WE ARE INVOLVED IN POLITICS!

David F. M. Todd, FAIA

The full-page AIA Resolution in the Times of July 8 settled the question of whether architects should be involved in politics. We are involved. Many of us would say it's about time.

My reading of the Chapter tells me that we have arrived at this point not out of guilt but out of a sense of survival — the survival of the City. The major shift in attitude lies in the identification of the public, rather than the individual, as the client. We may still go on serving our individual clients much as before, except as technology and economic forces change our traditional methods. It is when we individual architects come together as a collective body that new precepts and new causes will be formed.

The job at hand is to make sure there is reality behind the appearance of change. We can start by obliterating the image of the AIA as a gentleman's club (which it once was) and denying our role as a trade union (which, if it ever existed, was woefully ineffective). We cannot mean what we say about the public cause if we view ourselves primarily as a benefit organization. Nor are we likely to be effective if we go to the other extreme and consider ourselves the vital force on the urban scene, with the entire physical environment as our thing. Our role must lie with others — planners, community organizations, students, including those who avowedly will have no part of us, and legislators — who agree with us on the desperate needs of the City, on the necessity for social and economic revolution in the ghettos and in the institutions of politics, finance, taxation, and the construction industry. Such advocacy, to be effective, must rest within the areas of our professional competence. We can very well question the validity of vested interests in land and labor without violating our personal views of the nature of man and the universe.

Whatever our involvement in the urban crisis may be, we cannot ignore the rich tradition of architecture itself. The fundamental policy of the Chapter must therefore aim toward the creation of a climate in which the tangible values of architecture as an expression of the spirit of all the people can flourish. Immediate answers and immediate action have enormous appeal in meeting today's needs, but we must be prepared to take unpopular stands on behalf of future generations. We must consider every position in terms of the long view. What forms the practice of architecture will take in the years ahead, by big firms or small, indigenous or superimposed, remain to be seen. These will of course be part of our concern; but whatever the direction, quantitative solutions alone will not be enough. The fundamental goal is the quality of the environment.

Past President Lathrop Douglass presenting the Chapter's Award of Merit to William S. Paley at the June Annual Luncheon.

$15 MILLION DOLLARS, ETHICS, AND NYSAA DUES TO BE DISCUSSED SEPT. 9

Two subjects of immediate importance to the membership — the recent AIA Convention and the proposed NYSAA dues increase — will be reported on and discussed at a special Chapter meeting on Tuesday, September 9 at 5:00 p.m.

Certain matters arising out of the Convention will require positive Chapter action. First, the “Student Proposal” (see the text of this Resolution on page 4) commits the profession to establish programs which seek solutions to our environmental problems “in line with the $15,000,000 goal”; while this Chapter has certain programs in being, others must be developed this year on a much wider scale. Second, the proposed new Ethical Standards, which could lead to a complete redefinition of our professional role, will be reviewed.

The New York State Association of Architects intends to raise its dues from $15 to $35. NYSAA President-Elect Albert Melniker will be there to explain and answer questions. This is your only chance to act if you object. The raise will be voted upon at the NYSAA Convention October 20-23.
Leon Brand appointed Chapter representative to
Ralph Pomerance appointed Chapter representative
Joint Committee on Environment (New York Chap­
The Master Plan for this project was approved by the
At this writing there is controversy concerning the
• July 9: Created a Special Committee to Review
• Approved letter from President Todd to Ford
• Created a Special Committee to Review Proposed Revised Ethical Standards, with Herbert
Saul Edelbaum, Secretary
Samuel M. Kurtz, Treasurer

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ACTIONS: JUNE 18
• Ralph Pomerance appointed Chapter representative for 1969-70 on Board of Ed Advisory Committee.
• Leon Brand appointed Chapter representative to Joint Committee on Environment (New York Chapters of AIA, AIP, ASCE, ASIA).
• Approved letter from President Todd to Ford Foundation expressing the Chapter's intent to participate in "Architecture in the Neighborhoods" program. Allocated $5,000 from Chapter general funds toward college tuition and living expenses of trainees in program. See opposite column.
• July 9: Created a Special Committee to Review Proposed Revised Ethical Standards, with Herbert Oppenheimer as chairman, and Messrs. Cutler, Hopf, Hutchins, Polshek, Daniel Schwartzman, Wasserman, Woodbridge.

BATTERY PARK CITY
The Master Plan for this project was approved by the Planning Commission on August 20. It would be the largest and most complex development in the country's history. The Chapter has supported the plan in a statement before the Commission on July 16, heartily endorsing the quality of the design and the concept of developing the project in strata separating the means of transportation in a way not seen since Grand Central and Rockefeller Center.

