



# OCULUS

NEW YORK CHAPTER, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS, 115 EAST 40 STREET, NEW YORK 16, NEW YORK  
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ALONZO W. CLARK, SECRETARY; ALICE G. CANTWELL, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY; EDWARD EVERETT POST, EDITOR.

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## BUILDING CONTROLS SUMMARIES

With this issue the "Oculus" has published five summaries of building controls. Because of the amount of space these summaries require and the time involved in preparing them, it has been decided to discontinue this service unless there is sufficient interest on the part of Chapter Members to justify its continuance. Some members have reported that these summaries are of considerable value to them as an overall index of month by month changes in the controls. If other members feel the same way they should write or phone the Chapter Office as soon as possible.

## KEEP THIS DATE—APRIL 24th—12:30 p.m.

On April 24, 1951, at 12:30 p.m. the Chapter will hold its annual pre-National Convention luncheon. You will have an opportunity to discuss the resolutions which the Chapter proposes to present at the National Convention and to vote for the delegates who will represent the Chapter. So—mark Wednesday, April 24th on your calendar now.

## NATIONAL CD BULLETIN No. 1

Since the publication of March OCULUS, The Institute has advised that, upon the urging of the Board of Directors, the National Defense Committee is printing and distributing copies of its Civil Defense Bulletin No. 1 to each Corporate Member free of charge. Additional copies may be secured at 25¢ each by writing directly to The Octagon.

## CONGRATULATIONS

To Morris Ketchum Jr., Chairman of the Chapter's Advisory Committee on Civil Defense, for his Report No. 1, dealing with dual purpose underground garages, which has been adopted by the National Defense Committee as a guide for all other Chapters throughout the country.

## CHAPTER CIVIL DEFENSE REPORT No. 3

Upon receipt of Report No. 3 of the Chapter's Advisory Committee on Civil Defense, advocating the "Bingham Plan" (to provide underground shelters in connection with proposed or existing subway lines), S. H. Bingham, Chairman of the Board of Transportation, expressed his appreciation to Morris Ketchum, Jr., Committee Chairman, in the following words: "It is gratifying indeed to know that the "Bingham Plan" has the support or such estimable organizations as the New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Architects' Council of New York City."

## ARMY CONTRACTS

Attention of all Chapter Members is called to the article in March 12th "Memo from The Octagon" on the subject of Cost-plus-10% contracts with the Army. Those considering such contracts should keep in contact with the progress of A. I. A. negotiations now under way.

## N. Y. CHAPTER — C. S. I.

Nathan Walker will speak to the New York Chapter of

The Construction Specifications Institute, Tuesday, April 24 at 7 P. M. on "Legal Implications in Specification Writing".

Meetings are held in the Pine Room of the League. Chapter members are welcome.

## ARCHITECTS COUNCIL OF NEW YORK CITY

The role of the Architects' Council, as expressed by Mr. Perry Coke Smith, first President of the Council, is that of a service organization on a metropolitan basis. Its wide representation provides a more effective voice than that of individual architects, chapters, and groups in dealing with city wide agencies and city departments.

Part of the Council's development implies a certain amount of disciplinary action; i.e. problems of better business dealing, rather than questions of professional ethics; for instance, the practice of some architects in giving gratuities to departmental employees can be corrected.

The Council is regarded as an agency to expedite dealings with The Bureau of Standards and Appeals, the Department of Housing and Buildings, the Fire Department, etc. The Council may also collect technical information of city-wide implication which can be made available to any of the members interested.

Mr. Del Gaudio, present President of The Council, and New York Chapter delegate, regards the Council as the agency to act for all architects in greater New York in their dealings with city departments. To that end the following Council Committees and chairman have been named.

Civil Defense—Morris Ketchum, Jr.

Department of Housing and Bldgs.—Julius Eckmann

City Planning—Geoffrey Platt

Finance—William Potter

Department of Public Works—Howard S. Patterson

Legislation—Richard Roth

## WHERE DOES THE ARCHITECT FIT IN THE PRESENT CRISIS?

How can our profession play a vital and effective role in the present emergency? This is the question uppermost in the minds of every architect today. Realizing that the answer lies in a coordinated effort on a national level, the AIA has chosen this important question as the theme of its 83rd Annual Convention, to be held at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago, Illinois, May 8 to 11, 1951.

