

NEW YORK CHAPTER

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AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

O C U L U S

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SPRING FROLIC

Gather 'round, ye Architects! Sweet 'twill be
to fill with dance The Colony.*

Bring wife or girl. The AIA's decree

"Its' time for conviviality". Lester Lanin

Sets the pace with jocund blare

From out his horn. His band will aid

In swing and sway to charm the shade

And rout the dusky wings of care.

Tango, waltz, mambo, samba

Every one will dance who can.

We'll kick our heels high in the air

And tickle both the feet of Pan.

At 10:15 a salute to fame as we bestow

The Medal of Honor and then acclaim

An Associate Member, honorary -

Supper in the adjacent lounge at 11:30

Will spur us on for further fun, till

One a. m. and the requiem.

* 9 p. m. Thursday, April 12th at The Colony
Club, 51 East 62nd Street.

COMING EVENTS

March 29, Thursday, Gallery A - 12:30 P.M.	Chapter Meeting "Mixed Menu"
April 4, Wednesday, Gallery A - 5:15 - 6:15 P.M.	Public Relations For You
April 12, Thursday, Colony Club - 9 P.M. - 1 A.M.	New York Chapter's 87th Anniversary Supper Dance
April 17, Tuesday, Gallery A - 12:30 P.M.	Pre-Convention Luncheon

PUBLIC RELATIONS

The excellent series of talks in "Public Relations For You", sponsored by the Chapter's Public Relations Committee will hold its next meeting on April 4, 1956.

On February 9th, Mr. James L. Holton, real estate editor of the World Telegram and Sun, discussed "The Architect and the Newspaper". Mr. Holton's realistic talk brought out the fact that in a large city like New York the daily papers do not have the space for other than major projects, and that it is the paper's responsibility to publish that in which the most people are interested, including the oddities - those aspects of the building industry that are unique and different. His frank statements to the effect that the amount of space given over to general news about building and architecture in the real estate sections is directly proportional to the amount of advertising received and that art and literature receive more "news" space than architecture because they are supported by a considerable amount of related advertising should serve as a cathartic to our thinking on "publicity".

On March 8th, another publications field was heard from when the committee was host to the editors of the three leading architectural magazines: Douglas Haskell of the Architectural Forum; Thomas Creighton, Progressive Architecture; John Knox Shear of the Architectural Record. Their common plea was that we act as a body - that we make our public recommendations as a profession - that we promote our interests as a profession - and not as individuals.

U. S. CAPITOL BUILDING

At the 1955 Convention of the A. I. A. a resolution was passed unanimously urging that the east front of the U. S. Capitol Building be not extended or changed. In spite of numerous protests this project is still advancing.

Lorimer Rich will, with lantern slides, discuss this matter at the March 29th meeting of the Chapter and it is hoped that our protest may be again vigorously registered in Congress before it is too late to prevent this desecration.

PIER LUIGI NERVI

On Thursday, April 26th at 8:30 P.M., Pier Luigi Nervi will speak on "Architecture and Construction" at Columbia University's Schermerhorn Hall, Room 501. Bruno Funaro, Assistant Dean of Columbia University's School of Architecture, extends to all New York Chapter members an invitation to hear this noted Italian Architect and Engineer.

A. I. A. CENTENNIAL

Through most of his life a man keeps quiet about his age although, unlike his counterpart, he is seldom apt to falsify it when it is put to him point blank. But there are reasons, sometimes good ones, which make him reticent over the matter - that is of course until some great milestone in his life has been reached. Then his years will, without warning, burst out all over him with unconstrained pride.

Thus it is with the A. I. A. Behind the scenes, in committee, the pride is welling up and great preparations are underway - for next year (February 23, 1957 to be exact) the A. I. A. will celebrate that greatest of milestones, its centenary. From the New York area E. James Gambaro of the Brooklyn Chapter is serving on the National Committee. A committee for the observance of the centennial in New York City is already at work and, among other things, will be responsible for the dedication ceremonies in connection with the commemorative tablet the Institute is to erect on the site of its founding. Daniel Schwartzman of the New York Chapter is the Committee's chairman. Other officers are as follows:

Vice Chairman:	Irving P. Marks, Brooklyn
Secretary:	Richard B. Snow, New York
Treasurer:	William Potter, New York

All five New York City Chapters are represented on this committee. The New York Chapter's own committee includes Edgar Williams, Esmond C. Shaw and Harold Sleeper, Chairman.

