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The Future Is to the Planners

By ROBERT D. KOHN, F.A.I.A.

A MAN is indeed audacious or foolhardy to attempt a prophecy at a time like this. But I am willing to take the risk if I can stir up my fellow-architects to use their latent powers to help give to the future a form in which their function will count instead of waiting around for something to happen. Out of this apparently leaderless mess, some order is bound to come and that order is in the making now. My conviction is that in the next few years there will be introduced into our social system the idea of planning. Architects and engineers know what planning means in connection with a building, a machine, a bridge, a road. We have applied that technique as yet only to a structure; only superficially to the physical aspects of a city and not at all to the state or to the nation. Of its social implications we have hardly even thought. My brief theme is this: "The future is to the planners; will the architects be in the vanguard or trail behind as camp followers to be sniped off?"

It is a commonplace to speak of the failures of the "laissez-faire" philosophy of the past. What have we to offer as a substitute? We demand something which will enlist in the common interest the initiative and inventiveness of man and his desire to excel. We want no squeezing of men into a mold. Quite the contrary, their very differences are of the essence of their value. The stock radicalisms do not interest me. I see the world bound to work towards a new order planned to use the varied powers and uniqueness of men. It will come about through cooperation willingly accorded because based on an understanding of functional interdependence. You need not agree with me in this—but you must agree that more of planning must come into the world's affairs.

In its essence, social planning is but an enlargement of that same process which an architect uses when he considers the house he is designing for a particular family. He accommodates in it not only the physical environment, so many rooms, but a relation between the parts which will make a certain kind of living possible and gives to it

a form which makes it beautiful. While many techniques will have to contribute to the larger planning to which I refer, the engineers and the architects have the training and the experience that is particularly applicable. It is my belief that architects have a unique contribution to make to the process which gives them both the privilege and the obligation for leadership. For they do not look upon their planning as merely a scientific process. Their problems have to be solved but in their solution requires a deliberate choice of means plus a deep-seated human understanding; in other words, plus the emotion without which no work of art is ever created. That is what we need more than anything else in the world today. Architects have it bred in their bones that not only science but vision is needed to plan anything.

Groups of architects here and there throughout the country are active in their efforts to meet the changing world halfway, and there are some few that realize the opportunity for leadership. But, on the whole, the majority seem to be waiting disconsolately for something to come their way. The great public works relief program with its new opportunity for housing leaves them entirely uninterested. "There is no housing problem in our State," or "The surveys show plenty of empty houses and apartments"; "The Real Estate Board (or the mortgage companies or the bankers or the apartment-house owners) do not want any body to build any housing." Great Scott! Have we been stricken blind so that we cannot see what is happening? The era of unthinking speculative development has received such a blow that it can not come back—at least not in its old form. Already some among the bankers are saying publicly that the events of the last three years have shown that investments can no longer be made with safety on individual buildings without consideration for the future of the neighborhood. One goes so far as to say, "No investment should be made in housing of any kind unless it is on such a scale that in itself it creates a neighborhood properly related to the city as a whole". And we architects with the inferiority complex acquired from years of waiting for other people to tell us what to do, have not had the courage to grasp the opportunity.

NOTE—This Editorial was written by Past-President Kohn at the request of President Russell. Both believe that the architectural profession should broaden its view and act accordingly.

We are still worshippers at the shrine of the successful (?) investor; we still wait for the crumbs to fall from the rich man's table. The dodo is said to have disappeared from the earth when dodo food no longer grew in his vicinity. The dodo never realized that he could eat anything else. There isn't even a bone of him preserved in the Museum of Natural History.

The future is to the planners, of that I am firmly convinced. The same basic technique that we are trained to use in our little problems must be applied eventually to the problems of production in every field. Hundreds of volumes have been written on the need for economic planning but so far I have seen no practical plan for putting it into effect. In my opinion the field of Public Works offers a great opportunity right now for the beginning of an experiment in such nation wide planning. By Public Works I mean that large and comprehensive service which is intended to provide to the greatest possible extent the amenities of living to the people. It is to that end that we must apply ourselves to use the thought and the labor of men. The process of development can only be gradual. There is no approach to it which, in my opinion, offers so excellent a microcosm of the larger problem as does the study of the shelter of the individual family so related to the community with its concomitant opportunities for work, for education, and for recreation and such a relation of that community to the city or state as will make possible not alone a greater measure of material well being but give opportunity for the

development of the high capacities of men, as men.

"Visionary and impractical" somebody called me. Well, many of the hard-boiled "practical" men are now as poor in dollars. Ideals and ideas are the only assets left to any of us. I venture, then, this prophecy. We shall have, of necessity, a decade of public works construction and rebuilding of our cities and the building up of new and smaller industrial centers, all on a scale never before realized. I hope it will be organized on the basis of long-term nation wide planning, so that it may give self respecting work to the unemployed and use that work for the good of all in those places which offer the greatest promise of a decent working life for the maximum number of people. I hope it will be developed so as to teach us how to attack the other economic problems of production and distribution with which we are faced. Above all, I hope the architects of the country will forget the old "big business" leaders, seize their opportunity before it is too late, take the initiative, and join with other essential techniques to bring order out of chaos at least in this one field.

If I thought that things could come back to the 1927 basis I would indeed be downcast. It is because I am convinced that we are in an era of change for the better that I have courage to go on. Whatever may be the measure of that change, the function of the planner will be more in demand than ever. But we must make ourselves much more capable of exercising it to the full. It is only "where there is no vision" that "the people perish."

Statement of the Committee on Public Works

By LOUIS LA BEAUME, *Chairman*

THE Committee on Public Works takes this occasion to inform the Institute membership of the progress of its efforts with relation to the employment of architects outside of the Treasury Department, for the design of Federal buildings.

The Bill which was introduced a year ago in the Seventy-Second Congress, known as H. R. 6187, and duplicated in the Senate under the title of S. 2956, was never reported out of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds to which it was referred, although many members of the Committee seemed favorably disposed toward it. Whether or not the pressure of public business prevented definite action, or whether other influences retarded its progress, we do not know. The Treasury Department did not seem to actively oppose it, except with regard to its so-called mandatory provision directing the Secretary of the Treasury to contract with outside

architects for the design of Federal buildings. All Institute Chapters have been furnished with full reports of the Hearings in which the Institute's attitude, and that of the Treasury Department, are set forth.

During the past year an increasing number of outside architects have been appointed and contracted with by the Treasury Department. We are told that the total number now thus employed exceeds three hundred.

During last October all Chapters were requested to explain the program of the Public Works Committee, and the desires of the profession, to prospective candidates to the House and Senate, in order to secure sympathetic attention to the re-introduction of any necessary legislation. The results of this effort, in so far as candidates expressed themselves, are on file at The Octagon in Washington. Since the

November elections, the Executive Committee of the Institute and the Committee on Public Works have been in frequent consultation, but early reached the conclusion that it would be futile to attempt to introduce legislation during this present, or "Lame Duck," session of Congress. It is however, the intention of the Committee to introduce the Bill again early in the special session after March 4th.

On January 27th, President Russell, Mr. Zant-zinger, Mr. Kemper and the Chairman of the Committee on Public Works conferred with Major Heath, Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in Charge of Public Buildings and the Acting Supervising Architect of the Treasury, Judge James C. Wetmore, in an effort to reach an agreement as to the provisions of our Bill. The Treasury Department again objected to the mandatory clause, as it had at the Public Hearings. We suggested a slight modification qualifying the mandate, so as to make the first paragraph of the Bill read as follows:

"That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized and directed to employ by contract, and at the established rates of compensation, outside professional or technical service of competent persons, firms, or corporations, for the architectural and engineering designing and planning of such Federal buildings as are now or may, in the future, be placed under the jurisdiction of his department, without reference to the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, or to section 3709 of the Revised Statutes of the United States, *provided that in the judgment of the Secretary of the Treasury such employment for any specific project would not be contrary to the public interest.*"

Secretary Heath intimated that such an amendment would probably be satisfactory, although he did not commit himself definitely.

During this interview, the subject of devising some orderly method of appointment was discussed. The Treasury Department indicated that it would welcome the assistance of the Institute in securing a list of qualified architects to whom Federal buildings could be assigned.

In anticipation of the re-introduction of our Bill, the Committee has addressed itself to the incoming administration, and statements, clearly setting forth our principles, have been forwarded to President-elect Roosevelt, Vice-President-elect Garner, the Honorable Henry T. Rainey, the Honorable James M. Farley and the Honorable Joseph J. Shannon. The following quotation from the statement summarizes our arguments:

"The Public Works Committee of The American Institute of Architects has consistently protested against the system employed by the government in the erection of its public buildings on three main grounds: First—Efficiency, that is to say, the

quality of the result; second—Economy to the tax payer; and third—the propriety of the general policy of the competition of the government with its own people.

"Regarding the first item, the architectural profession maintains that no great architecture can result from methods of standardization or quantity production. Architecture is an art, not a manufacturing business. The obligation of the Federal government to encourage the art of architecture by availing itself of the services of the most capable men in the country is obvious. For the Federal government to continue, through huge bureaus established in Washington, to design and prepare plans for all Federal buildings must inevitably lead to stereotyped, if not mediocre, results. Our Federal buildings should reflect the culture, imagination and spiritual ideals of our people, and, in a country so vast in extent, so varied in climatic and physical characteristics, these buildings can be best designed by competent architects resident in the general localities where they are to be built, and familiar with local needs and traditions, local materials and local methods of procedure. No army of civil service employees, gathered together in any governmental bureau, can be truly responsive to the varying factors entering into the design of widely separated buildings.

"The architects of America, from Massachusetts to California, have demonstrated their ability to the world. This ability should be increasingly drawn upon in the design of our Federal buildings, whether they be Post Offices, Custom Houses, Hospitals, Court Houses or Army Posts. It is only by the utilization of the best ability in the country that the nation can attain the character in its public buildings to which it is entitled.

"Regarding the second item, Economy to the Tax Payer, there exists some unfortunate confusion of thought. The government bureaus, which are in effect competing with private architects throughout the country, seek to justify such competition on the grounds of economy. They maintain that the cost of their service in the production of plans, specifications and supervision is somewhat less than the cost involved in the employment of architects outside of the bureaus. The differential, according to their own figures, is not great, but it may be questioned if all of the legitimate charges against this service have been taken into account in estimating the bureau's costs. It is difficult for the tax payer to believe that the government can operate as economically as private enterprise in fields of professional service. There is not primarily the same incentive, and, secondly, there is not the same flexibility. Government overhead is not so susceptible to the change in the volume of the load. Many

governmental employees are carried on the payrolls through slack periods. The aspect of economy has, however, a far deeper significance than would be implied by the mere consideration of the cost of architectural services. It is in the adoption of modern methods of specification, modern use of materials and modern processes of construction that savings in the cost of the completed building would accrue. Bureaus become rigid and fixed in their methods, and are apt to be oblivious of change. They cannot easily, nor are they obliged to, take into consideration the current building economies with which the private practitioner is forced to reckon. Therefore, the excess cost of Federal building construction, due to bureaucratic methods of design and specifications must far outweigh any fancied economies attributed to such methods. The real saving in the governmental building budget is not to be made through the paring of fees, but through the use of alert, up-to-date and competent methods of design and building.

"As to the third point, viz., the propriety of governmental competition with private business or professional initiative, we can only say that this cannot be justified under our present ideal of government. If the government of the future is to take over every function of the individual, every activity of the professional and business man, so that we will all be but cogs in the wheels of one gigantic bureaucracy, that is another matter. Meantime, however, we as architects, protest the discrimination against our profession, as do many other groups against similar discrimination. If it is proper for the government to design its own Federal buildings, it is no less proper and logical for the government to set up a huge construction bureau to build them; and by the same process of reasoning, to take over quarries, mills and manufacturing plants for the fabrication of building materials."

During the summer, the Committee on Public Works was represented at Hearings held by the Shannon Committee created to investigate the competition of the government with private enterprise. The Shannon Committee has rendered its report,

and this report contains a section advocating centralization of architectural and engineering activities of the Treasury, War, Navy and other Departments and the Veterans' Bureau, so as to eliminate, as far as possible, competition with private architects and engineers. This phase of the subject has brought the profession much support from the public generally, and from business men and tax payers throughout the country. Our main arguments, however, have always been based on more important grounds than these, as may be noted from the statement addressed to President-elect Roosevelt.

The Board of Directors of the Institute, and the Committee on Public Works take this occasion to thank the Chapters for their effective and cordial cooperation. We have been able to convince the Treasury Department that we present a united front as a profession, and that our aims are endorsed by the entire building industry. It is also proper to state here that the Treasury Department has acknowledged the wisdom and desirability of utilizing the services of outside architects, and has expressed itself as highly gratified by the results.

Never, at any period in the history of the country, have so many members of our profession been commissioned to design important Federal buildings. The appointments made by the Treasury Department have, in the main, been good, and the relations of the Department with these architects have been cordial and cooperative. The present Federal Building Program, the greatest in magnitude and extent in the history of the country, has placed enormous burdens on the shoulders of the Assistant Secretary in Charge of Public Buildings, the Acting Supervising Architect and his Staff. All of these are entitled to much credit for their achievements in the face of enormous difficulties. The Department has been overwhelmed and has grown to such enormous proportions that delays and division of authority have seemed to be unavoidable. And this is just another reason for asking the new administration to undertake its modification by simplifying its routine and releasing it from the major part of architectural design.

