ARTEK

center for modern furniture and house-fittings . exhibitions of art and industrial art

artek fabianinkatu 31 helsinki finland

The Museum of Modern Art,
14, West 49th. Street,
NEW YORK, N.Y.
U. S. A.

telephone 32738, telegrams: ARTEK

NGH/Å
For the attention of Mr. McAndrew.

9th. March 1938.

par avion

Gentlemen,

We have received your wire: "SEND AT ONCE TOTAL VALUATION OF SHIPMENT INVOICE AND DOCUMENTS NOT ARRIVED" to which we have replied as per enclosed copy.

The B/L have gone with the goods and we enclose herewith:
Pro Forma Customs invoice for goods which can be sold,
Consular invoice for same,
Consular invoice for drawings, models etc. which are not to be sold.

Yours faithfully,

A R T E K oy. ab.

N. G. Hahl

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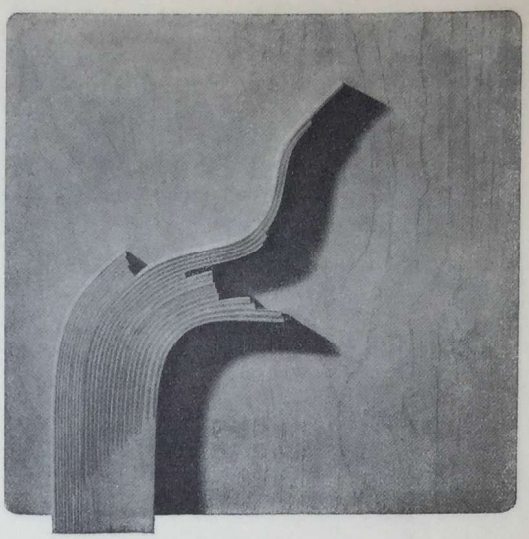

The Museum of Modern Art,
14 West 49th Street,
New York,
N.Y. U.S.A.

telephone 32738, telegrams: ARTEK

ngh/å

26th February 1938

Gentlemen,

We enclose a specification of items sent to reach you by s/s Queen Mary. The rest is sent by air mail.

We also enclose description of the Aalto-House, Paimio, Viipuri and the suggested Museum in Esthonia.

We furhter enclose a list of alterations of the numbers under "Catalogue" in our letter of Fabruary 20th. and a complete catalogue. Please find also enclosed a specification of photographs and numbers of part 1, and a list of photographs (glossy copies) to be enlarged in New York.

Yours faithfully

A R T E K oy.ab.

N.G. Hahl

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NEW YORK, N.Y.
U. S. A.

telephone 32738, telegrams: ARTEK

NGH/Å
For the attention of Mr. McAndrew.

26th. February 1938.

Gentlemen,

Mr. Aalto has instructed us to send you a log sawn up in thin layers instead of the birch log arked for by you. This will reach you by S/S Berangeria the 14th March. With the same boat you will receive fixtures and some glassware ordered.

Re the schemes sent, Mr. Aalto wishes to point out that he does not insist on you following them. They are only intended as a help. We have, naturelly full confidence in your first rate knowledge and intuition as to the exhibition of the material with due consderation to its nature. He also, naturally, leaves entirely to your judgement to decide which material should be exhibited most conspicously so as to give the Exhibition its special character.

Yours faithfully,

A R T E K oy. ab.

N. G. Wahl

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NEW YORK, N.Y.,
U. S. A.

telephone 32738, telegrams: ARTEK

NGH/A

For the attention of Mr. McAndrew.

26th. February 1938.

Enclosure No 1

Gentlemen,

Herewith the specification of the contents of the boxes sent the 23rd. inst. to catch S/S Queen Mary:

ART. 1. Model of "Sunila" community.

ART. 2. Models: The Paris Pavilion & The Museum in Tallinn.

ART. 3. Drawings, photographs, 2 wood reliefs. x)

ART. 4. Light fixtures & gilded shades.

ART. 5. Glass plastics.

ART. 6. Glass plastics.

ART. 7. 2 wood reliefs, 3 photograph frames, 1 milk-glass plate.

Yours faithfully,

A R T E K oy. ab.

N. G. Hahl

x) 3A Two abstract wood reliefs.
× 2A/8a Eastern Front of Sanatorium at Paimio (mounted on insulite)
2B/1-6 Drawings of a railway station.
× 2D/4-10 Photographs of Mr. Aalto's house. (On insulite).
× 3E/1-3 Pictures of old Scandinavian chairs. (On insulite).
2F/1-5 Drawings of workmen's dwellings.
2G/1 Aerial view of the "Sunila" community and its surroundings before construvtion.
2G/3a General map of Sunila.
× 2G/15 Photograph of Sunila factory. (On insulite).
2H/1 Aerial view of high blocks, Munkkiniemi, before building.

× on insulite.
ON INSULITE

ARTEK

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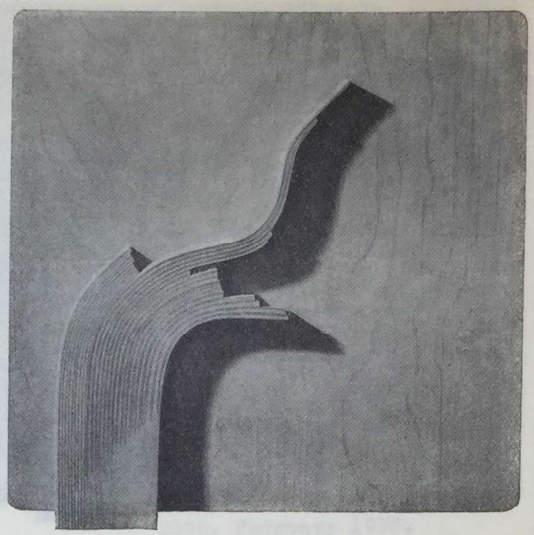

The Museum of Modern Art,

14, West 49th. Street,
NEW YORK, N.Y.

U. S. A.

telephone 32738, telegrams: ARTEK

NGH/A
For the attention of Mr. McAndrew.

26th. February 1938.

Enclosure no 6

26.2.

Gentlemen,

Please notice the following changes introduced after the writing of our "Catalogue":

Tampere railway station: 2 more drawings sent thus the total now 2B/1-6.

Mr. Aalto's house: 2D/1-3 Drawings,
2D/4-10 photographs,

Workmen's dwellings: No. 2F/6, excluded.

N. G. Hahl

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The Museum of Modern Art,

14, West 49th. Street,
NEW YORK, N. Y.
U. S. A.

telephone 32738, telegrams: ARTEK

NGH/Å
For the attention of Mr.McAndrew.

20th. February 1938.

Gentlemen,

We have received your cable reading: "GLAD MATERIAL COMING ON WHAT BOAT PLEASE CABLE COMPLETE CHRONOLOGY OF BUILDINGS FURNITURE AND LIVES THIS WEEK END WITHOUT FAIL FOR CATALOGUE" and have replied as per enclosed copy.

The quickest connection is by S/S Queen Mary and we shall send by that steamer what we cannot send by air mail. The material for the Aalto Exhibition will be sent as follows:

Part 1. A summary of Mr. Aalto's architectural works. This part consists of photographs in chronological order covering the period 1922-1937. The photographs are likely to have to be enlarged at your end to the size mentioned by you. (Scheme 1. shows how each photograph should be exhibited)

Part 2. Detailed studies of selected buildings:
- a) The Paimio Sanatorium. (Scheme 2a.)
- b) A provincial railway station (Tampere) - a competition scheme. (Scheme 2b.)
- c) The Viipuri Library. (Scheme 2c.)
- d) Mr. Aalto's private house. (Scheme 2d.)
- e) The Finnish Pavilion at the Paris Exhibition. (Scheme 2e.)
- f) Garden City scheme for industrial workers. (Scheme 2f.)
- g) The "Sunila" pulp mill and community. (Scheme 2g)
- h) Scheme for high blocks of small flats for G.M.Stenius, Ltd., Munkkiniemi suburb outside Helsinki (Helsingfors). (Scheme 2h.)
- i) Sketches for a superior house. (Scheme 2i.)
- j) A suggested Art Gallery in Esthonia. (Scheme 2j)

Part 3. The Aalto furniture etc.
- a) Abstract wood reliefs. (Scheme 3a.)
- b) Furniture.
- c) Glass plastics.
- d) Light fixtures.

Part 4. Mr. Aalto's biography.

Continued.

artek

The schemes for the different parts will be sent separate and will give you full instructions as to which photographs will have to be enlarged in New York etc.

Yours faithfully,

A R T E K oy. ab.

N.-G. Hahl

NEW YORK SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES SEATTLE

Arts Business

FAST DIRECT

RCA

RADIOGRAM

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PHOTOGRAPHS AIRMAIL DRAWINGS THIS WEEK BY AIR

ARTEK

TELEPHONE HAnover 2-1811 To secure prompt action on inquiries, this original RADIOGRAM should be presented at the office of R. C. A. COMMUNICATIONS, Inc. In telephone inquiries quote the number preceding the place of origin.

WJB:
VJA

Aalto
Breines

NEW YORK SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES SEATTLE

W. J. Byrnes and Company
of New York

August 23, 1938

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Telephone
Digby 4-8440-1-2

Mr Simon Breines
Pomerance & Breines
40 E 49

In reply refer to INY-693
April 1, 1938

Dear Mr Breines,

I c ame across the enclosed negatives among some papers left here by Mrs Cooke, and had an idea that they were yours. If they are, many apologies for having kept them so long, and many thanks for letting us use them. If they are not, sorry to bother you (and I will try someone else)

As you may have heard from him, Aalto seems to have liked the catalogue very much. It is selling very well. We are extremely grateful to you for your help.

Sincerely

John McAndrew
Curator of Architecture

WJB:
VJA

Miss Henrich

NEW YORK SAN FRANCISCO LOS ANGELES SEATTLE

W. J. Byrnes and Company
of New York, Inc.

Freight Brokers Custom House Brokers Freight Forwarders

Cable Address
Wilbyr, New York

25 Broadway
New York

Telephones
Digby 4-8460-1-2

In reply refer to INY-693
April 1, 1938

Museum of Modern Art
14 West 49th Street
New York City

Dear Miss Dudley: ATTENTION: Miss D. Dudley

With respect to the case No. 11, the contents of which appear to be a clean over on our entry 350818 ex s/s QUEEN MARY March 23, the appraiser has asked that we furnish him with a full report, stating the name of the manufacturer, the manufacturer's numbers and the value of each item.

