# Summary

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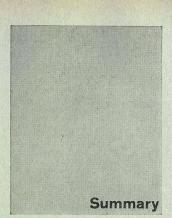
portion normale en aménageant un plafond surbaissé. Elle n'a pour autant aucunement perdu de son aspect gran-diose, malgré la répartition des dif-férents locaux nécessaires, tels que entrée, studio, salle de conférence et parloirs. Une 2ème cour de 22×23 m située au niveau de la route, est en-tourée de différents bureaux s'élevant sur trois étages. L'ancienne place du château est au même niveau et l'em-placement de la grille délimitant l'en-ceinte ancestrale a été changée et rem-placée par une œuvre de Kühn de Berlin. Le portique se trouve à proxi-mité. mité

mité. Un restaurant public a été aménagé dans le bâtiment parlementaire. Lors des séances plénières les députés en ont la priorité. L'aménagement intérieur du restaurant, des locaux représentatifs de la diète, du hall d'entrée, de la salle de réception, etc. fut projeté et exécuté par le pro-fesseur Oesterlen. Les autres pièces furent confiées aux soins du Bureau de construction local qui était, en plus, également chargé de la direction des travaux. travaux

travaux. La question que d'aucun pourrait se poser s'il est possible d'unir deux édi-fices d'époque différente en une unité harmonieuse, peut être convaincu par l'œuvre présente.

l'œuvre présente. La plus grande difficulté du planning fut d'adapter une échelle adéquate entre les ruines existantes et les don-nées actuelles concernant la nouvelle construction. C'est ainsi que les hau-teurs des locaux sont peut-être un peu trop surélevées. Elles sont le résultat d'un juste équilibre et correspondent au but représentatif requis.

Le coût des travaux exprimé à la presse lors de l'inauguration, y com-pris aménagements extérieurs et aménagements intérieurs, fut de DM 17,2 millions.



Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, Chicago Drive-in bank in Jefferson City, Missouri

(page 46-51)

(page 46-51) This project is the reflection of a basic idea of a drive-in bank for a medium-sized American city. The client can stay behind the wheel and dispatch his business on the spot. The two-storey building, which if need be can be extended, is composed of the ground floor containing the tellers' windows, armoured tracts and deposit boxes. On the upper floor are the accounting department, the canteen, with appertaining kitchen, for the staff and an air-conditioning plant. The roof garden is reserved for the staff. On the basement level other armoured rooms and identical offices complete the complex. In the garden in front of the building there have been installed 4 tellers' windows for motorists, these windows being connected by a tunnel with the main building. The windows are fur-nished with revolving counters to assure rapid service. The elevation is made of glass, marble and aluminum. The olazino on the

nished with revolving counters to assure rapid service. The elevation is made of glass, marble and aluminium. The glazing on the ground floor is transparent. That of the upper floor is grey and is insulat-ing. Another material employed is a green marble for the ground floor, travertine for the windows and white ceramic panels for the outside tellers' windows. The flooring inside is flag-ging or washed concrete, while the partitions are faced with teak. The static element of the construction is a steel skeleton whose largest span is 13.70 m. and the canopy measures 2.74 m. Two lines of steel columns support the upper floor. Their span is 5.50 m. The basement is of reinforced concrete. The decks above the ground floor and the upper floor are of cellular steel faced with a dressing of light concrete. The mains and conduits lead through the cavities. The air-condition-ing system of the building is sub-divided into 9 zones, each of which has its independent thermostat. The parking area is provided with an anti-freeze installation.

The lighting of the ground floor is in-direct; that of the upper floor is pro-vided with luminous ceilings. All the special installations function elec-tronically.

Frank Geiser, Berne

Head office of a commercial firm in Berne

(page 52-58)

During the second half of the last century, the Kirchenfeld in Berne de-veloped into a residential district.

veloped into a residential district. Nowadays there is a controversy hav-ing to do with the future of this district. For the realization of his project, the architect had at his disposal 620 sq. meters. The site is bounded on two sides by a highway, one of which is Thunstrasse, a very busy thorough-fare. Thanks to a special building per-mit, it was possible to establish a construction area resting on 2 and 3 pillars with span of 4.80 m. This sur-face corresponds approximately to one quarter of the area of the site. The driveway into the parking area on the basement level runs via a ramp on the north. This same level houses the air north. This same level houses the air-conditioning plant and a model heat-ing plant. From Thunstrasse there is direct access to the display room in the centre of which is the stairwell.