Endorsements for Federal Appointments

THE Institute has received many letters from Chapters and Members, with regard to two Federal positions which are of great importance to the architectural profession.

One is that the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in Charge of Public Buildings. The present incumbent, Major Ferry K. Heath, has exercised in a large degree the provision of the Keyes-Elliott legislation, which makes discretionary the employment of

private architects for the designing of Federal buildings. Although Major Heath was opposed in principle to the mandatory requirement for the employment of private architects, as contained in the Institute's proposed legislation, he has proved to be an able and impartial administrator of the difficult position which he occupies.

Under the procedure of our form of party government, it is assumed that a new Assistant Secre-

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tary of the Treasury in Charge of Public Buildings, will be appointed by Mr. Roosevelt when he becomes President.

There are a number of candidates, both active and receptive, for this position. The policy of the Institute, which is of long standing, can be briefly stated, to the effect that as a national organization it cannot with propriety advocate the appointment of any particular individual to a governmental position.

The Executive Committee, at its meeting in November, reaffirmed this policy and at the same time expressed the view that the Assistant Secretary of the Treasury in Charge of Public Buildings, should be a man of outstanding experience in building construction, and sympathetic with its problems.

With respect to the position of Supervising Architect, which has been vacant for a number of years, the Executive Committee expressed the view that

the position should be filled by an architect of recognized ability and experience.

However, and with reference to both of these positions, there is no impropriety in members of the Institute, as individuals, advocating or endorsing men whom they believe to be qualified to discharge the duties involved.

While the Institute has refrained from making individual endorsements, it has, through its officers, addressed communications to men in the council of the incoming administration in which was pointed out the significance of these appointments to the construction industry as a whole, and to the advancement of architecture in the United States. The administration was urged to find men eminently qualified for the two places, in experience, in background, and in comprehension of the significance of their duties to the public, to the construction industry, and to the advancement of architecture.

The "Renovize Philadelphia" Plan

Nature and Scope of Campaign

THE *Renovize Philadelphia Campaign* contemplates an intensive community effort to promote the repair, modernizing and remodeling of residences and business properties in the metropolitan Philadelphia district. The renovizing work will be of distinct financial advantage to property owners and to banks and financial institutions that have a real stake in realty values, and at the same time it will provide employment and stimulate business.

The necessity for organizing a concerted community campaign was recognized several months ago by the Executive Committee of the Philadelphia Federation of the Construction Industry which comprises the principal trade associations of the building industry in this district. Since then, this movement has been enthusiastically endorsed by the Housing and Mortgage Financing Committee of the Third Federal Reserve District, under the Chairmanship of William A. Law, President of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance Company. Mr. Law has generously agreed to serve as General Chairman of the *Renovize Philadelphia Campaign*. At a special luncheon called by Mr. Law on October 17, 1932, several hundred civic, community and trade organizations unanimously endorsed the campaign, thus insuring its recognition as a community project of definite value to the hundreds of thousands of property owners in metropolitan Philadelphia.

Predicated on the success which similar campaigns in other metropolitan cities in United States have enjoyed, the united support of hundreds of trade, civic and community organizations lends encourage-

ment to the belief that millions of dollars of modernization work can be obtained during the designated period of the campaign. Of this total amount, careful estimates by the Department of Commerce at Washington indicate that at least 75% will be paid directly and indirectly to all classes of labor in metropolitan Philadelphia and thus serve as a direct and effective means for relieving unemployment.

Method of Conducting Campaign

The metropolitan district of Philadelphia has been subdivided into geographic divisions to which technically trained groups of volunteer solicitors coming from the membership of interested civic and trade organizations and under the guidance of competent captains and lieutenants, have been assigned for a house-to-house canvass.

This canvass of every home and business property owner in Philadelphia was conducted during the month of January, 1933.

The home owner or mortgagee is asked to indicate on a signed pledge card the amount of money which he reasonably believes he can see his way clear to spend in repairing and modernizing his home or business property; hence the pledges of work to be done and money to be expended therefor will be made for specific items and in specific amounts. To be certain that the owners of homes and business properties have fulfilled their original pledges as indicated on the signed pledge card, a comprehensive follow-up procedure will extend over a six-months' period.

The property owner or mortgagee is urged to have the work done through contracting firms in

his neighborhood. In fact, the guiding principle of the campaign is to have this work done through the regular channels of business without favoring any particular trade group or individual contracting firm. Thus the momentum of this community-wide campaign for repair and modernization work benefits every business firm in Philadelphia.

To aid the property owner in the solution of his particular problem, there has been set up an Architecture and Engineering Bureau to give preliminary architectural and engineering advice and to assemble exhibits to assist home owners and others to visualize modern building methods, as well as a Construction Bureau to give advice on estimates and letting of contracts thereunder. This architectural, engineering and construction advice and counsel definitely is of a preliminary nature and only for the purpose of enabling the property owner to reach a decision to proceed with the renovize work; it does not include plans, working drawings and specifications, and therefore does not interfere with the regular services of the architect and engineer.

Economic Benefits of Campaign

The economic benefits of such a campaign are manifold. Repair and modernization work can now be done at considerable saving over prices that have existed for more than fifteen years. Various labor groups in the construction industry have already en-

dorsed the plan and have indicated their willingness to cooperate by doing the work involved at wage rates that take cognizance of the terrific depression existing in the construction industry. This means that the wages for all building craftsmen will not be bound by rigid group restrictions, but for union as well as for non-union artisans wages for work performed under the *Renovize Philadelphia Campaign* will be entirely flexible and consistent with the crying need for employment. Moreover, there is substantial evidence that material prices are stiffening and if construction work is delayed too long, the property owner will lose the advantage of existing low price levels.

It is freely admitted that property owners generally have deferred necessary repairs and replacements because of a mistaken notion that the expenditure of money on their property would be criticized as extravagant in these days when so much stress has been laid upon the reduction of expenses. As a consequence, many properties have become dilapidated and out-of-date.

Property in need of repair rapidly depreciates in value while property in good condition possessing modern facilities will command higher sale prices and rentals. Idle property is a direct drain upon the resources of property owners. Experience has shown, definitely and positively, that if unoccupied buildings are reconditioned and modernized this loss can be turned into a gain.

In Times Like These

By BENJAMIN F. BETTS, A.I.A.

A RECESSION in business is not new to members of the older generations. They know that history is merely repeating itself. To the younger men it is a new experience. But all are learning lessons in business and thrift which, if they are wise, will stand them in good stead in the years to come. Everyone is faced with new problems and temptations and many listen to the dolorous words of the pessimist.

Among other things, architects have learned the danger of excessive office overhead and the importance of building a financial reserve when business is good. Some will remember this when business improves.

A danger to be guarded against in times like these is the possible let-down in professional ethics. Many are no doubt tempted to cut fees, make free sketches and enter into practices that are harmful to the individual as well as to the profession as a whole. As morale is weakened, high ideals are endangered. To maintain high ideals and regard for professional ethics requires considerable moral courage. This is essential right now.

In times like these the pessimist finds willing listeners when he forecasts that everything is "going to the dogs," including the existence of the architectural profession. Statements are made that standardization will no longer provide a place for architects. This might deeply concern architects if human beings, physical environment, construction and design could be standardized. Human beings accepts standardization up to a certain point. After that they insist upon remaining individuals. Environment certainly can not be standardized. Building construction has been largely standardized. Further standardization—admitted as desirable—will have no adverse effect on the demand for architectural service. As a matter of fact, standardization has greatly simplified the work of the architect and he should assume his proper place in relation to it. In the matter of buildings, standardization of certain types is possible and economically desirable. Recognizing this fact, architects can well assume the responsibility of seeing that they are well designed.

The pessimist complains that the profession is

overcrowded. He forgets that every line of human endeavor is overcrowded at the bottom and that there is plenty of room at the top. Do not take him too seriously.

Times like these demand clear thinking, a return to fundamentals and a readjustment to new conditions. They require the preservation of professional

ethics and high ideals so that the profession of architecture may not retrogress. It is a time for self-analysis so that one may profit from mistakes of the past. In times like these men learn new things; dreamers are brought back to earth; the wheat is separated from the chaff.

(From "The American Architect.")

The Value of Organized Effort

By HAROLD H. DAVIS, *President of the Connecticut Chapter*

An Address by President Davis at the recent Annual Meeting of the Connecticut Chapter

THE address of the President in the past has been, as I recall, devoted to the accomplishments of the past and a forecast of the future. Inasmuch as our able program committee has arranged an excellent program of talks to be presented subsequently at this meeting dealing with our hopes or possible misgivings for the future, I prefer to call to your minds the Institute's standing and what it has done for our profession. This thought was brought to my attention recently by a reply I received to an invitation which was extended an unaffiliated architect to consider Institute membership. He stated that he must decline the invitation as a matter of principle because he opposed the endorsement of the Architect's Small House Service Bureau by the Institute. This architect sees only one phase of the Institute's work and because he does not approve of its policy on this particular endeavor, he loses sight of all other constructive work undertaken by the Institute.

The American Institute of Architects is not without its faults and no one expects it to be letter perfect; however, we should all stop for a moment and consider where our profession would stand today in the building industry and what the practice of architecture would be like were it not for the standards effected by the Institute.

One has to but testify before a court of law to discover how readily the documents and standards of the Institute are accepted as customary practice and the basis for settlement of claims having to do with the practice of architects.

Unaffiliated architects, such as the one to whom I previously referred, lose sight of the fact that in their own office probably ninety per cent of the documents they use and which protect their practice legally and professionally have been compiled by the personal efforts of members of our Institute. How readily such an architect would quote from the documents to save his own reputation! In some states where registration laws exist, I am told, membership in the Institute is ample qualification for registration and because of the care with which members are chosen the public might well accept A. I. A. membership as exemplifying a competent architect, in states where no registration law exists.

The architect, we will all agree, needs more publicity and a better understanding of his services by the lay public; and he needs it badly. However, much has been done in recent years to help inform the public of our wares and we are indebted to the Public Information Committee for this help. Perhaps some of you have seen the copy of a bank advertisement appearing in a San Francisco paper in which this bank publicly acclaims the work of the San Francisco architects and the city's indebtedness to them. This is an outstanding example of the progress being made in publicity in which much credit is due the Publicist of the Institute and also the various chapter committees.

The various codes covering proper charges, competitions, etc., of the Institute have always been our guidance in establishing the standards by which we, as well as many unaffiliated architects, deal with our fellow architects and clients.

In the field of education, the Institute is doing much; scholarships have been established, students encouraged by medal awards in each of the recognized architectural schools, and medal awards are made each year for fine craftsmanship and distinguished achievement in some one of the allied arts.

There is much more that could be said and many reasons advanced as to why we should be proud of the accomplishments of the Institute and, today more than ever before, the architects of this country need the Institute—for certainly no other organization is prepared to fight their battles for them.

It is the humble opinion of your President that changes in some of the fundamentals of our practice are not far distant and the architects must be alert and prepared to meet these changes. The architect maintains a difficult position in being a professional man, and at the same time serving his clients interests in many commercial enterprises. These things affect our whole future course, and may by necessity change our whole set-up. After all, an office employing three or four hundred men certainly takes on the aspect of big business rather than a profession usually thought of as the practice of an individual.

In closing, I wish to call your attention to the fact that this is the thirtieth year of our Connecticut Chapter. The past speaks for itself, the future is what we will make it.

The Schools and the New Architecture

By GEORGE HERBERT GRAY, *Director, New England Division, A.I.A.*

NOTE: This article was prepared as the opening paper in a forum on the subject of education in a New England Regional Conference planned to have been held last Fall, but postponed. The deans of the Schools of Architecture in Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Yale, and Harvard were invited to give papers in rebuttal, following which there was to have been a general discussion. It is the author's hope some of the deans may avail themselves of these columns to reply and that others may not be reticent. G. H. G.

MANY efforts are being made to produce buildings which will be expressive of our age of new developments in building and of a new independence in thought; but of these efforts only a few are successful, and the many are, by common consent, failures and often prodigious failures. These haphazard efforts, traced to their source, seem to lead us directly to our schools of architecture as the chief training ground of the architects; and the schools, if my diagnosis is correct, fail to equip the student, the architect-to-be, with the necessary facts and the necessary habits of thought to cope rationally with any radically new problem. If this be true the many unsuccessful efforts at modernism are but a symptom of this defect in the schools and it is to the cause rather than to the symptom that this paper is addressed.

The public is an interested onlooker of our architectural efforts, and centers its interest on what happens to be in the spotlight, which, at present, happens to be "Modernism". Those of the public have not technical training and experience cannot judge to what extent the spotlight may be showing the movement in its true colors or to what extent in deceptive colors—whether for favor or for flattery. The young architect is in the same quandary, especially since tradition no longer carries authority and since such leading modernists as Mr. Kahn and Mr. Frank Lloyd Wright have come to blows. Is it not time to ask just what is it that may be lacking in our schools?

