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WEEKLY BULLETIN



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Volume 13

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, MARCH 7, 1939

No. 10

CONVENTION PLANS

George J. Hass, Executive Chairman of the M. S. A. Silver Anniversary Convention Committee, has practically completed arrangements for the event to take place at Hotel Statler in Detroit, March 16, 17, 18.

Paul Marshall has just mailed out programs and it is expected that an attendance far in excess of any previous M. S. A. Annual Meeting will be had.

Malcolm Stirton's Exhibitions Committee is accounted for elsewhere in this issue by a "FINAL REQUEST" for material.

BANQUET

A real surprise is promised at the Michigan Building Industry Banquet concluding event Saturday evening in which the Producers and Builders will again join.

Dr. Gus W. Dyer of the Department of Economics, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee, will be the speaker with Roger Allen as toastmaster. Allen needs no introduction and Dr. Dyer is a brilliant humorous economist with decided ideas, and he doesn't pull his punches.

DOW'S LECTURE

The lecture by Alden B. Dow of Midland has been changed from Friday afternoon to Saturday afternoon. This was done for two reasons. First, it is believed that draftsmen and others would be better able to attend on Saturday P. M. Also, arrangements for the visit to Greenfield Village and luncheon there could be more favorable on Friday than on Saturday.

NOMINATIONS

The Nominating Committee elected by the Board and consisting of Leo I. Perry, Chairman; John B. Gay and Professor Frederick C. O'Dell, have made nominations for Society officers and directors, as follows:

Kenneth C. Black, Lansing.....President
George F. Diehl, Detroit.....1st Vice-President
Stanley Worth Hahn, Muskegon.....2nd Vice-President
Frederick Beckbissinger, Saginaw.....3rd Vice-President
Cornelius L. T. Gabler, Detroit.....Secretary
John C. Thornton, Detroit.....Treasurer
Talmage C. Hughes, Detroit.....Executive Secretary
Directors: Roger Allen, Grand Rapids; Andrew R. Morison, Detroit; Thomas S. Tanner, Ann Arbor.

The President's Committee consisting of Roger Allen, Chairman; Stanley Worth Hahn and Adrian N. Languis have made the following selections:

Kenneth C. Black, Lansing.....President
Lewis J. Sarvis, Battle Creek.....1st Vice-President
Ralph B. Herrick, Lansing.....2nd Vice-President
George M. McConkey, Ann Arbor.....3rd Vice-President
Cornelius L. T. Gabler, Detroit.....Secretary
John C. Thornton, Detroit.....Treasurer
Talmage C. Hughes, Detroit.....Executive Secretary
Directors: Clair W. Ditchy, Detroit; Emil Lorch, Ann Arbor; Chester A. Sirrine, Lansing.

Three directors are to be elected. Ballots will be mailed to active members immediately. Voting will be by mail and election will take place at the Convention.

By-laws provide that "The members' Nominating Committee shall recognize and place in nomination any candidate who is an active member, for any office, upon a petition signed by five members, provided such petition is delivered to the chairman of the members' committee (Leo I. Perry, 333 State Street, Detroit) at least fifteen days prior to the date of the annual meeting."

SCHILLING AND KAHN PRAISED FOR CIVIC SERVICE

Mayor Reading last week joined the City Plan Commission and Arts Commission in paying tribute to two architects who have so ably served Detroit for twenty years. They are Albert Kahn on the Arts Commission and Edward A. Schilling on the City Plan Commission.

Mr. and Mrs. H. J. Maxwell Grylls and their son, Miles, are motoring to Florida. They left Wednesday, March 1, and expect to be gone a month.

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Punch & Judy Theatre

Kercheval at Fisher Road

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WED., THURS., FRI.

MARCH 8, 9 & 10

**The Marx Brothers
"ROOM SERVICE"**

SATURDAY

MARCH 11

**The Jones Family
"DOWN ON THE FARM"**

11 P. M.

**Robert Cummings
"I STAND ACCUSED"**

SUN., MON., TUES.

MARCH 12, 13 & 14

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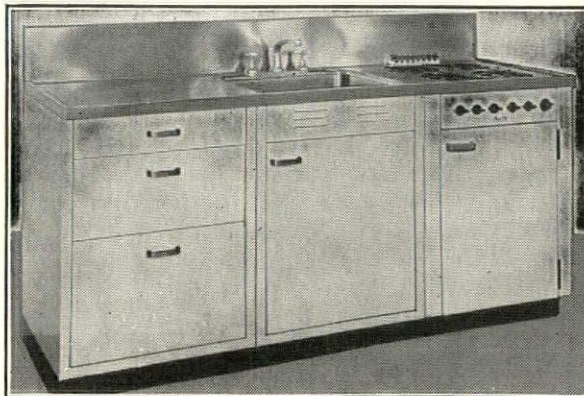
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THE SHRINE OF THE LITTLE FLOWER

Dear Tal:—



Sturm

I like Henry McGill's letter in your February 14th issue, coming to the defense in no uncertain manner of "Silo Charlie." I have often wondered why the very essence of niceness is so frequently lost these days, especially among those who are "hired" because they are nice or supposed to be so.

What we see manifested around and about us. Especially what we so glibly term "style," seems to be taken as the ultimate of all things architectural. What I have admired in most of our really big men, whose criticism is invariably constructive, never blatant, never ironic, vitriolic and nasty, is that they seem to sense and truly understand the underlying motive rather than the outward semblance expressed for us in "brick and stone."

I have never been half as much interested in the outward manifestation of the "Stones of Venice" as I am in Ruskin's scholarly, fair and inspiring *raison d'être*, if you get what I mean.

So, call him "Silo Charlie" but smile, benignly, when you say it, as if it were a very precious and loving nickname, but for no other reason under the sun. I do not know the reverend gentleman. I have heard one or two of his earlier radio talks. I never listen to him now and for a long time past for the very simple reason that I do not believe that the church, as such, should mix in politics, not at any rate so directly and in such manner. Indirectly, through the evangelization of men's thinking, you just wager I not only believe in it, but I think it is a sacred trust to mix in, hard and fast.

What Father Coughlin did in building his tower is a symbol, pure and simple and it does not matter much whether it looks like a "Silo," a "Nightclub," a "Shrine dedicated" or otherwise, or even a "Noisy Tower."

Because I do not like all of Mr. Saarinen's work, does not detract one iota from the fact that the gentleman is a personage in architecture, but he is not architecture. Per contra, I do not believe that there is any merit in all the shouting, spewing and genuflecting in regard to the "Silo".

More power to McGill, only not too much of it even to him.

Most earnestly,
Meyer J. Sturm

Mr. Lewis W. Simpson
My Dear Colleague:

Your letter pleased me immensely.

The TIME article really amused me, because it was so overdrawn and true to form—ridiculous, but to answer it in kind would have been lost on the colossal smart-Alecks. So I made my letter serious to mislead them as to my true reactions.

Someone I know of in the TIME office 'phoned me requesting most urgently a picture from the rear. Exposing a desire to publish an unflattering view to bear out their point, of course. Father Coughlin published every week a rear view of the Tower because he liked it, but I did not give them any to manhandle.

No job can be given an honest criticism unless the

IMPORTANT, MICHIGAN ARCHITECTS

The first returns show that the Architectural Exhibition at the M. S. A. Convention March 16, 17 and 18 will be a varied and interesting display that will attract a great deal of public interest. Every Michigan Architect must see to it that his work is represented there so that the Exhibition will truly be a cross section of Michigan Architecture.

The time for submission of material is getting short and the deadline has been set at March 10 so all material to be exhibited should be in the hands of the Committee not later than that date so that it can be arranged and properly presented in time for the Convention. There is a lot of work to be done after the exhibits are in so please send in your selection as soon as possible to Harley and Ellington, 1507 Stroth Building care of Malcolm R. Stirton.

We are asking for three types of exhibits:

1. Photographs. These can be finished buildings or exceptionally interesting construction photographs. There is no fixed size for photographs although they should be as large as possible, preferably 20"x22". Small snapshots cannot be accepted as they cannot be displayed properly. These photographs should not be framed or extravagantly mounted so that they may be kept more uniform when displayed.

2. Renderings or sketches in color or in black and white. These should be submitted without frames when possible.

3. Models. These should be large enough and as complete as possible for complete display. Models easily understood by the public are preferred.

All exhibits are to be labelled on the backs with a description to include the title of the work, location and the Architect's name. The exhibits will be mounted on building board in such a manner as not to harm them so that they may be removed later without injury. The lettering of titles will be done by the Committee for the sake of uniformity and all lettering will be done on the building board so as not to deface the exhibits. All care possible will be exercised in the handling of exhibits.

Please help us and yourselves by making this Exhibition a real success and send in your exhibits at once.

EXHIBITION COMMITTEE,
Malcolm R. Stirton
Marcus R. Burrowes
Thomas Hewlett
Emil Lorch
Lyle Zisler.

critic allows for whatever influence the property or the client may have had on the result.

In my opinion this work reflects very closely the characteristics of Father Coughlin. Underlying truth, with a flare for taking advantage of modern ways and improvements.

