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# WEEKLY BULLETIN

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Volume 13

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPT. 5, 1939

No. 36

### THE FIFTEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS THE SEVENTY-FIRST CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

LAST MAY each member of the architectural profession in the United States received a cordial invitation to attend the Fifteenth International Congress of Architects and the Seventy-first Convention of The American Institute of Architects—to join in a national welcome to distinguished architects from abroad, and to participate in the sessions and the social events of the Congress and the Convention.

The purpose of this notice is to call your attention to that invitation and the brochure—in a blue cover—which accompanied it; also, to outline for your convenience some details of procedure, as follow:  
**Time and Place.**

Washington, D. C., September 25, 26, 27 and 28, 1939. The dates of the two meeting are identical.  
**Congress Headquarters.**

Hotel headquarters for the architects from foreign countries will be the Willard Hotel, at Fourteenth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue.

Formal session of the Congress will be held in the Departmental Auditorium at 1300 Constitution Avenue.  
**Convention Headquarters.**

Hotel headquarters for all architects from the United States will be the Mayflower Hotel, at Connecticut Ave. and DeSales St., Washington, D. C.

The Mayflower Hotel also will be the official headquarters of the Convention. The formal sessions will be held in the auditorium of the hotel.

Places of other meetings and special functions will be shown in the program.

The Mayflower is one of the finest hotels in Washington, with complete facilities for handling a large convention, including auditoriums, banquet rooms, secondary meeting and committee rooms.

A parking service for automobiles is maintained by the hotel.

The hotel will endeavor to accommodate under its own roof all who make reservations in advance—up to a total of 850 persons. Reservations in excess of that number will be allocated to one of several nearby first-class hotels, each of which has modern rooms and service.

All requests for reservations should be made direct to The Mayflower, on the assurance that desirable

accommodations will be available provided such requests reach the hotel **not later than September 15, 1939.**

Your reservation should refer to the Convention of The Institute, should specify the type and price of room desired, should state the date and time of arrival, and should request a confirmation.

Those making reservations that are received by The Mayflower **later than September 15**, may not find rooms as desirable as those who make reservations before the dead-line.

The rates at the Mayflower and its associated hotels are as follows:

Single room and bath for one person (for 75 rooms only at The Mayflower)—\$3.50 per day.

Single room and bath for one person (for 50 rooms only at The Mayflower)—\$4.00 per day.

Single room and bath for one person (for 50 rooms only at The Mayflower)—\$5.00 per day.

Rooms with double bed and bath for two persons (for 150 rooms only at The Mayflower)—\$5.00, \$6.00 and \$7.00 per day.

Double rooms with twin beds and bath for two persons (for 200 rooms only at The Mayflower)—\$7.00, \$8.00, \$9.00 and \$10.00 per day.

**Williamsburg and the World's Fair.**

Immediately following the adjournment of the Convention and Congress, on the late afternoon of Thursday, September 28, those who have made reservations twenty-four hours in advance will embark for the Williamsburg trip, on which the official governmental delegates to the International Congress will be the guests of The Institute. One or more steamers will be chartered for the occasion.

See **CONVENTION**—(Continued on Page 3)



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## FOX THEATRE

Beg. Friday, Sept. 1st.

GINGER ROGERS

in  
"BACHELOR MOTHER"

with David Niven, Charles Coburn, Frank Albertson, Ernest Truex & E. E. Clive.

Second Feature - Lee Tracy in "Spellbinder"  
with Barbara Read, Linda Hayes,  
Patric Knowles and Allan Lane.

Fox Movietone News and selected short subjects.

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To Members — Detroit Chapter

## SEPTEMBER MEETING

Detroit Chapter, The American Institute  
of Architects

*Hotel Fort Shelby—Shelby Room*

Thursday, September 7, 1939

Dinner at 6:30 p. m. — \$1.50  
Board of Directors will meet at 5 p. m.

### WAYNE ROOM

This is a pre-convention meeting to elect and instruct delegates to the Seventy-First Annual Convention of The American Institute of Architects to be held in Washington, D. C., September 25 to 28, 1939.

A GOOD ATTENDANCE OF MEMBERS  
IS MOST DESIRABLE

## DETROIT DIVISION MEETING HOTEL FORT SHELBY

Lafayette Room

*Thursday, September 14, Dinner at 6:30 P. M.*

George F. Diehl, president of The Detroit Division, Michigan Society of Architects, in announcing this, the first fall meeting of the Division, urges attendance of all Architects in the Detroit area. He further requests Committee Chairmen to be prepared to give brief reports.

Kenneth C. Black, president of the Michigan Society of Architects has called a meeting of the M. S. A. Board of Directors at the Fort Shelby for 4 P. M. on the afternoon of the 14th—following which the Board will join the Detroit Division for dinner.

## BAKER REPRESENTS G. R. ARCHITECTS

The election of John P. Baker, as the representative of the Grand Rapids chapter at the 71st annual convention of The American Institute of Architects to be held in Washington, D. C., from September 25 to 28, has been announced. Secretary of the Grand Rapids chapter, Mr. Baker, will also participate in the 15th International Congress of Architects, which meets in the capitol concurrently with the institute at the invitation of President Roosevelt.

Many other members of the architectural profession in Michigan, representatives of the producers and of architectural education are expected to attend the sessions of the institute and congress.

Principal themes of the convention will be housing and city planning. Other topics to be included in the program will be federal public works, state and municipal public works, industrial relations, structural service, foreign relations, allied arts, education, civil design, registration laws, architectural services and preservation of historic buildings.

Charles D. Maginnis, of Boston, will be president of the congress when it convenes for the first time in the new world. The United States will be officially represented by eight delegates appointed by Secretary of State Cordell Hull.

### A word to the wise should be sufficient

Pay your dues NOW.

Michigan Society of Architects	\$3.00
Detroit Division, M. S. A.	\$1.00

## BETTER OUTLOOK

DETROIT, Aug. 26 — Business is definitely better this year for small firms in the construction industry of Michigan according to the majority-opinion in an investigation of conditions, conducted by the Dodge Reports division of F. W. Dodge Corporation.

A general increase in building activities, particularly in the residential field as a result of more liberal mortgage arrangements under FHA, was the most popular reason for the brighter color of Michigan business. Many of the small firms attribute their better positions to their own more vigorous sales efforts. A smaller group felt that PWA and other governmental spending agencies were responsible.

A retail furniture dealer in Grand Rapids described his business as "much better" and explained that "Each one of our salesmen is on his toes, fighting, to sell every prospective buyer that comes into our store or that he goes out to call on." In Detroit, a hardware firm refers to their "hard work in the interests of a good line of merchandise—and not worrying about the other fellow."

About 150 small firms representing every branch of the construction industry were contacted by Dodge Reports in Michigan. 74 per cent of them said their business was "better" this year than it was last year. 14 per cent said "worse" and 12 per cent felt that it was "the same".

The investigation revealed that many of the small firms whose business was worse than last year placed the blame on "keen competition". They claim that jobs are being taken at prices which are much too low to include the fair profit which they look to as their business incentive.

Reduced spending power due to recurring strike situations was mentioned by several firms as the chief deterrent to their business.

The smallest group of firms, those who said their business was about the same as it was last year, also pointed to keen competition as the cause of their unchanged situations.

In the three groups, firms with specialty services and products had individual reasons for their business gains or losses.

Dodge Reports says that business conditions for small firms in the construction industry of Michigan are far above the averages found in the investigation of about 2,000 firms throughout the 37 states east of the Rocky Mountains.

### CONVENTION—(Continued from Page 1)

Plans for the descent upon the World's Fair in New York are in the making. Special cars or regular trains will run at convenient hours on Saturday and Sunday in order to transport comfortably to New York all participants in the Convention and the Congress—in good time for their inspection of the World's Fair, and for their participation in Architect's Day at the Fair on Monday, October 2.

### Transportation Arrangements and Costs.

The Institute is advised that those attending the Convention and the Congress may take advantage of the substantially reduced railroad rates from many points in the United States to New York, on account of the World's Fair, with a stop-over privilege in Washington. Consult your local ticket agent for lowest fares, or combinations of fares, from your city to Washington to New York to your city.

Steamer tickets and incidental tickets for the trip to Williamsburg will be available at the Convention at the time of registration.



## THOUGHTS ON THE DECAY AND REVIVAL OF AMERICAN CITIES

From the Monthly Bulletin, III. Society of Architects

There is no doubt that something is wrong with the American city as a generality, and with Chicago specifically, that the industrious and alert attitude of past years has dissolved into apathy and stagnation and that with it have gone industrial expansion and business activity. No promotional blurb, however garnished, can circumvent this fact. Neither will the panegyrics of the city as it exists or the faint promise of patchwork in terms of lower taxes, apartment housing, street improvement, and revised zoning have any other effect than to aggravate an already overworked and critical situation.

It is no longer a question of growth of a city, least of all its reestablishment as a great city among great cities. It is a question here of establishing, perhaps for the first time in its history, the justification for the very existence of the city—to discover, if possible, what it is that makes valid and necessary a city life, what the advantages are, and how to produce and preserve them.

Restoration of the city cannot be accomplished by fostering a confidence in its future, the only basis for which is a pleasant skyline and lake front, and the dubious promises of improvement by manipulation of the incidental economic techniques of land value, taxation, interest rates, and so on.

The present stagnation of the American city may be taken as a symptom of the threatened disintegration. Decentralization of industry is an established fact and the movement of city residence to farm and country is increasing.

If reconstruction is contemplated in the face of this exodus, then it would appear worth while to discover, if possible, some reason responsible for it. It may be of assistance in this respect to review briefly the American scene as it has contributed up to the present to the development and growth of the city.

The history of the American city was, until the end of the nineteenth century, essentially that of the frontier—a succession of frontiers. And it was fortunate, as far as productive activity and its effect on national morale was concerned, that whenever one section became overcrowded and economic pressure became too great, that new sections, new frontiers, remained to provide an outlet to productive energy—an opportunity to acquire the necessities of life—even wealth.

The primary purpose of the frontier city was to provide a bulwark against the uncertainties of frontier life through community organization, and a marketing center for the pioneer. Actual resources and the ability to exploit them seemed illimitable, and as each frontier community was established, it attracted to it the operative, the manager, the promoter, the investor. Subsequently, invention and improved technique in manufacturing, instead of creating a new leisure adapted to living-need, speeded up production, invited exploitation and increased the demand for greater profit. Haste became a national characteristic. Concentration in the city was desirable on the part of industry for increased production and accelerated expansion. It was desirable on the part of the city because it furnished jobs and produced income. Whatever its benefits, the industrial revolution, co-factor of industrial and territorial expansion converted to acquisitive purpose only, has brought about a concentration of city life so congested and overcrowded, so overdeveloped and cluttered with economic and political paraphernalia that today it stultifies the existence of the city

it created and along with it the life of its inhabitants. Avarice is wholly responsible for the resultant physical ugliness.

Nowhere throughout the hasty process of frontier development and industrial expansion does there appear any evidence worthy of note that the means to life, the opportunity for each individual to enjoy the bare necessities of health—recreation, food, and shelter—and the security of a job to assure these necessities, has ever been considered.

The rapid development of transportation of all kinds and the spread and availability of electric power soon released industry from its dependence upon the city. Finding decentralization an aid to wider distribution of product and cheaper in the construction and maintenance of plant, industry is showing every tendency to desert the expensive and confining borders of the city. Some indication of this tendency is to be observed in Chicago and its environs. And it is doubtful—if desirable—if lower tax rates or other inducements taken separately or collectively can stop this exodus.

The city, and Chicago is no exception, has failed and continues to fail to provide and to assure security to the great mass of workers upon whom it depends for existence. And until it can provide that security it will not attain validity and may anticipate continued disintegration.

Whatever validity city life may have lies in securing to its inhabitants the means to life. Its primary advantage is the ability to secure this means of life to each individual through the concerted effort of community activity and organization. Promotion of a plan directed toward its attainment must take for granted the rejection of all existing impediments to this end.

Such a plan will envision the development of contiguous but not encroaching industrial areas, commercial and management centers and peripheral zones of residence readily accessible to the industrial areas and the commercial centers by well-planned radiating arteries of transportation. Airlines, railroads and city traction within the city will be made accessible to each element—and so planned as to remove hazards to city life. Parks, recreational areas and boulevards will replace blighted areas and will be accessories to, not escapes from residential zones, providing opportunity for community gatherings and recreational activities. Libraries, schools and churches will be contiguous upon and a part of these areas.

Realization of the value of the plan will depend upon the perspicacity and perseverance of those who undertake it. It is not, certainly, the task of any one individual or group of individuals. It calls for the coordination and cooperation of each and every citizen and each and every commercial, industrial, and political interest. Business men and professional men alike must contribute to its realization.

