

MONTHLY ILLINOIS SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS BULLETIN

Vol. 30

JANUARY-FEBRUARY, 1946

Nos. 7-8

The Potter Palmer Mansion on Chicago's Lake Shore

Its Architectural History—By Frank L. Davis

*The question of a habitation for man
Has been a problem since the race began,
And as a careful research clearly shows
The Palmer dwelling place, as it arose
On Chicago's Northern Shore, in a way
Attracting so much comment in its day,
Has been no exception to this old view
Even while it waits the wrecking crew.*

The ancient Hittite civilization in Asia Minor with its direct access to both copper and iron succeeded in evolving or possibly creating the architecture of the early fortified building.

The walls of the Royal Pavilion of Medinet Habu were crowned with battlements and the Ramesseum of about 1300 B.C. also at Thebes in Upper Egypt as an incised illustration on the wall of its great hypostyle hall showing the elevation of one of those fortified structures in a Hittite city, which the Egyptians had stormed with bow and arrow, lance, shield and ladder.

This Hittite fastness built on the brow of a hill had a projecting battered base that made it practically impregnable from a frontal attack, a chemin-de-ronde on three sides and a high box-like donjon or keep which supported one central and three other towers with large projecting tops, the central one being surmounted with beehive turrets. There were parapets at six different levels, as well as a machicolis added here and there; with bowmen behind its semi-circular merlons, a tilting ladder and Egyptians hurtling headlong to the deck below, it gave a vivid picture of a foreign foray and preserved a pattern for the palace-fortress of the future.

A thousand years later parapets appear on the walls of Pompeii, another thousand years and they are seen in the castles of the British Isles, and then in Germany along the Rhine, and finally on the Water Tower at Chicago. After more than three thousand years of migration and adaptation, they crown the architectural monuments of many different countries and notch the sky-line of many a clime.

A Sultan of India, in the meanwhile, crystallizing the culture of the ancient East, collected the choicest materials, selected the best artists and artisans the surrounding countries could produce, giving them the task of erecting the Taj Mahal, a monument of the whitest marble inlaid with semi-precious colored stones, glistening in the sun, mellowing in the moonlight, furnishing an example of the most gorgeous oriental architectural splendor the world has

ever known — and all in honor of his devoted Sultana.

In 1870 Potter Palmer at forty-four married the beautiful Bertha Honore, a capable, clear thinking young woman one-half his age, born in Kentucky, reared in Illinois, who traced her ancestry through the D'Arcy's to Maryland, England and Charlemagne. He was a highly respected retired merchant, a successful hotel proprietor, an owner of large real estate holdings and a public spirited citizen, accredited with foresight and vision; and now at fifty-six he selects a young firm of architects to design a home on the shore of an inland sea.

Northern Europe has many castles to interest and intrigue American travelers and the Palmers were naturally impressed by them when they were abroad. In Germany, Rheinstein Castle is situated on a hillside 260 feet above the Rhine, with a commanding view in all directions; in the olden time it was steeped in contest of feudal chivalry and romance, but now it is a museum. In Ireland, Lismore Castle is one that dates back to the days of William the Conqueror. It is located in the southeastern section on the Blackwater; the stone for the trimmings was quarried at Chatsworth, England, and transported across the St. Georges Channel. It was here that Sir Walter Raleigh lived for a while and it was here they found the "Book of Lismore" behind an old built-in doorway. This document contains a description of Charlemagne, claiming for him a fierce visage, a fine body eight feet tall, with a foot sixteen inches long, that he could split a knight with one stroke of his steel and that he built many churches for the love of God.

In January 1882 there was a decided awakening to the possibilities of the section of Chicago east of State and north of Division Street along the Lake, and the public through the press was informed that some wise men from the East were predicting it would develop into one of the finest residential neighborhoods in the city. Mr. Palmer owned some 3,000 feet of frontage in that locality and the third and final site selected for his new mansion was at the corner of Lake Shore Drive and Banks Street, at one time owned by John Jacob Astor. He did this in face of the fact that it was somewhat of a watery, wind-swept waste, decidedly below the established grade while reminding one of the bleak, barren shore that Joliet in the leading canoe paddled past three hundred years before.

Cobb and Frost were the architects; — Henry Ives Cobb received his civil engineering and archi-

tectural training at Harvard Scientific department and at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. After graduating he traveled abroad and then, while in the office of Peabody and Stearns at twenty-three years of age, he won the competition for the Union Club, Chicago, and came here to live. He was vigorous, imaginative, keen minded to design this building; — Charles S. Frost, from the same office, joined him, to take charge of construction. The following building permit notice was published on March 4th, 1882: "P. Palmer 3-Story brick dwelling 80 x 56, Banks street east of State street, cost, \$90,000".

The unknown firm did not get the attention of the "American Architect", with the result that no record is preserved of the original drawings; the attempt of a newspaper compositor to reproduce the plan was far from successful and the one shown here was not made by the Architects. The plan with its central octagonal feature, the key note of the composition, permits easy axis circulation in eight different directions. It is a clever scheme in its co-ordination, hors concours in any competition. Entering diagonally from a northeast corner re-entrant angle into this central hall getting at once to the heart of the house, was a master stroke; whether this came about from the outward grouping or the inward requirements is not known. The exterior at that moment was the main problem and possibly function and form were following each other. We were in the early external eighties, when every designer was striving for visual effects and flaming youth was evidently beckoning this owner away from the proposed brick dwelling towards a stone parapeted palace for a landmark on the Lake Shore Drive.

The press was given an opportunity early in April, 1882, to see the drawings and concluded that this was a notable effort, but an odd style for a residence which might be described as "domestic castellated" with a square tower eighty feet high and twenty-four feet at the top. It was to be built of Canadian gray limestone with streaked blue trimmings and thoroughly fireproof. Work was proceeding on the basement; the building was to be up to the roof by fall and to cost \$200,000. By the end of the month another report described it as "early English battlemented style" of natural rock face Canadian limestone laid in six inch courses trimmed with Ohio sandstone. The contract had been let with the expectation that the house would be under roof by November. The style was also referred to as "castellated Gothic".

The stone was changed to Connecticut brownstone and Amherst Ohio sandstone, and Chicagoans passing along the Drive for many months to come watched this sturdy structure slowly rise from its battered base to its highest brownstone cap. The annulated paired columns flanking the wide entrance and similar columns supporting the Lake front loggia on the second floor gave it individuality,

while the angle entrance with the wall above added to the impression of unity between the east and north facades. With a parapet crowning this wall the adjoining corner capped and turned into a turret with ramping Amherst stone lines indicating the stairway within and the tower taking on its square form above this angular wall, the passers-by were evidently roused in expectation for a startling finale.

It has been claimed that Mr. Cobb said the early battlemented Egyptian was his guide for this design, with the large bay windows of a later period and modern trimmings added to complete the composition. Annulated columns, circular turrets on larger features and tourelles were medieval, and it is evident that winding the ribbon around the turret breaking the front back into an angle, freeing the outlines of the tower, bringing this tall turret to the fore and then adding a solid, broad, columned entrance formed the piece de resistance of his design.

The different castellated parapets with their stone merlons etched against the sky, the petite turrets placed at the corners, the large square bulwark with its eschauguette or stair tower rising above the highest platform give this ornate massive castle-mansion a picturesqueness and a dignity that vividly reminds us of the ruggedness and romance of Rheinstein as well as the mental activities and stern realities of Lismore Castle.

The following appeared in "The Builder" of London: "We give an example from photograph of modern house architecture in the States. The residence designed by Messrs. Cobb and Frost, for the lake shore at Chicago, is a house that in regard to its general style and architectural treatment might as well have been met in England, and perhaps is not what would command very great admiration whichever side of the water it was met with; the style is rather coarse and heavy, but it is a large and important dwelling house with a certain dignity and massiveness about it."

