



# OCULUS

NEW YORK CHAPTER, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, 115 EAST 40 STREET, NEW YORK 16, NEW YORK  
HARRY M. PRINCE, PRESIDENT; GEOFFRY N. LAWFORD, VICE-PRESIDENT; RALPH POMERANCE, TREASURER;  
ALONZO W. CLARK, SECRETARY; ALICE G. CANTWELL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY; EDWARD EVERETT POST, EDITOR.

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## AIA CONVENTION

If you intend to go to the AIA Convention, to be held May 8-11, 1951, at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, as a delegate of the New York Chapter, please advise the Chapter Office immediately so that your name can be placed in nomination.

The New York Chapter is entitled to 33 delegates.

If you have not already secured hotel reservations, write to Wilbur Herbert Binford, 53 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago 4, who is acting as liaison with hotels in Chicago.

## SYMPOSIUM: "HOW TO COMBINE ART AND ARCHITECTURE"

A Symposium on the Relation of the Arts "Five Buildings — How to Combine Art and Architecture," Monday evening, March 19th at 8:30 at the Museum of Modern Art. Leading Architects, Critics, Painters and Sculptors will discuss the relation between painting, sculpture and the building. The Panel will include Jose Luis Sert, James Johnson Sweeney, Henry-Russell Hitchcock, with Philip Johnson as moderator, and other speakers to be announced.

The buildings discussed will be: the Barcelona Pavilion, Ministry of Education in Brazil, Harvard Graduate Center, the Terrace-Plaza Hotel in Cincinnati, and the new U.N. building in New York. The talks will be illustrated with slides.

Tickets, including tax, \$1.80 for members of the Museum and \$2.40 for non-members are on sale at the Museum of Modern Art, 11 West 53rd Street.

## HOW TO PASS RA EXAMINATIONS

The first of the series of six talks to those seeking Architectural Registration will be given under the auspices of the Committee on Education on Friday, March 30, at The Architectural League at 7:30 p.m. promptly.

The requirements for registration and the examination procedures will be explained by Harold T. Brinkerhoff, AIA, Secretary of the Board of Examiners. "How to Tackle the Design Problem" will be discussed by an eminent architect. (Complete announcement of the course will be issued shortly.)

Mr. Frank Lopez, AIA, director of the series, has arranged the subsequent talks, which will cover all of the subjects of the examinations and will be given Friday evenings, April 13, April 27, May 11, May 25, and June 8.

All who seek registration are cordially invited to attend without charge.

## OUTSTANDING BUILDINGS

*Attached is a revision of the list of outstanding examples of contemporary architecture which was originally published in the OCULUS last May. Readers are urged to contribute their further comments to the end that the Chapter will have an adequate list supplemented by varied and stimulating comments to offer to architects visiting this city. A good list is particularly desirable in view of New York's having been selected as the location for the A.I.A. Convention to be held at the Waldorf-Astoria Hotel June 22nd through June 27th.*

## TO THOSE WHO MISSED IT

The 82nd Anniversary Dinner, Hotel Biltmore Ballroom February 28 — an outstanding success. Spacious, gracious room, excellent dinner; more than 300 members and guests. Highlights: the "AIAires" and their specially written lyrics — for members only; interesting and witty master of ceremonies Judge Irwin D. Davidson, Court of Special Sessions; Commissioner Lawrence M. Orton (City Planning) and his talk in terms of "Time, Space, and Eternity"; Major Gen. Lewis A. Pick, Chief of Engineers, and his inspiring conception of the greatness of American building.

Congratulations to Harry Prince, our President, Francis Keally, General Chairman, and Eleanor Pepper, Ladies Chairman, for a highlight evening in the Chapter's history.

## NEW MEMBERS MEETING

On January 30th Mr. Kilham held the second meeting of the year at the Chapter Office for the new members. Present were: Mr. Kilham, presiding; Herbert Bogen, J. D. Chase, William Crook, Kline Fulmer, Harmon Goldstone, Dixon McKenna, Helen G. Park, C. J. Tobin, Roland Voisinot, Norma Westra, Alice G. Cantwell. Guest: Hugh Ferriss.

The evening was particularly stimulating and when the question of better advertising of architecture by experts was brought up one new member said: "Advertising architecture isn't like advertising Tasty Bread. You *have* to eat bread. What architecture has to contribute is 'Design' and it is never mentioned. The child in school when he learns that stones come out of the ground should learn that how you put them together is 'Design'."