You are thus far the only one to communicate with me and for this and your fine understanding expressions, I am most grateful.

Very sincerely,
HENRY MCGILL.

P. S. For good and obvious reasons TIME did not acknowledge my letter, but besides being published in the Michigan Architects' Magazine it was given space in the Brooklyn TABLET, a Catholic paper giving much encouraging support to Father Coughlin.

ON GOTHIC ARCHITECTURE

The following is a portion of correspondence from Wirt C. Rowland in which he indulges himself on his views of Gothic Architecture.

Dear X:

After our ripping good visit yesterday over the cocktails I have been searching my own mind—(a process at once difficult and from which I come out with soiled hands!) to see if I might find words, ideas or hypotheses which might clarify the Gothic situation for you. Words, words, words—nothing but words!

You may remember that Dean Marquis said at a Cranbrook Round Table (attended mostly by square heads) that words and language were the most inadequate means of expressing ideas. Art—architecture, painting, sculpture and music were the only ample vehicles of expression. I agree in part only, because poetry, for me, comes very near these great arts. But — I cannot couch my ideas in poetry — it would be blank!

I realize that you, in your relation to the public, must lay hold of things that are concrete in order to present them to an unknowing and rather unfeeling public. If you were to offer them the airy trifles which we as artists bandy about, they would ignore them with scorn—or—think with a simper on reading them, that they had acquired something superior and in common with the exalted artists, themselves.

To put the word, Gothic, in a concrete category is simply impossible according to my own understanding of it. If we were to consider the "Classic" style (the Greeks were the only great classicists)—that is perfectly susceptible to category down through history. Why? Because in many ways it has been artificial—since the age of Pericles.

Ordinary parlance calls anything Gothic that has a pointed arch, and I guess we might as well give into the vulgar public. But Gothic, fairly unrelated to the Goths, themselves, but somehow, by accident, bearing their name, is derived from a certain structural principle of thrust and counter-thrust—for example, the vaulting of a nave which thrusts outward and was met by the flying buttresses which thrust inward and thus keeps the vaults from collapsing. That principle may be traced all through Gothic work, the tracery, ornament, and even its sculpture.

To establish a fine distinction, more meticulous scholars refer to English Gothic as the English Pointed Style. This is because most of their great churches were built **over** the foundations of monastic ruins, Norman or Romanesque, and they did not bother to change the original structural system which was sheer weight of wall and did not need the spidery spreading buttresses to support the vaults of the nave.

In England the form of the arches in windows was pointed. Ornamentation, sculpture and tracery was of a distinct Anglo-Saxon character, while the general form was inspired by French work. But the French mind was logical—the English sentimental (surprising!). That is the **main** cause of the difference in approach.

Now I know you will tax me with the question—does Gothic expression depend upon a mechanical or neo-scientific principle? (Inasmuch as you seem to be concerned with all art as "expression"). Well—that principle became a means—a vehicle—a frame upon which the craftsman expressed his ideas and moulded that frame according to his will consistently with what would **stand up**. His sculpture was concerned with bony frame work of the body, his leaf

ON THE HIGHWAYS

February 27, 1939

Hon. Murray D. Van Wagoner,
State Highway Commissioner,
Lansing, Michigan.

Dear Sir:—

The architects of Michigan have been interested in press reports to the effect that you are sponsoring legislation intended to regulate billboards along the public highways of our state.

We are intensely interested in any program which will result in improving the appearance and safety of the highways, and we believe the proposal to regulate billboards is a step in the right direction. We would like to see it followed up, at the proper time, by a campaign directed at unsightly oil stations, hot-dog stands, etc., such as has been done in some sections of New York State.

We feel that such improvements would be an added attraction for tourists from outside the state, and would definitely result in a better resort business for Michigan.

I was instructed, at a meeting of our Board of Directors on February 24, 1939, to write you this letter as an expression of our approval of this part of your program, and to assure you that we stand ready to be of any possible assistance in bringing it to a successful conclusion.

Respectfully,
Kenneth C. Black, Pres.
Michigan Society of Architects

forms showed plainly their construction and his window tracery must also illustrate the same principle of one member thrusting against another.

Out of all this assemblage of pinnacles, jutting buttresses, vertical lines and web of windows—we distill what is called the Gothic spirit—let us say architecturally the last great functional style—perhaps—the only functional style in history.

With this structural principle as their guide, we, however, must not fail to recognize the circumstances, environment, new racial character, unrestricted imagination, intuition, or instinct of the Medieval craftsmen to whom building and art were one and the same thing and could not be separated into a steel frame and an art which is **pasted** on it—as in our time.

That last point is not realized—we cannot comprehend that the two things structure and art could go arm in arm, in fact be annealed into one and the same expression, because we have subjected everything to category. Painting has lost the wall, sculpture has become isolated like a toy, and music, the imitation of a barnyard! Then we pull them all together over something which will hold them up and call it architecture! That has become a matter of piddling, taste—a rational choice—but with no **instinct** for it—all schooled training.

You call Gothic as we now do it—a free style? Yes—it is—and—it isn't! It has its ethics of design (I prefer "ethics" to "aesthetics"). It has its mysticism, it has its religion, because after all the hand of the artist must be **guided** by That Hand!

How may any artist regard himself to be of any age or clime but that of his imagination—timeless—placeless? This is apropos of our last few words as we parted—that I do not recognize my time and place to be of sufficient importance in a work which must be sincere.

"VOICE OF THE PEOPLE"

Dear Tal:

Didn't see you at the Institute last night to hear Alden Dow, but quite a few of the boys were present. This self appointed observer is afraid none of them will tell you about what they heard (and thought), so I rise to remark.

Now this self appointed official observer went to the lecture with an absolutely open mind willing to be convinced or entertained as the exigencies of the situation demanded.

The crowd overflowed the auditorium and there certainly was ample evidence that Mr. and Mrs. John Q. Public are interested in architecture. (or is it?)

Mr. Dow's discussion of his conception of "A Basis for Architecture" was fundamental and very elementary and his review of history from the Greeks to F. L. W. and pupils was, of necessity, very sketchy but dramatized well enough to catch the interest of the layman for whom the lecture was intended.

He gave a wonderful exhibition of his ability to take good colored movies. It takes skill and patience as well as the necessary time, money and abundant subject matter to produce a movie such as was shown.

In fact, I think the whole thing can be summed up this way. The audience must have concluded that an Architect's life must indeed be interesting and filled with beauty, romance and everything that makes life worth while. But we guys who have to scrape our ribs over a board and scrape up clients anywhere we can find them and who have to accomplish the impossible of getting a big house for a little money and all that sort of thing, well we are of the unanimous opinion (according to the infallible observations of this self appointed official observer) that Mr. Dow proved one thing conclusively—It must be wonderful to be able to practice architecture without having to make a living at it.

Yours,

SNIFFY THE DOPER.

FRANK MOLBY

Frank Molby, widely known architect formerly of Detroit, died at his home in Bealleville, Maryland, near Washington, D. C., on February 28th. He was born at Hillsdale, Michigan in 1867 and began his architectural practice in 1892 spending eighteen years in Washington, sixteen of which were in the office of the Supervising Architect of the Treasury and two years as partner of C. G. Graham.

He was in Detroit from 1910 to 1931, as a designer

CRANBROOK TEAM WINS
COMPETITION

Saarinén

Eero Saarinen, Ralph Rapson and Frederick James of Cranbrook Academy of Art won first prize in the national competition for a festival theatre and fine arts building for William and Mary College at Williamsburg, Virginia. The competition was sponsored by the American National Theatre Academy and carried an award of \$1000.

Saarinén, 28 years old, was born in Finland, came to the United States in 1923 and graduated from the Yale School of Architecture in 1934. James was born in Kansas City in 1915 and graduated from the University of Michigan in 1938. Rapson, 22, was born in Alma and studied at Alma College and the University of Michigan, graduating last year.

PRODUCERS, CHAPTER MEET

The Annual Meeting jointly between the Producers' Council Club of Michigan and Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., was held at the Detroit Leland Hotel Tuesday evening, February 28, with Mr. L. Rhoe Walter, director, Producers' Council, Inc., and sales manager of Flinkote Company of New York as guest speaker.

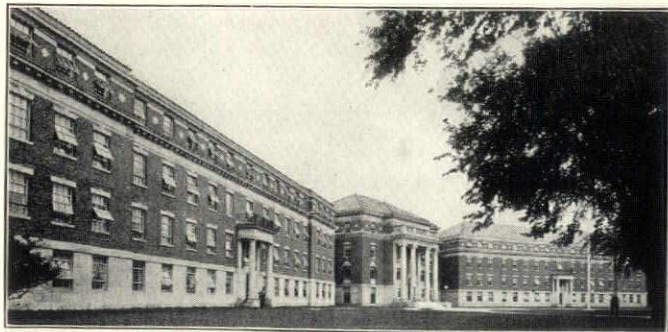
Floyd W. Clise of Johns-Manville Company, newly elected president of the local Producers Club presided and paid tribute to the retiring officers. He also recognized the new officers and called upon those architects at the speakers' table, including Arthur K. Hyde, president Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., and Clair W. Ditchy, regional director, A.I.A.

