AMONG THE CONSTITUENTS

REALISTIC POST-WAR PLANNING

UNIFICATION

POST-WAR PLANNING
There's a day coming when the enemy will be licked, beaten, whipped to a fare-thee-well—every last vestige of fight knocked out of him.

And there's a day coming when every mother's son of us will want to stand up and yell, to cheer ourselves hoarse over the greatest victory in history.

But let's not start the cheering yet.

In fact, let's not start it at all—over here. Let's leave it to the fellows who are doing the job—the only fellows who will know when it's done—to begin the celebrating.

Our leaders have told us, over and over again, that the smashing of the Axis will be a slow job, a dangerous job, a bloody job.

And they've told us what our own common sense confirms: that, if we at home start throwing our hats in the air and easing up before the job's completely done, it will be slower, more dangerous, bloodier.

Right now, it's still up to us to buy War Bonds—and to keep on buying War Bonds until this war is completely won. That doesn't mean victory over the Nazis alone. It means bringing the Japs to their knees, too.

Let's keep bearing down till we get the news of final victory from the only place such news can come: the battle-line.

If we do that, we'll have the right to join the cheering when the time comes.

Keep backing 'em up with War Bonds

EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT

This is an official U.S. Treasury advertisement—prepared under auspices of Treasury Department and War Advertising Council.
The trend is most remarkable in residential construction where the relative positions of public and private construction have been reversed in a year, but it is being demonstrated in nonresidential construction as well.

In the residential field, public construction during the first seven months of last year represented 61 per cent of the total as compared with 35 per cent so far this year.

Public construction represented 92 per cent at this time last year as compared with 76 per cent today in nonresidential building. In this category are included commercial, manufacturing and educational buildings, hospitals, public and religious buildings, social and recreational buildings, as well as miscellaneous nonresidential buildings.

Although the total July construction volume of $190,539,000 exceeded by $6,878,000 the volume reported during the corresponding month of last year, the seven-month total for 1944 lags considerably behind the total for the January-July period of 1943. The comparative figures for the seven-month periods were $1,150,760,000 and $2,034,933,000, the Dodge company's reports show.
AMONG THE CONSTITUENTS

CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER, A. I. A.

The summer meeting of the Central New York Chapter, A.I.A., was held at "Drumhns", Syracuse, New York, July 29th. The weather and a sunny veranda contributed to the attendance and life of the occasion; members being present from Elmira, Ithaca, Rochester, Utica, Richfield Springs, Binghamton and Syracuse.

Following the reading of the minutes and the usual reports all of which were found acceptable and dispatched without delay, the assembly delved into items of new business.

1. Student Associates. President Waasdorp was instructed to appoint a Committee to work out the mechanics of forming Junior A.I.A. groups among the Architectural students at the Universities in the Central New York District.

2. Public Housing. The appeal by D. K. Este Fisher was read and as a result of discussion from the floor it was decided to supply each member with the A.L.A. Poll Form and devote the entire September meeting to a panel discussion of the subject.

3. Competitions. Following a discussion of an architectural competition for the proposed New York State Library and the New York State Museum, motion was made and carried that Charles Ellis use the influence of the New York State Association to have the proposed building or buildings the subject of a state competition under the rules of the A.I.A.

Due note was made of the members absent from the meeting owing to their service in the Armed Forces of the country.

Quarterly Bulletin


A better introduction cannot be made than to quote the able President as follows:

"Following the wishes of our Chapter members there is herewith presented for your perusal the first issue of our quarterly news sheet. As President of the Chapter it is but natural that I should hope for its success. I realize, also, that such ambition is shared by my fellow members, which was expressed in the ready acceptance to serve on the editorial staff.

"Being mindful of the fact that the architectural profession is well served by magazines giving us voluminous information on construction and materials, we do not propose to enter in any way into that field. We do, however, wish to acquaint you with the activities of our own members and bring to you reports of Chapter meetings, realizing that full attendance during the emergency cannot be attained.