The General Situation—An Emergency

Before attempting to answer this question, let us run quickly over the whole situation. First of all it is pretty generally agreed that, viewed historically, we are in a period of transition, and some think a major period, fully as significant as the renaissance which followed the middle ages. Architecturally it involves fundamental elements, new types of construction comparable to the Gothic. Back of this transition, as the basic cause, is the advance of science. Science has developed new building materials and new building methods, and has radically changed the daily life of man within his habitations and in his entire environment. By many it is claimed that this development in all other fields of science calls for a parallel development in the habitations of men, a development more radical than has so far been made. How and by whom shall these changes be brought about?

In the affairs of man changes come about both by revolutionary processes and by evolutionary processes. In the realm of biology, at least in the development of new types, there is no permanence in sudden changes; only gradual evolutionary changes are permanently transmitted from generation to generation. Human habitations are a biological function of man, "homo sapiens". So in the realm of architecture we find that in the past all lasting changes have come about by evolutionary processes, by force of circumstances operating over a considerable period of time. Yet in this age, when invention has progressed to the point where time and space are reduced to a small fraction of their former measure, may we not with reason expect that even the evolutionary process will move in strides so great that decades will measure changes such as in the past were measured by centuries? If so there is an educational emergency to be met, and no time to lose.

Youth is ever ready to enlist in a cause where there is the stimulation of new realms to conquer. The youth of the profession are now moving toward a new frontier under a banner emblazoned with the word "Progress", but unfortunately that youth includes green and inexperienced recruits. Only under adequate and experienced leadership can the region of "progress" be reached. Stern experience teaches us that it were far better if this youth could but have right and sufficient training, in intimate contact with building operations, if it would make the architecture of its day reflect both the building technique and the life of its own times. As it is, the youthful efforts are too often the fantasma of an abstract philosophy, working through the medium of a drafting room technique.

The life of these times is particularly shifting and unstable. In the general state of flux of a transitional period, the younger architect and all architects must endeavor to discern those trends which will persist, those elements which will crystallize into accepted usage. The better he knows the past and the influences which have played their part in establishing the traditions and usages which have prevailed up to the beginning of this transitional period, the better will he judge which of them are liable to endure and which to pass; the better he knows current history and the influences which are changing history, the better will he discriminate between the transient and the enduring. The better he understands the fundamental facts of human na-

ture, of man as a biological being and man as a psychic being, the better will be his judgment of the outgrowth of the civilization of our time. It is a big bill of knowledge and understanding to exact, but I hold, and submit to the schools for their judicial consideration, that it is essential to a sound appraisal of present trends. The older men have the advantage of a greater accumulation of knowledge and observation; the younger men have the advantage of a fresh viewpoint, unbiased by tradition. But old and young should, in all fairness, agree that both the younger men and the older men have their important contributions to make in the solution of the problems of their day. The great danger is that any should be too cock-sure of his own independent judgment. Team-work of many and varying minds is what is most needed; but even this will not eliminate the final responsibility for individual judgment. That judgment should be soundly informed.

Suggested Changes in the Basic and Technical Training

That the following comments and suggestions are not applicable equally to all the schools, I fully recognize. Nevertheless I submit that if the outgoing students are adequately to cope with a new age, the curricula must include not only a knowledge of the facts and methods of the sciences, of physics, chemistry and biology but a broad and comprehensive knowledge of the history of civilization, with its economic and political changes. Particularly would I suggest emphasis of a knowledge of those comprehensive biological principles dealing with organization as evolved under many varying conditions; for it is under these that man has developed to his present state, which requires habitations of such highly specialized kinds. I would also suggest a practical knowledge of the fundamentals of psychology, and of what is basic in aesthetics, particularly in our taste for color and for form and for all other things emotional and artistic.

In the matter of design, the older generation of our architects, as a group, have concerned themselves largely with the adaptation of old forms to new occupational conditions and new building methods and by this more gradual evolutionary process have produced many noteworthy buildings; but it is only now that they, in any numbers, are becoming conscious that the old forms are often only relics of conditions which are fast passing and no longer in the program. Even though the architect might have wished otherwise, public taste has largely demanded adherence to familiar forms. But recently the public has become aware of other possibilities. Sympathetic direction under judicious informed leadership is a crying need. Likewise the younger generation of architects, and those in years older, but in spirit young, launching into an era of new material surroundings and new ideas, seek new standards. Without an educational background of a more

reasoned character and involving better training in their habits of thinking, they are in as hopeless a state of chaos as is the average "statesman" in the present depression, and for the same reason—a lack of knowledge of broad basic principles and training in thorough unbiased thinking.

To this general basic education must be added technical education of a sort consonant with the times. If we are to judge how to discriminate between new materials and old materials under new names and in new packages, how to handle entirely new materials (or the old materials in new forms) and new methods of building, then it would be well in the teaching of the history of architecture to place greater emphasis on the influence of the new materials which from time to time through the ages became available and were different in the different parts of the world; more emphasis on the influence of new implements and new mechanical developments which from age to age became available—from wood to masonry, to bronze, to iron and to glass and all the other later synthetic materials; from tools of stone to tools of bronze and of iron and of steel, and to electricity itself, for the cutting and welding of metals; from the skids and fulcrums of the Egyptians to the derrick of later time, and the hoists of today, variously powered. The history of architecture must be taught not simply for the results recorded in the various styles, but as the outgrowth of definite and known conditions, as the by-product of civilization in the various stages of its evolution. So taught the history of architecture loses all semblance of archaeology and becomes the study of a vital process, which has been continuous since the dawn of civilization and is active today—advances to new heights possible to each generation. Beauty loses none of its inspiration when its causes and its purposes are known. The science and intellect of Leonardo made his appreciation and his art no less subtle and inspired; the rational design of Sullivan did not leave his work cold, nor did Goodhue's carefully reasoned solution for the Nebraska State Capitol make of it an uninspired thing—rather was the reasoning of these men of genius the sound basis of their inspiration. Such is the true procedure.

Suggested Changes in the Teaching of Design

In the teaching of actual design, for which I have suggested a broad foundation of knowledge and scientific procedure, what changes if any are needed? The realm of architecture is just so much and no more of the realm of building as includes the element of the fine art. The element of the fine art exacts of buildings a pleasing appearance. What constitutes pleasing appearance is not altogether arbitrary. Throughout the ages in all countries however remote, and even today among peoples of all stages of development, there have been and there still are certain common standards of pleasing ap-

pearance, of beauty. The articles of utility and articles of adornment of primitive tribes which were and are most esteemed, have common qualities with those of our most advanced civilization.

The appreciation of beauty and beauty itself is an attribute of the human mind, and the mind, in turn an attribute (however glorified) of the human brain. As long as the brain remains what it is, there is no reason to believe that the fundamental principles of beauty will change. Where there is truth there is integrity (an integer), unity; where there is unity there is harmony; where there is harmony there is beauty and composure—composition. Only means to this end (this unity which is beauty) are those attributes common to all the visual arts: (a) proportion, of mass and of its subdivisions; (b) balance, which may or may not carry with it symmetry; (c) surface treatment, whether modelling, texture, or color. Though the variations of beauty are infinite and inexhaustible, a constant lure to the creative genius of the artist, yet the principles of beauty are constant. Fundamental principles may be taught with assurance of their permanent character.

In the more virile and creative periods of the past, designers in the visual arts got their training by feeding their minds on the beauty and subtlety of the best compositions which their civilizations had accumulated. But, unfortunately, from time to time lesser designers and lesser ages have attempted to derive formulae and precepts from the heritage of the past, and rules of thumb have come to take the place of sound reasoning and discriminating observation—to take the place of the new suggestions and the inspiration inherent in each problem. Creative design has been hedged in by accepted conventions.

At the time of the establishment of modern schools of architecture the principles of classicism had become an established convention, and, in the main, have remained so to this moment. Elementary design is conventionally taught in terms of classic design and details—Why? In part because ages ago a Roman architect who admired Greek architecture, made an analytical study of it and deduced certain mathematical proportions and formula for the various orders. What Vitruvius did in one age, Vignola carried further in another. It is easier to teach by formula than by more fundamental truths and the training of the eye. Any reasonably bright mind can learn mediocrity by formula, but only the gifted and the serious student can have the insight to profit by the broader principles and the discriminating eye. Yet there is just enough of this broader training done to demonstrate that all the formula could be scrapped and the eye, unaided by formula, be trained by photographs or photographically rendered drawings, and by full size or large scale models. Ultimately of course the best examples themselves must be seen, for a work of art

detached from its setting is not the real thing—far less is a model made in another material and at a different scale.

Better Methods at the Ecole Des Beaux Arts

Our American Schools of Architecture in the half century of their existence have grown tremendously in size and even more so in their influence on the general architectural output of the country. This influence has been so great that it is to a very appreciable extent responsible for the rise of American architecture from a state of provincialism and the decadence of the '70's to a highly sophisticated scholarly and often virile art. While as a rule, these schools were based closely or remotely on the methods prevailing at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, which has had a seasoned growth through nearly three centuries, it is nevertheless unfortunately true that certain of its characteristic methods are, in our schools, generally, if not invariably, omitted. I refer most particularly to the method at the Ecole of teaching architecture by bringing the student in contact with actual buildings and the use of buildings—their functions and the structure resulting from the housing of those functions. There, beginning with the analytique, the program is, traditionally, a result of the exposition of certain principles expounded by the professor of the Elements and Theory of Architecture, and reference is made in the program as well as in the lecture to many edifices which were to be visited and studied in three dimensions, and in their daily use. The same method was followed throughout the more advanced work. Also the course was not one to be rushed through at top speed, but followed with mature thought and reflection, and in as many years as one wanted between the ages of 15 and 30. In that time the student did his several years of service in the army, mayhap turned his hand to earning his living, and often settled down to life with a wife. The result of this training is, I think it should in fairness be admitted, that the buildings of the Frenchmen are, whatever other virtues they may lack, usually more logical and more virile in design than those developed in this country, more functional, more structural, more specifically a solution of the problem in hand. Though his scholarship and taste have advanced greatly, the American architect, in proportion to his opportunities, has not shown vast originality or independence.

The American studying at this same Ecole, has too often gone through in the minimum of time, with his interest focused on enmassing the "values" necessary for a "diplome". Despite the more mature years and possibly greater average ability of the comparatively few Americans who have the ambition to go so far for their training, their work, as it seems to me, has had, for the most part, more of imitation and less of reasoning, more of drafting room technique and less of real artistry, more of

borrowed mannerisms and less of originality than the work of his French comrades and contemporaries. I submit to our friends the deans, of the schools of architecture in America, that these very shortcomings have been passed on to the American Schools, and again from the schools into the offices. It is to the correction of these faults that I would urge our friends in the schools to direct their attention. They have made rapid progress to a high level of achievement, but much higher levels are destined to be reached.

Summation of Remedies Suggested

The suggestion which I am bold enough to offer would involve some new work for the faculties and possibly some general reorganization. To sum up, they are: (a) The general adoption of the more virile approach to the study of the history, the elements and the theory of architecture, as outlined in a previous paragraph; (b) so writing the programs of the problems in design that they should dovetail into the lecture courses and the visits to buildings referred to in the lectures; (Time was, in this country, when such would not have been possible, but near our great metropolitan centers that is no longer the case.) (c) in addition to the visits to completed buildings there should be visits of inspection to buildings in process of construction, under the *joint* supervision of the instructors in construction and instructors in design; and (d) problems in design involving advanced methods of construction, under the supervision of the department of con-

struction, but with the *collaboration* of the department of design—thus breaking down the absurd antagonism between the “designer” and the “practical” man. With this training the student should learn to appraise his design, not by the pattern on the paper, but by the building as visualized in his imagination, constructed in three dimensions, set in a specific environment and organized to house definite activities.

In principle, the cure lies in more completely substituting for the old the new educational methods—new in our application though not altogether untried in older countries. The weakness of the drafting room method of teaching design unaided by the intensive study of buildings completed and in process, is that the student gets set in the habit of thinking in two dimensions and his eye is trained to proportions in two dimensions. The use of the models to some extent overcomes this; but the scale of the model is of necessity so small that the study of material is not aided. The qualities of texture, color, light, shade and shadow can be judged only by an intimate study of materials in the building. *Buildings can be successfully designed only in terms of building materials and building methods.* Yet in our schools the study of materials and methods is, broadly speaking, a thing apart from the fine art of designing. Therein lies the fundamental error. When this is corrected, then will come the new American architecture, well reasoned, full of local color and with the mark of the individuality of the designer.

Wren and His Tradition

By SIR EDWIN LUTYENS, R.A.

MANKIND may be divided into two groups—those who appreciate fine architecture and those who do not. It must be regretted that the latter are by far the larger body. Yet for a hundred years after Sir Christopher Wren's death there was an observance of the broad principles he advocated. It is only in comparatively recent times that the art of architecture has become debased. One of the reasons for lack of appreciation of what constitutes order is the current obsession for every kind of undigested inspiration from abroad.

Sir Christopher Wren, a mathematician and an astronomer of great repute, was one of the founders of the Royal Society. At the age of 36 he was appointed Surveyor-General to the Crown. In this capacity he picked up the broken threads of the neo-classic school initiated by Inigo Jones, and out of them he wove a tradition that all true English architects respect. The classic grammar, systematized and tabulated by a sequence of Italian masters, appealed to his acute and accurate mind. Hence the scale of rhythm of his inventive creations. Thomas Carlyle, who passed Chelsea Hospital every day for some 20 years without noticing it, one day looked

up and discovered its parade of chimneys and wide-spaced pavilions, its dignified lay-out and elegant gate piers, to remark that it was evidently the work of a great gentleman.