Mr. Walter gave a most constructive talk on selling as applied to the industry both for producers and designers. Many of the truths pointed out by him could well be used by our profession.

for Albert Kahn, following which he practiced alone and with Vernor, Wilhelm & Molby. Among his work are several Detroit public schools, St. Matthias Protestant Episcopal Church, West Grand Boulevard and Grand River Avenue, and the Masonic Temple in Pontiac.

In 1931 he returned to Washington to resume work with the Supervising Architect's office.

He leaves his wife, Grace, and one son, Richard V. of 16224 Parkside, Detroit, who is employed by the Chrysler Corporation. During his residence in Michigan he was an active member of the Michigan Society of Architects.



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A \$34,702,000 building program for Michigan has been approved by the Treasury and Postoffice Departments for consideration in any future building program authorized by Congress, the House Appropriations Committee announced Thursday.

The total cost of projects approved for the whole country was \$146,421,000.

The projects so approved were not included in the \$130,000,000 public building program authorized last year, the committee said, but would constitute eligible projects if Congress decided to expand that program.

A \$1,400,000 postoffice and court building for Grand Rapids was the costliest project on the list. In addition appropriations for buildings in some 55 other cities were approved.

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ARCHITECTS' REPORTS**AGREE, CHARLES N., 1140 Book Twr.**

Aaron DeRoy Memorial Building, Jewish Community Center, Woodward and Holbrook, Figs. closed—February 23.

1 story store building, Woodward and Sears Aves. figures closed Mar. 1. Warehouse and ice cream plant Cunningham Drug Stores. Bids closed. One Story store—Sears Avenue, Kroger Baking Co. taking fig. Mar. 1.

Prep. plans for 1-sty. store, Pennsylvania & Gratiot, Cunningham Stores Inc.; Also plans for 2250 seat Theatre, Lakewood Ave. & Harper, ready about Ap. 15 Also plans for one story store, Woodward Ave. S. of Sears—Western Auto Supply Co. ready March 15.

E. L. BARBER, DENISON, Iowa, Merritt & Cole, Assoc. Archt.—Plans for \$50,000 Church, Cor. Plymouth and Steele Aves.

BENNETT & STRAIGHT, 13526 Michigan Ave. Plans for Theatre, Garden City, Mich.

BRANDT, C. W. 3408 Eaton Tower.

Fig. by invitation on Doctor's Clinic. Closed.

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KAHN, ALBERT, INC. Bids closed on Office Bldg. Toledo Scale Co. Fig. on structural Steel closed on R. C. A. Bldg. Indianapolis, Ind. Fig. closed on steel for factory Bldg. Pratt & Whitney, Hartford, Conn.

H. AUGUSTUS O'DELL, 904 Marquette Bldg. Factory and office Building for Martin Electric Co. on East Outer Drive. Bids closed.

E. B. PHILLIPS—365 Pilgrim. Res. for M. Damaschke, Clarendon near 6 Mile. Bids closed.

Res. Lauder bet. Puritan & Grove. Owner Thos. R. Gonnella, 2551 St. Clair, will take bids. gen. & mech. about March 1.

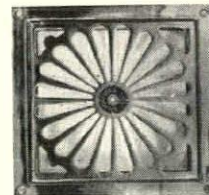
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Taking fig on 5 stores, Harper Ave.

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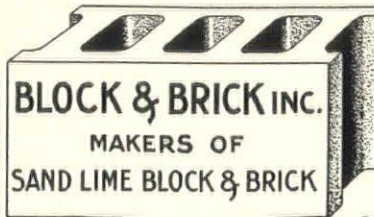
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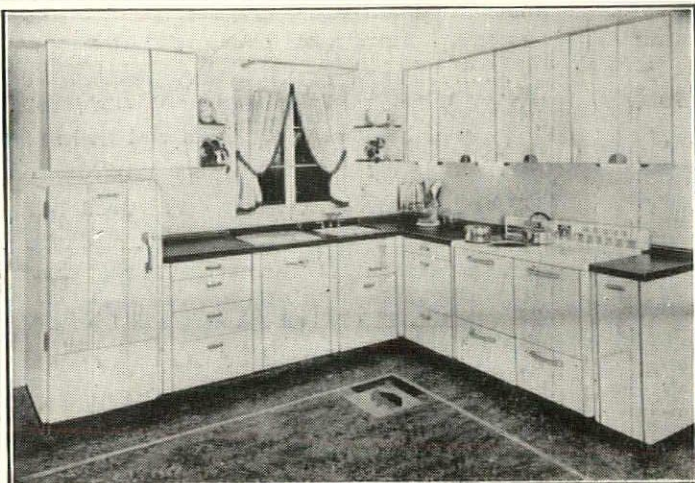
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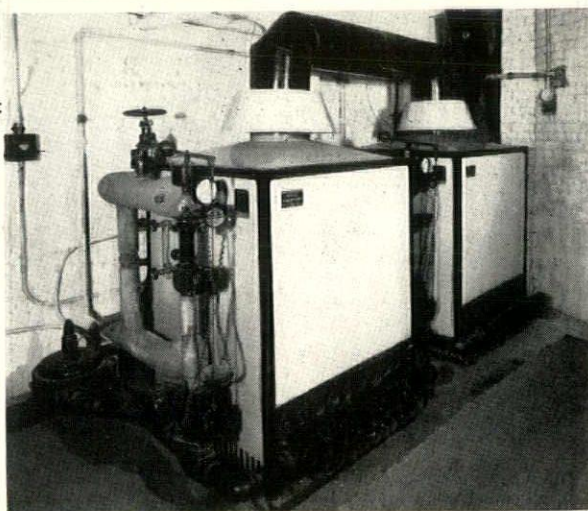
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WEEKLY BULLETIN



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Volume 13

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, MARCH 21, 1939

No. 12

Worm's-Eye and Angel's-Eye Views of New York in Exhibit

(Reprinted through courtesy of Science News Letter)

Visitors to New York during the 1939 World's Fair will have the unique privilege of getting a worm's-eye view and an angel's-eye view of the Big City's famous rush hour on one and the same day.

Out-of-towners unused to the mechanics of outwitting subway doors will have their revenge—an opportunity to look down and say, how puny this frenzy seems!

The world's largest diorama, a block-long, three-story-high reproduction of 4,000 buildings that contribute to the fabulous skyline, will show in 11 minutes life in New York around the clock. And its designers didn't forget the rush hour.

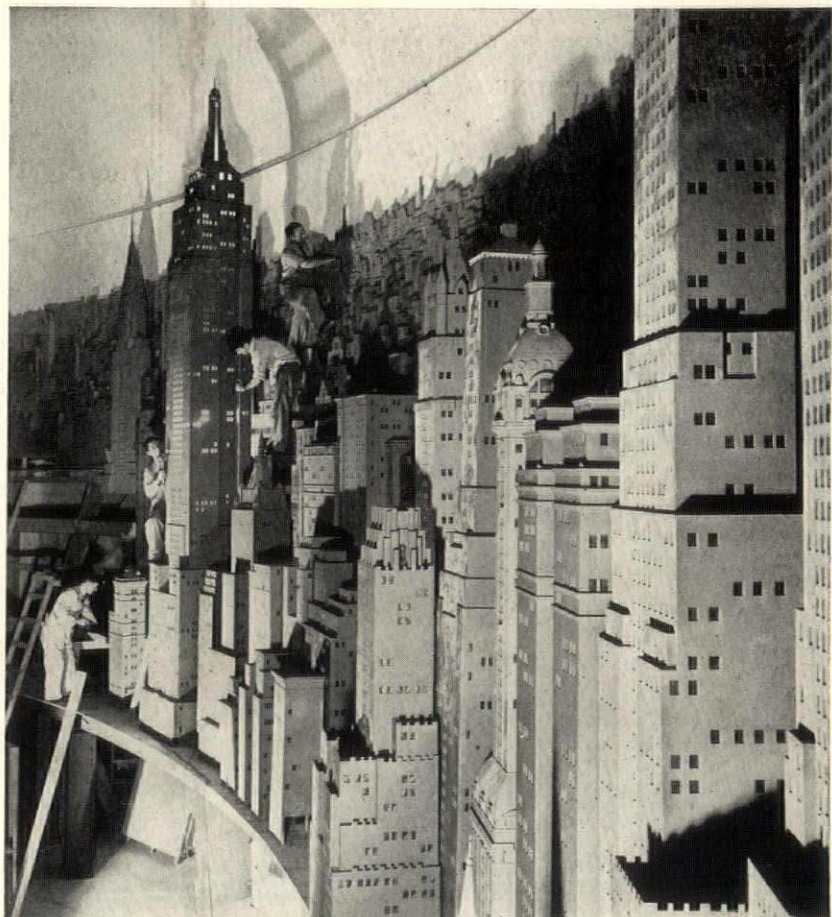
As 50,000 watts of power feeding "daylight" into the exhibit die out for the end of the day, the model will show New York motion in all its rush hour frenzy. Elevators in the buildings will rush up and down; trucks, buses and other vehicles will tear back and forth with greater facility than they do in real life; and subway trains will scurry underground, in cross-sectional tunnels clearly visible to the spectator. The sight will be soothing to the most outraged and trampled ego.