There is no doubt that a plan of sufficient range and foresightedness to provide an ever increasing and ultimate security must, at the same time, anticipate and adapt itself to the difficulties and delays, and the great expenditure of time, energy and money requisite to its ultimate attainment. In the process, however, it will provide the immediate action required by the so-called practical minded.

The structure and development of land is architectural. Its conception and realization are the architect's domain. Parks and playgrounds, boulevards and highways, power service and sewage disposal are as much a part of architecture as the buildings they serve. It will be through the integration and articulation of these to living need in the form of living



architecture that the city may gain validity for its existence.

In a plan for the realization of living-need and its security, the architect's position is obvious. Its requirements must be his qualifications. To this work, more than any other, can and must bring creative power, derived from experience in the intellectual and spiritual qualities of living form—and the ability to express that form in a living architecture—thus his place in the restoration of the city—in validation of its right to exist.

—Paul Schweikher

## REGISTRATION BOARD MEETS IN U. P.

The Michigan state board of registration for architects, professional engineers, and land surveyors met Aug. 23 at the Michigan College of Mines and Technology at Houghton.

This was the first meeting in the Upper Peninsula of the board since its organization, but it is planned to have periodical meetings in the Upper Peninsula for the convenience of those residing in this section of the state who desire to appear before the registration board.

The members of the board are: Dean Chester L. Allen, chairman, East Lansing; Andrew R. Morison, vice chairman, Detroit; Dean Henry C. Anderson, Ann Arbor; L. G. Lenhardt, Detroit; Louis C. Kingscott, Flamazoo; Henry C. McGaughan, Pontiac; and Derk Hubert, Menominee. C. T. Olmsted is secretary of the board of registration, and has his office at 306 Transportation Building, Detroit, Mich.

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## BATHROOM ACCIDENT RATIO LOW, SAFETY COUNCIL STUDY SHOWS

Fewer fatal and non-fatal accidents occur in bathrooms than almost any other rooms in the house, the National Safety Council reports in the 1939 edition of "Accident Facts," a statistical yearbook.

The Council analyzed 4600 home accidents occurring in Chicago. The study disclosed the following rating of the various rooms in the house with respect to the number of accidents:

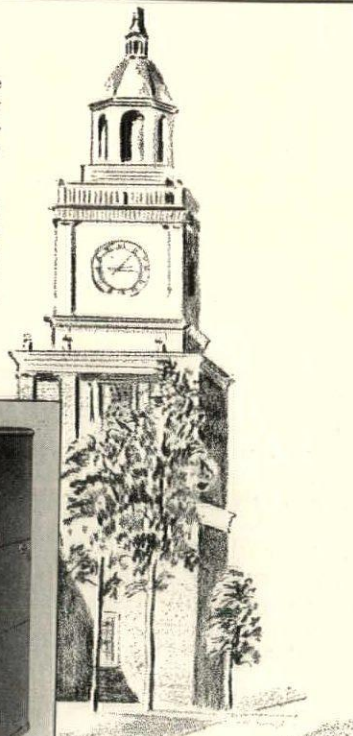
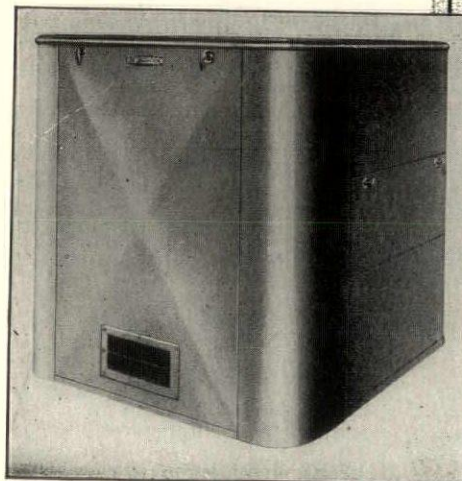
Stairs and steps . . . . .	23 per cent
Yard . . . . .	19 per cent
Kitchen . . . . .	18 per cent
Living room . . . . .	9 per cent
Porch . . . . .	7 per cent
Bedroom . . . . .	7 per cent
Basement . . . . .	6 per cent
Other rooms, including dining room, bathroom, pantry, vestibule, and hallways . . . . .	11 per cent

The findings of the National Safety Council check with a study of accidents made by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company which indicated that the bathroom accounts for less than one-half of 1 per cent of household accidents.

As a means of still further reducing the number of accidents in bathrooms, the Plumbing and Heating Industries Bureau suggests the replacement of high tubs on legs with the modern low streamlined baths only 16 inches from floor to rim; the replacement of china faucet handles with metal handles; and the installation of grab-bars over the tub, particularly if there is a shower.

**Model 80**—This unit is ideal for the fire-proof bungalow or a two story house not exceeding fifteen thousand cubic feet. It is installed with or without air washer.

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## CITES EXAMPLE IN IMPORTANCE OF ARCHITECTS

The woeful experiences of a home builder who thought he could get along without the services of an architect and other experts are related in an interesting article entitled "Don't Be Your Own Architect," in the American Mercury and reprinted in a recent issue of The Octagon.

He sums up his conclusions as follows:

"The information of experts and their instruments were patiently perfected by centuries of laboriously accumulated knowledge. Who am I, then, to attempt to co-ordinate work? How can I hope, alone, even to bring together the proper experts? The study of experts has become a technique in itself; it must be so. The specialist in my case—at least as far as my home life is concerned—is the architect. Another is the contractor. Their fee, which looks so large on the first plans, goes to pay for a lifetime of study. From this sum you may deduct the loss of your own time and energy, plus the delay and disorder I have described. Let the good architect pick a good contractor and let the contractor pick his material. For they are experts in an experts' world."

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## ARCHITECTS' REPORTS

**AGREE, CHAS. N.**, 1140 Book Tower.

One story store bldg., Lawrence & Hamilton Av. Taking fig.

Also plans for Theatre, Michigan Ave., Dearborn.

2-story Doctors' Clinic, Fort St. & Visgar Ave., Bids closed.

Prep. plans housing development, 404 apts. Mackenzie Manor Housing Corp., owners.

2-story and basement mercantile bldg., Ann Arbor Mich. Bids closed.

3-story and basement apt. bldg., Jefferson Ave. Belvidere Land Co., 24 units, Iroquois & Jefferson Aves. Bids closed.

Store bldg., Houston Ave. & Hayes. Bids closed.

Prep. plans for Commercial Bldg. & 2000 seat Theatre—McNichols & Myers Rd.

**BRANDT, CHRISTIAN W.**, 3408 Eaton Tower, Detroit. Transmitter Bldg., WXYZ—Contract let to Saul Sloan.

**DERRICK & GAMBER**, Union Trust Bldg.

Reading Rm., 1st Church, Christ Scientists, let to F. H. Martin Construction Co. Parking space let to Jno E. Lewis.

**DES ROSIERS, ARTHUR**, 1414 Maccabees Bldg. Church—St. Thomas & Elizabeth Parish—Oxford & Orion. Bids due Sept. 1.

**GIFFELS & VALLET, Engineers.**

**ROSSETTI LOUIS, Associate**, 606 Marquette Bldg. Bids on Factory Bldg., Wayne Soap Co. closed.

**HABERMAS, CARL**, 415 Brainard.

Res. Grand Marais, G. P. P. Contract let to E. W. Jones Co.

Res.—Buckingham Rd., G. P. P. Bids closed.

Plans for Garage and Show Room.

Res. Grosse Pte Shores, 72'x30'.

**MALCOMSON-CALDER & HAMMOND**, 1219 Griswold. Taking fig. on El. lights, Western State College, Kalamazoo, Mich.

**MERRITT & COLE**, 1111 Collingwood.

Plans for church, Brightmoor, Mich. ready about Sept. 6.

Fig. on Covenant Lutheran Church due Sept. 6.

**STAHL, JNO & CO.**, 820 Francis Palms Bldg.

Prep. sketches for add. to factory bldg. — 2 stores. Plans for small church, 36 & 80.

Clair W. Ditchy, A.I.A. Regional Director for the Great Lakes District has been named a delegate of the A.I.A. to the Fifteenth International Congress of Architects to be held concurrently with the Institute's Seventy-first Annual Convention in Washington, D. C., September 25 to 28, 1939.

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WEEKLY BULLET



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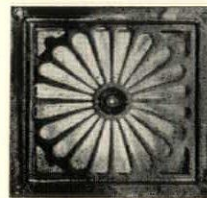
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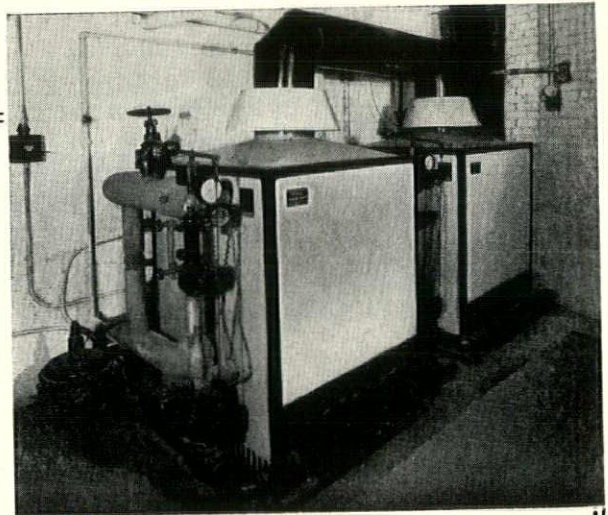
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Volume 13

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 12, 1939

No. 37

## WORLD CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS TO CONVENE IN WASHINGTON

Architects of many nations will convene in Washington September 24 for the Fifteenth International Congress of Architects. The organization meets for the first time in the New World at the invitation of the Congress of the United States and President Roosevelt.

The seventy-first convention of The American Institute of Architects will be held concurrently with the Congress, and will be attended by delegates representing 15,000 American architects.

The sessions of both bodies will last one week and are expected to attract the largest number of architects ever assembled in this country. Housing experts, city planners, and authorities in allied fields will participate in the proceedings of the Congress and the convention.

World problems of planning, population, contemporary architecture, government participation in building, and the function of public authority in determining the artistic worth of proposed structures feature the agenda of the Congress, announced by the Committee on Organization appointed by Secretary of State Hull.

The Congress will have five official languages — English, French, German, Italian, and Spanish. Papers may be submitted, and discussions may be conducted in any one of these tongues. The Government of the United States, the American Institute of Architects, and the American section of the Comite Permanent International des Architectes will act as hosts.

Following a day of committee meetings and other events, including a reception at the Corcoran Gallery of Art, the Congress will formally open at noon on Monday, September 25, in the auditorium of the Department of Labor Building, with an address of welcome by Charles D. Maginnis of Boston, who has been elected president of the Congress. Monday evening there will be an official reception by the United States Government at the Pan American Union building and in the adjacent gardens, with members

of the United States Congress, and of the Diplomatic Corps, as well as other dignitaries present.

Emile Maigrot of Paris, France will preside at the first discussion of the opening session of the Congress on Tuesday, September 26, at 9:30 a. m. "Planning and Development of Rural Districts" will be the theme. The secretary will be Harvey Wiley Corbett of New York City, and the reporter-general will be Gilmore D. Clarke of White Plains, N. Y.

Professor Albert Calza Bini of the Ecole Superieure d'Architecture, Naples, Italy, will be president at the second discussion on Tuesday morning, at which the theme will be "The Relation Between Population Density and Built-Up Area." John A. Holabird of Chicago will be secretary and Frederick Bigger of Pittsburgh, reporter-general.

"The Architect's Copyright" will be the theme of the second session on September 26 at 2:30 p. m. David J. Witmer of Los Angeles will be secretary and Frederick V. Murphy of Washington, D. C., reporter-general. The president of this session has not yet been chosen.

W. Curtis Greene, England, will be president of the third session on Wednesday morning, September 27, when the theme will be "Contemporary Architecture Compared to the Architecture of the Past." William A. Delano of New York will be secretary, and George Howe of Philadelphia, reporter-general.

See **WORLD CONGRESS**—(Cont'd. on Page 4)

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## DETROIT DIVISION MEETING HOTEL FORT SHELBY

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*Thursday, September 14, Dinner at 6:30 P. M.*

George F. Diehl, president of The Detroit Division, Michigan Society of Architects, in announcing this, the first fall meeting of the Division, urges attendance of all Architects in the Detroit area. He further requests Committee Chairmen to be prepared to give brief reports.

Kenneth C. Black, president of the Michigan Society of Architects has called a meeting of the M. S. A. Board of Directors at the Fort Shelby for 4 P. M. on the afternoon of the 14th—following which the Board will join the Detroit Division for dinner.

## THE HISTORY OF ARCHITECTURE

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This course will be most helpful to those preparing to take the State Board examination for registration of architects.

