

Unification For Illinois

By Norman J. Schlossman, Secretary, Chicago Chapter, A. I. A.

State-wide and national unification is an urgent and vital need of the architectural profession. It is a requisite for the relationships to be maintained with legislative bodies and governmental agencies, with other professional and trade associations, with educational bodies and registration boards, and with the public at large.

When, as a profession, we meet with members of the State legislature, with national bodies, or with State and Federal officials in matters of architectural concern or vital to the public we serve, it is immeasurably more effective to be represented by one organization empowered to speak for all rather than by a plurality of groups, arguing on behalf of a few. In matters of public service, planning, fees, publicity and a host of others, the profession can be tremendously more potent in the service of itself, as well as of others, through coordinated effort.

Everyone who has seen fit to associate himself with an architectural society has, through that action, recognized the importance and value of mutual association, group effort and unity, locally. How, then, can we deny our even greater need to be as cohesive, strong and unified in state, or even in national fields as we attempt to be in more limited ones?

But "the subject of unification and the subject of women are alike," says Roger Allen, "everybody's in favor of it but nobody knows just how to handle it." We trust this will ultimately not prove true in Illinois. Every architectural organization in the state has endorsed unification. Each admits the advantages to be derived therefrom. All are seemingly for it—in principle. It is only when we commence to put unification into practice; when we attempt to reduce to writing the high principles we have applauded vocally; when we come down to the realities of "who", "how", "when", "where", and "how much", that our ideals, apparently, fall victim to our doubts and fears. Is it possible that a profession which prides itself on its ability to think, organize, plan and direct should be less able to do for itself what it performs so effectively for others? Are architects to be the shoemaker's children?

If we are ever to unite, there could be no better time than now. After successive periods of collapse, inactivity and war, there now emerges that long-heralded "Post-War Era" with convincing promise of sustained construction activity. The pattern is now being set which will endure for years to come. Who will plan—who will direct—and who will master-build? If the architectural profession is to resist the inroads of others and is to retain the position of leadership it claims for itself, it must now, as never before, be firmly united on all fronts.

The current demand for unification which has arisen throughout the country is not alone due—not even in a major part, perhaps—to a natural upsurge on the part of architects, for unity in the face of this predicted unparalleled expansion of the building industry. Most credit, instead, must be given to The American Institute of Architects which, in recent years, has inaugurated and sustained a nation-wide effort to provide a truly representative national organization for all architects throughout the nation. The Institute policies, towards co-operative action on a national scale and towards a broadened base of membership, to be participated in by every reliable architect in every state of the Union,

have flourished. In spite of War-time conditions, The A.I.A. has grown already to include, as corporate members, more than one out of every three architects of the country and unification is already a fact in the State of California, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, Florida, Michigan and Ohio. It has always existed in many others. Is Illinois, the state which, through the efforts of the Illinois Society of Architects, was the first to adopt an Architectural Registration Act, to be less progressive in the cause of professional unity?

Primary action towards unification has been taken in Illinois. The first state-wide meeting of representatives of all four Illinois architectural organizations was held September 8th at the behest of The A.I.A. to determine if a sufficient will existed in all of the organizations to make pursuit of unification worth while. It seemed evident at that meeting that everyone desired unification in some form or other. Understandably enough, none of the organizations wished to surrender its identity, but beyond that the desire to cooperate with the others was expressed by all and no dissenting voice was raised to the program of unification, which was thereupon determined to be begun.

In accordance with the unanimous action taken at that meeting, two delegates were selected by the executive boards of each of the organizations and subsequently met in Urbana on November 17th to develop (subject to the approval of the membership of each organization) a plan of action, to draft by-laws and to determine a name for a new State Council to be formed for the purpose of mutual, cooperative and unified state-wide architectural representation. The four organizations represented at this meeting, each by two delegates, were the following:

Illinois Society of Architects

Chicago Chapter, A.I.A.

Central Illinois Chapter, A.I.A.

Registered Architects Ass'n of Southern Illinois

At this meeting, as at the first, encouraging and significant progress was made. The desire of each of the organizations for some form of unification was reaffirmed, the structural character that this unification should take was determined, and it was agreed that the tentative drafting of by-laws should commence as quickly as practicable between the Registered Architects Association of Southern Illinois and the Central Illinois Chapter, A.I.A. on the one hand, and between the Illinois Society of Architects and the Chicago Chapter, A.I.A. on the other, both groups using the same agreed upon model set of by-laws as the basis for their work. It was heartening to note that all of these decisions were again unanimously agreed to by all of the delegates from all of the organizations.

The only reservation to unification again made by the convening organizations, particularly the Illinois Society, was that each organization should retain its own identity. The structural character that the new State Council should assume became, therefore, a matter of prime importance at the meeting. It received lengthy consideration and was finally evolved as follows:

1. The new State Council will consist of four divisions: three geographical, and one state-wide.
2. The geographical divisions will be Southern, Central,

and Northern, represented by the Registered Architects Association of Southern Illinois, the Central Illinois Chapter, A.I.A., and the Chicago Chapter, A.I.A., respectively.

3. The state-wide division will have no geographical limitations and will be represented by the Illinois Society of Architects.

4. Representation in the Council will be by delegates from each division proportioned equitably in number and selected in a manner that each division shall itself determine.

5. The new State Council, if so mutually agreed, would be affiliated with The American Institute of Architects, and will be the sole agency within the State empowered to speak and act for *all* architects of the State on public, professional or governmental matters of state-wide concern.

6. It will be the prerogative of individual architects to affiliate with either a geographical division or the state-wide division, or both, as they may themselves prefer.

7. It will *not* be mandatory for each of the divisional organizations to become directly associated, nor to maintain direct affiliations with The American Institute of Architects.

The above seven points constitute the plan that was at that time agreed to unanimously.

Since the Urbana meeting, two subsequent meetings have been held between representatives of the Illinois Society and the Chicago Chapter for the purpose of drafting tentative by-laws. One such meeting has been held between the representatives of the Central Illinois Chapter and the Registered Architects Association of Southern Illinois. Further regional and joint meetings were scheduled to be held. It was hoped that these meetings would be fruitful and that from them would come the means for that vigorous unity of action which is so decidedly needed.

Suddenly, however, the feeling has crept in on the part of some that unification, preferably mild and innocuous, is acceptable at a state level; but, unification of any sort is highly objectionable and dangerous if on a national scale to any degree whatsoever. There is even the possibility that the haunting fears of some, of domination within the State by malevolent forces from without, will emasculate, if not entirely destroy, the entire program of state-wide unification thus far advanced. Actually, we locally in The A.I.A. believe most fervently that unification, nation-wide in its scope, is the one best hope of the profession. But whether or not this opinion prevails, we ourselves will not let an adverse decision interfere with our participation in the great, although obviously lesser, good to be obtained from *any* reasonable form of State unification, even if confined within State limits alone.

The American Institute of Architects has set no prescribed pattern which must be adhered to state by state. The organizational form adopted by Pennsylvania is different from that followed by California. Florida's is still different and so is Ohio's. The determination of the form which unification shall take is reserved unto each state, as the state itself sees fit. For the timid of heart, the state by-laws may even set forth in written detail those prerogatives it wishes to guard and preserve unto itself, and those, if any, it is willing to delegate, with safeguards, to the national body.

One thing seems clear. Any plan which advances the cause of unification within the State, as the State in its own wisdom may determine, if at all reasonable and if not counter to the national interests of the profession, will meet with approval by The A. I. A. There is no desire by The Institute for "direction-from-the-top" in State affairs. There is not even any recorded past action or statement by The Institute to justify the visions of such a spectre. The following excerpt, in fact, from the letter by President Edmunds of The Institute, in response to just such questions, states as clearly

as language permits, that the very opposite is the fact:

"...It is the expressed policy of the A.I.A. that each State Organization shall exercise complete autonomy and that the A.I.A. will only attempt to carry out the wishes of all of its component organizations from the standpoint of action as a national organization.