Interest was expressed in meeting the older members and it was suggested that the Membership Committee arrange to have two or three of the established members of the Chapter lunch at one of the tables at the League — say once a week — and ask as many of the new members to meet with them — all dutch of course. (In the interim Mr. Kilham suggests that many Old Timers\* — including himself, eat at the long table at the League — and a new face will be more than welcome and will receive a cordial welcome.)

Concerning the current architectural magazines, there was a feeling they did not express a representation or leadership of the profession. The recognized critics of architecture, such as Lewis Mumford, appear elsewhere, as in the New Yorker. They have no one doing for architecture what William Laurence is doing for Science in the New York Times. It was suggested that a small group, such as this, would like to meet the editors of the magazines some evening and talk it over.

Another idea of carrying forward constructive criticism in architecture and stimulating interest among architects in each other's work was to have similar small meetings in various architectural offices in the city so that younger people can see what is being done and have an exchange of ideas. Mr. Kilham offered to hold the first one in his office in March at which time an architect for the next office will be present to see if the idea can be carried forward. Mr. Edward Stone has offered to be the next in line.

\* Old Timer: Some one who has been a member more than a year.—Ed.

**ARCHITECTS' COUNCIL**

Geoffry N. Lawford has been appointed the delegate of the New York Chapter to the Architects' Council of New York City. He replaces Harold R. Sleeper, who was forced to resign because of the pressure of other duties.

**THE ARCHITECT'S PARTICIPATION**

A pamphlet outlining the Architect's participation in civil defense activities, published by the American Institute of Architects, is the work of a group of architects headed by Chapter President Harry M. Prince.

This document, first of a series being prepared by the Institute's National Defense Committee surveys briefly the main fields of civilian defense of architectural interest. These include the design of shelters, in existing buildings and externally, the design of evacuation centers, housing and emergency shelters, and the repair of war damage.

Architects can best fit into the civil defense program, the report recommends, in ways that utilize their technical qualifications. They can apply government civil defense directives and standards for the structural protection of the public, and the tenants of buildings, in order to provide as much safety as possible against all forms of attack. They can design protective measures in new construction; plan defense structures so that they may be readily converted to peacetime usefulness; recommend measures to strengthen zoning, building, and housing ordinances; and advise city agencies on the civil defense aspects of city planning, the report states.

As terrible as any bomb is, no bombing, even by atom bombs, will mean the end of our cities, as some people think, the report states. By careful study and planning now, and by a full understanding of what can be done in advance by protective measures, the effect of bomb explosions can be minimized.

Copies of this pamphlet, No. 1, may be secured from The Institute which will quote cost based on the quantity ordered.

**REPORT No. 3**

The Advisory Committee on Civil Defense urges the membership's enthusiastic support and endorsement of the "Bingham Plan," which would provide subterranean shelters in connection with proposed or existing subway lines.

Morris Ketchum, Jr., Committee Chairman, in Report No. 3, called the plan the most practical, economical, and intelligent proposal yet produced for providing both emergency protective shelters and future permanent improvements to New York's public transportation system at minimum cost.

The "Bingham Plan," estimated to cost \$102,000,000, proposed by Sidney H. Bingham, Chairman of the New York City Board of Transportation, utilizes the projected Second Avenue subway line and its connections in mid-Manhattan and in Long Island City as the key factors. Certain suitable sections (those covered by at least 50 feet of earth or 25 feet of solid rock) of this subway would be built as shelters, then linked up in more peaceful times for subway use, making the shelters dual purpose, but not for dual use.

The plan provides for well-dispersed shelters with many ramp entrances, and construction of floodgates and bulkheads to prevent flooding of land areas in case of tunnel rupture. Emergency sleeping accommodations would be available for 101,500 and temporary shelter for 1,000,000 others.

**CIVIL DEFENSE LUNCHEON**

Chapter members' attention was focused on the important problem of civil defense at a luncheon on February 8 when this subject was discussed by President Harry M. Prince, C. McKim Norton, president of the American Institute of Planners and Morris Ketchum, Jr., Chairman of the Chapter's advisory committee on civil defense which has done such a good job in launching the Chapters' own civil defense program.

