

Seventh Annual Statewide I. S. A. Meeting

October 26, 1946, was a perfect day, the kind of day that Longfellow said came in June, if ever, and that was the day set by the Illinois Society of Architects for its seventh statewide meeting at Peoria.

For the record, let us say the first annual statewide meeting was held at Springfield November 7, with a tour to New Salem November 8, 1936. The second such meeting was held at Peoria on October 23 with a tour to Jubilee College State Park on October 24, 1937. The third meeting was at Champaign-Urbana on October 15-16, 1938; the fourth at Rockford on October 14 with a tour to Stronghold and White Pine Forest State Park on October 15, 1939. The fifth annual statewide meeting was held at Springfield on October 12 with a trip to New Salem State Park and village on October 13, 1940. The sixth such meeting was again at Champaign-Urbana on Saturday and Sunday, October 25 and 26, 1941. The seventh was not held until the one here reported, because World War II was under way and the federal government, for that reason, discouraged transportation and hotel occupancy not required for the war effort; so the years 1942-43-44-45 were without such statewide meetings by the I. S. A. It should be added that statewide meetings, then called state conventions, were held in Chicago at Hotel LaSalle on October 7-8, 1914 and again on October 6-7, 1915.

To those attending the seventh annual meeting from places other than Peoria three means of transportation were offered: Your own private auto, the railroad and finally by chartered bus from and back to Chicago. Twenty-eight took advantage of the chartered bus which left from Randolph and LaSalle streets at about 10:30 A.M. With plenty of room in the bus to move about and comfortable seats, the drive towards the southwest, swinging outside of Moline and continuing on Highway 66, brought the passengers past the desolation beyond Wilmington, where strip coal mining had occurred, leaving barren mounds with channels from rain innocent of all vegetation. The ride continued in the same southwesterly direction, passing Pontiac on the west and around for Chenoa, where a stop was made for lunch. After 1½ hour's pause, the ride continued due west to Peoria, which was reached about 4 P.M. Hotel Jefferson was the headquarters. After visitors had found their rooms and disposed of paraphernalia, they adjourned to a ground floor hall where a business meeting was held.

Afternoon Meeting, Hotel Jefferson, 4:30 P. M.

President G. Harold Smith welcomed the 30-odd members and they decided not to have minutes of the September meeting read. There was no correspondence laid before the meeting. The President called on the Chairman of the Legislative Committee, William

Paul Fox to report. Mr. Fox stated that much was said about a state building code for Illinois; that a demand for this came not so much from Chicago as from other communities in the State. He referred to the state building code of Wisconsin that had been functioning for at least a decade, and to the more recently enacted California state building code. Men in the meeting replied, telling of their experiences with getting permits and building under the Wisconsin code. These were very generally satisfactory. Reports on the California code were not personal experiences, but were on the whole very satisfactory according to reports. Those speaking on a state building code were Malard, Fox, Bush, Stanhope, Harold Smith, Stebbins, Bensysmyer and others.

Clauses in the present architects license law were criticized and the \$7500 minimum house cost on which the law requires architects' plans was condemned by one speaker as being no criterion of what talent and knowledge must be at hand in planning such a house. This brought on discussion of the architects' status. Jay C. Orrell took the lead here. Fox spoke on the general housing shortage.

Benjamin Franklin Olson was authorized to create a committee on the formulation of a state building code. Mr. Wilson from down state spoke of architects practicing without a license in sections of the state; that the elected county officials whose duty it is to see that stamped and sealed plans by licensed architects are approved for structures about to be built are often completely ignorant of the architects license law; that large industrial buildings are built away from the cities often without benefit of architects' plans.

The President announced that on his table were a dozen or more copies of the 1945 Annual Report of the Chicago Plan Commission and a similar number of booklets, "Chicago Tomorrow", published by the Chicago Plan Commission, had been sent by the Commission's public relations office for distribution to interested parties. Then there were copies of "Opportunity Unlimited", a booklet issued as a guide for veterans interested in the construction industry. This latter booklet is obtained from Secretary Palmer of the I. S. A., 134 North LaSalle Street, Chicago 2, by mail, price 10c. All these booklets on the speakers' table the hearers were welcome to take. On adjournment of the session, they were all taken up.

It was now nearing 6 P.M. and the dinner meeting in an adjoining banquet room had been called for 6:30. On adjournment, the company passed from the meeting through double doors into the end of the banquet hall where a punch bowl had been prepared and ladies who had come with their husbands to

Peoria had arrived, besides other members who had not attended the afternoon meeting.

The Dinner and Evening Session

With the punch bowl flowing, the conversation flowed more fluently. The ladies added charm and distinction to the gathering, and altogether by the time the company took seats at the dinner table there was a camaraderie that provided zest and interest, not alone to the dinner, but to the discussion after listening to the invited speaker of the evening.

Seated at the dinner table were some 50-odd which included Mesdames Zook, Karlin, Smith, Llewellyn, Orrell, McLaren.

With the dinner ended, President Smith in a few fitting words reminded his hearers that the Society was now 49 years old. He then gracefully introduced as guests his neighbors to right and left, Mr. D. L. Keith, representing the Peoria Association of Commerce, and the Peoria architect of distinction, Frank N. Emerson, now retired. There was also present Architect Hamilton B. Dox of Peoria, a new member of the I. S. A.

The President now introduced the speaker of the evening, Thomas H. Hamilton, Dean of the University College Adult Education Department, University of Chicago. With his extensive experience in the Armed Forces' educational programs, Dean Hamilton read his paper on Adult Education. His excellent delivery held his audience in wrapt attention. The Bulletin's lack of space prevents printing Mr. Hamilton's paper in toto. The address follows herewith in briefed form.

