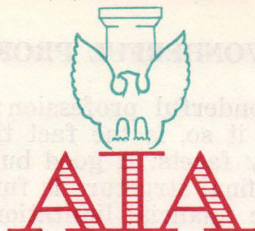


NEW YORK CHAPTER



115 EAST 40TH STREET
NEW YORK 16, N. Y.

L. BANCEL LAFARGE • *President*
ROBERT CARSON • *Vice President*
GILLET LEFFERTS, JR. • *Secretary*
MICHAEL M. HARRIS • *Treasurer*
MARGOT A. HENKEL • *Exec. Sec.*

COMING EVENTS

- February 23, Tuesday
Technical Committee
Lecture
Gallery A—5:15 P.M.
- February 26, Friday
New York Chapter,
A.I.A. 93rd Anniver-
sary Dinner Dance
Park Lane Hotel
(Crystal Ballroom)
299 Park Avenue (48th
and 49th Sts.) 7 P.M.
- February 27, Saturday
Hospital & Health Field
Trip, 9:30 A.M.
515 East 71st Street
- March 3, Thursday
Pre-Convention
Luncheon
Gallery A—12:30 P.M.
- March 15, Tuesday
School Committee Semi-
nar Luncheon
Gallery A—12:30 P.M.
- March 17, Thursday
Hospital and Health
Discussion Group
Gallery A—5:15 P.M.
- April 18-22, Monday
through Friday
A.I.A. Convention
San Francisco, Calif.

*All events listed above take
place at 115 East 40th St.,
N. Y. C., unless otherwise
noted.*

O C U L U S

VOLUME XXXI • NUMBER 5 • FEBRUARY 1960 • PETER S. VAN BLOEM, *Editor*

THE 93rd ANNIVERSARY DINNER-DANCE

Leave your professional problems at the office and join us for a black tie Dinner-Dance on Friday, February 26, 1960 for fun and fellowship. We are gathering at the Park Lane Hotel conveniently located at Park Avenue and 48th Street.

The Cocktail hour starting at 7:00 P.M. will provide a chance for you to greet your friends and their lovely ladies, and some new friends too. Dinner in the Crystal Ballroom will be served at 8:00 P.M. followed by dancing until 12:30 A.M. to the compelling rhythms of Lester Lanin.

This year's party is being held at an earlier hour to permit our commuting members to catch that "last train." We hope you will come to be seen, and have a good time. Have you sent in your reservation? Please do.

Plan to give your cocktail party at the hotel instead of at home. The Committee will make all arrangements for you.

The first annual architectural scholarship grant will be made by the Women's Architectural Auxiliary of the Chapter at the Dinner-Dance. Members of the W.A.A. Founder's Committee and their Alternates will serve as patronesses.

HOSPITAL AND HEALTH FIELD TRIP

There will be an excellent opportunity to observe two different approaches to the design of medical research laboratories, Saturday, February 27th. The Hospital and Health Committee will visit two Medical Research Laboratories. The first at 9:30 A.M. will be the Institute for Muscle Disease, Inc., at 515 East 71st Street. Afterwards, they will visit the nearby Caspary Research Building at Special Surgery Hospital.

Please meet in the entrance lobby at 515 East 71st Street.

PRE-CONVENTION LUNCHEON

The purpose of the pre-Convention Luncheon Meeting each year is to provide an opportunity for the Chapter Members to bring to the Chapter's attention suggestions which may in turn be developed and proposed to the National Convention.

Towards this aim, on Thursday, March 3rd, 1960, the Pre-Convention Luncheon and Meeting will take place at 12:30 P.M. in Gallery A.

MOSCOW TRADE FAIR

On March 23rd at 5:15 P.M. the Technical Committee is presenting a talk by Chapter Member George Nelson on the Moscow Trade Fair. While explaining and discussing the exhibit in general and such details as his plastic "umbrellas," in particular, Mr. Nelson will give a keen evaluation of Russia's potential in the fields of planning, design and construction. For this a protracted stay in the capital city furnished him with ample material.

Besides his work as an architect, Mr. Nelson is well-known as an industrial and furniture designer and a pioneer in the development of the storage wall and in architectural applications of plastics.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

January 16, 1960
Warwick, New York

A Certificate of Award will be presented by this Board, to anyone drawing plans of a home or other type building, which, in the opinion of our Architectural Committee, it considers worthy and having true to type traditional style.

The time of construction may date back some years. The award presentation will be in December, 1960.

