

# Architect Seeks Ban Of Autos In Cities

By GENE OISHI  
**BEVERLY HILLS, Calif.** (AP)—Victor Gruen is a Viennese-born architect who, having achieved monetary success, has set himself a goal of eradicating the major cities of the United States to banish the automobile.  
 As Gruen sees it, the city is a living organism which is dying from steadily increasing traffic files injected into its veins and arteries.  
 "The intruders"—Automobiles—space-eating

monsters from Detroit," he says.  
 "We considered a city more civilized when it moved its seat of government from where they come, most move farther and farther out to escape the sprawl of commercial activity."  
**NEED CENTRE**  
 No true urban life is possible, Gruen says, without an easily accessible, compact centre. Such a centre is not possible, he says, when two-thirds of the downtown space is taken up by auto traffic and parking lots, which is the case in Los Angeles.  
 His plan for Fort Worth, Tex., commissioned by a Texas utility company and presented as a gift to the city, has never been translated into steel and concrete, but has been widely acclaimed, discussed and imitated.  
 "I hope it will never be realized," said a Gruen aide, "as it is a classic. It has been included in architectural textbooks. If the plan were imple-

mented, it would have spoiled splendid parks within this score is the stately St. Stephen's Cathedral, the University of Vienna, the opera house, little shops, theatres and numerous museums.  
 Gruen studied architecture at the Vienna Academy of Fine Arts. Then began what Gruen calls his "life of many cities"—Hamburg, Prague, Budapest, Paris, London and then, in 1938, to New York with a "T-square and 8B in his pocket."  
 He formed his own firm in 1951. Today it has about \$80,000,000 worth of construction in the firm. It has a staff of 200 architects, engineers and draftsmen at its main office in Beverly Hills, with 50 others scattered in New York, Chicago, Boston and Rochester.  
 "Some say there is no need plan for a city, a centre," Gruen says. "They say you can communicate in the future with television phones. You may be

able eventually to talk to your girl friend by television, but you can't kiss her that way."  
 Although the Fort Worth plan was never realized, Gruen's concepts have taken form—a more modest degree—in other cities.  
**HELPS ROCHESTER**  
 A notable example is the midtown plaza in Rochester, N.Y., designed by Gruen's firm. It is a 16-acre shopping complex in the heart of downtown, containing more than 40 stores at two levels. It includes an enclosed, air-conditioned pedestrian mall the size of a football field.  
 Economically, the plaza has been a boon for downtown Rochester. Even the sidewalk cafe, Gruen's pet undertaking, has been a smash success.  
 Gruen's other projects in the works include an ambitious plan for revamping an 160-acre tract downtown core in Boston.

The midtown plaza has

end at the home of her mother, Mrs. Inez Howard, Gingham.

**BURTON**  
 Robert Howard who was visiting his wife and family in Glenwood, also his mother, Mrs. Annie Howard, Cape Wolfe, has returned to his employment in Baffin Island.  
 Miss Beverly How a r. d. of Orometo, N.B. spent a week caught the attention of medium sized cities, where Gruen believes the breakthrough in downtown revitalization will come. In Fresno, Calif., his firm has designed a plan to convert 12 blocks in the heart of the city into an auto-less business centre.  
 The Boston project, however, if it can survive the obstacles in its path, would provide a touchstone for the country's big cities, caught in a trend of the ever-expanding sprawl.

Paul Doyle of Saint John N.B. is visiting at the home of his mother, Mrs. Myrtle Doyle, Campbellton.  
 Mrs. Charles Rogers, Glenbury recently received the sad news of the death of her sister (Ada) Mrs. Fred Laline, of Boston, Mass. Sincere sympathy of the community is extended to Mrs. Rogers, also her brothers, Vernon and Peter Bulgar, Cape Wolfe.  
 Mr. and Mrs. Louis Dalton and daughter Pattie of Charlottetown, spent last week end visiting their parents Mr. and Mrs. Peter Dalton, Burton, and Mrs. Annie Howard, Cape Wolfe.  
 The misses Pauline and Peggy Howard who were visiting their

Kewin Howard, who is employed in Charlottetown spent his last weekend at the home of his mother, Mrs. Annie Howard, Cape Wolfe.  
**ELECT GRANDMA**  
**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** (AP)—Mrs. Inez Bailey Baker, a 62-year-old grandmother, was elected to the U.S. Congress in a special election Tuesday, upholding a century-old tradition in east Tennessee's second district of always electing Republicans. Mrs. Baker won with a folksy campaign in which she pledged to support the policies of her late husband, Representative Howard H. Baker, for whom she will fill out a two-year term expiring at the end of this year.

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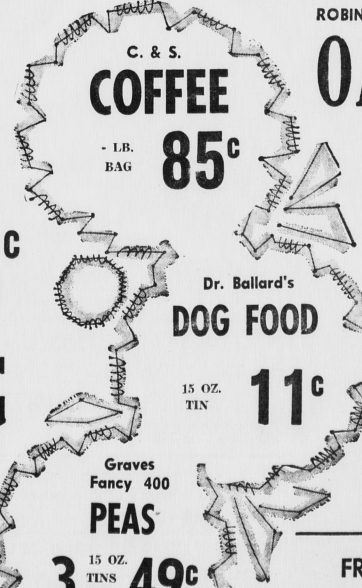
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