## CRANBROOK SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED TO 3 STUDENTS

Scholarship for the study of advanced architecture at the Cranbrook Academy of Art., Bloomfield Hills, have been awarded three students in an open national competition. The winners are Vito A. Girone, of Orange, N. J., a graduate of New York and Harvard Universities; James M. Berkey, of Spokane, Wash., a graduate of Washington State College and Harvard University, and Sanford B. Wells, of Schenectady, N. Y., a graduate of Cornell University.

## HOUSING ARCHITECTS NAMED

The Detroit Housing Commission has announced the selection of Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, associated with C. Howard Crane & Co., as architects for the west side housing project to be located south of Grand River avenue at Sixth street. For the project to be built adjacent to the present Brewster homes, Harley & Ellington with Clarence E. Day, Inc., associated, has been chosen as architect, it was announced.

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SEPTEMBER 12, 1939

## UNIQUE MUSIC TOWER FOR JACKSON

A Tower of Music with a distinctive feature not found in a similar structure in any other cemetery in this country has been started at Hillcrest Memorial park, Jackson, Michigan. Frost and Snyder are the architects.

The unusual feature about the building will be a cross in the front made of special colored hammered glass. This window will be 24 feet in height and at night will be illuminated with the use of Neon tubes. This equipment will furnish inside diffused lighting for the entire area of the cross, which is to be used for outdoor summer vesper services in conjunction with the facilities of the Tower of Music.

### Similar Towers

Similar towers have become popular in various parts of the United States for use not only with interment services but for exercises on special days such as Easter, Memorial day, Armistice day, etc. For use on such occasions the tower is being equipped with the latest broadcasting and amplifying facilities. These will be the first units of the musical studio, which will be a distinct part of the general building plan, of which the tower is



**Frost**

the central motif. The musical and broadcasting facilities are now in process of manufacture in Baltimore and will be exhibited at the national cemetery convention at Cleveland in August before being installed in the tower.

The design for the tower was developed in the office of Frost & Snyder, local architects, in conjunction with Roy Hatten, national secretary of the American Cemetery Owners, the national cemetery trade association and as a result of considerable research by the different units of the National Cemetery Ass'n.

### To Be Completed Soon.

The building housing the cross and accompanying equipment will be 50 feet in height and 15 by 15 feet in dimensions. It will be constructed of reinforced concrete and faced with Michigan sandstone. William F. C. Nimke of Ann Arbor, has the contract for the construction work.



**Snyder**

It is made known by the Hillcrest officials that the tower is designed to form the entrance to a future development to consist of a chapel, administration building and possibly a mausoleum. The location of the tower is on one of the highest knolls at the extreme end of the valley in the center of the cemetery and will be approached by sandstone terraces and driveways, at the end of a long esplanade bordering a series of lagoons leading from the cemetery entrance to the tower.

If the Fair is more than a circus, that is because certain laboratory demonstrations and certain industrial processes make very spectacular shows. And if those offered at the New York World's Fair do not actually demonstrate what the world of tomorrow will be like or solve all the difficulties inherent in the job of getting the kind of world we want, they do give a tremendous demonstration of the triumphs of mere technique.—I. S. A. Bulletin.

Joseph Wood Krutch.



## WORLD CONGRESS—(Cont'd. from Page 1)

"Comparison of the Remuneration Received by Architects in the Different Countries" will be the theme of the fourth session on Wednesday afternoon. J. Otis Post of New York will be secretary and John P. B. Sinkler of Philadelphia, reporter-general. The president of this session is yet unnamed.

A special session of the Congress at 5:30 p. m. on Wednesday will be devoted to lectures on "Light and Architecture" illustrated by motion pictures in color. Leading architects will explain the use of light at the New York World's Fair and the Golden Gate International Exposition.

Two themes will be discussed at the fifth session on Thursday morning, September 28. One is "The Consequence of the Participation by Government, Whether Federal or Local, and/or by Private Enterprise, in the Preparation of Plans and the Carrying Out of Building Operations." The other is "Should Public Authority be Clothed with Power to Reject Plans as Artistically Unsatisfactory Rather Than as at Present for Purely Technical Reasons Only?"

Dr. Frederico E. Mariscal of Mexico City, Mexico, will preside at the discussion of the first theme, with Arthur Brown, Jr., of San Francisco as secretary and Charles Butler of New York as reporter-general. Henri Labelle, Canada, will preside at the discussion of the second theme, with J. Monroe Hewlett of New York as secretary and William Emerson of Boston as reporter-general. Action on resolutions Thursday afternoon will conclude the formal business of the Congress.

The following have accepted the invitation of The American Institute of Architects to open discussion of the various themes: Sverre Pedersen, Norway; Emile Maigrot, France; Henry van de Velde, Belgium; Uno Aahren, Sweden; H. S. Goodhart-Rendel, England; Alberto Calza Bini, Italy; Carlos Contreras, Mexico; Percy Erskine Nobbs, Canada.

Past presidents of The American Institute of Architects will act as vice presidents at all sessions. The secretaries and reporters-general are all Fellows of the Institute.

Many schools of architecture in Europe and in North and South America are sending delegations consisting of faculty members and students to the Congress, in connection with which a special meeting of the Association of Collegiate Schools will be held.

Several exhibitions are scheduled by a committee on exhibitions, of which Julian C. Levi of New York is chairman. One will portray "The Architecture of the Americas", and another, "Representative Post-War Architecture in the United States."

An elaborate program of social events, visits to housing projects, to Williamsburg, Va., and other places of historic and architectural interest; luncheons, and receptions, in which representatives of the Federal Government will participate, has been arranged. The official banquet will be held at 8 p. m. on September 27, when the delegates will be the guests of the government of the United States. Several meetings of the Comite Permanent International des Architects of which Paul Vischer of Basle, Switzerland, is president, will be held.

Monday, October 2, will be observed as Architects' Day at the New York World's Fair. Ceremonies in honor of the foreign architects have been arranged by a New York committee headed by Stephen F. Voorhees, chairman of the Fair Board of Design and a past president of the Institute. The Golden Gate International Exposition has designated October 11 as Architects' Day. James Knox Ballantyne, Jr., is chair-

## PLUMBING AND HEATING

A boiler in one of the exhibits at the New York World's Fair is equipped with portholes of special glass which withstands both heat and pressure. Visitors who peer through the portholes can see what goes on inside of the business part of a modern boiler.

Live steam bubbles formed by the heat are plainly visible. The bubbles rise up through the water and enter the steam chamber.

Body heat loss control is the fundamental aim of heating and ventilating the home, according to the exhibit of the Pierce Foundation of New Haven in the Hall of Medical Science at the New York World's Fair. Radiant heating is shown in the exhibit.

Pre-fabrication, with its attendant economies in time, has entered the heating industry. A new all-purpose boiler especially designed for the small home market is shipped from the factory with the sections completely assembled to reduce installation time. The boiler can be used with coal, oil, or gas. It is of the "wet bottom" design, that is, water circulates under the ash pit. This design, according to the Plumbing and Heating Industries BUREAU, increases the efficiency of the boiler and permits it to be set on wooden floors without danger of a fire hazard.

## ARCHITECTURAL LIBRARIES

Architectural libraries have a specialized job to do in the world. What they contain is chosen to furnish inspiration to the designer, to guide and assist the layman, to enrich the historian of art, and to give the technician the material he needs. With such a task, the architectural library must possess works of many different kinds and materials of many different sizes and types. It is bound also to be used by many different types of readers. All of these things will affect its administration, its personnel, and its methods. Moreover, architecture touches life in so many ways that an architectural library is often called on to serve the ordinary cultivated layman, and must be organized to direct him and give him the information and the illustrative matter which he seeks.

—From "Some European Architectural Libraries"

by Talbot Hamlin.

man of the committee of arrangements at San Francisco. Study tours to cities in North and South America are planned.

C. C. Zantlinger of Philadelphia will be secretary-general of the Congress and Dr. Andrew C. Simonpietri of Washington, secretary. The Committee on Organization is headed by Mr. Maginnis, who is also president of the Institute. Other members are: Dr. Warren Kelchner, Department of State; Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect, Treasury Department; Edwin Bergstrom, Los Angeles; Harvey Wiley Corbett, New York; Richmond H. Shreve, New York, Mr. Zantlinger. U. Grant-Smith of Washington is honorary secretary of the committee. Mr. Shreve is the executive officer of the Congress.

Secretary Hull, with the approval of President Roosevelt, has appointed eight delegates to represent the United States officially at the Congress. They are Mr. Maginnis, Mr. Simon, Mr. Bergstrom, Mr. Corbett, Mr. Shreve, Mr. Voorhees, Mr. Zantlinger, and George Oakley Totten, Jr., of Washington. Mr. Maginnis is chairman of the delegation.



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- V. From start to finish of a building operation the Architect is the Owner's professional adviser and representative — in drawing contracts, complying with building codes and lien laws, certifying building charges, and seeing throughout that the Owner gets what he pays for.
- VI. The Owner needs the supervision of an expert unbiased by commercial considerations to pass on the quality of the materials and workmanship going into his building.
- VII. Both Owner and Builder depend on competitive

bidding for fair prices. Fair competitive bidding depends on complete plans and specifications drawn by the Architect.

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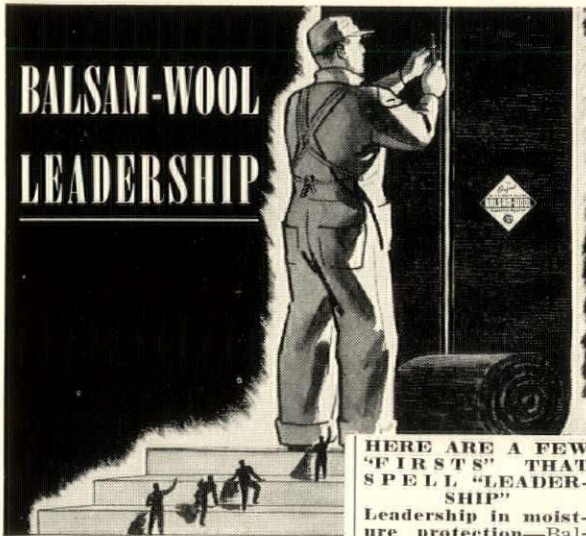
The many friends of Louis Kamper and Earl Pellerin, Detroit architects, who are in Europe are wondering as to their whereabouts just now.

Earl has been traveling and studying over there as the recipient of one of the Edward Langley fellowships. On August 27 he sent a card from London stating that he had enjoyed a visit to the R. I. B. A. headquarters, which he designated as "remarkable."

On August 15 Mr. Kamper sent a card from Munich.

A note from Oakie C. Johnson, a newly registered architect, reveals that he is now employed as architect for the National Park Service and stationed at Ironwood, Michigan. Oakie encloses his check for MSA dues to March 1, 1940 and he states that he enjoys the Weekly Bulletin.

This should serve as a hint to others who have not yet paid their current dues.



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## ARCHITECTS' REPORTS

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Also plans for Theatre, Michigan Ave., Dearborn. 2-story Doctors' Clinic, Fort St. & Visgar Ave., Bids closed.

Prep. plans housing development, 404 apts. Mackenzie Manor Housing Corp., owners. 2-story and basement mercantile bldg., Ann Arbor, Mich. Bids closed.

3-story and basement apt. bldg., Jefferson Ave. Belvidere Land Co., 24 units, Iroquois & Jefferson Aves. Bids closed.

Store bldg., Houston Ave. & Hayes. Bids closed.

Prep. plans for Commercial Bldg. & 2000 seat Theatre — McNichols & Myers Rd.

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**GIFFELS & VALLET, Engineers.** **ROSSETTI LOUIS, Associate**, 606 Marquette Bldg. Bids on Factory Bldg. Wayne Soap Co. closed.

**HABERMAS, CARL**, 415 Brainard.

Res. Grand Marais, G. P. P. Contract let to E. W. Jones Co.

Res.—Buckingham Rd., G. P. P. Bids closed.

Plans for Garage and Show Room.

Res. Grosse Pte Shores, 72'x30'.

**MALCOMSON-CALDER & HAMMOND**, 1219 Griswold. Taking fig. on El. lights, Western State College, Kalamazoo, Mich.

**MERRITT & COLE**, 1111 Collingwood.

Plans for church, Brightmoor, Mich.

Fig. on Covenant Lutheran church.

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Prep. sketches for add. to factory bldg. — 2 stores. Plans for small church, 36 & 80.

## OF ZONING INTEREST

The Detroit City Plan Commission is continuing its intensive activity in the interest of a Zoning program for our City.

The work on the WPA Project for Zoning Study Maps is well on its way toward completion. Continued work is still needed to make the final supporting Zoning maps which must accompany the text of the proposed Zoning Ordinance.

The Commission is holding special evening meetings in order to expedite the draft of the Ordinance. These meetings are splendidly attended and the manifest interest is such as to be most assuring of a good Ordinance draft for Detroit.