"We ask your indulgence in this our first attempt and will welcome suggestions for improvement of our 'gossip' sheet. There may be times when all information sent in is not published in its entirety; if so, it has been done to give your news sheet a modest start both in volume and in expense.

"Here then is your publication with the earnest wish that it will promote a closer association and fellowship among all of us.

LEONARD A. WAASDORP, President.

SYRACUSE SOCIETY

The Syracuse Society of Architects recently held its First Annual Clambake at Hinerwadel's Grove, N. Syracuse, N. Y., being sponsored by the following committee: Paul B. Sweeney, Chairman assisted by William P. Crane and Carl F. Woese.

Much valuable time was lost in at least two architectural offices due to the fact that elaborate preparations were being planned for this event which received first priority over business. The writer heard little from his partner for several days because of this approaching event. The only flaw in the entire program was the unpredictable weather. The old thermometer broke all local records for heat thus the orderly arrangement of events was greatly interrupted by the traffic jam at the convenient outdoor bar. The architects were all lined up merely waiting for some guest to treat. Incidentally, the poor bartender as well as many architects were total wrecks at the conclusion of the day.

The events were most unusual, for example, in the archery contest, the game was to find and pay for the lost arrows which merely vanished in thin air not even finding the target. Horseshoes were thrown promiscuously narrowly missing numerous inquisitive heads. The softball game was well worth watching due to the numerous infractions of the rules. This, of course, was typical of the methods sometimes employed in the profession. A beauty contest was held for the best looking architect present and because Kenneth Sargent was in the vicinity as well as being most anxious he naturally was selected. Other inappropriate prizes were awarded for little reason but appreciation was shown.

After consuming raw clams, beer, clam chowder, et cetera, during the day, an over-abundance of fine food was served and gratefully absorbed.

Many associates of the building industry were guests with genuine good fellowship running high.

The committee felt that honesty pays by their submission of the profits to the treasurer—Curtis King.

A fund-raising drive for a new YMCA Building has been underway for the past several weeks in this city. At least three local architects have spent considerable time campaigning for this most worthy cause. Now most of the boys are betting, with their tongues hanging out, on who will be the fortunate architect.

ROCHESTER SOCIETY

Since the beginning of the current year the Rochester Society through its able Secretary, Cyril ("Cy") T. Tucker, has been mailing a newsy and informative monthly letter to its membership.

FOR SALE

Used 42-inch Paragon Blue Print Machine for sale. Print making unit. Coating and drying all complete. A-C motors. Heating units in good condition. Machine has been used until recently and has been replaced by one of recent make. If interested please let us hear from you and we will give full description and price.

JAY SALTER

534 South Goodman Street Rochester, N. Y.
Phone Monroe 8075
REALISTIC POST-WAR PLANNING

by MELVIN H. BAKER

President National Gypsum Company

(Speech Given at Annual Meeting of the New York State League of Savings and Loan Association)

Construction can become the spearhead to prosperity for all business if those industries and professions directly dependent upon home building approach the post-war period realistically. Once more it seems certain to provide the nation’s economic impetus.

Because of the demand for housing, new, improved and repaired, dammed up by the war and the long standing need for better shelter by low bracket income classes, the building industry has its post-war market ready made.

Practically all those connected with building agree that residential building will start up as soon as materials and manpower are available. There are estimates ranging from 400-thousand up to 2-million dwellings per year, depending on the willingness of the people to invest their savings in new homes. I believe that there will be a gradual increase from about 500-thousand units in the first peace year to a higher level of 10-million new homes within the first ten years following peace.

Cautious statisticians figure it out this way... families now living doubled up because of housing shortages will provide a demand for something like 2/2-million dwellings. This, however, does not include new homes required for 3-million new families that resulted from wartime marriages.

That is the post-war challenge. The challenge to all those who produce materials for home construction, manufacturers of furnishings and equipment, architects, contractors and yes, you bankers.