Believing that the interests of our profession can be served by such a policy of national action, and attempting in such a manner to work 'from the bottom up', we hope that any misunderstanding of the Institute's program and policy may be eliminated..."

It is the purpose of The Institute to represent the profession in national matters alone, to the end that in our own interests we may become more closely knit, and that the cause of architecture may be presented to the American public with a convincing unity of voice and action. The Institute is the *only* nation-wide eye, ear and voice of the profession and it can be effective only to that degree to which state and local organizations partake in it and of it, and cooperate through it with each other. To that extent alone will national policies and actions of the profession reflect the composite judgment of professional problems as they appear locally. It would be unfortunate indeed should Illinois partake or contribute to a lesser degree than any other state.

Our immediate concern, however, is closer to home. We must conquer unification within the State before we can join the attack afield. Our desire for state-wide co-ordination and unity of purpose cannot be passive. It is not sufficient to negate and reject. There must be the understanding, good will and enthusiasm of every participant. If the principle is good, it deserves such support. If not—it should never have received the unanimous assent it has thus far been given.

The Board of Directors of the Illinois Society has seen fit by recent decisions, to table any further action towards unification. It has seemingly determined to retreat from the progressive position which its delegates, with those of the other architectural organizations of the State have so resolutely assumed from September until now. It has not only seemingly rejected the only plan thus far advanced; it has neglected the state, except in generalities, its objections thereto; or to advance constructive suggestions, amendments, or even an alternate plan of its own which would reflect the kind of unification deemed acceptable to it and which must presumably have been in mind during its previous period of endorsement.

It is to be sincerely hoped that these decisions will not be permanent and that an early reconsideration by the Illinois Society will lead to a resumption of progressive mutual action by all four organizations. Whether or not this proves true, our obligation to the profession itself demands that its interests not be retarded. The desire for cooperative action by the majority of the affiliated architects of the State, as represented by the three other organizations, dictates that unification must and will proceed on a state-wide basis. We shall follow that dictate.

The profession faces limitless opportunities. The way is open, nationally, for new and notable professional contributions. We, in this State, must face it with mutual good will with strength, with cooperation and with unity.

Thomas Nixon Carver says, the statesman who can make two first-rate enterprisers grow where one grew before will do more for labor than all the politicians combined.

Sen. Hugh Butler of Nebraska concluded a recent speech on federal finances: "75 minutes have elapsed since this afternoon session began. During that time the federal Government has spent more than \$9,000,000. It has added \$4,000,000 to the debt — your debt."

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Editor Monthly Bulletin

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

The much heralded vastness of building construction to be taken up immediately following the war is failing, its a disappointment—a “confusion worse confounded”, to quote from Paradise Lost. There were and still are labor strikes, there is a great scarcity of labor and material, there is much interference through directives issued by Washington bureaucrats, apprenticeships are not well attended, and labor is scarce.

The National Housing Agency estimates that 12,600,000 urban units and between 2,000,000 and 3,000,000 farm units must be built in the next ten years to give America enough housing for its population. Nothing very substantial is currently being done. Less than 500,000 urban residential units can be provided in 1946 says the Engineering News-Record. It says that “at least three years will be required for building to be in full swing and five years before homes will be available in all communities; that Congress passed a deficiency bill providing \$191,900,000 for dismanteling and erecting at new sites about 100,000 temporary war housing units. This work is under way by the N.H.A. Very few houses of prefabricated construction reached the market in 1945 and the cost reduction through prefabrication has proved to be a myth to date.” “To increase wages until production is attained, will merely hold industry on the present dead center of limping activity—and at a higher level of costs that would be detrimental to labor” says the E.N.R.

The Administration's two big shots in the control of building are Chester Bowles heading the Economic Stabilization Wage Adjustment Board, and Wilson W. Wyatt, National Housing Administrator, who is the expediter. Both these men have been much in the press, both the daily and technical press. Mr. Bowles at one time was quoted as favoring the elimination of all industrial planning until the housing situation was satisfactorily eased. Apparently Bowles did not consider the necessity of war veterans and others to get jobs in industrial plants and other business concerns in order to earn money, and Wyatt has talked large before Congress favoring the Patman Housing Bill with a provision to provide

\$600,000,000 for subsidies for increasing the output of building materials. The House passed the Patman Bill but eliminated the subsidy. The Senate is yet to be heard from.

On March 6 the Chicago Tribune said editorially, “since V-J Day last August there have been 26,000 marriages in Cook County and permits have been issued for only 4,000 new places to live. Why is there so little building? There are two principal reasons. Many building materials are not available. The trouble is that the OPA maintains such ceilings on prices that the building material industry is paralyzed. The proposed subsidy is a confession that Bowles has paralyzed building — subsidies are the most inflationary operation that the Government engages in — the inflation makes the shortages, not the other way around. We won't have any kind of building here until the Government takes its foot off the building material industry. No one is so foolish to build and expect Bowles to be fair with him.”

Communities are trying to help create housing. The Chicago Common Council passed a housing ordinance authorizing the C.H.A. to erect frame buildings and trailers on public land, including city and school property. The C.H.A. is permitted to erect the buildings without obtaining permits and exempt from building regulations. Fire limits are waived. Provision is made for removal of the units within two years after the housing emergency. Immediate construction contemplates 1,900 temporary frame buildings, 1,000 trailers and 500 demountable houses.

The Washington office of the A.I.A. addressed a communication to Expediter Wilson W. Wyatt in which it said, “We believe that it will be a serious mistake to devote an excessive share of construction facilities to the production of housing; for this will inevitably result in a lack of places of employment, schools, hospitals and community facilities which will seriously interfere with job opportunities and the welfare of the veteran and his family. It is our firm belief that the crux of the problem lies in the stimulation of the production of building materials and that this aspect of the problem should receive initial emphasis. We are definitely opposed to subsidies for prefabricated houses and particularly opposed to guaranteeing a market for this industry.”

There comes to mind in this connection the action of President Wilson in taking the management of the railroads out of the hands of the trained and experienced railroad officials when he appointed William McAdoo as Executive Director of Railroads during World War I. The President thought, no doubt, that under the Government Executive, transportation of men and materials would be accelerated thus facilitating the shortening of the war. The railroads under McAdoo management slumped. The service was not what was expected and the railroads ran down pitifully. In World War II the constituted private management of railroads was left undisturbed. The transportation service called for, far exceeded that called for in World War I. The railroads reported themselves in a splendid manner and while rolling stock and rails did run down, transportation of men and materials for war purposes was excellent and contributed much to the successful logistics of the war. Why could not as much be expected of the building industry left in private hands?

The old problem of adding to the White House in Washington, D. C. is ever new when the President requires an enlargement of his executive staff. President F. D. Roosevelt felt the pressure for more office space and for him White House architect Lorenzo S. Winslow prepared plans for extending the executive department to the south, parallel to the State Department building. It came as a surprise to the architects of the country, to read in the daily press that foundations for this extension were in, that the cost would be \$1,600,000.00 and that president Truman needed the space at the earliest moment possible. When the architects' deep interest in the James Hoban White House through the decades since its reconstruction after the war of 1812 is considered, surprise and irritation in the profession is not to be wondered at. We learn that the project has been dropped, even though foundations were in.

We think of the interest that was taken in the East Wing extension, designed by Charles McKim in the administration of Theodore Roosevelt and how the profession was constantly kept in touch with what was to be done. Now the February issue of the Journal of the A.I.A. presents an article on the proposed White House addition, and the Board of Directors have released to chapters and state societies, views on the White House extension. We quote these views herewith, in part: "The American Institute of Architects suggests the construction of a temporary structure raised over West Executive Avenue and adjacent to the State Department building . . . The building would be an unsightly makeshift but this would be an advantage, because for that very reason it would not be allowed to remain indefinitely . . . The National Capital Park and Planning Commission should be required to prepare, in consultation with the Public Buildings Administration, an overall plan of the area immediately adjacent to the White House for the purpose of solving, in a permanent fashion, the requirements for executive offices . . . This would permit the restoration of the White House in accordance with its status in 1902 as the residence of the President."