In the musical sense Wren's pitch was low, neither unnatural nor forced above necessity. He kept in reserve the features of tower or dome to express the presence of God in cathedral, church, and chapel. Reporting on the project of building some fifty churches in the city of London, he wrote that “plainness and durability ought principally, if not wholly, to be studied”. The importance of this cannot be under-estimated, for the word “studied” distinguishes all that Wren attempted in building. As he gained experience he used traditional forms with skill, and was original without capitulation. An instance of his characteristic versatility may be seen in the State Rooms at Hampton Court, where, observing the traditional ratios as between architrave and opening, he yet maintained a unity of scale in their varying members.

* * * *

Today true architecture is almost overwhelmed with every kind of specious inspiration from abroad.

There is far too much verbal criticism, far too many attempts to found a new style every day. Brickwork treated in horizontal lengths and cemented to look like reinforced concrete, plywood panelling, and tin plates attached to ironwork, are among the foibles of the new mode. Had the Wren tradition been continued from the eighteenth century, free of revivals and experiments with exotic styles, the art of architecture would now be in a different case.

It is not difficult to visualize how Wren would have met and solved the problems of our time. He would have accepted the girder, the stanchion, the concrete beam, and all the mysteries of reinforcement. He would have banned surface cement, as will be the universal procedure say, fifty years hence. He would have banned all *ersatz* materials as being ungodly. He would have made models to try out his effects of mass on the greater scale demanded by increased spans and taller buildings. He would have framed new building laws and he would have placed grace before the machinations of functionalism. The difference of outlook between these progressive days

and the times in which Wren lived and work is to be regretted.

There seems to exist a total disregard of what constitutes seemly building. The architectural critic, the technical papers, and the architectural societies appear to be in the conspiracy to make architecture the Cinderella of the arts. On the one hand there is the pious hope that the design of factories will stimulate the design of cathedrals. In another direction there is the equally inane policy of *laissez faire*. No juster comparison exists than pure Addisonian English and the semi-literate jargon that attempts to describe the ideals of the modernist. I am not advocating any form of copyism in writing this accusation of the shortcomings which are so palpable. My contention is that Wren's work is in a class by itself, that the principles of the tradition he founded during a long and useful life are too profound to be lightly disregarded, that the sooner specious teaching is replaced by sounder methods the better.—*London Times*.

Gold Medal Award—Better Homes Competition

THE gold medal for the prize-winning design in the 1932 Better Homes in America Small House Architectural Competition was presented by President Hoover at the White House at 12:30 on Wednesday, February 15, to Royal Barry Wills of Boston.

The Jury on Awards was composed of Dwight James Baum, chairman, New York; Edward L. Palmer, Baltimore; Horace W. Peaslee, Washington; Philip N. Stern, Fredericksburg, and Waddy B. Wood, Washington. Following are extracts from the report of the Jury:

The Jury makes one award of a gold medal for the 1932 Better Homes in America Small House Architectural Competition, in the one-and-a-half story class, to Royal Barry Wills, Architect, of 3 Joy Street, Boston, Massachusetts, for the house of Maurice A. Dunlavy, Esq., at Brookline, Massachusetts. The Jury feels that this house shows great charm, expresses the spirit of the locality in which it is built, and that it has fine scale and composition and shows a good use of materials. It has an air of domesticity and shows great care in the manner in which all detail has been brought together. There is a good frank use of chimneys and a fine handling of the entrance terrace. The plan is compact and well-arranged. There is a fine relation of rooms, combined with economical and efficient circulation. The library is arranged with real privacy. The service portions are well arranged. The second floor hall occupies the minimum amount of space, and yet this small house has ample sized rooms.

An honorable mention is also given in this same class to the house submitted by Charles S. Keefe, of

New York, which is owned by John J. Farrell, of Darien, Connecticut. This house is a fine handling of a small structure and shows good proportions and simple mass.

In the one-story class, honorable mention was placed first for the residence of Leland F. Fuller, of Santa Monica, California, who is both the owner and architect. This house also shows simplicity in mass and composition, and the architect has expressed in his own home individuality and character with resulting great charm.

Honorable mention was also awarded in the one-story class for the house of Dr. Seeley G. Mudd, in Sandyland Cove, Santa Barbara County, California, by the architect Ralph C. Flewelling, of Beverly Hills, California. This is a successful solution of a special problem and shows good handling of a long narrow site without the feeling of being crowded between its close adjoining neighbors.

In the two-story house class an honorable mention placed first was awarded to the house of Dr. Alister Mackenzie, Pasatiempo Estates, near Santa Cruz, California, designed by William Wilson Wurster, Architect, of San Francisco, California.

Honorable mentions in the two-story class were also awarded to the following:

To the house in Newtown, Connecticut, designed by William Webb Sunderland, Architect, of Danbury, Connecticut.

To the house of Rollin C. Chapin, owner and architect, of Minneapolis, Minnesota.

To the house of Miss Anna B. Van Nort, of Croton Heights, New York, designed by Miss Elisabeth Coit, Architect of New York.

A Vote on Historic Buildings

By MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATES OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

To the Members:

In foreign countries where Architecture is a national concern, historic monuments are listed and cared for by the state. Here, where democracy leaves cultural affairs largely to public whim, it is proper for the Architects organized in a national body to assume the leadership of popular interest in preserving important monuments of our past.

The first step in any general campaign for preservation is obviously the investigation of what and where our historic buildings are, and why they should be subjects for public consideration. But except for a few favored localities where surveys have already been made, no lists of the buildings which might be properly classified as historic monuments are yet available. It is up to us to make them.

With the widely distributed membership of the Institute, there should be no great difficulty in preparing a reasonably complete general survey of the more important buildings, if all members will assist.

To make the work as easy as may be, this sheet has been printed in the form of a nomination blank. It is requested that every member of the Institute fill out this sheet to the best of his ability and judgment, whether he considers that he knows anything of early American architecture or not.

As specific guidance it is suggested that each member consider primarily the district, city, county, or chapter area, in which he lives, rather than that in

which he has his office, so as to avoid excessive duplication of lists from large cities and neglect of country districts. Vote only for buildings in your own Chapter area.

As to date limits, it is suggested that only buildings at least a century old be considered, for the Atlantic seaboard; and that nothing later than 1850 be listed in any part of the country. Architectural importance is not essential if a building has a notable historic interest, and vice versa.

It would be well to list seven buildings if possible. A shorter list will be entirely acceptable, however, or a longer one on an added page if desired.

All lists should be mailed to the Chairman of the Committee on Preservation of Historic Monuments; Leicester B. Holland, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C., by the last day of March at the latest. The returns will be grouped by chapters, and sent to the chapter members of the committee, for comparison and compilation of regional lists. These regional lists will be sent back to Washington for final combination by the Chairman in a national list, subdivided under states and cities.

The committee is undertaking a good deal of work in this job; please do your bit to help, and be sure to sign your ballot.

LEICESTER B. HOLLAND, *Chairman,*

Committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings.

VOTE ONLY FOR BUILDINGS IN YOUR CHAPTER AREA AS INSTRUCTED ABOVE

(Buildings need not be listed in order of merit)

Fill in as much as you can

Building No. I	Building No. II
Name and Type of Building:	Name and Type of Building:
Name of Architect:	Name of Architect:
Date of Erection:	Date of Erection:
Original Owner:	Original Owner:
Present Owner:	Present Owner:
Architectural interest:	Architectural interest:
.....
.....
Historic interest:	Historic interest:
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.....
Location (City, Village, or County)	Location (City, Village, or County)
.....

A Vote on Historic Buildings—continued

Building No. III

Name and Type of Building:

Name of Architect:

Date of Erection:

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Architectural interest:

Historic interest:

Location (City, Village, or County)

Building No. IV

Name and Type of Building:

Name of Architect:

Date of Erection:

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Architectural interest:

Historic interest:

Location (City, Village, or County)

Building No. V

Name and Type of Building:

Name of Architect:

Date of Erection:

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Architectural interest:

Sign Below and Mail to Leicester B. Holland, Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

Name of Architect: Institute Chapter:

Address:

Buildings nominated are in the states of.....

Buildings No. V—continued

Historic interest:

Location (City, Village, or County)

Building No. VI

Name and Type of Building:

Name of Architect:

Date of Erection:

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Architectural interest:

Location (City, Village, or County)

Building No. VII

Name and Type of Building:

Name of Architect:

Date of Erection:

Original Owner:

Present Owner:

Architectural interest:

Location (City, Village, or County)

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The Structural Service Department

F. LEO SMITH, TECHNICAL SECRETARY

Devoted to the advancement of knowledge of materials, methods of construction, and equipment for buildings, and to a better understanding of the art and science of architecture.

Joint Committee on Standard Specifications for Concrete and Reinforced Concrete.

Institute participation in the work of the Joint Committee on Standard Specifications for Concrete and Reinforced Concrete is now assured through acceptance of membership on that committee and appointment of five Institute representatives. John C. Bollenbacher, Chicago; Paul W. Norton, Boston; Arthur T. North, New York; Clarence A. Jensen, Chicago; and F. Leo Smith, Washington, have been designated by President Ernest J. Russell to serve in that capacity.

The Joint Committee is composed of five representatives from each of the following:

- American Society of Civil Engineers
- American Society for Testing Materials
- American Railway Engineering Association
- American Concrete Institute
- Portland Cement Association
- American Institute of Architects.

This Committee is the successor of the Joint Committee on Concrete and Reinforced Concrete which was organized in 1904. Progress reports were issued in 1909 and 1912 and the Committee adopted a final report to the constituent organizations in 1916. This report was not intended for use as a specification but was recommended for use as a basis for specifications.

The present Joint Committee is charged with the preparation of Specifications for Concrete and Reinforced Concrete and in preparing these specifications is using the report of the former Joint Committee as a basis, with such modifications as may be necessary to make its recommendations agree with current practice. New data will be included where required to cover advances in the art.

The work of the Joint Committee is carried on very largely through nine subcommittees to which have been assigned specific subjects. These working committees, with the 1916 report as a basis, will undertake the preparation of specifications for that portion of the work which properly falls within the scope of its specific assignment. This does not mean that the Committee report will be a revision of the previous report. It has already been determined to include three general sections—one on recommended practice, one on specifications and one giving data supporting the recommendations and specifications. Considerable progress along these lines has already been made by the Committee.

American Standards' Association Committee on Ventilation.

The controversy between hygienists and ventilating engineers with reference to prevailing practice and existing standards for the ventilation of buildings is of many years standing. Up to the present time the medical and engineering professions have not been in agreement as to the fundamentals involved for adequate protection of public health, and little progress has been made in the solution of the difficulty.

A technical committee, to function under the procedure of the American Standards Association and sponsored by the American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers, is being organized for the purpose of establishing a national standard for ventilation. The American Institute of Architects has accepted membership on this committee. Walter R. McCornack, of Cleveland, Ohio, has been appointed to represent the Institute, and the Technical Secretary of the Structural Service Department will serve as his alternate.

Through this committee an opportunity will be afforded to determine the factors which must be considered in maintaining the health, comfort and safety of the occupants of buildings as affected by ventilation, and the mechanical methods for accomplishing this purpose.

Air Conditioning.

The problems of filtration, humidifying, dehumidifying, heating, washing, cooling and purifying air in order to make it fit for human consumption engaged the attention of the Illinois Society of Architects at a recent meeting. The purpose of the assemblage, as advertised, was to dispel the confusion surrounding this subject and clear up the many questions perplexing architects out of work or out after work.

The engineers captured our sincerest admiration by the deft manner in which they toyed with thermostats, ductostats and humidistats. The contractors intrigued our deepest interest with their manipulation of solenoids, paranoids and schizoids. But both of them left us with nothing but aching voids when the subject veered to the matter of costs. Floundering around in a sea of bewilderment, the architects cried out desperately but vainly for a lifeline of understanding in the form of cost data, but nary a datum was there.

How much does it cost? Well does the architect realize the portent of those five fateful words. They compose the first question the client asks of his architect and their answer is the last thing said client ever forgets—especially if the final cost is not in agreement therewith.

Accurate cost data is absolutely essential to the architect. Rapid methods for making preliminary approximations of cost are just as vital. Conditioned air is no exception to the general run. The very fact that it is rapidly coming into popularity, furnishes the more potent reason for the necessary basic data. If the engineers and the contractors fail us, there is only one source of information left. We must turn to the politicians. They are experts on air, though much of it lacks any conditioning.—(*Tirrell J. Ferrenx, A.I.A., in the "Monthly Bulletin, Illinois Society of Architects."*)

Steel Columns Incased in Brick Walls.

The steel columns in a building are usually designed to carry the entire loads to which they are subjected without taking into consideration the possible strengthening effect of the solid masonry walls in which they are incased. Lack of definite, authoritative information on the relative strengths of bare and incased steel columns led to a study of this subject by the Bureau of Standards.

Preliminary investigations and tests were made on both bare steel columns and columns incased in brick masonry for the purpose of determining whether, for design purposes, such columns should be considered as structural members which would fail by bending at comparatively low loads, or whether the brick walls could be relied upon to restrain lateral bending thereby permitting higher loads by eliminating or materially modifying the slenderness factor. The possibility of an increase in strength through the partial transfer of load from steel to the incasement by the bond between them was also considered.