*"The chamberis and parlors of a sorte,
With bay windows goodlie as may be thought
The galleries right wele y wrought
As for dauncinge and otherwise disport."*

Chaucer penned this picture of English houses in the reign of Edward III, when spacious rooms were required for entertaining; now we should note how the demand was met in America.

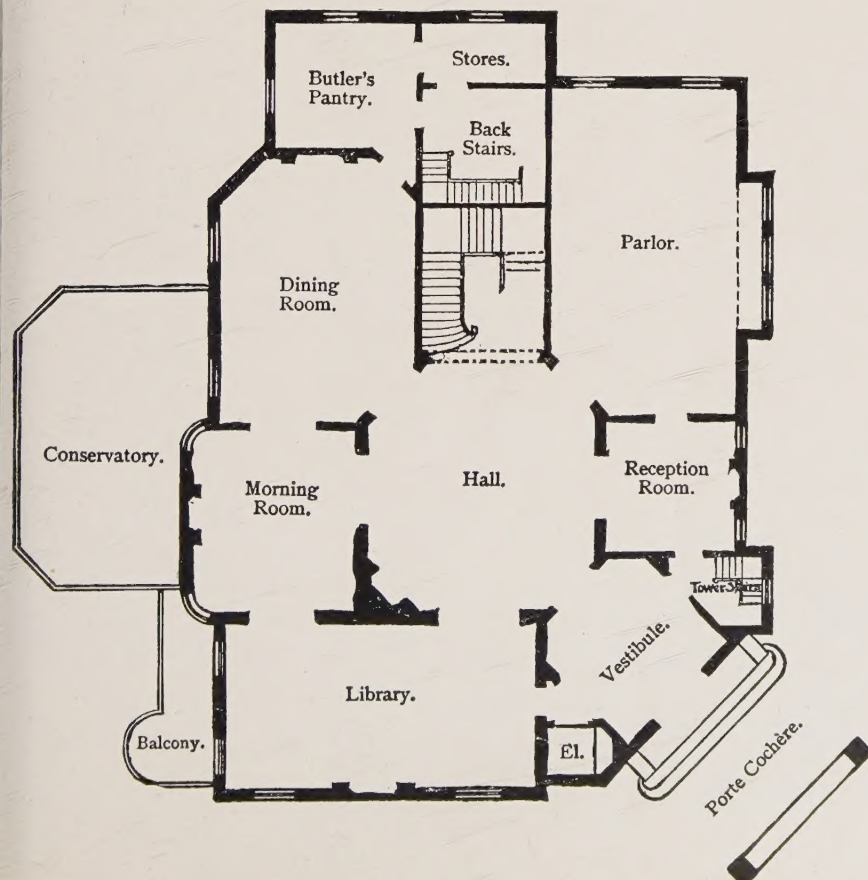
Silsbee and Kent, architects, came to Chicago in May, 1882. Silsbee lived at the Palmer House; he was a man of good taste who had practiced in Syracuse. Kent graduated from Sheffield in engineering in 1875, studied at the Ecole des Beaux Arts and at South Kensington, returned to Syracuse in 1877 where he entered Silsbee's office and then went to Washington, D. C. There he remained two years before coming back to Silsbee. Many years later he was lost on the Titanic.

EXTERIOR VIEW
FROM THE NORTHEAST
IN THE 1880's



THE ORIGINAL BUILDING BY
COBB & FROST, ARCHITECTS

POTTER PALMER MANSION
1350 LAKE SHORE DRIVE
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

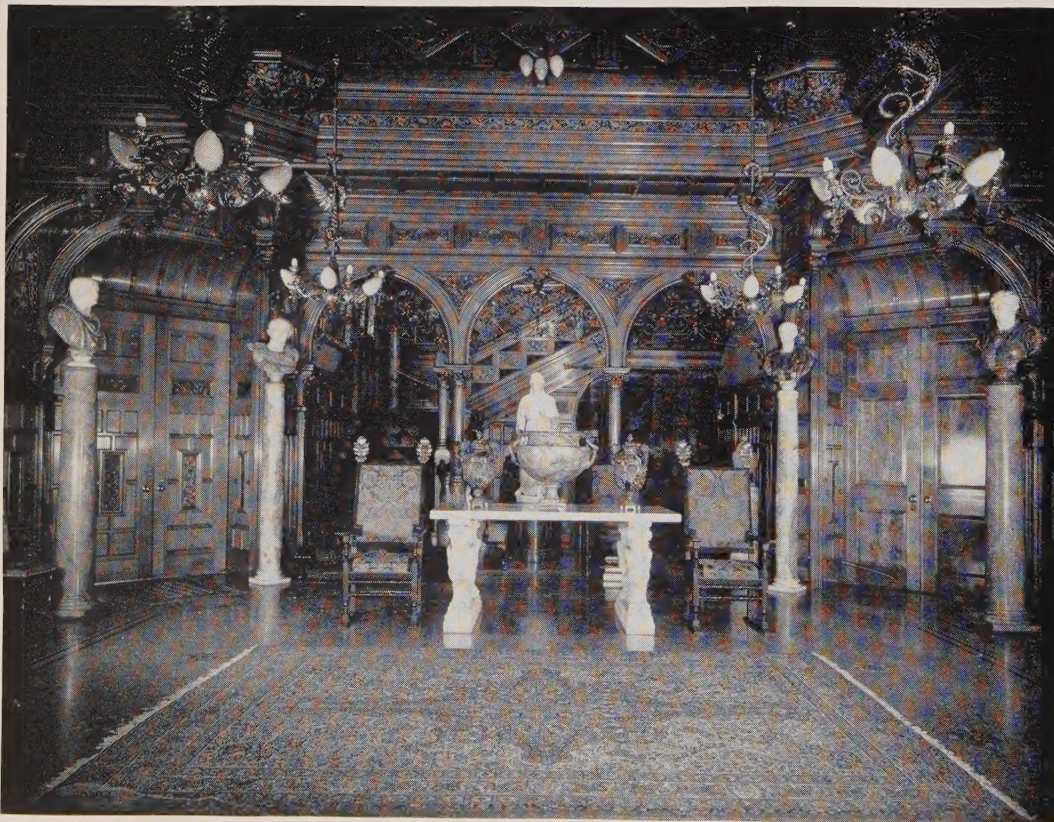


Illinois Society of Architects
January-February 1946
Bulletin Supplement

THE ORIGINAL GROUND FLOOR PLAN



VIEW FROM NORTHEAST
SHOWING ART GALLERY
ADDITION AND WALL
CHANGES
OVER PORTE COCHERE



MAIN HALL, 1ST STORY
LOOKING WEST
FROM LIBRARY

Officers

G. HAROLD SMITH.....	President
30 North LaSalle St.	Tel. State 0139
WILLIAM PAUL FOX.....	First Vice President
6225 N. Claremont Ave.	Tel. Rogers Park 7720
ARNOLD J. KRUEGEL.....	Second Vice President
4 East Clinton St., Joliet	Tel. Joliet 2-3241
CARL HAUBER.....	Treasurer
25 East Jackson Blvd.	Tel. Harrison 3955
NATHAN KOENIGSBERG.....	Secretary
155 North Clark St.	Tel. State 4206
H. L. PALMER.....	Financial Secretary
BULLETIN CIRCULATOR—CONTRACT DOCUMENTS	
134 North LaSalle St.	Tel. Central 4214

Chicago 2

Board of Directors

For 1 year	R. E. SCHMIDT	ARTHUR WOLTERS DORF
For 2 years	MASON G. RAPP	PERRY W. SWERN
For 3 years	BENJ. F. OLSON	R. HAROLD ZOOK

Board of Arbitration

JOHN REED FUGARD	
LEON E. STANHOPE	SIGURD E. NAESS
JOHN W. ROOT	JOHN A. ARMSTRONG
HUBERT BURNHAM	BENJAMIN HORN

Editor Monthly Bulletin

ARTHUR WOLTERS DORF, 520 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 11, Ill.