Corrosion of Water Pipes

Water Service Laboratories, New York City, has taken samples of corroded pipes taken from apartment houses, office buildings, hotels and hospitals furnishing a graphic portrayal of the formation of corrosion products that clog pipes, restrict the flow of water, create expensive and dangerous leaks and discolor the water.

In addition to the display of old iron pipes, there is a unique array of yellow brass pipe specimens illustrating the corrosive effect of water on this material, which for many years was thought immune to attack.

Sponsors of the exhibit believe that this demonstration makes it plain that no metal is immune to corrosion and that the rate of corrosion depends principally upon the characteristics of the water involved.

In 10 buildings where ordinary materials were used for hot and cold water lines, the average life to failure was 20.2 years. In 10 other buildings where wrought iron was used, the average life to date was 46.9 — and the material was still on the job, or had served till the buildings were razed.

Great Early Medieval Churches

Under the auspices of the University of Chicago, Professor Kenneth J. Conant, historian of architecture in the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, addressed an audience in Mandel Hall, U. of C. on January 31 on "Great Early Medieval Churches; The Development of Their Monumental Form." The address was illustrated on the screen. In substance he said:

This lecture is in effect a tabloid history of medieval church architecture. It begins with a consideration of early and simple forms related to synagogue architecture and concludes with elaborate Gothic works, but it is not a study under the usual heading of style: the approach is functional.

The best architects throughout the Middle Ages were in the service of the Church, and the growth of its architectural forms came about through the imaginative solution of problems regarding the position and movement of the clergy and the people in the church buildings. Recent studies and excavations make it possible to follow this living or personal history of ecclesiastical construction.

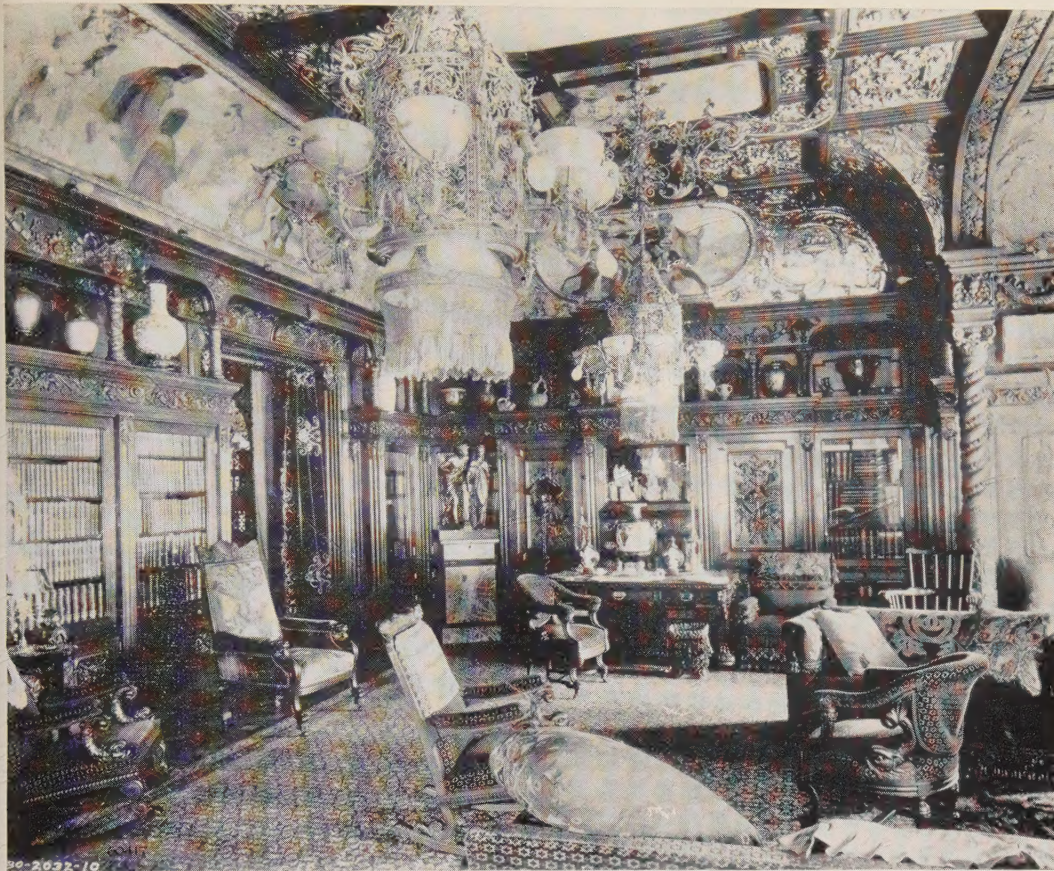
Classic synagogues are known to have been built somewhat like law-court halls. Religious character was given to them by special chancel furniture for reading and enshrining the scrolls of the Law. The Christian church presented a more difficult problem, for it housed not only liturgies like those performed in the synagogue halls, but also (at the altars) observances comparable to those performed at the Temple in Jerusalem and heard by the people in its open courtyard. By the fourth century the main problems of this situation had been solved, as at Old St. Peter's basilica in Rome.

Early attempts to make the service easier for a large congregation to see and hear suggested a central placement of the altar. Central towers thus came into church architecture, in order to improve the lighting and simplify the roofing, as at St. John's Ephesus (fifth century). The tower motive was taken up by Romanesque and later by Gothic architects, who produced imposing effects of silhouette, as at Salisbury and Rouen (to name only two famous examples). The dome of the present St. Peter's in Rome exemplifies the same idea in Renaissance forms of the sixteenth century.

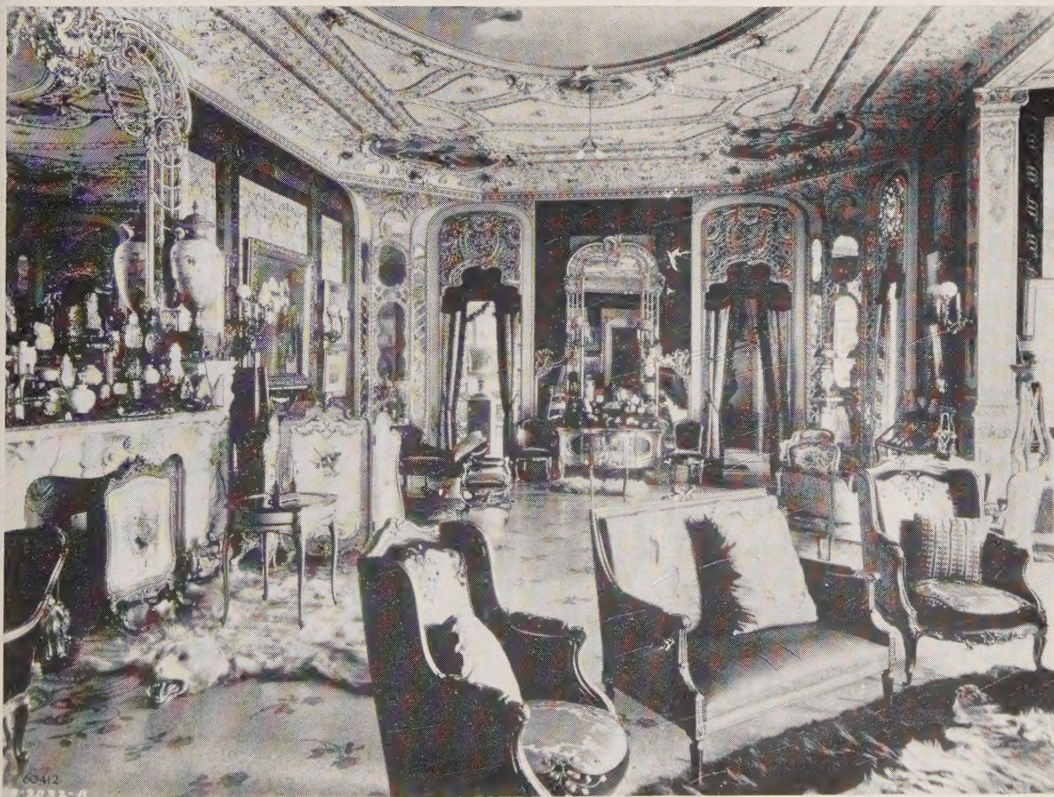
In the Dark Ages most of the important church were built for the monasteries, and the monks naturally blocked off the head end of the nave for their choir, though that spoiled the axial vista. It is thought that very tall proportions were introduced (as at Cluny, eleventh century) in order to preserve and dignify the vista toward the altar. This circumstance prepared the way for the inspiring tall proportions of the Gothic Cathedrals, as at Chartres and Beauvais. However, the functional reason for height in the Gothic Cathedrals was related to the lighting. In the twelfth century stained glass came into extensive use, and from the thirteenth century onward enormous windows are provided in the churches to insure a sufficient illumination, even with the colored glass.