Walter Blucher, Executive Director of the American Society of Planning Officials, and former Secretary and City Planner of our Commission, came, at our invitation, and attended the Commission meeting last Monday evening. Mr. Blucher's intimate knowledge of Detroit and its history, conditions, and environment, together with the opportunity which his position affords, of comparing the practical civic value of Zoning operations in various cities, under differing circumstances, makes his suggestions and judgment of outstanding importance to us. The Commission wishes to profit by the advice of several of our National zoning authorities in this work.

An important factor in the success of a zoning program is in the public hearings which must be held and which give opportunity to all interested citizens or property owners to give expression to their views or take exception to any of the proposed plans.

We particularly solicit the suggestions, advice, and constructive criticism of the members of the Citizens' City Planning Advisory Committee.

A tentative draft of the aims and purposes of Zoning, as a part of the proposed Ordinance, will be sent out next week if possible.

Zoning is really civic insurance and protection, with the advantage of a comparatively, most negligible small premium cost. **H.L.R.—The Planner**

More than 25,000 persons have applied for the 12,-000 apartments in the new project which the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company is building in The Bronx, New York, according to Richmond H. Shreve, chairman of the board of design for the project, and president of the architectural firm of Shreve, Lamb & Harmon.

Parkchester, as the new project will be called, will be completed early next year. It will contain 12,269 apartments of two to five rooms and will occupy a 129-acre site. There will be fifty-one groups of buildings comprising 171 structures ranging in height from seven to twelve stories. They will be of fireproof construction and will contain automatic elevators.

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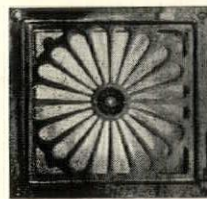
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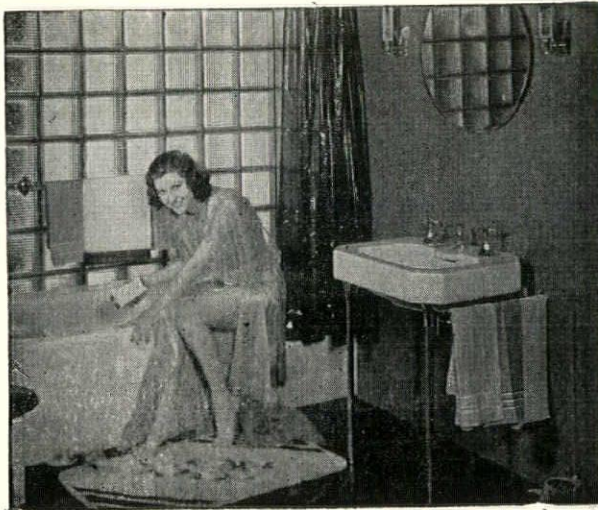
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# WEEKLY BULLETIN



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DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 19, 1939

No. 38

### WORLD CONGRESS OF ARCHITECTS POSTPONED

The Fifteenth International Congress of Architects, which was to have been held in Washington, D. C., September 24 to 30, has been indefinitely postponed because of the war in Europe, it is announced by Richmond H. Shreve of New York, executive officer of the Congress. The postponement was decided upon at a meeting of the Congress Committee on Organization, of which Charles D. Maginnis of Boston is chairman.

"While plans for the Congress had been completed, an adequate representation of the nations of the world was impossible owing to the course of events in Europe," Mr. Shreve said. Perhaps one-third of the several hundred delegates expected are already on their way. They will attend the seventy-first convention of the American Institute of Architects, scheduled to be held in Washington during the same week."

"The foreign group attending the Institute's sessions will be comprised chiefly of representatives of Canada and South American countries. Sir Raymond Unwin of England and Jacques Greber of France are already in America. The State Department has cabled notice of the postponement to all countries which have named delegates. Numerous events planned in connection with the Congress, including an official banquet in Washington on Wednesday, September 27, and trips to historic places will be carried out under the auspices of the Institute."

The Congress was to have convened for the first time in the New World at the invitation of the Congress of the United States and President Roosevelt. Invitations to participate had been issued by the Department of State to fifty foreign governments and to more than 100 foreign architectural societies. Mr. Maginnis, who is president of The American Institute of Architects, had been chosen president of the Congress, and Clarence C. Zantzinger of Philadelphia, secretary-general.

Mr. Maginnis had also been designated as chairman of a delegation to represent the United States officially. The other members are Louis A. Simon, Washington, D. C.; Edwin Bergstrom, Los Angeles; Harvey Wiley Corbett, New York; Mr. Shreve; George Oakley Totten, Jr., Washington, D. C.; Stephen F. Voorhees, New York; Mr. Zantzinger.

Great Britain, France, Germany, and Italy were among the nations that had appointed delegates to

### ABOUT THE CONVENTION

Although the International Congress scheduled to take place concurrently with the Institute's Seventy-first Convention has been postponed, many of the prominent speakers will appear and altogether there will be many famous architects from foreign countries.

A glance at the program will show the dates to be filled with important events including luncheons, receptions, banquets—official and otherwise, interspersed by tours of Washington, an excursion to Williamsburg, the Pierre du Pont Estate, ending with Architects' Day at the World's Fair in New York.

The Detroit Chapter will be represented by six delegates and two alternates. Altogether twenty-four members have signified their intentions of attending, while seven others are doubtful.

The Charette, publication of the Pittsburgh Chapter, comments as follows:

"No convention has yet failed to turn up rather unexpectedly some controversial subject which splits the delegates right down the middle and develops into a real old-fashioned town meeting with hot language and a roll call. These occasions are the high lights. What will it be this time? Once it was the sacredness of the Octagon stables; once it was unification; again, it was the Capitol alterations. Nothing ever comes of the final decision, but the fireworks are simply stunning. What will it be this time?"

Every architect in America should put this convention on his "must" list, as it is an occasion which he simply can't afford to miss.

the Congress. A large representation from the Latin-American countries had been anticipated.

World problems of planning, population, contemporary architecture, government participation in building, and the function of public authority in determining the artistic worth of proposed structures featured the agenda of the congress, as announced recently by the Committee on Organization appointed by Secretary of State, Hull.

The sponsoring organization was the Comité Permanent International des Architectes, the president of which is Paul Vischer, and which has headquarters in Paris. Harvey Wiley Corbett of New York is among the members of the American section of the Committee.



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## DETROIT CHAPTER SEPTEMBER MEETING

At a meeting of the Detroit Chapter held at the Hotel Fort Shelby on September 7, Robert B. Frantz, Branson V. Gamber, Emil Lorch, and Henry F. Stanton, were elected delegates to the Institute's Seventy-first Convention to be held in Washington, September 24 to 30. Cornelius L. T. Gabler and Lancelot Sukert were named alternates.

Arthur K. Hyde and Talmage C. Hughes are ex-officio delegates as president and secretary respectively.

Results of letter ballots indicated that twenty-four members of the Detroit Chapter will attend, with seven others doubtful.

President Hyde announced the election to membership in the Institute and assignment to the Detroit Chapter of Chester L. Baumann and our newest member was given a hearty welcome. This brings our total membership to eighty-two.

A discussion was held on the formation of a permanent Mid-West Association and an Annual Conference such as was held at the University of Notre Dame on June 23 and 24, 1939. This is in accordance with provisions of the by-laws of the Institute. Mr. Ditchy had already brought this matter before the Institute board and it now needs only the approval of the various chapters in the Great Lakes and Illinois-Wisconsin Districts. Mr. Ditchy explained the desirability of such an organization, following which the Chapter voted its approval of favorable recommendations previously taken by the Chapter board.

Members present expressed a desire to have the next A.I.A. Convention in Detroit and a resolution to this effect was approved by vote.

Upon request of President Hyde, Mr. Ditchy discussed the function of Institute Conventions and what delegates should be prepared to do with reference to Chapter policy. He also explained the importance of other business and social features scheduled for the 71st Convention. Professor Lorch stated that this offered an extraordinary opportunity of which he wished that every architect, young and old, could take advantage.

President Hyde announced that a fall meeting of the Engineering Society of Detroit, possibly the October meeting, would be devoted to Architecture and that a prominent architect as speaker was being sought.

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## ON THE AIR

### TUNE TO WWJ—THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 9:00 A. M.

Miss Dorothy Spicer of that station, conducting a Women's program, will interview Talmage C. Hughes, on architectural subjects of interest to laymen.

The Bulletin of the Southern California Chapter has the following to say:

"On Monday, August 21st, with many a quake of the knee and a sinking feeling around the mid-riff, we joined with our vastly more self-assured Chairman of Professional Betterment, Donald B. Kirby, in the weekly broadcast of the Home Builders Round Table of the Air."

"This program, which goes out over KFAC weekly at 9:30 P. M., answers questions on a variety of subjects from those about to build or modernize their homes. The program is sponsored by Ted Gates, radio producer, and has for its regular participants, Oswald Butler and Arthur Raitt. Each week two guests from different branches of the construction industry take part. The Chapter will be represented again on September 11, 1939, and it is hoped that our participation may become a regular part of the program. Who knows but this may be the beginning of our much-talked-about publicity campaign."

"It is interesting to note that the Chicago Chapter conducted such a program this spring in cooperation with some of the material manufacturers, and intends to repeat it in the fall."

In Detroit, architects have had two broadcasts over Radio Station WJR, one on July 7 by Talmage C. Hughes and another on August 10 by Clair W. Ditchy. Others in the series are now being planned.

The Indianapolis Chapter has also made a start in this field of education and publicity. Mr. William Orr Ludlow, Chairman of the Institute Committee on Public Information obtained one hundred reprints of the Detroit talks and mailed them to all chapters with a letter suggesting that they approach their local radio stations about this wonderful opportunity.

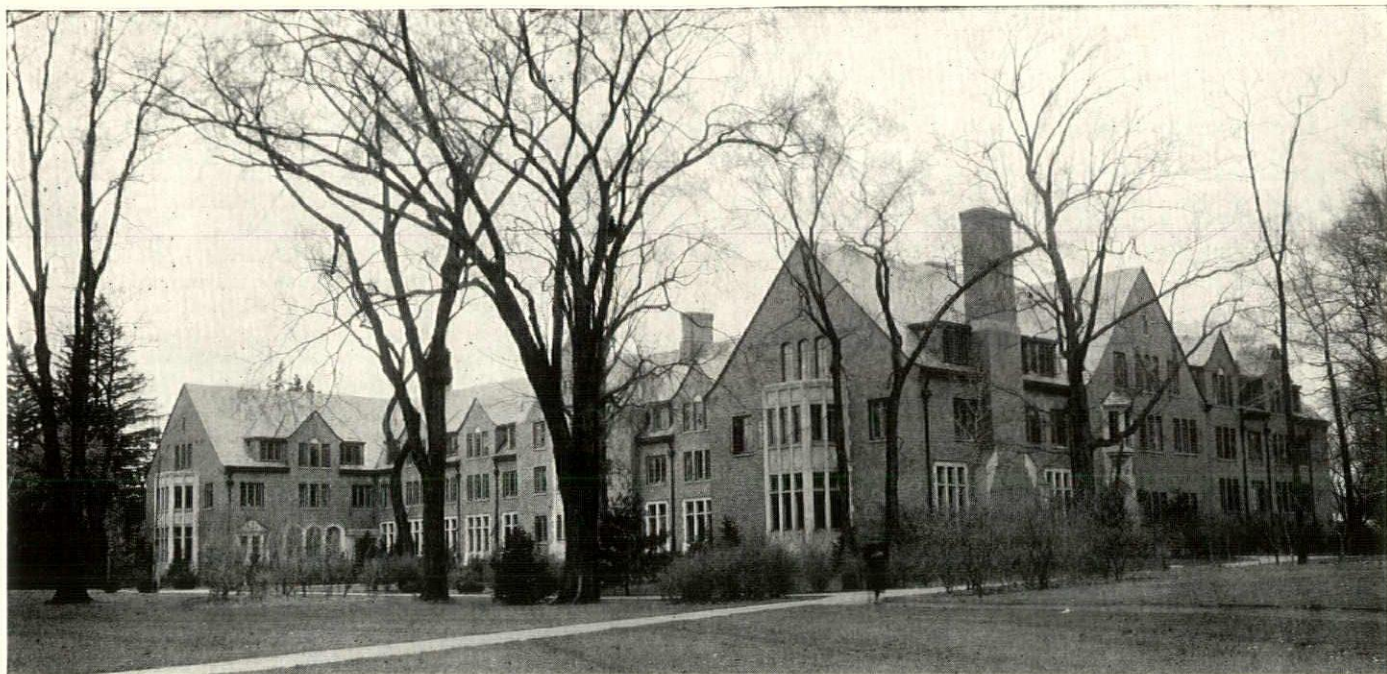
It seems to be pretty well agreed that the public are now, more than ever before, interested in architectural subjects such as the small home, town and city planning, design, etc. This being the case, such educational programs are a service both to the public and to the profession of architecture and the opportunity should not be overlooked.