The German poet

Johann Ludwig Uhland (1787-1862) wrote:

*"Es stand in alten Zeiten ein Schloss,
so hoch und hehr,*

*Weit glaenzt es ueber die Lande
bis an das blaue Meer."*

Chicago, too, has its schloss — its castle — that commands a long range view of land and sea. The days of Chicago's "castle" are numbered; the property has been sold and the purchaser proposes to raze the building and replace it with a tall apartment building covering the block between Banks and Schiller Streets fronting on Lake Shore Drive. The reader will have guessed that the "castle" referred to is none other than the Potter Palmer Mansion.

This mansion under its first chatelaine, Bertha Honore Palmer, made brilliant and indelible social history, particularly in the time of the Columbian Exposition of 1893. The architectural history of the mansion with its additions and changes under successive architects and artists has never been written. Since the Illinois Society of Architects Bulletin is the only architects journal published in Illinois, the Bulletin feels it its duty to present this history with illustrations.

Accordingly, this issue of the Bulletin features this history written by one who is architect by education and has spent his mature life in the building industry. Mr. Frank L. Davis, the writer, is deserving of generous thanks from the Bulletin and its readers for tireless zeal through many uncounted hours spent in libraries and museums as well as over old newspaper files in digging out the story of a building that set the pace for creating what became the finest residential section of Chicago.

In 1880 Lake Shore Drive from the Water Tower at Chicago Avenue to North Avenue was a sandy trail flanked on the east by the lake shore and on the west by low land often under water. The filling in of the lake from Oak Street south, carrying the shore drive one half mile east, thence south to connect with the shore drive through Grant Park

was not undertaken until the first decade of this century.

So the Palmer house was the first structure of consequence on this mile of lake frontage. Its turreted and battlemented architecture was never repeated in any of the homes that followed in the wake of the Palmer house. Fine architecture prevailed, however. Let us go north from the Water Tower and note some of the outstanding structures.

At Pearson Street and the Drive stood the J. V. Farwell residence of Artesian limestone, Burnham & Root architects. This is gone. Immediately west stood and still stands the house of U. S. Senator Charles Farwell, Treat & Foltz architects. Going north to Bellevue Place stands a large Bedford stone structure with open land to Oak Street successively known as the Jones, Gen. Torrence, Mrs. Rockefeller McCormick residence, S. S. Beman, architect. The house still stands, now occupied as a school for juveniles. The one time garden which harbored many rare trees is now a barren playground for the kids. On the north corner of Bellevue Place still stands a handsome grey stone residence of French chateau design known as the Borden house. It is perhaps the finest piece of cut stone work in Chicago. Its architect was Richard M. Hunt, architect of Vanderbilt houses in New York City, Newport, Rhode Island, Ashville, North Carolina, and elsewhere. He was architect of the Administration Building of the World's Fair of 1893. The Borden house was recently used as a home for student nurses.

At Division Street still stands the house designed by Pond & Pond architects for Mrs. Coonley Ward. When she moved to Wyoming, New York, the house became the home of Frank Logan, prominent trustee of the Art Institute. The frontage from Division to Scott Street is now occupied by a two story structure of renaissance design harboring the U. S. Court of Appeals. In the middle of the block stood the Col. Loomis house, a handsome colonial structure of yellow brick and grey stone with a large sunken lawn or garden to the south. Burling and Whitehouse were the architects. On the corner of Scott Street stood a large brown brick house where lived Robert T. Lincoln, son of the lamented President, Abraham Lincoln. Robert Lincoln was a practicing attorney, had been U. S. Ambassador to the Court of St. James, and later was President of the Pullman Company. From Scott Street to Goethe Street stood a series of closely adjoining houses, some separated by party walls. Here lived the famous clergyman David Swing. Close by in a narrow house with a facade inspired by the so-called Desdemona house standing on the Grand Canal in Venice lived Mr. Aldis and the next house north was on the corner of Goethe, a dignified simple Georgian brick house. The latter two were designed by Holabird & Roche, architects. From Goethe to Banks Street the land has remained unoccupied on the Drive. There has never been a permanent structure on this land.

All the frontage from Banks to Schiller Street was given over to the setting of the Potter Palmer mansion. From Schiller Street to Burton Place stood the house of Franklin MacVeagh, designed by H. H. Richardson, the most famous American archi-

(Continued on Page 11, Column 1)

I.S.A. President G. Harold Smith Reports

Delegates from the Chicago and Central Illinois Chapters of the Institute, the Registered Architects Association of Southern Illinois and the Illinois Society held a meeting at Champaign on November 17th to further study the matter of some form of statewide unification. There was general discussion of how unification might be attained, what shape or form it might take, and methods of organization that would still permit the member organizations to retain their identity and the conduct of their own affairs.

The meeting decided that discussion of organization and by-laws should be initiated. For convenience of assembling the Chicago Chapter and the Illinois Society delegates were to meet together, likewise the delegates of the Central Illinois Chapter and the Southern Illinois Association. One meeting has been held with the Chicago Chapter delegates at which the discussion was general and exploratory, finding points of agreement and disagreement.

At the Champaign meeting Prof. Provine of the School of Architecture was a very genial host, making the delegates visit a pleasant one with lunch and a tour of part of the University campus and buildings. Prof. Provine told us that the School of Architecture had approximately one hundred twenty in the freshman class. Of this number about one-fourth was returned servicemen who were good students and asked no favors.

We were honored with a visit by the President of the Texas Association of Architects, Mr. Bertram E. Giesecke of Austin, Texas. Mr. Giesecke spoke of the difficulties architects in that part of the country were having in securing help and building materials. He left us feeling happier, we believe, knowing that architects elsewhere were beset by the same difficulties.

The I.S.A. Board received from the New Jersey Society of Architects a resolution disapproving the Institute's proposed Registry of Architects. The Board, being in entire accord, approved their action and they were so advised.

After several months discussion of our connection with the Institute as a State Association member, the Board decided to terminate that membership as of Dec. 31st, 1945. Following is the letter to the Institute advising them of that action and giving the Board's reasons therefor.

"Referring to your letter of December 1st advising the Society of its dues for next year as a state association member, please be advised that the Board of Directors has decided to terminate our associate membership as of December 31, 1945.

This decision is not a hasty one as this and the subject of unification have been under consideration for several months.

It has seemed to the Board that unification bore too much the earmarks of a national union, having branches in each state, and the policies and actions of those branches determined and directed to a large extent by the Institute. To the Board this direction from the top down is wrong, it should be from the bottom up.

We believe that a state association, knowing best the conditions within its state, is better qualified and better able to handle within-the-state matters affecting our profession and to determine what is best for the public good. In legislative matters a state association will carry more weight and possess more influence. This is borne out by the past history of the Society. It was founded originally because the Chapter seemed indifferent to safeguarding the public against incompetence and its efforts resulted in the passage of the first registration law in this country for architects.

Considering all these factors, it seems to us that the Society can be of most use and benefit within the state by remaining independent."

The Executive Secretary of the Institute has acknowledged receipt of the letter and expressed his regrets. The letter will be placed before the February meeting of the Institute's Executive Board for action.

Mason G. Rapp has been elected a Director, taking the

place of Marvin G. Probst who felt obliged to resign because of business reasons.

The following men have been elected to membership in the Society; Harry L. Morse, Charles O. Coverley, John J. Fox Jr., Robert C. Geyer, Ned I. Sosna, Frederick E. Sloan, E. Theodore Holin and William Holabird.

