



NOVEMBER 1956

**KANSAS CITY CHAPTER
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS**

KANSAS CITY CHAPTER AIA

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Published monthly by the Kansas City Chapter of The American Institute of Architects.

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Skylines

Volume Six, Number Eleven

November, 1956

Get out the red pencil . . . we have many dates to circle.

First, circle **November 20**. This is the date of the November Chapter Meeting at the Golden Ox. See page 3 for details.

Second, **November 25**. This is the closing date of a very fine exhibition, "Furnishing the Modern House," at the William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art. Try not to miss this one.

Third, **December 3**. The second Producers' Council Luncheon will be held in the Tower Room, Aladdin Hotel. The topic will be, "How the Architect Can Assist His Client in Financing a Public Building Project."

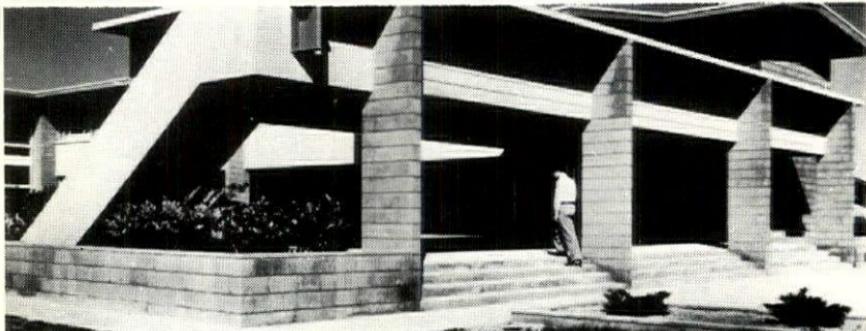
Other dates in December are:

December 13, Jack Morley reports on Europe. The meeting will be held at 6:00 p.m. in the Union Building at the University of Kansas.

December 18, Annual Meeting.

One more date to circle, and it is in January, 1957. Wednesday, **January 9, 1957**, will be a great day for all chapter members. You will read all about it in December SKYLINES, but mark the day now, so you will not plan anything else for this date.

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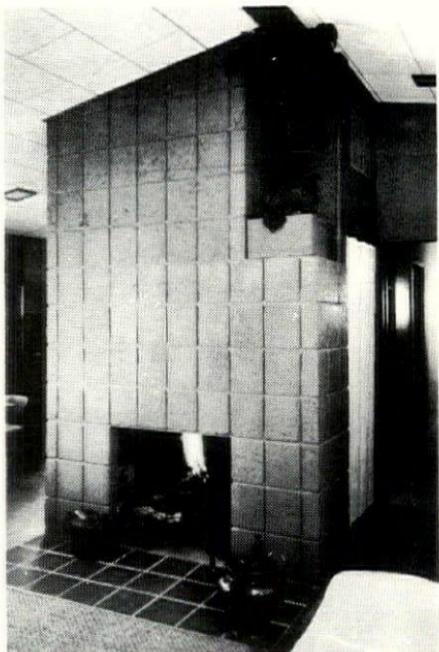


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November Chapter Meeting

Technical Meeting — Ceilings

Materials, methods of suspension, fire resistance and insurance ratings, will be discussed. Be sure to bring your questions.

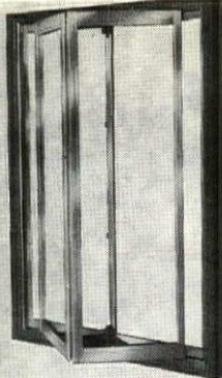
The program will be conducted by the Kansas City Chapter of The Producers' Council and will be similar to the excellent meeting they presented last spring on floor coverings.

An Extra added attraction will be a 12-minute film on electric radiant heating.

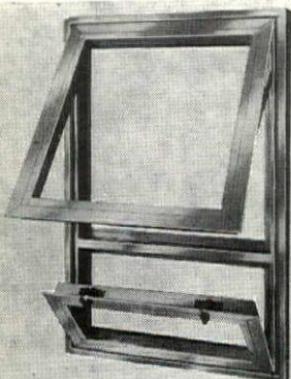
So . . . be at the Golden Ox

Tuesday, November 20

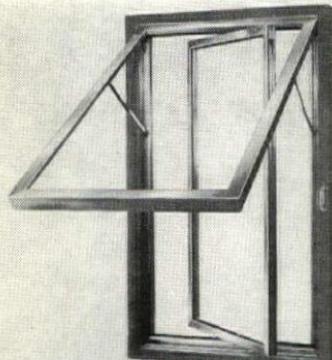
Meeting	5:30 p.m.
Cocktails	6:30 p.m.
Dinner	7:15 p.m.
Program	8:15 p.m.