Complicated Wiring Job

Involving the most complicated job of electrical model wiring on record, the diorama is sponsored by the Consolidated Edison Company, New York's power merchants. It will be known as the "city of light." The 4,000 models of skyscrapers have 130,000 windows.

A model subway system, whose trains will travel the equivalent of one and one half times around the world during their meanderings in the diorama's bowels, will be a feature. Comprising 57 cars, the tiny

(See SKYLINE, Page 5)



DAY AND EVENING COURSES
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Luise Rainer—Paulette Goddard
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SATURDAY MARCH 25
Franchot Tone—Francisca Gaal
"THE GIRL DOWNSTAIRS"
11:00 P. M. Louis Hayward
"THE SCENE IN NEW YORK"
SUN., MON., TUES. MARCH 26, 27, 28
Wallace Beery—Robert Taylor
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MR. DOW'S LECTURE

In Answer to "Sniffy the Doper"

To begin—I shall not sign this article using a pseudonym, particularly one inspired by that used in one of our daily papers at the head of a column of habitual mediocrity. I shall sign my own true name so that you may know **who** I am and **where** I am!

A recent communication in the "Bulletin" has therefore stirred me to make my own comments on this lecture which may be from a more detached point of view than my own economic situation and more personal with regard to Mr. Dow.

Several years ago, a young friend of mine worked in Mr. Dow's office after completing his university work. Correspondence passed to and fro until finally, after viewing a partially completed home built by Mr. Dow in this vicinity, I committed the grave error of treating it facetiously in a letter to my friend. The tone of his reply was defensive and particularly irate because I had reversed Mr. Dow's initials or some like inaccuracy. There was acid in every line of his letter.

Now that I have met and talked with Mr. Dow, I can understand my friend's loyalty. For, one who is capable of inspiring such a skeptical and analytical a young man as my friend with such loyalty is surely an individual who has sincere purposes—in other words—a real person. Mr. Dow's natural and unassuming manner confirms this.

I cannot doubt, but that Mr. Dow in devoting his efforts to the practice of architecture, has done a service to it. Few people in his position would give it such devotion. Among those who complain of economic restrictions, it might be interesting to take a vote. Would you do the same if you were so situated? Yes—or—no? (!)

Mr. Dow has fixed upon a definite but flexible basis for architecture. How many have done that? If a man applies to him for architectural service, he knows from the character of Mr. Dow's past work what he will be given and he goes to Mr. Dow because he wants that type of building. This is establishing something individual. The average practice of architecture is something like a serve-self counter where one's eyes are always bigger than his stomach. After the same manner, the eyes of him who would build are larger than his pocket book!

Now, to Mr. Dow's basis. As I understand him—he takes two important elements of design—color and form and seeks to harmonize them—this aside from more modern, and to many—radical types of living. In the consideration of new and synthetic materials, he admits that some of them are yet too expensive, but, considering their possibilities, they are very stimulating.

The examples he offered in the moving pictures of his own work are admirable from the point of the application of imagination to the basis as he assumes it. Naturally, at times, a general comment is heard that these examples resemble closely work by his recent master (F. L. W. so-called). How quickly the public tends toward category. In other words, if an architect uses projecting eaves, a flatter pitched roof and is more or less free in his use of color and marked horizontal characteristics of fenestration—immediately, they say "Ah, ah! Frank Lloyd Wright!"

I believe both Dow and Wright are individuals. Wright is at the zenith of his career. Dow (I hope—and wish) has many years to go, and I believe he will not fail his golden opportunity.

AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY



Born and brought up in a sleepy old village which got on very nicely without benefit of the millions of gadgets, from automobiles to motorized tooth brushes, of which this modern era is so proud. Drinking water was had for ten cents a barrel, and I drove our source of milk to the pasture and back, every morning and night.

President of the Methodist Junior League; night telephone operator for the village, and for awhile, taught school. Our town barber, erstwhile P. T. Barnum & Bailey ariel artist, trusted me in an act with a revolving ladder, which we did at nearby county fairs during one summer.

Even at this early period was considered a bit balmy. Someone spoke to Father, (I had only admired reflections in water-filled wagon ruts). Finding a place for me in an architectural office was his idea of solving a difficult problem.

Several years from apprentice to a draftsman of sorts, then Harvard University for two years.

Fairly got Albert Kahn sold on the idea I was a real help, when our gang left on a train for Philadelphia League Isle Navy Yard, then came Hampden Roads on USS Iowa, and four months in Reserve Officers' School at the Naval Academy, when our present top "New Dealer" President Roosevelt, then Assistant Secretary of the Navy, handed me some sort of a diploma. One year on the Navy transport USS Pocahontas. Back in Detroit where shortly after I started out on my own. A few years later got married, and with my wife and four children have lived happily ever since.

GRATITUDE

Tal:—

People like you should be shot down like dogs. I rack my brains to write something for you and it comes out in print signed ROBERT Allen. Is this kind? Is it necessary? Is it cricket? All right, then.

ROGER ALLEN.

no relation to Robert

Dr. Emil Rosinger, Real Estate Editor of the Detroit News who has been confined to the hospital has again returned to his home where he is recuperating. He sends greetings to his many friends among the architects. Russell Barnes of the News has served as Real Estate Editor in Dr. Rosinger's absence.

The effect on me of the colored movies which Mr. Dow showed us that evening sufficed to put me almost in a trance. How many of us may have labored along back of the serve-self counter of architecture, conscientiously and sometimes well. Then come certain moments when we really dream of cutting free of all inhibitions to solve our problems with imagination.

Being individuals, we do not expect to agree entirely with either Wright or Dow. But to cut free, we must have some kind of a basis on which to build our ideas. This Dow has achieved apparently to his own satisfaction. Let me repeat that Dow according to his position has a great opportunity—he has also a great responsibility.

WIRT C. ROWLAND.

FEDERAL HOUSING ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Raymond M. Foley, State Director, writes

There is enclosed herewith a copy of our letter of January 20th on the subject of improperly prepared plans and specifications. We would appreciate your disseminating the information contained therein to all registered architects through your Weekly Bulletin.

There is also enclosed a three page circular including "Technical Circular No. 1, Plywood Exterior Wall Finish, Revised General Ruling No. 61 and General Ruling No. 67", containing all information regarding our requirements for the use of insulating fibre board for interior and exterior purposes and all of the requirements covering the various uses to which plywood may be put in houses offered as security for mortgages sought to be insured under the terms of the National Housing Act. It is probable that the architects would also appreciate having this information published in the Weekly Bulletin.

We also enclose our Bulletin No. 3900, February 1, 1939, covering the "Procedure for Installation of Private Wells and Septic Tanks and Obtaining Approval Thereof."

When an FHA commitment is issued (in the Michigan Area) and is made contingent upon obtaining approval of wells and/or septic tanks from the proper health authorities, it will hereafter be necessary to comply with the requirements as outlined in Bulletin No. 3900.

While there is no Michigan legislation covering the installation of wells or septic tanks, the Bureau of Engineering of the State Department of Health has issued recommendations in Engineering Bulletin No. 2 (for septic tanks) and Engineering Bulletin No. 14 (for wells).

The FHA "Property Standards for Michigan" definitely require compliance with the aforesaid "Recommendations of the Bureau of Engineering, Michigan Department of Health." Compliance with the said recommendations therefore becomes mandatory when the property is offered as security for a mortgage sought to be insured by the Federal Housing Administration.

Every architect designing a dwelling in areas where wells and septic tanks must be used should write the Michigan Department of Health, Lansing, Michigan, for a copy of Engineering Bulletins No. 2 and No. 14, particularly if the said dwelling is to be offered as security for a mortgage sought to be insured by the FHA.

We appreciate that you may not care to publish all of the information hereunto attached in any one issue of the Weekly Bulletin, but it may be that an early opportunity will arise for the publication of any one of the three subjects offered herewith.

* * *

TO: All Approved Mortgagees, Builders & Architects
SUBJECT: Improperly Prepared Plans and Specifications

Gentlemen:

Serious delays in the processing of certain applications for mortgage insurance, as well as errors in rating, cost estimating, valuation, inspections and particularly construction in such cases, are found upon investigation, to be due to plans and specifications which are carelessly, incompletely and improperly prepared. Many such plans and specifications are found to have one or more and in some cases all of the following:

- (a) Changes roughly indicated, freehand, and not carefully drawn to scale nor properly dimensioned;
- (b) Changes indicated in part only, on separate sheets of varied sizes, so that the plan arrangement cannot be fully comprehended as a whole, nor the completed ensemble visualized;
- (c) "Alternates" for elevations, portions of plan, or specification items, confusing to all concerned and often resulting in errors in our work and in the construction;
- (d) Wood sash indicated and marked "change to steel" or vice versa, making it impossible to check glass areas; or showing gables, dormers, shutters, entrance details, etc., marked "Omit", making it impossible, in all such instances, to visualize the completed appearance and to properly rate "Architectural Attractiveness."
- (e) Submitted on sheets of such varied sizes as to render extremely difficult their handling in this office and in the field;
- (f) Important items omitted, such as direction, sizes and spacing of joists, sizes and locations of beams and particularly headers, insufficient number of joists for support of bearing partitions, framing around floor and ceiling openings, location and sizes of ducts and registers, locating of partitions by dimensions, interior cabinet work especially in kitchens, sizes and swing of doors, sizes of windows, location of all electric outlets and switches, incompleting plot plans, etc.
- (g) The two sets of specifications are not exact duplicates or the longhand changes or corrections are not exactly alike in both sets or one set is corrected in longhand and the other is not.