—G. Harold Smith, President

Illinois Society January Meeting

The Illinois Society of Architects' January meeting was held in the Art Institute Club Room on the 22nd with an attendance of 50 members. An excellent dinner was served. After the repast President Smith called the meeting to order and had Secretary Koenigsberg read the minutes of the November meeting. It will be remembered that the Society holds no December meeting since the fourth Tuesday of the month falls in the holiday period. The minutes were approved as read.

The President took occasion to introduce the five new members present at the meeting; Charles O. Coverley, John J. Fox, Jr., Robert C. Geyer, E. Theodore Holin and Ned I. Sosna. Also introduced was a guest, a Chinaman by birth, who had graduated with honors in architecture at the University of Illinois. He is now employed on the plans of the Tribune Square development. The President asked him, Stephen Tang, to speak on Chinese architecture. His remarks were short stating that it was about 9 years since he left China and was not long out of the University of Illinois. He said, however, that a distinctive feature of typical Chinese architecture was the curved roofs on which much thought and effort was spent. In strictly Chinese architecture all posts and columns had been of wood set on a sort of concrete foundation in the ground which had given much trouble.

There was no correspondence of importance to be brought before the membership. None of the standing or special committees had anything to report so the chairman proceeded to introduce the speaker of the evening whose subject was the Chicago Building Code. The speaker was Alderman John J. Duffy, Chairman of the Building and Zoning Committee of the City of Chicago. Mr. Duffy stated that he had been a member of this committee since 1935 and he told of the efforts made in developing the latest building code which was adopted in 1939. He spoke of the special committee appointed to formulate this code made up of engineers and architects under the chairmanship of the late Frederick Thielbar. He thought it a good code.

The law requires when such a code is put in the hands of the Aldermanic Committee of the city that committee hold public hearings and citizens interested in its enactment are invited to appear before the Aldermanic sub-committee and this happened as a matter of course in the case of the building code. The war came and with it improvements and new materials which naturally called for amendments. In many cases such amendments have been passed, but there is on the part of speculative builders and others an effort to upset completely the existing code. Some of these efforts are entirely sincere such as that of the Association of Commerce who have employed a specialist for about a year to formulate a new code which has been discussed. There is also the effort of the Pierce Foundation, an organization not for profit, that has worked along similar lines. The speaker dwelt upon the conscientious efforts of the Aldermanic Committee to be fairminded through all this, and he reminded his hearers that the Aldermanic Committee must always give consideration to the ideas and wants of their constituents.

Alderman Duffy said he would be happy to answer questions. A lively discussion followed participated in by the majority of the members. To the question whether the Aldermanic Committee in its public hearings accepted the advice of witnesses appearing before them, whether they had selfish motives in their recommendations to the aldermen, whether the labor union representatives usually appeared as well as men who were interested solely in having their own product recognized in the law, Mr. Duffy replied, that in all hearings there had been a representative of the architects and engineers committee who were called on for their opinion after outside witnesses had requested consideration and very generally, if not universally, the professional committee's views were followed by the aldermen. Many other questions were raised when finally Victor Matteson proposed the appointment of an Illinois Society committee to raise questions for submission to the aldermanic committee. Presi-

(Continued on page 8 column 2)

Chicago Chapter A.I.A. Dec. - Jan. Meetings

From the regular second Tuesday of the month meeting, the December meeting was shifted to December 7 since that date marked the closing of a three day session in Chicago of the officers and national directors of the A.I.A. The meeting place was the Drake Hotel with cocktails announced for 6 P.M. and the dinner at 7. Eighty-five attended. The meeting got under way about 8:15, after a good dinner. President Gerhard, sweeping away all preliminaries such as minutes of the previous meeting, proceeded to introduce the honored guests at the speakers' table. They were President James R. Edmunds, Jr.; Alexander C. Robinson, III, Secretary; Charles F. Cellarius, Treasurer; Edward C. Kemper, Executive Secretary; Edmund R. Purves, Washington Representative, and Directors Douglas Orr, Loring H. Provine, Louis Justement and Branson V. Gamber. Also introduced, and at the speakers' table was Henry H. Saylor, Editor of the Journal A.I.A.

Older chapter members present looked in vain for another man to be among the honored guests, namely C. Herrick Hammond, past president A.I.A. 1928-1930. Can it be that the officers manning the Chicago Chapter today are oblivious of the fact that Mr. Hammond, a Chicago architect and present at the meeting belonged among the honored guests? Could they have forgotten or perhaps never knew that Hammond was once President? Their Annuary will give them the name of all the presidents from 1857 down to and including the present incumbent.

President Edmunds spoke briefly, expressing appreciation for Chicago's hospitality, and touching upon the work of the Institute in matters presently under consideration. Mr. Orr went upon the board's plan to create in the Institute three main divisions; A, Institute affairs; B, Research and Education; C, Public and Professional Relations. Each division is to be headed by its own secretary working in coordination with the executive director of the Institute. Now came questions from the floor, put to the Board. William J. Ryan asked about the Institute's program for collaboration with the American Hospital Association. Messrs. Edmunds and Cellarius replied that the program was inaugurated to formulate a scheme making increasingly larger numbers of qualified architects accessible to hospital work. Messrs. Erikson and Fugard from the floor viewed the program with favor.

Now came a speaker who broke into the discussion unceremoniously, stating that he was not interested in the hospital question but was interested in housing. Other inappropriate remarks came from elsewhere in the hall which could not have made a good impression on our visitors. With more vigor on the part of the chairman and his gavel, smoother proceedings could have been maintained.

Director Justement said there should be greater cooperation between architects and builders, and that such a program should be worked out on a chapter level. Victor Matteson of Chicago suggested a change in the procedure for arriving at names for advancement to fellowship in the A.I.A.

The Chicago Chapter of the A.I.A. held its regular monthly meeting on January 8th in the Grill Room of the Builders Club with an attendance of about 40 members. President Paul Gerhardt, Jr. presided. He waived the reading of minutes of the December meeting and proceeded to report the doings of the Executive Committee meeting of December 8th. Among these was consideration of the Pierce Foundation report. Two guests present were introduced who had won prizes in the Chicago Herald American's Better Chicago Contest.

The President asked consideration of the membership of names of candidates for the election of a new A.I.A. Illinois-Wisconsin director. Victor Matteson's letter addressed to the Chapter on the method of securing names of corporate chapter members recommended for advancement in the A.I.A. fellowship was discussed. Mr. Matteson explained his objection to the present method and a resolution on this point was passed.

The subject for discussion at this meeting was "Is It Time to Bring Our Code of Ethics up to Date?" Should the Chicago Chapter join with the New York Chapter in its recommendation for a drastic revision of qualifications for membership in the A.I.A.? For this discussion the President called on J. Morgan Yost to conduct the discussion. It all goes back to the list of questions that the Wisconsin Chapter propounded to the A.I.A. directors which was published in the May, 1945 A.I.A. Bulletin and reprinted in the I.S.A. Bulletin for August-September, 1945.

The New York Chapter had, through its member, Arthur C. Holden, answered each of these questions in extenso and after Mr. Yost stated the question, John Stafford Cromelin read Mr. Holden's reply. Apparently there is an element in the Institute membership that feels that the code of ethics for the practice of architecture in this country by earlier generations of architects is, in many instances, passe in this day of huge corporations, mass production, and contractors of strong financial and executive ability who, like the Austin Company, act as masterbuilders and include in their contract the work of the architect. This latter phase injected itself into the views of many of the men entering the discussion.

Charles D. Faulkner held that an architect working for such a contractor, or shall we say masterbuilder, sells his license and is from then on merely the employee of the builder without any prestige such as he would have working directly for a client. This was disputed by others who held that the architect working directly for a client was still under orders and in the end had to submit to his client's views.