We are also asked to furnish this same information with respect to the merchandise contained in the other four cases viz. 8, 9, 10 and 12, although we did have an invoice for these cases which set the value in a lump sum.

Yours very truly,

W. J. BYRNES & CO. OF N.Y. INC.

By

WJB:
VJA

March 13, 1938.

Dear Mr. Byrnes:

I am enclosing two copies of the list of items included in the S.S. Queen Mary shipment from Finland. Will you be good enough to hand one of these copies to Mr. Dolan of Mr. McCarthy's office.

As soon as we have received an itemized list of valuations, we will forward these to you. We have cabled Mr. Aalto again for such a list.

Very sincerely yours,

Janet M. Henrich
Department of Architecture

Mr. W. J. Byrnes
25 Broadway
New York, New York.

March 10, 1938

Dear Mr. Byrnes:

Confirming our telephone conversation of the other day, we are expecting the following material on s.s. Berengaria March 14th:

A log sawn in thin layers
Fixtures
Glassware

This was shipped from Finland and is for the Aalto Exhibition which opens March 15th. We should like to receive it as soon as possible. I suppose it can be entered under 1809. We have no invoice or valuation for this shipment. We shall probably have to cable for this information if the invoice does not arrive in a day or two.

Very truly yours,

Dorothy H. Dudley
Registrar

Mr. W. J. Byrnes
W. J. Byrnes & Co.
25 Broadway
New York City

DHD:DK
Copy to Archit. Dept.

Macy

March 21, 1938.

R. H. Macy & Co.
New York, N. Y.
Attention: Miss Lang

Dear Miss Lang:

I am sending you herewith the two toys which we borrowed last week and are not using in the exhibition.

The baby panda and the blocks add greatly and are most popular. We are most grateful for your cooperation and will return the other things immediately when the exhibition closes.

Very sincerely yours,

Janet M. Henrich
Department of Architecture

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

INCORPORATED

Date March 12, 1941.

To: Miss Gray

Re: Finnish decumentary films

From: Miss Henrich

My only records on the 6 reels of Finnish documentary films taken by Mr. Makkinen which we had in the Museum in 1939, are as follows:

On June 13 I sent Mr. Abbott a memo telling him the Aaltos had brought the films and that we would like to see them, and the Film Library might be interested.

(As I remember, Mr. Abbott arranged by telephone to have them run off and they were shown in the Preview room just before I left on vacation which would have been about the last day of June.)

On July 7, Miss Sewall, who was a member of this department at that time sent Mr. Kerns a memo saying that Mr. Junge of Markt Hammacher would call for the films that day.

To this I can only add a vague recollection of a conversation with Mrs. Aalto last spring (1940) in which, while talking about Makkinen, I asked if the films had gotten back all right and she said yes.

I hope this may help to straighten things out.

Aalto

FOR FINLAND
INCORPORATED

522 FIFTH AVENUE, NEW YORK • MURRAY HILL 2-4018

THE HONORABLE HJALMAR J. PROCOPÉ
HONORARY CHAIRMAN

October 4, 1940

Dear Mr. McAndrews:

We have been advised by Mr. Alvar Aalto that the exhibit model of an experimental American town in Finland is to be sent to you for exhibition in the Museum when the Finnish Pavilion at the New York World's Fair closes.

The closing date is October 27th. Will you kindly let us know how soon after it will be convenient for you to receive this exhibit model?

Sincerely yours,

Paul Bernard

Paul Bernard

Mr. John McAndrews
Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53rd Street
New York, New York

PB/d

Helsinki, 4/I 1940.

My dear Friend,

As you know, the first real open fighting of the world-war has begun in Finland. It is the Russian police-terror system which now shows its will to expand all over the world. The Western social thinking - constructive activity - has shown itself more of a success than the Russian collective system can stand. All of us who have worked for a real socially positive future have now the same front and the same battle to fight, the battle that has begun here.

With this letter I send some enclosures which show the real significance of the struggle and its technical possibilities. I hope that they will confirm in you the idea that the battle is "our common" - in a way a religious battle - not for a nation, that is a obsolete idea, nor a schematic conception of inherited Western culture, but a battle for the constructive will and the constructive knowledge which exists in all of us and everywhere in the West. It is a fight of the balanced social progress against modes and systems which have shown themselves incapable of constructing a developement and where blind theory is combined with destructive and profoundly conservative methods.

As I have said, our common fight will have its front here, it is growing more and more dense each day, but I feel it my duty to instruct you as to the first actions made necessary by the situation. The principal necessity is an increase of the aerial defence of Finland, i.e. international voluntary air-fighters with complete equipments.

We all agree that the intellectual world, now in the beginning of the war, should concentrate on "propaganda" and also in every way work for voluntary air-fighters with complete equipments to be sent over to Finland. Personally I have a feeling that a special organization should be founded among technicians, architects, artists and litterary people of your country, with this purpose as their solitary aim. I think it would be important that this organization should work separately, to be able to gain quicker results, but of course in connection with the common organization that works for the front in Finland.

One thing that oughtv to be connected with this, is the organizing of clubs at the universities in your country. Clubs that should combine a serie of organizations and that should work together with the above mentioned.

Dear friend, it is perhaps a little unexpected taht to-day my language is imbued with the necessity of the fight, instead of constructive philisophy, but, after all, our work is of no value if this fight against everybody, against intellectual creation, against constructive progress of developement and against the positive results already gained does not turn out a victory.

If you can do anything, preferably in the shape of an organization as hinted at, please let me know from time to time how you progress, but remember that to-day speed in realisation is essential.

With kind regards,

Alvar Aalto

Alvar Aalto

No. 1.

At first the battle in Finland seems a purely national affair caused by the Russian wish for outside expansion and its geographical lines of on-march. But looking deeper into the problems one notices that the social problems dominate and, because of that, we take them first in our short review.

The World has past trough a long period of many years during which the social contrasts have been the leading motives. In a way the Russian Lenin-revolution was the climax of these struggles. The leading maxim of all revolutionary theories prior to the Russian revolution was: "A social revolution of importance to the World can be accomplished only in a country of importance to the World can be accomplished only in a country with high industrial culture." The fact that the Russian revolution was relised was regarded as overthrowing this theory which had not been tried in practice before. The general opinion said: "The proof of the practice is right - the theory was wrong."

Now, twenty years after the revolution, the question appears in quite a different light. The practice was not right. It has been impossible to carry trough the aim of the revolution i.e. to create an ideal modelstate. During a period of twenty years the standard of living and the interior organisation have been improved only sporadically - a wave-line where a decline follows each improvement, is the rule. The uncultered foundation brough about an unexpected combination. The struggle, originally of an ideal nature, adopted as a method a heritage from the Russia of the Tsars - the police-power. This permanent terror which, by and by, has grown predominant has made the realisation of a balanced life and organised aconomy impossible in that land of revolution even though its size is almost that of a Continent and itthus should be hindered by outside obstructions.

The basis for the fact that the cultured workers of the West do not believe in the gains of the Russian revolution is the knowledge that it has proved its practical impossibility and its incapability to create endurable conditions.

The proof is: "There are no results worth while of a period of twenty years." This is nowhere better known than by the working classes on Finland - the neighbour of the experiment which has failed.

This is one, and one of the principal foundations of the internal unity of the Finnish front. By innumerable practical experiences this has been branded into the conscience of the people and no superficial propaganda can change the facts.

During decades the Russian propaganda has considered special progress as its private property. That is not the case. Within the constitutions of their states the Northern democratic countries of Europe have shown innumerable cases and methods whereby social progress has given permanent results. At the same time as their standard of living has shown an uninterrupted rise they have been able to gain an elastic social system where new and old methods - state socialism side by side with private initiative and co-operative activity - have formed an elastic basis for the civic life. This has created confidence in a social development at the same time as the machinery of the state has developed in such a way that same time as the machinery of the state has developed in such a way that it is possible to believe in a continued development along the same lines and, thereby, in a continually rising social standard and internal solidarity as an expression of a development towards a truly social state.

This is the second and, in a positive way, very important basis. The

worker living in the Democracies of the Northern Europe knows that he partakes to such an extent in the governement of his state that he can see, already now, that his way goes towards quicker results without him having to endure, on a long way goes towards quicker results without him having to endure, on a long way of development, such sufferings as the Eastern system brings with it. The above does not refer only to the working men but also to the deep rank of the agrarians.

These two examples; one negative and one positive, show why the workers of north Europe have, without exception, stood up against the system of Soviet.

To-day it is first and foremost he who is the best soldier in Finland in a war started as an attack on a national unity but which, in a higher sense and in a near future, will show itself as the dividing line between two tracks of social development; one - a failure i.e. Soviet and one with a trust in positive development i,e. the Democracies of Northern Europe.

It is safe to say that the Russian attack on Finland was more directed against a social development which proved rupesrior to the practically untried dectrines of Soviet than by geographical or territorial motives. Because of that the front in Finland is not a national front nor a front of socialism against bourgeoisie but the front No. 1 of the west - the front where the unsuccesfull theory overpowered by tsaristic methods stands on one side and a balanced Western social development with a bright future before it stands on the other side.

Thus the struggle in Finland is not a fight of a national character but the front-line of the long Western social development standing against social negativity and wish to destruct all social development.

Immeadiately after the brute invasion of USSR-army into Finland, the entire civilized world realised the real purposse of this action. But only after four weeks of fighting it has been generally recognized that the war resources of the USSR as well as the offensive power of its much advertised Rea Army has been groundlessly overrated.

Yet the extraordinary circumstances conneted with this war are not generally known. It should also be noted that geografically and topografically Finland presents many of the most rare formations in the world. Being a country of more than 120.000 lakes it makes a continuous natural "Maginot line", a zone that is "deeper" than any artificial fortification. Holland has planned "water barriers" on her borders and relies upon them. The whole of Finland is one continuous "water barrier"; even its long coast lines are protected by an archipelago which is one of the greatest in the world and with passages difficult to navigate. Another set of favourable conditions is included in the climate of Finland.

The Soviet Union is using an army that is not equipped nor trained for warfare in winter, while each Finnish soldier has been trained for winter campaign. With the exception of a few clumsy experiments there are no ski-troops in USSR whereas all Finnish soldiers are skilled skiers. This means that snow of which there may sometimes be 10 feet in Northern Finland , is a terrain most favourable to the movements of the Finnish Army, but "Terra incognita " for Russians.

