

SOCIETY . . . OF . . . ARCHITECTURAL . . . HISTORIANS NEWSLETTER

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At the SAH Directors' meeting in Washington, D. C. on May 17, it was determined that a newsletter should be sent to the members four times a year to supplement the SAH JOURNAL. It is hoped that in time, the Newsletters will be a clearing house for questions on research, location of new material, news of members, announcements of new courses in architectural history and of summer courses both in this country and abroad and notices of special lectures and activities of local chapters.

The great SAH news of the summer is that in July, membership in the Society reached 1000. SAH began with 10 members and had 289 members in 1950.

Also this summer, Paul Mellon of Pittsburgh became the first SAH Life Member. (Life Membership is \$1,000.00.) We welcome him to his unique membership.

The SAH August Tour in Bethlehem, Pa. on August 16-19 under the chairmanship of Dan Hopping was a great success. As usual, the more than 100 members, families and guests declared it to be the best ever. Dozens of people worked hard to make it so and our thanks go to them all. The Annie S. Kemerer Museum, 120 W. Church Street, Bethlehem prepared the syllabus for the tour with historical information, maps, mileage and descriptions which cannot be too highly commended. It is only too bad that there are no more copies available, for it makes the perfect guide to Bethlehem and environs. The tour covered a little over 200 years for architectural drawings dated 1751 for the first Moravian buildings and the first Sun Inn were displayed and on Monday we had a special tour of the structural steel division of the Bethlehem Steel Plant.

Walter L. Creese, Hite Art Institute, University of Louisville, Louisville 8, Ky., is chairman of the annual meeting to be held in Washington, D. C., January 30-February 2, 1958.

Paul F. Norton, The Pennsylvania State University, State University, Pa., is chairman of the Book Award Committee. Because members are unable to see and to read the books published late in the year preceding the January Award, changes in the rules are being considered. Julia Sabine, Newark Library and Thomas McCormick, Smith College are also on the committee.

Dorothy Hofmeester, Librarian of Burnham Library, Chicago Art Institute, died of a brain tumor in August. She was an active member of SAH and did much to further research in architectural history.

SAH Great Britain had its first meeting in York with H. N. Colvin, the principal speaker. Dr. William Singleton, Director of the York Institute of Architectural Studies; Frank Jenkins and Thomas Howarth, both of the University of Manchester, were the steering committee. They are planning to publish an annual volume of papers. Dr. Singleton will be the editor.

Wallace Davies of the History Department of the University of Pennsylvania will be at the University of Manchester this winter on a Fulbright.

Louise Hall received the American Association of University Women's Founder Fellowship to continue her study of 18th-century Carpenters' Companies in England.

James G. Van Derpool is chairman of the Nominating Committee for the 1958 slate. Anyone having suggestions, write to him at Avery Library, Columbia University, New York 27, N. Y. On May 18, Mr. Van Derpool gave the main speech at the rededication of the re-restored St. Luke's Church at Smithfield, Va., as he had been chairman of the Restoration Committee. It is an outstanding job because of the intelligent research and sensitive craftsmanship employed. In the evening, he was one of a panel, with Marcus Whiffen and Orville Bullock, presided over by Charles Peterson of the National Park Service in the old Recreation Center in Williamsburg, as part of the Post-A.I.A. Convention Tour in Virginia.

Harley McKee, School of Architecture, Syracuse University, is SAH Membership chairman and is doing a good job of keeping the local chapters informed of the new members in their areas. Anyone wanting information about SAH members in a specific region, should communicate with Mr. McKee as he keeps the geographic membership files. He has also been appointed Preservation Officer for the Central New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. He has been doing research on the architectural history of Syracuse and the Finger Lakes Region and some of his findings have been appearing in *THE STRAIGHT EDGE*, the publication of the Central New York A.I.A. during the past several years.

SAH members are being consulted by Brenda Gilchrist, who is in charge of art sales in the U. S. Building (which is making architectural history itself) at the Brussels World Fair, as to which 25 American buildings, should be offered as color slides and which 10 should be colored postcards.

Dan Hopping is recuperating from the SAH August Tour by taking the English National Trust tour of Baroque Bavarian Churches.

At the American National Trust meetings this fall, there will be a session on the 19th-century at which SAH will be represented by Barbara Wriston, Abbot Lowell Cummings and John Maas. The session will be October 11, at the New Ocean House at Swampscott.

Ernest Nash whose photographs of Rome and Ostia are well known has been appointed head of the Photo-Reference Collection of Roman Archaeology, Architecture and Topography which is housed in the American Academy in Rome, via Angelo Masina 5. Prints and information are available to all researchers.

H. Allen Brooks will teach history of architecture at the University of Illinois this winter.

George H. Hamilton and Walter Bareiss have started a new book publishing firm called the Readymade Press. Their first book, translations from Marcel Duchamp is out.

John McAndrew, Philip Johnson and James Van Derpool will be visiting lecturers at Yale this winter.

Henry Russell Hitchcock was in Dusseldorf, Barcelona and Split this summer. He completed his manuscript on modern architecture for the Pelican Series in London and is well along with his book on Gaudi.

SAH will be well represented on the program of the 1958 Antiques Forum in Williamsburg with at least eight speakers who are SAH members including SAH President Carroll L. V. Meeks.

Virginia Lewis, whose book, *RUSSELL SMITH, ROMANTIC REALIST*, was published by the University of Pittsburgh Press in 1956 was voted one of Pittsburgh's Ten Most Prominent Women.

Vincent Scully, Jr. is spending the year in Greece on a Bollingen Foundation fellowship.

Lorton M. Patten of the University of Iowa has instituted student prizes for excellence in architectural history. The prizes are the books which have received the SAH and the CAA Book Awards.

The Directors of SAH will meet in New York on October 26. Any suggestion or criticism which a member may wish to make should be sent by Oct. 15, to Barbara Wriston, Sec'y, Education Division, Museum of Fine Arts, Boston 15, Mass.

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