Dean Hamilton's Address, "Adult Education", Briefed

From coast to coast classes for adults in every conceivable subject sponsored by our universities and colleges are filled. At the University of Chicago alone over 9,000 adult students are engaged in education by mail. I do not hesitate to repeat a prophesy that the next generation will live in a society where the education of adults is as universal as the education of the young today.

First, the question as to what adult education is must be answered. Education can be defined as the conscious effort of the individual to improve himself through the acquisition of skills, knowledges, attitudes, understanding and appreciation. Adulthood has nothing to do with age, for the young may be mature and the aged childish. The adult is an individual whose primary activity is that of making a living, not of being educated. He has responsibilities both as a citizen and as the head of a family. The thing under discussion is not what many of you have identified as adult education due to your own experience.

One commonly thinks of either the school or the university and the classes it offers at night. There are four types of agencies in our society which are very much concerned with adult education. In the first place, there are agencies in our society which were originally developed for the young. The schools, colleges, universities, Y. M. C. A.'s etc., fall into this category. Most such agencies are now engaged in some sort of adult education. Secondly, there are a few agencies in the United States which were originally developed specifically and solely for adult education. The best example in this category is the work in agricultural extension. Thirdly, libraries, museums and community settlements, and finally, there are in our society agencies which are not educational in their fundamental purpose but which have turned to educa-

tion in order to serve their primary end. The best example of this is the modern corporation, for an extensive in-service training program is now the rule rather than the exception. The labor union is another such agency and they have long had adult educational programs even though education is not their functional business.

Let us now turn to the reasons why adult education is receiving constantly more attention. A very simple fact is that our population is getting older. In 1790, there were 782 white adults per thousand white children. In 1940, there were 2.5 white adults per white children. This changing ratio in our population will eventually make possible the expenditure of effort in adult education which has previously been required for education of the young. From 1930 to 1940 the rural farm population in the United States experienced a net loss of three and a half million persons through migration. In the previous decade the figure had been six million. There was similar migration from the South to the North. It will be necessary to have an adult educational program designed to give these migrants an educational background which will permit them to live happily in and not be a burden on the community to which they have migrated. Increase in leisure time will continue. Here again adult education is given both its opportunity and mandate. One thing discovered in adult educational programs is that the participation is higher in the part of those who have had more formal education than their youth than with those who have had less.

In 1900, only 6.37 of every hundred people were graduated from high school. In 1938 this figure was over 45. Out of every one hundred in 1900 only 1.77 were graduated from college. In 1938, the number was 6.86. Advanced degrees awarded by institutions of the United States in 1900 were only 1952. In 1940 the figure had risen to 30,021.

Children of families engaged in work in parent education prove to be healthier, better adjusted, more effective members of society. Consumer education has proved rather conclusively that families can raise their standard of living with no increase in incomes. The most startling evidence of all comes from the Scandinavian countries where, within a century, an economy has been changed from impoverishment to relative prosperity to the extent that these countries now boast of what is perhaps the highest type of civilization in the world. A program of adult education primarily was responsible for this.

The ability to learn is not primarily a function of age, but is rather related to whether or not the individual continues to engage in learning activities.

There has, of course, been no end of debate as to what useful information is. It now seems probable that the emphasis on content will change and is changing to an emphasis on skills. There is no point in teaching a twelve year old how to grow old gracefully, and if you are teaching a girl in junior high school the techniques of motherhood you are being either irrelevant or immoral.

Adults have certain kinds of problems which must be met. These problems are real. The conditions surrounding these problems change. The solutions must be taught in terms of the changing society in which our adults live.

Another factor in the present situation which is of great importance in considering adult education is the rapidly changing nature of our society. A cotton picker has been invented and is being used successfully in the South. Within 10 years those individuals who formerly picked this cotton by hand will be unemployed. I am using this only as an example for there will be others in the same category, but when the full implications of the future of atomic energy are considered it becomes one of the basic problems of our society and one of the primary reasons for the extension of adult education.

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Editor Monthly Bulletin

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

For the last I have saved what seems to me to be the most fundamental reason of all for the education of adults, at least in terms of its tremendous urgency. The generation before ours was in a relatively fortunate position compared to ours in that they could leave their problems unsolved and pass them on to us because time was on their side. That time is now run out. The outward manifestation of the fact that time was running out came with the dropping of the atom bomb on Hiroshima. The fact is obvious and horrible. Unless we find a way to control atomic energy and do it on the perfect education of the young will be relatively futile. To arrange for such a settlement requires on the part of adults a wisdom of which there is now no evidence of their possessing. To see that this wisdom is obtained in time to avert calamity is every citizen's responsibility and the specific concern of those who are interested in adult education.

After the wrapt attention given to Dean Hamilton while reading his paper there were many interesting and illuminating questions answered by the Dean. Not only did the men put these questions, but the ladies took an active part in this. After President Smith expressed sincere thanks and appreciation to Dean Hamilton and to the members present, and felicitated the company on the splendid address that they had heard, the meeting was adjourned about 10 P.M.

Sunday, October 27 — Homeward Bound

After breakfast when and as you like it, groups assembled in the hotel lobby and discussed what they had heard at the two sessions. Everyone seems to have been deeply interested. The one regret was that the attendance had not been larger, that no one of the faculty of the Architects School of the University of Illinois had put in an appearance and that other members and non-members of the Society in the state had not taken greater advantage of this meeting. That is one reason why this report is as detailed as it is. It is felt that not alone the members, but architects and architectural bodies who receive the Bulletin will be deeply interested in what was said at this meeting.