Similar preparations are also underway throughout the country on a local level, and the Centennial's national celebration will come to a head during The National Convention held that year in Washington, D. C.

M. I. T.'s John Burchard is doing a book on The Social Impact of American Architecture. Henry Saylor, editor of the A. I. A. Journal is preparing a history of the Institute. Research fellowships are to be established as a project of the American Architectural Foundation and talk of exhibitions, Architect's weeks, commemorative medals and postage stamps are all filling the air.

HOSPITAL STUDY GROUP

On February 23rd the Hospital Study Group held the first of a series of discussions of various phases of Hospital planning problems. New York Chapter member Alonzo W. Clark, Dr. E. Dwight Barnett, Director of Institute of Administrative Medicine, Columbia University and Mr. John Danielson, Administrator, North Shore Hospital, Manhasset, L. I., made up the panel which discussed Planning for Hospital Services: The Essentials and the Interrelation of Services. The program for the balance of the year will be arranged in the near future.

URBAN DESIGN CONFERENCE

Harvard University's Graduate School of Design is sponsoring an Invitation Conference on Urban Design April 9-10, 1956. According to the Dons the conference is intended to be exploratory and is to try to find a common basis for the joint work of the architect, the landscape architect and the city planner.

Those interested in attending should write to the Graduate School of Design, Robinson Hall, Harvard University, Cambridge, Massachusetts.

ARCHITECTURE - U. S. A.

The film Architecture - U. S. A., which has been sponsored by the Arnold W. Brunner Scholarship of the New York Chapter, A. I. A., is going the rounds and is meeting with considerable success. Chapter members who are interested in showing the film should make arrangements with Mrs. Henkel at the Chapter Office.

88TH A. I. A. CONVENTION

As the old saw has it, March hints and April mentions - bring forth May Conventions. And so it is again. We are approaching the period of annual recapitulation summing up the year's work before the Annual Convention to be held in Los Angeles from May 15th to 18th.

For any committees or individuals with material or resolutions which they would like brought up in Los Angeles, our own pre-convention meeting on April 17th will give them an opportunity to present it for the Chapter's consideration.

The convention theme this year is "Architecture for the Good Life" a general sentiment few will dispute. The convention will investigate for whom and how. For those interested in some field work following the convention a trip to Japan has been arranged. If you are either available for the first or interested in both, please inform Mrs. Henkel at the Chapter Office.

CHAPTER EXHIBIT AT HOME SHOW

The New York Chapter's House Consulting Committee is planning an exhibit at the 1956 International Home Building Exposition to be held at the new Coliseum May 12-20, 1956. According to Mortimer E. Freehof, Chairman of the Sub-Committee in charge of the exhibit, tentative plans call for a graphic exposition of the architect's services together with photographs and models to illustrate the results. Chapter members will be present to answer questions on home building problems.

Volunteers are needed to serve on the Sub-Committee arranging the exhibit and to staff the exhibit for two hour periods from May 12-20 inclusive between 11 A. M. and 11 P. M. (2 P. M. - 11 P. M. on Sundays). A few good house models are also sought for the exhibit. Anyone interested in any of these activities should notify the Chapter Office.

CANDIDATES

Information regarding the qualifications of the following candidates for membership will be considered confidential by the Admissions Committee.

Corporate Membership

Nelson Orville Gould
Henry Merkin
John Larkin O'Brien, Jr.

Frank J. Roorda
Richard Raymond Scherer

Associate Membership

Victor Anthony Cirringione
Fredric William Neuwirth

Sponsors: Abraham Sperling and Daniel Schwartzman
Sponsors: William Lescaze and Linda Ericson