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Swedish Architects Visit Kansas City

On October 15 and 16, thirteen Swedish architects and city planners visited Kansas City as a part of their five-week nationwide tour. The Kansas City Chapter entertained these men, together with the principals of the City Plan Commission and several other city officials, at a dinner at the University Club on October 15. Although the dinner was very hurriedly planned and we had to resort to telephoning the members, the turnout of local architects was very good and they were rewarded with an extremely interesting evening.

About half of the visiting men were "City Architects" with duties similar to a State Architect that we know in this country, except that their operations are confined to a single community. This is a highly respected position in Sweden, and the tour expenses of each man were paid by the governmental unit he was employed by. For once, Uncle Sam did not pay the bill.

Before coming to Kansas City the group had visited New York, Washington, Pittsburgh and Chicago. They had not been too much impressed with what they had seen previously, with the exception of Washington where the openness and apparent attempts at city planning had impressed them. All the visitors spoke English, and their impressions of Kansas City were very interesting. The thing that proved most curious to them was the large percentage of single family dwellings that we have here in the Midwest. It seems that this is an impossibility in Sweden where virtually everyone lives in apartments or flats. The additional costs of streets, utilities and other city services necessary to accommodate single family residences are economically impossible in their country. When the local architects asked how Sweden was able to house all its people, even low income groups, in comparatively high standard buildings, we immediately discovered the answer. It seems that the buildings are financed with 60-year loans at three per cent interest. A family not able to pay its fair share of the amortization is given a state subsidy of a kind; hence, everyone lives in decent housing.

Several of our members offered to show them some of the work that is being done in Kansas City, and they seemed to greatly appreciate the opportunity to see our architecture.

The visitors were scheduled to visit the West Coast after leaving Kansas City; and from there, they were to return to Sweden on KLM Airlines over the North Pole.

The evening proved interesting for everyone, and the evening was enjoyed by all; and in a letter to our president, Philip E. Geissal, Chief Planning Engineer, said, "We felt that we really got to know more of the interests and work of the Swedish architectural planners at this dinner than we did in our programming for them."

The men from Sweden were:

- Toreten Henrikson, City Commissioner for Housing, City Planning and Real Estate, Gothenburgh.
- Erik Ruben Johannesson, Chairman of the Board of Real Estate, Gothenburgh.
- Carl Edler, Director, Civil Engineer, Public Housing Corporation of Gothenburgh.
- K. O. Jonsson, Director, City Planning Department, Gothenburgh.
- Erik Sylvén, Chief Traffic Engineer, City Planning Department, Gothenburgh.
- Gunnar Palman, Chief Architect, Department of City Planning and Building Control, Karlskoga.
- John Wästlund, Chief Architect, Department of City Planning and Building Control, Karlstad.
- Carl Erik Holmberg, Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Lund.
- Sven Tynelius, Chief Planning Architect, Department of City Planning, Eskilstuna.
- Seth Feidén, Chief Architect, Department of City Planning and Building Control, Umeå.
- Lennart Blomberg, Chief Engineer, Public Works Department, Helsingborg.
- Fritz Voigt, Chief Planning Architect, Department of City Planning, Södertälje.
- Berndt Nordberg, Chief Planning Architect, Department of City Planning, Linköping.

From the New York Chapter's OCULUS . . .

Currently underway in the Senior high schools and colleges of this area is a 500-word essay contest. The idea was conceived by Fred Wiedersum of Valley Stream, L. I., member of the Brooklyn Chapter, A.I.A. The idea has a certain appeal. Who will actually pay off the school bonds that our communities' voting-age citizens are so liberally approving these days? Why, the kids who are now in school. Perhaps it's a good thing to let these, the ultimate school clients in every sense of the word, have their say to their architects!

