

**IOWA**

**ARCHITECT**



Convention Program Issue

January, 1956

VOL. III, NO. I

Iowa Chapter  
American Institute of Architects

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Y Can Relax and Enjoy the Convention !

## '56 Construction Record Seen

New construction expenditures may reach a record-breaking total of \$44 billion in 1956, 5 percent above the \$42 billion peak indicated for 1955, according to estimates prepared jointly by the Commerce and Labor Departments. Substantial gains are anticipated in private nonresidential and public construction. New housing, although slightly below this year's volume, is expected to continue at a high level.

A more detailed report on the outlook will appear later this month in the November issue of Construction Review published jointly by the Business and Defense Services Administration of the Department of Commerce and the Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 1956 estimates are based on the assumption of a moderate increase in overall economic activity. They reflect

also the tremendous volume of construction now in progress, much of which will be carried over into the new year. Construction costs are expected to continue to rise moderately. Increased plant capacity and rising productivity will prevent all but minor or spot material shortages. Investment funds were assumed to be adequate to underwrite the estimated level of both private and public construction.

Private construction outlays in 1956 are set slightly above the 1955 total of \$30 billion. Public construction, which in recent years has increased steadily but more slowly than private work, is expected to rise 10 percent in 1956—to more than \$13 billion.

### The Service **SCOREBOARD**

Bill Woodburn, Paul Skiles, Bob Savage and Dwight Kirsch are assisting in preparation of an architectural exhibit for the Church Arts Festival at Plymouth Church in Des Moines.

\* \* \*

William Wagner has been giving talks on architecture over the Des Moines Public Schools radio system.

\* \* \*

Dighton Smith addressed another High School Career Day conference—almost standard procedure for Smitty.

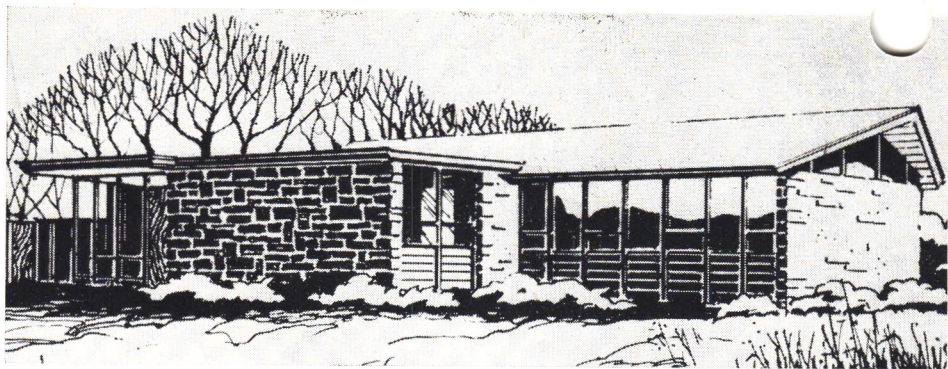
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New office of Savage and Ver Ploeg, 12th and Grand, Des Moines

## Movers and Remodelers

Smith, Voorhees, Jensen, Silletto and Associates held their annual open house Jan. 30 in their completely remodeled offices in the Davidson building in Des Moines. The new set-up includes 10 private offices, drafting room, clerical space, conference rooms and 15 tons of air conditioning.

President Griffith soon will be moving into new offices at 3736 Ingersoll Ave., in Des Moines. He will be on the second floor of a new building.

A new office for Savage and Ver Ploeg is under construction at 12th and Grand Ave., in Des Moines. Names were drawn from a hat to select the architect—Savage and Ver Ploeg. The owner, it's said, has started to question the judgment of the architect and controversy over the fee is expected to develop. Completion of the building is expected in April—if Public Relations funds hold out. "Might as well use the money for something," says Savage.

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## Architectural Firms in Iowa Whose Principals Are Members

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CARSWELL, ROBIN	BURLINGTON
COX, GERALD A.	DAVENPORT
DE JARNETTE, CHARLES W.	DES MOINES
DOUGHER, JAMES A.	DES MOINES
DURRANT & BERGQUIST	DUBUQUE
EMERY, AMOS B. & ASSOCIATES	DES MOINES
GRIFFITH, GERALD I.	DES MOINES
HANSEN & WAGGONER	MASON CITY
NORMAN HATTON & ASSOCIATES	CEDAR RAPIDS
HAYNES, KENNETH L.	DES MOINES
HECKER, ROBERT D.	SIOUX CITY
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NIELSEN, WILLIAM N.	DES MOINES
NORMILE & LYNCH	DES MOINES
PERKINS, WILLIAM L.	CHARITON
PRALL, NATHAN C.	DES MOINES
ROSSITER, PAUL	DUBUQUE
RUSSELL, GEORGE	DES MOINES
SAVAGE & VER PLOEG	DES MOINES
SMITH, VOORHEES, JENSEN, SILLETTO AND ASSOCIATES	DES MOINES
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TINSLEY, HIGGINS, LIGHTER & LYON	DES MOINES
TOENJES, DAVID B.	WATERLOO
WALSH, JAMES H.	SPENCER
WETHERELL & HARRISON	DES MOINES
WHITAKER, RAYMOND C.	DAVENPORT
WOODBURN & O'NEIL	DES MOINES