Nine steel columns, three bare and six incased in bricks wall sections, were tested. These columns were six inch, Bethlehem H sections at twenty pounds per foot and twenty-three feet in length, the ends of each being machined with a face mill. The brick walls were fourteen inches in thickness, six feet in length and twenty-two feet, four inches in height. The six incased columns were divided into two groups of three each for the purpose of comparing the effect of orientation in the wall. Both bare and incased columns were tested to failure in compression, deflection and compressometer measurements being made on each.

The bare columns failed by bending at the mid-length, but the brick walls prevented the bending of the incased columns, so that failure did not occur until the load was great enough to cause failure of the unincased ends. Measurements made during the

tests showed that the steel in the incased portion of the columns was stressed on the average, less than one-fifth as much as was the steel in the bare columns under the same load. There was practically no lateral deflection of the incased columns during the test.

Results indicate that the incased sections were much stronger than the bare specimens. This may lead to considerable economy in the design of steel frame structures without affecting the safety. These tests, however, represent only one set of conditions in the general problem of the effect of masonry incasement on the strength of steel columns and a more comprehensive investigation will be needed to develop the possibilities of other conditions which may enter into this complicated problem.

With steel columns of this particular size, incased in brick walls of the quality used, the following conclusions were reached:

1. The brick walls effectively prevented lateral buckling of the steel columns so that the maximum compressive load for the structure was, for all practical purposes, the maximum compressive load for the portion of the steel column above the wall, which in turn was, for all practical purposes, the tensile yield point of the steel multiplied by the cross-sectional area of the steel column.

2. The maximum compressive load carried by the short unincased portion of the steel columns was greater than the maximum compressive load carried by the long unincased columns (slenderness ratio 183) which failed by lateral buckling.

3. The lateral deflection of the incased columns was negligible because in no case did it exceed 0.03 inch under the maximum load. The brick masonry showed only small cracks at the top near the steel columns.

4. Over the gage length of 150 inches at mid-height of the incased columns, the steel carried, on the average, less than twenty per cent of the applied load.

5. The orientation of the steel column with respect to the face of the brick wall had no effect upon the strength of the encased columns.

A complete report on this test will be found in the Bureau of Standards, Journal of Research, Vol. 10, No. 1, January, 1933.

Porcelain Enamel—Its History, Manufacture and Use.

Architects have evidenced considerable interest in the architectural applications of porcelain enamel as a finish for buildings. While this is a comparatively new development in the architectural field, it is now considered to be past the experimental stage, according to papers presented by members of the Porcelain Enamel Institute at the January 1933 meeting of the Chicago Chapter of The American Institute of Architects.

While extremely modern in its present day applications, porcelain enameling is a very ancient art. Almost every civilized country has been credited at one time or another with originating enameling, and while definite facts are lacking, some authorities mark Western Asia as its place of origin. Early examples consist mostly of large pieces of jewelry, reliquaries, ornamental pieces, and enamel paintings. In addition to this enameling on metal, the ancient Egyptians and Assyrians achieved some of their greatest work in enameling on pottery and brick.

Early in the Nineteenth Century enameling was brought into use for domestic products and after the usual early difficulties were overcome, the application of enamels to cooking utensils became general. Until fourteen or fifteen years ago, cooking utensils enamel sanitary ware and kitchen ranges were about the only products in which porcelain enamel was used and at that time only about four per cent of the ranges manufactured in the United States were finished in this manner. Today, less than four per cent of the stoves manufactured are not porcelain enameled.

Porcelain enamel is a product made from minerals or inorganic substances including feldspar, kryolith,

fluorspar, soda ash, nitrate of soda, cobalt, nickel oxide and manganese.

The manufacture of porcelain enamel ware is divided into two different processes—first, the manufacture of the raw material, which is done in a large measure by companies specializing in this work—and second, the application of the enamel by companies operating enameling plants for the application and fusing of porcelain enamel on their metal products.

Porcelain enamel steel roofing tile for buildings was one of the first architectural applications of this material. A wall tile which is enameled on both sides and locks itself in plaster is now on the market for both interior and exterior use. An example of this type of tile is to be found on the interior of the International Tunnel between Detroit, Michigan and Windsor, Canada, under the Detroit River. This tunnel, which is over a mile in length, is completely lined with porcelain enamel tile.

Another development in this field is porcelain enamel on steel, backed up with a special mixture of concrete. This is obtainable in any shape or design and affords the architect an opportunity for the use of color.

Exhibition of Housing Projects

AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

THE Special Committee on Housing has available an exhibit of diagrams, photographs and economic statements with regard to twenty or more recent housing projects in this country and abroad. It is on exhibition at the Architectural League in New York until March 11, 1933. The formidable task of preparing this exhibit was undertaken by a Committee consisting of Charles S. Stein, Chairman, Catherine K. Bauer, Secretary, Charles Butler, Robert D. Kohn, William F. Lamb, Lewis Mumford and Ralph T. Walker.

The Committee will try to make this exhibit available for any group in any important city which can give it adequate public exhibition. A route schedule will be prepared starting with March 16th. Several

applications have already been received including one from the Museum of Art in Cleveland.

The cost of preparing the exhibit has been paid for from the special housing fund granted to the Institute by the Carnegie Corporation. Its exhibition in any city will therefore entail no expense upon the locality other than the cost of expressage from the previous exhibition point, the local costs of hanging, etc., insurance, and the repacking and placing on the cars addressed to the following exhibition point.

Application should be made to the Chairman of the Institute's Special Committee on Housing, Robert D. Kohn, 56 West 54th Street, New York.

Notice - Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors

AS President Russell stated in his letter of January 10 to the Membership, the annual meeting of the Board of Directors will be held earlier this year than usual. The opening session will convene at 9:30 A. M., on March 15, at The Octagon.

Any Members or Chapters wishing to address communication to the Board should forward them to the Secretary of the Institute, at The Octagon,

before March 14. Attention is called to the fact that the customary early fall meeting of the Executive Committee will be omitted as a measure of economy, and the only other meeting of the Board during the current year will take place in the latter part of November, or in early December.

The Chairman of all special and standing committees of the Institute have been called upon to submit their final reports, which will be acted upon

by the Board. If funds and space permit, these reports will be summarized in *THE OCTAGON*, accompanied by the Board's resolutions or comments.

At this meeting communications from Chapters and Members with regard to Institute dues, initiation fees, and other phases of the financial problem will be given the most careful consideration before any action is taken on the questions involved. The Board will devote much of its time to the serious financial problem which confronts the Institute, and will try to find ways and means of continuing those fundamental activities which have to do with the welfare of architecture and the architectural profession. Undoubtedly the decisions reached by the Board with respect to the financial situation will be transmitted to every member, either through the pages of *THE OCTAGON* or by means of direct communication.

Among many other important items on the agenda will be the reports of the nine Regional Directors, with regard to conditions in their respective regions; and the report of the Committee on State Societies, Edwin Bergstrom, Chairman, which will complete the details of the Unification program under which the State Societies may be affiliated with the Institute.

One session of the Board will be devoted to making plans for securing legislation from the special session of Congress—which meets in April—the object of which will be to put on a permanent basis the employment of private architects by the Treasury Department. Mr. LaBeaume, Chairman of the Committee on Public Works, will meet with the Board on March 16, and thereafter he will communicate with the Chapters concerning steps to be taken.

Excerpts From Reports of Chapter Presidents

Excerpts from the Reports of Chapter Presidents of the New England, New York and Middle Atlantic Divisions were printed in the December number of THE OCTAGON; those from the South Atlantic, Great Lakes, and Central States Divisions in the January number; and those from the Gulf States, Western Mountain, and Sierra Nevada Divisions are printed in this number. The index printed on pages 27-28 lists the Chapters and the major items covered in these three issues of THE OCTAGON.

Gulf States Division

LOUISIANA CHAPTER—WALTER COOK KEENAN, *President*

Civic Affairs

Following Mr. Eugene Klaber's address at a recent Chapter meeting on new housing projects in connection with loans from the R. F. C., I appointed a committee to go into the matter of the appointment of a housing commission, which will be taken up at the next session of the Louisiana State Legislature.

Membership

Our little chapter is composed of only nine members, and it is difficult to induce the out-of-town members to attend the meetings. However, we have lost no members this year, and in fact, will soon gain one, as his application has been filed.

Art Appreciation

Last week some work was done by a committee in contacting some of the state high school superintendents, who were in convention here. There has been no regular art course in any of the public schools of Mississippi for about ten years past, and we felt it a good opportunity to arouse interest in having this important department reinstated. Very good success was met with, and one prominent superintendent stated he would prepare a paper and read it to the convention next year, bringing out the importance of this work.

Relations with Contractors

A subcommittee of the Chapter has had several meetings with representatives of the General Contractors and sub-contractors, relative to ironing out some of the problems which have confronted both architects and contractors and look into a closer cooperation of all local parties interested in the building industry.

MISSISSIPPI CHAPTER—EMMETT J. HULL, *President*

The artists of the state have given much time and energy to bringing about art appreciation in the schools, and we think perhaps the same thing should be done with regard to architecture. That seems to be our great need in the South—to create an understanding and appreciation of architecture. We discussed this matter at our meeting last week and think perhaps there will be some of us who will arrange to make short addresses to the school children on various phases of architectural appreciation.

Publicity—Assistance Requested

We are really interested in the best method of bringing to the average man and woman an understanding of architectural practice and feel that something should be done without further delay. We should naturally appreciate any suggestions from headquarters, or other Chapters. Do you consider radio the best medium for dispensing such information?

TENNESSEE CHAPTER—WILLIAM CRUTCHFIELD, *President*Membership

Our Chapter like many others has suffered during the past three years through loss of members and income. We have managed however to interest the younger men and have acquired several associate members who will later on become active members.

Meetings

Due to the fact that the Tennessee Chapter is made up of members from Memphis, Nashville,

Knoxville, Chattanooga, and Johnson City, we are able to get together only once a year. The Memphis Division, which is the oldest and largest of the divisions, has a very good, active organization. The Chattanooga Division, though not as large as the one in Memphis, has also a good organization and meets regularly.

Professional Ethics

The Chapter has been instrumental during the past two years in avoiding three very unfair competitions.

NORTH TEXAS CHAPTER—FRANK O. WITCHELL, *President*Meetings

Our Chapter has held regular monthly meetings with the exception of two months during the summer. We have tried very hard to hold our present membership with interesting programs and lectures, and have done our very best to reduce the loss of membership by a very liberal policy in regard to delinquent dues.

Federal Employment of Architects

We endorsed the passage of House Bill H. R. 6187, and its companion bill in the Senate, and had petitions signed by different building organizations, material men and labor unions in our section and sent to our Senators and Representatives from Texas in Washington.

Building Congress

The Chapter has also endorsed and been active

in every move that in any way would stimulate interest in architecture and building in our community. We have endorsed the proposal for a local Building Congress, which is now in the process of formation and which we hope will be beneficial.

New Members

We have made a survey and have been active in trying to induce eligible architects in our territory who are not members of the Institute to become members, but have only been able to secure one new member this year.

Membership and Finances

Our membership at the present time is very small and a number of our members are behind with both their local Chapter dues and Institute dues.

WEST TEXAS CHAPTER—RAYMOND PHELPS, *President*Federal Employment of Architects

The West Texas Chapter reports that its outstanding activity during the year has been an increased and most enthusiastic effort by the members to have all government work in Southwest Texas placed in the hands of private architects. This activity has been carried on through the Treasury Department and also the War Department, in accordance with the general plans and suggestions sent through by Chairman Louis LaBeaume and the general attitude as expressed by the Institute Convention. We may add that our success with the Treasury Depart-

ment although limited has been far greater than our success with the War Department.

Membership

The West Texas Chapter has been guarding against reduction of the number of its members and so far has been very successful in spite of the general absence of architectural activity. The chapter has lost one member through death. There have been no additions to membership but we feel that as soon as conditions show some improvement we will have at least two or three applications from desirable architects.

Western Mountain Division

COLORADO CHAPTER—GEORGE H. WILLIAMSON, *President*Allied Architects Association of Denver

The Chapter is carrying on in spite of the severe handicap of a court decision which invalidated a

contract between the city and the Allied Architects Association for the architectural service on the City and County Building of Denver.

COLORADO CHAPTER—continued

The city is seeking to recover all fees paid to the Association, the amount being \$195,000. This development has frustrated the plan to create a fund for the Chapter and has, of course, been of great discouragement.

Civic Affairs

The Chapter is trying to strengthen its position by urging amendments to city ordinances and more rigid enforcement of the laws—for the employment of architects wherever possible. The Chapter program is to continue activity in all civic matters. It is represented on a Housing Committee of the City Planning Commission, and on the local "Trade Recovery Committee."

MONTANA CHAPTER—CHANDLER C. COHAGEN, PresidentCivic Affairs—R. F. C.

At a conference called by Governor Erickson of Montana, which was held in Helena, September 29, all but one of the members of the Montana Chapter were present. At that meeting the members of the Chapter offered their services either as individuals or collectively to assist the State in a professional capacity in securing funds for self-liquidating projects. Excerpts from the Pacific Builder and Engineer of October 15th are forwarded herewith.

With the help of the Montana State Chapter, A. I. A., the Montana State Board of Education has launched a campaign to obtain funds from the Reconstruction Finance Corporation with which to conduct a million-dollar con-

struction program for the Greater University of Montana.

