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## André LeNôtre and the Art of Gardens

By HUBERT G. RIPLEY

“THE name of LeNôtre was so pre-eminent that it eclipsed the names of all the other gardeners who practiced their art during the same epoch. One must not, however, forget that Jules-Hardouin Mansart designed the gardens of the Grand Trianon and of Marly, and that these two works were among the most perfect of the XVIIth century. For fifty years after the death of LeNôtre the public taste remained faithful to the garden and his tradition perpetuated itself all over Europe. In Paris the gardens of the magnificent hôtels which were built during the time of the Regency and the first years of the reign of Louis XV, were always divided either into two or four parterres of complicated borderwork.”

Thus wrote André Hallays of the Academie Francaise, (Prix Broquette-Gonin, 1920) in his delightful series, “En Flanant, A Travers la France. Autour de Paris, 2<sup>e</sup> serie, Ouvrage orné de 31 gravures;” Perrin et Cie, Libraires-Éditeurs, 35, Quai des Grand-Augustins, 35. 1926. (Tous droits de reproduction et de traduction réservés pour tous pays.) In spite of this warning we have taken the liberty of translating this passage, very baldly, no doubt, but nevertheless,—as Father Riley remarked about Miss Maggie McCarty’s rendition of “The Holy City”,—to the best of our callidity. We were never one to put our talent in a napkin, so to speak, and if there’s work to be done, whether it be some splendid and inspiring conception of the Muses, or merely a humble bit of routine, little noticed, soon forgot, we’ve always maintained that an architect’s first duty is

to his public, and that true happiness lies in the sacrifice of self. Enfin, as we say in Paris, we almost met Hallays once in a social way, as one might say. It all seems like a dream now, for it was nearly sixteen years ago—and of course Hallays wouldn’t remember the circumstance, which, had it actually occurred, would have been a trifling one for him no doubt, but fraught with interest for us. It happened one evening at the “Pré aux Clercs”, rue Jacob, whither we had gone with Gilbert Hindermeyer for a chat and a gibelotte.

Hindermeyer appeared one day in Peabody and Stearns’ office with a new set of drawing instruments and a friendly grin that endeared him at once to his associates. We liked to see pleasant faces around us, and besides the gadget on our bow-pencil was missing, necessitating using pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters, for the piling plan of the Russia Building on Atlantic Avenue, so Hindy’s advent was doubly welcomed. He was a quiet steady worker with a rich throaty baritone that chimed beautifully with the deep basso of Gordon Allen. John Stearns liked him because whenever he came into the draughting room Hindy was always working, not fooling with putty-blows like Eddie Maher or Jonesy or Emil Lorch. Lorch was a terrible cut-up as we remember it, though we may be doing him an injustice at that, he seems so sedate now at Institute Conventions. One day Peabody was looking over some details of the directors’ room in the new building for the Institution for Savings in Roxbury and Vicinity. Hindy had poured out his young life’s blood on

these drawings and all that was immortal in De la Fosse, Kinross and Franz Sales Meyer had been transferred to long strips of 80-lb. manila roll.

"Splendid!" said Peabody, "Perfectly splendid! Better pin a hundred dollar bill on each detail before sending them to McNeil Brothers so's to make sure you get all this; otherwise they might object!"

We all laughed heartily at Hindermeier's discomfiture, for this was one of the boss's favorite jokes. Many's the rubber we've worn out on full size details, curbing our over-enthusiastic zeal for the Fine Arts, before we learned the true significance of contract drawings.

Years later we bumped into Hindermeier in the Rue Bonaparte one soft balmy May evening before the afterglow had entirely disappeared. Little pink clouds were drifting lazily over the Tuilleries, their edges all molten gold against a sky of pure smalt, the starlings were squabbling in the hornbeams on the quays and a faint odor of wormwood sifted over the sidewalk cafés. Ah! Paris, Paris! those were the days when the Quartier *was* the Quartier. We were delighted to meet an old friend and naturally our first thought was to find some place to "quaff beneath the mantling vine". "The Pré aux Clercs" was handy and there we met Hallays, (anyway Hindy said it was Hallays). A tall distinguished looking man with a pointed black beard was eating a boudin in the little side room to the accompaniment of numerous bocks.

"Tiens!" said he, as Hindermeier made the introduction, (Hindy always knew everybody of any note), "Tiens! Tiens!"

We were greatly pleased and very much impressed for we had read some of Hallays' articles in "Le Journal des Débats", and also understood what "Tiens!" meant.

