

Dear Ken -

Well, it's about time you wrote. Thanks for the letter. I thought maybe you got put in the clinic, or kicked the bucket. But no, not a chance. When you die, I guess you will die with your boots on. Then I thought maybe you were working in the beet fields. Your letter was interesting! I thought I noted a certain air of maturity, your observation and thoughts are on a "higher plane". "Plain living over did go with high thinking". It seems to be ~~the~~ part of the chauvinism of our times that things that are commonplace and ordinary are much worshiped. Things modern are admired, not for their inherent quality, but because they are of the moment. Expediency and momentary pleasure become the keynote of our philosophy, our outlook on life. And yet your life is not all your own, it does not end with you. Things that you do will affect those very close to you. From these, one may go a step further, and wonder whether we ought not to reconsider our concept of man, man as a living, social being, and not like ~~the~~ a somewhat mechanical homo, a product of 19<sup>th</sup> century "scientificism". Is man essentially a social animal, like the ants, or a predatory creature, like dogs? Will the days of giants upon this earth come back? Well, here I go wandering off into space, and getting nowhere, or as Omar would say "myself when young did oft frequent" the haunts of wise men, wondering where we came from and

whither we were bound, and "evermore came  
out through the same door wherein I went."  
This is not a world in which a thinking  
man can be happy, only a doing man can  
be so. But thoughts about life keep creeping  
in from time to time. "I wished to live  
deliberately, to front only the essential facts  
of life, and see if I could not learn  
what it had to teach, and not, when I  
came to die, discover that I had not lived.  
I did not wish to live what was not life,  
living it so dear. . . . I wanted to live  
deep and and suck out all the marrow  
of life, to live so sturdily and Spartan  
like as to put to rout all that was not life,  
to cut a broad swath and shave close,  
to ~~drive life into a corner~~ and if it  
proved to be mean, whap - then to get the  
whole and genuine meanness of it; or if it  
were sublime, to know it by experience  
For most men, it appears to me, are in  
a strange uncertainty about it."

Things are moving along. My folks have  
gone to Gila River, Arizona. They report good  
weather there and that "the vegetables are doing  
wonderfully". Did you know Tak Asakura?  
and to be at Stanford. He's there as assist.  
housing supervisor. I heard Dr. Kiyasu  
is there. It's a hot place. They are having  
a temp. of 90 now, and it goes up to 120 in  
summer.

I think we will be moved from here.  
So where or when I don't know. At first I  
heard it was to be Dulalase, but from this  
territory, it may be Arizona. I think I'd  
rather go to Dulalase. Maybe you

passed thru there on going to Wash. for  
the JACL Conv. Temp. there is mild - below  
zero to max. of 99. I'd like to be in  
a place where it snows & where there are  
tall timbers. They suit my mood better.

Speaking of Arizona, I thought maybe  
you will be able to go to Wright's place.

I heard from a friend of mine in Utah.  
He went from Santa Anita, about 500 of them.  
When they got there, they were put in barracks  
whose roofs weren't even on. The next  
night it rained & everything got wet. So  
they went to the office, but ~~they~~ the latter  
said they couldn't do anything. So they  
notified the Army. They came & moved  
them to another quarters with roofs.

This camp life, with sudden uprooting  
from home, I thought, may bring about  
some changes in us. But such changes  
don't seem apparent. Young nisei seem  
to take it as a sort of lark. The older isei  
seem to take it without much resentment. Their  
attitude seems to be that if they ~~can't~~ <sup>haven't</sup> accumulated  
any wealth after having worked almost all  
their life, they can't do much now by staying  
outside. The camp is just the place for them,  
fed & sheltered by gov. expense. But even  
they resent a little at this sudden uprooting  
& being in barracks & concentration camp.  
I guess it's the sense of degradation. And  
so long as man can value his dignity & such  
over & above mere material comfort, a  
new world will rise again.

Perhaps it is those like you and I



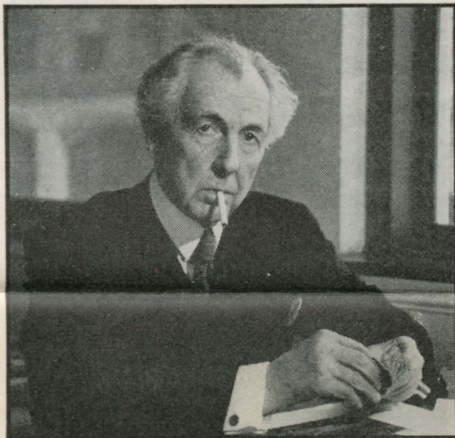
## Usonian Evolution

Up to last week, the only comprehensive book on the life work of the most famed living U.S. architect, Frank Lloyd Wright, has been a monumental, professorial volume written more than 30 years ago in German (*Frank Lloyd Wright, ausgeführte Bauten und Entwürfe*, by Kuno Francke; Berlin; 1910). Last week the U.S. got its first thorough native survey of Architect Wright's restless, productive development.