These requirements of light, openness, and space brought about the most wonderful invention of all—the Gothic structural system. Quite aside from its stupendous esthetic potentialities, the Gothic system is an extraordinarily practical means for church building. It is not generally realized that it facilitates not only the specifically Gothic effects, but all the effects which were developed by the church architects of previous eras and styles. With Gothic structure all of the great ideas of church architecture could be embodied in designs of outstanding monumentality and compelling beauty.

To combat common colds and other ailments that cause student absences, the little one-classroom Iowa School in the Petaluma region has installed General Electric germicidal lamps—units designed to kill airborne bacteria and thus prevent or reduce the spread of diseases communicable by air. The installation consists of three lamps, one over each of the principal windows.

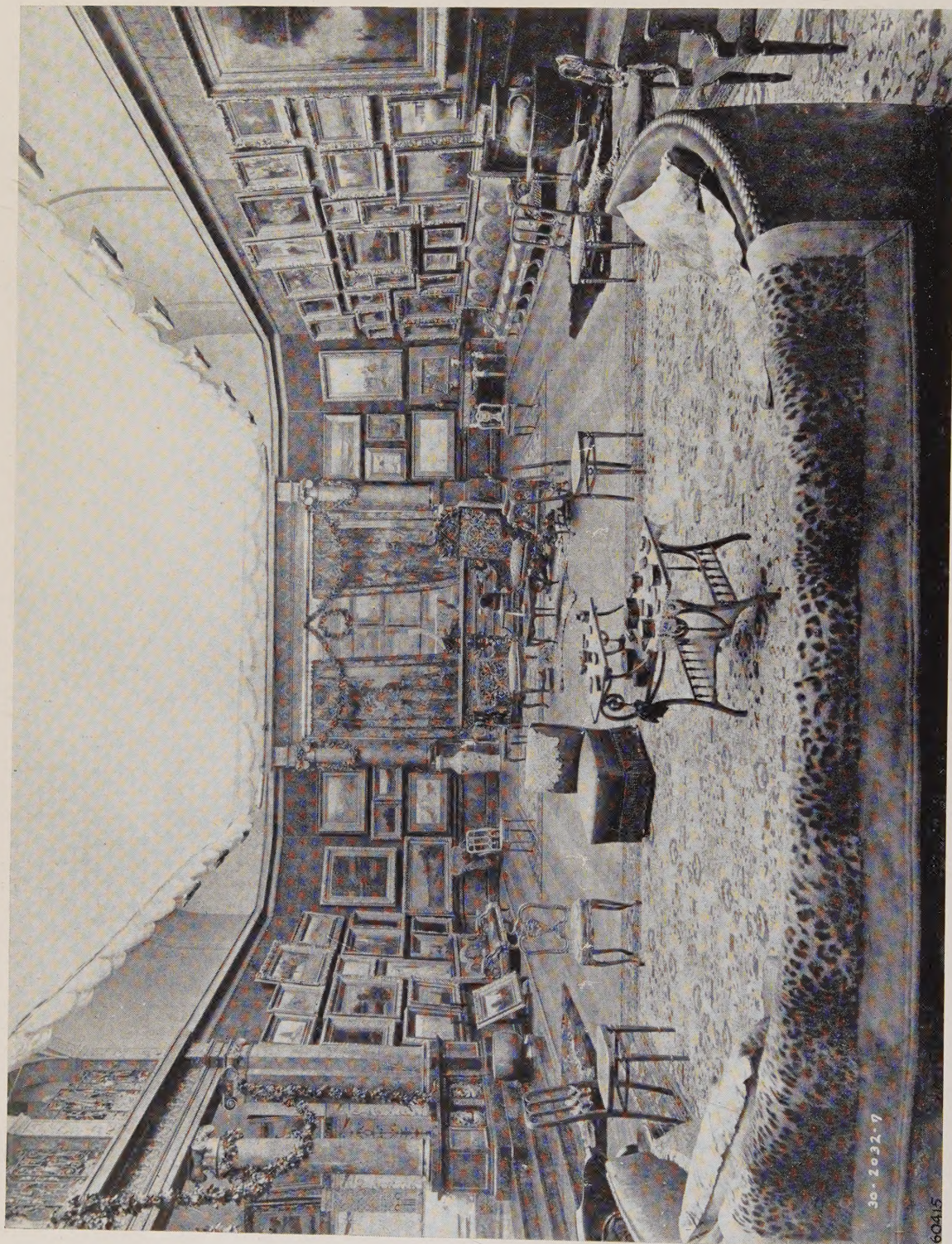


LIBRARY, 1ST STORY
LOOKING NORTH



PARLOR-DRAWING ROOM
LOOKING WEST

March-April 1946
Bulletin Supplement



THE ART GALLERY LOOKING SOUTH — ALSO USED AS BALL ROOM

POTTER PALMER MANSION - 1350 LAKE SHORE DRIVE, CHICAGO

The Potter Palmer Mansion on Chicago's Lake Shore

Its Architectural History—By Frank L. Davis

Continued from January-February '46 I.S.A. Bulletin

The Conservatory to the south is large and is accessible from the Dining Room. A stroll along its marble mosaic walks, amid luxuriant tropical plants beneath arches of tall fanlike palms, prepares one to emerge into a chamber entirely different from the one just left behind.

The Morning or Music Room is 20 x 22 feet with a southeastern corner rounded and two windows that open onto the Conservatory. This room is of Moorish design with cherry and satinwood finish and the enrichments are kept flat to enhance the color effect under the softening glow of opalescent hanging lamps.

The Reception Room across the Hall is 16 x 18 feet and its dull teakwood provides a transition from the highly lighted Hall to the more somber chamber beyond. The delicate carvings of the mouldings and panels, the rich hangings and the fine paintings against a subdued background give quiet, restful surroundings for one being greeted by a member or friend of the family.

The Parlor or Drawing Room on the northeast corner of the building is 22 x 42 feet with a deep bay window to the north, four by nineteen feet, and is designed in accordance with the best East Indian models. The intricately carved teakwood walls and ceiling direct from India, the panels of stamped leather or choice Indian fabrics, the embroidered portiers, the bronze and silver chandeliers, provide an oriental richness that is far from being indigenous to the broad prairies of Illinois.

The Library with its uninterrupted view of the ever-changing Lake is a consistently designed impressive chamber of Flemish Renaissance finished throughout, including the cases, the walls, the wide coved frieze and the ceiling, in English oak; there are bookcases on all sides of the room and their carved tops establish the frieze line above, as the illustration shows; there is an abundance of fine carving; including the perforated panels of the upper portions of the windows, showing the possibilities of the wood carver's craft.