"Je", we began in our best Parisian accent, then hesitated, realizing too late we should have said, "'Chantez", or something, instead. Hindy began a brilliant and sustained chatter about Art, Literature, and Politics, touching lightly on Music and the Drama, at the end of which the distinguished chap with the beaver, having finished his boudin, rose to go, pleading a pressing engagement at the Odéon.

"Tiens!" he nodded pleasantly in our direction and so passed out of our life. We learned later that it wasn't Hallays at all, but a clever farceur named Hemingway, only son of a big butter and egg man in Bucyrus, Ohio, educated in a French Pension, a student of landscape architecture at the Ecole Paysagiste at Melun, as we remember it. He loved to pass himself off as a French Intellectual among the American students, and had completely fooled Hindermeier, astute cosmopolite though he was.

However, Hallays' chapter about André LeNôtre in "Autour de Paris", is a veritable little monograph on this noted and extremely talented artist. Born March 12, 1613, grandson of Pierre LeNôtre, gardener and "marchand de fruits", André was the only male issue of Jeanne-Marie Jaquelin and Jean LeNôtre, gardener in ordinary to Louis XIII and pupil of Claude Mollet, head gardener. Apparently the LeNôtres and the Mollets were like one big family, for Mme. Mollet held little André at the baptismal ceremonies in the Church of Saint-Roché. Two of André's sisters married gardeners, Pierre Desgots and Simon Bouchard, both of them charged with the care of the Tuilleries. Here was in fact a dynasty of landscape artists.

Little André grew up and studied not only gardening, but painting and architecture as well. He excelled in these arts as is shown by engravings that still exist, and the terraces of the Tuilleries and staircases of Chantilly and Versailles, all works of pure architecture. Furthermore, Louis XIV consulted him and followed his counsels. Little is known of the first part of his life and the works of his youth, though we may surmise from anecdotes of his later years that his salad days were picturesque and not without incident.

In 1668 Louis XIV bought the hamlet and church dedicated to *Divae Mariae de Trienno* to add to his domain of Versailles. He ordered the older buildings razed and in their place, at the end of several months, (the Bourbons were fast workers) arranged in a series of terraces, a chateau of porcelain in the midst of a marvelous garden. Everything was in blue and white faience: walls of Dutch tiles, balustrades, sculptured panels, fountain curbs, vases and garden benches. Even the ceilings and mirror frames were painted in the same colors; all done in the Chinese manner.

An old engraving by Pérelle shows the Trianon de Porcellaine as an extremely stylish group of buildings. The main pavilion of one story, raised on a high terrace, overlooks the canal and basin of Neptune in a setting of tulips and hyacinths, tuberoses and jonquils, with climbing mezebranthemums and jasmins in the utmost profusion. Hundreds of gardeners were constantly kept busy bringing fresh blooms from the grand serres so that each day, sometimes twice a day, saw a new arrangement.

Flanking the main building a subsidiary group of four pavilions or kiosks, symmetrically disposed, formed the service wings or "agencies of distribution". In one, pastry cooks prepared the towering edifices of frosting and spun sugar that astonished the Venetian ambassador. In another, entrés and ravigottes and remoulades and tournedos and fondues and chantillys, and mayonnaises and chaude-froids and belleuves, were composed.



A third was devoted to confitures and marmalades and macedoines and chiffonades and salads and marinés and cànapés and game patés and foie gras and pickled mushrooms and Bombay duck, while in the fourth, truffled chickens, brochetted lark's tongues, dandonneaus, coq-d'Indes, chochons-delaît, hares, pheasants, boar's head, and a thousand other variété were prepared.

Concerts, ballets, and collations, with now and then charades and promenades amongst the parterres, plates-bundes and massifs, were the principal amusements, and on balmy summer nights the King used to have his fouteuil brought out on the gravel walk and listen to the oboes and basoons and dulcimers played by musicians in swan-boats on the canal. At the first sneeze of the evening when the mists began to fall, St. Simon would suggest that his majesty move inside on account of his rheumatism, which, since the Flanders campaign, showed signs of recurrence. Usually LeNôtre was present at these occasions, chatting familiarly with the King. LeNôtre, skilled in the subtleties of court procedure, was never high-hat, or never presumed to be other than the simple gardener. Louis wished to ennoble him, to give him arms.

LeNôtre replied: "Sire, I already have my arms; three snails crowned with a head of cabbage. And furthermore, how can I ever forget my grafting spade? Is it not to it that I owe the kindnesses with which your majesty has honored me?"