At 10:30 the chartered bus left the Hotel Jefferson

with its 28 passengers. The bus followed over the highway skirting the east and south bank of the Illinois River to LaSalle and finally to Starved Rock State Park where a stop for lunch was made. Every parking lot in the Park seemed to be filled with private cars and on reaching the high plateau where stand the lodge and cottages, many patrons of the Park were found on chairs and benches and strolling about. The weather was still perfect. The terraces at the lodge approach are paved with Illinois limestone laid on its natural bed with slight protuberances on the surface like warts. These stones are irregular in outline, approximating 2 or more feet in length. These slight protuberances are all right for outside pavement but when laid on the inside of a building as a floor surface they are unpleasant to walk upon and would appear to be disadvantageous for cleaning. Architects commented on this and wondered why the architect had not specified that the upper surface should be laid on a rubbing bed before placement as the wearing surface of a floor. Then, too, it would be advantageous for cleaning.

The dinner served by the State was excellent but the crowd of Sunday visitors was so great that after diners were shown their places and served little or no time was allowed them to remain in their seats, because of the hungry in waiting.

From the high plateau the scene over the Illinois River and towards the high rock was inspiring. The coloring of the maples and other foliage was lovely, though the elms were bare. After drinking in this scene, the 28 repaired to their bus and the trek home began, passing through Joliet on the return trip, which ended in downtown Chicago about 5 P.M. All expressed satisfaction in having spent two highly interesting and instructive days.

In the light of all that transpires governmentally in this and other countries to regulate the lives and business of peoples through bureaus, the Bulletin makes bold to quote from "The State of the Nation", an editorial by Felix Morley in the October 'Nation's Business'.

After quoting passages from Herbert Spencer, Mr. Morley continues: "The great contribution of Americans to civilization is that, more than any other people, they have realized the deep and biding connection between life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness'. As a people we have not only realized that these qualities are fundamentally inseparable, but we — or our forebears — had the courage, as well as the insight, to establish an independent nation dedicated to their developmet.

"And the very foundation of that nation is the conviction that government must be restrained in the interests of the individual; that the state is created to serve man and that man is not born to serve the state.

... "our whole economic and social system will be imperiled if it is rigidly controlled by any single group, military or civilian, brass hats or bureaucrats, beribboned generals or idealists welfare workers".

Illinois Society of Architects November Meeting

On November 26 the I. S. A. met in the Art Institute Club Room for dinner followed by the regular monthly meeting. Fifty-two were in attendance. President Smith called upon B. F. Olsen to read Secretary Koenigsberg's minutes of the October meeting in Peoria since Koenigsberg was absent. Olson did this and was followed by Robert McLaren volunteering his testimony on the success and lively interest shown by attendance at the Peoria meeting, even though numerically there were not as many there as was hoped for. The President had no correspondence of interest to lay before the meeting so he proceeded to introduce 5 new members. These were Daniel J. Schaffner, Albert Charles Sachtleben, John G. Schneberger, Claude Wayne Thomason and Glen Q. Johnson. He also welcomed 2 old members, long absentees, Joseph G. Ludgin, for years too ill to attend, and Coder Taylor, recently returned from duty with the U. S. Navy.

Mr. Smith next announced the Society's sponsoring a lecture on December 20 in Fullerton Hall, Art Institute of Chicago, by Dr. Darell B. Harmon. Dr. Harmon's subject is "Color — Light — Health". The Doctor is executive director of the Texas Interprofessional Commission on Child Development. He will dwell on light—paint—orientation—effects in a psychical way on people in buildings where they are making sustained visual efforts. The Society's membership is urged to attend and broaden its horizon on these new developments determined by the medical profession.

President Smith was now ready for the formal addresses by guest speakers scheduled for the meeting. The first speaker introduced was Mr. Hugo Filippi, well known engineer and now first vice president of the Illinois Brick Company. Mr. Filippi is well known as a scientific researcher and developer on the subject of reinforced brick masonry and this was his theme. He had prepared a paper which he read and in the beginning gave the history of reinforced masonry leading back to the year 1813. Readers of the Bulletin will remember a penetrating illustrated article on this subject which appeared in the I. S. A. Bulletin for August-September, 1944. The article was written by Harry C. Plummer, Director, Engineering and Research, Structural Clay Products Institute. Marc Isambard Brunel, in 1813, is credited with the discovery of reinforced masonry. He operated in New York, then returned to London, England, where he introduced reinforced brick shafts in the Thames River Tunnel in London in 1825. Later, he was knighted by Queen Victoria.

One hundred years passed before its revival, and that occurred in India where a classical report was published in 2 volumes called "Notes on Reinforced Brick Work". Since 1932 progress has been steady and our universities and the National Bureau of Standards have done important work on the subject. There is in existence "The Structural Clay Products Board" whose members are our consulting engineers and engineering professors.

The speaker next turned to the question of design; then he spoke of tests and next used the screen, where he showed beams, columns and walls under load. Then came pictures of finished construction followed by Design Considerations, brick or tile, mortar mix, reinforcement, protection in freezing or in hot weather, and finally stresses. Mr. Filippi went into detail on the subject of stresses, speaking particularly of Flexure, Bearing, Shear and Bond, giving figures on ultimate compressive strength as determined by test prisms.

In his summery, the speaker referred to advantages of different materials in different locations. He conceded to reinforced concrete its place, but claimed for reinforced brick and tile masonry an aesthetic value not shared with concrete.

Questions were put to the speaker which he answered, and a lively interest was maintained for some time.

President Smith now introduced Dean R. P. Hoelscher, Department of Architecture, Navy Pier Division, University of Illinois, who was to speak on the University's plans for the teaching of architecture in Chicago. The speaker's address was short but was interesting, in that he recorded 3850 students enrolled of which 1350 were engineering and architectural students. Of the last figure, 174 were registered in

architecture. The Navy Pier school, according to press plans, gives only the first 2 years of the 4 year course. There are 4 teachers devoted to architecture plus 3 on faculty for art; the latter work in association with the Art Institute and the Pier school. It should be added that the first half of the 4 year course to be completed at Urbana.