Here is a big opportunity for leadership and organized ability in the many industries and professions directly dependent on home construction. Yes, building can easily become the spearhead to prosperity for all business. Its potentials for good are sufficient to command the united efforts of all.

There is a great desire in the hearts of everyone “to go home after the war,” a greater desire for better living. One survey showed that 5-million people employed in war plants are saving their money for down-payment on a new home. The reason is quite obvious. Here are a few figures from recent government census.

Of the 37-million homes, 50% of them are more than 40 years old, 6½ million need repairs, 5-million are not fit to live in and 15-million have no bath facilities. Certainly, we cannot have a better America under such living conditions.

America today is under-housed, and there is much work to be done. From increasing population and depreciation alone, there will be a continuing annual need for 870-thousand additional homes. And when appraising the accumulated shortage compare this figure with an average of 415-thousand homes built in each of the past fourteen years.

This great need for more and better homes brings into focus the banker... he can make possible home ownership through a plan that would make available money on terms, for the millions now poorly housed.

The family with an income of $175 a month should be able to own a $5,000 home. The kind of home that would be a good investment for the owner and a safe risk for long-term mortgage by the bank.

But to come within the means of this income, the monthly outlay for interest, payment on principal, taxes, repairs and insurance should not exceed $45.00. This then directs the kind of planning necessary to induce home ownership and better living for our people.

I recommend a program that would include low interest rate, deferment of payments over a period of six months, after three years in case of an emergency, and where a change in residence becomes necessary, resile facilities without cost. I would supplement this with the suggestion that you urge the need for extending a thirty-year period over which the home mortgage would be amortized.

In considering the credit risk, you might well study the kind of home that will be possible for $5,000 after the war. It will be built better than those in the late 30’s. There will be improved materials with greater protection against depreciation from decay and obsolescence.

It will be well insulated to conserve fuel in winter and to provide greater comfort in summer. It will be constructed with more fire resisting materials. It will be attractive in appearance and fashioned to embody the owner’s individual ideas. Yes, it will be a much safer risk than the home you financed ten years ago.

A larger investment will be needed for the post-war home. The cost of labor and materials will be higher, however, this will be partially offset through careful planning for use of unit sizes in structural materials and equipment, and thus benefit from new techniques in design and construction.

There will be less expense for mortgage financing, interest charges and monthly layout for amortization. Cost will not be the only consideration. More money will go to buy conveniences and appearances in the kitchen and bathroom. In the end more capital will be needed, but this home will truly be a bargain compared with those built in the 20’s.

There will be many new appliances and gadgets—but the post-war house isn’t going to be a miracle house as envisioned by some. The war has brought about rapid improvement in steel, aluminum, plastics and many other materials useful in building and these improvements will all be found in the home of tomorrow. But the push-button fantasy is still a figment of wishful thinking. Anyone who expects to build the so-called “miracle house” is in for a long wait.

And what will the post-war house look like? Recent survey by a leading publication sums it up: “Livability is the key-note of the average post-war home, with a new emphasis on comfort, beauty, efficiency and economy—both in cost of operation and maintenance, and in woman and man hours.” As would be expected, more attention will be directed to orientation. There will be more interest in the neighborhood surroundings and landscaping.

Already there have appeared many improvements in building materials and equipment—but nothing radically new. As an example, National Gypsum Company, which I head up, will be ready to supply certain basic materials as soon as their wartime use has been completed. We now have in production weather protected sheathing made from fireproof gypsum, a vapor-proof mineral wool that will fireproof and insulate walls and roofs at low cost, a crack resisting base for plaster and a low-cost washable paint that will make sanitary and colorful interiors. These are not new, the pre-war product has simply been improved under pressure of mass production for military use.