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Furnishing the Modern House

The William Rockhill Nelson Gallery of Art recently announced an exhibition, "Furnishing the Modern House," on display in the loan galleries until November 25.

In the interest of showing the varied aspects of Modern Art, the Gallery has arranged the exhibition to emphasize American-made and American-designed furniture. An effort has been made within the space available to represent the current trends in modern furniture and to exhibit pieces by some of the major designers in the field. The furniture is assembled within groups and simulated rooms. In this way the juxtaposition with fabrics, lamps, sculpture, paintings, and accessories stresses the significant relation of one piece to another and to its setting. The Gallery feels that some of the best creative work today is in the field of contemporary design, and that modern industrial designers are making a really significant contribution to twentieth century culture.

The exhibition opened November 4 with a lecture by Edgar J. Kaufman, Jr., former Curator of the Good Design Project of the Museum of Modern Art, New York City, who is considered the leading authority in America on industrial design. Mr. Kaufman's subject was "Why Modern Design Changes." Several members of the Chapter attended the opening, and they all gave glowing reports on Mr. Kaufman's lecture and the exhibition.

All the members of the Chapter are urged to visit the Gallery and view the exhibition before November 25.

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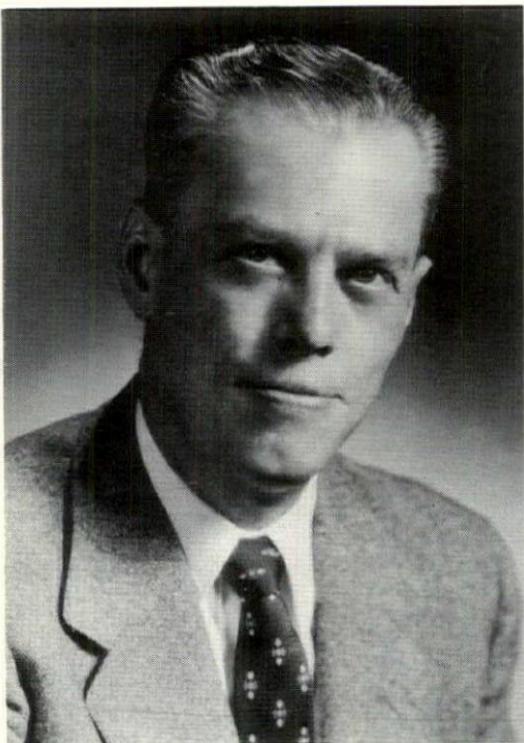
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This Month, We Congratulate



New Corporate Member **Guy L. Sumner** received his degree in Architecture from Oklahoma A & M College before he journeyed to Kansas City to work as a draftsman with J. C. Nichols Company. Some time later, he left Kansas City to tour Europe with the U. S. Army. When he returned, he went back to 310 Ward Parkway and Edward W. Tanner & Associates. He joined the Kansas City Chapter in 1952 when he became an Associate Member.

New Associate Member **David M. Brey** is a member of the firm, Swanson-Terney-Brey. After receiving his architectural degree from Miami University (Oxford, Ohio) he worked in Ohio and Kentucky. He served in the Navy during World War II, then came to Kansas City in 1946 and joined the firm of Swanson & Terney. He became a partner of that firm in 1950.



Leo A. Herboth, Jr., is a new Junior Associate Member. Leo is a Kansas City boy who received his Bachelors Degree in Architecture from the University of Kansas in 1955. Since early 1955, he has been with the firm of Mackie & Roark.

Howard H. Nearing is, also, a new Junior Associate Member. After receiving his Bachelors Degree in Architecture from the University of Kansas in 1951, he returned to his home, Kansas City. He has been employed by Edward W. Tanner and Associates since that time.



Oops! We slipped up. Last month we introduced new member Ernest P. Ward, but we forgot to say that he is a new Associate Member.



Blue Cross and Blue Shield Building,
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Architects: Neville, Sharp and Simon,
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First PRODUCERS' COUNCIL LUNCHEON

Tuesday, November 6
Tower Room, Aladdin Hotel

The food was good (and hot), the festivities began promptly at noon and ended an hour later. The assemblage consisted of 160 practicing architects, consulting engineers, their associates and a liberal sprinkling of Producers' Council members. This was the first monthly luncheon meeting sponsored by the Kansas City Chapter of Producers' Council.