It was a long and animated discussion and the Chairman proposed that a series of direct questions be formulated by the Chapter and mailed to the membership for answers, which answers could be forwarded to the A.I.A. directors and to the New York Chapter, which Chapter is active in getting views of the chapters throughout the country with the idea of revising and modernizing the code of ethics.

Green Lumber Hazards in Postwar Housing

Forest Products Laboratory at Madison, Wisconsin has distributed advice on reducing the hazards of green framing lumber in postwar housing. The dissertation is written by L. V. Teesdale, engineer. Saw mill capacity in the past was greater than required to fill orders for lumber and hence there was time for air seasoning of this material. But this condition changed with Pearl Harbor, and Mr. Teesdale, says that if the enormous building program planned for immediate postwar work goes ahead according to schedule, it will be a long time before yard stocks of adequately seasoned lumber can be accumulated.

It is presumed by the laboratory no doubt, and perhaps rightly, that much of this postwar work will proceed without benefit of experienced architects writing knowing specifications and providing supervision at the building.

Mr. Teesdale makes clear that lumber is of two grades, (1) framing or yard lumber and (2) finishing lumber; framing lumber being customarily air dried while finishing lumber is kiln dried.

An example of a house built in Madison, Wisconsin in 1938 is cited. The house was finished in late September

(Continued on Page 11, Column 2)

Better Chicago Contest

The Chicago Herald-American has announced the 18 winners of the \$25,000 Better Chicago Contest.

First Main Prize (\$10,000): joint entry of David S. Geer, Edward W. Waugh and George Matsumoto, of Birmingham, Michigan.

Second Main Prize (\$5,000): joint entry of Ernest A. Grunsfeld, Jr., Wallace F. Yerkes, William K. Koenig, and Louis Wirth of Chicago.

Third Main Prize (\$2,000): joint entry of Ann Horn and Leroy Binkley, Glencoe, Illinois.

Neighborhood Community Problem

First Prize (\$1,000): joint entry of Ann Horn and Leroy Binkley

Second Prize (\$500): joint entry of Beatrice Takeuchi, Stanley Kazdailis, Crombie Taylor and David Aaron, Chicago, Illinois.

Political and Administration Problem

First Prize (\$1,000) joint entry of Lt. Charles A. Blessing, U.S.N.R., Pacific Grove, California, and Lt. Lester Johnson, U.S.N.R., Chicago, Illinois.

Second Prize (\$500): joint entry of Ann Horn and Leroy Binkley.

Industrial Area Development — \$1,000

Joint entry of Ann Horn and Leroy Binkley.

Retail Trade and Office Building Area — \$1,000

Joint entry of Lts. Blessing and Johnson.

Railroad Transportation Problem — \$1,000

Joint entry of Ernest A. Grunsfeld, Jr., Wallace F. Yerkes, William F. Koenig and Louis Wirth.

Highway Problem — \$1,000

Joint entry of David S. Geer, Edward W. Waugh and George Matsumoto.

Administrative and Cultural Center — \$1,000

Joint entry of Kazumi Adachi, Ralph Rapson, Florence Schust and Herbert Stevens, New York City. They awarded special honorable mention to three entrants.

The board of judges: Daniel H. Burnham Jr., John W. Root, Prof. Ovid Wallace Eshbach, Arthur Cutts Willard, Harold S. Buttenheim, Dr. Jesse E. Hobson, L. Moholy-Nagy, Walter Blucher, Walter F. Dodd, The Most Rev. Bernard J. Sheil, D.D., James C. Downs, Jr.

Winners of \$24,000 For Prize Homes

The 24 awards of \$1,000 each in The Tribune's Chicago-land Prize Homes Competition have been made.

Problem No. 1, for a house of a maximum floor area of 1,100 square feet for a lot 30 by 150 feet for a family of father, mother, and 6 year old son: D. Coder Taylor, Evanston, Illinois, Capt. Arthur Jack Sackville-West, Colorado Springs, Colorado, Charles W. Schroeder, Chicago, Illinois, Walter J. Thies, Dayton, Ohio; Lt. Custis S. Woolford Jr., South Orange, N.J., and Ensign Ralph DeLos Peterson Jr., New York, N.Y. (joint award), J. Floyd Yewell, New York, N.Y., George R. Klinkhardt, Berkeley, Cal., Lt. Stuermer, Chicago.

Problem No. 2, 1,400 square feet of floor area, building site 50 by 150 feet, for a family of parents and two children: Herbert C. Hanson, Chicago, and Henry Martorano, Chicago (joint award); Eric Wenstrand, Chicago, Carl L. Cederstrand, Wilmette, Illinois, Frederick E. Sloan, Golf, Illinois, Edward H. Glidden Jr., Baltimore Maryland and Eben D. Finney, Baltimore (joint award); Mrs. McKirahan, Stuttgart, Ark., Heidt Associates, Orange, Texas, Lt. (j.g.) W. R. Burns Jr., Harrisburg, Pa.

Problem No. 3, a dwelling of not more than 1,700 square feet floor area for a lot 75 by 150 feet for a family of

parents, two daughters, and a son: Arthur R. Myhrum, River Forest, Illinois, Howard J. Uebelhack, Wilmette, Illinois, Raymond W. Garbe, Wheaton, Illinois, Edward Hanson, Stillwater, Minnesota, Edward L. Burch, Evanston, Illinois, Joseph C. Gora, Boston, Massachusetts, Merwin H. Freeman, Los Angeles, California, Lt. Stuermer, Chicago, Illinois.

Boyd Hill, resident architect, served as professional adviser. The jury of awards consisted of Architects Paul Gerhardt Jr., Phillip B. Maher, John O. Merrill, John Park, and A. N. Rebori, and Builders Irvin A. Blietz, Arthur E. Fossier, J. E. Merrion, and John R. O'Connor.

Tribune Square Development

Excavation began November 23, 1945 for the first caisson of the \$6,000,000 addition to the Chicago Tribune Tower.

The new structure will add 2,252,800 cubic feet of space making a total cubage of Tribune properties joined together in one block 9,765,415 cubic feet. The new building will rise 8 stories from the Illinois street level equivalent to 7 stories from the upper Michigan Avenue level, though actually from the latter level it is 9 stories.

The new structure will provide for the expansion of newspaper departments and W-G-N facilities. Of the caissons planned, 13 have already been poured. These caissons go down to rock which is found at approximately 111 feet below surface soil.

Steel has been ordered for delivery March 1, 1946. There will be no riveting. All structural iron work will be welded thus avoiding interference with radio broadcasting and annoyance to Tower tenants and occupants of neighboring buildings.

Leo J. Weissenborn, Chicago, is the architect in charge of work. Harrison, Fouilhoux, and Abramovitz together with John M. Howells of New York are consultants on exterior design.

"I think a system whereby the Federal Government bribe the local government to do what it patently should do in its own interest is unlikely to produce practical and economical plans and quite likely to produce abuses and extravagances. The construction industry probably is going to build more in the next 10 years than in any previous decade. Beside private building, there necessarily must be a large amount of public construction.

"I believe the country will be most satisfactorily served if its many public improvement projects are carried out according to normal, pre-depression patterns of Federal, state and local responsibility."