"Jamais" said St. Simon, "Il ne sortit de son état ni ne se méconnut!" Yet with all his modesty LeNôtre was the only one who ever dared chat familiarly with the King. His bonhomie and aplomb were superb. Once when the two were superintending the building of the magnificent steps to the tapis vert, (Louis was a most exacting client,—examining every two by four that was delivered on the job, poking his finger into the mortar beds, scolding the clerk of the works, and ordering changes to suit his fancy), LeNôtre turned to the King with a merry twinkle in his eye and said:—

"Has your majesty heard the story they are telling about la Contessa Filomela Bambianetta,\* niece of il Duca de Squillacci? Stop me if you've heard it."

"Spill it", chuckled the King with an anticipatory chuckle, digging the royal forefinger, all covered with lime mortar, into the midriff of his head gardener, thereby leaving a horrid lime stain on his embroidered bois de rose satin wescoat

\* La Contessa Filomela (grandmother of Contessa Melisinda of the Villa Flaccus), was noted for her dazzling beauty and love of outdoor sports; she was a great favorite of Louis and consequently cordially detested by the Marquise de Maintenon who accused her of trespassing on her preserves. The affair of the Badminton Courts is too well known to need quoting here.

that caused Mrs. LeNôtre no end of trouble to eradicate. ("The liberties some folks take with poor André, what with one thing and all, I'm sure, 's more than I can understand," remarked the harassed woman to commere Mollet, "I wish that Contessa person was back in Venice where she belongs!")

"It seems the Contessa", continued LeNôtre, "met the Chevalier de Motteville at your majesty's Fêtes des Moineaux where they danced the minuet together in La Grotte de Thetis. The Chevalier's organizing the *Société des Gondoliers*, you know, and was greatly struck with the Contessa's beauty. 'I'd just love to join your *Société*, Chevalier, I adore the water', said the Contessa. 'Fine' replied the Chevalier, 'we'll put you at the head of the waiting list and I'll see that you're elected at the next meeting of the board. By the way, what colors have you chosen for your gondola?' 'I'm sorry', replied the Contessa, 'I haven't any gondola!' 'What a pity!' said the Chevalier with real regret in his tone, 'Our rules say that every member of the *Société* must have a gondola.' The Contessa—"

"P'st!" hurriedly exclaimed the King, "Here comes la Marquise de Maintenon. She's difficult at times. I'll have to hear the rest later."

Then there's the famous scene between Louis, LeNôtre and Louvois\* during the construction of the Grand Trianon. Louvois was Superintendent of Buildings. The King, whose eye never deceived him, discovering that one of the windows was several inches narrower than the others, called Louvois' attention to the error. The window had just been started and as the leads were only up a short way, it was a simple matter to correct. Louvois maintained that there was no error, but the King insisted and they had some words over it. The next day Louis saw LeNôtre in the garden, told him about it, and asked him to check up the sizes. Anxious to keep out of the dispute LeNôtre avoided going to the Trianon. The King seeing him the following day, again asked him about the window. LeNôtre was forced to confess he had not been to the Trianon. The King's express order LeNôtre dared not disregard. He accompanied the King to the spot where the window in question was now up several feet. There they found Louvois and the three argued the matter

\* Francois Michel LeTellier, Marquis de Louvois, (1641-1691) born in Paris, Minister of War under Louis XIV. He introduced order and discipline in the army, like Colbert in the financial affairs of the state. As an organizer and an administrator he was incomparable, but in politics often ruthless and cruel. After Colbert's death in 1683, Louvois also took for himself the Ministry of Public Buildings, in order to be able to gratify the King's two favorite pastimes, war and building. His lack of self-control under stress of emotion eventually caused his death by apoplexy at the early age of fifty.

at some length. Finally LeNôtre at the King's command measured the openings and found that the disputed window was  $2\frac{1}{8}$ " narrower than the others. Louvois continued to be nasty about it, and eventually the King lost his temper and scolded him severely. The Superintendent of Buildings went home in a rage, threw himself down on his couch and gave way to such violent paroxysms of spleen that Madame Louvois (la Marquise de Courtenvaux), began to fear dementia praecox. He declared the King had forgotten the great services rendered by him that had brought such splendid victories to France and that he would order affairs in such a manner as to start afresh the flames of insurrection and revolt in the Palatinate, foment strife by supporting the rival candidate in the affair of the double election of Cologne, and raise such a rumpus generally that the King would have to order him back into the field to straighten things out again. He threw down his trowel (figuratively speaking) and cursed and swore like one possessed.

Events really happened as Louvois threatened and on account of the mess in which Le Grand Monarque shortly found himself involved, he was forced to leave entire liberty to the projects of England in the Low Countries. "From which", concludes Hallays, "one may infer that had it not been for the error of a mason who laid out one of the windows of the Trianon too narrow by several inches, the House of Orange would not have succeeded to the throne of England, the Palatinate would not have been sacked, the castle of Heidelberg burned, and the face of the world changed."