At this writing there is controversy concerning the housing mix, and this will be the principal issue at the Board of Estimate hearing. The original proposal, one third of the 15,000 units to be "low and moderate" income (actually 1,000 of those low), was widely attacked. The Mayor now recommends 1/3 low and 1/3 moderate. Much is being said in favor of providing low-income housing in Manhattan, not relegating it to other boroughs. Some want to see this new land (it will mostly be on new fill) used for housing tenants during relocation to new developments to be built within existing communities. The question of whether too much potential city income will be sacrificed if the majority of units are low income is a major issue. In a campaign year when housing is a great issue, the forthcoming Board of Estimate hearing will be significant.

ARCH–NYCAIA TRAINING PROGRAM ENTERS SECOND YEAR
Need a good draftsman? The Chapter, as its part of the co-sponsorship of the program known as "Architecture in the Neighborhoods", has agreed to make arrangements for 25 students to be employed in architectural offices in late September. The Equal Opportunities Committee, of which Rolland Thompson has been appointed the new Chairman, will be in charge of organizing this effort, and representatives of offices that employed students last year will assist.

This program was described in the June OCULUS. Supported by the Ford Foundation, it has proved to be a unique and successful effort to introduce black and Puerto Rican young people into architecture, with college and a degree as the goal. After a summer's introductory training, students do architectural (not office boy) work during the day and attend evening classes in academic subjects, partly remedial (as many are drop-outs). This "cart before the horse" procedure, whereby good draftsmen develop quickly without the usual technical training ahead of time, has been so effective—one reason being the superiority of the students recruited by ARCH—that the firms which employed them last year all say that they, not the students, benefitted most.

In agreeing to co-sponsor the program this year, the Chapter has also committed itself to contribute funds on a matching basis with the Ford Foundation for the tuition and living expenses of those students who are accepted by colleges in the spring. This past year all concerned were caught by surprise when several students were accepted by Michigan and Kansas, and some generous impromptu contributions from employing firms helped considerably. This spring this situation will be planned for in advance, and a fund-raising campaign will be organized by Richard Roth, Sr.

Architectural offices, including those in City and other public agencies, interested in participating in this program by employing one or more students should get in touch with George Lewis at Chapter Headquarters. A meeting is scheduled for September, at which representatives of interested offices can hear Arthur Symes, Director of ARCH, explain details of the program, including the kind of work to be expected of the students. Repeat: Need a good draftsman?

EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SCHOLARSHIPS
The Equal Opportunities Committee has allocated $5,000 of its Scholarship Fund in the NYCAIA Foundation for awards to students from minority groups to attend the four accredited schools of architecture in New York City. Grants ranging from $200 to $600 were given to Sylvia Ramos, Harold Massop, Wendell Smith, Errol Crawford, Delia Blanco, James Strauder, Calvin Jones of Pratt Institute; Maximo Disla and Pedro Hazel of Columbia; Floyd Graham, Lee Harris, and Wesley Williams at City College; and Aeon Plummer at Institute of Design and Construction.
The composition of this Commission reflects the profession's increasing concentration on urban problems and architectural education. Several adjustments, including formation of certain new committees, have been made in order to define specific programs and relate them within commissions. An outline follows.


Most issues considered by this Commission will involve more than one committee; members of several committees may be called upon to deal with specific issues. The new Master Plan Committee will develop the Chapter's response to the forthcoming Plan drafted by the City Planning Department. The Housing Committee is placed in this Commission because of housing's social and physical effect on planning.

**Commission on City and State Affairs**, Jeh Johnson, Chairman. Legislative, Natural Environment, Public Agencies, Building Code.

While this Commission will deal primarily with public issues other than urban planning, it will of necessity coordinate closely with the Urban Planning Commission. Natural Environment's work relates to a wide range of City and State agencies. The Legislative Committee will examine bills of crucial importance to the profession in the State Legislature and the City Council. The Building Code Committee will analyze the way the new Code is to be used in practice. Public Agencies will deal with architects' relations with government agencies; this Committee grows out of the ad hoc Committee on Architectural Services for NYC Schools and Public Work.

**Commission on Building Design**, Lawrence Litchfield, Chairman. School and College Architecture, Hospitals and Health, Residential Design, Contractor Relations, Financing of Construction, and the Committee on Technology.