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Report of the I.S.A. President

For the last two months the Board of Directors has dealt only with routine matters with the exception of preparing for the Peoria meeting.

At this meeting it was decided that the Society should sponsor a State Building Code. A committee of fifteen has been appointed, consisting of five members from the Chicago district and ten members from the state. The chairman is Wm. Paul Fox. He would appreciate hearing from any member of the Society who may wish to submit his recommendations for a State Code. Mr. Fox's address is 6225 N. Clark Street, Chicago 45.

The following men have been elected to membership; John G. Schneberger, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe, Glenn Quinn Johnson, Edward Grey Halstead, Thomas Andrew Maddeley, Claude Wayne Thomason and Cedric John Stewart, all from the Chicago district. From downstate we have Hamilton D. Dox of Peoria.

G. Harold Smith, President

The Chicago Chapter, Producers' Council, Inc. held a dinner-meeting at Merchants & Manufacturers Club, Chicago, on November 18 to which architects were invited. Professor William H. Scheick, coordinator of the Small Homes Council of the University of Illinois was the guest speaker.

By bringing together to one location all necessary facilities for intensive research and education in low cost, single family housing units, the University hopes to perform its share in the national effort for better housing.

Pumpcrete Construction

Some 15,000 cu. yd. of concrete is being pumped for a three-story, mezzanine and full basement department store for the May Company in Los Angeles, Calif. The structure has 261,500 sq. ft. of floor space and is supported on cast-in-place concrete piles. Columns are spaced in a rectangular pattern 24x20 ft. and vary in diameter from 30 in. in the basement to 15 in. on the third floor. Reinforced concrete floor slabs are 6 in. thick but are unique in that they are supported by beams 12 in. deep and 6 to 8 ft. wide. Reinforced concrete exterior walls vary in thickness from 14 in. in the basement to 10 in. for the third floor.

Concrete for the project comes from a nearby permanent plant, delivered in transit-mix trucks that back up a short ramp and dump into a remixer set directly over a single cylinder pumpcrete machine centrally located in the construction area. Concrete is pumped through an 8 in. diameter pipeline for distances up to 475 ft. horizontally and 40 ft. vertically but care was taken to provide 50 ft. of horizontal pipe ahead of the vertical run so that inertia of the concrete in this length could balance the back pressure from the weight of concrete in the vertical pipe.

The May Company's Crenshaw store was designed by Albert C. Martin & Associates, architects and engineers of Los Angeles, with Samuel A. Marx of Chicago as associate architect. The Joshua H. Marks Company is general contractor.

E N-R

A young man had picked out the material for a new suit. "I can't make it for at least 30 days," the overworked tailor told him.

"Thirty days", protested the customer, "why, the whole world was made in six days".

"True," replied the tailor. "But have you taken a good look at it lately?"

Chicago Chapter, A.I.A. October 1 Meeting

Eighty members and three guests assembled for dinner at P.M. in the main dining room of the Builders Club on La Salle Street. Promptly at 8 P.M. President Gerhardt called the meeting to order; he then introduced those at the speaker's table W. Fred Stevens, regional director of CPA; his deputy director H. S. Tomlinson; Tyde Woods, director of OPA; C. Herrick Hammond, newly elected first president of the newly organized Illinois Architects Association, and Charles Faulkner, the Chicago Chapter secretary who proceeded to read briefed minutes of director's meeting during the summer recess.

C. Herrick Hammond was called upon to speak on the new association; he told how it expected to go to town and to first push a State Building Code.

Gerhardt then called attention to a shift of monthly meetings to the first Tuesday of the month, due to difficulty in securing meeting places on the second. He announced the November meeting to discuss Public Relations falling on Wednesday, November 6, Tuesday, November 5 being election day.

The first scheduled speaker was W. Fred Stevens; he dwelt on recent developments in Civilian Production Administration relating to the Building Industry. His unclear enunciation made it difficult for listeners to follow him; he gave a resume of the functions and tribulations of his department. Relinquishing the floor to Mr. Tomlinson who had more specific data to quote, Tomlinson spoke of production levels and how speeding up essential material was affected all along the line of production equipment.

During subsequent questioning from the floor Mr. Tyde Woods was corralled to answer questions more pertinent to OPA control.

Mr. H. Field, chairman of the chapter's Public Relations Committee, then made a detailed report and read a resolution, which he urged in a motion to be adopted at this meeting. Another hour of conflict and confusion ensued, discussing the advisability of so doing before its five points could be studied by all members. A hand vote resulted in a decision to mail printed copies to the membership and call for a ballot vote. The meeting adjourned at 10:10 P.M.

—Leo J. Weissenborn

Chicago Chapter A.I.A. November 6 Meeting

In the large dining room of the Builders Club in Chicago, 6 men of the Chicago Chapter assembled for their November meeting at 6:30 P.M. for dinner followed by the regular meeting at 8 o'clock.

President Paul Gerhardt, Jr., presided. He called upon Secretary Faulkner to present minutes of the Executive Committee meetings of October 15 and November 5. Faulkner reported that the A.I.A. national membership is now 100% more than in 1941. Chapter membership, barring corporate members, was to be changed from associate and junior to new classification.

The President now introduced new members and guests present.

Increase in dues was next discussed. The Chapter is planning to increase its services to architects, including if possible an employment agency. For this purpose, a permanent paid secretary is considered advisable. The dues now, \$10.00 plus \$3.00 for the Architects Association of Illinois, will probably be increased to \$20.00 flat annually. The Chapter corporate members now number over 300.

The President then referred to applications for permit made to the Chicago Building Department according to the new rules. He reported that a large proportion of plans now submitted for permit were incomplete and required additional drawings before permits can be granted. He also stated that applications for permit to the number of some 40 were waiting the return of applicant to pay the fee and pick up the permit.