—Thomas S. Holden, Pres. F. W. Dodge Corporation

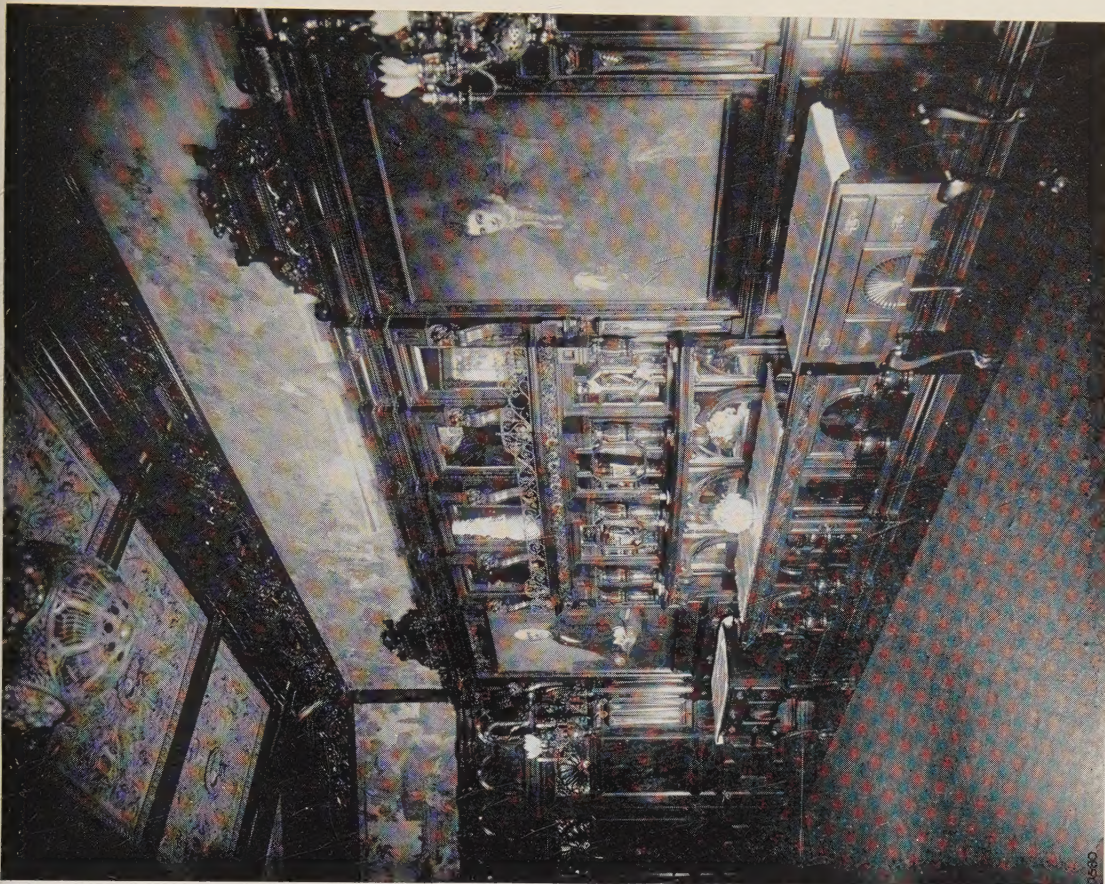
John W. Root announces that Joseph Z. Burgee, Chauncey Sherrick and William Holabird have been made partners and Richard McP. Cabeen, Gilbert P. Hall, David W. Carlson and Helmuth Bartsch have been made associates in the firm of Holabird & Root, architects.

(Continued from page 6 column 2)

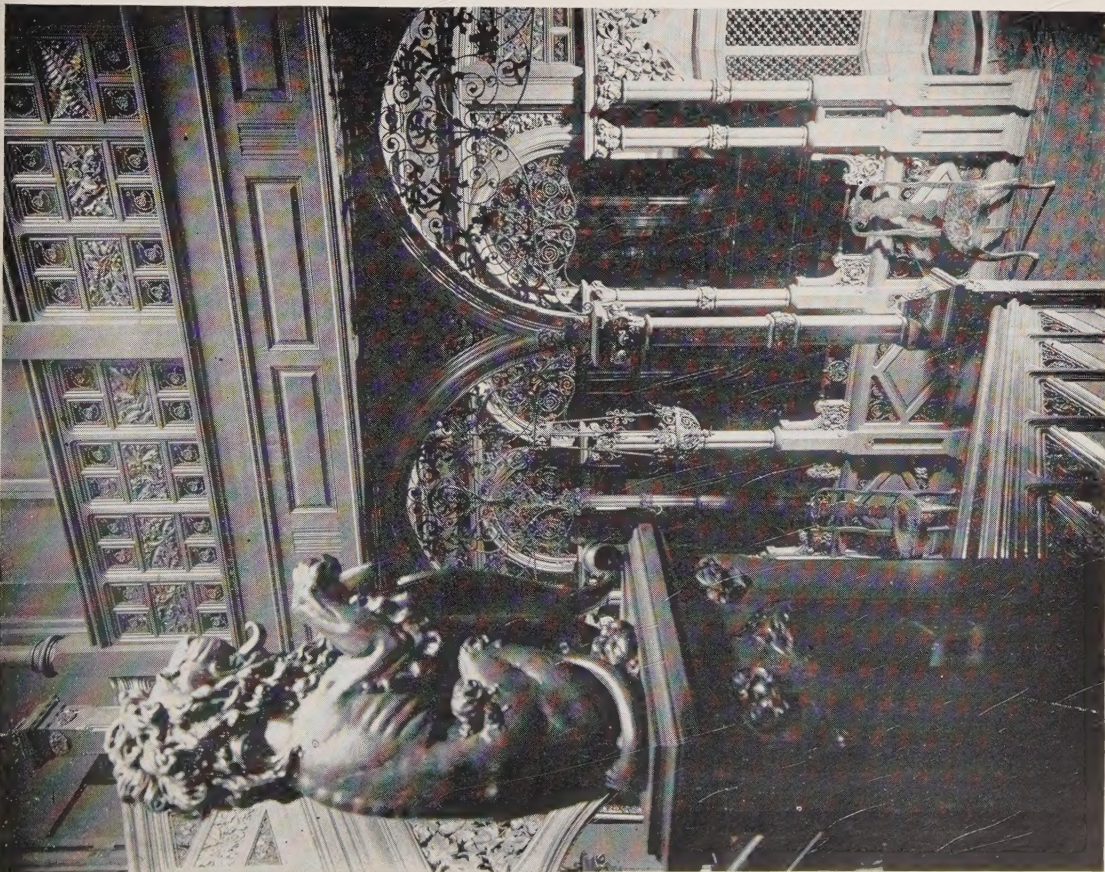
dent Smith replied that such appointment would be made by the Board of Directors. The President requested the Bulletin Editor to insert a notice as follows.

The Illinois Society of Architects membership is herewith requested to submit to the Board of Directors in writing such questions and recommendations that they believe in the best interests of the public for incorporation in amendments or rewriting of new building code for the City of Chicago. Such recommendations should be addressed in care of Herman L. Palmer, Financial Secretary.

The Board of Standards and Appeals, which was created by the present building code, functions irregularly. They have no fixed time of meeting. Alderman Duffy proposes to introduce a resolution in the Common Council requiring this board to have regular meeting dates as has the Zoning Board. The Zoning Board meets and gives hearings once every two weeks.



DINING ROOM NORTH WALL



MAIN STAIRWAY 2ND STORY LANDING VIEWED FROM ABOVE

POTTER PALMER MANSION - 1350 LAKE SHORE DRIVE, CHICAGO

(Continued from page 2 column 2)

Nineteen months after the permit was issued, this residence was reported "under shelter" and by January, 1884, Silsbee and Kent, selected by the Palmers to design the interior had finished the drawings. Herter Brothers, designing and contracting decorators in New York, were given the contract for the hall, dining room and other important rooms, evidently including the library.

The Vestibule has a marble mosaic floor and a wainscot of Siena marble six feet high with Mexican onyx panels; above this there is a Venetian glass and gold mosaic band of Byzantine design with carved mahogany cap, supporting a barrel-vaulted ceiling of the same carefully selected material. The doors leading to the porte cochere were said to be about 9 x 15 feet of solid mahogany. There are metal grilles of bronze, stained glass and semi-transparent onyx panels and two glass mosaic semi-circular lunettes above the mahogany side doors, the one to the right leading to the circular stairs, the other to the elevator. This combination of nature's richly colored materials with man's handiwork gives at once the feeling of warmth and welcome to a most hospitable home.