What we admire particularly in the work of LeNôtre is his suave mingling of art with nature. Even Italy admits there was never a man who knew better than he all that art could contribute to the beauty of a garden. A glance of the eye over the gardens of Versailles and the Tuilleries shows how much we owe to his genius. Although certain critics may hold that he does not leave a sufficiency of velvety lawn in his works, this is because LeNôtre could not suffer stupid vistas and he did not think it necessary for a fine garden to resemble too closely the natural forest.

The list of gardens attributed to LeNôtre is in-

terminable; they still exist in all the provinces of France. Wherever one finds the vestiges of a hornbeam or the remains of a parterre en broderie, one pronounces without surprise the name of the royal gardener of Louis XIV. At Pontchartrain, Sceaux, (Chateau of Colbert), Les Rochers, (dwelling of Madame de Sévigné), Dampierre, Pinon (L'Aisne), Clagny (Chateau of Madame de Montespan), La Ferté-Vidame, (Eure et Loire), Guermantes and elsewhere, there is documentary proof of LeNôtre's activities. The public gardens of Dijon created by the prince of Condé are from designs of LeNôtre. Noisy-le-Roi, de Bailly, des Clayes, de Wideville, the bishop's gardens at Meaux, Castres, and Bruges, and many others, are attributed to him, and certainly their style indicates it. Perhaps the most magnificent and ingenious plan that the great gardener ever drew was for the park and gardens of Saint-Cloud. This perfect plan, with a few insignificant modifications, remains today as it was first laid out. The thousand inequalities and accidents of the terrain give a certain appearance of incoherence and lack of unity to the different sections, but imagine the chateau as it existed previous to 1870, and the logic of the plan becomes at once apparent. "The park of Saint-Cloud," says Hallays, "is a delicious ambigu of art and nature, an adorable assemblage of woods and garden, of architectural fragments and high lofty trees."

It must be conceded that the French garden, a superb accompaniment to the palace of a king or the residence of a grand seigneur, in perfect accord with the alleys of a public park, takes on a rather ridiculous solemnity when placed before the country house of a bourgeois. Nevertheless, despite a changing France, the art of LeNôtre preserved its prestige up to the time the informal garden was imported from England. Today the style again swings back to the French Gardin. All the arts, in all epochs and in all countries, not excepting the art of the garden, appeal to the human sensibilities and their greatest appeal lies in a sympathetic understanding of that supreme artist, Nature herself. This understanding LeNôtre possessed to a degree rarely attained by any artist either before or since his time.

## With the Chapters

*Meeting of the Executive Committee:* The tentative plan is to hold the next meeting of the Executive Committee of the Institute in early August, and probably in Washington. The matter is in the hands of President Hammond, and a definite date will be fixed by him in due course. Chapters, or members, having communications intended for the Executive Committee should address them to the Secretary of the Institute, at The Octagon, and before August 1st.

*The West Texas Chapter and the University of Texas:* The May meeting of the West Texas Chapter was held on the campus of the University of Texas, at Austin, on May 18. The Department of Architecture of the University, Goldwin Goldsmith, Director, was host. The visiting architects were asked by members of the faculty to judge two student problems in design, which they did.

Thereafter, the entire party were guests at a banquet attended by members of the Chapter, the faculty, and the entire student body of the Department of Architecture—approximately 120 persons. The affair was known in student circles as the "architects' wind-up." Professor Goldwin Goldsmith was toastmaster. Appropriate addresses were made by the President of the West Texas Chapter, Ralph Cameron, and others. The meeting was a most enjoyable and helpful one. (Does not this contact of the West Texas Chapter offer a suggestion to other Chapters having universities with architectural departments in their territories?)

*Institute Conventions:* At the May meeting of the Oregon Chapter, Ellis F. Lawrence, delegate of the Chapter to the Sixty-second Convention and a Past-Director of the Institute, made a carefully prepared report on the subject of Institute Conventions. In this report he offered suggestions, and constructive criticisms of present convention procedure and results. Mr. Lawrence's statement was of great interest to the Oregon Chapter, and by direction was forwarded to the Secretary of the Institute. It has been submitted to the Committee on Constitution and By-Laws for study, and will also receive full consideration at the August meeting of the Executive Committee.

*The Rotch Traveling Scholarship:* At the May meeting of the Boston Chapter, the President, Robert P. Bellows, announced the results of the Rotch Traveling Scholarship, as follows:

Design placed first: Mr. Charles St. George Pope—carrying two years' travel and study in Europe.