Midway through the hour, Robert L. Sweet, President of the Chamber of Commerce, was introduced and spoke on "Future Plans for Our Community." Mr. Sweet told of the progress Kansas City made the first half of the century; he reported on the Kansas City of today. He pointed out that Kansas City is an important transportation center, not only railroad and bus, but truck and air line . . . and that it would continue to grow in importance. He told of the industries that had moved to Kansas City, and said that more are moving in each year. Because new factories are being built outside the city's bomb pattern, housing will tend to spread more, too. He predicted that the Kansas City of the future will be a pattern of scattered communities connected by a network of trafficways and freeways.

Yes, the first Producers' Council luncheon was a success. The chairman of the luncheon committee is Carl Bontemps, and the chairman for the first luncheon was Bill Gaydos.

Next month's meeting will be on December 3, again, in the Tower Room of the Aladdin Hotel. The speaker for the December meeting will be John Fogarty, of Stern Brothers & Company. His topic will be, "How the Architect Can Assist his Client in Financing a Public Building Program."

Last October 16th

nearly eighty members of the Chapter gathered at the Golden Ox for the October Chapter Meeting, and with good reason.

The speaker of the evening was Frank Montana, Head of the Department of Architecture, Notre Dame University. In addition to a short talk, which covered his work, the work of others and education of the architect, he brought along a number of slides of some of his projects. He touched on the problems associated with the various projects and showed the group the different schemes that had been developed during the planning of the Detroit Civic Center.

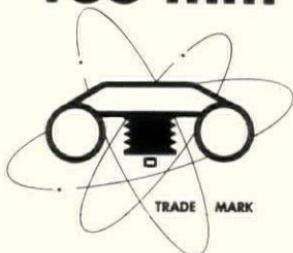
A surprise visitor to the meeting was Thomas H. Creighton, Editor of PROGRESSIVE ARCHITECTURE, who was scheduled to speak at Kansas University the next day. Mr. Creighton declined to perform as a speaker; but after Mr. Montana concluded his part of the program, Mr. Creighton joined him in answering questions, during one of the most spirited questioning sessions the Chapter has had.

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Quite a group. I. to r. John Murphy, A.I.A. Treasurer Raymond Kastendieck, Henry Krug, Joe Shaughnessy, Frank Slezak, Lloyd Roark, Bob Baker, A.I.A. President Leon Chatelain, A.I.A. Vice President Philip Will and A.I.A. Secretary Edward Wilson.



A smaller, but impressive group. The back belongs to Lloyd Roark, who is talking to Joe Shaughnessy and Raymond Kastendieck.

Ralph Myers was one of the speakers on the program of the 1956 Texas Society of Architects Convention in Corpus Christi, Texas, on November 1 and 2. Ralph presented an illustrated lecture on "Architecture—Mexico," the color slide material on which his new film will be based.



"Architecture—Mexico" reminds us that the Kansas City Chapter owns a copy of Ralph's first film, "Architecture—USA" which is available to members to use in promoting architecture with various civic groups. If you are associated with a group that has not seen the film, why not call John Murphy, arrange with him to borrow the film and, then, show it to your group.



Also, **Bill Conrad** is still collecting slides of local work. This collection may not be titled "Architecture—Kansas City," but it well could be. Bill has amassed quite a number of slides, but the one or two more that he needs may be reposing in your files. If you have such slides, call Bill. He will borrow your slides for a few days, have them copied and returned to you promptly.

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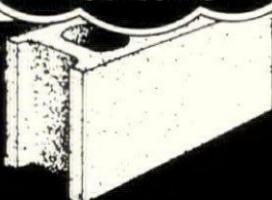
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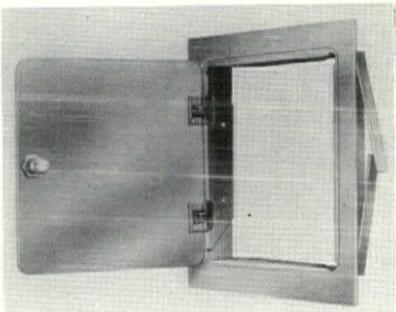
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