It has, therefore, become necessary to require that plans and specifications be **individually prepared for each house**, without "alternates" or confusing changes, on sheets of uniform size, preferably 14 inches wide, to fit legal size filing equipment.

This does not prohibit standard specification forms, (if same are complete and have nothing in question, particularly as to "alternate" items); nor the part changing of plans in white or yellow ink or pencil by a skilled draftsman, (provided they are drawn to scale and the superseded white lines carefully obliterated by blue ink or pencil); nor the careful pasting on plans of blue-printed part changes, correctly drawn to scale, so prepared and affixed that the patch registers with the original.

Plot plan must be drawn to scale, show correct locations of all buildings, porches, terraces, walks and drives, **all fully dimensioned** and have North Arrow placed in proper direction.

The acceptable method of preparing plans and specifications is covered by Technical Bulletin No. 3, "Contract Documents," (FHA Form No. 2046).

Applications accompanied by plans and specifications not complying with the foregoing will be rejected by our preliminary examiner.

Very truly yours,

RAYMOND M. FOLEY,

State Director

The many friends of Mr. George D. Mason will be glad to learn that he has recovered sufficiently to return from Chicago to his home in Detroit.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

This beautiful city of Detroit became much too over-populated by certain Darlings who persisted in using the name, Harry. Actually there were four of us. Of course, this circumstance might have had some advantages, such as the confusion of the police; but the disadvantages were overwhelming, even to the extent of involving an Angell.

The association of the names, Angell and Darling, seemed to have an ecstatic influence upon many people, including the mail man, and this resulted in transpositions which were of no especial advantage to Harry.

However, there were undesirable influxes and lamentable leakages as a result of the Darling variety of Harrys, and this prompted me to seek an end of the confusion; so, in my usual masterful way, I became H. Jerome Darling.

Detroit grew and prospered, etc., ("etc." being the depression expressed with a "lightness of touch") and finally along came one Roger Allen, the plagiarist, looking for a pen name. It seems, at last, that he is being forced to hide from the reactions of his awful stuff. According to a recent issue of the Bulletin, he appears to have fancied the splendor of my name, and now he is claiming it as his very own nom de plume.

I have consulted my lawyer and hereby give notice to the said Allen, that unless he desist, I will force him to assume the burden of all the barnacles which have attached themselves to this name throughout its entire career. You see, Roger, I would warn you of your own folly. You must realize that the name and the fame are synonymous.

H. JEROME DARLING.

ILLUMINATING ENGINEERING
SOCIETY

MICHIGAN SECTION

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 1939, 8:15 P. M.
2000 Second Avenue, Detroit

"Wiring — The Bottleneck of Lighting"

Mr. Edward T. Gushee,
Vice President, The Detroit Edison Company

Everyone interested in any branch of the electrical industry should attend this meeting. Mr. Gushee has pioneered in the vital work of modernizing the codes and regulations that govern wiring methods and materials, and will tell us what has been going on behind the scenes in this nationwide activity. As a member of the Joint Executive Conference on Regulatory Activities, he has had an excellent opportunity to study the relation between wiring regulations and the development and promotion of adequate lighting. He is a keen thinker and an excellent speaker.

Because of the large attendance anticipated, this meeting will be held in the Assembly Room of The Detroit Edison Company's General Offices, 2000 Second Avenue, Detroit. Please note that the date has been changed from March 14, as originally announced, to **Wednesday, March 22, 1939.**

This will be an open meeting. You are cordially invited to bring with you your friends or business acquaintances from any branch of the industry.

H. Augustus O'Dell and family are spending the winter months at Clearwater, Florida.

MARCH 21, 1939

JOHN C. BOLLENBACHER

John Carlisle Bollenbacher, prominent architect and member of the firm of Granger and Bollenbacher, died at his home in Chicago on March 3 at the age of 55.

Mr. Bollenbacher was born in Bloomington, Indiana, where he attended school, later graduating from the University of Indiana and from Massachusetts Institute of Technology, following which he began his career in Chicago. For some years he was employed by the Federal Government at Washington but recently he had resumed practice in Chicago.

During the World War he was a captain with the U. S. Engineers in France.

He was a member of Phi Gamma Delta fraternity and the Christian Church.

Surviving are his widow, Pauline Reed Bollenbacher; a sister, Miss Ruby and a brother, George.

WMSA ELECT

At the annual election meeting of the West Michigan Society of Architects, held Tuesday evening Feb. 28, W. P. McLaughlin was chosen president for 1939-1940, John P. Baker was made vice-president and Emil G. Zillmer was elected secretary-treasurer. At a previous meeting Harry L. Mead had been chosen director on the board of the state society.

The first act of the new year was a unanimous invitation to the state society to hold the 1940 convention in Grand Rapids. Present were Weemhof, Lakie, Seeger, Lindhout, Mead, Pearl, Haveman, Bessler, McCarty, Baker, McLaughlin and Allen.

SKYLINE continued from Page 1

trains will draw their power from a third rail and will have a block signal system similar to that used in actual subway operation. The cars are of cast aluminum.

The exhibit was designed by Walter Dorwin Teague. So detailed is it that even the jewelled lights of Coney Island will be shown in the Brooklyn corner of the diorama after nightfall.

During one brief interval in the cycle, seven small circular dioramas within the large one will come into view, showing various phases of city life, including a night baseball game, an operation at the Medical Center and a ballet in the Radio City Music Hall. During another interval, a display showing the tangled maze of electrical wiring, steam, gas and sewer piping that underlies the city will be lighted.

The model buildings are constructed of prefabricated composition slabs, superposed on wooden frames. A steel frame supports the entire structure.

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CHANGES OF ADDRESS

From time to time changes in the list of registered architects as published in the Silver Anniversary Number will be given in the Weekly Bulletin. The list can thus be kept up to date by making corrections as they appear. The first one is as follows:

Buford L. Pickens has moved to 2603 Waverly, Detroit.

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ARCHITECTS' REPORTS

AGREE, CHARLES N., 1140 Book Twr.

Aaron DeRoy Memorial Building, Jewish Community Center, Woodward and Holbrook, Figs. closed—February 23.

1 story store building, Woodward & Sears Avenues, figures closed. Warehouse and ice cream plant Cunningham Drug Stores, Contract let to N. M. Lerner. One-story store—Sears Avenue, Kroger Baking Co. fig. closed. 1-sty. store, Pennsylvania & Gratiot, Cunningham Stores, Inc., taking fig. Also plans for 2250 seat Theatre, Lakewood and Harper, ready about Apr. 15; Also plans for one story store, Woodward Ave. S. of Sears—western Auto Supply Co. Taking figures.

E. L. BARBER, DENISON, Iowa, Merritt & Cole, Assoc.
Archit.—Plans for \$50,000 Church, Cor. Plymouth and Steele Aves.

BENNETT & STRAIGHT, 13526 Michigan Ave.
Plans for Theatre, Garden City, Mich.

BRANDT, CHRISTIAN W., 3408 Eaton Tower.
Doctor's Clinic, Contracts let.

Res. for Myrta La Chance, Washington, Mich. Contract for carpentry work (roughing in only) has been let to Heldt & Norton of Royal Oak. Heating contract to Breitmeyer Heating & Air Conditioning Co. of Mt. Clemens.

Dr. Raymond Biggs Clinic at Gratiot and Outer Dr. Gen. contract let to E. T. Saltowski.

Prep. plans for country estate in New York State. Owners name withheld for time being.

Completed plans for res. for W. T. Brown of Royal Oak. Figures are closed.

DE ROSIERS, ARTHUR, 1414 Maccabees Bldg.
Plans for Resurrection Aud. & High School, Lansing, Mich.

DEHL, GEORGE, 120 Madison Avenue

Skeches for Church, Argyle, Mich., Plans for Catholic Central High School; Plans for store alteration, Washington Blvd.

H. AUGUSTUS O'DELL, 904 Marquette Bldg.

Factory and office Building for Martin Electric Co. on East Outer Drive. Bids closed.

GIFFELS & VALLET, INC., L. Rossetti, Associate —
1000 Marquette Bldg. —

5-story factory add. King-Sealey Co. Ann Arbor, Mich. Revised bids due March 3.

KAHN, ALBERT, INC. Bids closed on Office Bldg. Toledo Scale Co. Fig. on structural Steel closed on R. C. A. Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind., Arch. tr. let to J. L. Simmons. Steel for factory Bldg. Pratt & Whitney, Hartford, Conn., let to Bethlehem Co.

Chance-Dought Corp. Aircraft Div. let to R. G. Bent Co., Hartford, Conn.