We will profit from the seminars to be held on this absorbing topic, and will have opportunity to exchange ideas with architects from all over the country. We will profit, too, from the exhibits of new products — the first the Institute has sponsored.

Don't forget that the Chicago Chapter has arranged a lot of events for our entertainment, too. So don't miss the fun — and the chance to learn a lot.

For hotel reservations, the Edgewater Beach Hotel or Mr. William H. Binford, 53 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago 4, Illinois, will help.

*AN INVITATION*

The Hon. Frederick H. Zurmühlen, Commissioner of Department of Public Works, will be the guest speaker at the next regular meeting of the Brooklyn Chapter, to be held April 24, 1951, at Michel's Restaurant, 346 Flatbush Avenue, corner 7th Avenue, Brooklyn, at 8 p.m. All New York Chapter members are cordially invited to attend.

*A.I.A. MEMBERSHIP*

Membership in The A.I.A. has been defined by one of the veteran members of the New York Chapter as "the privilege of working in the fraternity of architects toward the common goal of increasing the effectiveness of the profession in the lives of our fellow men."

Is it worth the member's money to "enjoy" that privilege? Almost seven hundred New York architects believe it is. An additional one hundred and twenty-seven Chapter associates believe that the advantages of membership in the A.I.A. are worthwhile.

What advantages? Many are tangible, many intangible. Here are a few tangible advantages:

1. Direct participation in many activities of interest to the profession locally and nationally, such as: (a) Discussion of detailed architectural problems at frequent technical luncheon and evening meetings; (b) The opportunity as a member of an organized group to improve the standards of the profession with regard to public acceptance and legislation affecting the profession.

2. The A.I.A. member is afforded the individual prestige and backing gained by being a member of a recognized association of architects.

3. The opportunity of meeting other members of the profession informally with the advantage of being able to compare notes on mutual problems as they arise from day to day.

4. The direct benefit of learning of the practice of other architects engaged in work which may open opportunities for employment and association.

5. Associate members who hope to become registered architects, may benefit from an "internship" in the profession prior to taking their examinations.

6. Subscription to The A.I.A. Journal, Bulletin, and Memo.

7. Right to attend national conventions of The Institute and vote on decisions affecting the future of the profession.

*A NEW TYPE OF MEETING*

On Monday, March 12th, a small group of new and prospective members met in the office of O'Connor & Kilham. It was the first of a series it is hoped to have in various offices in the city so that the younger members can become acquainted with the architects and what they are doing, and discuss their methods and experience in the advancement (we trust) of architectural design.

In the discussion that followed some remarks were made by Ladislav L. Rado which seem worthwhile noting down. The question was raised: "What is good Architecture?"

Mr. Rado said it starts with a synthesis of all the factors that go to make up a building. A good solution must be found for each part, such as the use of the site, the plan, structure, materials, economics, scale, character and atmosphere. If a good answer has been found for each part, you stand a chance of having a good building. The approach is humble—you can't sit down and design a masterpiece. If you have failed in any step along the way you lose out. It must be creative. Imitation means you have copied solutions to problems that

are not yours. Our new techniques have created many new problems to which the answers are slow in coming. To achieve a human scale, a human quality with new materials is proving difficult. But if you try to put something over along the way—you are a business man and not an architect.

If there are others who would be interested in taking part in these meetings, please notify the Chapter Office. It is intended to keep them small so ideas can be discussed around the table.

*SELECTIVE SERVICE*

A representative of General Hershey, appearing recently before The Board of Directors of A. I. A. explained the method of application for exemptions under the Selective Service Act of 1948 as follows:

Selective Service Regulations provide local boards with ample authority to defer an employee whose employment is found to be necessary to the maintenance of the national health, safety, or interest.

The Selective Service Act of 1948, as amended, prohibits deferments by groups or categories; it requires that each deferment granted must be given on the basis of the individual status of each registrant. Responsibility for the classification of registrants lies initially with the local board. Rules and regulations as prescribed by the President and under which local boards operate are broad. They are not complicated nor do they confuse the issue by attempting to spell out the case of any person or group of persons.