The President called upon Harford Field to introduce the speaker of the evening, John P. Frey, President, Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, whose

subject was "The Dangers of Bureaucracy to the Building Industry."

Field's introduction was amply long and complimentary to the speaker. Mr. Frey introduced his formal address, which was the reading of a paper, by extemporaneous remarks bearing on our country's fundamental constitutional conception; namely, that the federal government is composed of 3 main divisions — legislature, executive, judiciary; that within recent years this tri-partite feature had unfortunately been supplemented, and that gradually during the war years, by federal bureaus created by the President of the United States under authority from Congress; that these bureaus had powers often overlapping one another, causing internal confusion and irritation, inefficiency and waste; that under the powers granted these bureaus they were in many instances not subject to review and correction by the Supreme Court. And now Mr. Frey turned to his paper which he read. The earlier paragraphs were a repetition of what has here been reported, but later on he gave instances of unsatisfactory functioning, reporting conflicts through OPA, CPA, NLRB and perhaps others in conflict with the unions, AFL and CIO. He argued that because of the orders and directives of the bureaus scarcity of materials prevails, priorities granted are in conflict, strikes have occurred among labor unions because of the rapid increase in living costs and that even with higher wages granted the men the percentage of increase in living costs remained higher than the percentage of increase granted labor. Mr. Frey stated his satisfaction in that his paper was delivered after election rather than before, thus preventing the suspicion that he was delivering the first address he had ever made before an architects' assembly with the hope of influencing their vote.

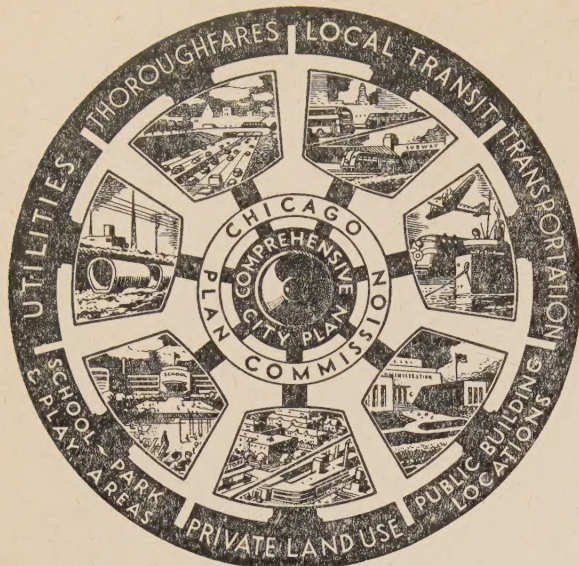
There were a few questions from the floor put to the speaker before the resolution ordered mailed to members by the October meeting was taken up. This resolution, prepared by the Public Relations Committee of the Chapter, was in five parts. Before asking for a vote, Mr. Field said that time and circumstances during the last month had probably changed the attitude of architects to some of the 5 questions. The national election had taken place and perhaps some of these questions were automatically answered by the national vote. There were others, however, that would not down. One of these was No. 3, which was condemned by speakers from the floor. Many spoke pro or con. Field finally gave it as his opinion that for G. I. living quarters 25% was ample for G. I. ownership, and 75% should be for rental. Suter, Field and McCaughey discussed these points. The President finally put the resolution with the eliminations as understood to a vote. The resolution was voted.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 P. M.

On Saturday afternoon November 23 Robert Stanton of Boston at the Chicago Natural History Museum told the story of Yucatan—"The Egypt of America"—the land of the Mayas, proud ancient people who built glittering silver white stone temples and pyramids in Mexico, and developed a culture and civilization in many respects paralleling that of Europe. Mr. Stanton's color films showed the long dead cities of Chichen-Itza, Uxmal and Kabah, all noted for their magnificence of architecture. He showed Merida, the modern capital, founded in 1542.

With the gift of \$2,000,000 from the Charles Hayden Foundation, The Massachusetts Institute of Technology will build a library building which is expected to set a new standard in university library design. It will be a memorial to Mr. Hayden (class of 1890). Facing the Charles River basin it will stand next to the Walker Memorial in Cambridge.

You can cross from Europe to Asia on a ferryboat for a fare equivalent to 5 cents — from Istanbul in European Turkey to Uskudar in Asiatic Turkey. And you're crossing the Bosphorus, a sheet of water that has made the first page in history perhaps oftener than any other water straits in the world. Why, you pay 15 cents to ride from Chicago to Evanston on the Northwestern Elevated, and what excitement is there in that — unless you have a collision.



Symbol of the Comprehensive City Plan

As a means of popularizing the dynamic concept under which the Comprehensive City Plan of Chicago is being developed, a symbol has been devised which portrays graphically the content and organization of the plan. It is conceived as a wheel made up of seven segments, each representing a fundamental phase of urban living, all rotating about and firmly bound to the hub, the city plan. Each element is carried on a spoke which has been fitted into the hub through the Plan Commission. The stability of the whole rests upon the coordinated development of all of the parts. As the smooth rolling of a wheel demands balance, strength, and skilled craftsmanship, so the Comprehensive City Plan calls for careful integration, sturdy realism and integrity, and imaginative but aggressive leadership. Forward motion, in pace with the city's steady march of progress, will be achieved through adoption by the City Council as the Official Plan of Chicago.