The composition of this Commission reflects the Chapter's immediate concern with the design and execution of certain building types. The Committee on Technology (formerly the Technical Committee) will continue to arrange late afternoon programs on a wide range of subjects; it may cooperate with other committees on some of them. The former committees on public and commercial buildings have been absorbed by the Urban Planning Commission. The Financing of Construction Committee is expected to examine in particular how speculative building comes about.

**Commission on Internal Affairs**, Thomas Galvin, Chairman. By-Laws, Corporate Practice, Fees and Contracts, Headquarters, Meetings, Membership, Office Practice.

The Fees and Contracts Committees have been combined. The Corporate Practice Committee will continue to deal with bills on this subject before the State Legislature.


The Architectural Education Committee, formerly the Architectural School Liaison, will deal with common concerns of the five accredited architectural schools in the city (including Cornell's local program) and the profession. Student Affairs will provide a medium for joint student activities. Continuing Education, a new committee, will work on opportunities for further professional education. Technical Education, also a new committee, will concern itself with architectural technicians' training. Education Advisory's program is directed toward how architecture and the environment are taught in the public schools.

**Commission on Public Affairs**, Edgar Tafel, Chairman. Exhibits, Oculus, Publications, Speakers Bureau, Visitors.

This Commission is essentially unchanged.

The following committees are in a separate category reporting directly to the Executive Committee: Public Affairs Advisory, Awards, Brunner, LeBrun, and Stewardson.

**CHAPTER LEADERSHIP FOR 1969-70**

At the 102nd Annual Meeting on June 4, Chapter members elected the following officers and members of the Executive Committee: David F. M. Todd, FAIA, President; Giorgio Cavaglieri, FAIA, First Vice President and President-Elect; Richard Roth, Sr., FAIA, and Herbert B. Oppenheimer, Vice Presidents; Saul Edelbaum, Secretary; and Samuel M. Kurtz, Treasurer. David R. Glasser, Jeh V. Johnson, and Lawrence S. Litchfield were elected to two-year terms on the Executive Committee; Leon Brand, Edgar Tafel, and Thomas Galvin begin the second year of their terms.

Incoming President David F. M. Todd, principal of the firm of David Todd and Associates, Architects, has been closely involved with community affairs and matters concerning the profession of architecture. He joined the AIA in 1954 and has chaired the Chapter's Committees on Office Practice, Fees and Contracts, Professional Practice, and By-Laws; he has been Vice
President in 1964-65 and 1968-69. Mr. Todd was named a Fellow in recognition of his service to the profession.

Also a CSI Fellow, Mr. Todd has been particularly active in the Community Service Society's Committee on Housing and Urban Development on its subcommittees on code enforcement and housing legislation. A Manhattan resident, he is a former member of Community Planning Board No. 8.

NOTES ON THE AIA CONVENTION

The A.I.A. Convention in June was really three simultaneous and overlapping conventions: official, student and black. The effect on the profession will be profound. Students, A.I.A.-affiliated and not, appeared at a meeting open to all comers and told the architects that they must prove their seriousness of purpose by raising or otherwise producing $15 million in the coming year toward solving the environmental crisis (see resolution which resulted, below). Sixty-odd black professionals, half of them non-A.I.A., met as a national group for the first time in sessions running into the late hours. Students were everywhere, urging positive action, never disruptive. Nobody who was there will forget Taylor Culver. Position papers of The Architects' Resistance (TAR) were on every chair seat when the doors opened the first day.

At a full meeting on equal opportunities, our member Marcus Caines spoke effectively on this Chapter's programs, describing them as miniscule but valuable as experience and a start. Much was learned on this subject from speakers from other cities. A lot more happened; this is not meant to be a complete summary. The following describes many of the significant resolutions, some quoted in full.

George Lewis

THE MOST SIGNIFICANT 1969 AIA CONVENTION RESOLUTIONS

National priorities

The following resolution appeared as a full-page advertisement in the New York Times on July 8, attracting wide attention:

"It has become clear in both moral and economic terms that our nation can no longer afford or pretend to intervene in the political and military affairs of nations throughout the world, maintain a military and weapons establishment of unlimited size, explore the moon and, at the same time, rebuild our decaying cities, provide an adequate supply of housing, and finance domestic programs needed to solve pressing social problems. "Therefore, be it RESOLVED by the Architects of America that:

1. We call upon the President and the Congress to assume responsibility for a comprehensive reexamination and reordering of our national priorities, recognizing that we have neither unlimited wealth nor wisdom, and that we cannot sensibly hope to instruct other nations in the paths they should follow when we are increasingly unable to demonstrate that we know how to maintain a viable society at home.