And just to show the cooperation we are getting we quote from the broadcast of Jack King, your head line news reporter—"Headline News in the headline manner"—on Thursday evening, Sept. 7:

"I might remark that I was greatly impressed this evening with prospects for home building in this motor city, as well as the entire state and nation. I dropped in on a dinner meeting being held by the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects at the Hotel Fort Shelby. There I learned that nothing but optimism prevails regarding the present and future building programs. People are evidently becoming enthusiastic and are answering affirmatively the slogan-question, 'So, you intend to build a home?'"

"The meeting at the Fort Shelby was the occasion for choosing delegates and formulating Detroit Architects' plans for attendance at the National Annual Convention of Architects at Washington Sept. 25th to 30th."





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## MARY MAYO HALL AT MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE

### A Successful Self-Liquidating College Dormitory

BY ALEX. L. TROUT

Architect, Detroit, Mich.

From The American School and University

Eight years have passed since the Governor of Michigan vetoed an appropriation for a dormitory for Michigan State College. He made the suggestion that he felt the state should be responsible for education, but that the housing of college students could easily be on a self-sustaining basis. This thought was favorably received by the governing body of the college, who carefully worked up the details and plans for the building. Mary Mayo Hall, the outcome of this thought, is the subject of our article.

Five years of successful operation through a depression period have demonstrated the soundness of the plan. All costs except land and utility extensions were met by issuing bonds. While the bonds are payable from income only, and are not a state obligation, they are selling today at the call price, with few offerings. When certain legal difficulties are overcome, the College will continue to expand these facilities on a similar basis.

Because of the varying factors that affect dormitory costs, we are not going to discuss business statements in great detail, but will rather emphasize certain general aspects of dormitory planning and management. After all, the financial management is merely a means to a desirable end—namely, that the dormitory building may contribute to a more efficient and satisfying college life.

### A Socially Satisfactory Dormitory Is Financially Stable

A college dormitory is only a specialized type of housing. As compared with ordinary housing, it has certain distinct advantages and disadvantages in its financial aspects. It houses young people from widely

varying social and economic backgrounds. It seeks to make their group living helpful and enjoyable. Perhaps the most valuable contribution of the self-liquidation idea has been a careful weighing of all objectives, and a pointing of the way to new economies and greater efficiency.

Modern thought demands certain practical requirements in the college dormitory. First of all, it should be fireproof. The cottage type is possibly an exception. But where available space is limited or minimum travel required, a three-story building housing a goodly number of students should be fireproof. This will add to the cost of the building approximately one-quarter, but it will add to its life length and reduce the cost of maintenance and repairs. It will make a quiter building—a consideration that should not be forgotten, particularly in buildings of the corridor type. Reduced insurance will help offset increased cost. Because of the low current rates of interest, none but fireproof buildings should be considered.

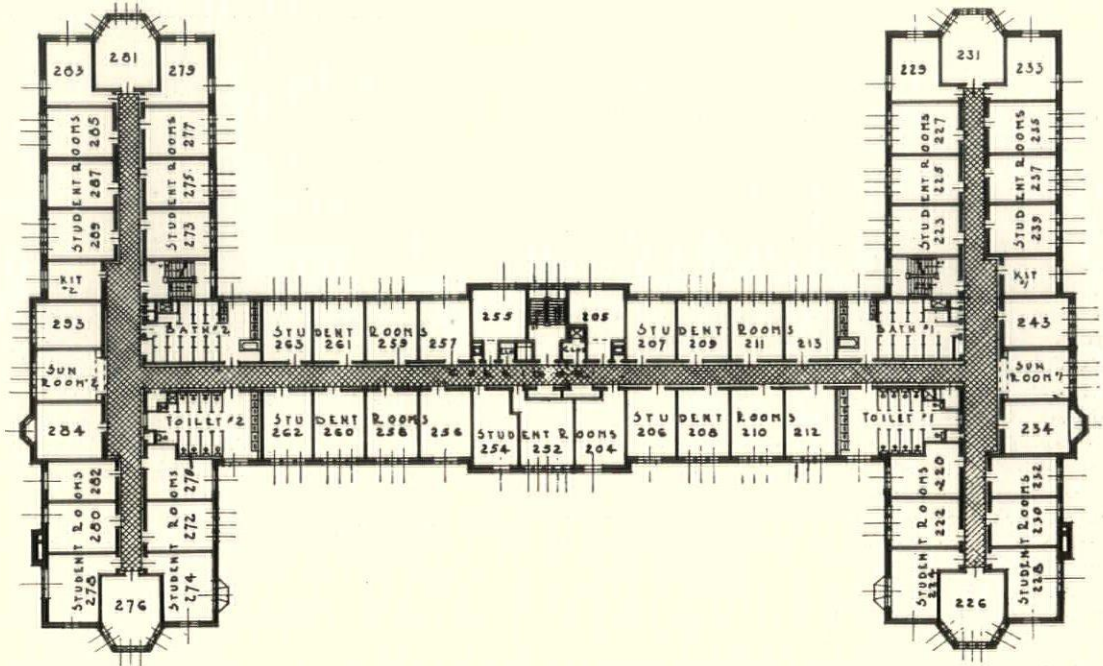
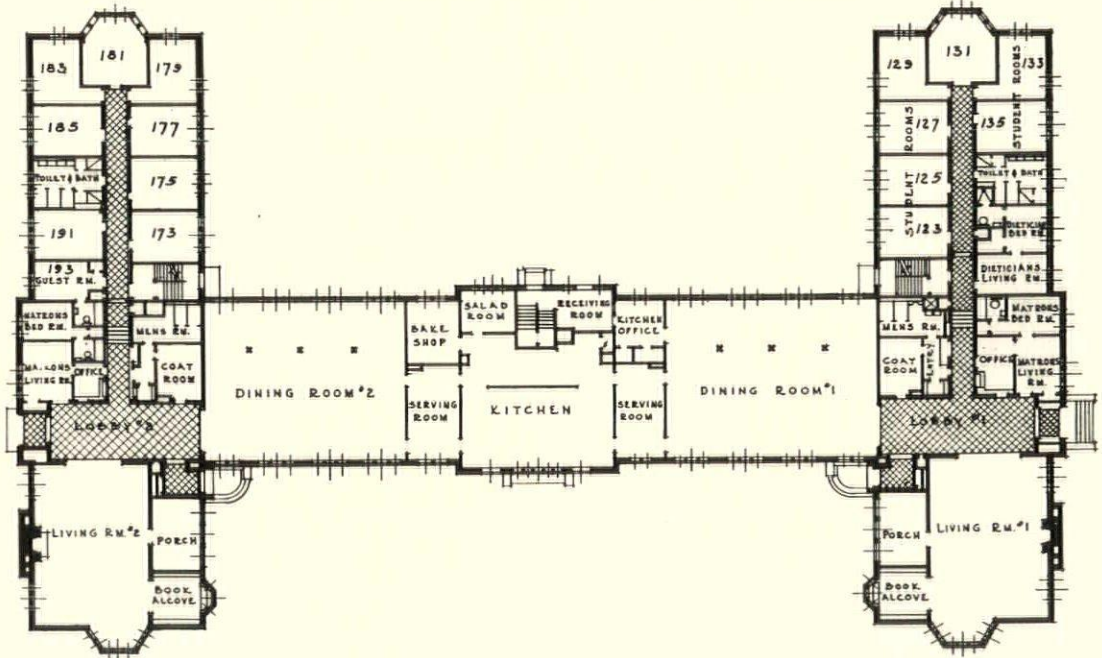
Having decided on the type of the building construction, the size of the social unit next requires consideration. Mary Mayo Hall houses 246 girls. They are divided into two distinct social groups, each with its own house mother or director. One kitchen serves for both groups, but separate serving and dining rooms, parlors and recreation quarters are maintained. This arrangement adds slightly to the operating costs and to the initial cost of the building, but has advantages from the viewpoint of social control. While a group of 120 girls is fairly large for one social director, it has not proved unwieldy.

After the question of the size of the social unit, the next problem in dormitory planning is the question of the individual room or suite. Practically all buildings of the self-liquidating type are designed with double rooms. Compared with single rooms, the cost per occupant is materially reduced by this arrangement. For freshmen the plan works well. Upper classmen prefer quiet, and for them single rooms are recommended. Where double rooms prevail, a number of

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WEEKLY BULLETIN



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from satisfaction. The dormitory should be a popular place regardless of the fact that undergraduate students are required to live on the campus. The result of a socially popular dormitory is financial stability.

#### The Importance of Ample Lighting

Many desirable factors may contribute to the comfort and livability of a dormitory—factors which add little to the cost of planning. The first is ample lighting, both natural and artificial. Much expense in electric bills would be saved on dull days by large windows. The added sunlight contributes to health of body, and reduces eye strain. In the matter of lighting, roof dormers are particular offenders. As ordinarily designed, the sloping lines of the roof cut into the rooms in a picturesque fashion, further reducing the initial efficiency of the lighting from windows already too small.

Particular attention is called to the group gables and dormers in the accompanying photographs. To conform with the general architectural requirements of the campus at Michigan State College, sloping roofs were necessary. The group dormers proved not very attractive but gave a utilization of the upper floor space almost equal to that of the lower floors, a result not often achieved in dormitory construction. Well-lighted stairways, and rooms for food preparation that are flooded with sunshine, coupled with amply lighted dining rooms, living rooms, and enclosed porches, conform with the thought of architecture as a program for living, in which sunshine and health must play a prominent part.

#### Maintaining the Safety of the Long-Time Loan

These general considerations have been gone over at some length because they lead up to the underlying idea behind the self-liquidating dormitory plan—namely, low amortization of principal over a period of years. This means that twenty to thirty years are given to pay back the loan, with equal annual payments for the interest plus principal. To insure the safety of such a loan, everything must be done to keep the buildings modern and desirable throughout the life of the loan, and thereafter. It is therefore good business to beautify the buildings in every way possible. A building may depreciate with age—but gardens and trees grow lovelier with time. Charlottes-ville, and Mount Vernon, and Monticello and Hollis Hall at Harvard—all may well be studied in this connection. Though the budget of the dormitory may show what to the banker seems a small excess of earnings over capital requirements, the satisfaction from such buildings insures a more than ordinary degree of financial safety.

An appreciation of these principals has contributed greatly to the success of European housing in recent years. It has contributed much to the results obtained by the Federal Housing Administration in promoting home ownership. The college rooming house of fifty years ago is now often so obsolete that in our cities its logical place would be the "blighted area." It awaits replacement with modern fireproof structures, flooded with light and sunshine, planned for greater health and better social opportunity. For these things, the parents of our collegians will gladly pay.

The human story of dormitory management which is recorded in the accompanying figures indicates several things. First of all is the high sense of obligation of the average college student. Losses from non-collection of dues were small during the depression. The second is the extent to which parents will sacrifice to maintain their children in college. With practically all the banks closed in the state, it was quite remarkable how well the State College carried on. The losses in the college year of 1932-1933 were heavy enough, but were quickly made up in succeeding years. The

cumulative totals of the five-year period show both interest and amortization earned—a remarkable record for a building first occupied after the crash of 1929, and operating during the worst years of the depression. That social desirability is a primary requisite to financial stability has been well demonstrated in this instance. In too many cases this principle has been lost sight of. Yet these humane considerations augur well for the future success of the plan.

#### Effect of Policies on Earnings

Dormitory policies are also reflected in the earning statements. In the years of the depression, it was impractical to adhere to the terms of the agreement under which the dormitory was built. This agreement contained a clause to the effect that other dormitories owned by the college were to be closed if it were found impossible to fill the new building. Because of the low cost of the rooms in the older dormitory buildings, the college agreed to absorb any deficit from vacant rooms in the new building, rather than inconvenience the students who were severely embarrassed by the bank closings throughout the state. This deficit has been made up by subsequent earnings.

In 1934, compulsory freshmen residence for women on the campus was adopted, a principle of operation delayed for a year owing to the depression. However, the dormitory does not care for all the freshmen. It has representation from all the classes, a plan which has decided advantages in maintaining a dormitory tradition. This plan also swells the waiting list, which is a most desirable thing to have, particularly when it is necessary to bar students who would not contribute to the social welfare of the group. A dormitory exclusively for freshmen requires more supervision than one for all under-graduate classes. The number of freshmen students who drop out of college during the freshmen year for academic or other reasons is considerably higher than in the upper classes. A 5 to 7½ per cent vacancy over the period of the year seems to be a practical working minimum for conditions at Michigan State College.

The dormitories are used only occasionally in summer school, but their growing popularity, the increasing student income, and the growth of the summer sessions, will some day make an added source of revenue when it becomes practical to keep the dormitories open.