Before crossing the threshold one is impressed by the deep chimney piece with its built-in seats at the sides; it is the principal architectural feature; standing on the mantel shelf are six five-foot full-length, female figures sculptured in oak, four on the front and two on the sides; one holds a palm leaf, one a book, another a globe, and it is claimed that they came from an old French cathedral. The long mural framed in the wide coved frieze is divided into four scenes representing literary characters. Romeo and Juliet are at one end and Marguerite and Faust at the other. This and other murals in the room evidently were painted a few years later and no doubt by the brush of Gabriel Ferrier.

Mrs. Palmer's Bedroom on the second floor, easily reached by the first elevator installed in a private residence in this city, was entrusted to the creative

abilities of R. W. Bates of Chicago. It is of Moorish design in ebony and gold, with a paneled wainscot four feet high and oil painted patterned walls to the carved wood paneled ceiling above; it has latticed windows with arched tops filled with orange and lemon colored glass; three openings with columns and Moorish arches lead to the Dressing Room wainscoted six feet high with imported ornamental tiles; the sunken bath tub projecting only six inches above the floor recalls the baths of ancient times and does its part in giving this chamber an air of tranquil, luxurious repose.

After three years of thoughtful planning and painstaking execution, Mr. and Mrs. Palmer in 1885 opened this sumptuous mansion to the inspection of their friends. The way it would function was still an architectural question. America was in her "elegant eighties" and Chicago was going forward by leaps and straining her bounds and it was found that the Indian Drawing Room was too solemn and too somber for their owners' tastes, as well as for the times. By 1887 the Herters were working on an entirely different scheme.

This Drawing Room is of the Louis XIV, or grand style, with the more delicate ornamentation of the Louis XV period added. Those who did the re-designing had to take the space as they found it with the large bay to the north and a fireplace projecting out from the southern wall; fortunately it was fire-proofed and this permitted the laying of a mosaic pavement. It has an elaborate colored border with sprays of pink roses scattered over a lighter field composed of 3/8 inch tesserae or about 1000 pieces to each square foot of area; there is an onyx mantel of curved-line facing and shelf, a high, wide mirror above reflecting the elegance of this luxurious chamber has a vertically lined, open metal work frame with a delicately designed ornamental top. The cove is carried in front of the chimney breast and away from the south wall in order to obtain a symmetrical layout for an elaborate ceiling design with murals by Perraud representing Cherubs asleep or at play, chasing our night and our day around a cloud-furled world.

The Porte-cochere originally accommodated the driveway. To reach the entrance, pedestrians were forced onto the drive; in order to achieve an independent walk to the entrance the Porte-cochere with the drive was moved out ten feet, the wall above was extended out accordingly and two tourelles were added with the result shown by the later exterior view. It was from this Porte-cochere, on the seventh of October, 1891, that Mrs. U. S. Grant watched the remnants of the Army of the Tennessee, with its tattered battle flags slowly marching by to the unveiling of the Grant Monument in Lincoln Park.

An Art Gallery with a separate entrance at the north was built across the rear, maintaining the

lines and design of the original building. It is also used for balls and banquets and it is divided into three parts. The portion in the rear of the Drawing Room, 16 x 32 feet, has a marble mosaic floor and an enamel and gold mosaic wainscoting, and is known as the East Gallery. It connects also with the Stair Hall. Another part known as the South Gallery is 22 x 40 feet; it has a marble mosaic floor with a door to the Butler's pantry. These two smaller galleries are at the same level as the adjoining rooms, but are three steps above the Main Gallery.

The Main Gallery is a well proportioned room, 37 x 71 feet with adequate height as shown in the illustration. It has a dark red Numidian marble wainscoting with velvet covered walls above to the cornice line. The canopy screen with its electric lights is hung from the sky-light above and deflects the light both day and night. Surmounting the red Numidian pedestals at the east and south appears the Greek Ionic order of light Numidian marble shafts with bases and capitals of bronze, supporting an entablature with richly carved frieze. Above the east entrance is the Musician's balcony with three arches of open screens with ornamental firegilt metal work. This Gallery furnishes accommodations for larger assemblages than the other rooms in the house. It was here that the Columbian Bazaar of All Nations was held in December 1892, to secure funds for the Children's Building at the Fair.

These described chambers and the many others with their different interior treatments developed gradually to meet the demands of a dwelling and of social entertaining unconsciously glorifying Americanism and exalting Cosmopolitanism to meet the strain when the Columbian Exposition opened its gates to the world in 1893. No other mansion in the land could make American and foreign visitors feel so much at home, and there the Palmer Castle stands, a massive monumental pile with its battlements commanding a view of thirty miles of shore and two hundred square miles of inland sea.

The Bulletin is indebted to the Burnham and Ryerson Libraries in the Art Institute for the loan of all the pictures used to illustrate the Potter Palmer Mansion.

An industry that dates back almost to the very beginning of the world has been revived on a large scale in Northern and Central California. The Foster and Kleiser Company is engaged in quantity production of sun-dried adobe bricks—the building material which, according to archaeologists, was used in the foundations of the Pyramids and in the Biblical Tower of Babel, used also by succeeding civilizations in Mesopotamia, China, India, Mongolia, Morocco, Italy, Spain, South America Mexico and in pre-American times in Arizona, New Mexico and California.

The Producers' Council, Inc. reported that materials shortages will not permit the construction of more than 425,000 privately built dwellings in 1946 unless the government encourages production. Its statement listed the scarce materials as "millwork, enameled plumbing fixtures, heating equipment, and possibly cast iron soil pipe. Production of these items is being held down by pricing or man power problems or raw material shortages," the report said.

Prehistoric Comparison

"The real savers of America are the thrifty, frugal individuals and families who supply the capital to develop America's industry and America's resources, to organize for their defense their self-protection, to get fair play for themselves. The growth of tax-eating Federal bureaucracy is comparable to pre-historic dinosaurs who developed such monstrous proportions that they finally were unable to function and became extinct."

—Investors League

The Dinosaur

Behold the mighty Dinosaur,
Famous in prehistoric lore,
Not only for his weight and strength
But for his intellectual length.
You will observe by these remains
The creature has two sets of brains—
One in his head (the usual place)
The other at his spinal base.
Thus he could reason a priori
As well as a posteriori.
No problem bothered him a bit:
He made both head and tail of it.
So wise he was, so wise, and solemn,
Each thought filled just a final column.
If one brain found the pressure strong
It passed a few ideas along;
If something slipped his forward mind
'Twas rescued by the one behind:
And if in error he was caught
He had a saving after-thought.
As he thought twice before he spoke
He had no judgment to revoke;
For he could think, without congestion,
Upon both sides of every question.
O, gaze upon this model beast,
Defunct ten million years at least.

—the late Bert Leston Taylor

New residential construction in Illinois increased 7 per cent in valuation during November, 1945 although other building classifications slumped as much as 26 per cent, Labor Director Robert Gordon reported.

During November, he said, 2,985 permits with an estimated valuation of \$17,825,091 were issued in 190 Illinois reporting cities.

The number of permits declined 28 per cent and the estimated valuation decreased 14 per cent between the months of October and November. However, compared with November, 1944 there was an increase of 210 per cent in valuation, he pointed out.

The Sando Bridge over the Angerman River in Sweden has the longest concrete arch span in the world, this span being 866 ft. The bridge was begun in 1933 and opened to traffic in July, 1943. The concrete arch is of triple box section, 31 ft. wide, 8 ¾ ft. thick at the crown and 14 ¾ ft. at the spring lines. The arch has a rise of 130 ft. and carries a 34 ft. roadway and two 4 ft. wide walks on 3 lines of girders.

LeCorbusier had one big complaint: "With all the wonderful gadgets that practically all American housewives have it is too bad they haven't learned to cook. The sauces are green, pink and blue, but none of them have any juices. Turkey, chicken, lamb and veal all have exactly the same taste."

What this country needs is not a new birth of freedom, but the old-fashioned \$2.00 lower berth.

What this country needs is not a job for every man, but a real man for every job.

Gentlemen may cry "Housing! Housing!" but what we want to hear is the symphony of bricklaying and nail-driving.

