NMA NEWS



As a new volume of the NMA begins the editors again request material for future publications. This material can be in the form of articles, of write ups of completed buildings or projects, or of letters to the editors. All material received will be given careful consideration.

The editors are considering an issue devoted to remodeling of buildings — residential, commercial and public. All material should be sent to: B. Bunting, 5021 Guadalupe Trail, Albuquerque, N. M.

Several persons have suggested that some subscribers to the NMA might like to obtain bound copies of the magazine for 1960. An arrangement has been made with a local bindery for binding the six 1960 issues at a cost of \$5.00. Those wishing to obtain bound copies should send their back issues to: B. Bunting, 5021 Guadalupe Trail, NW, Albuquerque, by February fifteenth. If you do not have the complete set, send such issues as you have and we shall *try* to complete your set (50c per issue supplied by us, though we have ony a *few* back issues and these mostly postal returns.) The January 1960 issue (fireplace on cover) was short and copies are particularly scarce. If anyone can return an extra copy or two of this issue to us, we should be most grateful.

The NMA reduced its indebtedness by \$500 at the end of 1960. This achievement is due in large part to the hard and constant work of Miles Brittelle who handles the advertising and co-editor John Conron. Both serve without financial compensation.

The Annual Meeting of the New Mexico Chapter, A.I.A. will be held March 18 at a place to be named in Albuquerque.

MEETINGS IN WASHINGTON

In late November two important AIA meetings were held concurrently in Washington. W. Miles Brittelle, Sr., representing the Western Mountain Region, summarizes the Chapter Affairs Committee meeting, and Albert H. Clark, immediate past president of the Student Chapter, AIA, at the University of New Mexico, reports on the Annual Student Forum.

The Committee of Chapter Affairs held its annual meeting in the conference room of the "Octagon", Institute headquarters in Washington. As two items of the 18 point agenda consumed most of our time, I shall confine my report to them: Membership and Student Chapter Affairs. At its autumn meeting this year the Board of Directors of the national AIA had charged the Committee on Chapter Affairs with the task of extending AIA membership among qualified persons. Taking our cue from the Board's directive, we studied the report of the national Committee on Dues which revealed that some 9,000 persons are eligible for membership in the Institute whose names do not appear on our roster. For the most part these people are employed architects or teachers of architecture in our universities. With the foregoing facts in hand a program was agreed upon which will inform these potential members of the advantages of Institute membership. This membership drive will operate through local chapters.



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McCaffrey-Way Materials & Supply Co., Inc. 2107 Menaul Blvd., NE Dlamond 4-1681 The responsibility of the Chapter Affairs Committee to the numerous student chapters has grown to such proportions that we felt that a new national committee of AIA should be established to oversee and cooperate with student chapters in enlarging their programs and defining their objectives. Our committee therefore passed a resolution requesting the formation of another committee to deal specifically with student problems and to be composed of three AIA corporate members and three officers of the Association of Student Chapters. Needless to say, the students play a large part in our planning, present and future, and to neglect them could prove disastrous.

The meeting of Chapter Affairs is always scheduled to convene one day ahead of the Annual Student Forum, in order that we of the committee can be with them at this time in Washington, participate in their program and have fellowship with them. I shall not dwell on this subject as elsewhere in these pages you will find a report on the Student Forum by one of our four UNM students attending that meeting.

In closing this report, I should like to say that the highlight of the joint meetings was the day that we of the Chapter Affairs committee took all of the students in attendance to lunch. Real fellowship prevails at these luncheons which are also an annual event.

-W. Miles Brittelle, Sr.

Student Forum. For the sixth consecutive year student representatives from each school of architecture in the country met at the invitation of the AIA for the threeday *Student Forum*. To this meeting the official UNM delegate was accompanied by three other architectural students: Anthony Predock, Tony Reynolds and William Simms. Tony provided the car and we all added to the travel expenses given me by the AIA.

Unfortunately we did not arrive in time for the business meeting on Sunday, but we were on hand for the opening addresses by Edmund Purves, executive director, Philip Will, AIA president, and Raymond Gary, president of Student Chapters. This was followed by a luncheon at the "Octagon" at which time we found opportunity to talk with students from other colleges about our ideas and problems. Strangely enough these seem to be universal.

The afternoon session began with a panel discussion concerning "Project Programming and Administration". Mr. Vincent Kling had prepared a complete and informative lecture on the procedure his office follows when solving a particular problem. As designer of his firm Mr. Kling exercises control over the many departments which take the job through to completion. F. Lee Cochran, a partner of Philip Will, stated that in his office, each man has a problem to solve and follows it through to completion. Ulrich Franzen, third member of the panel, maintained that in his small office he is able to keep in contact with every aspect of the job. In large offices, he felt, the head of the firm too often becomes a businessman. The youthfulness and vitality of Mr. Franzen was very enjoyable as he replied with quick and witty answers to student questions.

Next we watched with great interest the film on urban planning and renewal, *The Second United States*. Without doubt the finest architectural film I have ever witnessed, the graphics and the presentation of such city plans as that of Fort Worth produce an impact that will captivate any audience. The UNM student chapter will endeavor to procure this film for public viewing in Albuquerque.

The first day ended with a pizza-and-beer dinner, all courtesy of the AIA. Again we welcomed a chance to discuss ideas with other students and the guest lecturers. Alex Vergun of MIT led the evening meeting devoted to international architectural student communication. Students advicated the exchange of slides, programs and information with foreign colleagues. The UNM chapter volunteered its services to bring about better relations with our neighbors to the south.

The Tuesday session of the Forum began with a short discussion of the Reynolds Aluminum Prize for architectural students. Then followed a lecture by Paul Weidinger who feels that the architectural profession is losing valuable engineering talent due to the fact that men with engineering interests are not being used to their full capacity. Given no chance to face challenging problems, they leave to seek these rewards elsewhere.

Highlight of the entire Forum and an event that had been anticipated by everyone, was the appearance of Louis Kahn. His lecture, *Design and Form*, was so intensive that an analysis cannot here be written. A tape recording of the speech has been ordered, and we hope soon to share it with fellow students at the University. So inspiring was this talk that few questions came from students who before had been full of questions and answers. The stimulating afternoon continued with an exciting criticism of contemporary architecture by Albert Bush-Brown, professor at MIT. Possessed of a vibrant personality, he criticized some modern buildings and stated that there is not enough *open* criticism of architecture today. He felt that we owe it to ourselves, the public and the profession to judge buildings in much the same way as we judge painting.

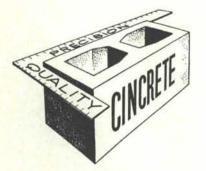
The day came to a close with a talk on professional practice by J. Roy Carroll, and Supreme Court Justice John M. Harlan spoke on professional ethics. We were fortunate to hear such distinguished gentlemen.

Realizing that this was the last evening of the Forum, we tried to talk to the majority of sturents and speakers. Students expressed a deep concern about the profession and about their responsibility to society. I believe that this — the architect's responsibility to his society — was the important message for every student. It was also heartening to hear from so many who felt that all was not well in the world but who wanted to do something about it.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the AIA, both local and national, for the support that enabled me and my companions to attend one of the most enlightening meetings ever held. I cannot begin to retell the benefits gained from such a trip. Not only was the Forum itself rewarding, but being able to see and experience the great buildings of Philadelphia and New York made this trip unforgettable. —Albert H. Clark

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