To Elucidate

The Editor: In answer to the question about the railroad problem in Chicago, it is necessary first to recall that the Comprehensive City Plan is being developed on the basic premise that Chicago is now and will continue to be made up of neighborhoods which are banded together as communities. Through the corridors between communities are channeled the railway and expressway systems and, in many cases, the enviroing industrial areas. It is true that such a premise tends to fix in the City Plan the general pattern of railway main lines in keeping with existing routes, but in no sense does it restrict the efficacy of the over-all plan nor does it preclude the many adjustments and improvements that have been and will be proposed in the course of further refinement of the Plan. On the other hand, the recognition of the inescapable conclusion that most of the main lines of the railroads are quite likely to remain substantially in existing locations during the predictable future enables other plans contingent thereon to proceed on a more realistic basis than would otherwise be possible. Like all major alterations to a great city which might be proposed by a theoretical mind and be possible from the physical standpoint, the real test of feasibility is found in the relationship between cost and social benefit.

It must be remembered that improvements in the railway pattern of Chicago in its relation to other phases of the city plan are not confined to the relocation or the abandonment of trackage or right of ways. Much has been proposed in the Preliminary City Plan with respect to changes in the character of land uses adjoining major rail lines in order that a more logical transition of land use from railroad to residential will be effected.

In the preliminary plan it is proposed that every crossing of a railroad over a major thoroughfare shall be grade separated, and therein have been made a number of specific recommendations for changes in railway routes, such as the elimination of the grade right of way of the Baltimore and Ohio which runs diagonally across the South Shore district.

In reaching the conclusion that the railroad pattern displayed in the Preliminary Plan was acceptable for preliminary planning purposes until such time as entirely feasible and constructive proposals for improvements could be offered, the Plan Commission had the benefit of many creditable studies on the subject prepared by able engineers and well-qualified agencies. The Commission received the full cooperation of the City Council Committee on Railroad Termina and the Committee of Railroad Officials organized at the suggestion of Mayor Kelly to study the railway terminal problem. For some time, one of the Commission's staff engineers has been assigned exclusively to the assembly and preparation of additional information bearing on this subject. The Commission is maintaining close liaison with the other organizations which are endeavoring to reach a solution of this problem in order that all well-conceived thoughts on this subject will be available for study.

The results of these efforts will be incorporated into the revisions of the City Plan and will be accorded adequate publicity in order that the interested technicians and many others may have an opportunity to study the proposals and offer pertinent observations.

In addition to the railroad problem, the extent of coordination between the planning efforts of Michael Reese Hospital with respect to the re-development of the large blighted area environing the hospital and the City Plan now in preparation by the Chicago Plan Commission deserves comment. In the last issue of the Bulletin doubt was expressed in this connection. That doubt probably arose, at least in part, from disparaging remarks about the Plan Commission's work which were contained in an article about the Michael Reese redevelopment program in a recent issue of a nationally circulated architectural magazine. For the extent to which those remarks reveal the attitude of the hospital's planning staff or their intention to integrate their plans harmoniously into the City Plan, I am unable to make answer.

The Chicago Plan Commission is the official planning agency of the City of Chicago. As such, it is not only our privilege but our duty to offer entire cooperation to any agency which engages in efforts to plan for improvement within the city.

From the day the Michael Reese Hospital decided to undertake an extensive planning program for the blighted area adjacent to the hospital, the Plan Commission has cooperated with the Board of Directors even to the extent of recommending possible staff members. When a planning staff had been assembled, the Commission supplied it with base maps, land use data, and unpublished planning studies pertaining to the area, and contributed the time of its staff in discussion about the problems of redevelopment.

The Plan Commission welcomed this organization as an ally in the large-scale attack on blight. Throughout all stages in the preparation of detailed redevelopment plans by the Michael Reese planning staff, data, suggestions, and counsel were freely given by the staff of the Commission. A cursory review of the preliminary plans in the early stages gave evidence that the broad objectives of this organization in preparing plans for the redevelopment of the chosen area were in keeping with the spirit of the Comprehensive City Plan. The Plan Commission has had no further opportunity to study the more detailed plans that appear to have been developed. Until such an opportunity is accorded the Plan Commission, we will be unable to give as complete an answer to your questions as would otherwise be possible.

The Plan Commission recognizes its obligation to consider all proposals for the development or redevelopment of land within the city in the light of its responsibility to the people of Chicago and to make determination as to the effect of any of such proposals on the interests of the people primarily affected and on the plans for the remainder of the city. That statement is just another way of saying that we believe that the general character of such proposals should be entirely consonant with the objectives of the City Plan now being prepared by the Plan Commission. Once harmony in this respect is firmly established, the further details of the proposal remain appropriately in the hands of the individuals or organization sponsoring the improvement.

I should like to point out that, in the published version of the Michael Reese plan, no changes whatever in location of the four major railroads that pass through the area were proposed.

I trust that these answers to your questions will serve not only to make reply to the specific questions but to clarify in the minds of all of your readers an important phase of city planning.

H. Evert Kincaid, Executive Director
Chicago Plan Commission

Commercial Wasteland

By Wallace G. Atkinson, Landscape Architect, Chicago

Recently in the news has been the proposed uses for a 76 acre tract of land and clay pit on the western edge of Chicago at Touhy Avenue and the Drainage Canal. This area owned by the Illinois Brick Company was the source of clay for brick manufacture but has been inactive since 1930. The city of Chicago has proposed acquiring this property to use as a garbage dump. It has been stated City Engineers estimate the pit could be filled by garbage in seven years, grass sown and a park created. It is projected the fill-in method of disposal, which has been recommended by the U. S. Public Health Service, would be used. This method recommends disposing of the garbage in trenches to a depth of not more than 12 feet before being packed down and covered with at least two feet of clean earth. Nevertheless, the property owners in the adjoining neighborhood of attractive, well roomed homes are enraged.

The pit is fed by springs which keep the non-stagnant water level approximately 20 feet below the level of adjoining streets. In one section the water is reputed to be 40-50 feet deep, whereas, in other parts it is not so deep but what marsh grasses and reeds thrive. Trees which remained from the time the pit was actively used, or took root before the water level raised, are being killed by the water and the barkless lhouettes stand out in contrast to the reeds and water below. The southern one-third of the area is several feet above the present lake level but still well below the streets.