Orange County Realty Board, Inc.
Henry L. Nielsen, President

Ed.—If you are interested please address inquiries to

Orange County Realty Board, Inc.
Henry L. Nielsen, President
P. O. Box 243
Warwick, New York

ARCHITECT IN TRAINING PROGRAM

The American Institute of Architects will enroll apprentice draftsmen in the Architect-in-Training Program and supply them with the Log Book of Experience.

The cost of this is \$5.00.

This will enable the draftsman to record his experience, encourage him to properly diversify it, and encourage his employer to cooperate in such diversity.

It will also be valuable to submit as evidence of experience in applying for registration. The National Association of Architectural Accrediting Boards has recommended to State Examining Boards that this be given serious consideration.

The initiative for this must come from the draftsman himself, and application should be made to The American Institute of Architects in Washington, D. C.

CITY PLANNING MEDAL

After a lapse of years, the City Planning Medal award is being reactivated under the joint sponsorship of the New York Chapter, A.I.A., the Brooklyn Chapter, A.I.A., New York Chapter, American Society of Landscape Architects, and Metropolitan Section, American Society of Civil Engineers.

Suggestions from the membership will be welcomed. To be considered, all names submitted must be accompanied by biographical data, detailed statement of outstanding achievements and the reasons on which the recommendations were based. Send all material in triplicate to the Chapter office on or before March 4th, 1960.

Chapter members appointed to serve on the Jury: John Gray Faron and H. Dickson McKenna. Alternate: Jack Graham Stewart.

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

CHARLES FOUHY, JR., House Consulting
Committee

EMANUEL TURANO, Public Relations
Committee

RICHARD BORING SNOW, James Stewardson
Traveling Scholarship Committee

ARCHITECTURE—A WONDERFUL PROFESSION

Architecture is a wonderful profession; one of the factors that makes it so, is the fact that it is concerned with so many facets. A good building is only really good, if the final structure is functional, can be built within the financial limitation of the budget, fulfills all the requirements of the codes, is well detailed and last but not least, is beautiful. It is only the latter that is really arbitrary, but unfortunately it is only this part that is usually associated with the profession by many young architects entering the field. Too many of our young architects are amateurs and dilettante when starting out, and this hurts not only them but the entire profession.

All of us can help the situation considerably (without changing the educational system) by inviting students to our offices on their vacations, to come see and study the procedures. We can direct them to actual jobs going up, or let them spend a day in the "spec" department.

Every office can send a 4c postcard to his favorite school and offer an open invitation, which without doubt will be appreciated and honored. It will be the smallest long term investment with the longest reaching results.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE NOTICE

We remind you of the all-day "Seminar on Roofs" sponsored by the Producers' Council at the Engineering Societies Building, 29 West 39th Street on Tuesday, March 29, 1960.

SOLAR SCREENS

On January 20th Chapter Member Henry Wright gave an interesting talk on the relationship between orientation and solar heat gain and discussed various devices for controlling the latter.

While each specific case requires its own analysis, the program furnished a broad background of valuable information for the practitioner in approaching the problem.

Basic to the whole discussion was the realization that glazed openings exposed to the sun were the prime sources of solar heat gain. Accordingly, the most direct method of its reduction was to reduce the areas of glass. However, stating that each square foot of glass wall on the worst exposure (south-west) requires approximately \$5 of cooling capacity, Mr. Wright showed how the various screens, glasses, or shades can reduce the amount of heat admitted by appreciable percentages, with even the humble interior roll window shade holding its own.

In connection with screens, the wide range in scale was mentioned, varying as it did from fine wire slat screening immediately in the window opening to the shade from an adjacent building.

In southern parts of the Country, the east and west walls receive the most severe sun exposure, hence the minimizing of these walls suggests an attenuated plan with principal exposure facing south.

As one moves north this becomes less and less true, while in addition in New York City the street grid is 30° east of true north, which turns the "south" facade to the west greatly increasing its sun load. Accordingly, to reduce this facade a square plan is more desirable.

ANOTHER SUCCESS

We proudly chalk up another resounding success to the Publications Committee. On Tuesday Evening, February 9th, the Seminar on "Architectural Criticism for Good or Evil" brought out a housefull.

The Editor wishes to thank the panelists Miss Terry Ferrer, from the Herald Tribune, Mr. Douglas Haskell from The Architectural Forum, Mr. James J. Sweeney of The Guggenheim Museum and Mr. Russell Lynes of Harper's Magazine for their part in this successful discussion.