# "This I Believe"

By Gerald Griffith

There is more to living than making money. A moderate amount of money is unquestionably a worthwhile goal and a comfort to one approaching the age of retirement. But it is false to assume that if a little money is good for you, a lot of the stuff will make you feel much better. I have heard by rumor that along with a larger fortune comes a heavier burden of worries about investments and taxes.

\* \* \*

I believe that to lead a happy, healthy life we must be able to vary our interests and not grind out day after day at the same routine. We must have outside activities beyond our profession. Take up a hobby that will give us some relaxation.

\* \* \*

Not so long ago but that many of us can still remember, architects used to do their own water color renderings, and to keep in practice would sketch a landscape during the week end. We used to welcome our monthly issue of Pencil Points with much space devoted to artistic endeavor and to drafting room technique.

Kansas is currently embarrassed in having booked a traveling show of art by architects of this district and is now unable to round up an exhibit.

\* \* \*

Since you can't take it with you, what is to be gained by your overwork? Inheritance taxes are heavy. Your children are better off earning their own than in spending what you leave for them.

\* \* \*

I was fortunate in having been blessed with a father that left me more than money. In the education field he had led a life dedicated to service to others. He had a wide circle of friends throughout the state and nation. I often meet men who tell me of the high regard they had for my father. I feel he will be remembered longer because of his contacts with humanity than had he

## Home Tour

Architects' wives attending the convention will enjoy a luncheon in the Veranda Room, Kirkwood Hotel, Friday afternoon to be followed by a tour of several architects' homes in Des Moines. The tour will end with tea served in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Griffith. Mrs. Ver Ploeg is chairman of the program.

spent his life accumulating a fortune. I only hope I can shape my life to follow in the path he set.

\* \* \*

I believe we have a professional obligation to give the best possible service to each of our clients. We should not set out to do more work than we are able to properly look after. This may mean a job or two might get away from us, but I believe a reputation for good service will be worth far more than a greater number of jobs with dissatisfied clients.

\* \* \*

I believe we as architects must discipline ourselves to the point where we can divide our interests and not make our work our whole life. We must share these best years given to us with our family and friends. Let's take it a little slower, live longer and have more fun doing it.

## Did You Miss It?

There's considerable fretting going on among architects who missed a talk at Iowa State College by Buckminster Fuller, fabulous inventor of the Geodesic Dome.

Fuller, whose dream it is to construct a 10-story building that can be transported from city to city by air, held his audience enthralled for three and a half hours.

A man who anticipated plastics, Fuller has plotted the development of future materials and thinks his transportable office building will be feasible in a few years. He has been commissioned to cover a major league ball park with his Geodesic wonder.

# American Institute of Architects

IOWA CHAPTER

1956 CONVENTION PROGRAM

**January 19, 1956, Hotel Savery, Des Moines**

THURSDAY, JANUARY 19, 1956

7:30 P. M.—**BUSINESS MEETING**

Griffith Presiding:

Minutes of Last Meeting

Treasurer's Report

Committee Reports:

Finance

Education

Relation with Construction Industry

Conventions

Membership

Public and Professional Information

State and Federal Legislation

Registration and Practice of Architecture

Floor Business

10:00 P. M.—**BUFFET**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 20, 1956

9:00 A. M.—**REGISTRATION**

10:00 A. M.—Architectural Film, "Inventive Design"