2. We call upon our leaders, at all levels of government, to recognize that an efficient and humane environment is basic to the maintenance of a harmonious and prosperous society and that the skills to produce it are well within our grasp. At the same time, we wish to remind our representatives that neither hope, time nor technology will solve the problems that presently make urban life a dirty, difficult and dangerous experience. Only a wholehearted commitment of will and money will enable us to apply the skills needed to erase the shame of urban America."

Students and 15 million dollars

Another resolution, the "Student Proposal", is going to be high on the profession's priorities this year. It was the principal topic of discussion at Chicago following the students' initial statement that, if the architects really meant business about doing something to improve slum living conditions, they should raise $15 million. This was generally interpreted to mean that the sum was to be produced through direct financial contributions, time donated to community projects, and architect-developed programs funded by foundations and the government. This resolution, approved by the delegates with scarcely a murmur, reads as follows:

"WHEREAS, we realize that in order for the architectural profession to meaningfully assert itself in seeking solutions to our environmental problems, there must be individual realizations of responsibility in the form of economic commitments; therefore be it |

"RESOLVED, That the AIA Task Force on Equal Opportunities supplemented by a voting student social concern team meet as required with the expressed purpose of establishing programs and administrative structure for operating and disbursing funds in line with the $15,000,000 goal; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That at the conclusion of initial structuring, the joint Task Force on Equal Opportunities deliver its recommendations to the AIA Board for official endorsement and funding plan; and be it further

"RESOLVED, That the Task Force on Equal Opportunities consult with and otherwise make every effort to utilize the experience of existing groups who have applied their resources to similar problems."

In a related resolution, Kidder Smith proposed that each of the 163 Chapters "establish and fund a pilot center in a deprived neighborhood and do all in its power to effect substantial improvement in that neighborhood."

Excerpts from other resolutions

Housing: "Urge immediate funding and implementation of current housing programs, especially the hundreds of thousands of housing units already in process under current programs that are waiting only for funding."

Racism: "That the proposed Ethical Standards include the principle that members of A.I.A. should not accept commissions which tend to support or strengthen public or private policies of racial discrimination."
ROMNEY REPLIES

Chapter President David Todd sent the following telegram to the Chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, Senators Javits and Goodell, the New York City Representatives, and HUD Secretary, George Romney:

"The New York Chapter, The American Institute of Architects strongly urges that the House Appropriation Committee restore full budget to low-income housing, Model Cities, and urban renewal. Full implementation of these programs is crucial to the health of this nation and should be a top priority.

This Chapter supports wholeheartedly the resolution recently passed at the AIA Convention in Chicago regarding a reordering of national priorities."

Secretary Romney responded with a telegram on July 3d:

"Regarding telegram, working hard to secure full funding. Will appreciate your help."

The Chapter's telegram was suggested by Abe Rothenberg, and was initiated by Edward Schiffer after consultation with the other members of the Housing Committee.

HULT FELLOWSHIPS AWARDED

Five Fellowships established in honor of the late Eugene Hult, Commissioner of Public Works, have been presented for construction research.

The recipients are William McNeil, for study in "Community Involvement in Industrial Housing;" Charles Tilford, for a documentary film analyzing "Problems Facing the Construction Industry;" James L. Lammers on "Improved Organization of the Construction Industry;" George M. Chaikin, on "Computer Applications to Architectural Design and Graphics;" and Richard P. Slutzah on "Computer Processing to Expedite Building Department Review."

SKETCHES

Professional Development — Third in the series of Professional Development Programs for 1969 will have as its subject "Project Finance & Loan Development for Building Programs." Carl J. Tschappat, Ph.D. Finance and Real Estate and Urban Affairs at Georgia State College will lead discussion on loanable funds and the mortgage market, income taxation and equity investment, planning finance for land development and investment, planning finance for land development and investment analysis in properties. 8:30 a.m. Sat., Sept. 6, Holiday Inn, 440 W. 57 St. Registration fee $25. Check payable to NYSAA/AIA, 441 Lexington Avenue, N.Y. 10017.

A chance to act: we talk a lot about housing problems; the State 7-A Program offers us a chance to get directly involved. Registered architects are needed to inspect run-down buildings and present the results in court. If the court so decides, the tenants pay their rent to the court, which uses the money for repairs. How about you "over forty" architects? The procedures are standardized and easy. The experience may be more painful, but it reinforces rhetoric. Contact Bernard Hauft—Attorney at Law, 6 Clinton Street. Tel.: CA 8-1833.