How can this wasteland be utilized?

Classifying the natural terrain of Chicago as flat the parks of this locality can generally be included in the same category. Trees, shrubs and open areas for active recreation are the component parts of most of these parks and variable only to the extent of neighborhood needs, amount of land and adjoining street patterns.

At the abandoned clay pit different conditions prevail. An area has served a commercial use, been discarded, and left for all to see how the ravages of man can despoil our landscape. Why not take the remains and adapt them to our use? We have a sizeable body of water which has already been discovered by birds; small fish abound within, and trees, shrubs and flowers struggle around the edges. Already a general wildlife character has been started and with some assistance it could be made an outstanding example of a new usefulness for a blighted landscape.

A sanctuary should be developed to encourage all types of birds into surroundings where enthusiasts might study their habits and enjoy their associations.

For commercial reasons the excavation was extended close to the adjoining streets. To allow for a border treatment a lean fill should be brought in to enable the planting of native trees and shrubs. With an irregular shore line and spits of land extending outward from the shore, small bays could be developed to perfect the scenes and give the birds a chance to roge and nest. Native plants selected for edible fruits for birds would encourage the maximum number and types as well as serving to enclose a footpath idly winding through the area. With the use of plants of variable heights, and new fill placed with regard for pleasant contours, the results could add materially toward a native scenery.

At the southern end of the site, which was previously mentioned as being several feet above the lake, could be made the park entrance. Here could be placed a modest shelter, parking place and the beginning of the footpath around the lake. Excessive filling and construction here would not only place this park in the same category as most parks around Chicago but spoil the character which has been started by nature without solicitation.

This western section of the city adjoining the clay already has the active recreational types of parks. A small neighborhood park where an enclosed childrens play area, shelter building and general sitting area has been developed is immediately to the south of the pit. A half mile to the east, in a more densely populated neighborhood is the Indian Boundary Park containing a miniature zoo of bear, deer, fox, etc.,

tennis courts, wading pool, play areas and a social building. With such facilities in the neighborhood an informal and natural treatment of an area which already possesses the basic features for such a development would roundout the recreational activities for this section of the city and give the residents another source of pride in their locality.

With the pit located on the western edge of a residential district and on the eastern edge of the drainage canal and McCormick Blvd., proposed as an expressway on the Comprehensive City Plan for Chicago, the geographical as well as natural features would ideally suit the development of a bird sanctuary on this wasteland. Here would be a park for Chicago unlike any other in this area and making use of a wasteland which has performed its commercial duties.

To Prevent a Lumber Famine

At the recent meeting of the American Forest Congress at Washington, D. C., it was pointed out that the annual cut of 30 billion feet maintained during the last 5 years is too much for the private forests. Industry leaders admitted that some government regulation of the cut will be necessary to avoid completely undermining balance in production.

The conferees considered "custody" of private forest lands placed in the hands of states rather than the federal government. This brought violent reaction from Lyle F. Watts, Chief of the U. S. Forest Service. He countered with the statement that additional forest acreage should be put in the hands of the federal government, and that an acceptable forest management policy be enforced if more lumber is to be forthcoming.

Representatives of the Congress of Industrial Organizations entered the debate, contending that the way to stimulate lumber production is to institute federal regulation of commercial cut. The Hook bill, introduced into the House of Representatives last April, contains many stringent federal controls objectionable to private owners.

Students of architectural history will be much interested in *Lost Treasures of Europe*, a new book published in November by "Pantheon Books Inc." and edited by Henry La Farge. Its 427 fine half tones from photographs of architecture, sculpture and painting are a permanent pictorial record "of things gone forever." Ernest T. DeWald of Princeton University writes the introduction. His closing sentence reads: "The spectacle of man's destructive fury against himself and his achievements lies spread before us."

The countries covered are Poland, Holland, Belgium, Russia, England, Italy, France, Germany, Hungary. There is a description of each plate giving data of creation, name of architect, artists, destruction, whether in ruins or extent of damage.

Boulder Dam towers to a height of 726.4 feet — more than half that of the Empire State Building in New York City; it has a base thickness of 660 feet — more than the length of two ordinary city blocks; a crest thickness of 45 feet — room enough for four lanes of highway; and it is 1,244 feet long — nearly a quarter of a mile.

It is interesting to note that in the first 21 months of the pouring of concrete, 1,200 men with modern equipment had built a structure whose volume was greater than the largest pyramid in Egypt, which, according to Herodotus, required 100,000 men and 20 years to build.

The University of Illinois Small Homes Council, Mumford House, Urbana, announces plans for a new Home Research Center. Here scientific investigation will be undertaken of problems such as, Warm Air Heating and Air Conditioning, House Planning and the use of Soft Coal as Fuel, Radiant Baseboard Heating in a Basementless Home. These are first steps. As the work proceeds pioneering in plan and construction as one integrated problem will be persued.

Public Law 592, 8/2/46 — Authorizes an appropriation of \$20,000,000 for slum clearance in the District of Columbia under the "District of Columbia Redevelopment Act of 1945".

A.I.A. Roster of Architects To Every Architect in the U.S.A. and Possessions

We in the architectural profession, for several decades have watched with disquiet the steady growth of governmental architectural bureaus. We have become equally concerned at the increasing success with which more and more contracting organizations are offering to the public a complete building service, including the architectural and engineering design.

To arrest and, if possible, reverse these trends—which mitigate against the employment of architects in private practice and which are detrimental to the best interests of the public, and ourselves, The American Institute of Architects is undertaking a major program directed toward securing greater recognition of the profession and its more consistent employment in the fields where its talent should be used. Both to help this constructive program and for your own advancement, you are asked to cooperate by carefully reading this letter and by filling out the enclosed ballot and questionnaire.