Design placed second: Mr. Edward F. Allodi—carrying \$500, given by Mrs. H. A. Lamb; the

holder of this prize to travel and study in this country.

Design placed third: Mr. Gordon Howard Kunz—awarded the prize of \$100, given by the Boston Society of Architects.

The honor guests at the meeting were the three Jurors who judged the scholarship competition, namely, J. Monroe Hewlett, First Vice-President of the Institute; Albert Kahn, of Detroit; and Mr. Isidor Richmond, of Boston.

*Chapter Executive Secretary:* The Pittsburgh Chapter has appointed a special committee to consider the desirability of securing an Executive Secretary for the Pittsburgh Chapter. The special committee will analyze the proposal, consider it from the financial point of view, and make a full report at a future meeting of the Chapter. (Chapters now having Executive Secretaries are New York, Cincinnati, and Philadelphia.)

*Successful Chapter Meetings:* The Chapter officer or member who can write a formula which will assure successful Chapter meetings will confer a boon upon the profession of architecture, and great honor upon himself. Perhaps it is all a matter of psychology, or good luck. Perhaps there is a formula! In any event the following postscript to the Minutes of the May meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter, Alexander C. Guth, Secretary, is quoted for the encouragement it offers:

"And the Secretary is prompted to add that like all previous evening meetings this one was a whale of a success. The members did not have to watch the clock. They could afford to be as deliberate as they pleased. And they lingered long after the hour of adjournment."

*Increase in Chapter Dues:* The Cincinnati Chapter, at a recent meeting, increased its dues from \$10.00 a year to \$20.00 a year. This Chapter is achieving considerable success in leading a movement against projecting signs on the business streets of Cincinnati.

*Registration:* The South Texas Chapter has just begun to fight for the Texas Registration Bill, which was defeated at the last session of the legislature. Acting on the recommendation of Regional Director, Olle J. Lorehn, the Chapter is seeking the cooperation of the other Texas Chapters with a view to maintaining interest and developing strength for another determined effort to pass the Registration Bill when it comes before the next meeting of the Texas Legislature.

*The Federal Building Program in Washington:* "The Northern California Chapter expresses its

appreciation of the progress being made in the architectural development of the city of Washington, as recently announced by the President of the United States, the Secretary of the Treasury, and others responsible for the inception, design and execution of this great work. The Chapter's congratulations are hereby offered and its support pledged.

"The Chapter sees a most critical problem in the potential disharmonies that may develop on the north side of Pennsylvania Avenue, facing the new Federal Buildings, if present individual property holdings are built up with no more check than is provided by current building restrictions.

"The right of the individual owner to normal profit is undisputed, but it may be maintained that the People are parties in interest, with just claim to share in those increasing values, artistic, if not

financial, which the Federal improvements alone create.

"This Chapter believes, therefore, that the Government should have made, immediately, special studies by experts in the major phases involved, to find a method whereby all individual holdings, in each 'city block,' may be co-ordinated into unbroken units with all irregularities of 'frontages' eliminated, and all such 'units' developed, while suitable for their purposes, yet in a scheme of ensemble; that all building heights affected should be determined in relation to uniform horizontal lines, nowhere higher than the Federal buildings across the street; that a basic system of 'sight lines' might be established, in relation to street widths, below which to confine the heights of any necessary projections above the roofs."

## As of Interest

*The Day of the Artist:* The following is quoted from the June number of the Magazine of Business: "Beauty is playing a tremendous part in industry, and leaders recognize its growing influence. A. R. Erskine, speaking recently before the Mississippi Valley Manufacturers and Wholesalers Conference, declared, 'The aspiration of the American people for beautiful things to wear, to use, and to adorn their homes, and for beautiful houses, leads to greater happiness and higher aesthetic civilization. American manufacturers generally are striving to make their products beautiful by applying the ingenuity of the fine arts to the industrial arts. This is the day of the artist.'"

*Cooperation with Society for Promotion of Engineering Education:* Howard Dwight Smith of the Columbus Chapter was appointed by President Hammond to represent the Institute at a meeting of the Society for Promotion of Engineering Education, held in Columbus, Ohio, June 19th to 22nd. The engineering society particularly desired a representative from the Institute at their sessions devoted to "The Graduate and His Work," and the "Conference on Student Sections." Mr. Smith's report will be forwarded to the Institute, and to the Committee on Education.