Any employer of civilian manpower requesting deferment of an individual liable under The Act may present to that individual's local draft board all details in support of any such request. The employer may present his request in writing in any manner he deems appropriate inasmuch as no special form is provided or required in this instance. If a request for occupational deferment is denied by the local board, the registrant or his employer, if he filed a request for deferment prior to the classification from which he desires to appeal, has the right to appeal as set forth in the Selective Service Regulations. If the appeal board upholds the classification given by the local board, but, if in doing so, one or more members of the appeal board dissents, then the appellant has recourse to the National Selective Service Appeal Board which has adequate power to act in all cases coming before it.

It is to be observed from the information outlined above, that either the registrant or his employer may request occupational deferment and in support of such request they are at liberty to set forth any information which they believe should be considered as indicating that the registrant's activity in the above-mentioned employment is necessary to the maintenance of the national health, safety, or interest.

It is suggested that in all cases complete information should be provided to a registrant's local board and it should normally be submitted with the registrant's questionnaire or at least prior to the classification action of the local board. This is necessary to vest in the employer his right of appeal.

*ANY ARCHITECTS WITH ITCHING FEET?*

The Festival of Britain soon opens with a great fanfare. As an added attraction for Architects, The Royal Institute of British Architects is holding its annual conference in Belfast from May 30th thru June 2nd. Any members of the New York Chapter who expect to be overseas are cordially invited to attend the festivities. Just to read of the nine tours planned to points of

interest in the Ulster countryside make one want to start packing. Complete program information on the Conference is on file in The Chapter office for any lucky travellers.

And the South Pacific calls too. The Royal Australian Institute of Architects is holding its annual convention in the spring—November, 1951. The "Down Under" architects will welcome any Chapter members who may be travelling so far afield. If there is any possibility that you may be able to attend, will you please notify the Chapter office.

Of course, if you have only a little itch—Chicago in May is a fine attraction.

#### 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

Arthur Obokiah Davis, Jr.

*Sponsors:* Dean W. Axline and Steward Wagner  
Isaiah Ehrlich

*Sponsors:* Maxfield F. Vogel and Edward R. McMahon  
George Martin Hopkinson

*Sponsors:* Harvey P. Clarkson and Serge P. Petroff

#### ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP

Edward J. Kuntz

*Sponsors:* Charles C. Platt and Alton Lee Craft  
Frederick Wildes Adams, Jr.

*Sponsors:* Dean W. Axline and James B. Klein  
Clarence Parker

*Sponsors:* William H. Crook and Cornelius J. White

#### BUILDING CONTROLS — 4th SUPPLEMENT

The following regulations and latest amendments have been issued since the March 1951 issue of OCULUS. They form the 4th Supplement to the 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 "0"; the 1st Supplement in January 1951 OCULUS as "1"; the 2nd Supplement in February 1951 OCULUS as "2"; the 3rd Supplement in March 1951 OCULUS as "3". A file of all listed documents is available for reference in the Chapter Office.

#### U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE — NATIONAL PRODUCTION AUTHORITY

NPA Delegation 7—(See 3)—amended Mar. 14, 1951

Amendment adds 11 *field offices* empowered to act on applications to *commence commercial construction*.

NPA Delegation 9—Feb. 26, 1951

Delegates authority to Secretary of the Interior over *chemicals* used principally in *petroleum industry*.

NPA Regulation 2—(See 3)—amended Feb. 27, 1951

Interpretation 1 to Reg. 2—Feb. 27, 1951

Amendment rescinds amendment of Jan. 11, 1951, (See 2), insofar as this applied to ratings on *production accessories*.

NPA Regulation 4 and Direction 1 to Reg. 4—Feb. 27, 1951

Permits any business enterprise, Government Agency, public or private institution to use a *DO rating* (DO-97) for limited quantities of *maintenance, repair and operating supplies* (MRO) and for minor capital additions. Not for materials for personal or household use.

NPA Order M-1—(See 3)—amended Mar. 1, 1951

Requirement for acceptance of rated orders for *carbon and alloy plates* raised from 15% to 20% of average monthly shipments, beginning May 1951.

NPA Order M-2—(See 3)—amended Mar. 1 and Apr. 1, 1951

First amendment revised order in its entirety; prohibits, after March 15, 1951, use of natural rubber in any product not specifically listed and limits percentage of same for permitted products. Second amendment prohibits spare tire on new cars; allows manufacturers to use, in April, 90% of average base consumption of new rubber; prohibits use of DO-97 ratings for tires, tubes, transportation items; limits inventory of same.