—Charles Collins

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

An observer from the Society has attended many of the hearings held by the City Building Code Committee. The matter of housing having been disposed of, the Committee will consider other parts of the Code. Several communications suggesting revisions have been addressed to the Committee for its consideration.

The Board has discussed at great length the subject of state unification and our resignation as a State Association Member of the A.I.A. The two subjects are intimately related and, under the A.I.A. program of action, cannot be considered apart. It is the unanimous opinion of the Board that the best interests of the Society require that it remain an independent organization.

A survey of the Society's past history has shown that it exerted the most influence and did the most good for architects and the public when it followed its original purposes of representing those interests within the state. The Board believes the Society should continue to follow those guiding principles. Only by remaining free from outside influences can it pursue them fully and as its best judgement dictates.

The last issue of the Bulletin contained our resignation from the A.I.A. as a State Association Member. Following is the acknowledgement from Mr. James R. Edmunds, Jr., President.

"Your letter of December 15, 1945 was presented to the Executive Committee of the A.I.A. at its meeting on February 16, 1946. The members were most regretful and deeply concerned by your request to terminate the State Association Membership in The American Institute of Architects. They were most reluctant to take action which would end such membership by your Society, which is known to be the oldest and most important State Association in the country, and which has a notably fine record of accomplishment in the interests of the architectural profession.

"The Executive Committee requested me to write you asking that you and your Board of Directors reconsider your decision, particularly because we are anxious to have your Society continue to take an active part in the program in which the architectural profession will participate in every state of the Union.

"The Executive Committee of the A.I.A. wishes to emphasize the fact that it agrees with your statement that a State Association is best qualified to determine programs and take all actions for the profession within that state. It is the expressed policy of the A.I.A. that each State Organization shall exercise complete autonomy, and that the A.I.A. will only attempt to carry out the wishes of all of its component organizations from the standpoint of action as a national organization.

"Believing that the interests of our profession can best be served by such a policy of national action, and by attempting in such a manner to work "from the bottom up"—as you have pointed out—we hope that any misunderstanding of the Institute's program and policy may be eliminated. It is our opinion that the profession will receive added strength and influence, both in your state and nationally, by the continued affiliation of the Illinois Society of Architects with the A.I.A.

"It is our earnest hope that you will convey to your Board our very real desire to retain the strongest and closest affiliation with your Society in the interest of the advancement of our profession, and as a matter of

the greatest benefit to both organizations."

Sincerely yours,

(signed) James R. Edmunds, Jr. President."

Mr. Edmunds' letter was laid before the Board and, by the Board's direction the following answer has been made to it.

"Dear Mr. Edmunds:

"Your letter of Feb. 26, 1946, was laid before the Board of Directors at its meeting on March 12. It was reread and discussed thoroughly along with the related subject of unification of architectural organizations in Illinois which, as you know, has been under consideration for some time.

"A survey of the Society's past history indicates that it has rendered the most service to the architects of the state and guarded the public interest best when it pursued those services as an independent organization. We, the Board, are of the opinion that as a "State Association Member" of the Institute our freedom in determining the best interests of the architects and the public in our state would be restricted by limitations that an over-governing body might impose. Under the unification as proposed in this state the I.S.A. would be a minority member of the group or council and its policies in state affairs would be determined by others.

"We are only interested in the surroundings set up for Illinois registered architects and have endeavored to keep our activities so scaled. Your A.I.A., as a national body, has much good work to do through its chapters. We see no overlapping of efforts and since we have been in our field almost 50 years there is no logical reason for our stepping out when we are needed more than ever—at least our Board members feel that way.

"Your letter and this answer are being published in the next issue of our Bulletin, likewise letters bearing on state unification. This is being done so that our members may be fully informed on the matter.

"Therefore, speaking for the Board, I must respectfully affirm our letter of Dec. 15, 1945."

Yours sincerely,

(signed) G. Harold Smith, President."

Conversations continued on state unification. A tentative draft of by-laws was submitted to the Society's delegates and in turn laid before the Board. This draft included affiliation with the Institute as well as the state Council. As set up, the policies and actions of the Society would be controlled by the Council as the Society's delegates would be a minority. The question of what power and authority the Council should possess has been one of great concern as the Board feels it cannot agree to any organizational set-up that would interfere with the autonomy of the Society. Such a set-up could likewise infringe upon the autonomy of any other member of the Council, a right not considered desirable by the Board. The Board's position is set forth elsewhere in a communication from the Society's delegates, to the Chicago Chapter, A.I.A.

The Board has started a campaign to increase our membership. Each member must know at least one architect not now a member of the Society but who would join us if asked. The years of depression and war did our profession no good but now the architect is coming into his own again. So can our Society. The more completely the Society's membership covers architects registered in Illinois, the more influence it will wield within the state and the stronger the voice with which it can speak. Each of you can help if you will.

Having acquired the necessary qualifications Joseph A.

Miller has been made a member emeritus.

The following out-of-town men have been elected to membership; Thomas F. Imbs of Belleville and Raymond John Lindblad of Joliet. New members from the Chicago district are Louis S. Jacobs, Leif Skadberg, Arthur Frederick Adams, Warren R. Richardson, James M. Kittleman, Roy T. Christiansen, J. Stewart Stein, Kenneth A. Smith and Walter H. Sobel.

Chicago Chapter, A. I. A.,
333 N. Michigan Avenue,
Chicago 1, Ill.

March 20, 1946.

Attention Mr. N. J. Schlossman, Secretary.
Gentlemen:

Your letter of February 25, 1946 is received and in answer to same will say that Mr. Smith, our president, and I were appointed delegates to the various meetings that you mention in your letter. However, the results of these meetings were reported to our Board of Directors and all subsequent actions were reported by us to the proper parties.

Answering your questions in the later part of your letter: No. 1—From what I can learn, I do not think the Society will abandon its position after nearly 50 years of active service to the Architectural Profession and become a minority group, therefore, in my opinion, does not care to proceed further at this time. No. 2—The Society desires to act as an independent organization as it always has and therefore would not be interested in submitting a rough draft of By-Laws as you suggest in your letter but will be governed by its present by-laws under which it has operated for many years.

We are ready and willing to cooperate with the Chicago Chapter, A.I.A. or any other architectural organization in the state if and when the opportunity presents for the benefit of the architectural profession but as stated before we desire to retain our standing as an independent state organization.

It was for this reason that the Chicago Architects Business Association later the Illinois Society of Architects was organized and the majority of our members do not desire to relinquish any of its prerogatives.

I desire to call your attention to the fact that when the Society agreed to affiliation with A.I.A. we voted to try it for one year. However, we found no objections for several years and we kept right on paying dues until lately and at the time of affiliation the Chapters of the A. I. A. voted against the Society's affiliation with the A. I. A. and three ballots had to be taken before we were permitted to affiliate. However, that is "water over the dam".

We are advised by our Board of Directors that at any time the Illinois Society of Architects can be of assistance of legislative or any other matters pertaining to the profession or the good of the public in general, we stand ready and willing to do so.

Yours very truly,
(Signed) William Paul Fox
(Signed) G. Harold Smith

Illinois Society February and March Meetings

To the Chicago Art Institute Club Room, on February 26, came 40 members to attend the monthly dinner meeting. The food was good and the program instructive. President Smith opened proceedings by announcing no minutes would be read. He introduced newly elected members, Messrs. Leif Skadberg and Harry L. Morse. Both were heartily applauded.

Mr. H. L. Palmer, Chairman of the Membership Committee requested each Society member to become active in the now growing membership and lay before the Board of Directors the applications of new candidates. He expects each old member to submit at least the name of one new member.