*The Phebe Hobson Fowler Architectural Award Committee:* At the request of the American Society of Civil Engineers, President Hammond has appointed William A. Delano, of the New York Chapter, and R. L. Walker, of the Cleveland Chapter, as architect members of a committee which will be known as the Phebe Hobson Fowler Architectural Award Committee. The other members of the

Committee are George H. Pegram, Chairman, Charles D. Marx, and William A. Starrett. The Award is administered under the sponsorship of the American Society of Civil Engineers, and was described by Mr. Charles Evan Fowler at a luncheon meeting of the Sixty-second Convention. His address will appear in full in the Proceedings.

*The International Housing and Town Planning Congress:* President Hammond has appointed Frank A. Bourne, of the Boston Chapter, to represent the Institute at the International Housing and Town Planning Congress to be held in Rome, Italy, in September. Mr. Bourne has attended previous Congresses, and will speak for the American architects and their work.

*Photographs—Buildings at Williamsburg:* The architects of the Restoration at Williamsburg, Virginia, namely, Perry, Shaw and Hepburn, 177 State Street, Boston, request the co-operation of Institute members in locating photographs, camera, or Kodak pictures of any buildings within the environs of Williamsburg. Single pictures, or series, will be carefully preserved in a safe deposit vault at Williamsburg, and if desired will be returned in due course to the owners. Pictures taken at any time prior to the beginning of the work of restoration are sought. This request is particularly called to the attention of members of the Virginia Chapter, and to the attention of other Institute members who have visited Williamsburg in past years.

*The National Council of Architectural Registration Boards:* At the Ninth Annual Convention of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards, the following officers were elected:



Clarence W. Brazer, Chester, Pennsylvania, President.

H. B. Wheelock, Chicago, Illinois, First Vice-President.

Delos H. Smith, Washington, D. C., Second Vice-President.

A. M. Edelman, Los Angeles, California, Third Vice-President.

E. S. Hall, Chicago, Illinois, Secretary-Treasurer.

The "NCARB," as it is generally described, is doing a most useful work for the architectural profession in connection with inter-state registration and the many problems arising therefrom. Communications should be addressed to the Secretary, Emery Stanford Hall, Suite 2300, 175 W. Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, Illinois.

*Building Code Committee of the Department of Commerce:* The Secretary of Commerce, Robert P. Lamont, has recently announced the appointment

of Dr. William K. Hatt, of Purdue University, as Director of the Building Code Committee of the Department.

The principal function of this Committee is to prepare and recommend building code requirements suitable for general adoption by local governments throughout the country. Its members are all nationally recognized experts in architecture and engineering.

More than 200 cities have made use of the committee's various recommendations, which embody the results of extensive research and practical construction experience. The present program of the committee includes combining the recommendations previously issued into a framework of minimum requirements for a complete building code, thus encouraging a uniform method of treatment for the major items, but allowing for minor variations due to local preference and local conditions.

## The Structural Service Department

*Division of Simplified Practice, U. S. Department of Commerce:* A report of the General Conference on the Dimensional Simplification of Steel Bathroom and Medicine Cabinets has been submitted to the various interested groups for their approval. Copies of the recommendations of the Conference have been sent to the Chapter representatives of the Structural Service Department for comments and suggestions, upon receipt of which a report with recommendations will be made to the Board of Directors.

On June 28 a conference will be held in Chicago to consider the desirability of manufacturers of school furniture adopting a uniform color and finish for their stock furniture manufactured and stocked in advance of orders. If adopted and adhered to by the manufacturers, stock furniture of different makes will harmonize in color and finish. However, where specifically required, any color or finish can be made up to order. The Structural Service Department has submitted the above proposal to a number of architects who have designed many school buildings, and the department will report to the Conference on the attitude of these representative members of the profession.

*American Standards Association:* Meeting of Sectional Committee on Safety Code for Walkway Surfaces held in Philadelphia May 28. A subcommittee reported its findings in regard to objections that had been raised to previous drafts of the proposed code. It was the consensus of opinion that there were grounds for many of the objections that had been raised and that previous drafts of the code

attempted to cover too wide a field and contained specific requirements that might work a hardship on the designer of the building and on the manufacturers of certain classes of flooring materials.

*Cooperation with Illuminating Engineers:* During the past year the Structural Service Department has been discussing with the various elements of the electrical industry, ways and means whereby illuminating engineering service of a dependable character could be made readily available to the architectural profession. The Chapter representatives of the department have been communicated with and interesting comments and valuable suggestions are being received.

*U. S. Bureau of Standards:* An informal conference was held at the Bureau of Standards June 12 to discuss the practicability of bringing together many of the existing standards for materials and appliances used in connection with openings in masonry walls. After a general discussion of the various items and principles involved it was decided to appoint a committee composed of a representative of the architectural profession and a representative of each of the other major interests to study the subject and draft recommendations to be considered at a later general conference.