The Institute, its Chapters and State Association affiliates are continually receiving requests in their areas for lists of architects qualified to undertake projects of varying character. Up to the present, The Institute has been unable to compile even a partial roster of architects which, if it existed, would make readily available to potential clients your experience and qualifications as an architect (in the form of your own questionnaire) in the several areas throughout the country.

Architects' Roster:

To remedy the lack of such a source of accessible information, The A.I.A. is preparing an Architects' Roster of all architects in the United States and its possessions. The Architects' Roster will become a continuing record of the profession, continually kept up to date. This assignment has been placed in the hands of The A.I.A.'s Committee on the Architect and Governmental Relations, and it is their efforts, on your behalf, which you are now asked to assist.

The first step—the creation of a catalogue of personnel in the profession—is proceeding rapidly. To date there has been obtained from each State a list of registered architects, whether practicing in their own name or associated with others as partners or employees. Though every effort has been made to have the list as complete as possible, there may be omissions. Notification of such omissions will be greatly appreciated. Approximately 15,000 names are already in the catalogue.

It is advisable that the questionnaires in each State or area approving this program be reviewed by an impartial committee to be sure that they are complete. To accomplish this a "Committee of Review" will be set up.

From the simple but effective procedure, as detailed above, will emerge an "Architects' Roster of all architectural practitioners—a comprehensive dossier of their names, addresses, training, background, professional accomplishments and abilities.

Register of Architects Qualified for Federal Public Works:

Because the federal agencies have of late shown a marked tendency, through the tireless efforts of The American Institute of Architects, to employ architects in private practice, and because the federal agencies in the past have met with serious difficulties in obtaining the names of architects and architectural firms qualified to execute federal commissions, which is the primary reason for the enlargement of federal bureaus and lack of employment of architects in private practice on federal projects, The Institute in Convention at Atlantic City in April 1945, voted to put into effect at once a register for the selection of architects qualified for federal public works, but with the understanding that it should not be put in operation in localities of Chapters in which it was not approved. Each questionnaire will provide opportunity for the author to express his wish to have his name included in both classifications, or to have it appear only in the Architects' Roster.

The Committee may ask the authors of questionnaires for additional information or for personal interviews. The list will be reviewed and revised every other year, and any architect in the meantime may request the Committee for consideration or reconsideration of his qualifications.

This list is prepared for federal public works, and it should be understood that upon the request of any governmental agency for a list of qualified architects to handle any specific project of sizes indicated in any given area, a qualified list will be presented, together with questionnaires. Here the function of the Committee and The A.I.A. terminates. The selection for the project may or may not be made from that

list by the government agency involved. *The selection will be entirely in the agency's hands, as no preferential listing or advice on selection will be given by the local Committees of Review, or by The A.I.A.* In other words, there will be no rating of said list, for, your questionnaire will set forth your qualifications.

Every architect has the same privilege as heretofore of seeking employment from federal agencies regardless of the list and questionnaires submitted at the request of any federal agency. Further, the above program does not preclude the authorization of design competitions for the selection of architects for any given project, and The A.I.A. reaffirms approval of the design-competition system as a method of the selection of architects for public works providing such competitions are conducted in accordance with the recognized rules and regulations of The American Institute of Architects.

Even though you may not be interested in federal public works, you are still urgently asked to fill out the questionnaire and be included in the Architects' Roster.

However, if you reside or have your principal office in the localities of a Chapter or Chapters of the Institute which are opposed to the "Architects' Roster" or the "Register of Architects Qualified for Federal Public Works", do not answer or fill out the questionnaire.

—James R. Edmunds, Jr. President, A.I.A.

Merrill on a New Chicago Bldg. Code

John O. Merrill, of the firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Architects, recently named to direct revision of Chicago building code, has started the work. He announced that the revised code will be simple, easy to read and a model for other cities to follow. He expects to complete the job within a year.

He said: "Chicago's code is not bad in comparison with those of other cities. But our job is to get out in front by providing a code which will be followed by other cities."

"One unfortunate result of collective bargaining has been to level opportunities for advancement — those of the able men being reduced while those of the poor and mediocre workmen are improved. Also the voices of malcontents, who generally are found among the poor workers, are amplified. Out of this condition have grown the trade union rules calling for advancement on the basis of seniority rather than skill, and restrictions on output." —Editorial in *E N*

Ernest A. Mayo, Evanston, Ill. architect died in Evanston October 16, aged 81. Mr. Mayo was born in Birmingham, England. He served in the Birmingham office of H. M. Townsend, architect; practiced architecture in South Africa one year before coming to Chicago and Evanston. His practice included some distinguished homes in Evanston and other north shore suburbs. Mr. Mayo was a member of the R.I.B.A. and had been an associate member of the A.I.A. A son, Peter B. Mayo, continues the father's practice.

Archie H. Hubbard, Eau Claire, Wisconsin architect died in that city August 14, following a week's illness, aged 64. Mr. Hubbard was born in Red Cedar, Wis., graduated from the University of Illinois in 1907, after which he taught in the University's Department of Architecture for a short period. Moving to Eau Claire in 1940 he became associated with Architect Emil F. Klinger and in the same year the firm Klinger-Hubbard-Gohn, Architects & Engineers, was established. Hubbard was a member of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects as well as the Illinois Society of Architects. He joined the latter in October, 1914.

Moritz F. Strauch, Chicago architect, died in that city September 13, aged 70. Mr. Strauch was born in Vienna, Austria, coming to the United States in 1905. He was licensed to practice architecture in Illinois in 1911. Among his architectural works are Lincoln Turner Hall, St. Andrews School, American Bakers Union Hall. Churches, schools, residences, also breweries and dairies are numbered among his works. He was a member of the Illinois Society of Architects since March 4, 1913.