Mr. Prince, who is also Chairman of the A.I.A. national sub-committee on civil defense, discussed the steps an architect should take when called upon to advise, recommend, plan or supervise problems of protective construction and general planning of buildings under private ownership within the scope of directives set forth by federal, state and local agencies. He asserted that too much emphasis has been placed upon shelters and not enough on other factors such as organization of tenants, warning signals, control rooms and emergency utilities in large buildings and emphasized that a basement or cellar should be used as a shelter only after a technical examination by a qualified architect has found that the ceilings will withstand a debris load, that there is more than one exit from the space, that the cellar is not above utilities which may be disrupted and cause floods or asphyxiation, and that there is an absence of glass areas in the walls surrounding the shelter area. He also supported the Chapter committee's stand that dual purpose garage shelters were uneconomical, impractical and contrary to all knowledge of shelter arrangement and theory of dispersal.

Mr. Norton emphasized the importance of strategic dispersion in sanctioning new plant construction, stating that in his opinion this was the most important single factor from the standpoint of city planning. He pointed out that while the necessities of a speedup in defense production may point to the justification of a third round of packing more employment into our already congested areas, the results of such a policy will be not only to increase all our city planning problems caused by congestion, but to further increase America's vulnerability to attack by air.

Mr. Ketchum discussed his committee's first report which called for a program of immediate protection and disaster relief as stated in a recent supplement to the OCULUS.

**TREKS TO EUROPE**

The United States Travel Agency, Inc. has planned specially arranged "Architects' Treks to Europe" for this spring and summer. The agency has, in the past, competently administered such travel arrangements for A.I.A. members and their families within the United States, as well as Cuba and Mexico. This year architectural highlights of England, Sweden, Switzerland, Italy and France will be featured.

Calendar Itinerary schedules two separate trip dates. The first begins May 20 with Harold R. Sleeper as spring trip leader, while the second begins September 1st with Clair W. Ditchy as fall trip leader — starting place is New York City and travel is by air, motor coach and rail.

Reservations are made through Mr. John E. Smith, United States Travel Agency, 807 15th Street, N.W., Washington 5, D. C.

**LEAGUE DINING ROOM**

The League has agreed to waive the 25¢ service charge per person at committee luncheon meetings in return for a lump sum contributed by the Chapter to cover such service charges.

## CANDIDATES

According to the By-Laws of the Chapter, names of candidates for membership shall be submitted to all members before consideration by the Committee on Admissions. Information received regarding the qualifications of the following candidates will be considered confidential:

## CORPORATE MEMBERSHIP

Robert J. Cummings

*Sponsors:* Andrew J. Thomas and J. Davidson Stephen  
John Holmes Dean

*Sponsors:* Ralph Gulley and Richard M. Bennett  
George Frederic Doczi

*Sponsors:* Ralph Pomerance and Simon Breines  
John George Maniatty

*Sponsors:* J. Davidson Stephen and Andrew J. Thomas  
Alexander McVoy McIntyre

*Sponsors:* John P. Jansson and Vito Battista  
Gray Taylor

*Sponsors:* John P. Jansson and Serge P. Petroff  
Joseph S. Witherow, Jr.

*Sponsors:* J. Davidson Stephen and Andrew J. Thomas

## ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Lillian Bachelis

*Sponsors:* Oscar L. Vaughan and Samuel Katz

Seymour Goldstone

*Sponsors:* Arthur S. Douglass, Jr. and Harry M. Prince  
Arnold S. Rinaldi

*Sponsors:* George Edward Beatty and Benedetto Ferrara  
William Werner Weichelt

*Sponsors:* John P. Jansson and Alfred Rothman  
Richard J. Winn

*Sponsors:* Roy S. Bent and Robert A. Jacobs

## BUILDING CONTROLS — 3rd SUPPLEMENT

Under the overall authority of the Office of Defense Mobilization (See January 1951 OCULUS), the Defense Production Administration now establishes production goals and supervises operations. The National Production Authority (See previous three issues of this Building Controls Summary) carries out the orders of the Defense Production Administration.

The Federal Reserve System has created a new division of Credit Regulations to deal with installment buying and real estate credit.

The following regulations and latest amendments have been issued since the February 1951 issue of the OCULUS. They form the 3rd Supplement to the original Summary of Building Controls in the December 1950 OCULUS. Owing to space limitations, previously published information cannot be repeated, so it is important for interested members to keep these issues on file. The original Summary in December 1950 OCULUS is referred to as "O"; the 1st Supplement in January 1951 OCULUS as "1"; the 2nd Supplement in February 1951 OCULUS as "2".

A file of all listed documents is available for reference in the Chapter Office.

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE —  
NATIONAL PRODUCTION AUTHORITY

NPA Delegation 1—(See 2)—amended Feb. 12, 1951

Amendment permits issuance of rated orders for commercial *office equipment* and supplies and certain miscellaneous items.