*Producers' Council—Executive Committee meeting:* At its meeting on May 24 there was a general discussion as to what should be the attitude and activities of the Council in connection with the preparation of building codes. It was the consensus of opinion that the province of the Council should

be in the nature of cooperation with representative groups already engaged in this work and that contact should be made with the Building Code Committee of the U. S. Department of Commerce.

The Technical Secretary of the Structural Service Department reported that he was most favorably impressed with the interest that the Southern Chapters were taking in the Southern Architectural and Industrial Arts Exposition to be held in Memphis, Tennessee, November 9 to 16. It was decided to hold the next semi-annual meeting of the Council in Memphis during the Exposition and to cooperate in every way possible in making the Exposition a success.

*National Committee on Wood Utilization:* The new handbook on "Wood Construction," referred to in the May OCTAGON, is now available. The Structural Service Department actively participated in the preparation of this publication. It contains 700 pages, 235 illustrations and diagrams, 73 full-page architectural drawings and 21 tables. It has been prepared by men of broad experience and is believed to represent the best practices that have been developed in the use of lumber and millwork. The price of the book is \$6.00 and copies can be obtained from the National Committee on Wood Utilization, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

## Applicants for Membership

July 1, 1929.

### Notice to Members of the Institute:

The names of the following applicants may come before the Board of Directors or its Executive Committee for action on their admission to the Institute and, if elected, the applicants will be assigned to the Chapters indicated:

<i>Baltimore Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CHARLES DANA LOOMIS
<i>Boston Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	WALTER FRANCIS BOGNER, EDWIN B. GOODELL, JR.
<i>Chicago Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ANKER S. GRAVEN, PETER B. MAYO
<i>Cincinnati Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	JAMES DONALD MAWHINNEY
<i>Cleveland Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	WALTER J. CANFIELD
<i>Columbus Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ROBERT G. INGLESON
<i>Florida South Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	RUSSELL T. PANCOAST
<i>Kansas Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	JOHN STANLEY HAGAN, GLEN H. THOMAS
<i>New York Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	ROBERT M. CARRERE, PHILIP A. CUSACHS, HARRIS H. MURDOCK, W. K. OLTAR-JEVSKY, HENRY HODGMAN SAYLOR, LEONARD SCHULTZE
<i>North Texas Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	WILLIAM JOSEPH LANG
<i>Philadelphia Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	S. BRIAN BAYLINSON
<i>West Virginia Chapter</i>	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	CYRUS EDGAR SILLING

You are invited, as directed in the By-Laws, to send privileged communications before July 30, 1929, on the eligibility of the candidates, for the information and guidance of the Members of the Board of Directors in their final ballot. No applicant will be finally passed upon should any Chapter request within the thirty-day period an extension of time for purpose of investigation.

Very truly yours.