In setting up the budget, the management and service costs for both dining rooms and living rooms should be carefully segregated. The dining room makes valuable contribution to the stability of the self-liquidating plan. Through lower food costs, concentrated purchasing power, and carefully planned kitchens, the dormitory has considerable advantage over its normal competitors. The cost of board quickly follows the fluctuating trend of food costs. The dining rooms can practically always show a profit, even through a depression period. On the other hand, when room rents fluctuate, fixed interest charges remain high. A reduction in room rents, therefore, is rather serious. Boarding in the dormitory is a practically mandatory requirement where the self-liquidating plan is in operation.

Estimating the cost of electric power and service is always a difficult problem. At Michigan State College, the dormitory gets heat and light from a modern and economically operated power plant, and the charges are made at cost. These two items amount to approximately 50 cents a week per student. As compared with apartments, the light and heat costs in a dormitory are rather high. Janitor service has been reduced by most scientific study. The water soft-



ening has proved a great luxury at a relatively small cost of operation.

In caring for repairs, a reserve fund is set aside annually, and from these funds repairs are charged directly. Where repairs are set up as an expense item, they are sometimes neglected when other costs run higher than budgeted. With the reserve plan, this situation is avoided. In Mary Mayo Hall, the greatest care was used in specifying permanent materials, and in keeping everything in first-class repair. This has proved a most economical procedure. It also adds attractiveness to the dormitories, and helps maintain a spirit of pride in the building. This contributes to thoughtful and careful use by the girls.

Cooperation with the Domestic Science Department and the Department of Institutional Management in the dormitory has been a source of mutual advantage. The hotel management course uses the dormitory as an experimental laboratory in food preparation and testing. This has somewhat reduced management costs and contributed to the success of the venture.

The building cost \$359,000, and the furnishings \$53,500, a total cost of \$412,500. The depreciation reserve on the building was fixed at one-half of 1 per cent, and the furniture reserve at 8 per cent. The total bond issue was \$425,000. The bonds are callable at a slight premium.

Appended are two tables, one showing the summarized results of five years of operation, and the other showing the individual expense items for 1935. These tables suggest an excellent accounting system and should prove of advantage to any one interested in dormitory management.

#### The Planning Personnel

In conclusion, the work of those actively interested in planning the building should be mentioned. The President, Robert G. Shaw, the Secretary, Herman H. Halladay, and his successor, J. A. Hannah, have all taken a most active interest in the planning and management of the building. The Dean of Home Economics, Dr. Marie Dye, and the Dean of Women, Miss Elisabeth Conrad, have cooperated in the work of management and social supervision, and deserve much credit for the successful showing that has been made. The landscape work was designed by T. Glenn Phillips, who was consultant for the College plan. The plans were originally prepared by Malcomson,

Higginbotham and Trout, a partnership now dissolved. The work of design was done by Ralph Calder, now with Malcomson and Higginbotham Inc. The architectural plans and general financial scheme were developed by the writer.

It is hoped that the procedure outlined and the general objectives and methods of approach to the problem will prove of value. The hearty cooperation between all interested groups, and their genuine interest in the welfare of the students, have made possible the success of the enterprise.

NOTE: In the item of salaries and labor, there have been several variations in the accounting practice. In some instances room and board were charged directly against the salaries and credited to income. This had the effect of increasing the salary rolls. In 1932 and 1933 there was considerable sentiment against cutting salaries, and for that reason the rigid economies of the depression do not appear until the 1934 accounts.

At that time it was found that certain of the operations of directing the dining room and food preparation, as well as the social activities, could be put on a part-time basis, the balance of the salary being paid by the Department of Home Economics, or the Dean of Women's office, where the remaining time can be used to advantage. Such an arrangement is often a practical and desirable economy in dormitory operation.

AUTHOR'S NOTE (January 20, 1937).—The refinancing procedure suggested above has been completed, both for Mosher Jordan Hall at the University of Michigan and for Mary Mayo Hall at East Lansing. Bids have also just been taken for a second dormitory at East Lansing, which was sent out for figures a year ago, and was recently figured at an advance of 11½ per cent, indicating that building prices have not greatly advanced. Unit costs are comparable with Mary Mayo. The new financing, based on revenues from dormitory income only, and not guaranteed by the state or the College, is state and Federal income tax free. The coupon rates average 3½ per cent for serial bonds running from one to fifteen years. A small contribution by the College, and low interest rates based on a demonstration of earning power, make possible complete amortization in a fifteen-year period.

Condensed operating statements of Mary Mayo Hall are shown on pages 8 and 9.

NOTE: The Michigan State College dormitory, to all intents and purposes, is operated just as if it were owned by the College. The accounting work is handled by the school, as well as the details of assignment of rooms and general supervision. The dormitory bonds, however, are paid off through the sponsorship of a trustee who represents both the College and the bondholders. Unfortunately, under this arrangement, the bonds are not Federal income tax-free, and the interest rate under present conditions is excessive. This situation will be met, however, by calling the bonds as soon as legal difficulties can be worked through, at which time the fixed charges will be materially reduced.

The bond retirements—on October 1 of each year—are in the following amounts: 1933, \$5,000; 1934, 1935, 1936, \$6,000; 1937, 1938, 1939, \$8,000; 1940, 1941 1942, 1943, \$10,000; 1944, 1945, 1946, \$12,000; 1947, 1948, \$14,000; 1949, 1950, \$15,000; 1951, 1952, \$17,000; 1953, 1954, 1955, \$20,000; 1956, 1957, \$24,000; 1958, \$25,000; 1959, \$77,000 (\$40,000 in \$500 denominations).

In order to pay this amortization, an annual payment of 6.6 percent for the first year, 7.3 per cent for the second year, and 8 per cent for the third and succeeding years, is paid in the form of rental. These rentals enable the trustee to meet the current payments on bonds as well as interest and build up a reserve fund which will be used for taking care of the final bond payment at the end of the 26th year.

This arrangement helps avoid the difficulty so often met in real estate bonds, of having a default due to a year of losses—which defaults not only the principal for that year, but all of the succeeding principal as well. In practice, the plan has actually worked very well. The bonds have come through with a clear record, except for a temporary impounding of interest in one of the closed banks. While this principle of setting up a reserve or cushion was very rare at the time these bonds were issued, it has been quite widely adopted in recent financing. Credit for this arrangement is due to Henry Hart, of the First of Michigan Company, one of the country's most distinguished financiers.



MARY MAYO HALL, MICHIGAN STATE COLLEGE. CONDENSED OPERATING STATEMENT, FISCAL YEARS ENDED JUNE 30, 1932-1935, INCLUSIVE (SUPPLEMENTARY)

	Nine Months June 30, 1932	Year Ended June 30, 1933	Year Ended June 30, 1934	Year Ended June 30, 1935	Combined
<b>INCOME</b>					
From operations .....	\$81,793.71	\$72,055.70	\$68,692.09	\$86,717.99	\$309,259.49
<b>EXPENSES—OPERATIONS</b>					
Salaries .....	\$10,273.17	\$10,978.27	\$ 7,930.53	\$ 3,414.74	\$ 32,596.71
Labor .....	10,329.96	9,284.31	5,514.05	10,715.19	35,743.51
Food Supplies .....	16,542.25	13,880.11	13,058.48	17,604.88	61,085.72
Other Supplies .....	704.87	490.16	495.45	517.67	2,208.15
Laundry .....	906.99	755.98	926.03	847.84	3,436.84
Water softening .....	571.37	128.88	246.54	267.52	1,214.31
Miscellaneous .....	135.64	26.79	33.37	442.04	637.84
Utilities .....	4,500.00	4,500.00	4,500.00	5,422.20	18,922.20
Janitor service .....	2,263.56	2,341.69	2,011.30	2,595.28	9,211.83
Insurance .....	395.90	395.91	260.44	395.91	1,448.16
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$46,623.71</b>	<b>\$42,782.10</b>	<b>\$34,876.19</b>	<b>\$42,223.27</b>	<b>\$166,505.27</b>
<b>NET FROM OPERATIONS</b> .....	<b>\$35,170.00</b>	<b>\$29,273.60</b>	<b>\$33,815.90</b>	<b>\$44,494.72</b>	<b>\$142,754.22</b>
<b>EXPENSES—OCCUPANCY</b>					
Trustees' fees .....	275.00	275.00	275.00	275.00	1,100.00
Interest .....	18,496.76	24,580.87	24,435.00	24,090.00	91,602.63
Repairs from depreciation reserve .....	867.52	635.92	676.98	702.21	2,882.63
New equipment from depreciation reserve .....	408.88	327.92	354.95	1,234.56	2,326.31
Balance from depreciation reserve .....	3,251.72	5,073.57	5,005.60	4,100.70	17,431.65
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$23,299.88</b>	<b>\$30,893.34</b>	<b>\$30,747.53</b>	<b>\$30,402.47</b>	<b>\$115,343.22</b>
<b>GROSS OPERATING PROFIT</b> .....	<b>\$11,870.12 D.</b>	<b>\$ 1,619.74</b>	<b>\$ 3,068.37</b>	<b>\$14,092.25</b>	<b>\$ 27,411.00</b>
<b>BOND REQUIREMENTS</b>					
Retirement .....		\$ 3,750.00	\$ 5,750.00	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 15,500.00
Retirement reserve .....	1,875.00	1,750.00	2,475.00	3,070.00	9,170.00
<b>TOTAL</b> .....	<b>\$ 1,875.00</b>	<b>\$ 5,500.00</b>	<b>\$ 8,225.00</b>	<b>\$ 9,070.00</b>	<b>\$ 24,670.00</b>

## THE CONSTRUCTION NEWS OF INDIANAPOLIS SAYS

Leigh Hunt, Milwaukee, Institute regional representative on the subject of Unification has the distinction of having attended every Indiana Chapter meeting. He reported upon progress of unification which will probably make a considerable gain at the Convention.

The Institute Board of Directors will be petitioned to create a Great Lakes Regional Organization, a plan advanced at the Notre Dame conference.

Press releases from the Institute will be delivered to Clarence T. Myers at Indianapolis for clearance through local newspapers. Volunteer help in maintaining press contacts in all cities in the state will be appreciated by the Editor. Attention given to publicity of the high character provided by the Institute will improve the status of the architect in his community.

## INDIANA PUBLICITY

At a recent meeting of the Indiana Chapter, A.I.A., Mr. Clarence Myers, Secretary to the Construction League of Indianapolis, was designated Chairman of their Publicity Committee.

"Mr. Myers is in a position to render valuable service to the Chapter through The Construction News, official publication of the Chapter which reaches all Indiana architects," E. D. Pierre, Chapter President, stated in making the announcement.

"It is the Chapter's purpose to make use of all the splendid material sent out by Mr. William Orr Ludlow, Chairman of The American Institute of Architects Committee on Public Information and Mr. James T. Grady, Institute Publicist, for circulation both in our publication and in the newspapers," he said.

The Indiana Chapter, under Mr. Pierre has already done outstanding work in publicizing the profession and it is to be hoped that more Chapters will take advantage of the splendid service offered by the Institute Committee.

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PRIVATE LIVES, a daily cartoon by Edwin Cox in The Detroit News, on September 7 showed a picture of Frank Lloyd Wright with the caption, "Most original American Architect is famous Frank Lloyd Wright. Most original of his famous working costumes is this one combining a hooded monk's robe with a tam o' Shanter."