Not including the island states, Switzerland and perhaps, from the hsitorical point of view, certain regions in Central Asia, there are no other territory in the whole world which, inhabited by a trained nation, would more efficiently resist an enemy than Finland. Owing to these special conditions Finland is the most advantageous starting-point for exterminating the Bokshevism. There is no other neighbouring country from which a crusade against the poisoner of the whole world's social life could be launched with so small armies and with so small sacrifices.

Helsinki, 4/I 1940.

My dear Friend,

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If you can do anything, preferably in a shape of an organization as hinted at, please let me know from time to time how you progress, but remember that to-day speed in realisation is essential.

With best greetings,

(Alvar Aalto) Aalto.

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Now, twenty years after the revolution, the question appears in quite a different light. The practice was not right. It has been impossible to carry trough the aim of the revolution i.e. to create an ideal model-state. During a period of twenty years the standard of living and the interior organisation have been improved only sporadically - a wave-line where a decline follows each improvement, is the rule. The uncultured foundation brought about an unexpected vombination. The struggle, originally of an ideal nature, adopted as a method a heritage from the Russia of the Tsars - the police-power. This permanent terror which, by and by, organised economy impossible in that land of revolution even though its size is almost that of a Continent and it thus should not be hindered by outside obstructions.

The basis for the fact that the cultured workers of the West do not believe in the gains of the Russian revolution is the knowledge that it has proved its practical impossibility and its incapability to create endurable conditions.

The proof is: "There are no results worth while of a period of twenty years." This is nowhere better known than by the working classes on Fibland - the neighbour of the experiment which has failed.

This is one, and one of the principal foundations of the internal unity of the Finnish front. By innumerable practical experiences this has been branded into the conscience of the people and no superficial propaganda can change the facts.

During decades the Russian propaganda has considered social progress as its private property. That is not the case. Within the constitutions of their states the Northern democratic countries of Europe have shown innumerable cases and methods whereby social progress has given permanent results. At the same time as their standard of living has shown an uninterrupted rise they have been able to gain an elastic social system where new and old methods - state socialism side by side with private initiative and co-operative activity - have formed an elastic basis for the civic life. This has created confidence in a social development at the same time as the machinery of the state has developed in such a way that it is possible to believe in a continued development along the same lines and, thereby, in a continually rising social standard and internal solidarity as an expression of a development towards a truly social state.

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The proof is: "There are no results worth while of a period of twenty years." This is nowhere better known than by the working classes on Finland - the neighbour of the experiment which has failed.

This is one, and one of the principal foundations of the internal unity of the Finnish front. By innumerable practical experiences this has been branded into the conscience of the people and no superficial propaganda can change the facts.

During decades the Russian propaganda has considered social progress as its private property. That is not the case. Within the constitutions of their states the Northern democratic countries of Europe have shown innumerable cases and methods whereby social progress has given permanent results. At the same time as their standard of living has shown an uninterrupted rise they have been able to gain an elastic social system where new and old methods - state socialism side by side with private initiative and co-operative activity - have formed an elastic basis for the civic life. This has created confidence in a social development at the same time as the machinery of the state has developed in such a way that it is possible to believe in a continued development along the same lines and, thereby, in a continually rising social standard and internal solidarity as an expression of a development towards a truly social state.

This is the second and, in a positive way, very important basis. The

Immediately after the invasion of the USSR-army into Finland, the civilized world realised the real purpose of this action. But only after four weeks of fighting it has been generally recognised that the war resources of the USSR as well as the offensive power of its much advertised Red Army has been groundlessly overrated.

Yet the extraordinary circumstances connected with this war are not generally known. It should also be noted that geografically and topografically Finland presents many of the most rare formations in the world. Being a country of more than 120.000 lakes it makes a continuous natural "Maginot line", a zone that is "deeper" than any artificial fortification. Holland hasplanned "water barriers" on her borders and relies upon them. the whole of Finland is one continuous "water barrier"; even its long coast lines are protected by an archipelago which is one of the greatest in the world and with passages difficult to navigate. Another set of favourable conditions are include in the climate of Finland.

The Soviet Union is using an army that is not equiped nor trained for warfare in winter, while each Finnish soldier has been trained for winter campaign. With the exception of a few experiments there are no ski-troops in USSR whereas all Finnish soldiers are skilled skiers. This means that snow, of which there may be some 10 feet in Northern Finland, is a terrain most favourable to the movements of the Finnish Army, but "Terra incognita" for Russians.

Not including the island states, Switzerland and perhaps, from the historical point of view, certain regions of Central Asia, there is no other territory un the whole world whiuh inhabited by a trained nation, would more efficiently resist an enemy than Finalnd. Owing to these special conditions Finland is the most advantageous starting-point for exterminating the Bolshevism. There is no other neighbouring country from which a crusade against the poisoner of whole world's social life could be launched with so small armies and with so small sacrfices.

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date February 15, 1940

Aalto

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED			
DOMESTIC		CABLE	
TELEGRAM		FULL RATE	
DAY LETTER		DEFERRED	
NIGHT MESSAGE		NIGHT LETTER	X
NIGHT LETTER		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise message will be transmitted as a full-rate communication.

Charge to MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

WESTERN UNION

1206-A

CHECK

ACCT'G INFMN.

TIME FILED

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

February 16,1940

Aalto

AALTO ARTEK
FABIANINKATU
HELSINKI (Finland)

IMPOSSIBLE ARRANGE ~~XXX~~ TOUR FINNISH SHOW NOW SORRY FORWARDING YOUR LETTER ~~XXXXXXX~~
MCANDREW MEXICO

MODERNART

WESTERN UNION MESSENGERS ARE AVAILABLE FOR THE DELIVERY OF NOTES AND PACKAGES.

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date February 15, 1940

To: MISS HENRICH

Re: Aalto

From: MISS COURTER

Charge to the account of CHARGE TO MUSEUM OF MODERN ART $

CLASS OF SERVICE DESIRED

DOMESTIC		CABLE	
TELEGRAM		ORDINARY	
DAY LETTER		URGENT RATE	
SERIAL		DEFERRED	X
NIGHT LETTER		NIGHT LETTER	
SPECIAL SERVICE		SHIP RADIOGRAM	

Patrons should check class of service desired; otherwise the message will be transmitted as a telegram or ordinary cablegram.

WESTERN UNION

1206-B

R. B. WHITE, PRESIDENT
NEWCOMB CARLTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

CHECK

ACCOUNTING INFORMATION

TIME FILED

Send the following message, subject to the terms on back hereof, which are hereby agreed to

AALTO
ARTEK, FABIANINKATU
HELSINGFORS (FINLAND)

GREETINGS CONSULTING JOSEPHS AND BARR MORE LATER

MCANDREW

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date February 15, 1940

To: MISS HENRICH

Re: Aalto

From: MISS COURTER

Dear Janet:

I have discussed the possibility of Aalto's show of workers' dwellings with Mr. Barr. He does not feel we can handle it now. Could you cable Aalto, making polite excuses?

4

alvar aalto
arkkitehti
suomi finland
helsinki
munkkiniemi
riihitie 10 puh. 81 265

25th Oct. 1939.

Dear Mc Andrew ,

As you know my country has great troubles just now and we all are obliged to help in all possible ways. I have written to some of my friends and proposed them to do something for my country in a way they consider to be the best, but to you I will tell an other thing, which will, as we hope , progress to solve our difficulties.

Mr. Gregor Paulsson from Uppsala and I have together with many skandinavian friends founded a magazine of special nature. I send enclosed a copy of its first programm in which you can see the general character of it. During my last visit to America there were already discussions carried on to start something like this and we think that now is the best time to start to issue it. It can probably help to solve the difficulties of all northern states, this only part of the world , which is like your country and which is developing under the same kind of system as America.- I ask you could you possibly become one of the authors for this magazine. My sincere hope is that you will kindly accept.

I think that later the headquarters of this

alvar aalto
arkkitehti
suomi finland
helsinki
munkkiniemi
riihitie 10 puh. 81 265

magazine ought to be America, I am coming over as soon as possible but I do not know whether I can make a journey in near future owing to the present situation.

I hope to get an answer from you as soon as possible and also I dare to hope it will a favourable one.

With best greetings

Yours

Address: Riihitie 10. Munkkiniemi.
Helsinki. Finland.

Cable : Alvaraalto Helsinki Finland.

Aalto

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

This is a full-rate Cablegram unless its deferred character is indicated by a suitable symbol preceding the address.

WESTERN UNION CABLEGRAM

R. B. WHITE, PRESIDENT — NEWCOMB CARLTON, CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD — J. C. WILLEVER, FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS	
LC	Deferred Cablegram
NLT	Cable Night Letter
V	Ship Radiogram

Received at 40 Broad Street, New York, N. Y. 1940 JAN 29 PM 5 53

1076 HELSINKI 58 1/44 29

NLT MACANDREW MODERN ART
C/O MUSEUM OF MODERN ART NYK
11 W 53RD ST.

HOWDY MRS JOSEPH MENTIONED YOUR INTEREST STOP HAVE
OTHER SUGGESTIONS NOW ACTIVE CULTURAL CONNECTION
WEST STOP COMPLETE MATERIAL SHOW FINNISH CULTURE
MAINLY WORKERS DWELLINGS MILIEU INCLUDING
ENLARGEMENTS MOUNTINGS READY HERE TEN DAYS STOP
MODERN ART PROBABLY ABLE ARRANGE TOURING

Aalto

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

THE COMPANY WILL APPRECIATE SUGGESTIONS FROM ITS PATRONS CONCERNING ITS SERVICE

CLASS OF SERVICE

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WESTERN UNION CABLEGRAM

R. B. WHITE
PRESIDENT

NEWCOMB CARLTON
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

J. C. WILLEVER
FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT

SYMBOLS	
LC	Deferred Cablegram
NLT	Cable Night Letter
	Ship Radiogram

Received at 40 Broad Street, New York, N. Y. 1940 JAN 29 PM 5 53

2/1076 NLT MAC 14

SHOW BIGGER MINE STOP REMEMBER FIGHTERS EXCLUSIVELY PROTECTION CIVILIANS KIND ACTIVE RED CROSS

AALTO

PRO MEMORIA RE. CULTURE - POLITICAL PERIODICAL.

1. Aim and contents. To bring to the knowledge of a large public in a matter-of-fact, responsible and popular way the symptoms of "sociobiological responsibility" in the fields of culture, social life, industrial life and politics which are now beginning to appear in different parts of the world and which, added together, are a sign that the structure of these spheres is probably undergoing a process of decisive change. At the same time attention will be paid to the necessity of the building up of a new standard of values which, connected with the new structure shall replace the present nihilism in thoughts and values which is the prime cause of the existence of the present chaotic conditions. The ultimate aim is thus to work out a synthesis of above symptoms.