E. B. PHILLIPS—365 Pilgrim. Res. for M. Damaschke, Clarendon near 6 Mile. Bids closed.

STANTON, HENRY F., 409 Griswold Street.

Bids due Apr. 5. Res. for Warren S. Booth, Martell Dr. Bloomfield Hills, \$75,000. 7 master bedrooms and 6 baths, 3 servants' rooms & 1 bath. Detached 4-car garage & servant's quarters. Serpentine wall & tool house. Stran-Steel, B. V., Conc. slab floors, linoleum in service portion, white oak block elsewhere, Asbestos shingle roof C. I. porches.

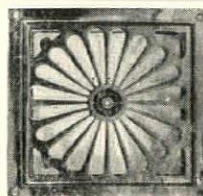
WEIDMEIR & GAY—CH. 7567

5 stores, Harper Ave., Gen'l. Con. let to I. Burstein; 3 st. contracts let separately.

WRIGHT, FRANK H., 418 Fox Bldg.

Garage for Gorman & Rubens contract set.

Taking fig. on ten small houses, Britton & Roxbury. Plans for summer cottage for T. & J. Ulrich.



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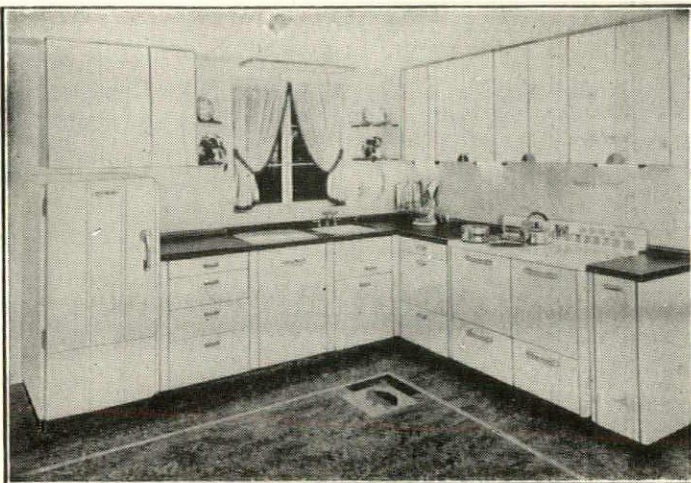
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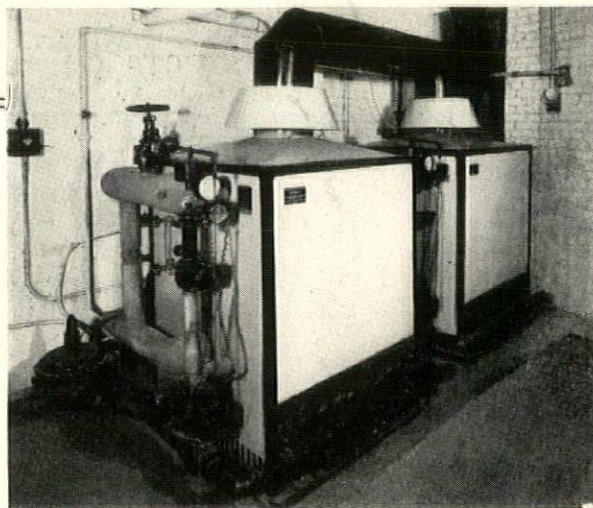
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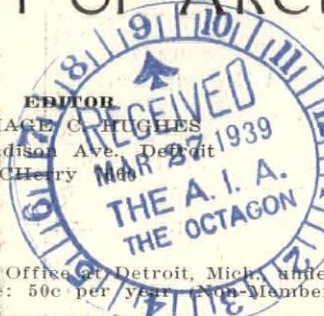
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Volume 13

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, MARCH 28, 1939

No. 13

M. S. A. Silver Anniversary Convention

The Twenty-fifth Annual Convention of the Michigan Society of Architects closed Saturday evening, March 18th with the joint Building Industry Banquet, which taxed the facilities of Hotel Statler in Detroit.

Kenneth C. Black of Lansing was reelected president. Others elected were George F. Diehl, Detroit, First Vice-president; Ralph B. Herrick, Lansing, Second Vice-president; George M. McConkey, Ann Arbor, Third Vice-president. Also reelected were Cornelius L. T. Gabler, Detroit, Secretary; John C. Thornton, Detroit, Treasurer; Talmage C. Hughes, Detroit, Executive Secretary. New directors at large are Roger Allen of Grand Rapids, Clair W. Ditchy of Detroit and Emil Lorch of Ann Arbor. Andrew R. Morison becomes a director by reason of his being the most recent past president.

Just prior to Convention each of the seven divisions elected a director to serve on the Society Board. They are as follows: David E. Anderson, Marquette; William D. Cuthbert, Ann Arbor; Branson V. Gamber, Detroit; Harry L. Mead, Grand Rapids; Orlie J. Munson, Lansing; James A. Spence, Saginaw; Edward X. Tuttle, Battle Creek.

At no other Society Convention has the registration been so large or more representative of leaders in the profession and representative of the nation as well as the State of Michigan. In addition to our own regional director, Clair W. Ditchy, two other regional directors of The American Institute of Architects, Mr. Leigh Hunt of Milwaukee and Mr. John Reed Fugard of Chicago were in attendance. The Architectural Forum was represented by our good friend, Henry Saylor.

The Convention opened Thursday morning with registration and viewing of the exhibitions, which were, undoubtedly, the most comprehensive ever presented in Michigan.

While a complete report of the Convention cannot be fully given in one issue of the Weekly Bulletin, detailed accounts of the various events will be reported in the issues immediately following.

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(See REGISTRANTS, Page 4)

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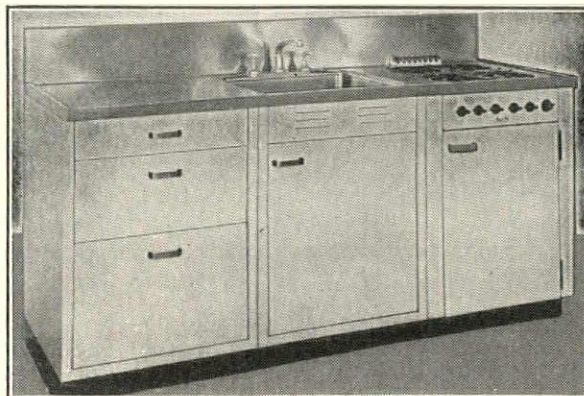
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This meeting is sponsored by the Citizen's Housing and Planning Council of Detroit and members of the Detroit Chapter, The American Institute of Architects and the Michigan Society of Architects, as well as others interested are invited to attend. Mr. Alex Linn Trout will preside and introduce the distinguished guest. Reservations can be made by calling Miss Stoddard at the Council office, RAndolph 8234.

CORRECTIONS

In our Annual Directory Number the biographical sketch of Amedeo Leone stated that he was registered by exemption. This was our mistake, as he was registered by regular written examination. We are glad to make this correction and to state that the error was not called to our attention by Mr. Leone.

Harvey H. Weemhoff's address should have been given as 621 Murphy Bldg, Grand Rapids instead of at his residence. He has never maintained an office at his residence and, therefore, all business correspondence should be addressed to the Murphy Building.

The address of Cyril Edward Schley is now 15529 Woodrow Wilson Avenue, Detroit. The telephone number is TO. 8-3490.

Merle C. Weaver has moved from 5775 to 5720 Lakeview Ave., Detroit.

The name of Gordon A. Sheill was incorrectly spelled as Shiell.

The first name of Gerald M. (Jack) Merritt was incorrectly given as George, and, believe it or not, the biographical sketch which appeared in our last issue was of Hugh T. Keyes, though there was no way of telling unless you recognized the photograph — which you probably did. Excuse it please.

And let Lance Sukert tell you the rest—

It is notable that the Weekly Bulletin appears to have adopted a new "format" in the manner of upside-down cake, which reminds me of my experiences in learning my favorite sport of horseback riding.

Sometimes I would be riding along serenely admiring the beauties of the landscape and would suddenly find that I was seeing it in reverse as it were, from a prone position.

Now that I, along with another architect named Thomas Hewlett, and our Battle Creek friend Louis Sarvis am following the hounds, and jumping fences, it is not unusual to find that my trusted steed has suddenly stopped on the near side of the jump whilst you truly file through the air with the greatest of ease like this, only it sometimes gives me a stiff neck, but as yet I haven't gotten a busted head.

Yours for the new format (or was the typesetter at the convention?).

LANCE.

WHEATON COLLEGE COMPETITION

The premiated drawings for the Wheaton College Competition of last spring are being shown in the Exhibition Room of the Architectural Building, University of Michigan, from March 20 to April 4th. As you may remember, the first prize was won by Richard M. Bennett and Caleb Hornbostel, with the second prize awarded to Walter Gropius and Marcel Breuer. Lyndon and Smith of Detroit received one of the three fifth prizes, as did Eero Saarinen. Maynard Lyndon and Eberle Smith are both graduates of the College of Architecture.

Since these are the original drawings and exhibit the modern technique of competition presentation they are well worth seeing. There are some remarkably beautiful drawings.