Distinguished work towards the success of the evening was also turned in by the Sub-Committee Chairman F. Marshall Smith and his strong right hand man Herbert Smith. Special thanks to Ralph Myller for the design of the very imaginative "flier" which startled many members into attending.

We hope that we may live to see many more such discussions and so many members turning out to display their interest in one of the most vexing problems of our profession.

LAST CHANCE TO BE A SUCCESS

Our apologies to Miss Guncheon—the OCULUS incorrectly noted the "Successful Speaking Course" for A.I.A. members starting date. Please be informed that the course will start on Monday, February 29th and will run from 5:45 P.M. to 8:15 P.M.

The course will be one evening a week for ten weeks, costing \$50.00 and will be held at the Biltmore Hotel. Miss June Guncheon, who is the director, invites us to the opening session as her guest.

We could all learn to speak better in public. You may call her at BEverly 5-2228 (New Rochelle).

AMERICAN ACADEMY

Douglas Moore, composer of *The Ballad of Baby Doe*, *The Devil and Daniel Webster* and other well-known operas, and Professor of Music at Columbia University, has been elected President of the American Academy of Arts and Letters for 1960. The announcement was made by Mark Van Doren, retiring President, who will remain on the Board of Directors. Other new officers are Aaron Copland, replacing Deems Taylor; John Hersey, replacing Archibald MacLeish; and Leon Kroll, replacing Paul Manship, famed sculptor, on the Board of Directors.

FILM ON T.V.

Al Frantz, of Edward Gottlieb & Associates, Ltd., arranged to have the fine film, "THE NEW AGE OF ARCHITECTURE" produced by ARCHITECTURAL FORUM shown over WRCA-TV at 9:30 to 10:30 A.M. (on Sunday, January 31st).

This was an outstanding film which the FORUM made on behalf of our entire profession.

We thank Al Frantz for his tireless efforts in getting it before the public.

HERE AND THERE

Statistics issued by the U. S. Department of Commerce show a division of 54.3 million families' income viz: Incomes under \$2000 (the poor) 14%, from \$2000 to \$3999 (the hard-pressed) 22%, from \$4000 to \$5999 (the middle group) 25%, from \$6000 to \$9999 (the moderately comfortable) 26% and from \$10,000 up (the well-to-do) 13%. Evidently there is no special category for Architects . . . Advertisement—STONE DRAFTSMAN available, marble, granite, stone interior-exterior etc. . . . We admit that some draftsmen look like stone—the hard-to-budge type—but this is the first time we've seen one admit it in public . . . Other advertisement under Miscellaneous: BUILDER—Team with Architect and do a GOOD contemporary Builder's House . . . Off on the wrong foot already, The Architect can do a Good contemporary house, it's the builder that has the trouble . . .

Voorhees Walker Smith Smith and Haines announced the appointment of six new Associates of whom Benjamin Bailyn, John Delavan and Robert Lundberg are Chapter members . . . Stock plans for schools are again a topic of much discussion. Governor Rockefeller recently gave his qualified support to a system that envisions drafting about a half-dozen plans, varying principally in size but also to some extent according to the urban or rural character of the district. The A.I.A. is vehemently opposed to the plan. They contend that a competent Architect can save a school district more than his fees by being conscious of economies in the original plan and by supervising construction. According to the figures available, only six of the 26 states that have ever tried this system still maintain it . . .

According to the BULLETIN of the New York Society of Architects "Past President Matthew Del Gaudio in his customary warm and cordial manner, presented, on behalf of the Society, an engraved silver plaque of appreciation to our outgoing President Hy Feldman, and then graciously proceeded to duly install your new slate of officers for 1960: President Nathan R. Ginsburg, Vice-President John N. Linn . . ."

Commissioner T. T. Wiley's parking garage program proposal prompted Michael Quill to assert that this would "torpedo" the city's 15 cent subway and bus fare. Wiley, "Will 20,000 cars a day make or break the transit system?" Our comment, "Maybe not, but it may break the traffic system . . ."

EUROPE ON A SHOESTRING

The deadline for applications for the first Co-operative European Tour for members of the New York and adjacent Chapters is fast approaching.

This is a fantastic chance for Student and Associate members to make the grand tour in style with the Senior Members and their families. The dates are set for August 8th to September 5th.

Hurry and get your applications now by calling Mr. Robert Djerejian or Peter Van Bloem at LE 2-1600.

WILLIAM ADAMS DELANO

William Adams Delano, who was a member of the New York Chapter since 1907, and who was a Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, died at the age of 85 on January 12, 1960.