In connection herewith the "decrepit" expressions of culture will be criticised with the aim of setting them aside.

This work will be done entirely independent of the present political ideologies.

2. Publication. Periodically - one issue a week - a pamhlet of 6-10 pages, as a rule devoted to only one subject.Parctical consideration will decide each time if this will be trusted to one person or if it shall be an enquete.

While keeping strictly to facts the accounts should be as popular and free from technicalities as possible.

The aim of the articles shall be to influence without being propaganda.

3. Name .

4. The writers. Leading , entirely independent, persons from the elite of the so-called democratic countries having a personal knowledge of the questions on the programme.

5. Finance. According to the preliminary calculations the cost of one issue ought to be 2,500 Sw.Crowns. Ten issues will be distributed as trial copies (the exact edition depends on the lists of prospective subscribers to be made). Subscription at not more than 25 ore per pamphlet will be invited in the meantime. The costs of starting are calculated at 25,000 Sw.Cr. At 25 ore a copy 1o,000 subscribers will make it a paying proposition and then 1o,000 more copies can be distributed free of charge.

6. Editors. Different suggestions are being discussed but in the meantime Mr. Gregor Paulsson and Mr. Alvar Aalto will act as editors.

7. Distribution. Centres for distribution will be arranged in the Scandinavian countries, England and U.S.A.

8. Address . Alternatives being discussed ,preferably Sweden - or centre in Sweden and Finland - editors office in Upsala - preferably Stockholm - printing in Finland.

to Aalto

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date July 7, 1939

To: Mr. Korns

Re: Finnish Documentary Films

From: Architecture Dept.-Miss Sewall

The six reels of Finnish Documentary Films, about which I spoke to you, will be called for today by Mr. Junge of Markt Hammacher.

A Sewall

Aalto

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date June 13, 1939

To: Mr. Abbott

Re: Finnish Documentary Films

From: Miss Henrich

Dear Mr. Abbott:

Those great friends of the Architecture Dept., the Aaltos, worked on the Finnish Pavilion at the Fair with a gent named Makkinen who is supposed to be a whiz at documentary films. I have never seen any of his movies (some are shown at the Fair) but his stills are excellent.

The Aalto's brought in a group of films by Makkinen for us to look at - John McAndrew, I and others had expressed casual interest in seeing some of them whenevr the Aaltos talked about how good they were. They have been sitting around for about 3 weeks, but we never did anything about looking at them before McAndrew left for Mexico.

Allan Porter, to whom I mentioned them, says that you are terribly busy this week and that you people have an awful mess of documentary film now anyway, but that you might be interested in seeing them. If they can be run off sometime, I would like very much to see them as would several others from the 5th floor, I imagine.

I seem to be responsible for getting the films back to Finland, and as the last of the Finns will be returning in about three weeks, it would be nice if whatever is done or decided, could be soon.

Janet Henrich

Aalto lectures

The Museum of Modern Art,
14 West 49th Street,
New York / N.Y.
U.S.A.

By s/s Normandie, sailing Oct.5th.

3rd October 1938

Gentlemen,

To my great pleasure I now have the opportunity of coming to New York when I shall hope also to have the pleasure of thanking you personally for all your kindness.

I shall arrive in New York on the 22nd October by m/s Gripsholm.

During the coming winter I shall be visiting America twice - the first time I shall only be staying until November 12th. I would be able to give a few lectures during this time and perhaps we could arrange about these as soon as I arrive. If they could be given between the 5th and 10th of November there will probably be time to make the necessary arrangements.

I hope to have the pleasure of meeting all those who have so kindly helped with the arrangements for my Exhibition.

Yours truly

Alvar Aalto

Papadaki will let us know if he has any good ideas

Aalto

November 18, 1938

Mr. Alvar Aalto
Hotel Barclay
111 East 48th Street
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. Aalto,

Among the slides which your secretary so kindly brought here last Wednesday were some which do not belong to us. These will be returned to you either today or tomorrow. There are, however, still some of our slides that are missing, and which must still be in your possession. If so, would you be so kind as to return them to us if you will not be needing them. If there are any of the slides which we have taken back that you will want to use again, we shall be glad to send them over.

May I say again how grateful we all are to you for your fine leacture.

A Miss Rebecca Tatham will write you or call on you in connection with the installing and care of plants in interiors, sometime within the next few days. She asked me to recommend her to you, which I am happy to do, as I think she does a good job of keeping indoor plants healthy.

Will you let me know about what dates you will be back here on your next trip, and when you would like to give lectures. We have already had several inquiries.

I hope to see you again soon. Thank you again for the splendid lecture. Please remember me to Mrs Aalto.

Sincerely,

ARKITEKT ALVAR AALTO / FINLAND / ÅBO

Herr Philip Johnson, Berlin.

Verzeichnung der Bilder.

A. Wettbewerbentwurf für Stadion auf dem Obssrwatorie-Berg in Helsingfors.
1. Plan mit den Einfartsstrassen.
2. Grundrisse der unteren Geschosse.
3. Fasaden und Schnitte
4.5.6. Perspektiven.

B. Messe in Åbo 1929. Ausgefürt von Architekt Aalto im Zusammenarbeit mit Architekt Bryggman.
1. Reklamtürme am Hauptbahnhof.
2. Reklamtürme der Zeitungen.
3. Verkaufsläden.
4. Die Möbelhalle.
5. Reklamtürme.
6. Haupteingang.

C. Wohnhaus in Åbo, Kleinwohnungen.
1. Strassenansicht.
2. Hofansicht.
3. Wohnraum.

D. Gescheftshaus "Maalaisten Talo" in Åbo. Das Gebäude enthällt Wohnungen ,- Büros,- Bank,- Läden,- Hotell,- "Turun Teatteri" (Åbo finnisches Teater),- undRestaurant "Itämeri".
1. Strassenansicht.
2. Teatersalon.
3. Teaterfoyer
4. Eingangshalle des Teaters. Garderobe, Modell des Teatersalons.
5. Eingangshalle des Teaters. Kassa.
6. Die lampen im Teatersalon.

E. A
E. "Turun Sanomat" Zeitungsgebäude, enthällt: Wohnungen,- Büros,- Läden,- Zeitungsbüro,-Druckerei,-Redaktion,- u. Klicheanstalt.
1. Grundriss.
2. Strassenansicht
3.-4. Hofansichten
5. Vom Dachterrasse
6. Vom Dachterrasse (Klicheanstalt)
7.-8. Vom Rotationmaschienensal
9. Papierlager
10. Treppe im Zeitungsbüro
11. Treppe
12. 13. 14. Haupteingang und Treppe.
15. Wohnraum
16. 17. 18. Lampen und Montage.

Wir senden Ihnen einen ziemlich reichhaltigen Kollektion damit Sie Selbst eine passende Auswahl nehmen können.

Wir dürfen um Zurücksendung der Bilder nach dem gebrauch bitten.

Berlin, den 15.Juli 1930

Herrn
Alvar Aalto
Architekt
Åbo (Finnland)

Sehr geehrter Herr Aalto,

Bei meiner kürzlichen Reise durch Schweden hat mich Herr Architekt Åhren auf Jhre Werke in Finnland aufmerksam gemacht und mir Jhren Namen als den massgebenden unter den Architekten dort genannt.
Jch bedauere es ausserordentlich, zurzeit nicht nach Finnland zu können, da mir sehr viel daran gelegen hätte, Jhre persönliche Bekanntschaft zu machen und Jhre Bauten zu sehen.
Jch nehme an, dass es Sie interessieren wird, zu erfahren, dass ich mit Professor Russell Hitchcock zusammen ein Buch über moderne Architektur herausgebe, in dem möglichst alles Bedeutende, was in den letzten fünf Jahren im internationalen Stil gebaut wurde, gezeigt werden soll. Es ist daher natürlich mein grösster Wunsch, in diesem Werk auch Abbildungen Jhrer Bauten zu bringen und ich wäre Jhnen zu besonderem Dank verpflichtet, wollten Sie so liebenswürdig sein und mir einige Fotos zur Verfügung stellen, die Jhre neuesten Werke zeigen.
Ferner wäre ich Jhnen dankbar, wenn Sie die Güte hätten, mir finnländische Architekten zu nennen, die Jhrer Ansicht nach gleichfalls zu den Repräsentanten des internationalen modernen Stiles gehören, damit ich mich mit den Herren in Verbindung setzen kann.
Jhrer freundlichen Antwort mit grossem Jnteresse entgegen sehend, zeichne ich

in ausgezeichneter Hochachtung

Berlin, den 31.August 1930

Herrn
Alvar Aalto
Architekt
Åbo (Finnland)

Sehr geehrter Herr Aalto,

Leider habe ich auf meinen Brief, den ich Jhnen am 15.Juli auf Empfehlung des Herrn Architekt Åhren schrieb, keine Antwort erhalten. Jch bedauere dieses umsomehr, als ich mit der Bearbeitung meines architektonischen Buches bald zum Abschluss gelangen möchte, meine Arbeit jedoch nicht als beendet betrachten will, bevor ich Nachrichten von Jhnen erhalten habe und hoffentlich auch Bilder Jhrer Bauten zur Aufnahme in mein Buch erhalte.
Jch wiederhole daher meine Bitte um eine baldige freundliche Rückäusserung und zeichne

in ausgezeichneter Hochachtung

Åbo, den 6 September 1930.

Sehr geehrter Herr Johnson !

Meinen besten Dank für Ihren freundlichen Brief! Leider habe ich nicht früher Ihnen das Bildmaterial senden gekonnt. Ich bin nämlich eine längere Zeit verreist gewesen.

Hiermit sende ich Ihnen einige Bilder, welche Sie ev. verwenden können.

Falls Sie nähere Beschreibungen und weiter Material wünschen, so kann ich Ihnen gern zu Diensten stehen.

Ich werde ung. den 17-18 September nach Berlin kommen und würde mich über ein Zusammentreffen sehr freuen.