The offices on the two upper floors are deployed around this central core. Mobile partitions and lockers sub-divide the different tracts. The construction of this building is divided into different parts. The static part, composed of a reinforced con-crete skeleton, decks and retaining walls, rests on an axial dimension of 4.80 m. The glazed elevation, which is green, is composed of elements 2.40 m. wide. The elements of the intermediate interior partitions measure 1.20 m. They

green, is composed of elements 2.40 m. wide. The elements of the intermediate interior partitions measure 1.20 m. They are wooden panels with mukulungu inlay. The steps of the stairs are covered with continuous carpeting running into the various offices and acting as acoustic absorber. The curtains, of synthetic material, admit a restful light. Fluorescent tubes fixed on the elevation furnish illumination closely approximating daylight. The building is entirely air-conditioned and the system comprises 12 zones each of which can be regulated by an independ-ent thermostat. Temperature regulation is automatic and is independent for each office, by means of an exchang-er. The glazing of the exterior face is fixed. The furniture selected by the architect corresponds to the materials employed in the building itself. It should be pointed out that Frank Geiser was most fastidious in his selection of materials and that he knows how to achieve a harmonious effect by accen-tuating certain materials. The whole building exudes a contagiously serene atmosphere.

Alfons Barth, Schönenwerd

Schönenwerd town hall, new construction or renovation? (page 59-61)

Schönenwerd is a community on the central Swiss Plateau. It is the head-quarters of the largest shoe manufac-turer in our country. Its population of 4500 is growing rapidly like that of all industrial towns.

4500 is growing rapidly like that of all industrial towns. The commune of Schönenwerd still has some old buildings, even in the village centre. The main highway cross-ing the village carries heavy traffic. Some thousands of cars pass through every day, night and day. In 1958 the communal assembly de-cided to call for plans for a new town hall on a competitive basis. The win-ner was Alfons Barth, and his plan was accepted unanimously. The cost of construction had been fixed at Fr. 800,000.–. The plan, in keeping with the modern trend, called for glass and concrete. The site chosen was in the midst of a group of houses among the trees and set back from the main road. In 1959 the commune had purchased an old house in which the administra-tive offices had been installed. This old house had previously been a res-taurant, called the "Krone". What at the outset had been envisaged as a provisional measure is now the defini-tive solution. tive solution.

It is astonishing to note the dimensions that can be got out of what was available. At the present time there is no longer any question of realizing the plan of 1958, but the necessary transformations have already been carried out on the "Krone" building.

### Hellmut Sopp, M.D., Düsseldorf Social and psychological aspects of offices of large dimensions (page 62)

(page 62) Up to the present time the problem of offices of large dimensions has not been taken up. Despite the present-day knowledge accumulated by psy-chologists and sociologists, no one has been able to frame a definitive theory covering the problem we are here concerned with. The researches of sociologists have been confined to resolving residential problems. If I now take the liberty of elaborating on a theme that has remained unknown, my reason is that my previous and current activity have been based on psychotherapy. As a psychological consultant I have been able to partici-pate in the planning and the real-ization of several large-dimensioned offices. offices.

The diversity of architecture, in which art, science and economic problems are all intertwined, requires from all

concerned a profound knowledge of anthropology. Since this synthesis un-fortunately does not yet exist, the problem to be resolved remains a timekr case. timely one.

timely one. Opinions on the large-dimension of-fice are very divided. In general, this new tendency to incorporate in the plan future offices has had very little reverberation, and I have ascertained that the strongest opponents are those who know absolutely nothing about the subject. However, what is aston-ishing, everyone sets himself up as an expert in this field and puts forth arguments which are in general known to all and which are worthless as re-gards the installation of large-dimengards the installation of large-dimension offices.