He was a very well known Architect as principal and founder of the firm of Adams and Delano. His achievements are so numerous that it is impossible to list them, but among many others they include: Works: Knickerbocker Club, N. Y. C.; U. S. Chancellery, Paris; Yale Divinity School, New Haven. Honors: Gold Medal, Architectural League and A.I.A.; Professor at Columbia University; Board of Design at New York World's Fair; Books and Magazine articles.

We mourn his passing.

ACHIEVEMENT IN THE BUILDING ARTS

The Architectural League of New York has announced the 61st National Gold Medal Exhibition of the Building Arts to be held in collaboration with The American Craftsmen's Council from February 25 through May 15, 1960, in the Museum of Contemporary Arts, 29 West 53rd Street, New York City.

The theme of this exhibition will be the progress that has been made, during the last five years, in the interrelated arts of architecture and interior design, engineering, murals, sculpture, landscape architecture and craftsmanship including industrial design. Special emphasis will be given to both the hand craftsmanship and the technological craftsmanship of building.

Submission of material for the exhibition is open to any practitioner of architecture or the allied arts who is a citizen of this country or its territorial possessions whether or not he is a member of The Architectural League or The American Craftsmen's Council. Work submitted must be of the highest quality and must have been executed between January 1, 1955 and December 31, 1959.

The comprehensive exhibition will consist of both invited exhibits and open submissions. The Committees of Selection will invite a selected list of exhibitors to submit one or more projects chosen for recognized achievement in the building arts.

CANDIDATES

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

Corporate

JOHN DURANT COOKE
ROBERT L. DOUTNEY
EDWARD L. FRIEDMAN

ROBERT W. MEZAN
MORTON JESSUP ROSE
MARTIN ZIEGLER

Associate

SAVERIO G. BENTIVEGNA
ROGER BROOKS CARROLL
JAN LORENC
HARRY J. TRIVISONNO
CONSTANTIN VICHEY

Sponsors:

{ John W. Franklin
{ Samuel M. Kurtz
{ Hyland Dinion
{ Angus L. Craig, Jr.
{ Richard Roth
{ Richard Roth, Jr.
{ Frederick G. Frost, Jr.
{ Arthur C. Holden
{ Hyland Dinion
{ Angus L. Craig, Jr.

1958 LE BRUN

The winner of the 1958 Le Brun Traveling Fellowship, Bill N. Lacy by name, has sent to the Chapter Office two copies of his report on the Fellowship project.

In it, he says: "Rather than present a purely written account of the countries and buildings visited, most of which have already been voluminously documented, I have decided instead to offer this collection of sketches along with a brief summary of the reports filed from Europe and Mexico."

His report is a nicely done publication and we think that you would be interested in seeing it the very next time you visit the Chapter Office.

AMERICAN ACADEMY ELECTS

Robert Penn Warren, novelist and poet, Virgil Thomson, composer, and Eero Saarinen, architect, three of the most distinguished creative artists in America, whose works are known all over the world, have been elected to membership in the American Academy of Arts and Letters, the country's highest honorary society of writers, artists and composers, it was announced by Allan Nevins, Secretary. The American Academy's membership is limited to fifty men and women, chosen for special distinction from the 250 members of the National Institute of Arts and Letters, its parent body. Formal induction of the new members will take place next May at the Joint Annual Ceremonial of the Academy and the Institute.

BOOKS

"It is only when the architects and designers thoroughly understand the nature of the problem that they can begin to think in terms of fresh approaches and new and better solutions. It would be well in fact, if all existing standards relating to specifics could be replaced by statements of objectives, or 'performance specifications.'"

From "HOUSING REQUIREMENTS OF THE AGED—A Study of Design Criteria" by the Housing Research Center, Cornell University.

"INDUSTRIAL BUILDING DETAILS" by Duane F. Roycraft (Dodge Books, \$12.50).

This book contains a well organized and handy selections of details, just as the title implies. It is a good guide for any architect doing buildings of an industrial nature. Its limiting factor is only that of space, since within it not all the various possibilities can be covered.

NEW MEMBERS

The New York Chapter extends its warmest welcome to the following members:

Corporate

WILLIAM M. MANDEVILLE, JR.
FRANCISCO MENENDEZ, JR.
JOSE LUIS BASORA BENITEZ
JAMES MONTGOMERY SNOW, JR.
JAN C. ROWAN
ARTHUR D. GREENFIELD (changed from Associate Membership to Corporate Membership)
REGINALD C. KNIGHT (re-admission)