Mit Hochachtung

Ihr

Berlin, den 12.Juni 1931

Herrn
Alvar A a l t o
A b o / Finnland

Lieber Herr Aalto,

Jn Erinnerung unseres Gespräches am 6.Juni möchte ich Jhnen mitteilen, dass ich mindestens 5 von den Fotos, die Sie mir schickten, behalten will. Da sämtliche Fotos noch in Amerika sind, kann ich Jhnen die Bilder, die ich nicht für das Buch benötigen werde, noch nicht zusenden. Jch habe jedoch veranlasst, dass mir die Bilder aus Amerika geschickt werden.
Jch werde bestimmt ein oder zwei Bilder von Turun Sanomat in das Buch aufnehmen.
Ferner würde ich Sie bitten, mir von Jhrem Krankenhaus und von der Zellulose-Fabrik, über die wir gesprochen haben, Bilder zu schicken. Alle Bilder, die ich nicht behalte, werde ich Jhnen natürlich so bald als möglich wieder zurücksenden und möchte Jhnen für diejenigen Bilder, die ich verwende, den Gegenwert überweisen, ichbitte Sie nur, mir freundlichst angeben zu wollen, wieviel der Preis ppro Abzug beträgt. Jm nächsten Jahre beabsichtige ich nach Finnland zu kommen, da mich die Architektur in den nordischen Ländern ganz besonders interessiert. Jch würde mich sehr freuen, Sie dann besuchen zu können.

Mit den besten Grüssen

Aalto book (old ABC)

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Den 13. Juli 1931

Date ~~January 30, 1940~~

Herrn
Alvar Aalto
Åbo / Finnland

Re: ~~Reprint of Aalto book~~

From: ~~Miss Henrich~~ Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Hayes

~~The following corrections should be made if the Aalto book is reprinted:~~

Lieber Herr Aalto,

Die Bilder, die ich längst versprochen hatte zurückzuschicken, sind soeben aus Amerika angekommen. Ich beeile mich, sie Ihnen sofort zuzustellen. Nochmals danke ich Ihnen herzlich für Ihre Sendung und bitte nur vielmals um Entschuldigung, dass ich Sie so lange habe auf die Rückgabe warten lassen.
Für eine eventuelle Veröffentlichung in meinem Buche habe ich zwei Bilder zurückbehalten, die anderen für eventuelle Artikel in Zeitschriften.
Mit vielem Dank und den besten Grüssen

~~Review:~~

~~10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21~~

~~A short foreword to the second printing would seem to me to be of interest. This could mention Aalto's visits to the U.S., his work at the Tuberculosis Sana, his lectures his appointment at M.I.T. and the setting up of his furniture plant in this country - still the only complete line of modern furniture available in the American market. It might also be ... has been destroyed. (Possibly ... state can be obtained from Mr. ... yesterday, and will talk to hi...~~

Bitte sorgfältig aufzubewahren!

Einlieferungsschein

Gegenstand	Einschreibbrief Nr. 763 N
Empfänger (bei Postaufträgen die Angabe A)	Aalto
Bestimmungsort	Åbo, Finnland

Aufgabestempel: BERLIN W 15.7.31. 50

Postannahme

C 62b (2.27) Dia 476

Bilder aber eingeschr. Drucksache

Aalto book (old ABC)

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date ~~January 24, 1942.~~

To: Mr. Hagen cc Mr. Wheeler
Mr. Noyes

From: Miss Henrich

Re: ~~Reprint of Aalto Book~~

The following corrections should be made if the Aalto book is reprinted:

page 4. delete footnote

page 6. 2nd paragraph, line 7: "vigourous" should read vigorous

page 14. re quotation from J.R.Richards. I have never heard of a J.R. Richards but suspect that the quotation is from J.M. Richards, well known English critic who has written considerably for The Architectural Review on the subject of machine aesthetics etc. We do not have Kocher's original manuscript which may be in the Publication files.

Plates - Credit line for the following plates should read Courtesy The Architectural Review:

10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 19, 21

A short foreword to the second printing would seem to me to be of interest. This could mention Aalto's visits to the U.S., his work at the World's Fair, His lectures his appointment at M.I.T. and the setting up of his furniture line in this country - still the only complete line of modern furniture of good design available in the American market. It might also be of interest to note that the Viipuri Library has been destroyed.(Possibly other information on his works and their present state can be obtained from Mr. Paloheimo. I tried to reach him on the telephone yesterday, and will talk to him tomorrow.)

JH

Miss Henrich

THE MUSEUM OF MODERN ART

Date January 21, 1942

To: Mr. Barr and Mr. Noyes
cc. Miss Dudley, Miss Henrich

Re: Reprinting of Aalto book

From: Mr. Hagen

This is to inform you that there is an excellent chance of our reprinting the Aalto book. Because of the fact that Artek Rascoe has agreed to take 500 copies of the reprint edition, we shall be able to reprint 1000 copies of the book, keeping the balance of 500 for our own use, at a unit cost of lower than that which we would normally have to charge against the edition.

Naturally the estimates I have received are based on reprinting the book as it now stands and we could not under any circumstances afford to incorporate in the reprint extensive changes and additions. If there are any changes, however, which you consider of vital importance, would you kindly let me know by Monday, January 26 so that all alterations can be incorporated in the book before it is sent to the printer for resetting.

HEH

CHRONOLOGY

1898 Born, of Finnish-Swedish-Esthonian stock, father an engineer

1921 Graduated as Architect from Helsingfors Technical College
Work in the Office of the Gothenburg Exhibition, Sweden
1922 Tampere, Industrial Exhibition (first independent work)

1923-24 Jyväskylä, Trade Union Theatre

1925 Marriage with architect Aino Marsio; all works after this date are in collaboration with Mrs Aalto

1927 Ist prize in competition for design for block in which Finnish Theatre is located, Turku (Åbo), completed 1928

1928 Membership in the Congrés Internationaux d'Architecture Moderne
Ist prize in competition for Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Paimio
Ist prize in competition for Municipal Library, Viipuri

1929 Turku, Turun Sanomat Building
small apartment building
700th Anniversary Exhibition

1929-33 Paimio, Tuberculosis Sanatorium

1930 Oulu, Toppila Pulp Mill

1932-34 Viipuri, Municipal Library

1932 First chair design

1933 ~~Aalto Exhibition in~~ London, Aalto Exhibition
~~Aalto Exhibition in~~ Zurich Aalto Exhibition
Compendium

1935 Artek Ltd founded, for manufacture and distribution of Aalto furniture, etc.
Helsingfors Munkkiniemi suburb
1936 ~~Munkkiniemi (suburb of Helsingfors)~~, own house
Milan, Trienniale, special Aalto section
Planning of all sites and building schemes for the Ahlström Co from this year onwards

1936-37 Anjala, twin papermills

1937 Paris, Exposition, Finnish Pavilion Finlandia
Sunila pulp mill and housing, community plan, etc.
Helsingfors, Savoy Restaurant
1938 New York, Museum of Modern Art, Aalto Exhibition

Member: Congrés Internationaux d'Architecture Moderne
Comité International pour la Réalisation des Problèmes Architecturaux Contemporains

Corresponding Member: Société Belge d'Architecture Moderne et des Urbanistes
Moscow Academy of Building Art
Royal Institute of British Architects

C A T A L O G U E

ALVAR AALTO EXHIBITION, New York, 1938.

1/1 Stand at the Industrial Show, Tampere, 1922.

1/2 Stand at the Industiral Show, Tampere, 1922.

1/2a Theatre at Yuväskylä.

1/3 Finish Theatre at Turku.

1/4 P. H. lights at the Finish Theatre at Turku.

1/5 The Seven hundred year Anniversary Exhibition at Turku; one of entrance gates.

1/5a Turku Exhibition: Air-view of the model.

1/6 Travelling Bureau of the Turku Exhibition.

1/7 The Exhibition halls at Turku during construction.

Case B 1/8 Standard tenement-house for small flats.

1/9 View of the offices of the newspaper "Turun Sanomat".

1/10 Street front of the offices of the newspaper "Turun Sanomat".

1/11 The propaganda window of the newspaper "Turun Sanomat".

1/12 The Machine hall of the newspaper "Turun Sanomat".

1/13 Mushroom-columns under the machine hall of the newspaper "Turun Sanomat".

Case 3 1/14 Cables fixing system.

2304/1

1/15 View from the exhibition of furnishing, Helsinki.

1/16 Table-lamp.

#3 1/17 Kitchen at the exhibition of furnishing at Helsinki.

1/18 Chip Bunkers, Toppila sulphate-pulp mill, 1930.

1/19 Theatre decorations. The Finish Theatre at Turku, 1930.

2304/1

1/20 A general view at the sanatorium at Paimio.

1/21 The patients' wing of the sanatorium at Paimio.

1/22 Wooden frame-chairs with resilient ply wood seats, designed originally for the Paimio Sanatorium.

1/23 Near view of one chair.

1/24 Suggested University Hospital and General Clinics for Zagreb (competition).

1/25 The Library at Viipuri. General view.

1/26 The lending department. The library at Viipuri.

2304

1/27 Interior.

1/28 Interior.

1/29 Mr. Aalto's private house and studio near Helsinki. General view.

1/30 Mr. Aalto's private house and studio near Helsinki. Roof terrace.

1/31 The Finish Pavilion at The Paris Exhibition 1937.

1/32 The Finish Exhibition at The Paris Exhibition 1937.

Case 3 1/23A - Photo Print

1/33 The Savoy Restaurant, Helsinki. General view.

1/34 The Savoy Restaurant, Helsinki. General view.

1/35 The Savoy Restaurant, Helsinki, Screen of laminated wood.

1/36 The Savoy Restaurant, Helsinki. Transparent wood screen for rooflight.

1/37 The office wing of Sunila pulp mills.

1/38 The Sunila pulp mill: terrace houses of the officials.

1/39 Part of the "ARTEK" permanent exhibition.

1/40 Part of the "ARTEK" permanent exhibition.

Part 2.

This part is a selection of studies of various buildings and schemes:

2A **The Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Paimio.**

2A/1-6 Plans and sections of the sanatorium.

2A/7-11 Photographs: The entrance front, the eastern front with the patients' wards, the lying balconies, the north side with the offices, economy-department and entrance of the tunnel of the supply track.

2A/12-14 Special views of the patients' room, with scheme.

2A/15-16 The wash stands in the patients room.

2A/17-18 The kitchen with the vacuum zone arrangements.

2A/19-24 Views of the fittings and furnishings.

2A/25-27 The doctors' houses.

2A/28-29 The rowhouses for employees.

2B **A provincial railway station.**

2B/1-6 A selection of drawings of a suggested railway-station.

2B (competition for Tampere station, 1933)

2C **The Town Library of Viipuri.**

2C/1a-e Plans and sections.

2C/2 North facade.

2C/3-4 Aerial views of the library and the park.

2C/5-8 Views of the exterior.

2C/9-14 Interior views of the library: the entrance to the library, main entrance, two general views of the lending library, a general view of the reading room part, detailed view of the controlling centre; the entrance; view of the lending library and the reading room.

2C/15-18 An explanation of the lighting system.