Finances

The immediate problem is to hold the members in line during these trying times and to balance the Chapter budget in the face of a falling off in the payment of dues.

Attendance

The attendance at meetings remains about normal.

New Members

We hope to add a few new members soon.

If the procedure of the Montana State Board of Education is successful, it may open the way to other institutions to take advantage of present low construction costs.

* * * * *

At the request of Governor Erickson, the architects' committee prepared a plan of cooperation among the members of the Montana Chapter, which will enable them to hand to Governor Erickson completed plans and specifications, schedules of payment and other data necessary for an application for a loan from the R. F. C. within four weeks from the date authorization is given to proceed.

OREGON CHAPTER—HAROLD W. DOTY, PresidentArchitectural Clinic

A "clinic" was established for the education of the Architect, to aid in making his services more valuable to the public.

Publicity

Public Information Committee is preparing to publish a list of 100 outstanding examples of local architecture, and to publicize this work and the work of individual architects.

Cooperation with Local Organizations

Have cooperated with the Oregon Building Congress and Registered Architects of Oregon to strengthen the Architects Practice Law of Oregon and establish a State Building Code.

Have worked for a new Housing Code in the city of Portland.

Aided the Oregon Building Congress in establishing new Chapters outside of Portland.

Civic Affairs

Joined affiliated group of Professional Societies (Oregon State Federation of Professional Societies), to aid in accomplishing desirable legislation.

Aided the election of a member to the City Council.

Aided in the election of a member to the City Planning Commission.

Federal Employment of Architects

Have done everything possible to enlist the support of Green Bill and S. 2956, regarding Federal work. Gained support of many State organizations on behalf of these Bills. Intend to continue our efforts on this matter without let up.

Exhibitions

Have held exhibitions of architectural work

OREGON CHAPTER—continued

in places such as department stores, in order to reach larger numbers of the public.

Meetings

Have popularized our meetings by giving over half of our time to purely social contacts. Have served light refreshments to engender the spirit of comradeship.

Suggested that Chapter meetings be less dignified and straight-laced in atmosphere, giving part of the time to purely social contact with fellow members.

From our experience in the Oregon Chapter, these suggestions are desirable for consideration by other Chapters:

Architect's Clinic

1. "Clinic"—a Chapter forum where papers are read on any and all phases of architectural practice and building construction. Certain members to be assigned subjects; these members to act as leaders at these meetings in regard to the ensuing discussion. The knowledge of all is pooled for the benefit of all, even office practices which have oft times been considered "trade

secrets" are given to the fellow members. Through experience with our Clinic we feel that this is a vital thing in educating the architect.

Publicity

2. Suggest that less mimeographed material be sent to the newspapers for publication. We have been advised by local newspapers that they cannot use this material. Would suggest that the Institute publicist act in advisory capacity only to Chapter committees on public information, bringing out material of live and newsy interest.

Finances

3. The Oregon Chapter has waived Chapter dues since May, due to the financial condition of practically all the members. This move on the part of the Executive Committee was appreciated greatly by the membership.

Presidential Visits

Oregon Chapter hopes that it will be possible to have the President of the Institute visit our region in 1933, as these visits by the President have always been inspirational.

UTAH CHAPTER—LORENZO S. YOUNG, PresidentConditions and Outlook

Conditions here are bad, there being only one or two small buildings under construction. The majority of architects are pessimistic as to the immediate future. On November 3 we called a meeting of all the architects, both members and non-members of the Chapter, to consider matters pertaining to the architects in this State. There were fourteen architects present and a lively discussion was carried on regarding state legislation pertaining to architects; the need for new buildings at our state institutions; for an auditorium in Salt Lake City; and the neces-

sity for the architects getting into the Institute and all pulling together.

Civic Affairs

A Committee was formed to investigate the possibility of having the new legislature, which meets in February, consider appropriations for the buildings needed and to report on any other projects that might be considered.

New Members

All the non-members expressed their desire to become members of the Institute, but felt it impossible to do so at the present time.

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER—J. LISTER HOLMES, PresidentOrganization and Meetings

Because of the large area within the Chapter limits and the difficulty of contact and interest to members outside of Seattle, it has long been the custom to maintain sub-groups in Tacoma and Spokane; the majority of membership reside in Seattle and the executive offices are established there. The Executive Board meets once a week and has virtually a full attendance with the exception of vice-presidents from the sub-groups. Chapter meetings are held monthly (except July and August) on a specified date. A number from Tacoma and close in territory attend these meet-

ings. With the purpose of preserving state solidarity, the President visited the Spokane group in February and the entire Executive Board journeyed to a Tacoma meeting in March. June Chapter meetings are always held in Tacoma. Last month a representative was again sent to Spokane and Tacoma to preserve our contact. The monthly Bulletin serves to do the rest.

Membership

The usual loss of membership through non-payment of Institute dues was bound to occur, although personal visits and study were given

WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER—continued

to each case. Our concern was for the freshman class. Heretofore without much thought given to it, a certain number of younger men eligible to associateship have applied and in due course have developed into Institute material and assumed their share of responsibility in the Chapter. This year there seemed to be an unusual number of particularly eligible young chaps available but for the most part out of employment and therefore out of funds. We answered this situation by suspending the by-laws to the extent of reducing associate dues to five dollars from twenty and as a result, are taking in a number sufficient to offset our loss in dues from existing associates.

Finances

Our income is developed from two sources, dues and the "One in Ten" tax on Seattle firms. The latter, as you may know, is a by-law whereby each firm is taxed one dollar for every ten thousand dollars of work done, with an exemption of \$50,000.00 to ease the burden on the small practitioner. The return from both sources this year promised a total of about fifty percent of normal. At the second meeting this year of the Board we pruned our outgo, balanced our budget accordingly, and put the Ways and Means Committee to work to determine a new source of revenue. We are about to try out the result of their study but in the meantime are carrying on within our income.

Federal Employment of Architects—Washington Architects, Inc.

The formation of Washington Architects, Incorporated seemed to be the answer to both of these points. The purpose of this set up is to design Federal buildings projected for this State under the Emergency Relief Act. It is an altruistic effort to spread this work to the largest

number for the common good. We are making progress, the organization is ready to function, and influence has been brought to bear to have work awarded to it.

Our existing senators and congressmen have long been lined up to back the Institute Federal building design policy. Present candidates for office have also been approached.

Publicity

To stimulate the respect of the public in the proportionate value of the architects' services the Chapter has established a contact with the outstanding newspaper in Seattle and is publishing a series of renderings entitled "Unfinished Business." These rendering are of projects whose execution was either interrupted by the depression or otherwise are contemplated construction in the next ten years. To demonstrate that during the next decade as much or more progress will be made as in the past similar period, there are photographs accompanying the delineations showing the sites or adjoining corners in 1920 and 1930. The series includes fifteen or twenty prepared or in preparation. One is published each week in the rotogravure section of the Sunday edition and four have appeared to date. Copies of this program have been sent to the Chapter sub-groups and to Mr. William Harmon Beers.

Fee Schedule

The Chapter has had printed its own schedule of charges which is higher if anything than the established fee schedule in most sections. We hear of little variation from it amongst members. As a matter of fact, the Chapter is closer to perfect accord in all matters, and relations with each other are more cordial than ever before in its history.

Sierra Nevada Division**NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER—HENRY H. GUTTERSON, President****Meetings: Joint Meetings with Other Organizations**

Holding fast to a conviction that the present times demanded a substitute for the old competitive, individualistic idea of living, I have made some phase of "Cooperation" the theme of each meeting during the last year. Backed by an excellent Board and exceptionally able Committee Chairmen, these meetings have included:

1. A meeting in cooperation with a strong newly-formed Producers' Council Club which includes our strongest, most representative manufacturers.

2. A meeting in cooperation with the American Society of Civil Engineers.

3. A meeting in cooperation with the newly formed local Chapter of the Institute of Interior Decorators.

4. A meeting in cooperation with The Building Congress sponsored by The California State Chamber of Commerce and organized along lines similar to the New York Congress.

5. Two meetings dedicated to cooperation with the newly formed San Francisco Art Commission, and

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER—*continued*

6. Two meetings dedicated to cooperation with the very strong, all-inclusive State Association of California Architects.

Cooperative Support

Aside from these there have been real efforts made to cooperate with and offer leadership in the following movements:

(1) *Public Work Program*.—A. I. A. Program on Federal work and other national activities.

(2) *Unification*.—Unification Program of Institute and State Societies. Our part has been so active here in California as to have won considerable national recognition for the so-called "California Plan."

(3) *Competitions*.—Close follow-up support in untangling all reported unauthorized competitions.

(4) *Roadside Beauty*.—California Council for The Protection of Roadside Beauty, where some of our members are important committee chairmen looking toward state-wide legislation.

(5) *State Examination Board*.—The State Board of Architectural Examiners for which our Education Committee prepared a very valuable and comprehensive Circular of Information for candidates studying for their examinations for a license.

(6) *Employment Bureau*.—The Draughtsmen's Employment Bureau as conducted by the State Association of California Architects.

Honor Award Exhibition

Also, there have been valuable activities as follows:

(1) The Exhibit Committee has staged one of the best Biennial Honor Award Exhibitions ever held in San Francisco which was attended

by about 50,000 people. This Committee also conducted three Small House Exhibitions which were vitalized by lectures and explanatory talks by Architects and representatives of the Department of Commerce.

Publicity

(2) Much of the data developed for the above-mentioned exhibitions was used in maintaining a *Weekly Architecture and Building Page* in San Francisco's leading daily. During its eight months, this page has reached 20,000,000 readers and at the newspaper's rate has carried an equivalent of \$38,000.00 in publicity. It has been initiated and sponsored by our Chapter, edited and completely controlled by an Architect from our ranks. It has claimed very favorable comment from Mr. Grady, Institute Publicist.

Architects' Index and Guide

(3) The Chapter has sponsored through its Standards Committee, an Architects' Index and Guide which is now before the Institute Board for comment before attempting to make of it an annual publication for nation-wide, free, distribution to Architects.

Results

All of these activities have helped to uphold the morale of our membership and our industry locally. The Architects have been given added prestige. Also, actual work has accrued to many through the contacts developed.

Problems—Courageous Optimism

Our problems are not great or unusual. Our meetings are well attended, our members *have plenty of time to serve*; and we anticipate being able to rise with the incoming tide of business on a firmer foundation than ever.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER—LOUIS J. GILL, *President*

The general policy of the Chapter has been to use the unoccupied time, which the depression has so liberally supplied to the members, in civic and organization work.

Activities

(1) The principal thing accomplished was the passage of a new City Building Ordinance. The Chapter's wishes were carried out as to the personnel of the able committee which drafted the ordinance. Two architects not only served on this committee, but were able, in the main, to dictate important parts of the ordinance.

This ordinance now actively enforces the California law as to the practice of Architecture by

stating that permits for building will not be granted on drawings made by others than architects or licensed structural engineers, unless the drawings are accompanied by a copy of a letter which has been sent to the owner stating that the maker of the drawings is not an architect or a structural engineer.

This clause has already accomplished an unbelievable amount of good.

We were able to have members of the Chapter appointed to the City Planning Commission, and to the Building and Safety Commission.

The Chapter members are active in the Chamber of Commerce. They are serving on the Civic Committee, the Better Homes Committee, and on other committees, some of which are not related in any way to Architecture.

SAN DIEGO CHAPTER—continued

We are working on the Institute's plan to develop business for the architects on remodeling and slum rehabilitation.

Government Employment of Architects

(2) We have worked with the Institute on the legislation to require private architects on Federal work, by contacting the local members of the Senate and the House and by inducing various organizations and important persons to write similar letters, of which we have copies.

Lately we have written to the candidates for Federal offices and have obtained replies as to their stand on this question.

Unification

(3) There was much work to be done on the Unification Plan. There was a little opposition to this plan before the State Association Convention was held the early part of October. As you know, the plan was adopted by a large majority at the convention.

Publicity

(4) We are working on a proposed weekly page in the leading newspaper, similar to the one published in the San Francisco Chronicle.

Meetings

(5) We have endeavored to hold the interest of our members and of non-members by means of interesting talks at open meetings. These were well attended by the architects and by the public.

Committees

(6) The standing committees of the Chapter on Membership, Ethics and Practice, Publicity, etc., have functioned as usual.

Program—Membership

Our program at present is as follows:

(1) To continue all of the activities mentioned above which are unfinished.

(2) To maintain the interest of the members and by a liberal policy as to payment of dues, to maintain the membership.

(3) To enlarge the membership as soon as possible.

(4) To keep the profession in the mind of the public.

Problems

Our chief problems are as follows:

(a) *Finances*.—The question of how long to carry members who have not paid their dues.

(b) *Membership*.—The question as to what men are eligible for Associate membership in the eyes of the Institute.

(c) *Non-Members*.—The cooperation of the non-member architects in San Diego.

(d) *Morale*.—The morale of some of the best men, *not* necessarily members of our Chapter, who have become discouraged as to the outlook for the profession and as to the general distress of the whole country.

These men are difficult to locate as they do not talk much. Also, they are doing nothing to help the general situation. I happened upon some specific cases which started me to thinking and investigating. I am convinced that there are many such men in the Chapters. They should be sought out and encouraged.