Building Department Guide — Do Building Department procedures scare you? Try the new "Guide for the Industry for Plans Examination and Certificate of Occupancy." It's a good primer anyway, and free! Available at the Related Agency Division's "One Stop Service" at the Dept. of Buildings, each borough.

Salary Survey — The Office Practice Committee has prepared a salary survey of New York architectural offices from office boys to project architects. Available at Chapter. 35c if requests are to be mailed; 25c if picked up at Chapter Office.

Applications for the Mayor's Panel of Architects for 1970 are obtainable at the Application Section of the Department of Personnel, Rm. 216, 55 Thomas Street, New York 10013, returnable no later than Oct. 21, 1969. 1969 Panel members will receive applications by mail.

Environment organizations: Walter Rutes, Chairman of the Natural Environment Committee, announces the availability of a list of organizations interested in natural environment. These include engineering and planning societies, parks and wildlife groups, air pollution, water pollution, sanitation, sound control organizations, regional planning groups, and public agencies. At Chapter Headquarters.

Candidates for Institute Fellowship — members are invited to submit names to the Chairman of the Committee on Fellow, Chapter Office. 10 years' membership required.

Residential Design Awards 1969: — Submissions, together with registration forms, will be received at Chapter Headquarters up to 5 p.m. Monday, Oct. 6. This Awards Program is sponsored by the NYCAIA Residential Design Committee. Categories are (a) detached houses, (b) row and development housing, (c) renovations of residential buildings 6 stories or less, (d) individual apartments. The jury: Herbert Beckhard, James DeLong, Richard Foster, Charles Moore.

The AIA has two positions open at the Institute, for Director of Practice Programs and Director of Research Programs. Job descriptions are spelled out in the AIA MEMO of July 31, 1969. For further information, write Frank L. Codell at the Institute. 1735 New York Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20006.

Surveyors of Unsafe Buildings Needed: Registered architects who have at least ten years' experience in building construction and three years' residency in New York City may qualify. City employees are not eligible. The Surveyor's fee is $50.00. If interested, write NYCAIA Office before October 15th. Present NYC Dept. of Personnel procedures permit filing names only once a year.

NOTE: The Real Great Society's Urban Planning Studio in East Harlem urgently needs books — both for the drafting room and teaching. R.G.S.' address. 1673 Madison Avenue, N.Y. 10029.
MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

Raymond Iarrera will serve on the Awards Committee for the Queens Chamber of Commerce 1969 Annual Building Awards competition. Entries for buildings substantially completed between Sept. 22, 1968, to Sept. 21, 1969, will be received no later than Sept. 21 and should be addressed to Buildings Awards Committee, Chamber of Commerce of the Borough of Queens, 24-16 Bridge Plaza South, Long Island City. First Honor Bard Awards for Excellence in Civic Architecture and Urban Design for 1969 were presented for Riverbend Houses by David, Brody & Associates; the 9-G Cooperative by Edelman & Salzman. Awards of Merit were given to Exodus House by Smotrich & Platt, and the Exhibition Building for Nocturnal Animals at the Bronx Zoo by Morris Ketchum, Jr. and Associates. Leon Brand is First Vice-President of The City Club and has served as Chairman of the Awards Program since it started.

CANDIDATES FOR MEMBERSHIP

Information received by the Secretary of NYCAIA regarding the qualifications of candidates for membership will be considered confidential.

Corporate

Kenichi Buma
Joseph M. Cosenza
Bohdan A. de Rosset
Heinz U. Erdenberger
Seymour L. Fish
Frank W. Havlik
Stephan Marc Klein
Bernard Ulrich Kurtz
Harry Lakis
Beatrice Lehman
Nathan Woolley

Professional Associate

Arthur S. Miller

Associate

Franklin Llewellyn Alexander
Alexander Coley, Jr.
James W. Dixon
Adel M. Farah

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

The NYCAIA welcomes the following new members:

Corporate

Bruce L. Allen
Theodore A. Amberg
Owen Beenhouwer
Edward Carleton Hambrecht
Walter P. Bogner
Louis J. DeMichele
Barry H. Fishman
Norman Frank
Benjamin Goldfarb
Malcolm Holzman

Louis Lionni (Readmission)
Jaime A. Marquez
Steven Peter Papadatos
Norman H. Pfeiffer
H. G. Phillips
Saverio Anthony Quaranta
Frederick A. Rehkopf
C. Ray Smith
Forest Wilson
Patricia A. Wilson
Basil Yurchenko

Vernal V. Hosang

Teodoro Changsut

Vincent Colangelo

Vernal V. Hosang

Jacinto del P. Madamba