2C/19-25 Views from the lecturing department: entrance from the hall, a general view of the hall, details of the ceiling arrangements and scheme of the accoustic arrangements.

2C/26 The childrens' library.

2D <u>Mr. and Mrs. Aalto's private house and studio.</u>

2D/1-3 Plans of the house

2D/4-10 Photographs of the house.

2E <u>The Finnish Pavilion at the Paris Exhibition 1937.</u>

2E/1-3 Plans and sections.

2E/4-11 Selection of photographs.

2E/13 Model.

2F <u>Garden City scheme for industrial workers.</u>

2F/1-5 Drawings of workmans' dwellings.

2J **A suggested Estonian Art-Gallery in Tallinn** (competition 1936).

Case 2 2J/1 Model.

2304 II 2J/2-6 Drawings. (photos 2J/4

2304/7 2J/7 Photograph of the model.

Part 3.

This part illustrates Mr. Aaltos patented furniture schemes and sundry other industrial art enterprises.

1, 2 35+35 ~~Art 7~~ 3

3A/1-4 Abstract wood reliefs. 4 23½ x 31½ Case 7

3 19¾ x 18¼

2304/II 3A/5-7 Photographs of abstract wood reliefs. 5,6,7

~~3B Furniture made by the "Artek" ltd. (selected by you)~~

2304/II 3B/1-3 Forest photographs. 1 2 3

3B/4-12 Furniture photographs. 6 4,5,7,8,9,10,11,12 2304/1

2 white – 34½" 3 white 5½" 2 blue 5½" } 6 3C Glass plastics, made by the "Karhula" Glass Works)as per enclosed specification)

~~6 gilded fixtures~~ 3D Selection of light fixtures (as per enclosed specification).

Case 4 6 brass fixtures with wire

3E/1-3 Selection of pictures of old Scandinavian seats to use as psychological background for the exhibition of Mr. Aaltos' modern furnitures.

Case 3

N. B. For fixing of photographs of part 3B and 3E there are joined three plywood screens.

Case 3

25 3/8 x 32½

2G Situation plan for "Sunila" community and pulp mill, built 1936 - 1938 (not yet completed).

Art 3 2G/1 Aerial view of the community and of its surroundings before construction.

Art I 2G/2 Model of the community plan, scale 1:1000.

2304/2 2G/3B 2G/3a-b General map.

Case 3 2G/4 Special plan of the buildings connected to one central heating station, scale 1:500.

2304/2 5 8,9,7,10, 11 - 2304/1 2G/5-11 Photographs of the completed buildings. — 6 missing

2304/1 2G/12-15 General views of the works partly completed.

Case 3-15 12,13,14 2304/1

2G/16-17 Workers' dwelling houses.

16 17 2304/1

2H Schemes for high blocks of small flats, in residential garden city near Helsinki, in Munkkiniemi.

Case 3

2304/I 2H/1, 1a, 1b Aerial views before building.

a, b photo

~~2304/I 2H/2 Plan of the park, scale 1:1000.~~

2304/I 2H/3-6 Sketches of general views of the site.

3 4 5 6

2304/I 2H/7 Map of Helsinki and of its surroundings.

~~2I Sketches of a superior house (the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gullichsen).~~

Corrected, enclosure no 7.
26.2.

C A T A L O G U E

The Alvar Aalto in co-operation with Aino Marsio-Aalto Exhibition at the Museum of Modern Art, New York .

Part 1.

This part gives a general retrospective exposition of Mr. and Mrs. Aaltos' activities and development as architects. It sonsist of photographs and designs arranged chronologically stretching over the fifteen years ~~from~~ period from 1922 to 1938, numbered 1/1 - 1/4o as per enclosed specification.

Part 2.

This part is a selection of studies of various buildings and schemes :

2A **The Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Paimio.**

2A/1-6 Plans and sections of the sanatorium
2A/7-11 Photographs: The entrance front, the eastern front with the patients' wards, the lying balconies, the north side with the offices, economydepartment and entrance of the tunnel of the supply track.
2A/12-14 Special views of the patients' room, with scheme
2A/15-16 The wash stands in the patients' room
2A/17-18 The kitchen with the vacuum zone arrangements
2A/19-24 Views of the fittings and furnishings
2A/25-27 The doctors' houses
2A/28-29 The rowhouses for employees

2B **A provincial railway station.**

2B/1-6 A selection of drawings of a suggested railwaystation (competition for Tampere station, 1933)

2C **The Town Library of Viipuri.**

2C/1a-e Plans and sections
2C/2 North facade
2C/3-4 Aerial views of the library and the park
2C/5-8 Views of the exterior:
2C/9-1~~3~~4 Interior views of the library: the entrance to the library, main entrance, two general views of the lending library, a general view of the reading room part, detailed view of the controling centre; the entrance; view of the lending library and the reading room.
2C/15-18 An explanation of the lighting system
2C/19-25 Views from the lecturing department: entrance from the hall, a general view of the hall, details of the ceiling arrangements and scheme of the accoustic arrangements.
2C/26 The childrens' library

2D Mr. and Mrs. Aaltos private house and studio.

2D/1-3 Plans of the house
2D/4-1o Photographs of the house

2E The Finnish Pavilion at the Paris Exhibition 1937.

2E/1-3 Plans and sections
2E/4-12 Selection of photographs
2E/13 Model

2F Garden Citz scheme for industrial workers.

2F/1-5 Drawings of workmans' dwellings

2G/ Situation plan for "Sunila" community and pulp mill, built 1936 - 1938 (not yet completed) .

2G/1 Aerial view of the community and of its surroundings before construction
2G/2 Model of the community plan,scale 1:1ooo
2G/3a-b General map
2G/4 Special plan of the buildings connected to one central heating station, scale 1:500
2G/5-11 Photographs of the completed buildings
2G/12-1~~0~~5 General views of the works partly completed
2G/16-17 Workers' dwelling houses

2H Schemes for high blocks of small flats, in residential garden city near Helsinki, in Munkkiniemi.

2H/1,1a,1b Aerial views before building
2H/2 Plan of the park, scale 1:1ooo
2H/3-6 Sketches of general views of the site
2H/7 Map of Helsinki and of its surroundings

2I Sketches of a superior house (the residence of Mr. and Mrs. Gullichsen) .

2J A suggested Estonian Art-Gallery in Tallinn (competition 1936)

2J/1 Model
2J/2-6 Drawings
2J/7 Photograph of the model

Part 3Y

This part illustrates Mr. Aaltos patented furniture schemes and sundry other industrial art enterprises.

3A/1-4	Abstract wood reliefs
3A/5-7	Photographs of abstract wood reliefs
3B	Furniture made by the "Artek" Ltd. (selected by you)
3B/1-3	Forest photographs
3B/4- 12	Furniture photographs
3C	Glass plastics, made by the "Karhula" Glass Works. as per enclosed specification
3D	Selection of light fixtures as per enclosed specification
3E/1-3	Selection of pictures of old scandinavian seats to use as psychological background for the exhibition of Mr. Aaltos' modern furnitures

N.B. For fixing of photographs of part 3B and 3E there are joined three plywood screens.

Goldstone

Misc. Corres

HARMON HENDRICKS GOLDSTONE
130 EAST END AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

December 20, 1936.

Dear Miss Faith.

Thank you for returning the balance of the photographs. I'm sorry to have had to rush you with them.

As I never seem able to catch you in long enough to ask you a couple of questions that have been on my mind for weeks, I wonde if you would be so kind as to drop me a

Encls.

Curator

EMF:br

Goldstone

Misc. Corres

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line in regard to them.

First — what, if anything, was decided on the question of an Aalto exhibition — lecture tour etc. — at the meeting of the Board last month? I must write to him soon and would like to have some word for him — even if it is only that nothing has been decided.

Second — did you ever receive some books on modern Norwegian architecture that I left at the Museum for you? If they are of any use to you

Encls.

Curator

EMF:br

Goldstone

Misc. Corres

December 21st, 1936

HARMON HENDRICKS GOLDSTONE
130 EAST END AVENUE
NEW YORK CITY

keep them as long as you like.

Third — would it be possible for a friend of mine, connected with Teachers' College, who is doing some research on the relation of modern school architecture to modern educational theories, to go through your photograph files for illustrative material? Anything used for publication would, of course, be duly credited.

Thank you for your

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Curator

EMF:br

Goldstone

Misc. Corres

936

help – the other day – on the Constructivist books. I'm sorry to bother you with these things now but we don't ever seem to meet long enough for a question and answer.

Sincerely yours,

Harmon Goldstone.

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Curator

EMF:br

Goldstone

Misc. Corres

December 21st, 1936

Mr. Harmon Hendricks Goldstone
130 East End Avenue
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Goldstone:

I have your letter of December 20th and shall attempt to answer your questions in order.

1. It is very difficult for me to give you the decision of the Committee regarding Aalto as, although the decision was reached, the sense of the Committee has been somewhat modified by the opinion of several members not present at the meeting. However, we are difinitely interested in an exhibition of Aalto's work either in the form of a one-man show or in connection with a large exhibition of modern Scandinavian architecture. The time at which the exhibition would be held, however, is the main difficulty as we are starting to build a new Building which is scheduled to be completed the year 1938-39. Our plans in the interim are not yet settled. The only really definite thing is that we are interested.

2. I have the books which you kindly left at the Museum and for which I thank you. I should like very much to keep them until I have time really to examine them.

3. I should be delighted to have your friend go through our photograph files if it is possible for him (or her) to do so without assistance as I shall have absolutely no time available in the next few weeks.

I very much appreciate your helpful interest and hope that after things have quieted down a bit we may have time for a little chat.

Very sincerely yours,

Curator

EMF:br

Joseph Aalto

January 31, 1940

Mrs. Sidney Joseph
Hotel Windsor
100 West 58th Street
New York City

Dear Mr. Joseph:

Here is a copy of Aalto's cable and the letters to Messrs. Harrison, Sweeney and Kaufmann.

I hope that you will be able to find some solution to this trying confusion and I am sorry not to have been able to be of more help. It was not unwillingness but inability to know what to do.

My address in Mexico will be: Hotel Carlton Annex, Mexico City. If there is anything at all that I can do please let me know.

I hope that you will be in New York when I get back in April.

Sincerely,

JMcA/k

Encls.

January 31, 1940

Mr. James Johnson Sweeney
120 East End Ave.
New York City

Dear Jim:

This will introduce Mrs. Sidney Joseph of San Francisco, a good friend of Aalto's and of the Museum. She has been in direct communication with Aalto for some time in regard to a very difficult matter. I wonder if you would be able to give her some advice. We all want to help Aalto; it is not always clear how this can best be accomplished.