The President called for reports from standing committees. There were none to submit, so he turned to the program of the evening and introduced Carl F. Jensen, District Lamp Engineer, Westinghouse Electric Corporation, whose subject

was "Electronic Light and Its Decorative Possibilities." Mr. Jensen was equipped not alone with a lantern and screen in showing pictures, but there was a blackboard which he used in demonstrating formulae, various fluorescent lamps of different and modifying power and length, powders of different fluorescent rock, and more. He treated the subject thoroughly which the Bulletin would like to report in more extended form than this issue will permit. In a later issue, the Bulletin may present his address in extenso.

He said in part: Filament light is essentially heating; wire to incandescence; fluorescent lighting is a conversion of electrical energy into light by means of a phenomenon known as luminescence or electronics. There are three major ways of starting a fluorescent lamp, one is the hot cathode preheat type, the second type uses the same type of a cathode as the preheat lamp, but starts instantly by virtue of a high voltage applied across the electrode. The third type is the cold cathode. This lamp starts by virtue of a high voltage impressed across the electrodes. Once the lamp is started, it does not care whether a hot cathode, a cold cathode or lukewarm cathode was used to start it. The light output varies with the current applied.

Fluorescent lamps operate on the principle of absorbing ultra-violet energy and transforming this energy into something we recognize as light or color. The fluorescent lamp is basically an AC device; by proper additional auxiliary equipment and proper line voltage it may be operated on DC. On DC operation the additional auxiliaries will consume as much current as the lamp itself, and therefore the efficiency is reduced by this factor.

For decorative treatments the fluorescent lamp because of its color, coolness and linearity is the light source chosen. Another characteristic of the fluorescent lamp is that of producing, particularly in the new 360 BL type of lamp, copious quantities of near ultra-violet.

At the conclusion of Mr. Jensen's address, President Smith announced that a special invitation from the National Association of Home Builders had been received through the courtesy of Messrs. Joseph Merriam and Huggert, for the architects in this meeting assembled to visit the exposition in the galleries of the Stevens Hotel, immediately after the adjournment of the Art Institute meeting. The invitation was accepted and members circulated through the brilliantly illuminated exhibits where everything from standard building materials to steam, gas and electrical equipment, cookstoves, complete house models, were shown and questions answered by attentive attendants at each exhibit. Literature of every variety was handed out. Architects put many questions to the attendants. One question, however, left the inquirer up in the air in many instances. The question was when can you make delivery and in what quantities? Some times the answer was: "We do not know"; other times; "We cannot say positively but we believe" on a certain date months or seasons ahead.

The Illinois Society's March meeting fell on the 26th, attended by fifty members. With a good dinner liquidated, President G. Harold Smith called on Secretary Koenigsberg to read the minutes of the February meeting. These were approved as read. The President then introduced newly elected members in attendance. They are: William Holabird, Arthur Frederick Adams, William G. Carnegie, Warren R. Richardson, Kenneth A. Smith, J. Stewart Stein—all of Chicago. Also Thomas F. Imbs of Belleville, Illinois. Guests introduced were Col. Howard L. Cheney, Charles Morgan and Mrs. Morgan. They all received hearty applause.

The President asked for correspondence of general interest to the membership, but the Secretary had none to report. He asked next for reports of standing committees, but none of these was available.

The President turned to the program of the evening which was a discussion of labor conditions among Bricklayers, Stone Masons and Plasterers International Union. The speaker was William J. Harrigan, Special Deputy of this union. His talk brought out some interesting statistics. The Chicago union of this branch numbered, in the 1920's, ten thousand members. With the debacle at the end of the twenties

ies, the union lost 55% of its membership. These men sought employment in other fields. The membership today is growing and the speaker reported that in Chicago it will very soon reach seven thousand.

He dwelt upon the fact that much is published about the shrinkage of labor in this craft. That is exaggerated, he says. Many not visible to the public are now employed in industrial towns East Chicago, Gary, and adjoining towns in rebuilding furnaces within the plants. The public does not see these many men. They all work indoors. He drew attention to the fact that a well-trained bricklayer craftsman must be familiar with many bonds that the architect never uses. For instance, these steel furnaces have walls 4 feet and more in thickness, where the bonding of the brick throughout the entire width must be an especially strong tie—a tie that is never resorted to in the architect's work. He spoke of apprentices to the trade and said 300 apprentices are now being trained in Chicago. To the question how long the apprenticeship lasted, he said three years. The questioner thought that following the practice in other trades since the war, the term might perhaps be reduced. To this the speaker took exception and said he himself had been an apprentice for five years and thought it not too long.

Regarding restrictions to the number of brick a bricklayer is permitted by the union to lay in one day, the speaker said there was no restriction and as far as his own knowledge went there never had been one.

There were questions and answers, after which the President introduced another invited speaker whose name was not printed on the invitation. This was Max L. Kuehnert, Secretary of the Structural Clay Products Institute. Mr. Kuehnert made clear that his Institute was opposed to the Patman Bill now before Congress, sponsored by the administration through Chester Bowles and Wilson Wyatt. It will be remembered that when the Lower House passed this bill, it eliminated the \$600,000,000 it carried as a subsidy for public housing. Mr. Kuehnert assured his hearers that the clay products industry will be able to keep pace with the demand made upon that product.

Charles Morgan, known as an architect with ability to make fine architectural color renderings, spoke next. He had been away from Chicago for some years. Part of this time had been spent in Florida and in South America teaching. He told a humorous story laid in Sarasota, Fla., where the Ringling Circus winters. This had to do with his contact with a lion.

Col. Cheney is a Chicago architect who practiced here after he first World War, then became a member of the architectural staff of the Century of Progress, after which he went to Washington in the employ of the Federal Government as an architect. He designed a number of post offices, the Federal Building at the New York Fair of 1939, and then became architectural co-ordinator of the Washington, D. C. Airport. Then he joined the army and was stationed in Europe and Africa. Cheney reminisced, telling of the older architects who frequented the Illinois Society meetings and mentioned Harry Wheelock, George Beaumont, old Fritz Baumann who died in his 94th year, and others. When Cheney finished, the meeting was adjourned. It was an interesting meeting.

Under the date of February 8, 1946, Elmer C. Jensen announces the new name of a long existing Chicago office for the practice of architecture. The new name is Mundie, Jensen & McClurg, Architects & Engineers.

Major Wm. LeBaron Jenney founded the office in 1868 under the name, W. L.B. Jenney, Architect & Engineer. With the passing years the name changed successively to Jenney & Loring, Jenney & Otis, Jenney & Mundie, Jenney, Mundie & Jensen, Mundie & Jensen, Mundie, Jensen, Burke & Haven and now to Mundie, Jensen & McClurg. Verne O. McClurg has served Architects Holabird & Root while Clarence A. Jensen was associated with the late Architect N. Max Dunning.

February & March A. I. A. Chicago Chapter Meetings

On Tuesday evening, February twelfth, the Chicago Chapter held its regular monthly meeting in the Grille Room of the Builders Club. Fifty-two members sat down to dinner and several came in later for the business meeting which was called to order by President Gerhardt at eight o'clock.

The minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed with and to keep the membership informed the time was given over to the reading of minutes of the last two meetings of the Executive Committee. Several communications were read and the progress of the City Council Committee hearings on emergency housing and the building code was reported.

Mr. Elmer Roberts, Chairman of the By-laws Committee, presented proposed amendments intended to regroup and simplify the Chapter's Standing Committee structure, to correlate their work with that of the Executive Committee, to maintain a continuity of Chapter policy and to enhance the prestige of Committee membership. With approval obtained from the Institute and the required notice given the Chapter membership, the amendments were put to a vote and approved by a standing vote.

With the business disposed of, President Gerhardt turned the meeting over to a continuation of the discussion begun at the January meeting of the "Wisconsin Questions", the answers by the Institute Board of Directors and the resulting resolution of the New York Chapter. All of these documents deal with the problems of ethics and qualifications for Institute membership, especially as applied to architects in the employ of builders and promoters.

Earnest opinions were expressed from the floor both indicting and defending architects engaged in organized promotional, speculative and construction work rather than private professional practice. The widespread discussion brought out many abuses, injurious alike to the profession and to the public but the feeling seemed to prevail that some of the same evils could be committed by architects practicing under their own name.