The Hall is entered from the northeast. It is octagonal though not equilateral, about 30 feet across with the corners clipped off, to give diagonal approach to rooms or to accommodate the fireplace. With many uses and more services, it is a case of the styles following different functions.

Is it English Gothic? The brackets supporting the galleries or balconies on the north and south recall the hall at Windsor castle, but the lesser gallery bracketless projections on the east and west indicate Brothers Adam, while the glass mosaic panels and the carving on the mantle hark back to Romanesque; the slender clustered annulated foliated columns, with the diamond shaped panels of the gallery balustrade speak Parisian French. This leaves the mihrab, or arched niche, with its pinjra, or lattice work, to take us to Cairo and Constantinople.

This Hall, with the notable marble mosaic floor of its day, with six doorways leading to important apartments, forms a spacious meeting place for social assemblages. Its paneled and carved ceiling-high oak walls, with brilliant glass and gold mosaics, with brackets of moulded and carved fascias for the projecting galleries; with carved paneled balustrades, clustered, annulated columns, perforated brass sliding screens, foliated iron work in German patterns filling the arches of the arcades, flanked by the oriole latticed niches and crowned by the bracketed cove and stained glass dome, is impressive when seen from below or panoramaed from the galleries. It is the outstanding feature of the interior and was particularly commended by the great H. H. Richardson when he visited the building.

The Stairs are to the west and lead up from a

triple arched arcade of slender pedestaled columns bearing the coats of arms of both Mr. and Mrs. Palmer. The same wood is used throughout; the balustrades are composed of carved wood panels and small triangular iron grilles, the other panels are of perforated carved leaf designs; the newels at the second story support lions seated upright with extended tongues, partly concealed tails and forepaws holding vertical shields in front of them; the illustration shows the detail of the wood carving and the handicraft of the iron work and a view of the inside of a mihrab with its latticed panels and cozy seat for a tete-a-tete.

Mihrabs originally designed solely for prayers were built out from the wall facing Mecca; when brought to this fresh water shore, to a financial social as well as religious center, four of them were used facing in four directions. The Meshrebeeyeh or turned latticed screen of Egypt, does not generally project but is part of the wall.

The Dining Room to the southwest when seen through the open double doors is a startling view of a spacious room finished entirely in San Dominigan mahogany above its parquetry floor. It had clipped off corners and was too wide for its length being 24 x 32 feet. This led to filling the extra space to the south with a large four bodied Elizabethian sideboard or buffet with bulbous-meloned and fluted columns, turned, polished and carved supporting three free-standing arches with foliated spandrels embracing that side and reaching to the ceiling; it shows some of the richly carved features of the court-cupboard or earlier Italian chest.

The Chimney piece, similar in style and material occupies the entire west wall and like the sideboard arches and window head extends through the cornice line to the ceiling beams. It has niches at the sides with a broad carved shelf for the mantel portion and three pilastered arched mirrored panels extending up to the moulded top.

The Sideboard on the north between the portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Palmer is subdued and kept well within the nine foot wainscot that is carried around four of the eight sides of this room; the plain panels with their bright tropical colors that make one wonder whose hands have produced their polish and whose eyes have enjoyed their beauty, between this wainscot and the carved cornice under the ceiling beams that outline the ornamental modeled and decorated panels, is a wide mural frieze.

John Elliott, an American artist, a talented pupil of Villegas, produced these successful oil paintings of cupids on a golden background amid rich autumnal colorings, mimicking varied actions of adults in a grape vine arbor of Arcadia. While enjoying these emotional poses one feels that he is viewing the masterpiece of the interior decorations of this mansion.

(This article will be concluded in the March-April issue of The Bulletin.)

M.I.T. Builds Its Own Homes

Because of the housing shortage in Greater Boston, Massachusetts Institute of Technology is conducting a home-building project of its own. It is erecting 100 small modern homes a setting of green lawns.

The people who rent these homes must meet certain qualifications. The head of the house must be a World War veteran, must be married and must be enrolled at M.I.T. Fifty of the houses will be for married veterans without children—and the remaining 50 will be for veterans with children.

The project has been approved by the city officials of Cambridge and is under the direction of the Institute's School of Architecture and Planning, headed by Dean William W. Wurster. This department has called on the Department of Building Engineering and Construction for help in working out heating facilities, foundations, insulation lighting and structural details. The advice of the Civil, Mechanical and Sanitary Engineering Departments has been sought on grading and drainage, planning roads, paths, water, sewer, gas and electric installations.

Working together, this "home talent" seemed to think of everything. The site chosen, for example, is a 10-acre plot next to the athletic field and within easy walking distance of the libraries and college buildings.

The dwellings will be much like small apartments in size and will be arranged as single and twin houses. Each house will have a kitchen unit containing a sink, electric refrigerator and gas range. This unit will be in one corner of the living room and concealed by doors when not in use.

The houses will be insulated, heated by gas, and will have screened-in porches. Because of the shortage of bathtubs, showers will be installed. And the mere men didn't forget to allow ample closet space. They seemed to think of everything.

The houses will be removed in five or six years. Meanwhile, the Institute plans that they shall serve as sort of a "pilot plant" for the study of what may be needed in the way of future permanent housing for married students, research assistants and young instructors. The project is being financed by the Institute's endowment fund and rent will be low.

—BERNARD G. PRIESTLEY
in *Nations Business*

(Continued from Page 5, Column 2)

of his day. Other Chicago examples of his work are the Marshall Field Wholesale Building and the J. Glessner residence at 18th and Prairie. Next north stood the house of S. E. Barratt, a dignified one structure by Cobb & Frost architects. Then came successively the M. D. Ogden, V. C. Turner, Mrs. Barbara Armour, George A. Armour, and A. C. McClurg homes and finally at the corner of Burton Place, the O. W. Potter house. All of these homes have vanished except for the A. C. McClurg house. The Barbara Armour, George A. Armour, and A. C. McClurg houses were all the work of Francis M. Whitehouse, architect. They were all dignified handsome structures of brick with stone trimmings except for the Potter house which had an exterior of St. Lawrence marble. The Potter house was not of distinguished architecture but became conspicuous through the literary achievements of Mr. Potter's two daughters, Mrs. Daniels and Margaret Potter. The McClurg house is a handsome essay in the architecture of the Louis XII

wing of Chateau Blois on the Loire. Its dormers are particularly reminiscent of that wing.

The block north from Burton Place to North Avenue had at the south end a dignified, well designed house, the home of Victor Lawson, owner of the Chicago Daily News, whose architect was R. Clipston Sturgis of Boston. It is said that the bricks of the exterior were imported from Holland. The house had beautifully finished interiors. Then came a series of residences occupied by Mr. Blair, Bernhard Eckhart and others, ending at North Avenue with the very large Elizabethan home of Richard Crane Jr., Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, Boston architects. The Lawson house has disappeared. Those in the middle of the block as well as the Crane house stand and are occupied as single family residences.

The building of individual family homes on Lake Shore Drive ceased with the outbreak of World War I. After that war the houses that disappeared were replaced by tall pretentious apartment houses, the destiny of that property today. Many of these apartment houses are crowned with penthouses where the tenants may have a glorious view not alone of the heavens but of the surrounding country and Lake Michigan for miles. The sandy trail of the 1880s with little traffic is now metamorphosed into three wide asphalted pavements separated by two park strips with trees. It is one of the busiest traffic arteries in Chicago. Many thousand of automobiles roll by every day and traffic cops are essential to prevent accidents at street intersections.

Chicago Sun Building to Cover a Block

Construction of a four-story block-square plant to house the Chicago Sun is scheduled to start early this summer according to Marshall Field, III, owner, publisher, and editor of the paper. The building is estimated to cost \$8,000,000 and will occupy the area bounded by Madison Street, Market Street, Monroe Street, and the Chicago River.