Sincerely,

JMcA/k

January 31, 1940

Mr. Wallace K. Harrison
45 Rockefeller Plaza
New York City

Dear Mr. Harrison:

This will introduce Mrs. Sidney Joseph of San Francisco, a good friend of Aalto's and of the Museum. She has been in direct communication with Aalto for some time in regard to a very difficult matter. I wonder if you would be able to give her some advice. We all want to help Aalto; it is not always clear how this can best be accomplished.

Sincerely,

JMcA/k

January 31, 1940

Mr. Edgar Kaufmann, Jr.
400 Fifth Avenue
Pittsburgh, Pa.

Dear Edgar:

This will introduce Mrs. Sidney Joseph of San Francisco, a good friend of Aalto's and of the Museum. She has been in communication with Aalto for some time about a rather difficult proposition. If you would be able to give her any advice I would be extremely grateful. Perhaps some of your cables from Aalto have touched on the same subject.

Yours,

JMcA/k

M.I.T.

MASSACHUSETTS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
ALBERT FARWELL BEMIS FOUNDATION
CAMBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

July 25, 1940

Mr. Charles MacAndrew
Museum of Modern Art
11 W. 53d St.
New York, N.Y.

Dear Mr. MacAndrew:

I think that the members of the Museum of Modern Art may be interested in this news release, and that you may care to take some notice of the event in some forthcoming publication.

Very truly yours,

John Burchard

Director
Albert Farwell Bemis Foundation

JEBurchard/h

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9500

M.I.T.

From John J. Rowlands
Director of News Service
Mass. Institute of Technology
Cambridge, Mass.

For Release on
Wednesday, July 24, 1940

Alvar Aalto, the distinguished Finnish architect who was chosen to direct reconstruction of his country after the Russian invasion, will join the faculty of the School of Architecture of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the autumn, Dean Walter R. MacCornack (CORRECT) announced today. Mr. Aalto, who has been visiting this country, will go to Finland to start the program of reconstruction and will return late in the fall to join the Institute faculty as research professor in architecture.

In announcing Mr. Aalto's appointment, Dean MacCornack emphasized the importance of research in architecture as a step toward the solution of fundamental problems in low-cost housing as well as a method of advancing teaching methods.

In carrying out this program, the School of Architecture will have the cooperation of the Albert Farwell Bemis Foundation,

(more)

which was established at the Institute in 1938 for the advancement of housing for the benefit of the public and the building industry.

"Our plans for expanding research in architecture," said Dean MacCornack, "provide for active participation by students in comprehensive studies of professional trends and industrial methods employed in the development of housing. The program is expected to be of special importance in assisting students to analyze problems based on actual experience. One of its most important objectives will be a study of low-cost housing, a matter of national significance.

"The choice of Mr. Aalto by the Finnish government to take charge of the enormous reconstruction problem involving the development of homes for 500,000 people, including construction of 12 entirely new cities and the repair or reconstruction of more than 40 hospitals destroyed in the war, is an indication of his potentialities for contributing to the advancement of his profession through research.

"The importance of research carried on at the Institute will be enhanced by new knowledge and methods developed through research on reconstruction in Finland under Mr. Aalto's direction. One of the most interesting aspects of the program will be the application of this new knowledge to formal instruction in architecture."

Mr. Aalto, who is 42 years old, was graduated from the Helsingfors Technical College in 1921. As a leader in the modern movement in architecture, his achievements in design

(more)

in Finland have attracted the attention of architects throughout the world, and exhibitions of his work have been held in London, Zurich, Milan, and New York. A versatile and brilliant designer, Mr. Aalto was the architect for the Turun Sanomat building in Abo, Finland. This structure, a newspaper publishing plant, is particularly famous for the design of its press rooms. Mr. Aalto also designed the tuberculosis sanatorium at Paimio, a structure which involved much research on the attitudes of patients in a hospital, including the concept of the architect that a man in a hospital is a horizontal man, not a vertical man, and hence part of the environment must be different.

The library at Viipuri, another of Mr. Aalto's Buildings, is famous for the use of daylight illumination. Its reading rooms include interesting parabolic openings in the roof with uniform dispersion of daylight to every part of the rooms. Thus readers may study in any position with the assurance of adequate light.

One of his notable achievements was the design of the Sunila Sulphite Mills, a manufacturing plant built by an association of all the big finnish industries and the government. This development included construction of an entire city for workers and officials, involving a laboratory experiment in city planning and traffic control.

Thousands of Americans are familliar with Mr. Aalto's work in his buildings for the Finnish government at the New York and San Francisco fairs. He also designed the Finnish Pavilion

(more)

at the Paris Exposition in 1937.

He is a member of the International Congress of Modern Architects and the International Committee for the Solution of Contemporary Architectural Problems. He is also a corresponding member of the Royal Institute of British Architects.

NYU

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF ARCHITECTURE AND ALLIED ARTS
1071 SIXTH AVENUE
NEW YORK

BRYANT PARK CENTER

November 5th, 1938

Miss Ulrich
Museum of Modern Art
14 West 49th Street
New York City

My dear Miss Ulrich:

Dean Bossange requests me to thank you for the tickets for the lecture by Mr. Aalto and to express the appreciation of our students for your generosity.

Yours very truly

Karin Joelson

Karin Joelson
Secretary to the Dean

Aalto

November 3, 1938

Dear Mr. Bossange;

I am enclosing fifteen cards of admission for the lecture by Alvar Aalto, which is to be given at the Dalton School on Monday, November 7th, at 5:30 P.M. We are very glad to do this and hope that your students will enjoy hearing Mr. Aalto speak.

Very truly yours,

Assistant to Executive
Director

E. Raymond Bassange, Dean
School of Architecture & Allied Arts,
New York University,
1071 Sixth Avenue,
New York, New York

IU:cp

Encls (15)

c/c - Arch Dept

Recorder 1938-39 Annual Report

Proudfoot Rawson etc

PROUDFOOT RAWSON - BROOKS AND BORG
ARCHITECTS - DES MOINES IOWA
...815 HUBBELL BUILDING...

J. WOOLSON BROOKS, A·I·A·
ELMER H. BORG, A·S·M·E·

November 15, 1938.

Mr. John McAndrew,
Curator of Architecture,
The Museum of Modern Art,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. McAndrew:

We thank you for your letter of the 10th, giving us information about the Aalto furniture.

As to the possibility of getting a speaking engagement for Aalto in Des Moines, I fear several circumstances will prevent it. The chief difficulty is that intramural activities in Des Moines, even more so than in New York, lose their charm after the first of April. The second is that Des Moines was presented this fall, by the Civic Forum organization, a talk by Frank Lloyd Wright. He refused to stick to his subject of Housing, but instead went way out beyond his depth in economics and failed to give the audience one constructive idea to offset his invective. The forums and the public are thus pretty well fed up with architects, and cannot be counted on to spend any money to risk another this year.

If the Iowa Chapter of the American Institute of Architects might come into funds, which is extremely unlikely, it would possibly underwrite his talk. I will gladly get in touch with you if I see any way of arranging such an event.

We are flattered to have pleased you in our selection of type. The machine is a Royal and the type face is called Modern Pica.

Cordially yours,

PROUDFOOT RAWSON - BROOKS AND BORG

By J. Woolson Brooks

JWB:K

Aalto
?

November 10, 1938

Mr J Woolson Brooks
815 Hubbell Building
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Mr Brooks,

The American agents for Aalto's furniture are NEW FURNITURE, Inc, 45 Rockefeller Plaza, New York. Their catalogue will be out in about two weeks, but meanwhile they can give you the prices for any of the pieces shown in the Museum's Aalto catalogue. I have asked them to send you their catalogue as soon as it is out.

Aalto is in New York right now, working on the Finnish Pavilion at the Fair. We had him lecture to Museum members last week, and were gratified with an extraordinarily fine lecture. He is returning to Finland soon, but will be back in April , May and June. The lecture was so good that we are going to try to get him some more then, at $75 and expenses. Do you know of anyone in Des Moines who would be interested?

As you can see by the two paragraphs above, I am in immediate need of a new typewriter. I wonder if you would tell me on what kind your letter was written; I thought the type excellent.

Sincerely yours,

John McAndrew
Curator of Architecture

PROUDFOOT RAWSON - BROOKS AND BORG
ARCHITECTS - DES MOINES IOWA
...815 HUBBELL BUILDING...

J. WOOLSON BROOKS, A·I·A·
ELMER H. BORG, A·S·M·E·

November 4, 1938.

Mr. John McAndrew,
Curator of Architecture,
Museum of Modern Art,
New York, New York.

Dear Mr. McAndrew:

The Memorial Union, at Iowa State College, is developing a small dining room in an addition to their existing building and might be interested in obtaining some furniture of the character shown in the catalog of the work of Alvar Aalto, which you exhibited last spring.

We would appreciate knowing where information on the availability and cost of this furniture might be obtained.

Cordially yours,

PROUDFOOT RAWSON - BROOKS AND BORG

By J. Woolson Brooks

JWB:K

Addison Gallery

THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART

WYMAN PARK BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

April 3, 1940

Mr. John Ma Andrew, Curator,
Department of Architecture,
Museum of Modern Art,
11 West 53rd Street,
New York, N.Y.

April 3, 1940

Dear Charlie:

Dear John:

This is late to be congratulating you but I have been away in Mexico helping get together more Mexican art than we can possibly ever cram into the building and garden. I hope you like the new post as much as the old one; each of them seems to be among the pleasantest and liveliest that there are around here.

Aalto, as you may have heard, arrived here a couple of weeks ago to do over the Finish Pavilion at the Fair. He will have quite a lot of free time and will be willing to give a few lecturers. Knowing your interest in architecture and knowing that he is one of the most stimulating and persuasive lecturers on architecture, I wondered if you would be interested in knowing this.

Sincerely,

Sincerely yours,

Leslie

Mr. Charles H. Sawyer, Curator
Addison Gallery
Phillips Academy
Andover, Mass.

AALTO LECTURE

Baltimore

THE BALTIMORE MUSEUM OF ART
WYMAN PARK · BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

April 8, 1940

Mr. John Mc Andrew, Curator,
Department of Architecture,
Museum of Modern Art,
11 West 53rd Street,
New York, N.Y.

Dear John:

Thank you for your letter telling me about your return from Mexico and about the availability of Aalto for lectures. As you know, I usually try to time outside lecturers at the Museum with exhibitions dealing in their special field. We are not putting on modern architecture again until late in January of next year, but at that time if Aalto is free we might consider having a talk by him.