Supplement 1 to Delegation 1—Jan. 25, 1951

Delegates authority to Secretary of Defense to reschedule delivery of *aluminum forms* and *products* for aircraft and guided missiles.

NPA Delegations 2, 3 and 4—(See 1)—amended Feb. 12, 1951

Amendment permits issuance of rated orders for commercial *office equipment* and supplies and certain miscellaneous items.

NPA Delegation 7—Feb. 5, 1951—amended Feb. 7, 1951

Delegates authority to directors of regional offices and managers of district offices of Dept. of Commerce to administer applications to *commence construction*, *bardship* and *exemption* applications under NPA Order M-4. New York, New Jersey and Puerto Rico handled from 42 Broadway, New York 4, N. Y.

NPA Delegation 8—Feb. 12, 1951

Delegates authority to *Secretary of State* to apply ratings relating to authorized procurement and construction requirements of *Voice of America*.

NPA Regulation 1—(See 0)—Sept. 18, 1950

NPA Regulation 2—(See 2)—amended Jan. 11, 1951

Pamphlet issued by NPA entitled "Inventory Control and Priorities" giving general *answers to 85* most frequently asked *questions*.

NPA Order M-1—(See 2)—amended Feb. 23, 1951

Minor text changes and revisions to list of *iron* and *steel products* to which order applies.

Supplement 4 to M-1—Feb. 16, 1951

Applies to April, May and June *steel* deliveries for repair and conversion of *seagoing vessels*.

NPA Order M-2—(See 2)—amended Feb. 1, 1951

Amended in its entirety: Places overall limits on consumption of *natural rubber*, *natural rubber latex*, and *total new rubber* (including synthetic); prohibits private *importation* of natural rubber; provides *allocation* of government-produced *synthetic* rubber; provides for increasing production of *camelback* and of products into *standard lines*; restricts natural rubber in *certain products*.

Supplement 1 to M-2—Feb. 19, 1951

Prohibits or limits use of *rubber* in *tires*, *tubes*, conveyor *belts*, *hose*, wire and cable *insulation*.

NPA Order M-4—(See 2)—amended Feb 9 and 19, 1951

Amendments define "*office building*"; exempt *printing establishments* for newspapers, books and periodicals as well as *radio* and *television* buildings, structures or projects from restrictions of order; increase permitted expenditure for *alterations* and *additions* to *hotels*, *office* and *loft buildings* to \$.25/sq. ft., provided *no metal partitions* are used.

NPA Order M-5—(See 0)—amended Feb. 1, 1951

Amendment revises percentages of average monthly shipments above which *aluminum producers* and *fabricators* are not required to accept rated orders.

NPA Order M-7—(See 2)—amended Feb. 1 and 21, 1951

Amendments prohibit use of *aluminum in manufacture* or *assembly* of some 168 items after April 1, but if in process by March 31 may be sold if completed before May 31; of *ducts*, *residential* and *non-residential windows* after July 1, but if in process by April 30 may be completed by June 30; non-residential windows may be completed by June 30, regardless of these limits, if orders were received for same prior to Feb. 20. No one may use prohibited items in construction after May 31 and June 30 respectively unless manufactured within above limits. Manufacturers limited in use of aluminum from Feb. through June to specified percentages of average use.

**NPA Order M-8—(See 2)—amended Jan. 27, 1951**

Amendment prohibits use of *tin* except for certain expressly listed purposes and under expressed limitations; also prohibits, after March 1, any use of tin for a list of 22 purposes.

**NPA Order M-12—(See 2)—amended Feb. 19, 1951**

Amendment makes extensive changes in control of use of *copper and copper base alloys*; modifies list of items prohibited after March 1, 1951 and adds a new list of items prohibited, with certain exceptions, after April 1, 1951 of some 57 items of *builders' hardware, building materials, clothing and dress accessories, furnishings and equipment, furniture and fixtures, miscellaneous hardware, household electrical appliances, refrigeration and air-conditioning equipment and miscellaneous.*

**Direction 1 to M-12—Feb. 1, 1951**

Relates to permitted use of forms and products of *copper* during first quarter of 1951 and illustrates method of computing average monthly use during base period.

**NPA Order M-13—(See 1)—amended Feb. 15, 1951**

Amendment requires producers of high tenacity *rayon* yarn to accept rated orders up to 15% of scheduled monthly production.