The survey (*In the Nature of Materials*; Duell, Sloan & Pearce; \$5) is by Henry-Russell Hitchcock, a red-bearded Wesleyan University professor of art and architecture, who culled most of his material from a quarter-ton of plans and photographs that Wright had accumulated for years in his Wisconsin studio, Taliesin. Crammed with photographs and descriptions of nearly every building Wright ever built or even thought up, Hitchcock's book reaches

many-storied and many-windowed office buildings setting new standards of functionalism and honesty. In the offices of the great Louis Sullivan, budding Architect Wright learned the famed Sullivan dictum, "form follows function," helped design some of Sullivan's biggest projects, ended by influencing Sullivan himself.

Leaving Sullivan in the 1890s, Wright rapidly evolved a style of his own, a spacious, low-slung type of building, whose simple planes and monolithic unity of design were to remain constant features of Wright houses for many years. A tireless experimenter with new materials and bold forms, he invented and evolved new structural uses for everything from concrete to plywood, built houses that challenged every conventional rule of the architect's art. By 1910, his new ideas had spread from suburban Oak Park, Ill., where he lived, to Holland and Germany, where a whole school of modern architecture grew



Peter Stackpole  
FRANK LLOYD WRIGHT & HOUSE\*  
He ended by influencing his teacher.

the conclusion that Wright, often considered an eccentric and an unpractical dreamer, has actually followed the most direct and logical of careers.

Wisconsin-born Architect Wright went to Chicago as an apprentice draftsman in 1887, just when the first modern skyscrapers in the world were abuilding in that brawny city. While the rest of the U.S. was content with old-fashioned imitation Greek pillars and Victorian knickknacks, Chicago Architects William Le Baron Jenney, Louis Sullivan and John Root had thought out a new, austere type of building that was to dominate U.S. big-city architecture for half a century.

For more than a decade Chicago\* led the world, architecturally, its steel-framed,

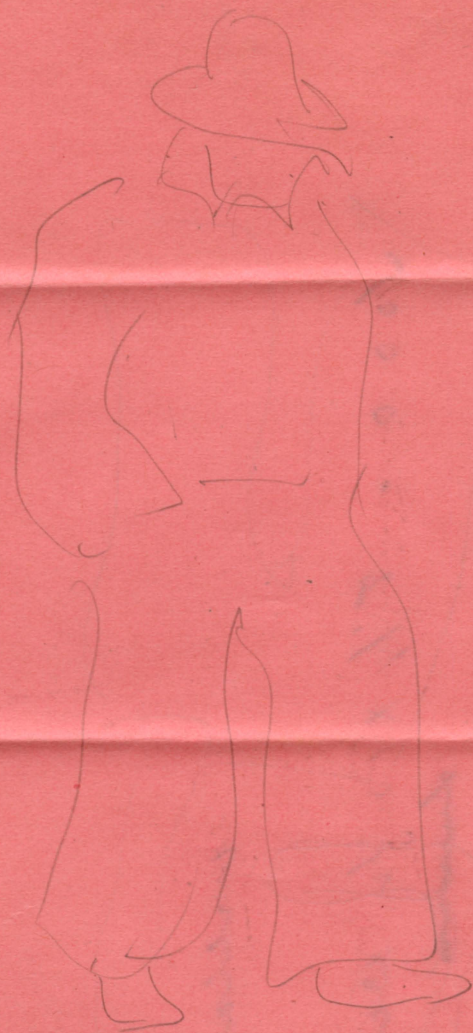
\* Finest study to date of the Chicago school is included in the monumental book, *Space, Time & Architecture* by Swiss-born Architectural Critic Sigfried Giedion, which has just reached its third printing (Harvard University Press; \$5). Giedion finds the roots of the Jenney and Sullivan skyscraper, not in the showpieces of past European and U.S. architecture, but in such useful and noble feats of engineering as glass-surfaced markets and department stores, or the cast-iron-pillared warehouses of the St. Louis water front.

up from seeds Architect Wright had planted.

But though theoretical Europeans acclaim his work as one of the most important influences on the "international" style of modern architecture, exuberant Architect Wright has always steered clear of the mechanical extremes which made much "modern" European building look cold and inhuman. Curiously, though he was trained in the Chicago school that invented the skyscraper, and became the most famous architect in a nation famed for its skyscrapers, Frank Lloyd Wright has never built a skyscraper himself.

One reason may be his hatred of cities, which has, in recent years, made him an eloquent advocate of decentralization. During the past ten years, one of Wright's most cherished projects for "Usonia" (his name for the U.S.-as-it-should-be) has been an enormous housing-development plan known as *Broadacre City*, in which the occupations of modern city life, dispersed with the help of modern transportation, can be carried on in a gigantic rural area where each dwelling is surrounded by acres of parks and fields.

\* Built for Edgar J. Kaufmann, at Bear Run, Pa.



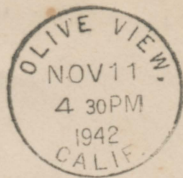
Santa Anita

Apr' 42

10 second sketch

674

Wissamie  
Hillcrest Sanat.  
La Crescenta, Calif.



Kan Donoto  
6F-5-D  
Amache, Colorado

Granada Relocation Center