All America is awaiting the opening of your great Mexican show in May, and I have asked Elodie to reserve what portion of it eventually is to travel for an early engagement here in Baltimore, so confident am I of your successful presentation. Mary Tyler and I may come up for the opening, and we shall certainly look forward to seeing you at that time.

Sincerely yours,

Leslie —

LCJr:e

Aalto Lectures

April 3, 1940

April 22, 1940

Dear Leslie:

I am just back from Mexico and I wish I wasn't, because here you can't swim every day before lunch and there are no orchids growing wild in the Museum's garden.

Aalto, as you have probably heard, is here, somewhat shaken but getting to be more his old self every day. He is doing over the Finnish Pavilion at the Fair, which will open May 11th and Mrs. Aalto may be doing another Pavilion for the San Francisco Fair. He will have quite a lot of free time and would be interested in getting a few lectures in different parts of the country. Knowing your interest in architecture and knowing that he is one of the most irresistible lecturers I have ever heard, it occurred to me that you may be one of the people that ought to know about this. I imagine he would lecture for $50.

The Mexican show will open early in May or as much of it as we can manage to cram into our building and garden. The Mexicans were wonderfully generous and are sending up an imposing quantity of material. There will be scarcely a single moveable object at all left in Mexico this summer. I hope you and Mary Tyler are coming up for the opening.

Sincerely,

Mr. Leslie Cheek, Jr., Director
The Baltimore Museum of Art
Wyman Park
Baltimore, M.D.

Dumoulin

April 22, 1940

Dear Mr. Du Moulin:

Thank you for the copy of your letter to Aalto. His English has five or six hundred words more than Basic English, and he is an eloquent master of this not very limited vocabulary. He really is a fine lecturer.

Sincerely,

John McAndrew

Mr. Rockwell King Du Moulin
214 Hospital Trust Building
Providence, R.I.

JM:fp

ROCKWELL KING DuMOULIN
ARCHITECT

214 Hospital Trust Bldg.
Providence, R. I.

599 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK

April 8, 1940

Mr. John McAndrew
Curator of Architecture
The Museum of Modern Art
11 West 53rd Street
New York, N. Y.

Dear Mr. McAndrew:

Thanks for your letter of April 3rd.

I have been making inquiries about the possibility of a lecture by Aalto here. I talked to Dorner first and he says it is the end of their fiscal year and they have no money left and very little time available for such a lecture. That includes both the museum and the school.

I have hopes, however, that something can be worked out between the Local Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the Providence Art Club.

What everybody wants to know, of course, is how much money they will have to raise. I would be glad to put him up and could also arrange to bring him from Hartford or Middletown.

Why don't you try the new crowd at the Harvard Architectural School? I should think they would like to have him. If you want me to write Hudnut, I would be glad to.

Smith College, both in the Woods and the Graduate School in Cambridge, might also be interested. Mr. Perkins might know about that.

I will let you know as soon as I find out anything definite about the possibilities of a lecture here and, in the meantime, please give me Aalto's address and let me know how much money he wants.

Sincerely,

R.K. DuMoulin

RKD:hn

April 3, 1940

Dear Mr. Du Moulin:

I have just come back from Mexico where I saw Juan O'Gorman many times. He has not yet begun his rammed earth houses and seems no nearer to getting through the official red-tape. He has the scheme all worked out but the experiments have not taken place.

Aalto, as you may have heard is here to do over the Finish Pavilion at the Fair.from now until the opening on May 11th he has quite a lot of free time and would like to give some lectures in different parts of the country. Do you think that either the Museum or the School of Design in Providence could be interested and do you know what would be the best way of of going about it. I am writing to Hitchcock and Austin to try to interest them in lectures in Middeltown and Hartford, thinking that a little New England tour may be worked out for him. I would be grateful for anything that you could do or tell me to do.

Sincerely,

Mr. Rockwell King Du Moulin
214 Hospital Trust Bldg.
Providence, R. I.

Hitchcock H.R.

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WM. HOLABIRD
ENGINEERING
V. C. MULLONS
F. A. BYRNE

April 16, 1940

April 3, 1940

Mr. John McAndrew,
The Museum of Modern Art,
Street,
New York.

Dear Russell:

I am writing this in case you don't get down to the Architectural Committee meeting but I have so much news, etc. that most of it will have to be saved. The best news is that I am going to build a house outside of Mexico City with John Yeon. yesterday.

Aalto, as you know, is here, somewhat shaken but recovering quickly. He is very anxious to get some lectures, as he has quite a lot of free time between now and the opening of the Fair on May 11th. As he left Finland four days before the peace in a bomber, I don't think he could take very much money out with him. He wants to get $75 for a lecture but if that proved impossible, would probably be willing to take $50. Do you suppose you could interest Chick, Jere and Dorner in getting him, or anyone else in the neighborhood so that he could make a little New England tour, which would be pleasant for him and might be cheaper for everybody. Mrs. Aalto and both children are with him but I think they are going to California to do another Finish Pavilion there.

Let me know when you will be in New York.

Yours,

JWR:MC

Professor Henry-Russell Hitchcock, Jr.
Wesleyan University
Middletown, Connecticut

Holebird & R.

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ENGINEERING
V. O. McCLURG
STRUCTURAL
F. A. BYRNE
MECHANICAL
ELECTRICAL

April 16, 1940

Mr. John McAndrew,
The Museum of Modern Art,
11 West 53 Street,
New York.

Dear Mr. McAndrew:

I was in New York and Washington last week and did not see your letter concerning Aalto's visit here until yesterday.

I am very distressed about the matter because it is too late now to take the matter up with the Arts Club or the Art Institute.

We would like very much to see Aalto if he is still coming to Chicago and I hope you will suggest to him that he call either Holabird or me.

Please tell him of the circumstances which did not permit me to know of his visit sooner.

Sincerely,

John Root

JWR:MC

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ELECTRICAL

April 8, 1940

Mr. John McAndrew,
The Museum of Modern Art,
11 West 53 Street,
New York.

Dear Mr. McAndrew:

Your letter of April 3 to Mr. Root has been received during his absence from the City. On his return the latter part of this week I shall be glad to refer it to him.

Yours very truly,

M. Collins

Secretary to Mr. Root

VASSAR COLLEGE
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK
Department of Art

April 3, 1940

Dear Mr. Root:

I was so sorry to miss you in Chicago on my way to Mexico and I am more than sorry now to be back from Mexico in grey New York.

Aalto, as you have probable heard, arrived here a couple of weeks ago. He seems pretty shaken-up but becomes more his old self every day. He is doing over the Finish Pavilion at the Fair and during the period before, it is opening on May 11th, will have quite a lot of free time. He would be willing to give lectures. I do not know whether you have ever heard him speak; he seems one of the most stimulating and persuasive lecturers on architecture that I have ever heard. He is to go to Chicago around April 20th. Do you think that the Institute or the Arts Club could be interested in having him speak?

If you are coming to New York soon, I hope you will let me know so that we can have lunch or a drink together.

Sincerely,

Mr. John Root
333 North Michigan Ave.
Chicago, Illinois

Rindge

East 57 St

Hartford

VASSAR COLLEGE
POUGHKEEPSIE · NEW YORK
Department of Art

Dear John —

I couldn't reply promptly to your exhaustive letter because you didn't send any address but W. 53rd — probably at the rate you were expending any additional commission would have been an embarrassment — will you be returning the freight of the show if all?

I enclose an Calto item for you. I shall be back in V.C. by the 1st — not much on the bounce side yet — I peter out at almost no effort — but feel perfectly well otherwise — and doctors seem to think those bad to the bronchi, lungs recede at the earliest — actually, I'll have a light schedule comparable to my usual one that it may be quite a treat — Katherine Sayer who has been a great success heads to get

out on the road for some lectures - We are keeping him on next year in the part-time job, which is painfully poor stakes for him - but gives him a chance to negotiate passports & that sort of thing. We hope to get some money from some show to set up a course for him - I'm thinking of taking all the German out of 230 (we've been skimping the French stuff dreadfully in recent years) maybe we can get some Carl Schurz money that way.

I went over to Lund last week - Helen drove me - and got kind of wrecked!! - it was budget time & I got with sciatica - The great sensational news is that Dr Salmony and Janice Chase are going to be married in a month - Corbett is perfectly non-plussed - he's going to be left - to do the jade catalogue as a result - ! Your 105 dates are May 20, 21 + 22 - hope you still look like an Indian so I can see whether there is anything in that Pocahontas similitude you always claim - I never heard if here or Good Friday - anyhow my re-conciling

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Department of Art

to lack of the festival bowl – first time Tom & I have celebrated together in nearly a decade of years.

Don't believe anything anyone tells you I suggested about VC 75th & the Mod. Museum. I've endeavored to steer clear and also to say you would be late returning – it would be wonderful to do something classy there – but I don't think there is time & talent disposable & present sufficient for it – lot of funny ideas going about.

Chicago Nocturne show was very fine – and I hope to get to NY long enough next week to see Poussin & the Italian show. Very behind in my art work – but all ready to take Child Study degree on effect of 1st molars on personality – or even 1st cold – but I have more direct observation than Reg usually gets!

Affectionately
Lyman

Aug 2, 1986

ARCHITECTURE AND FURNITURE BY ALVAR AALTO Exhibition # 75

All correspondence and lists brought from the Registrar's office on this date.

There is a second folder - IMPORTS AND EXPORTS still in Registrar's office from which nothing was removed.

April 3, 1940

Dear Agnes:

Thank you for your letter which arrived the same day that I had to fly back here, largely against my will.

As you know Mr. Aalto is now here probably until the middle or end of May. He is anxious to get some lectures (I think it was impossible to get much money out of Finland. He flew out in a bomber four days before the war was over). At this time of year I do not suppose by any miracle that there is any money left in the lecture fund, But I think I could raise some money here among recent alumnae who would be interested in having Aalto lecture at the College. Do you think it would be possible to raise any at all at Vassar, or is everything going into the 75th Anniversary drive? The lecture would work in beautifully with Art 105 sometime around the middle of May. He is doing over the Finish Pavilion at the Fair and will have it completed by May 11th; my modern art lectures are on the 20th, 21st, and 23rd.

Will you let me know what the possibilities are, as I am very anxious to do anything for him that I can.

Yours,

Miss Agnes Rindge
Vassar College
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.

June 2, 1986

ARCHITECTURE AND FURNITURE BY ALVAR AALTO Exhibition # 75

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