**NPA Order M-14—(See 1)—amended Jan. 23 and Feb. 8, 1951**

Amendments prohibit use, with certain exceptions, of *nickel silver and nickel plating*, after March 1, 1951, and of *high nickel alloy and stainless steel* after April 1, 1951, in a list of some 370 items; prohibit manufacturers from extending priority ratings to replace nickel used prior to January 1, 1951.

**NPA Order M-16—(See 1)—amended Jan. 31, 1951**

Amendment includes "miscellaneous producers" of *copper scrap* under provisions of order.

**NPA Order M-20—(See 2)—amended Jan. 29, 1951**

Amendment makes *iron and steel scrap* subject to allocation; places restrictions on shippers and consumers.

**NPA Order M-22—(See 2)—amended Jan. 23, 1951**

Amendment provides for additions to lists of approved *aluminum smelters and fabricators.*

**NPA Order M-24—Jan. 27, 1951**

Applies to permitted uses of *tin plate and terne plate.* Supplements NPA Order M-8.

**NPA Order M-25—Jan. 27, 1951—amended Feb. 23, 1951**

Applies restrictions upon *tin plate and terne plate cans*, their use and specifications. Supplements NPA Orders M-8 and M-24.

**NPA Order M-26—Jan. 27, 1951**

Applies restrictions upon *tin plate closures.* Supplements NPA Order M-24.

**NPA Order M-27—Jan. 27, 1951**

Applies restrictions upon *collapsible tubes*; specifies amount of *tin and aluminum* which may be used. Supplements NPA Orders M-7 and M-8.

**NPA Order M-29—(See 2)—amended Feb. 19, 1951**

Amendment makes minor changes; exempts *deerskins* for personal use or gift.

**NPA Order M-31—Jan. 23, 1951**

Applies to producers and distributors of *chlorine.* Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

**NPA Order M-32—Jan. 23, 1951—amended Feb. 5 1951**

Applies to producers of *ethyl cellulose and DDT.* Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

**NPA Order M-33—Jan. 27, 1951**

Establishes inventory limitations for *molybdenum.* Supplements NPA Regulation 1.

**NPA Order M-34—Feb. 5, 1951**

Applies to tanners, cutters and inventories of *sole leather whole stock, midsoles and inner soles* of military weight and quality. Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

**NPA Order M-35—Feb. 5, 1951**

Prohibits sale or delivery prior to March 15, 1951 of *cattlehides, calfskins or kips* to tanners or converters. Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

**NPA Order M-36—Feb. 8, 1951**

Applies to *paper* manufacturers. Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

**NPA Order M-37—Feb. 14, 1951**

Regulates acceptance, delivery and distribution of *zinc scrap* by purchase, toll agreement or otherwise, and prohibits undue accumulation of same.

**NPA Order M-38—Feb. 16, 1951**

Limits inventories of *lead* and lead containing materials, other than ores and concentrates.

**NPA Order M-39—Feb. 16, 1951**

Limits inventories of *antimony* and antimony containing materials, other than ores and concentrates.

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**BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM**

**Real Estate Credit—Regulation X—(See 2)—amended February 15, 1951**

Restricts *loans on new non-residential construction* to 50% of the value, fully repaid within 25 years. Non-residential structures include *office buildings, warehouses, stores, banks, hotels, motels, motor courts, garages, automobile service stations, restaurants, theaters, clubs.* Reconstruction of existing structures limited to 15% of appraised value.

**Consumer Credit—Regulation W—(See 2)**

**Interpretation to Regulation W—Feb. 1, 1951**

Applies to dealers in used cars.

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**FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION**

**National Housing Act—amendments to Administrative Rules under Sections 8, 203, 203 (d), 207, 213, 603, 603 pursuant to 610, 608 pursuant to 610, and 611—Jan. 12, 1951.**

Amendments modify *eligibility provisions respecting mortgages* concerning two-, three-, and four-family dwellings and multi-family dwellings in conformity with Federal Reserve Board Regulation X as amended January 12, 1951.

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**VETERANS ADMINISTRATION**

**Loan Guaranty Regulations—amendments to Sections 36:4343 and 36:4356—Jan. 12, 1951**

Credit restrictions, formerly applicable to one- and two-family residential units only, now extended to all cases involving purchase, construction, repair, alteration or improvement of residential property except those requiring prior approval under 36:4343. Down payments on two-, three- and four-family units revised to conform with Federal Reserve Board Regulation X.

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**DEFENSE PRODUCTION ADMINISTRATION**

**Delegation 1—corrected Feb. 5, 1951**

*Confirms* all previous *delegations* of authority under Executive Order 10161 (See O) and NPA Delegations 1 through 6 (See 1 and 2).