FRANK C. BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

## Members Elected from March 8 to May 15, 1929

<i>Baltimore Chapter</i>	-	THOMAS MACHEN, HOWARD MAY, BAYARD TURNBULL
<i>Boston Chapter</i>	- -	STANLEY E. DAVIDSON, HENRY A. FROST, HAROLD HOLMES OWEN, GILES MILTON SMITH
<i>Central New York Chapter</i>	- - - - -	HOWARD L. STEITZ
<i>Chicago Chapter</i>	- -	MILES LANIER COLEAN, RALPH WARNER HAMMETT, WAL-WARD HARDING, WILLIAM T. HOOPER, JENS J. JENSEN, FRANK T. KEGLEY, DAVIS D. MEREDITH, EDWARD ATKINSON MERRILL
<i>Cincinnati Chapter</i>	- - - - -	EDWARD J. SCHULTE
<i>Cleveland Chapter</i>	- - - - -	D. LEONARD HALPER
<i>Columbus Chapter</i>	- - - - -	SCOTT FULLERTON
<i>Connecticut Chapter</i>	- - - - -	ROBERT H. S. BOOTH
<i>Florida Chapter</i>	- - - - -	E. WALTER BURKHARDT, C. SEDGWICK MOSS
<i>Iowa Chapter</i>	- - - - -	CLARK SOUERS
<i>Kansas City Chapter</i>	- - - - -	RAYMOND L. VOSKAMP
<i>Kentucky Chapter</i>	- - - - -	HOWARD A. CHURCHILL, JOHN T. GILLIG
<i>Minnesota Chapter</i>	- - - - -	ALBERT O. LARSON
<i>New Jersey Chapter</i>	- - - - -	WILBUR S. CORKRAN, WILLIAM L. GIBB, JR., JOSEPH N. HETTEL, ERNEST LEVINE
<i>New York Chapter</i>	-	CHARLES K. CLINTON, ELISABETH COIT, J. BRADLEY DELEHANTY, HARRY ROYDEN DOWSWELL, BENE- DETTO FERRARA, WILLIAM E. FRENAYE, JR., HERBERT WINTHROP WALDRON FAULKNER, J. HUNTER FIELD, EDWIN L. HOWARD, CHRISTOPHER LAFARGE, EMILIO LEVY, LUCIUS MOORE, LORIMER RICH, T. MARKOE ROBERTSON, WM. HAMILTON RUSSELL, JAMES KELLUM SMITH, PENROSE V. STOUT, HENRY JOHNSTON TOOMBS, CORNELIUS J. WHITE.
<i>North Carolina Chapter</i>	- -	JAMES COZBY BYRD, WILLIAM WALDO DODGE, JR.
<i>Northern California Chapter</i>	- - - - -	CHARLES F. MAURY
<i>Oregon Chapter</i>	- - - - -	HAROLD D. MARSH
<i>Philadelphia Chapter</i>	- -	HENRY J. BARINGER, JR., ROBERT E. BLOUNT, FREDERICK ROSS LORENZ, FRED F. MARTIN, HARRY GORDON STEWART, EUGENE A. STOPPER, PAUL FORRESTER TAYLOR.
<i>Southern Pennsylvania Chapter</i>	-	CARLISLE DUANE HASNESS, CLAYTON JACOB LAPPLEY, JAMES W. MINICK, W. DUNBAR SHOLLENBERGER.
<i>Virginia Chapter</i>	- - - - -	LOUIS PHILLIPE SMITHEY
<i>Washington, D. C., Chapter</i>	-	JOSEPH EDWARD BIBERSTEIN, FRED EVANS ROBBINS
<i>Washington State Chapter</i>	- - - - -	HARRY C. WELLER
<i>West Texas Chapter</i>	- - - - -	LOU HARRINGTON

## Members Elected—Not Previously Reported

The names and Chapters of members elected since January 1, 1929, have been reported in the pages of *The Octagon* from time to time. Final action on several applications was delayed pending the completion of details of Institute procedure. Such details have been completed and the elections of the applicants concerned became effective as of various dates in 1928. Their names and Chapters are now announced, as follows, in order that the record may be complete:

<i>Central New York Chapter</i>	- - - - -	CARL RAYMOND TRAVER
<i>Southern California Chapter</i>	- - - - -	ROBERT B. STACY-JUDD

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## Members Deceased Since January 1, 1929

ROBERT D. ANDREWS	- - - - -	<i>Boston Chapter</i>
WILLIAM CHAPMAN	- - - - -	<i>Boston Chapter</i>
ELEAZOR B. HOMER	- - - - -	<i>Rhode Island Chapter</i>
THOMAS WM. LUDLOW	- - - - -	<i>Pittsburgh Chapter</i>
FRANCIS J. MACDONNELL	- - - - -	<i>Louisiana Chapter</i>
JOHN MCLELLAND	- - - - -	<i>South Texas Chapter</i>
HARRY S. NELSON	- - - - -	<i>Cleveland Chapter</i>
WILLIAM A. OTIS	- - - - -	<i>Chicago Chapter</i>
JOSIAS PENNINGTON	- - - - -	<i>Baltimore Chapter</i>
ALLEN B. POND	- - - - -	<i>Chicago Chapter</i>
GEORGE E. RENDIGS	- - - - -	<i>Cincinnati Chapter</i>
THIEMAN R. WIEGER	- - - - -	<i>Colorado Chapter</i>
EDWARD P. YORK	- - - - -	<i>New York Chapter</i>

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## If You Want The Proceedings—or The Annuary

The Secretary has addressed a letter of June 25 to each Member, Associate, and Junior of the Institute—with regard to the distribution of the Proceedings and the Annuary. Heretofore these two publications have been sent as a matter of course. This year, as a measure of economy, the Board of Directors has instructed that the Annuary and Proceedings be sent *only* to those Members, Associates, and Juniors who request copies.

Accompanying the Secretary's letter was a return postcard to be properly checked, signed, and mailed to *The Octagon* by July 10.

The quantity of the edition of each book will be fixed on the basis of the card returns. It will not be possible to supply copies to anyone who does not request them on or before July 10.

In every case the non-return of the card will be construed to mean neither the Annuary nor the Proceedings is desired.