10:30 A. M.—National Committee Report—Leonard Wolf

11:00 A. M.—Architecture, Iowa State College 1956

11:45 A. M.—Student Chapter Report

12:00 Noon—**LUNCHEON**

**SPEAKER:** Architectural Interiors, Slide Talk—William Wagner

2:00 P. M.—Panel Discussion—Church Architecture—Traditional or Contemporary

4:00 P. M.—**BUSINESS MEETING**

Election of Officers

Public Relations Committee Report

6:00 P. M.—**COCKTAILS**

7:00 P. M.—Buffet Line opens and Bar closes

Introduction of Officers

**SPEAKER**—Louise Sloane, Interior Design Consultant—Progressive Architecture

FRIDAY EVENING, JANUARY 20, 1956

Presentation of **Craftsmanship Awards**

9:30—Dancing to Spec Redd and His Combo

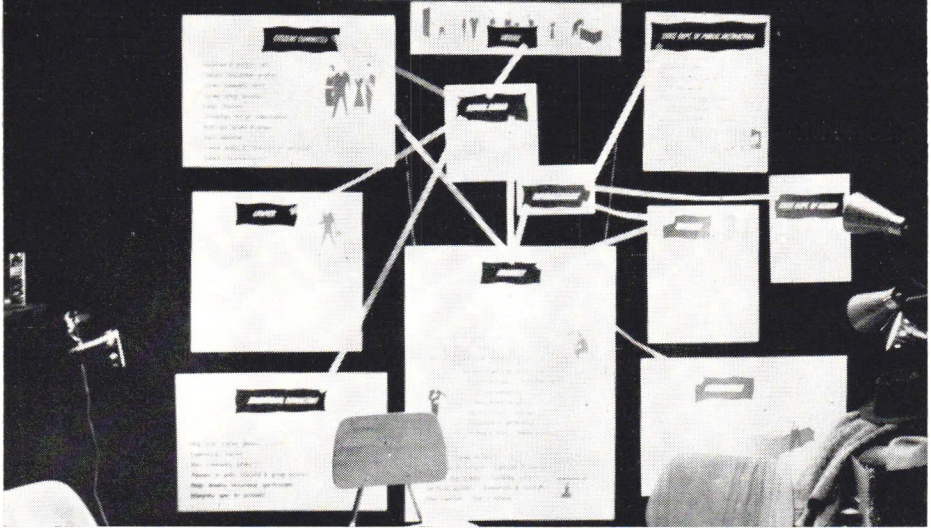
Cocktail Bar Re-opens

SATURDAY MORNING, JANUARY 21, 1956

9:00—**BUSINESS MEETING** Continued

Luncheon

**Louise Sloane**, dinner speaker, a former editor for House and Gardens magazine, has worked and written in the field of interior design for many years. She was formerly decorating editor for Woman's Day magazine and now is a consulting editor of interior design for Progressive Architecture.



This is the booth sponsored by the Iowa Chapter at the School Board convention at the Des Moines Veterans Auditorium. Response was good, according to committee members. Heavy contributors to the project were Harold Bullington, Allen Salisbury and iBl Wagner. Helping out were Leo Carney, Dighton Smith, Harold Stewart, Doug Robinson and Bob Savage.

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---

Our association appreciates the privilege of bringing to your attention in issues of **The IOWA ARCHITECT**

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### **IOWA CONCRETE MASONRY ASSOCIATION**

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## MEMBERS NAMED TO COMMITTEES

The Executive Committee has appointed 13 chapter members to serve as chapter representatives on the "vertical" national committees. The major purpose of the appointments is to establish a line of correspondence with the national committees, according to Gerald Griffith, president. Members appointed to the various committees are:

Awards and Scholarships—John W. Brooks

Hospitals and Health—Dane Morgan and Elmer H. Borg

Chapter Affairs—Robert E. Savage  
Collaboration with Design Professions—O. H. Thorson

Education—George Russell

Home Building Industry—Gerald B. Cox

Office Practice—Eugene O'Neil

Historical Buildings—William Wagner

School Buildings—Harold Stewart

Urban Design and Housing—Amos B. Emery

Advancement of the Profession—  
dette Higgins

Research—Leonard Wolf

Centennial—John W. Brooks

Croation sculptor Ivan Mestrovic, Syracuse, New York, has received the Fine Arts Medal of the A.I.A.

## ADVERTISERS

Iowa Architects calls your attention to two points: 1, the firms advertising in this issue and 2, the other organizations that would be interested in advertising if you will pass the word. Advertising rates in the Iowa Architect, for 12 consecutive issues, are:

Full-page .....	\$45 per insertion
Half-page .....	\$25 per insertion
Quarter-page .....	\$15 per insertion

Rates do not include the cost of cuts, if any. Inquiries or advertising orders should be addressed to Robert Savage, editor, 931 59th St., Des Moines.

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Harold Bullington  
William Wagner  
Allen Salisbury

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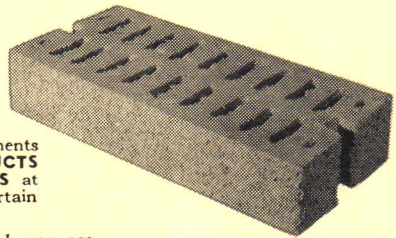
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