The reasons why the majority rejects the new trend are grounded purely in emotion. Upon going into the sub-ject more thoroughly, I have come to the conclusion that these people were confusing the place of work with the living-room. They prefer to be in direct contact with their fellow workers and, as part of the bargain, to put up with all the attendant inconveniences, such as tension, telephone racket, voices. all the attendant inconveniences, such as tension, telephone racket, voices, rustling paper, clattering drawers, etc. rather than to be assimilated in an organization which on the surface is perhaps less personal but much more healthy. The danger of plurality in society is reflected not only in the anxiety growing out of the loss of individuality, but above all in the fear of becoming isolated and cut off from human contact. human contact.

The different photographs do not per-mit a fair appraisal. The first time I found myself confronted by the problem of large-dimension offices my reaction was negative. By instinct and without giving the matter any thought, I reject-ed this new tendency. It was only by accumulating more experience and after several months of contacts, ob-servations and study that I was obliged to revise my attitude in the light of the evidence. The work in and the organization of a large-dimension of-fice are utterly different from those of an ordinary office. The primary condition ought to be perfect organi-zation displaying no weak point what-soever. Naturally every concern ought to define by itself its work flow pat-tern. It is impossible for two offices with different functions to have the same lay-out. same lay-out.

same lay-out. There is no doubt that the technical side of a large-dimension office will call for a greater degree of attention to problems of interior disposition and installation. Ventilation and air-con-ditioning plants are simply the order of the day and ought to function auto-matically. Acoustic problems ought to be studied minutiously, so as to reduce to a minimum the various noises produced by intense concen-trated activity. The question of optics will also demand the attention of the owner. owner.

owner. It is a proven fact that around 10% of the employees of big administra-tive complexes work in separate of-fices. The other 90% are distributed in the offices accommodating several people. From my point of view, it would be helpful and advantageous to make this 90% understand that they would gain by the change if they were to work in a large-dimension office. Their work sites would be more com-fortable. Subjects of disagreement like ventilation, cigarette smoke, heat-ing and light would be obviated.

As my own experience has shown, it As my own experience has shown, it is not always possible to group together in one room all those engag-ed in a given phase of work. The same considerations bear on certain con-cerns whose operations cannot be accessible to everyone. However, these are in general exceptional cases that we are unable to incorporate in this article.

this article. For each office of large-scale dimen-sions there would have to be a lounge. There is medical evidence supporting the contention that 5 or 6 minutes of rest per hour of work enables the individual to recuperate his energy in large measure. It ought to be pointed out that free choice of the breaks has a much more favourable effect than a fixed schedule.

The colour scheme of a large-dimen-sion office is a crucial problem. It is indispensable that each be given the feeling of being at his ease. We be-lieve that arrangements of flowers

and green plants are natural methods of cheering up work premises that are always welcomed.

I have discovered to my pleasure, when inquiring into possible disagree-able factors, that inter-employee re-lations were more friendly, less tense,

lations were more friendly, less tense, more smooth. Statistics have proved that produc-tion in a large-dimension office sur-passes that in an ordinary office. Cor-ridors from one office to another, tel-ephone calls and many other dead pockets become superfluous. Imme-diate contact permits a much more rapid development of outstanding questions, and, what is more impor-tant, it enhances mutual respect. tant, it enhances mutual respect. Seeingthathousing problems have been resolved, it is necessary to apply the same methods to a definition of the problems arising in connection with places of work. I believe that this is still more important than to procure machinery and appliances, for the machinery and appliances, for the most inspired innovator cannot do away with the emotional reactions of people.

### Walter Henn, Brunswick Associates: J. Zeh, H. Fremmer, I. Scholz

#### A high-rise building with large offices in Munich

Plan 1960, construction 1961/62

Air-conditioning consultant: J. Jaeger, Stuttgart Contractor: E. Mayer Associate: J. Miller

(page 63-68)

(page 63-66) The programme drawn up for the administration building of the Fried-rich Deckel machinery firm in Munich called for 250-300 work units. This project terminates a series of build-ings planned since 1956 on a site at Obersendling and intended for the production division. The restricted dimensions of the site necessitated a high-rise structure. The maximum basic dimensions were 35×25 m. Despite all these handicaps, the plan had to meet all the conditions and reflect the latest trends in office organization. Moreover, the plan had to be capable of extension by 50% in a future stage. This being the case, the owner and of extension by 50% in a future stage. This being the case, the owner and the architect were obliged to work out a new system of organization in which the allotment of work sites would be effected in stages. The fun-damental question boiled down to this: "Is it possible to instal large-dimension offices in a high-rise build-ing on a restricted site?" The answer to this one is indeed a ticklish matter. Up to that time there were only two examples of this type of construction in Germany. Whereas a planning error in an already operating organization entails but minor disturbance, the same error taking place in a large-dimension office assumes catastrophio dimension office assumes catastrophic proportions.

The studies undertaken to define not only the dimensions of offices and their design but also circulation routes their design but also circulation routes and connections with the core of the building required lengthy research. The arrangement and installation of the technical facilities, such as light-ing, room siting, the choice of furni-ture, were also taken up in thorough studies. The outcome of all this re-search crystallized in a plan with dimensions of  $34.7 \times 24.5$  m. The large offices are almost square and have at their disposal around 600 sq. m. per floor. This surface allows for the installation of 50-60 work sites. Current experience shows that this area reexperience shows that this area re-presents the lower imit capable of accommodating so many work sites. During and after one year of activity, the organization of the Deckel firm has proved to be the right one.

The number of office floors with large-The number of office floors with large-dimension offices was determined by the number of necessary work sites. Moreover, there is also a ground floor and a management floor, which a-mounts to a 7-storey structure for the first stage. Future extension calls for 6 additional floors. This is the first high-rise building realized in Germany all of whose utilizable floor surface has been allotted to large-dimension offices. offices

The first basement level contains the records, the supply stores and furni-ture. The technical installations are located on the second basement level.

On the ground floor there have been situated a large lobby and a number of conference tracts. In the centre, in of conference tracts. In the centre, in the core are the telephone central, the telex as well as the post office, con-nected with the upper and the lower floors by means of a freight lift. The floors are connected one with the other by lifts. From the landing, in each case, there is a view command-ing the entire floor. Near the lifts there are, in general, the offices of the secretary and the department head, in separate rooms. The furniture is always in keeping with the specific work done in each section.

Walter Henn, Brunswick Associate: F. W. Schlattmeier

Office building in Rheda/Westphalia Plan 1960, construction 1961/62

(page 69-71)

The publisher C. Bertelsmann in Rheda needed supplementary office space. The programme called for a first stage of 3000 sq. meters and a second of 1000 sq. meters, as well as a staff canteen. It was decided to build a 3-storey building which could be later on given a 2-storey extension. This building abuts on an already existing building.

building abuts on an already existing building. The plan was determined by the re-stricted site available. The dimensions of the new building are around 16 m. in width and 70 m. in length. To the south is the entrance accented by a canopy. There has been located on the north side the second stairwell. The results observed in an earlier The results observed in an earlier building at Gütersloh induced the management to go on with the in-stallation of large-dimension offices. stallation of large-dimension offices. As it turns out, the plan is far from being ideal. For one thing, the depth of the offices, 16 m., bounded on each side by glazed walls, presented very ticklish problems of acoustics. More-over, the narrowness of the building did not permit free arrangement of the furniture. Nevertheless, the ad-vantages of Internal communication as well as its functional flexibility prevailed over these negative consid-erations. erations.

erations. The static structure is a reinforced concrete frame with two spans of 7.50 m. The axial distances are 4.90 m. In the centre of the building there has been installed an expansion joint. The height of the ground floor is 4.50 m., that of the upper floors is 3.90 m. The lateral faces are of concrete and are solid. The longitudinal faces are completely clazed, and the metal wincompletely glazed, and the metal win-dows run from floor to ceiling. The ground floor comprises the canteen in its finished phase. The face of the upper floors is made

up of canopy elements measuring 2.45×3.90 m. The parapets are com-posed of an aluminium panel 35 mm. thick, Moltoprene insulation and a plaster layer 12 mm. thick on the in-side. The windows have simple glazing. The slatted blinds are fixed on the outside.

The appointments of the offices com-prise all the amenities and technical facilities required for large-dimension facilities required for large-dimension office premises: acoustic insulation on floors and ceilings, electric lighting with mobile connections and plugs for different types of current at each work unit. Owing to the restricted depth of the building, it was not re-garded as necessary to instal an air-conditioning system. The cross venti-lation is effected via the upper course windows.

The carpeting on the ground floor is knotted sisal, while that on the upper floors is of Dralon. The ceilings are suspended and are fitted with San-acoustic panels measuring  $62.5 \times 62.5$ cm. The electric and telephone plugs are distributed over the floor at interare distributed over the floor at inter-vals of 2.45 m. Heating is effected via radiators underneath the windows.

The whole building reflects a unity of good taste which extends from the good taste which extends from the furnishings to the lay-out of the work units, as well as to the floral decora-tion. The net result: a very pleasant place to work.

The core comprises the cloakrooms, the lavatories, a pantry with sink, boiler, frigidaire. The whole complex is supplemented by a make-up room. The 6th floor is reserved for management, and the partitions of each office are insulated on each side. The large conference room is situated behind a

glazed wall which can be closed off by means of curtains. In the event of future extension, this floor will be converted like the lower floors. The roof garden is reserved for the staff during breaks. The lift machinery, the storeroom for the cleaning equipment and the sanitary facilities are located in a penthouse structure.

in a penthouse structure. The construction of the elevation of light metal is of the canopy type and rests, at each floor, on steel brackets. The span is 3.33 m. A centralized air-conditioning plant serves the entire building and can be regulated inde-pendently in each separate tract. The ceilings and floors have been design-ed in accordance with acoustic con-siderations. The fresh air intake is half-way up the face of the building. The colour scheme in the offices is The colour scheme in the offices is dominated by the green of the knotted carpets, the teak of the furniture and the walls. The whole atmosphere is enlivened by plants, and the free arrangement of the furniture creates a relaxed milieu.

## Administration Building and Research Centre of Osram in Munich

Planning:

Walter Henn, Brunswick Dieter Stroebel, Osram Munich Schnelle Organization Team, Quickborn (page 72-74)

When discussions are held on the subject of new methods of planning regarding office buildings, there is talk of teamwork, complex problems, large offices. What does the owner think of all this and what is his reaction? Despite very minutious preparations, Osram had to revise its plans between the competition, announcement and the competition announcement and the final project.

the final project. Dieter Stroebel writes on the subject: "We divided the different functions into groups. Unlimited cooperation among the latter was the point of departure for the drawing up of an adequate programme. We combined them in different Instances, so, for example, planning had the job of de-fining the organization of the enter-prise and determining a schedule.

This new way of proceeding permits the definition and the delimitation of the margin available for the contractor, at the same time leaving him free as regards his fashion of interpreting his

job. One of the characteristics of this One of the characteristics of this group is that each member is not subject to any hierarchy. They are all inspired and tied together by one common idea: that of realizing and attaining the goal set. The team head is not a boss as heretofore but rather a coordinator integrating himself with the project regulating and classifying all the problems that come up. This planning team, composed of architects, interior decorators, organizers, tech-nical men, supplemented by associates and Osram staff, became fused into a truly unified entity. The opposing instance was the exec-

The opposing instance was the exec-utive group composed of the manage-ment. The planning group submits to it at regular intervals reports. The executive group studies these reports and decides at once on what has to be

and decides at once on what has to be done. The following pages show, from con-crete examples, our conception and manner of proceeding. These are but summaries. They represent but a mi-nute part of the work done and variants presented to determine the ideal formula."

Atmer and Marlow, Holthey, Freese, Jux, Hamburg

Architecture as emblem: a false start or the beginning of a new era? Remarks on the new building of the Police Department in Hamburg (page 75-78)

It is rarely that a new building gives rise to such controversy as the above-mentioned project. The first stage, just completed, com-project. The expression of this build-ing is the outcome of the combination of two First Prize plans of 1954. The siting and the volume plan we owe to Atmer and Marlow, while the design and the elevation were assigned to Holthey-Freese-Jux.

Arriving on the Hanover-Bremen ex-press highway, the motorist sees from afar this high-rise building which seems willfully to be the emblem and dominant feature of Hamburg. The new structure is situated at the inter-section of two important avenues at the entrance to the city. Behind the high-rise structure, and parallel to the high-rise structure, and parallel and north.

and north. At ground-floor level is the entrance which runs the whole depth of the building. The driveway follows the same route. A vestibule separates the two entrance tracts, one of which is open and the other covered and clos-ed. At one end of the latter are located the lifts and the emergency stairs.

the lifts and the emergency stairs. The building comprises, starting from the bottom, the Criminal Police, the Headquarters and the Administration. These three different functions are also reflected in the elevation. Horizontal bands clearly set off the three depart-ments. The face on the highway side reveals in the intermediate zone the conference hall. It is recognized by its large glazed openings contrasting with the articulation of the elevation. During a conversation with the archi-

with the articulation of the elevation. During a conversation with the archi-tects I had the impression that they had wanted to try to realize a new form of expression replacing the pom-posity ordinarily encountered in such prestige buildings by a much more func-tional structure. The architects, never-theless, sought to retain something of the prestige factor and in so doing had recourse to means of expression whose justification may appear dubious. whose justification may appear dubious. An axial dimension of 5.16 defines the main skeleton made up of large con-orete pillars. The decks are recessed.

crete pillars. The decks are recessed. The module is divisible into 4 equal parts of 1.29 m. Like the will of a ruling prince insist-ing that his palace be distinct from and superior to the houses of his sub-jects, the building housing the Police Department ought in no way to resem-ble an ordinary office building. Every-thing was subordinated to this idea.

thing was subordinated to this idea. We venture to doubt whether this new way of looking at things and giving expression to them is justified. Is it possible to resolve theoretical prob-lems in this way so as to be able to demonstrate in a structure the aims envisaged? We believe sincerely that it should be possible to discover other means by which to attain a satisfactory possibilities, for we doubt that the way chosen here is correct.

Prof. Dieter Oesterlen, Hanover

Parliament Building of Lower Saxony Diet in Hanover (page 79-84)

(page 79-84) The basic idea of building the Parlia-ment of Lower Saxony on the site of the Leine Castle was conceived in 1948. The city architect of Hanover, Prof. Rudolf Hillebrecht, was the in-stigator. His wish was to maintain and develop this historic building with a view to making it the city centre of the future capital of Lower Saxony (Hanover was completely destroyed during World War II). In justification of his thesis, Hillebrecht was guided by 3 considerations: 1. The political necessity of symbol-izing in a concrete fashion the spirit of democracy; 2. The cultural obligation of maintain-ing for the country, the city and the

ing for the country, the city and the art-loving public at large a worthy historical monument;

nistorical monument; 3. The duty to give to the devastated city a focus permitting the develop-ment of a new civic feeling.

Thus, since 1949 the extension plan for Hanover incorporated the ideas of Prof. Hillebrecht.

Prof. Hillebrecht. With all these considerations in mind, the Parliament called in 1954 for plans on a competition basis. The contest-ants were given a free hand: they could retain in part or in toto the ruins of the existing castle. Some of them even submitted an entirely new build-ing, ignoring the vestiges of the past.

The jury awarded but one prize. The winner was Prof. Dieter Oesterlen. His plan called for the retention of all the exterior walls of the old castle, including the portico.

The work of planning and execution went on for 8 years. The inauguration took place on September 11, 1962 in the presence of Dr. Lübke, President of the German Federal Republic.

of the German rederal nepublic. Through all these years, the authori-ties were guided by but one thought: every historic building reflects an epoch, especially in this case. The war annihilated the city. This is why every ancient fabric ought to be maintained and preserved at all costs.

On the other hand, the requirements and exigencies of a rigid programme had to be complied with.

had to be complied with. The visitor coming from the centre of town via Karmarschstrasse sees behind large trees the new seat of the Par-liament. He passes along the portico running along the solid face of the new building. This face is brightened by 3 flagstaffs representing the sun, the storm and the wind. These are the work of Prof. Weber of Brunswick. Even without flags, these three ele-ments give the effect of sculpture. Farther on, the visitor is greeted by an open stairway leading to an interior courtyard measuring 15×25 m. and sited on the upper level. A fountain group accents this green plot. Around this courtyard are the corridors. That of the upper level has the form of a canopy. canopy.

Canopy. The interior fittings of the building make the visitor forget that he is in an old structure. The construction method, the employment of the ma-terials and the technical installations, as well as the disposition of the rooms are all the outgrowth of modern ar-chitectural thinking.

chitectural thinking. The different groups of rooms, such as the offices, the library, the execu-tive suites, the reception room, to the left of the assembly room, are dis-tributed around circular glazed cor-ridors. The main assembly room is lighted by an adjustable skylight in the ceiling. From the President's seat and speaker's platform, the ceiling, where it is not open, follows a curve making for good acoustic effects. The seats are movable and are arranged in a semicircle. Since the sessions of the Parliament are conference and

discussion meetings, the public gal-leries have been installed in the form of separate boxes

The presidential room is located in the old winter garden in classical style. This tract with its vast and lofty dimensions has been brought into a dimensions has been brought into a more normal proportion with the rest of the building by means of a suspend-ed ceiling. It has, nevertheless, not lost any of its splendour, despite the distribution of the various necessary rooms, such as the entrance, studio, conference rooms and lounges. A second courtyard measuring 22×23 m. located at road level is surrounded by different offices going up for three floors. The old castle square is at the same level and the placing of the fence delimiting the family area has been preserved. Only the fence has been changed and replaced by a work of Kühn of Berlin. The portico is nearby. nearby.

A public restaurant has been installed in the parliamentary building. When Parliament is in session, the deputies have priority. The interior fittings of the restaurant, the lobby, the recep-tion room, etc. were designed and executed by Prof. Oesterlen. The other rooms were entrusted to the local Office of Works, which was like-wise put in charge of the whole con-struction project.

The question as to whether it is pos-sible to combine two buildings of dif-ferent epochs in a harmonious unity here receives a triumphant answer in the affirmative.

The greatest difficulty that came up in the planning stage was the adoption of an adequate scale between the already existing ruins and the exigen-cles of the new construction. It is for this reason perhaps that the heights of the rooms are too high. They are the outcome of an endeavour at bal-ance and they correspond to the prestige effect that is required.

The construction cost released to the press at the time of inauguration, in-cluding landscaping and interior fit-tings, was DM 17.2 million.

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Nos collaborateurs Our collaborators

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Skidmore, Owings and Merrill, siehe Heft 2/61

Geboren 1935 in Bern, 1956 Beginn des Studiums an der Hochschule für Gestaltung in Ulm. 1958 Aufenthalt im Institut für Städtebau und Landes-planung von Professor Erich Kühn, Rheinisch - Westfälische Technische Rheinisch - Westfällsche Technische Hochschule, Aachen. 1958–1960 Stipen-dium der Geschwister-Scholl-Stiftung, Ulm. 1960 Diplomabschluß an der Hochschule für Gestaltung in Ulm und Rückkehr nach Bern. Aufbau und Leitung eines privaten Planungsbüros. Seit Ende 1961 freischaffend.

#### Hellmut Sopp

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Einordnung des Neuen in alten Baubestand	45
Autobank in Jefferson City, Missouri	46-51
Sitz einer Handelsfirma in Bern	52-58
Rathaus Schönenwerd (Schweiz), Neubau oder Umbau?	59–61
Gedanken eines Psychologen zum Bürogroßraum	62
Hochhaus mit Bürogroßräumen in München	63–68
Bürogebäude in Rheda, Westfalen	69-71
Verwaltungs- und Forschungszentrum der Osram GmbH in München	72-74
Polizeipräsidium Hamburg Architektur als Zeichen – ein Irrweg, ein neuer Weg?	75-78
Parlamentsgebäude für den Niedersächsischen Landtag, Hannover	79–84
Chronik	
Konstruktionsblätter	