Recovery

In conclusion, I am glad to be able to report that the attitude of most of the men is optimistic. Although some of them have been obliged to close their offices, they feel that the situation is far from hopeless. Some of us who have a little work, believe that the turn upward has been made. The general opinion, however, seems to be that recovery will be slow.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER—GORDON B. KAUFMANN, PresidentMeetings

The regular monthly meetings of the Chapter have been well attended.

We had one joint meeting with the State Association of California Architects. There was a good attendance at this meeting and the Chapter was represented by a large turnout.

Civic Affairs

The Chapter received and complied with a request from Assistant Secretary of the Treasury Department, that we assist the Department in a dispute with the city of Beverly Hills by passing

on the suitability of plans prepared by two architects for a new post office building at that point.

A special Committee was appointed for this purpose composed of the following members: Messrs. H. C. Chambers, Chairman, Charles H. Cheney, Pierpont Davis, Donald B. Parkinson and Wm. H. Schuchardt.

This Committee made an inspection of the site and held two meetings. The two Architects and Mayor Schwab of Beverly Hills appeared and presented their views to the Committee which had before it perspectives and working drawings of the proposed post office together with

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER—continued

perspectives of the adjacent buildings, the City Hall and Fire Station.

After carefully considering the location, evidence and drawings the Committee was unanimous in its decision. This decision of the Committee was accepted by both the Treasury Department and the City of Beverly Hills.

The following members of our Chapter are serving as officers and members of Civic organizations:

Mr. Robert H. Orr, President Building and Safety Commission of the City of Los Angeles;

Mr. Carleton H. Winslow, President of the Municipal Art Commission of the City of Los Angeles;

Mr. Edgar W. Maybury, President, Pasadena Chamber of Commerce;

Mr. John C. Austin, Chairman of President Hoover's Unemployment Relief Committee.

Mr. Charles H. Cheney, represented the Chapter on a Civic Committee appointed to secure a branch of the Federal Home Loan Bank for Los Angeles. The Committee was successful in its efforts. We did not succeed, however, in having an architect appointed to the Board of Directors.

Exhibition

The Chapter appointed a Committee of members to select material for display in an architectural exhibition held under the auspices of the Artists Club and Chamber of Commerce. The material submitted for this exhibition was very good, and the attendance was considerably over what was anticipated.

Lectures

The Educational Committee of the Chapter in cooperation with the Faculty of the Pasadena Junior College has arranged for six lectures on architectural appreciation to be given the students during the present year. These lectures we hope, will eventually enable us to do some constructive work in the educational field.

Building Congress

A permanent organization has been set up for the Building Congress in the Southern Section of California with the undersigned as Chairman.

Honor Award

A Committee is now working out a program for an Honor Award to be held early in 1933. This activity has the full support of our members

INDEX**Excerpts from Reports of Chapter Presidents**

The excerpts from Reports of Chapter Presidents were printed in the December 1932 and January and February 1933 issues of THE OCTAGON.

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Items of interest

Gift for Cataloguing Libraries.

The Institute acknowledges a gift of services provided jointly by the Allied Architects of Washington, D. C., and by its staff. By this gift, two unemployed draftsmen have catalogued and numbered the libraries which Arnold Brunner and Donn Barber bequeathed to the Institute. The Institute is indebted also to Dr. Leicester B. Holland, Chief of the Division of Fine Arts, Library of Congress, for his supervision of the work; and to Paul P. Cret for the design of the bookplate used to identify the collections.

It is noted that the staff of the allied Architects gave a holiday's time of extra work as their contribution.

The work has been well organized, and the index system established. It is hoped to find an additional gift to meet the cost of cataloguing the Richard Morris Hunt and Guy Kirkham collections.

Modernizing Practice.

Attention is called to the unusually valuable January number of *The Architectural Forum*, which is devoted to the subject of modernizing houses, hotels, apartments, stores, and other buildings. Ample text and many illustrations should make this number of practical value to any architect fortunate enough to have modernizing work.

In fact, it might be used to persuade people who ought to be modernizing their buildings to do so.

Edward F. Stevens, F. A. I. A.—Honored by German Society of Architects.

Edward F. Stevens, a member of the Boston Chapter, has been informed by the German Society of Architects of his appointment as a Corresponding Member.

Following is an excerpt from the letter advising him of that appointment:

"Herewith we have the honor of advising you that The German Society of Architects has unanimously resolved to appoint you a Corresponding Member. The reason for this distinction, among other things, is that The American Institute of Architects, on their part, has nominated one of our most important architects to be an Honorary Corresponding Member. The German Society of Architects, on their part, also desire to promote cordial relations by associating with a prominent American architect. You have become well known in the German field through your outstanding performances in the sphere of hospital planning and your numerous prominent buildings in the United States and Canada. Furthermore, you have acquired particular merit in the theoretical perfecting of modern hospitals."

Housing Board—District of Columbia

The Washington, D. C. Chapter has been successful in having introduced in the Senate of the United States a Bill—S. 5374—providing "For the creation of a housing board and authorizing the incorporation of limited dividend housing corporations in the District of Columbia, and for other purposes."

This bill, if enacted into a law, will make it possible for members of the Institute and others interested in low cost housing and slum clearance to form corporations by which construction of this character could be carried forward.

Plan to Revive Building Industry

A plea for revival of the building industry, through cooperation of the government, banks, the public, and builders, as an aid to the return of better business conditions, was voiced in Syracuse at a recent meeting by Charles A. Carpenter, A.I.A., Rochester Architect.

Mr. Carpenter, a past president of the Rochester Society of Architects, former member of the city Zoning Advisory Board and member of the city Building Board, addressed the meeting of the Central New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

He pointed out that although building is the second largest industry in the country, it is almost overlooked, while appeals are made in behalf of agriculture, banking, foods, and other industries. He answers the cry that "there is no need for building at the present time" by saying that need is usually created by desire, and that if a desire were created the ways and means to satisfy it would be found.

He offered ten suggestions to stimulate the building industry:

1. Induce banks to loan more on local building instead of on out-of-town investments.
2. Encourage new building and modernizing old buildings.
3. Develop unification of the different groups in the building industry.
4. Tax the local, state and federal governments out of the building business by stopping their production of plans, in order to reduce taxes, and give the work to tax payers.
5. Tax all property except that owned by city, county, state and federal government.
6. Don't give away taxpayers' money without obtaining work in return.
7. Encourage a beginning of Civic Center construction.
8. Encourage street extension and other major street plan development.
9. Acquaint public with the present low cost of building.

10. Reduce taxes on real estate and indorse the general sales tax unless some better method can be found to distribute taxation more equitably.—(From the "Rochester Times-Union.")

Colonial Tea Set For Emergency Relief Funds

The Women's Division of the Architects' Emergency Committee, New York, is responsible for the production of an attractive tea set of nine pieces. This tea set, with drawings by Schell Lewis of historic buildings is being sold by the women's division, and the proceeds go to the relief fund for unemployed architects.

Drawings of historic buildings included are Federal Hall, New York; Independence Hall, Philadelphia; Mount Vernon; Budd Pringle House, Charleston, S. C.; Monticello; Library of the University of Virginia; Westover, James River, Va.; Faneuil Hall, Boston; and the Santa Barbara Mission, California.

Mrs. A. Stewart Walker, Chairman of the Executive Committee of the Women's Division, in a letter to the Secretary of the Institute, states:

"I believe that interest in the tea set will be national due to the merits of the set itself. Because of its beauty and the fine quality of china used, and the excellence of the drawings of historical Colonial buildings reproduced thereon, we believe the set represents another step in the direction of preserving the architectural and historical traditions of Colonial America.

"Lennox, Inc., is making the set for us at the net factory cost which permits us to sell it at the nominal price of Thirty-five Dollars (\$35)—which is inexpensive for a china of comparable quality. The set is copyrighted and limited to five thousand and will be sold only by subscription through this organization."

Make checks payable to Mrs. Louis Ayres, Treasurer; mail to Women's Division, Architects' Emergency Committee, 115 East 40th St., New York, N. Y.

Le Brun Scholarship Competition

A recreation center and playground on a river front is the subject of the Le Brun Scholarship competition for 1933, which was inaugurated January 17 by a committee of the New York Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, of which Chester H. Aldrich, F.A.I.A., of Delano & Aldrich, is chairman. An innovation in the program this year is the free use of color advocated in the design of both the exterior and interior of the buildings, which must be gay and cheerful in treatment. The author of the winning design, to be judged March 16, 1933, will be given a trip abroad of at least six months.

George G. Booth Travelling Fellowship in Architecture.

The College of Architecture of the University of Michigan announces the ninth annual competition for the George G. Booth Travelling Fellowship in

Architecture. The competition begins on Saturday, April 8th, and the two following weeks are allowed for making the drawings.

The competition is open to graduates of the school who are unmarried and who are not yet thirty years of age.

Graduates resident in Michigan will make their drawings at the University. Those living in other states should make arrangements with their employers or others to supervise the making of the preliminary sketch and the final drawings.

Candidates may receive further information by writing to the College of Architecture, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Mich.

The Producers Council's Annual Meeting

Because of the fact that the American Institute of Architects has omitted its regular annual convention for 1933, it has been necessary for the Council's Executive Committee to determine the time and place for this year's Annual Meeting.

Chicago has been selected for various reasons, subject to the general approval of Council membership, and the time has been tentatively set for June 27 and 28. It has been many years since the Council met in Chicago, and with the interested cooperation and support of the Producers' Council Club of Chicago, the Chicago Chapter of the Institute and the Illinois Society of Architects, coupled with the fact that the Century of Progress Exposition will be in full swing at that time, it seems that this should prove to be a most logical time and place for a successful meeting of the Council.

Meetings of several organizations in the construction industry are being planned for the last week in June in Chicago, and that week promises to be something of a construction week giving added reason for selecting that week for the annual meeting. A meeting of the Policy Committee of the Construction League is scheduled for June 29th, which would permit the Council representatives on the Policy Committee to attend both meetings.

("News Bulletin" of The Producers' Council.)

Taxation as Related to Architecture.

The Executive Committee of the Institute at its meeting in November 1932 renewed the "Special Committee on Taxation as Related to the Practice of Architecture."

President Russell has appointed the following members to serve on this Committee:

- W. R. B. Willcox, *Chairman*, Eugene, Oregon.
- William B. Faville, San Francisco, California.
- Charles A. Favrot, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Ellis F. Lawrence, Portland, Oregon.
- Dalton J. V. Snyder, Detroit, Michigan.
- Rudolph Weaver, Gainesville, Florida.
- Arnold Southwell, Miami Beach, Florida.
- John S. Seiber, San Diego, California.
- Joshua H. Vogel, Seattle, Washington.

Advance Planning of Public Works

The Federal Employment Stabilization Board, established in 1931 by Congress in "An act to provide for the advance planning and regulated construction of public works, for the stabilization of industry, and for aiding in the prevention of unemployment during periods of business depression" is offering cooperation to the several states interested in enacting appropriate legislation providing for advance planning of public works.

A pamphlet has been prepared by the Board (1) suggesting an outline of principles for guidance in the formation of state legislation, providing for the advance planning of public works; (2) containing copies of existing and proposed legislation providing for advance planning of public works; and (3) listing the advantages of advance planning.

For copies of this pamphlet, and for other information relative to a program which might well be followed in order to obtain appropriate legislation or for other information relative to advance planning of public works, address the Federal Employment Stabilization Board, U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

Radio is Opened to Profession on Pacific Coast

The architect is now on the air over a Pacific Coast network.

Through facilities offered by the National Broadcasting Company a 20-minute period in the program has been set aside for discussion of architecture and the architect. The material for this program, which is a station feature and contains no advertising, is being prepared and broadcast by William L. Garren, member of the Northern California Chapter.

British Architects' Conference, 1933

The following is quoted from a letter received from the R. I. B. A.

"The Annual Conference of British Architects will take place at Cambridge from June 21st to June 24th inclusive and the Cambridge Chapter of the Essex, Cambridge and Hertfordshire Society of Architects will be the hosts of the Conference.

"The Conference will be largely of a social character and it is expected that many ladies will be present as the guests of members.

"If any of your Members happen to be in England at the time mentioned we should heartily welcome their presence at the various functions which will form part of the programme."

For copies of the Programme with full particulars and all the necessary information address Mr. Ian MacAlister, Secretary, R.I.B.A., 9 Conduit Street, London, W1., England.

The Committee on the National Capital

THE members of this committee, whose appointments were announced by the President last August, have received no direct communication from the chairman for two reasons. The first is the dearth of legislation relating to the development of the Capital which required either active support or active opposition; the second is the lack of funds even for necessary committee work, without any allowance for the rather heavy cost of circularization and correspondence with such a large committee.

With the heavy demands upon the Institute and its limited resources, the chairman of this committee is loath to use the Institute funds for committee work or to curtail committee activities. He has not billed the full amount expended nor drawn even the very limited committee appropriation for 1933. It is recalled that on several occasions members of the committee have volunteered financial assistance, but such offers have never been availed of. Of course, those were better days; but if any committee member should happen to be similarly disposed at the present time, a contribution of any size would make possible more fruitful effort. This is in no sense a general appeal.

