
Slack, William J.
Steinharter, Walter L.
Swenson, Charles H.
Tatum, Heino
Vazquez, Armando
Vincenzo, Alfred
Vogelstein, Charles
Vox, Robert
Wilke, Paul
Ziegler, John C.

59 STUDENTS FROM COOPER UNION

OFFICERS:
President
Jonathan Fairchild Butler, representative

NEW YORK STATE ASSOCIATION
OF ARCHITECTS
Geoffre N. Lawford, delegate
Geoffrey Platt, Alternate

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

Corporate
RICHARD T. FOSTER
LEON MOED
RICHARD SONDER
MANUEL E. GONZALEZ-TORRES