Continued on Page 8
HOSPITAL AND HEALTH FACILITIES

The John A. Johnson Contracting Corporation have established several unusual records in the building of large hospitals. During the present war emergency, and previously, they have recorded nearly $20,000,000 in hospital construction. Substantial hospitals of 1,000 to 1,500 beds, and additions still further increasing this capacity, have been the rule recently.

The Sampson Hospital at the $50,000,000 Sampson Naval Training Station cost nearly $10,000,000 with equipment. The Fort Dix 1,000-bed hospital, costing $1,828,000, was completed in 60 days in midwinter. Camp Kilmer Hospital facilities, the Utica Army General Hospital, Utica, New York, and many others are among the hospitals we have recently constructed.

OTHER PUBLIC SERVICE STRUCTURES

Post offices we have built give postal speed hitherto unknown. In one instance up to 90,000,000 parcels a year will be shipped. This unit, now under construction on a plot 700 by 1,020 feet—the old Madison Square Garden Sports Arena—will ship more mail to the 11 fighting fronts served by the Port of New York than was shipped from all of America in 1943.

WORLDWIDE SPEEDING OF MAIL

Mail is expedited to Northwest Canada, Iceland, Greenland, Newfoundland, Caribbean, South Atlantic, Northern Africa, Middle East, China-Burma-India Theatre, the Persian Gulf and the European War Theatre.
Colonel Edgar W. Garbisch, Army District Engineer, is in charge of construction for the government; his executive assistant, Major C. A. Ripperger, and Colonel Richard E. Eggleston, postal officer of the New York District, will operate it.

Alfred Hopkins Associates are the architects for this 5-block long new post office. Plans were completed by them on March 16, and the foundation started 3 days later.

**ORGANIZATION OF PROJECTS**

The high speed superstructure will be completed ahead of schedule. 900 men working from 70 to 98 hours a week, will complete this huge structure in a total of 72 days. With facilities for operating a dozen large projects simultaneously, the Johnson corporations and subsidiaries are also organized to handle smaller projects.

We should be pleased to confer or submit proposals on projects of $250,000 to $20,000,000.

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One unit of a modest but high-speed army cantonment Hospital of under $2,000,000 built in 60 days.
Realistic Post-War Planning (continued)

Need for Planning
I, for one, am a firm believer in planning, preceded with a study that will clearly indicate a purpose for such planning. But the post-war period must be approached realistically with a philosophy of hard work and tested rules. Each of us will literally have to roll up our sleeves with even greater efforts if we would have a dynamic economy.

In this there will be little room for those who would change the American system, under which came the highest standards of living ever known in the history of man. Their number will be small, but their efforts will be powerful and they must be constantly resisted. Study carefully their intentions and you will find they lead to some form of fascism—the very thing that our boys, your son and mine, are fighting to destroy.

You and I, and 137-million others are America, and we can make this country what we will.

It is only through a system of unrestricted opportunity that we can have any security. When our millions of young men return from the fighting fronts, they will want more than just a job. They will want opportunities unlimited and a chance to progress in better jobs, to save and to own their own business.

If we then accept this challenge fearlessly and sensibly, the results will give this great country of ours undreamed of prosperity and still a higher standard of living that will advance civilization throughout the world. Without this we will be plagued with a “controlled economy”, followed by depression and subsistence living and in the end loss of a great birthright.

In thinking of the future, we must not overlook those who, because of low income, cannot pay full rent and provide the things for essential living.

ARCHITECTS’ PAPER GOES NATIONAL
Michigan Society of Architects’ Weekly Bulletin becomes a nationally distributed publication as of Jan. 1, 1945, Talmage C. Hughes, executive secretary of the society and editor of the publication for 18 years, announced Saturday.

The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards decided in its meeting here last week that every architect in the United States be put on its circulation list.
POST-WAR PLANNING

BRONX SOCIETY

The County of the Bronx, which is the Borough of the Bronx, in the City of New York, has a Post-War Building Program under the direction and supervision of the Honorable James J. Lyons, the Borough President, developed in the Borough President's office under the direct charge and practical ideas of Arthur Sheridan, Commissioner of Public Works.