NPA Order M-3—(See 0)—amended Mar. 15, 1951

Amendment adds *tantalum* bearing steels to restrictions of order; prohibits use of columbium bearing steels where columbium-tantalum bearing steels may be substituted, or ratio of either to carbon to exceed 8 to 1.

NPA Order M-4—(See 3)—amended Mar. 20, 1951

Amendment defines "*Construction Cost*", "*Hotel*"; adds *store-space of department stores* to permitted alterations and additions under same rules as for hotels; exempts construction for *National Advisory Committee for Aeronautics and terminal warehouses* for common carriers. Requires authorization for certain construction to be filed on NPAF-24 with *local field offices* of Dept. of Commerce.

NPA Order M-5—(See 3)—amended Mar. 7. and 26, 1951

Amendments increase percentages for acceptance of rated orders by *aluminum producers, fabricators, distributors and jobbers*.

NPA Order M-6—(See 1)—amended Mar. 15, 1951

Amendment requires minimum allotment for *carbon steel products* to steel distributors regardless of entitlement on percentage basis; defines "base period".

NPA Order M-7—(See 3)—amended Mar. 9 and 31, 1951

Amendments limit *fabricators of aluminum* to 65% of average quarterly use for second quarter of 1951; postpone until May 1, 1951, the prohibition on using aluminum for some 200 civilian products; include users of aluminum powder under order; authorize acceptance of rated orders for armed forces for certain items on prohibited list; exempt aluminum conductors and accessories for utility companies.

NPA Order M-8—(See 3)—amended Mar. 12 and Apr. 2, 1951

Amendments place domestic users of *pig tin* under allocation control May 1, 1951; permit tin plate andterneplate manufacturers 95% and others 90% of base period in second quarter of 1951; makes RFC sole importer of tin after March 12, 1951; allow suppliers to acquire normal resale inventory for end-use certificates; exempt *scrap* dealers and smelters from end-use certification in case of low grade scrap.

NPA Order M-12—(See 3)—amended Feb. 27 and Mar. 9, 1951

Amendments permit use of *copper fins* in *heating and ventilating equipment* until April 30, 1951; set limits for copper and brass products for second quarter; revise lists of prohibited products.

Direction 1 to M-12—(See 3)—amended Mar. 14, 1951

Amendment permits *production* (mining) *shut downs* to be excluded when computing average monthly use.

Direction 2 to M-12—Mar. 27, 1951

Relates to permitted use of *copper forms and products* specified in M-12 for second quarter of 1951.

**NPA Order M-14—(See 3)—amended Feb. 28 and Mar. 31, 1951**

Amendments limit use of primary *nickel* to 65% of average quarterly use for second quarter of 1951 for non-rated orders; cut allowed percentage of nickel silver for flat ware; define and exempt certain items of prohibited list using *nickel bearing stainless steel, high alloy nickel, nickel plating* or *nickel silver*; add new list of items prohibited after April 15, 1951; exempt materials in inventory prior to April 1, 1951 or on producers' March schedule and delivered prior to July 1, 1951, if wholly unsuitable to manufacture or assembly of permitted items.

**NPA Order M-17—(See 1)—amended Mar. 23, 1951**

Amendment adds *rigid electric conduit* to limitations of order.

**NPA Order M-19—(See 2)—amended Mar. 16, 1951**

Amendment defines base period, revises list of permitted *cadmium* containing items, and establishes procedure for delivery.

**NPA Order M-22—(See 3)—amended Mar. 1, 1951**

Amendment adds 22 smelters and 2 fabricators to list authorized to melt and use *aluminum scrap*.

**NPA Order M-23—(See 2)—amended Mar. 31, 1951**

Amendment revises required reserves of *carded cotton sales yarn* for filling rated orders.

**NPA Order M-25—(See 3)—amended Mar. 16, 1951**

Amendment adds further exemptions on *cans*.

**Direction 1 to M-25—Mar. 12, 1951**

Applies to calculation of base period by *canners* of food and other products.

**NPA Order M-32—(See 3)—amended Mar. 1, 1951**

Amendment adds *Barium carbonate* and *Melamine* to controlled chemicals.