COMMITTEE ON RELATIONS

Detroit Division, Michigan Society of Architects:

My dear George F. and George J:

A few days ago, I received a message from the honorable chairman, George F. Diehl, president of the Detroit Division, Michigan Society of Architects, stating he would like a report from the Committee on Relations with the Building Industry.

Saturday, I heard the same thing from George J. Haas, who wants a meeting with all Society Committees at the Intercollegiate Club. I presume this meeting will be held in the Cocktail Room where ideas are formulated and expressed with a more or less degree of freedom.

This Committee was appointed only a short time ago and it takes a little time to really get under way, but we are on our way. The Committee would like a little enlightenment on just how it is to operate, and if there are any matters that the officers have in mind that should require our Committee's attention, would like to have their comments. I just looked up in the dictionary the definition of "relation" and just what it implies. This states mutual connection between two or more things, hence; the two things, Industry and Architects should work to a mutual understanding for the benefit of all concerned in the building industry. Of course, the Committee might have to get in touch with the honorable President Franklin D. Roosevelt and also Attorney General, Frank Murphy in Washington, who might have a new deal up their sleeves regarding relations between the two things, Architects and Industry. Of course, if the Government leaves us alone so that we can work out our own salvation, maybe this Committee will be able to function. So far, the Committee met over the telephone and decided to report progress.

Respectfully submitted,

ADOLPH EISEN, Chairman.

C. W. Palmer, John B. Gay

It got to a point where I had to get a haircut or a violin.

—Franklin D. Roosevelt,
quoted in press conference

Unless something is done soon, we will become an syphilized nation. —Morris Fishbein, Editor, Journal of the American Medical Association

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Definition of a true musician: When he hears a lady singing in the bath, he puts his ear to the keyhole. —Madame Alma Clayburgh, as quoted by Walter Winchell

PRESIDENT'S ANNUAL CONVENTION REPORT

*25th M. S. A. Convention, Detroit, Michigan,
 March 16, 17, 18, 1939*

Lansing, Michigan
 March 15, 1939

To the Members of the
 Michigan Society of Architects

Fellow Members:

During the past year the Michigan Society of Archi-
 tect has enjoyed a physical growth which is un-
 surpassed in the history of the Society. Our active
 membership, which stood at 262 on the first day of
 March 1938, is now 505, an increase of 243 for the
 year. Last year our active membership was 37% of
 all Architects registered in Michigan. This year it
 is 72%. Our financial condition is excellent, and the
 Weekly Bulletin, which has consistently maintained
 a high standard of reporting, has climaxed its year
 with a convention issue that is unique in the field of
 professional journalism. It is an issue which we will
 all, I feel sure, give a permanent place in our
 libraries.

I do not wish to convey the impression that those
 evidences of added interest in the work of the So-
 ciety have come about because of any personal acti-
 vity of mine, but it does seem that this report is
 perhaps the best place to call them forcibly to your
 attention.

Six committees of the Society have done outstand-
 ing jobs during the year and I wish at this time to
 commend them for their work. First is the Pub-
 lications Committee under the chairmanship of Arthur
 K. Hyde, which, thru the preparation of a written ag-
 reement between the Society and the Editor of the
 Weekly Bulletin, established, for the first time, a
 definite business relationship between the Society and
 the Editor. This agreement, after dealing with ques-
 tions of ownership, management, and the financial
 relationships of both parties, provides for the general
 supervision of the publication by a committee of three
 members of the Society to be appointed by the
 President. Upon the ratification of the agreement
 by the Board of Directors, Mr. Hyde's committee
 asked to be relieved of its responsibilities, and a new
 committee, consisting of Roger Allen, Wirt Row-
 land, and Alden Dow, was appointed. This com-
 mittee is now functioning and will continue to do so
 during the coming year.

Second, the School Law Committee, under the
 direction of Mr. Henry Turner of Grand Rapids, pre-
 pared an admirable interpretation of the debatable
 clauses in the state school building law. The com-
 mittee's work has been reviewed by the Superinten-
 dent of Public Instruction and the State Fire Mar-
 shall, and promises to become recognized as the "of-
 ficial" interpretation of this act by members of the
 profession and law enforcement agencies of the gov-
 ernment alike.

Third, the Small House Committee of which Lyle
 Zisler is the chairman, continued its efforts to create
 a definite place for the architect in the field of low-
 cost home design, and prepared an exhibit at the
 Detroit Builders Show which served to present to the
 public in vivid form the advantages of the employ-
 ment of an architect in the planning and designing
 of a small home.

Fourth, Prof. George McConkey, representing our
 Board of Directors and Mr. Branson Gamber, repre-
 senting the Detroit Chapter of the Institute, have been

co-operating with the legislative committee of the Building Officials Conference of Michigan in the preparation of amendments to the State Housing Code which will be of vital concern to every architect in the state. These amendments will be introduced in the state legislature during the coming week and will be published in the Bulletin. I believe that the Society should officially endorse these amendments and that you, as individual members, should urge your state representatives and senators to vote for their adoption.

Fifth, George F. Diehl and Branson V. Gamber have, for the past year, been in faithful attendance as the Society's representatives on the joint committee on Registration, which is formulating a uniform procedure for the individual professional societies to follow in investigating and prosecuting violations of the registration law.

Sixth, but by no means least, the Convention Committee, under the joint chairmanship of George Diehl and George Haas, has done an excellent job in arranging the details of this convention. I think our especial thanks should go to the sub committee on exhibition, under Malcolm Stirton, for their fine work in assembling and placing the exhibition of the work of Michigan architects which is a feature of this convention. I am sure I speak for everyone in attendance when I express the hope that a similar exhibition will become a regular part of our annual meetings.

Our other standing committees, while they have not had an opportunity to be as active during the past year as those to which I have briefly referred, have always been ready to do any work assigned to them, and their comparative inactivity has been primarily due to the lack of a definite program in their field.

During this past year our Society has been going through a period of transition in which it has been necessary to work out the technical details of the relationship between the various local groups and the state society. Our new Board of Directors, which takes office at this convention, is the first to be elected under the new plan of equal group representation. This new form of organization provides the means for a concerted and effective program. I would like at this time to make a few suggestions for an immediate program, with the thought that these suggestions may form a basis for discussion at the business sessions of this convention, which are to follow.

First, and probably foremost because it was brought before our last convention, is the question of the employment of a full time, paid, executive secretary. Your Board of Directors, after a careful consideration of the various factors involved in the employment of such an individual has voted to recommend to this convention that the idea be postponed for the present, since this does not seem to be a propitious time for putting such a policy into effect.

The Board realizes that there would be plenty of work for a paid executive secretary to do, provided means could be found to finance the office, which would meet with the approval of a large majority of our membership. In making this recommendation we do not mean to close the door on the idea entirely, and will be glad to consider any suggestions you may care to make, either in the sessions of this convention or in the form of communications to the Board during the year.

Pending the time when adequate financing for such an office can be arranged I would like to suggest that the work of the Society be carried on by committees as in the past, but that our income be budgeted to allow for the payment of expenses incurred by committee members in the discharge of

their duties. I do not think that any active member of the Society begrudges the time he spends on Society affairs, but it does seem unreasonable to ask a man to serve on a committee when the nature of that committee's work may be such as to require him to spend not only his time, but a considerable amount of money in addition to his dues. The financial burden of the work of the Society should fall equally on all members. As a still further extension of the idea of equalizing the financial burden I would like to suggest that consideration be given to a proposal that officers and members of the Board of Directors be paid for travel expenses necessary for their attendance at Board meetings. With the members of the Board so widely separated geographically, it is inevitable that, no matter where the meetings are held, most of the members will have to spend money for travel, and possibly, in inclement weather, for a hotel room. Such expenses, when necessary, should be borne by the Society.

As a means to this end I would like to propose for your consideration, that, inasmuch as the Board of Directors is now composed of a director elected by each local group for the specific purpose of acting as its representative on the Board, the expenses of these local directors be paid by the group they represent, and that the expenses of the officers and the three directors at large be paid by the Society.

If it is found that the income of the Society under its present dues schedule is insufficient to permit such a policy, then I believe the dues should be raised.

REGISTRATION

During the past year the Registration Committee has been more or less marking time while the joint committee completed its organization and determined its procedure. The Registration Committee, it seems to me, is now faced with a two-fold task. First, it should be on the alert for violations of the registration law by non-registered men, and second, it should check on the enforcement of the law by public officials throughout the state. While I heartily dislike any activity which smacks of the gum-shoe snooping methods of law enforcement during the late prohibition era, the fact remains that no others but ourselves care a hang about the registration law, and if we, as a Society, do not take steps to see that it is enforced, then nobody will.

The effectiveness of this law rests largely with the local building inspectors. Contractors and others engaged in so called "free plan" service, whose business has been curtailed by the passage of this act, do not hesitate to complain loudly and long to these officials and bring all sorts of pressure to bear in an effort to get them to issue building permits for plans which are not stamped with an architects seal as required by law. I believe that the architects of Michigan should make it a point to get better acquainted with their local building inspectors and I suggest that at the next meeting of your local groups, you invite your building inspector to be present, and that you have with him a frank discussion of the registration law.