## MARY MAYO HALL, MICH. STATE COLLEGE. OPERATING STATEMENT, YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1935

## REVENUE

	For Student Rooms Only	For Dining Room Only
Room rent—Cash receipts .....	\$34,560.04	
Board—Students .....		\$46,498.46
Staff allowance .....	1,603.98	4,983.00
Miscellaneous income .....	339.51	33.13
	\$36,503.53	\$51,514.59
Less refunds to students .....	599.73	700.40
<b>TOTAL NET REVENUE .....</b>	<b>\$35,903.80</b>	<b>\$50,814.19</b>

## EXPENSES—OPERATING

Salaries—staff .....	\$ 725.00	\$ 2,689.74
Labor—general .....	\$ 10.00	\$ 4,110.78
student .....	1,701.30	6,389.11
	\$ 2,436.30	\$13,189.63
Food supplies .....		17,604.88
Stationery and office supplies .....	39.84	4.18
General supplies .....	74.10	399.55
Laundry .....	384.16	463.68
Water Softener salt .....	267.52	
Postage, telegraph, etc. ....	255.30	144.30
Miscellaneous .....	10.00	12.50
Freight .....		19.94
Janitor—labor .....	\$ 2,137.12	
general supplies .....	330.87	
lavatory supplies .....	108.94	
express .....		
upkeep equipment .....	18.35	
	\$ 2,595.28	
Utility service—M. S. C. ....	3,615.54	\$ 1,806.66
Insurance .....	269.67	126.24
<b>TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSE .....</b>	<b>\$ 9,947.71</b>	<b>\$33,771.56</b>
<b>TOTAL INCOME FROM OPERATIONS .....</b>	<b>\$25,956.09</b>	<b>\$17,042.63</b>

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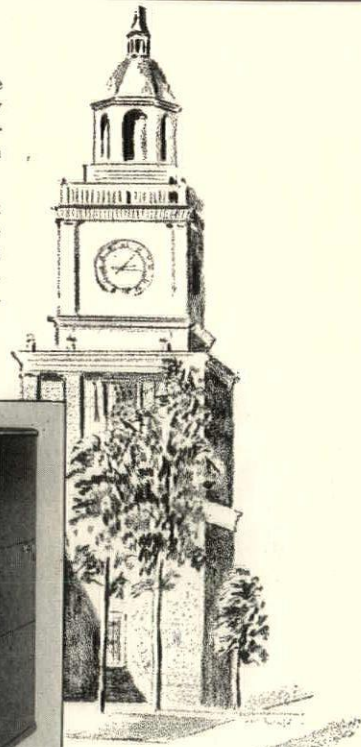
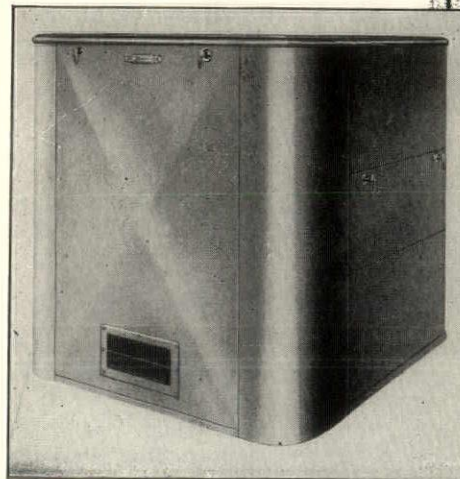
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One sty. store bldg., Lawrence & Hamilton Ave. Gen. Con. let to Pierce-Fader & Co., incl. mech. trades.

Also plans for Theatre, Michigan Ave., Dearborn.

2 sty. Doctors' Clinic, Fort St. & Visgar Ave., Bids closed. Gen. Con. let to Pierce-Fader & Co.; hdw. to John Freeman; air cond. to Domestic Air Cond. Co.; Plumbing to David Goodfriend and electrical work to Rose Electric Co.

Pre. plans housing development, 404 apts. Mackenzie Manor Housing Corp., owners.

2 sty. and bmt. mercantile bldg., Ann Arbor, Mich. Bids closed.

3 sty. and bmt. apt. bldg., Jefferson Ave. Belvidere Land Co., 24 units, Iroquois & Jefferson Aves. Bids closed.

Store bldg., Houston Ave. & Hayes. Contracts let on architectural and mech. trades.

Prep. plans for Commercial Bldg. & 2000 seat Theatre - McNichols & Myers Rd.

Mercantile bldg. located on Gratiot and 7 Mile Rd. Davidson Bros. Inc., owners. 2 sty. and bmt. addition. Following con. let to masonry: Thompson-Schmidt Co.; Iron Waterproofing: Heineman & Lovett; Steel and Iron and Steel stairs: Acorne Iron Wks.; Steel joists & floor lath: Gabriel Steel Co.; Carp. Abe Balbirer; Elevator: Elevator Const. & Serv. Co.; Gypsum roof: U. S. Gypsum Co.; Plbg., heating & sprinkler: Glanz & Killian Co.; Vent. & Air Cond.: J. Brodie & Sons; Elect. Stone Electric. Taking bids on remainder of architectural trades for this job.

Prep. plans for garage and sales room on Mitchell, north of Caniff Ave. for Margolis Auto Sales Co.

**HENNETT & STRAIGHT**—13526 Michigan Avenue. Low bidder on concrete walks, etc., Ecorse School. W.P.A. Project, W. H. Muir; Desks—Amer. Seating Co.

**DES ROSIERS, ARTHUR**, 1414 Maccabees Bldg. Church—St. Thomas & Elizabeth Parish—Oxford & Orion. Bids closed.

**GIFFELS & VALLET, Engineers**,  
**ROSSETTI LOUIS, Associate**, 606 Marquette Bldg. Factory bldg., Wayne Soap Co.—Revised plans.

**HABERMAAS, CARL**, 415 Brainard. Res.—Buckingham Rd., G. P. P. Bids closed. Plans for Garage and Show Room. Res. Grosse Pte Shores, 72'x30'.

**MALCOMSON-CALDER & HAMMOND**, 1219 Griswold. Taking fig. on equipment, School of Music, Michigan State College.

Bids closed on equipment, Bixby Hospital, Adrian. Taking fig. on El. Lights, Western State College, Kalamazoo, Mich.

**MERRITT & COLE**, 1111 Collingwood. Church, Brightmoor, Mich., Taking figures. Fig. on Covenant Lutheran church.

**STAHL, JNO & CO.**, 820 Francis Palms Bldg. Add. to factory bldg.—2 stores—Bids closed. Small church, 36x80—Bids closed.

**WEST, ROBERT J.**, 512 United Artists Bldg., Detroit. 4 sty. & bmt. bldg., Kartsen's Cafeteria & Cafe, 1550 Woodward awarded to Myles Standish Gen. Cont. Prep. plans, 8 fam. terrace, Ready Sept. 15th.

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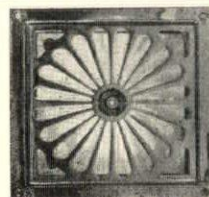
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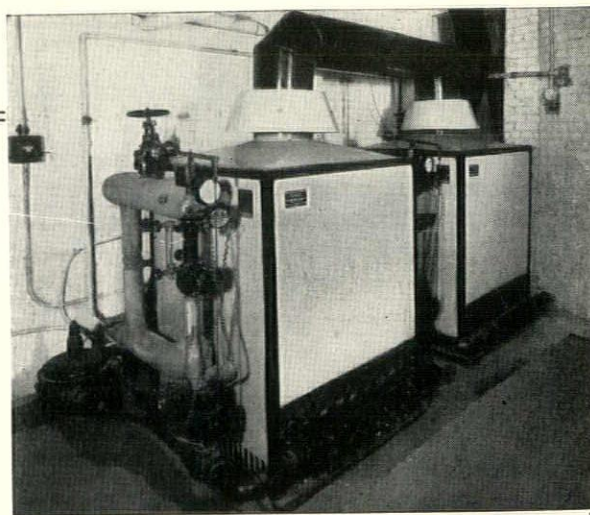
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# WEEKLY BULLETIN



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Volume 13

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 26, 1939

No. 39

### M. S. A. MEETS IN DETROIT

The board of directors of the Michigan Society of Architects met at Hotel Fort Shelby in Detroit, Thursday afternoon, September 14. Directors present were Messrs. Black, Diehl, McConkey, Gabler, Thornton, Hughes, Anderson, Cuthbert, Ditchy, Gamber, Lorch, Morison and Tuttle.



Black

hold a meeting in Marquette in the near future.

Besides other business, reports of the secretary, treasurer and other officers and committee chairmen were heard which indicated that the affairs of the organization are in a very satisfactory state.

William D. Cuthbert of Ann Arbor was elected a delegate from the Society to the A. I. A. Convention in Washington, September 24 to 30. Kenneth C. Black, president of the Society had previously been elected the other delegate.



Diehl

F. Diehl, Division president, presided. Those present

This represented a large majority of board members and it was encouraging to have the attendance of those from throughout the state, some from distant points. For instance, there was represented Detroit, Lansing, Ann Arbor, Marquette and Battle Creek.

Mr. David E. Anderson of Marquette received the prize for having come the farthest, the prize being the promise by President Black to



at this meeting were Messrs. Frank Wright, Blakeslee, Gies, Caldwell, Thulin, Gabler, Chester Baumann, Morison, Cuthbert, Gamber, Harold Kiefer, Hughes, Lorch, D. E. Anderson, Ditchy, Diehl, Thornton, Tuttle, Black, Pickell, Van Reyndam and Hyde. Messrs. Paul Marshall and Bill Harms represented our good friends, the Producers' Council.

President Diehl stated that we were honored to have the board of directors with us and particularly called attention to Mr. Anderson from the Upper Peninsula. He also recognized the Producers' and called upon Paul Marshall for a few words. Paul reported plans for resumption of the regular Building Industry Luncheons and the meeting went on record favoring such a move.

Mr. Marshall was requested to work with our entertainment committee to complete arrangements.

Frank Wright, as chairman of that committee, reported that several interesting programs for future meetings were being worked out.

Talmage Hughes reported on Publicity, Professor Lorch on Allied Arts and other committee chairmen also accounted for work being done for the Division.

Pickell

See MSA MEETING—(Cont'd. on Page 4)



### Division Meeting

Following adjournment of the board meeting at 6:30 P. M. most of the board members joined with the Detroit Division, M. S. A., for dinner at the Fort Shelby. George

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SUN., MON., TUES. OCT. 1, 2 & 3  
Sonja Henie—Tyrone Power—Rudy Vallee  
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## ARCHITECTS VIEW WAR OUTLOOK

An expression from various Detroit architects concerning the possible effects of the European War on their profession and the building industry indicated that they all so much regret this catastrophe that they do not want to be quoted as saying they expect an improvement in business conditions, lest such an expression be construed as a hope, reports Talmage C. Hughes, Secretary, Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects.

Nevertheless, he finds that the question is uppermost in the minds of many, and few who do not have decided opinions.

"From general opinion it seems inevitable," Hughes says, "that an extended war, even though confined to Europe, is bound to draw on this country for materials and supplies of all kinds. As a result, it is believed prices will rise and increased activity in every line will result with investments in buildings reflecting the trends of the stock market and other commodities and showing an increase on a rising market."

One architect relates a conversation with a real estate salesman, who upon outbreak of the war felt that his many possibilities for sales of lots would no longer be live prospects. The salesman related that he later found the opposite to be true, that instead of holding back they decided that prices were due for an increase and deals were closed immediately.

"If industrial plants are to receive larger orders they will require not only additional facilities for their own plants but the increased personnel will have to be housed, whereas most localities already have a housing shortage," a prominent architect is quoted as saying.

Another pointed out that in many cases the effects will, undoubtedly, be indirect, as some of the agencies who have heretofore furnished architectural services, perhaps not so much because they wanted to as because they felt it necessary to get business, will be busily engaged in their own lines, leaving architectural work to our profession.

## DETROIT BUILDING CODE

George F. Emery, Chief Building Inspector, Detroit Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering, is conducting a course on "Interpretation and Application of the Detroit Building Code and other related laws and ordinances relative to the construction, maintenance and use of buildings" at Wayne University.

The course for which the fees are three dollars will be held each Wednesday evening at 7:00 o'clock in room 158 at the University, covering a period of twenty weeks.

This course should be of particular interest to architects and their employees.

Other courses at Wayne include: Surveying (Elementary), L. V. Jewell, instructor; Theory of Structures, M. F. Lindeman, instructor; Construction Cost Analysis and Estimating, Stephen D. Butts, instructor; Legal Aspects of Engineering Problems, Walter C. Sadler, instructor and Introduction to City Planning, Alex L. Trout, instructor.

Information regarding these courses may be obtained from Dudley Newton, Room 185, in the Main Building of the University, corner of Cass and Warren Avenues, Detroit.

**WANTED—Structural Engineer to teach Structural Steel one evening per week—Call UN. 2-5566**

## ON THE AIR

### TUNE TO WWJ—THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 9:00 A. M.

Miss Dorothy Spicer of that station, conducting a Women's program, will interview Talmage C. Hughes, on architectural subjects of interest to laymen.

## ONE FOR RIPLEY

The October issue of *Better Homes and Gardens* carries a story, interestingly written, by Agnes C. O'Dell, wife of Detroit's prominent architect, H. Augustus O'Dell, about a Detroit couple, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Stone, who found the home they wanted in *Better Homes and Gardens*, handed their architect the money to build it and hiked off to Florida until it was ready for them to occupy.



O'Dell

The story, entitled "Sight Unseen," relates that after acquiring the lot and settling a minimum of details they departed for the sunny Southland, thereby saving themselves and the architect a possible heap of trouble, worry and constant trips to the building site.

"Not that building a home need entail any of these things for the owner," says Mrs. O'Dell, "but so often the owners make it so for themselves by daily changes that irritate the architect and contractors and send costs hiking."

From the beautiful illustrations it is easy to see that Gus outdid himself, as what architect wouldn't? He was described as "eager as a boy," as on the day of their homecoming he hid in waiting behind a tree to get their reactions unobserved. "When they stepped from their car and stood to take their first look," the story concludes, "Mrs. Stone turned to her husband and said delightedly, 'It's really our dream come true!'"



Moss

The residence of Talmage C. Hughes, architect, is also shown in the October *Better Homes and Gardens*.

Another interesting illustrated story in this same issue depicts the work of Thomas W. Moss, Plymouth architect, in restoring an eighty-year-old home in that Detroit Suburb.