This program for construction work is varied, well distributed throughout the County, and consists of the practical and essential requirements for the immediate needs of the County.

This program as shown below is in addition to a thorough program to be handled completely by the Borough President's office, such as North and South through highways, East and West traffic arteries, overpasses, underpasses, bridges, a vast sewage improvement, addition to water supply, sewage disposal plants, and Parkway extensions through the County.

It is believed that this complete program would be hard to equal by any County in the State of New York. Further it is not just a dream. A large portion of the building construction work is to be assigned to practicing Architects and a quantity has already been distributed, and perhaps a new appropriation will permit more to be assigned. One of the members of our Society has been commissioned on each of the Bronx Housing Projects. There is however no money appropriated for construction.

It is anticipated that this County with this program on the drawing boards will be able to put 200,000 men to work after the war as soon as materials are available.

With such a program of improvements so widely distributed will encourage private interests to make improvements to business and home property throughout the County. In fact it involves so much that a pamphlet could be written covering same in detail. Too much could not be said about it.

CORRECTION

Rikers Island Penitentiary—New Staff Hospital for Physicians.
Rikers Island Penitentiary—Classification Building.
Rikers Island Penitentiary—Psychiatric Building.
Rikers Island Penitentiary—Barracks for Work House Prisoners.
Harts Island Prison—Cell Building and Infirmary.
Harts Island Prison—Kitchen and Utility Building.

EDUCATION

West Bronx Vocational High School.
P. S. 21—Vicinity of East 233rd Street.
P. S. 9—Vicinity of East 138th Street and Brook Avenue.
P. S. 2—At Third Avenue and 169th Street.
P. S. 18—Courtlandt Avenue and 148th Street.
P. S. 125 (Jr. High School)—Vicinity of Parkchester.
P. S. 106 Addition—2120 St. Raymond Avenue.
P. S. 102 Addition—Archier Street, Taylor and Theriot Avenues.
P. S. 11 Addition—Vicinity of Overing Street and Benson Avenue.
P. S. 81—West 255th Street and Riverdale Avenue.
P. S. 105 Addition—At Brady and Cruger Avenues.

FIRE

Fire House—Engine Co. No. 50 and H. and L. No. 19—491 East 166th Street.
Fire House—Engine Co. No. 48—Webster Avenue between 189th St. and Fordham Road.

HEALTH

Morrisania Health Center—McKinley Square.
Westchester Health Center—Westchester Square.
Fordham-Riverdale Health Center—East 188th Street and Park Ave.

HOSPITALS

Morrisania Hospital—Addition to Outpatient Building.
Lincoln Hospital—New O.P.D. and Alteration of Existing O.P.D.
Fordham Hospital—Additions, Alterations, O.P. Facilities and Basic Services.

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UNIFICATION

BUFFALO CHAPTER, A.I.A.

Unification within the profession has long been a problem with which we have struggled locally, simultaneous with the national effort. Most architects desire a national organization, within which all architects of good character can obtain membership. Differences of opinion have had to be reconciled. Many members of the Institute, who formerly desired a limited membership, gradually began to advise the broadening of the membership basis. This, together with the national unification program already inaugurated by the Institute, resulted in action being taken at the annual meeting of the Buffalo Chapter in January, 1943, to invite into membership all registered architects of Western New York not now members of the Institute. The Executive Committee then approved of these men as members and authorized the Membership Committee, headed by Karl G. Schmill, to forward applications duly endorsed to all such practitioners.

Men, not members of the Institute, began to inquire about membership therein and many acquired membership. On Oct. 6, 1943, C. Julian Oberwarth, Membership Secretary of the A.I.A., addressed a Chapter meeting to which all registered architects of Western New York were invited. Such meetings as this, together with the untiring efforts of our membership chairman and the splendid cooperation of G. Morton Wolfe, President of the Western New York Society of Architects, resulted in the disbanding of the Western New York Society on Dec. 31, 1943, and the urging of all members to forthwith join the Institute.