The report of the Registration Committee which was published in the convention issue of the Weekly Bulletin, inferred that the present law is in some respects too severe, and I think the suggestion of that committee for a relaxation of certain provisions of the act should be a subject for serious discussion at this convention.

EDUCATION

Our committee on Education can do the profession a very real service. From the purely academic point of view I would like to suggest that we ask this com-

mittee to conduct a survey of the type of architectural information that is being released to children in the public, parochial, and technical schools of this state. Such a survey might even extend to the vocational guidance activities of the Boy Scouts of America, the Y. M. C. A., and similar organizations.

While the instruction that is being given in the higher institutions of learning is, in most instances, in capable hands, it is a regrettable fact that the information which is being given out about our profession in the lower grades is often dispensed by teachers who have had no architectural education or experience themselves, and who rely upon texts which are often inadequate, antiquated, and in some instances definitely misleading. I believe that the local members of the committee on Education should call upon the heads of these institutions and organizations in their community to learn just what information, if any, is being taught about our profession. I believe further that the committee should offer the services of the Society to the heads of any schools desiring assistance in formulating a program of public education, and that we should attempt to have a member of our profession invited, at least once a year, to address an assembly of students on some subject related to the practice of architecture; to inform them of the position occupied by the architect in the building industry; and to discuss the nature of his work.

This same committee should also be active in the field of adult education. It is high time that we, as architects, took it upon ourselves to acquaint the building public with the value of professional education and training in architecture.

I would like to see this committee prepare a series of articles dealing with various problems which arise in the planning, design, and construction of a building, and the ways in which a professional architect's services can be of value in each instance. Such articles, if released as official information by the Society, would, I feel sure, be readily accepted for publication in the real estate sections of the newspapers of the state, and could very materially increase the general knowledge of the public on matters affecting our profession.

PUBLICATIONS

With regard to the future policy of the Weekly Bulletin, I would like to suggest that the Editor and the Publications Committee consider the possibility of giving each local organization an opportunity to edit one issue a year. Such an experiment would be interesting and informative, and would make the Bulletin a very personal medium of expression for every architect in the state.

CONCLUSION

In the first paragraph of this report I mentioned the fact that the membership of the Society had increased by 252 members this year. That is a fine record but it will be meaningless unless it can be maintained, and in conclusion I would like to develop one more point.

You know, there are two points that an architect can maintain with respect to the Michigan Society of Architects. In the first instance he can regard the Society as a purely professional body concerned with the theory and ethics of the profession, and in the second place he can regard it as a trade association. From the first point of view he can join it or he can leave it alone, but from the second there isn't an architect in the state who can afford **not** to be an active member of the Society.

While I realize that it is supposed to be very bad taste to mention the subject of commercialism at a meeting of architects, still it seems to me that even the most impractical of our members should put his feet on the ground occasionally.

We should realize that in this age of organization, with trade unionism of all sorts on one side of us, and governmental regulation on the other, no independent practicing architect can long maintain his position without the support of his fellows, nor can he maintain his independence without them.

No matter how secure we, as individuals, may feel because we happen to have friends in high places at the moment; and no matter how complacent we may feel because we happen to have jobs on the board which promise to keep us fed and clothed for the next few months, the fact remains that individually we can do nothing to combat the influences which are growing around us as threats to our independence.

We must be united in self-defense; and from that point of view it is essential that we consolidate the membership gains made during this past year and attempt to increase them even further.

Your local officers, I know, will do their level best to carry out the aims of the Society, and it is my earnest hope that we will all return to our respective communities resolved to give our whole-hearted support to the organization, and to see to it that every man in our district, without exception, becomes an active member of the Society.

Respectfully submitted,

KENNETH C. BLACK.

President

A clothing store proprietor, asked how business was, replied: "Not so good. It looks like a sure fire proposition."
—Ed Wynn

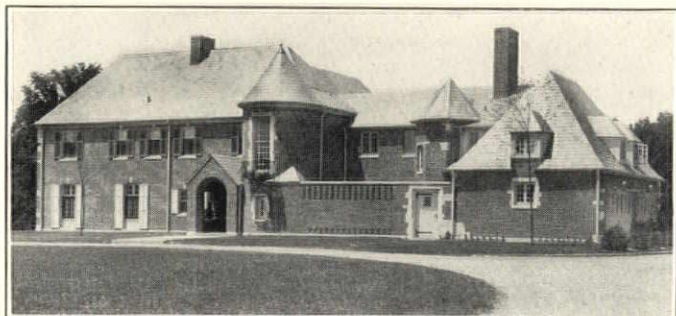
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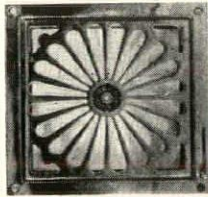
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The Tilt-A-Door Corporation, manufacturers of the Steel Tilt-A-Door for garages, displayed for the first time at the recent Detroit Builders' Show, a new line of custom built Steel Cupboard Doors for kitchens, linen closets, etc. These doors known as Tilco Steel Cupboard Doors are designed to fit any wood frame opening.

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ARCHITECTS' REPORTS

AGREE, CHARLES N., 1140 Book Twr.

Aaron DeRoy Memorial Building, Jewish Community Center, Woodward and Holbrook, Figs. closed—February 23.

1 story store building, Woodward & Sears Avenues, figures closed.

One-sty. store—Sears Avenue. Kroger Baking Co. fig. closed, 1-sty. store, Pennsylvania & Gratiot, Cunningham Stores, Inc. Taking figures. Plans for 2250 seat theatre, Lakewood and Harper, ready about Apr. 15th; plans for one story store, Woodward Avenue S. of Sears—western Auto Supply Co. Taking figures.

E. L. BARBER, DENISON, Iowa, Merritt & Cole, Assoc. Archt.—Plans for \$50,000 Church, Cor. Plymouth and Steele Aves.

BENNETT & STRAIGHT, 13526 Michigan Ave. Theatre, Garden City, Mich., taking figs. March 30. Taking fig on Theatre, Rosedale Park, March 30.

BRANDT, CHRISTIAN W., 3408 Eaton Tower. Prep. plans for country estate in New York State. Owner's name withheld for time being.

Completed plans for res. for W. T. Brown of Royal Oak. Figures are closed.

DE ROSIERS, ARTHUR, 1414 Maccabees Bldg., Plans for Resurrection Aud. & High School, Lansing, Mich.

DIEHL, GEORGE, 120 Madison Avenue Sketches for Church, Argyle, Mich., Plans for Catholic Central High School; Plans for store alteration, Washington Blvd.

H. AUGUSTUS O'DELL, 904 Marquette Bldg. Factory and office Building for Martin Electric Co. on East Outer Drive. Contract let to Fullerton Constr. Co.

GIFFELS & VALLET, INC., L. Rossetti, Associate — 1000 Marquette Bldg. — 5-story factory add. King-Seeley Co. Ann Arbor, Mich. Gen'l. con. let to W. E. Wood Co.; Elec., Jack Frost; Pass. Elev., Otis; Frt. Elev., Westinghouse; Sprinkler, Phoenix.

Prep. plans for Municipal Bldg., Holland, Mich. **KAHN, ALBERT, INC.** Bids closed on Office Bldg. Toledo Scale Co. Fig. on structural Steel closed on R. C. A. Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.

STANTON, HENRY F., 409 Griswold Street. Bids due Apr. 5. Res. for Warren S. Booth, Martell Dr. Bloomfield Hills.

WEIDMEIR & GAY—CH. 7567 Taking figs. on Store, Livernois Avenue. **WRIGHT, FRANK H., 418 Fox Bldg.** Taking fig. on ten small houses, Britton & Roxbury. Plans for summer cottage for T. & J. Ulrich.

Politician's motto: Merrily we roll a log.

—Nate Collier in South Bend Tribune

Fatherly advice: Economy, son, is anything your mother wants to buy —Fred Neher in N. Y. Sun

A hair in the head is worth two in the brush.

—Reveille Echo

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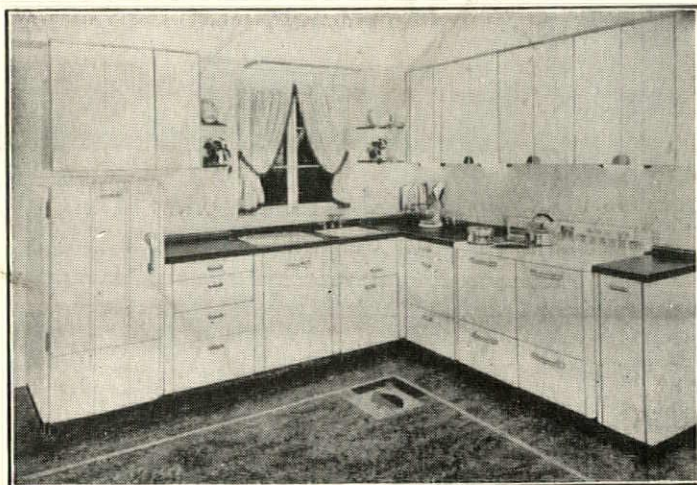
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