

JANUARY 1951

- This month the entire issue of P/A is a Newsletter. The usual paragraphs about business prospects are contained in the text running through the body of the issue. From P/A's survey of the profession, it looks like a busy year, despite restrictions and diversions of materials. This estimate is borne out by other observers and forecasters--Myron Matthews of Dow Service, for instance, says "the construction picture is not to be anywhere near as gloomy as some have predicted." This despite mortgage restrictions in residential building and the shutdown of amusement construction, "and not withstanding a possible cutback in construction of stores and some other types of commercial building."
- Few architects are happy that war brings work, but certain defense activities will call on the designers' abilities, and at the same time much institutional and commercial work will continue. The year ended with the boom in building showing no signs of slacking off, except in house building. November was a record month. Even though residential work dropped 10% from October, even in that category the construction value of over a billion dollars was 36% above last November's and the highest November total on record. Private nonresidential work gained all along the line; public work (except defense contracts) declined in dollar volume of construction.
- National Production Authority orders are now coming fast. Order M-6 requires steel producers to establish regular allotments for purchases by steel distributors, based upon their average purchases for the first nine months of 1950, to be filled after mills have met defense requirements. Order M-7 was the anticipated directive on civilian use of aluminum, limiting use in manufacturing or construction, during 1951, to 65% of any company's use during first six months of 1950. The industry immediately responded by pointing to possibility of expansion of aluminum production, and to possible emergency use of foreign aluminum. Order M-8 similarly allocated use of tin, and M-9 dealt with zinc.
- An international competition for the design of a memorial to be built in Jerusalem, honoring the late Dr. Theodore Herzl, "founder of modern Zionism," is being conducted through the Herzl Memorial Committee, 16 E. 86 St., New York, N. Y. Three prizes total about \$14,000. Architects and sculptors are invited to compete. Closing date is May 15, 1951. Judging will be in Israel by an architectural jury.
- Arthur Fleischman Company, 12585 Gratiot Ave., Detroit, Mich., is running a competition for carpet designs. First prize is \$1000. Entries are due February 15, 1951.
- Competition for town plan of Stockholm, Sweden, for which over 200 entries were received from many countries, was recently judged by a jury which included Sven Markelius and Sir Patrick Abercrombie. All prizes and mentions went to Swedish architects, with the exception of an entry sent from the U.S. by a team com-

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