The chief activity of the committee since the last convention has been the organization of the Central Bicentennial Committee on the National Capital,

which was launched at the joint session. The details of this procedure entail a great deal of correspondence with allied groups, and it will take some time to perfect a well-coordinated, smoothly working organization. The general set-up to date is as follows:

THE BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE ON THE NATIONAL CAPITAL

<i>Member Group:</i>	<i>Representative:</i>
American Civic Association	Miss Harlean James (Acting Secretary)
American Federation of Arts	F. A. Whiting
American Institute of Architects	Horace W. Peaslee (Acting Chairman)
American Society of Landscape Architects	Earle S. Draper
Association of the Alumni of the American Academy in Rome	Edgar I. Williams
City Planning Conference	Harold Buttenheim
City Planning Institute	Irving Root
City Planning Division, A.S.C.E.	Col. C. O. Sherrill
Garden Club of America	Mrs. William H. Wilmer
Mural Painters	Ezra Winter
National Sculpture Society	Henry Hering

Your chairman believes that this new organization has great possibilities for accomplishment not only in the National Capital but in the development of a better working relationship among the eleven professional and civic groups.

HORACE W. PEASLEE, *Chairman,*
Committee on the National Capital.

With the Chapters

EXTRACTS FROM CHAPTER MINUTES AND REPORTS

Baltimore Chapter.

The annual meeting of the Baltimore Chapter was held January 10. The guest of honor was Ernest John Russell, President of the Institute. H. S. T. White and William C. Nolting, retiring President and newly elected President, respectively, presided in turn during the meeting.

President Russell told of his inquiry into the history and reputation of the Chapter, and reported that his findings were very flattering to the body, and that it had reassured him greatly. He discussed the ever-present problem of Architectural registration laws, and recommended registration as a very real and necessary protection to the profession, further stating it as his opinion that local conditions in Maryland were not sufficiently different from those in other states to warrant continued opposition to such an act. He went on to show something of the possibilities for business recovery that lay in the work of the Construction League and urged that the local Building Congress be well supported. He predicted the steady and constructive improvement of business generally, and voiced his firm belief in the survival and growing importance of architecture in the economic life of the country. He touched on the lack of foresight of architects in the past, and urged that everyone should build up his reserves in the fat years to tide over the lean years which must come again. He showed the necessity for a master builder under modern conditions, and how the architect might be, and should be, the best equipped for this leadership.

Brooklyn Chapter

The January dinner meeting of the Brooklyn Chapter was held at the Down Town Club, at Newark, New Jersey. The Brooklyn Chapter was the guest of the New Jersey Chapter and the New Jersey Society of Architects, the Secretary of which is Celment W. Fairweather, formerly a member of the Brooklyn Chapter.

The meeting was very well attended, there being sixty members of the three organizations present, sixteen being from Brooklyn, and good fellowship and cooperation was the keynote of the evening.

Mr. Rene Chambellan presented many photographs and models of his work in connection with design of many of the prominent and artistic buildings in the country and explained the many advantages of designing directly in three dimensions through the model and completing the architectural drawings, details and perspective from the models.

The members of the Brooklyn Chapter accepted an invitation of D. Everett Waid and Harvey Cor-

bett, architects of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's new building at 4th Avenue and 24th Street, Manhattan, to inspect the building on January 27, 1933.

Chicago Chapter.

Preceding the January meeting of the Chicago Chapter—January 10—Mr. D. F. Webb of the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Company, Toledo, gave an illustrated talk on "Plate Glass, Window Glass and Safety Glass."

Dinner was served to eighty members and guests—a total of ninety-six attended the evening program.

William J. Smith, Chairman of the Program Committee, announced that the February meeting would be held in the Thorne Auditorium, McKinlock Campus, of Northwestern University, February 16 and would be in conjunction with the North American Conference on Church Architecture being held at that time.

President Farrier introduced Mr. William Hoganson of the Chicago Vitreous Enamel Products Company who gave a talk on "The Manufacture of Porcelain Enamel, Its History and Use."

Following Mr. Hoganson, Mr. Schwartz presented a paper by Mr. W. R. Greer of the Porcelain Enamel and Manufacturing Company of Baltimore, who was unable to attend the meeting—the subject of which was "The Development of Porcelain Enamels in the Architectural Field". After the reading of this paper Mr. D. M. Strickland of the American Rolling Mill Company gave a talk on "Opportunities for using Porcelain Enamel".

Cincinnati Chapter.

The January meeting of the Cincinnati Chapter was held at the Art Center on January 17. President Strong introduced David B. Maxfield and H. Richard Elliston, recently elected to Institute and Associate Membership, respectively.

A vote of thanks was given Messrs. Steinkamp, Garber, Drach, Kruckemeyer and Hanley for the time and effort they had donated as a committee, on behalf of the architects, in drafting the new building code.

Hunter Stanley extended an invitation to the Chapter to attend the second of a series of discussion meetings on the new building code and the new standard specifications, to be held at the Engineers Club, January 27th.

Georgia Chapter.

At the December meeting of the Georgia Chapter the following resolutions, submitted by the Committee on the New Atlanta of which William J. Sayward is Chairman, were adopted:

"Whereas, it is obvious from any careful consideration of present anarchic conditions, that the unplanned, haphazard growth of our cities has cost the nation billions and our city of Atlanta millions of dollars, due to strangled traffic, premature obsolescence of buildings, shrinkage of land values in blighted areas, unsanitary condition that breed sickness and crime, unnecessarily expensive public servicing et cetera, and

Whereas, it seems logical to assume that the adoption of a sound and comprehensive plan even at this late date would tend to prevent the recurrence of such losses in the future, and would make our city a more attractive and healthful place to live, be it hereby

Resolved, That the Georgia Chapter of A.I.A. records itself as urgently recommending the creation of a broad and comprehensive plan for the future development of our city, and pledges itself to support any constructive efforts to that end. The Chapter in particular wishes,

FIRST, to commend the very able work along these lines carried on by Oliver J. Vinour, a member of this Chapter;

SECOND, to express appreciation of his vital energy and high public spirit;

THIRD, to express belief that mutual benefits can be obtained from hearty cooperation with the City Planning Commission, which has shown a very constructive spirit in handling its problems; and

FOURTH, to suggest a meeting in the near future of the Chapter with the Planning Commission for the purpose of being of service to the Planning Commission."

Grand Rapids and Detroit Chapters—Visits of Director Hewitt.

The Director of the Great Lakes Division, Herbert E. Hewitt, visited the Grand Rapids Chapter on January 19.

Mr. Hewitt spent the entire day in Grand Rapids, conferring with the Officers and Members of the Chapter.

This Chapter is a small one, but its members are determined to carry on, and to maintain the work of the Chapter regardless of adverse conditions.

On January 20 and 21, Mr. Hewitt visited the Detroit Chapter, and spoke at an evening meeting at the Detroit Airport.

These visits are in line with the Institute's program of sending each of the Regional Directors to visit his Chapters during the current year.

Kentucky Chapter.

At the January meeting there was general discussion by the members present on the subject "What can an architect do to promote the building industry during the depression?"

Ossian P. Ward read an interesting paper dealing principally with ways and means for reducing the architect's overhead, by the method of consolidation of offices by different architects.

After many suggestions were offered, principally dealing with modernization and alterations of existing buildings, it was generally agreed that the principal drawback at present was the lack of financial cooperation by the banks.

New Jersey Chapter.

Regular meetings of the New Jersey Chapter and the New Jersey Society of Architects were held at the Down Town Club, Newark, New Jersey on January 12. Eighteen members of the Brooklyn Chapter were present as guests.

The Chairman of the Legislative Committee reported that the Engineers proposed to introduce a bill in the Legislature amending the mechanics' lien law so as to extend the benefits to architects, engineers and land surveyors. The Committee will assist the Legislation Committee of the State Engineering Society in trying to have this bill passed.

Mr. Pope, head of Pratt Institute, spoke for the Educational Committee of the Brooklyn Chapter stating that they have a group of students known as Chapter affiliates, fifty in number, who meet with the Chapter on occasions and are developing into very good material for Chapter membership.

President Williams took occasion to introduce some six or eight members of the Newark Atelier who were present at the meeting.

Philadelphia Chapter.

The January meeting of the Philadelphia Chapter was held January 23 in conjunction with the Illuminating Engineering Society.

Ralph Walker of the New York Chapter spoke on the architectural aspects of illuminating, and divided the types of light into four classes, namely—work light, conversational light, play light and decorative light. He illustrated these types by a series of slides, including a good many of Radio City. Mr. Walker challenged the illuminating engineers to design a source of light which would not be necessary to cover, so as to provide a more efficient, and possibly more facile, medium.

Questions from the floor brought out Mr. Walker's idea on the subject of flood lighting and street lighting. There were many question and observations by the members of both the Chapter and the society.

St. Louis Chapter.

At a recent meeting of the St. Louis Chapter Walter L. Rathmann reported having met with a Committee representing the Engineers and that the two committees were working on a joint bill for registration to be presented to the next Legislature.

It was the unanimous opinion of the Chapter that a joint bill would be quite satisfactory, particularly in the interest of presenting only one bill concerning professional practice.

At the January meeting, the St. Louis Chapter had present as guests those graduates of recognized schools of architecture who have been awarded the

James Harrison Steedman Memorial Fellowships. These guests, the Steedman Fellows, were presented to the meeting.

Southern Pennsylvania Chapter.

The January meeting of the Southern Pennsylvania Chapter was held in the Penn-Harris Hotel, January 9th, with approximately one hundred and forty-five members of the various branches of the building industry present as guests.

John G. Todd, Secretary of the Chapter, described the purpose of the meeting as follows:

"The meeting was intended as a grand get-together affair for all and sundry who derive their pitiful pittance and their present precarious existence from the precise and painful business of building buildings. It was called and assembled with the hope that in thus concentrating the available talent, those who search might more efficiently pursue their struggle through the tangled mass of bull-rushes to find the Moses who shall one day lead the flock to that promised land which is just around the corner."

Washington State Chapter.

The annual meeting of the Washington State Chapter was held January 14 in the Jade Room of the Washington Hotel.

Reports were given by the Officers and Chairmen of Committees.

George Gove reported for the (Education) Subcommittee on Contact with Student and Draftsmen, of which he is Chairman. Among the matters covered in Mr. Gove's report were the following items:

For the Sketch Competition this year, more than two hundred drawings had been collected and arrangements were being made for an exhibition.

Due to the enthusiasm of Roland E. Borhek of the Chapter, design problems have been sponsored in the Tacoma High Schools by the Tacoma Society of Architects. Mr. Borhek's method of inculcating architectural appreciation into the children of the public schools should be made a Chapter activity and it is recommended that the incoming committee be instructed to develop such a plan.

Wisconsin Chapter.

At a recent meeting of the Wisconsin Chapter, President Kirchoff discussed the problem of the architect's fee on apartment house work. At the present time many apartment buildings are unable to meet the interest payment on their bonds. At the Bondholders Protective Committee meetings the architects are often represented as receiving six per cent commissions when in reality the owners have paid much less. He urged that when possible the architects should aim to attend these meetings with owners of these defaulted bonds, and assist them in asking questions which will bring this deceptive practice into the light.

Detroit Building Congress

By BRANSON V. GAMBER, *President Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.*

THE Detroit Building Congress took an active part in the business sessions of the Highway and Building Congress, which were held in Detroit, January 16-20. Meetings were held at the Municipal Airport, Hotel Statler and at the Masonic Temple. An exhibition of building construction and a road show was held at the Airport.

The Detroit Building Congress is making the most of the present opportunity to create an incentive to resume construction projects, and through active interest on the part of the public locally, it hopes to realize many of its cherished ambitions for the City of Detroit.

The local building congress is made up of forty-two organizations interested in building construction or closely related to it. These organizations include architects, engineers, realtors, banking interests, property owners and managers, contractors, sub-contractors, material supply dealers and others devoted to this industry. Its membership is large in numbers and important in character.

It is interested in the growth and development of Detroit, and its policies are largely devoted to considerations of improvement and beauty for the city, and the convenience, comfort and happiness of its citizens. These are all worthy objectives, beside the selfish consideration of seeking an improvement in business conditions, and an increase in building activity.

These and many other needed improvements are contemplated and proposed for Detroit's future. While it is impossible to carry these on under present conditions, yet studies can be made and ways and means determined now for their completion later on. With improvement in business conditions and eventual recovery, these hopes will be realized.

Therefore, the Detroit Building Congress will take a leading part in any activity which will tend to expedite economic recovery, and start the wheels of business turning. In this way, our hopes for a better and more beautiful city will more quickly be brought to fruition.

Applications for Membership

February 28, 1933.

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>Alabama Chapter</i>	RAYMOND CARL SIZEMORE
<i>Brooklyn Chapter</i>	GEORGE W. TROFAST-GILLETTE
<i>Cleveland Chapter</i>	GEORGE B. COOMBE
<i>Connecticut Chapter</i>	HERBERT GIBSON
<i>Rhode Island Chapter</i>	J. PETER GEDDES, II
<i>Southern California Chapter</i>	G. STANLEY WILSON

You are invited, as directed by the By-Laws, to send privileged communications before March 30, 1933, 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.

FRANK C. BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

Members Elected in January and February 1933

CLEVELAND CHAPTER	GEORGE HOWARD BURROWS
DELAWARE CHAPTER	ALBERT ELY IVES
NEW YORK CHAPTER	WARD W. FENNER

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