On March 29, 1944, the new members were formally welcomed into the Institute by our District Representative Mr. Edgar I. Williams, with impressive ceremonies. To date, the Buffalo Chapter has increased its membership from 32 corporate members and 8 associates in January, 1943, to 72 corporate members and 11 associates.

There are eight of our members in the Armed Services of our country, several of them overseas. We salute them and assure them that we appreciate their efforts in our behalf. It is our duty to make sure that a strong, united profession awaits their return.

There are many more to be brought in before our task of unification is complete, but the accomplishments are already history making and have been made possible because the architects of Western New York have been able to work together in a spirit of comradeship which produces results.

JAMES S. WHITMAN

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EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT
Bronx Society (continued)

PARKS
Orchard Beach—Extend Boardwalk and Beach, New Jetties.
Bronx River Parkway—Chain Link Fence along N.Y.C.R.R.
Orchard Beach—Bathouse, Mechanical and Drainage Alterations.
Sound View Park Development.
Moshulu Parkway Reconstruction from Bronx River Parkway to
Grand Concourse.
Pelham Parkway Reconstruction from Bronx River Parkway to East­
ern Blvd.
Van Cortlandt Park—Three Comfort Stations, Field House, Conces­
sion Building near Broadway at City Line.
Van Cortlandt Park—Playground near Boat House.
Pelham Bay Park—General Development and Three Comfort Sta­
tions and Concession Buildings.
Hutchinson River Parkway—Gas Station.
Ferry Point Park—Bathing Beach, Bath House and General Develop­
ment.
Riverdale Park.
Vincent Ciccarone, Playground Addition.
Playground at Park Avenue and East 151st Street.
Playground at Seddon Avenue, north of East 167th Street.
Playground at Dawson Street—Leggett Avenue to St. John Avenue.
Playground at Rogers Place and Dawson Street.
Playground at East 156th Street, Courtlandt Avenue and Melrose
Avenue.
Playground at Zerega Avenue, Gleason Avenue to Powell Avenue.
Crotona Park, Old Borough Hall Section, Development of Area.
Pelham Bay Park, Orchard Beach—Surveys and Tests of Existing
Storm and Sanitary Sewer Systems.
Moshulu Parkway Extension.

POLICE
48th Precinct Station House Addition—Bathgate Avenue near
 Tremont Avenue.
43rd Precinct Station House—Site undetermined.
43rd and 47th Precinct Station Houses—Site undetermined.

PUBLIC WORKS
Eastern Blvd. Bridge over Bronx River—New Unit and Reconstruc­
tion.
Unionport Bridge over Westchester Creek—New Bridge.
Hunts Point Sewage Treatment Plant.
East Bronx Interception Sewer.

SANITATION
Addition to Garage for District 24 and Station Station.
Addition to Garage for District 23 to House District 25.

STATE AID PROJECTS
Highways, Sewers, Parks, Etc.

PROJECTS UNDER STUDY
Improvement of Park Avenue (Including covering N.Y.C.R.R.
Tracks) within The Bronx as a Landscaped Boulevard.
Tunnel Connections with Manhattan Island.
Additional Bridge across the Upper Harlem River.
Additional Cross-County Major Highway.
Bronx Civic Center.
Bronx Airport.
Helicopter Landing Fields (various sites).
Improvement of Harlem and Bronx River Shore Fronts.
Improvement of Westchester Creek and Eastchester Creek.
Development of various Local Community Centers.
Development of various shopping and theatrical districts.
Development of industrial areas.
 provision of overhead and underground parking facilities.
Development of East and West Bronx waterfront for terminal facil­
ties.
New Housing facilities.
Rezoning the Borough with a view to establishing definite areas for
industrial, commercial, business and residential purposes.

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