**NPA Order M-33—(See 3)—amended Mar. 27, 1951**

Amendment constitutes a completely new order; makes *molybdenum* subject to allocation and prohibits delivery, with exceptions, without NPA authorization.

**NPA Order M-34—(See 3)—amended Mar. 8, 1951**

Amendment permits wholesalers, commercial merchants and dealers to buy *leather whole stock* for resale to sole cutters.

**NPA Order M-35—(See 3)—amended Feb. 28, 1951**

Amendment provides for allocation of *cattlehides, calfskins* and *kips*.

**NPA Order M-36—(See 3)—amended Mar. 21, 1951**

Amendment revises lists defining government orders and paper grades for which reserves must be kept for *government orders for papers*.

**NPA Order M-40—Feb. 28, 1951**

Establishes "pool order" system for manufacturers of *machine tools*, under **General Services Administration**.

**NPA Order M-41—Feb. 28, 1951**

Establishes *distribution* system for *machine tools*; 70% to go to armed services and their contractors.

**NPA Order M-42—Mar. 2, 1951**

Applies to producers of *insect wire screening*. Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

**NPA Order M-43—Mar. 2, 1951**

Applies to producers of *construction machinery and equipment*; requires acceptance of rated orders up to 50% of average monthly shipments. Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

**NPA Order M-44—Mar. 5, 1951**

Establishes planned production program for *heavy power equipment* costing more than \$5,000.

**NPA Order M-45—Mar. 16, 1951, amended Mar. 31, 1951**

Establishes allocation system for three classes of *chemicals* and allied products; prohibits delivery, with exceptions, without NPA authorization. Amendment places *naphthenic acid* under allocation March 31, 1951.

**NPA Order M-46—Mar. 12, 1951**

Establishes priorities assistance for *petroleum* and *gas industries* for MRO supplies and laboratory equipment (supplementing NPA Regulation 4) and for production equipment.

**NPA Order M-47—Mar. 7, 1951**

Limits to 80% of average use the manufacture and assembly of some 55 *items of iron and steel* in categories of *furniture and fixtures; household appliances; jewelry, games, novelties and other personal items; transportation; utensils and cutlery*; and miscellaneous, after April 1, 1951.

**NPA Order M-48—Mar. 9, 1951**

Permits use of *bismuth* and bismuth alloys, after April 1, 1951, only for specific list of processes and products; establishes limitations on acceptance of rated orders and inventories.

**NPA Order M-49—Mar. 15, 1951**

Makes *columbium* and *tantalum* subject to allocation; prohibits deliveries, with exceptions, without NPA authorization.

**NPA Order M-50—Apr. 1, 1951**

Provides for special application for procurement and use of materials (initially *aluminum conductors* and accessories) by *electric utilities*; supplements NPA Regulation 4.

**NPA Order M-51—Mar. 31, 1951**

Prohibits creation of new designs of *glass containers*.

**NPA Order M-52—Mar. 31, 1951**

Limits *molybdenum* contents of stainless steel to 2.5% maximum by weight.

**NPA Order M-53—Mar. 31, 1951**

Applies to producers of *cotton duck*, provides rules for rated orders, places restrictions on use of looms. Supplements NPA Regulation 2.

#### BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE FEDERAL RESERVE SYSTEM

**Real Estate Credit—Regulation X—(See 3)—amended Mar. 5 and 21, 1951**

Amendments allow for variance from terms of regulation for specific, new *defense construction* after recommendations by **Housing and Home Finance Administration**; permit *application, by April 15, 1951, for exemption* from credit restrictions if substantial commitments had been made before Jan. 12, 1951 for building a multi-unit residence (or major addition or improvement thereto), or before Feb. 15, 1951 for building a non-residential structure (or major addition or improvement thereto) and if failure to obtain credit would cause clear and substantial financial hardship; replace May 1, 1951 *cut off date for exempted credit* by "a date 32 days after construction is completed".

**Consumer Credit—Regulation W—(See 3)—amended Feb. 26, 1951**

Amendment exempts temporary, *short-term rentals* from regulation if not for longer than 3 months, and not related to subsequent lease or sale.

**Interpretation to Reg. W—Feb. 27, 1951**

Evaporative air coolers with no refrigerating unit are not "air conditioners, room unit" under meaning of regulation.