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University Buildings in Marburg an der Lahn 82

Architects: State Construction Department, Marburg/Lahn

This assignment, unusual from the standpoint of both scope and theme, induced the planners to begin with a systematic elaboration of all the fundamentals. It was necessary to do something about the lack of space in as short a time as possible, and so to concentrate whole complexes all at once. Another requirement was flexibility, i.e., the possibility to effect later alterations and extensions. All these aims were to be realized only with the aid of a fully standardized construction system. They presupposed a complete modular system in the horizontal and in the vertical. The purpose of this arrangement has to be to get a manifold, three-dimensional adaptation of all dimensions. Thus there arises a structure of general validity and one that is in keeping with the human scale.

Tanto Complex near Stockholm 89

Architects: Ake Ahlström and Kell Aström, Stockholm

Five residence blocks of 9 to 14 floors and an office block are erected in accordance with the 'Allbeton' method of the Skanska Cementgjuteriet.

A New Pre-fabrication Construction Method 91

I. Hjertén, R. Kamdal and K. Andersson, Göteborg

This structural method is suitable for star-plan high-rise buildings, in which all flats are diagonally disposed.

Adaptable Housing? 92

by Christoph Feldkeller

The author investigates the problem of the flexibility of housing plans and subdivides these in accordance with the degree and frequency of alterations.

'Ancien Stand' Subsidized Housing, Lausanne 94

Architects: Atelier des Architectes associés FAS/SIA, Lausanne

The type already tried out in Fribourg (WERK 5/1961) has here been modified. The buildings are erected in accordance with a construction plan (WERK 3/1962) prescribed by the Municipality of Lausanne.

'La Gradelle A' Housing, Geneva 96

Architect: Jean Hentsch SIA, Geneva

Apartment house with 196 flats following the IGECO System; assembled in five and a half months by Conrad Zschokke AG.

Subsidized Housing, Bourg-dessus-Renens 96

Architects: Atelier des Architectes associés, Lausanne

The IGECO type of Fribourg (WERK 5/1961) with but a few modifications. The two buildings each contain 32 flats.

Operation MG in Meyrin-Geneva 98

Architect: Jean Duret FAS, Geneva

Concrete plates weighing 10 tons are poured, in the factory, into vertical batteries. By this method 13 residence blocks were erected. The construction time could be reduced from three weeks per floor to one, over against the traditional building procedure.

Building by System 100

by Robert Schmid

There is described an example of a pre-fabricated installations core for kitchen, bath and WC, in which all necessary ducts for roof drainage, gas, telephone, etc., as well as the connections for the sanitary installations are built in.

Hotel for the Swissair Crews in Cointrin, Geneva 102

Architects: Lozeron & Mozer BSA, René Koehlin, Geneva

On five floors there are accommodated 100 rooms with showers. On the ground floor there are the reception desk, the lounge, a snack bar and the necessary office space.

'Grüezfeld' Complex, Winterthur 104

Architects: Cramer, Jaray, Paillard FAS/SIA & Leemann SIA, Zurich

In spite of the large-scale construction elements measuring up to 9 tons in weight, there could be integrated into the plan a broad range of types of flats. The total of 370 flats range from one-room flats up to six-and-a-half-room flats.

The 'Polyvolume' of Mary Vieira 105

by Eugen Gomringer

The Brazilian sculptor Mary Vieira (born 1927) of São Paulo was a pupil of Alberto da Veiga Guignard from 1943 to 1947. Since 1951 she has lived in Europe; she works in Basel and Milan. For the 'Court of the Arts' at the Expo 1964 she created the 'Polyvolume', a sculpture of thin gilt aluminium slats, that can be revolved about a vertical axis. Thus the 'Polyvolume' appears to be an apparatus which permits a large number of permutations – the artist calls them 'Interactions' – ranging from static to dynamic volumes.

The Sculptor and Painter Hermann Scherer (1893-1927) 108

by Franz Gerhard

Hermann Scherer was the son of a family of small farmers in the Baden village of Rümmingen. At the beginning of the First World War he came as a stonemason to Basel, where in 1915 he became an assistant of the sculptor Carl Burckhardt. Under his influence he achieved a considerable renown of his own in the field of sculpture. The closing years of the war and the first inter-war years were a culturally lively time in Basel; Van Gogh, Gauguin, German Expressionism, also literary, musical and political problems were vigorously discussed by young artists. A series of exhibitions in the Basel Kunsthalle – Lehmbrock, Munch (1922), Kirchner (1923) – exerted on Scherer and his painting friends a decisive influence. Scherer sought out Kirchner in Davos in order to learn the technique of woodcarving. In Davos he collaborated with Kirchner on sculptures and carved furniture, and here too he went over to painting. On New Years Eve 1924 he founded in Basel, with his painting friends Albert Müller († 1926), Paul Camenisch and Werner Neuhaus († 1934), joined later by Otto Staiger, the 'Red-Blue' Group, and he followed Müller, Staiger and Camenisch to the Ticino, into the Mendrisiotto, where he settled in the Villa Loverciano. Here there were created great Ticino landscapes, some of the best Swiss work in landscapes done in this century. In the summer of 1927 Scherer died following an infection.

On the Graphic Works of Max Kohler 115

by André Kamber

Max Kohler was born in Solothurn in 1919. His artistic training was obtained in Paris with Gino Severini and Johnny Friedlaender. Kohler employs the classical graphic techniques: monochrome and two-colour etchings and aquatint, woodcuts and linocuts. Since 1960 he has also done oil painting. Looked at from the formal point of view, his works reveal a great wealth of means. As to content, his creations can be divided into three groups: Animals – gods and devils – people. These themes become formulated in ever more general terms: the 'oiseaux' and 'poissons' become 'creatures', the 'hommes' and 'femmes' become 'personnages', the figures merge into 'zodiaques', 'icônes'. Kohler lives at the present time in Paris and Delsberg.

Sociological Aspects of Construction Research 117

by Wilhelm Vogt

The newly established Swiss Society for the Co-ordination and Promotion of Construction Research takes a very broad view of its scope of activity: it extends from regional planning to the procurement of building sites, the execution and the maintenance of building projects to legal and sociological questions. The paper here published was read at the meeting of October 13, 1964, at the Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich.