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MAY 1962





PUBLISHER'S NOTE

SPECIAL ISSUE: CHICAGO

Working in New York City, FORUM's editors have become accustomed to the daily changes in Manhattan's skyline and streetscape. By comparison, most cities have for years seemed asleep.

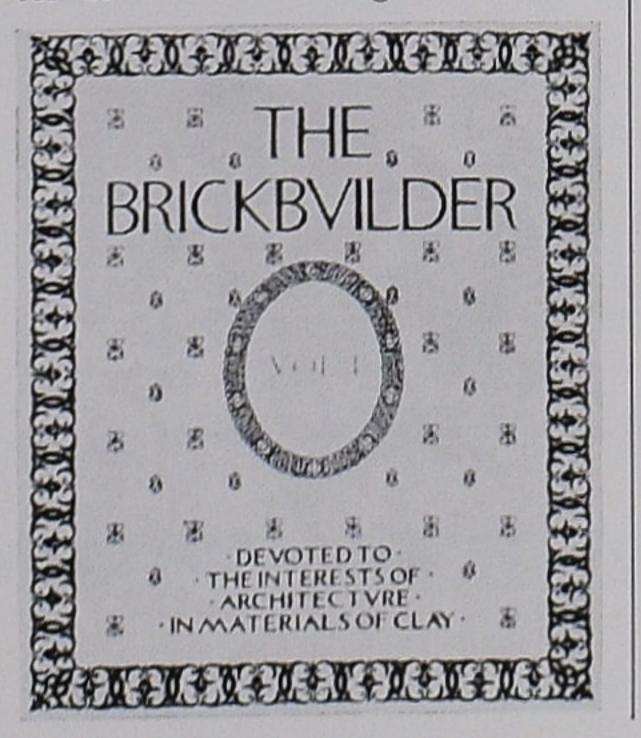
But recently Chicago has been stirring. Forum's editors noted the yawning and stretching some time ago and began their plans for this special issue devoted to Chicago's renaissance as a vital force in architecture, planning, and building technology.

Since then a task force of seven, headed by Senior Editor David Carlson, has spent some 60 mandays in Chicago developing material for a rounded report. Last month, as the deadline approached, Carlson and Researcher Anne LeCrenier lived an intensive two weeks in Chicago, walking and riding the streets and interviewing 61 citizens who have been awakening the city: 13 architects, engineers, and builders, ten captains of industry and commerce, nine planners, six realtors, five city officials, four community organization directors, four historians, two educators, and eight others, including members of the press, a sociologist, and Mrs. Julius E. Weil, the elderly daughter of one of Chicago's most famous architects, Dankmar Adler. FORUM's Chicago detachment also culled hundreds of existing photographs and drawings and commissioned a trio of photographers and a gifted artist, Architect Albert Goers of Pace Associates, to bring fresh insights to particular aspects of the city today. One necessary photo was an aerial shot of the water front made from the same angle as an old engraving of early Chicago (see foldout, page 85).

Meanwhile, back in New York, other editors, writers, and researchers were working with the art department, weaving words and pictures about the many different phases of the new Chicago into a cohesive story. Meanwhile, too, the production and circulation departments were preparing for the biggest press run-71,500 copies-and the biggest distribution problem in FORUM's long history. (The Chicago Commerce & Industry Association had ordered 1,150 extra copies of this issue, and 4,000 more have been put on Chicago newsstands.) So busy was the staff preparing what promises to become a milestone in architectural journalism that it found no time to celebrate the passing of two other milestones. Seventy years ago-just as Adler & Sullivan started on the design of the famous Chicago Stock Exchange, which still stands at 30 North La Salle-a small group of men were putting together the initial issue of FORUM, then called The Brickbuilder. Volume I Number I was dated January 1892. The other milestone: 30 years ago this month FORUM was acquired by Time Inc. On second thought, this spe-

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cial issue on Chicago is in a sense a celebration-J.C.H. Jr.

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