It is planned to complete the building with installation of equipment by July, 1947. The Chicago Sun has been edited and printed in the Daily News Building beginning with its initial issue in December, 1941.

The structure will front on Madison Street with its first floor devoted to the newspaper's public service facilities, want ad counters and subscription department. The second floor, will house the circulation and mailing departments and storage space for newsprint. The composing, engraving and stereotyped sections will occupy the third floor, and the editorial, advertising and executive offices will take up the fourth floor. The architects of the building are Shaw, Naess & Murphy, and William Ginsberg of New York is the consulting engineer.

(Continued from Page 7, Column 2)

when outdoor temperatures were in the 80's, and the atmosphere humid. The heating plant was kept in operation and the carpenter's foreman set the thermostat at 15°F above the outdoor temperature when he left the building after work. In the morning he turned it back.

The flooring and interior finish are in perfect condition after seven years while other houses finished at the same time but without protection had trouble as soon as the heat was turned on after the building was occupied. Floors developed wide cracks, doors warped, panels shrank, cracks developed in mitered trim, and stair treads creaked where they shrank away from the bearings.

Six pieces of literature are available on this subject to those applying direct to Forest Products Laboratory.

Jarrot Mansion at Cahokia Restored

Guy Study, St. Louis architect, reports in the September, 1945 Illinois State Historical Society Journal the complete restoration of the 150 year old brick house built by Nicholas Jarrot at Cahokia, Illinois, one of the most historic homes in the Mississippi Valley. Constructed about 1800, it has always been known throughout the American Bottom as the Mansion House. Architects on the restoration were Study, Farrar & Majers with Hoener & Hubbard as associates, both firms of St. Louis, Missouri.

Nicholas Jarrot, original owner, was born in France and came to America about 1775. He went to Baltimore and from there came to the French settlements in the American Bottom, becoming a resident of Kaskaskia. In 1795 he moved to Cahokia. He was a successful merchant and in time became immensely wealthy as a landowner, eventually acquiring some 25,000 acres of rich farm land in the American Bottom. Like other leading French families in this part of Illinois, he owned slaves. The domestic servants were quartered in the basement of the mansion where four fireplaces which they used may be seen today. The framing used for the floors and roof is of heavy walnut timbers doweled and tendoned together with oak pegs. All brick for the mansion was made by hand from clay dug out of the adjacent fields. Window and door frames and other millwork were made by hand planes from walnut timbers cut in the neighboring forest. While the original roof had wood shingles, these in time gave place to a red Spanish tile roof. In 1944 the Spanish tile gave way to Williamsburg shingle tile.

The property today is owned by Oliver Lafayette Parks, president of Parks Air College. The house will serve as residence and guest house for its owner and the spacious grounds will be available for the expansion of the college.

New Tacoma Narrows Bridge

A new suspension bridge has been designed for Tacoma Narrows to replace the former structure that collapsed on November 7, 1940. Following the failure, a committee of bridge specialists was organized to study the general question of suspension bridge design, and to cooperate in wind tunnel investigations initiated by the Washington Toll Bridge Authority.

An article on the redesign of this bridge by Charles E. Andrew, Chief Consulting Engineer, Washington Toll Bridge Authority, appeared in the Engineering News-Record of November 29, 1945. This report indicates that through newly developed wind tunnel techniques on full length bridge models a means has been found for predetermining the vibratory action of the prototypes. The result is a new suspension bridge design that takes aerodynamic considerations scientifically into account.

What this country needs isn't more liberty, but less people who take liberties with our liberty.

Emil Robert Zettler, Chicago Sculptor, died in Highland Park, Illinois, Hospital January 10th, age 67 years. Mr. Zettler was born in Karlsruhe, Germany, coming to this country with his parents as a young child. He studied art first at the Chicago Art Institute, followed by some years in European art schools. He made an exhaustive study of the sculptures in Chartres Cathedral. He had been Associate Professor at Armour Institute of Technology, Professor of Design of the School of Industrial Art at Chicago Art Institute, member of Chicago's Municipal Art Commission 1915-19. He was designer of the official medal for the Century of Progress Exposition at Chicago 1933. In 1930 he was awarded the degree of Master of Fine Arts at the Art Institute of Chicago. He was awarded medals at the Chicago Art Institute, San Francisco Exposition, and elsewhere. He had exhibited at the Salon in Paris.

Retrospects — "The Iroquois Theater Fire"

Louis Guenzel, Chicago Architect, has now published English a report which he wrote in German at the request of Dr. Walter Wever who in 1903 and 1904 and later was German Consul-General at Chicago. Dr. Wever immediately after the Iroquois Fire, December 30, 1903, requested Architect Guenzel in the name of the German Government to make a careful report of the disaster. Mr. Guenzel very soon after the happening set to work on a thorough examination of the premises after permission was granted by the city authorities. Mr. Guenzel at the theater took measurements and developed floor plans and figures which accompanied his report.

This report now published in English (copyrighted 1944 price 50c) is now available. The introduction under date of November 30, 1945 tells the circumstances under which the report was made and the Guenzel findings. The pamphlet is named Retrospects by Louis Guenzel — "The Iroquois Theater Fire". It reproduces Mr. Guenzel's parquet, balcony and gallery floor plans, longitudinal and cross section through theater and stair hall and two photographs of the stair hall surrounding a court. The writer says "notwithstanding the many faults and defects in the planning of the theater and the unparralleled negligence displayed in its supervision and operation, all of the suits ended in verdicts 'Not guilty'." The closing paragraph of the introduction reads: "For that reason and because of the fact that even today fire-hazards are plentiful in our community, as severe occurrences have demonstrated of late, I have decided upon releasing my original report in translated form, together with plans and photos made by me at a time when firemen were still searching the smouldering and odorous ruins for undiscovered victims and lost apparel and other valuables."

Charles Jay Connick, internationally known stained glass window designer, died in Newton, Mass. December 28, age 70. Windows in the Fourth Presbyterian Church, Chicago, are designed and executed by Connick.

James B. Rezny, Chicago architect died December 15 in his home, age 74. Mr. Rezny was born in Chicago. In his earlier years in architecture he worked on the plans of the Chicago Auditorium in Adler and Sullivan's office. Later for some years, he was head draftsman in the office of Jarvis Hunt, architect. He was of the first group to take the architect's examination under the Illinois License Law. He joined the Illinois Society of Architects in June, 1898 and was made an emeritus member in 1941.

Herman L. Matz, widely known among the older Chicago architects whom he served as a dealer in face brick, died in Illinois Masonic Hospital, Chicago, December 12, in his 87th year. Mr. Matz was born in Chicago, graduated from Williams College in 1880 with an A.B. degree. Later he became secretary of the New York Architectural Terra Cotta Company, then the secretary of the Chicago Hydraulic Pressed Brick Company, then Vice President, S. S. Kimball Brick Company and finally President of the Howard Matz Brick Company, from which he retired in 1928.

Ewald Frederick Bargman, retired Chicago architect, died in his home in Chicago November 20, 1945, age 85 years. Mr. Bargman was born in Hamburg, Germany. He pursued his studies in architecture and painting first in Germany followed by three years in Paris and five in Italy. Architecture took him to Trieste, Austria's port on the Adriatic, where he was associated in the building of the great docks. In Chicago he maintained a private practice, 1890-98. He became architect to railroad companies serving successively the Rock Island, C. B. & Q., Missouri Pacific, Chicago and Alton, and Illinois Central. He was in the Illinois Central service 35 years when he retired in 1928. A versatile man Mr. Bargman had painted 80 canvasses, published two volumes of his own poems, "At the Gates of Eden" and "The Little Town of Mestri". He spoke five languages. He had been an active member of the Chicago Architectural Sketch Club.