Towards the end of the evening a resolution was introduced approving the resolution of the New York Chapter and recommending to the Institute Board that a revision be made in the qualifications for membership so that the basis for admission and maintenance of membership would be the performance of good work in the field of architecture with competence and integrity the principal mandatory conditions. This resolution was passed by a substantial but by no means unanimous vote and the meeting was adjourned.

—W. Lindsay Suter

The March 12 meeting took place in the Grille Room of the Builders Club with a reported attendance of 51.

Following the dinner President Paul Gerhardt called on the Secretary to read the minutes of the executive committee. President Gerhardt announced the coming election of delegates to the annual convention of the A.I.A. to be held in Miami, May 6th to 8th, and requested candidate volunteers. The executive committee appropriated a sum not to exceed \$250.00 to be divided among the delegates to aid in defraying their expenses.

The posthumous gold medal of the Institute is to be awarded to Louis Sullivan at the convention and a member of the Chicago Chapter will be selected to receive this medal. The selection of a new regional director is also one of the items of business to be voted at the convention. A letter was read from Chicago Plan Commission offering full cooperation to all architects and engineers of Chicago on any projects on which their advice could be of service within the limits of the City of Chicago. A discussion followed on the pending action of Congress relative to the channeling of material into housing and small residential construction.

The subject of the evening, the Herald American Contest "Plan for a Better Chicago" was introduced by Jerrold Loeb, professional advisor of the contest. Conducted under the rules of the American Institute, Mr. Loeb stated that the Herald American had no ulterior motives in sponsoring the contest, but did hope that some ideas and suggestions would come out of the submission that would be of value

to the community. There was no limit on territory, no limitation on the method by which contestants could submit their ideas. 106 entries were received.

John Root, a member of the jury exhibited the first and third prize awards.

The first prize, awarded to David S. Geer, Edward W. Angle and George Matsumoto, from the Architectural firm of Eliel Saarinen & Swanson, was an elaborate presentation on many card boards with free use of color, stressing broad areas of greenbelt and populations divided into small communities; a solution that could apply to other metropolitan centers as well as Chicago.

The third prize winner submitted by Ann Binkley Horn and Leroy Binkley of Glencoe, Illinois, Mr. Root called a stylized abstraction of the goals to be achieved containing many meritorious suggestions. A very delicately presented pen and ink presentation.

The authors of the second prize were present in person as guests of the evening to present the ideas contained in their submission. Dr. Louis Wirth, professor of sociology at the University of Chicago, collaborated in this authorship with Ernest Grunsfeld, Wallace Yerkes and William Koenig.

Dr. Wirth and Ernest Grunsfeld presented the goals and objectives they and their associates strove to attain in applying them directly to the City of Chicago as it exists now. As expressed by Dr. Wirth, the submission is a city, planned functionally for the people who live in it. All aspects of the problem were most carefully considered including a detailed representation for each phase of the program.

It is to be hoped that the City of Chicago and the citizens of Chicago can profit from those valuable contributions. Possibly the Chicago Plan Commission can find more adequate means of implementing progress.

Before adjournment, Elmer Jensen, whose mind had been percolating on the earlier discussions relative to the impending restrictions on the building industry, proposed that the executive committee be instructed to draw up a resolution and promptly wire each local representative in the U.S. Congress; the intent to be as follows:

Resolved, that sufficient housing, preferable through multiple dwelling units and moderate cost single family dwellings is of extreme importance;

Be it further resolved that construction of non-essential character would be unfortunate and unwise;

Be it further resolved that many types of non-residential building are essential to a balanced economy and we, the Chicago Chapter, A.I.A., recommend that the Congress adopt legislature toward these ends.

The resolution was overwhelmingly adopted and the meeting adjourned.

—Bertram A. Weber

Home Building and Costs

There were 810,000 housing units erected in 1927. For the 1923-1937 period, the yearly average was 872,000 units. The banner home building year was 1925 with 927,000 units. A yearly average of 360,000 units were constructed during the 1929-1943 period.

With our nation's population climbing, the erection of homes and apartments has greatly diminished.

The National Housing Agency points out that 39% of city housing of the nation is below standard for minimum health and safety requirements. This agency points out that more than half of the substandard housing consists of buildings where structural conditions are a menace to health and safety. It is the agency's claim that more than 16% is without running water; more than two-thirds is without a private bath; almost two-thirds has no inside private toilet; almost one-third has inadequate inside lighting; almost two-thirds has dangerous or inadequate heating; almost one-half has inadequate daylight or ventilation.

A house that could be built for \$5,000 in 1939 now costs \$7,197 on the average, a rise of almost 44%. It is a boost of 88% compared with 1933.

Construction, March '46

Driveway Freed From Snow & Ice

Dr. Ralph G. Fabian, Pittsburgh physician has an outdoor driveway that slopes at a 15° angle into a double garage under his house. When snow falls, he turns on a small circular pump that forces hot water through buried pipes. Snow melts as rapidly as it falls on the heated driveway and residual water quickly evaporates by air currents. In December 15" of snow fell in Pittsburgh, yet not a flake stayed on the Doctor's driveway.

About 100 Btu per hour per sq. ft. of surface is required to melt 1" of snow per sq. ft. per hour. A gas boiler used exclusively for snow melting, supplies 175,000 Btu per hour and the driveway surface contains approximately 750 sq. ft.; the resultant output proves sufficient to handle a heavy snow fall.

The driveway heating element is a grid composed of a manifold or header pipes and twelve lengths of 1/4" grid pipes running between them. The grid pipes are 18" and 42" long; the grid is positioned 9" from either side of the driveway. The main is enclosed in an insulated tile conduit between the house and the grid. The piping is wrought iron. Anti-freeze is used for protection to a temperature of minus 10° F; drainage is not deemed necessary. An automatic air vent is connected to the highest point to prevent air lock. There is an expansion tank for this closed system. After the grid had been positioned and tested, it was covered with a 42" concrete slab.

Use of steam introduces the problem of condensate drainage and unless a system embedded in the ground is kept in continuous operation during the cold weather, there is a possibility of condensate freezing.

—H.P. & A.C. Bulletin — January '46

New Construction Type

Homes for Veterans, Inc., will provide homes for veterans and, according to its plans, a price range of \$5,000 to \$7,000 is contemplated for permanent homes of pneumatic concrete construction. Architect Nairne W. Fisher, executive secretary of the organization points out that this price includes both the land and building and complete equipment for a modern kitchen. The homes will not be prefabricated structures.

Their design is similar to that of skyscraper construction with fire resistant exterior walls, interior partitions of fire and sound resistant construction, double glazed solar windows, radiant heating, resilient sanitary floor covering and an insulated roof.

It is the claim of Architect Fisher that reinforced concrete is shot against exterior walls, which are formed by reinforced pneumatic concrete columns, beams and fire resistant insulating panels. He also claims that the walls and roof of a five-room house can be built by four men in four days.

—Construction

B. Leo Steif & Co. announce the removal of their architectural offices to suite 2100-22 W. Monroe Street, Chicago.

The 1946 Convention of The A. I. A. will be held in Miami Beach, Florida, on May 8, 9 and 10, 1946. Miami Beach was selected through the acceptance of the invitation of the Florida South Chapter, and because availability of transportation and hotel accommodations make it the most desirable city in which to meet.

Frederick J. Teich, Chicago architect, died in the home of his daughter in Moline, Ill., February 13, aged 70 years. Mr. Teich was born in Germany, coming to this country after graduating as an architect in Germany. Before entering independent practice here he was associated with the offices of Paul Gerhardt, Sr. and Marshall & Fox, Architects. While with Marshall & Fox he participated in the design and construction of the Atlantic and Edgewater Beach Hotels, both in Chicago. Mr. Teich was associate architect of the New Jefferson Hotel in St. Louis, Mo. During the late war he designed war plants and barracks for the Navy.