## "STREAMLINED SPECIFICATIONS"

Horace W. Peaslee of Washington, D. C., has a very interesting article in the August *Pencil Points* wherein he shows how specifications can be made much briefer.

The method, worked out by experience in his own practice and supported by legal opinion, entails the use of a general clause stating that "Contractors shall provide, perform, install, etc." which obviates the necessity of repetition so common to most specifications.

Following this the specifications can be made to cover in a few words items which otherwise would be profuse with legal sounding verbiage, which discourages the reader.



## RECENTLY REGISTERED ARCHITECTS

**Cousins, J. Lester** - 825 Tuckerman St., N. W., Washington, D. C.

Born Nov. 11, 1901, New Orleans, La.

Attended Carnegie Institute of Technology 3½ yrs.

Registered by examination May 28th, 1930. Failed to renew registration when expired January 1, 1930—granted reregistration August 23, 1939.

Employed by architects in Pittsburgh, Detroit and Washington, D. C. At present employed by N. C. Wyeth, Washington D. C.—job captain and designer.

**Ackley, Charles M.** - 508 Third Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pa. Born Sept. 11, 1910, Marcus, Washington.

Graduated Carnegie Institute of Tech. 1936-BA.

Registered by reciprocity Aug. 23, 1939, on basis of registration in Pennsylvania by examination.

1933 to date employed by Harold Bradley, Arch., Pittsburgh, Pa.

**Brand, Herbert Amery** - 400 W. Madison St., Chicago, Illinois.

Born April 5, 1885, Danville, Ill.

Graduated University of Ill. 1908-BS in C. E.

Evening School - Art Institute of Chicago - design 1910.

6 weeks travel in England, Germany and France 1931.

Member Chicago Chapter A.I.A.

Registered by reciprocity August 23, 1939, on basis of registration in Illinois by examination.

Began practice of architecture as a principal June 1917.

**di Nardo, Antonio** - 801 Union Bldg., Cleveland, O.

Born Feb. 1, 1889, Italy (became citizen 1898 at Philadelphia).

Attended School of Industrial Art of Pennsylvania Museum, Philadelphia, for two or three years, and Beau Arts Institute of Design, Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts 2 yrs.

In Europe 4 mos in 1923, 3 mos, 1928 and 14 mos 1932-1933.

Registered by reciprocity Aug. 23, 1939, on basis of registration in New York and Ohio.

Established own office in 1922.

1920-21 Professor of Architecture, Carnegie Institute of Tech. Off and on for eight or ten years critic in design, School of Architecture Western Reserve University, Cleveland, 1937-38 Critic in Design, John Huntington Polytechnic Inst., Cleveland. 1910-11 winner John Stewardson Memorial Scholarship - one year's study in Europe.

## BIGGEST NEWS OF THE YEAR

From The Saturday Evening Post

On June thirtieth \$93,000 was turned back into the Treasury—appropriated money not spent by a Government body.

Congress appropriated \$9,740,000 for the construction of the new Supreme Court building, this for the construction alone.

Congress established a commission consisting of two justices, the Acting Comptroller-General, a senator, a representative, a former senator and the architect of the Capitol to direct the work.

The building was completed for \$343,000 less than the sum allotted. The commission sought and got Congress' permission to apply the unexpended balance toward furnishing the building. This was done for \$250,000. The remainder was returned to Mr. Morgenthau's vaults at the end of the fiscal year.

This in the city of Washington in the year 1939.

**Editor's Note:** Incidentally, Cass Gilbert was the architect.

## CONDEMN "DUMPING" OF UNSAFE PLUMBING ON RURAL DISTRICTS

Action should be taken by appropriate state authorities to prevent the "dumping" of unsafe plumbing fixtures barred from cities upon villages and rural communities, the American Public Health Association asserts in a report of the Public Health Engineering Section.

The committee points out that, whereas the health departments in the larger cities will not permit the installation of unsafe plumbing fixtures, persons living beyond the city limits do not have such protection, unless there is a state plumbing code which is enforced by a staff of competent inspectors.

All plumbing fixtures should be proof against siphonage, that is, the possible sucking of polluted water into the drinking water supply lines, the committee declares.

"In new buildings it is practicable through the use of definite air gaps to give 100 per cent protection against back siphonage," the committee says. "In existing buildings, local conditions should determine the degree of protection which is feasible and practicable."

"Water superintendents should cooperate with the health authorities in preventing future sources of water contamination from plumbing, and in locating and eliminating existing ones."

"Public health workers should seek to educate the public on the need for safe plumbing, encourage further studies, and promote more adequate and effective plumbing inspection."

Major Joel I. Connolly, assistant to the president, Chicago Board of Health, is chairman of the Public Health Engineering Section of the American Public Health Association.

## BEAUX-ARTS BALL

The Beaux-Arts Institute of Design is planning a Ball to be held at the Ritz-Carlton Hotel, New York, on the evening of January 26th, 1940. The net proceeds of this Ball, which will be by invitation only, will be devoted principally to the educational work of the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design, but if the war in Europe should continue, a part of the proceeds may be donated to the alleviation of suffering in France.

Mr. William E. Shepherd, chairman of the Committee on Invitations, issues an invitation to Michigan Architects to take part in this outstanding event.

The Executive Committee for the Ball is as follows: A. Musgrave Hyde, Chairman; Lewis G. Adams; C. Kenneth Clinton; Wm. Richard P. Delano; Frederick G. Frost; Irving D. Harris; J. Monroe Hewlett; Caleb Hornbostel; Robert S. Hutchins; Alexander P. Morgan; T. Merrill Prentice; William E. Shepherd; Seth Talcott.

A Delegation of Michigan Architects are in attendance at the A. I. A. Convention in Washington this week.

The Annual Meeting of the Detroit Chapter will be held at the Fort Shelby October 18th. We may expect to hear reports of delegates at that time.

## MSA MEETING—(Cont'd. from Page 1)

Kenneth Black, president of the M. S. A., stated that in his visits to other sections of the country he was always proud of our own state society.

F. Gordon Pickell, first president of the M. S. A., made a brief but interesting talk, and the meeting adjourned promptly at 9 o'clock.



## COPY OF RESOLUTIONS

unanimously passed by

## NEW JERSEY CHAPTER, A.I.A.

at its regular meeting held on September 14, 1939.

WHEREAS, a letter from the U. S. Housing Authority dated August 24, 1939, and addressed to the local housing authorities has been brought to the attention of the New Jersey Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, and the New Jersey Society of Architects in joint meeting assembled and

WHEREAS, the aforementioned letter announces the proposed revision downward of recommended fees for architects engaged on projects initiated by and under the said authorities, and whereas the prevailing standards were determined by the U. S. H. A. in cooperation with the A. I. A. now therefore be it

RESOLVED: that the New Jersey Chapter, The American Institute of Architects and the New Jersey Society of Architects express themselves as unalterably opposed to any reduction in the schedule of fees for architects in connection with U. S. H. A. projects, feeling that the now established fees, determined under Schedule A, are as low as are consistent with architectural service such as is required, particularly as the present schedule is somewhat below the prevailing accepted fees for architectural services, and be it further

RESOLVED: that this resolution be forwarded to the parent body of the A. I. A. with the urgent request that the Institute take aggressive action opposing this revision, and that copies be sent to all Chapters of the A. I. A.

## FEDERAL WORKS AGENCY

## PUBLIC BUILDINGS ADMINISTRATION

The Jury's awards in the second Regional Architectural Competition were approved by John M. Carmody, Federal Works Administrator, W. E. Reynolds, Commissioner of Public Buildings announced today.

Harry F. Manning, 5220 North Kenmore avenue, Chicago, was recommended by the jury as the winner of the competition which called for the design of a new Post Office, Court House and Custom House building for Evansville, Indiana. The building will be constructed by the Public Buildings Administration at an estimated cost of \$600,000. Mr. Manning, as winner, will receive a fee of \$6,000. He will also receive an additional payment of \$6,000 when he is called upon to act as Consultant to the Office of the Supervising Architect in the preparation of the actual working drawings and building specifications.

The jury also recommended honorable mention be awarded to Skidmore and Owings, 104 South Michigan avenue, Chicago; Mellenbrook, Foley and Scott, 26 Front street, Berea, Ohio; and Paul Gerhardt, Jr., of the firm of Lester Johnson and John H. McAuliffe, Jr., Associates, 121 North La Salle street, Chicago.

Aside from the honorable mentions, a special commendation was made by the jury of the design submitted by Martin Meyer and Matthew Lapota, 139 North Clark street, Chicago.

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## COURT DEFINES "PRACTICE OF LAW"

The Supreme Court of Michigan recently defined the practice of law by affirming a lower court decision restraining Henry Denkema, of Grand Rapids, from serving as an "intermediary" between a "Holland clientele that have confidence in me" and those clients' attorneys.

The Bar Association of Grand Rapids obtained an injunction against Denkema, who testified before the lower court that he had assisted in preparing wills and other legal documents and given legal opinions for fees for 40 years in connection with his real estate and insurance business.

"The practice of law is not confined to practice in the courts of the State," the Supreme Court ruled, "but it includes the preparation of pleadings and other papers incidental to any action or special pleading in any court or other judicial body, conveyancing, the preparation of all legal instruments of all kinds whereby a legal right is received, the rendering of opinions as to the validity or invalidity of title to real estate or personal property, the giving of legal advice in any action taken for other in any matter connected with law."

Justice William W. Potter prepared the opinion. Two justices, Walter H. North and Howard Wiest, concurred in the findings, but expressed the belief Justice Potter's definition was too broad.

## ELECTRICAL LAW KILLED

The Supreme Court has invalidated the State electrical-inspection law. The ruling was based on the ground that it discriminated unfairly against small electricity users with an unconstitutional delegation of legislative powers.

The decision puts an end to the activities of the Electrical Administration Board, which has been under re-organization. Charges of laxity in administration are pending against one board member, while four others have resigned.

The board's duties have been to inspect installations in areas where no municipal inspections existed. The Court based its chief objection on the fact that the law exempted from inspection installations built to carry more than 10 kilowatts.

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## ARCHITECTS' REPORTS

**AGREE, CHAS. N.**, 1140 Book Tower, Detroit.  
Theatre, Michigan avenue, Dearborn.  
Housing development, 404 apts., Mackenzie Manor Housing Corp., owners. — Plans completed. Sent to Washington for approval.  
2 sty. and bmt. mercantile bldg., Ann Arbor, Mich. Bids closed.  
3 sty. and bmt. apt. bldg., Jefferson Ave. Belvidere Land Co., 24 units, Iroquois & Jefferson Aves. Bids closed.  
Prep. plans for Commercial Bldg. & 2000 seat Theatre - McNichols & Myers Rd.  
Garage and sales room on Mitchell, north of Caniff ave., for Margolis Auto Sales Co., Taking figures.  
**DES ROSIERS, ARTHUR**, 1414 Maccabees Bldg.  
Church—St. Thomas & Elizabeth Parish—Oxford & Orion. — Contract let.  
**GIFFELS & VALLET, Engineers**.  
**ROSSETTI LOUIS, Associate**, 606 Marquette Bldg.  
Factory bldg., Wayne Soap Co.—Held over.  
Bids closed on extension to building. — Roman Cleanser Co.  
Bids close Oct. 11 on power piping — Municipal plant Holland, Mich.  
**HABERMAS, CARL**, 415 Brainard.  
Res., Buckingham Rd., G.P.P. Bids closed. Held over.  
Plans for Garage and Show Room. Held over.  
Res. Grosse Pte Shores, 72'x30'.  
**KEYES, HUGH T.**—747 Free Press Bldg.  
Taking fig. on Res. for Mrs. Gilbert W. Lee, Lee Gate G. P. F.  
**MALCOMSON-CALDER & HAMMOND**, 1219 Griswold.  
Fig. on equipment, School of Music, Michigan State College, Due Sept. 22.  
El. Lights, Western State College, Kalamazoo, Mich., Con. let to Hall El. Co.  
**MERRITT & COLE**, 1111 Collingwood.  
Church, Brightmoor, Mich., Figures closed.  
Fig. on Covenant Lutheran Church. Closed.  
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WEEKLY BULLETIN

## PUBLIC INFORMATION

It is quite generally agreed that the public are now more interested in architectural matters than ever before, particularly in such subjects as housing, the small home, city planning, etc.

Accordingly, the newspapers and radio stations are receptive to such material as a public service. Such an opportunity is of great importance to our profession and should not be overlooked.

We have had two broadcasts in Detroit, which have created considerable interest both locally and nationally. Mr. William Orr Ludlow, chairman of the Institute's Committee on Public Information, requested 100 reprints which he sent to all chapters suggesting they do likewise. Indianapolis recently started a series and so did Southern California. Chicago recently had five such broadcasts and others are being planned.

As a result of our previous broadcasts we have been invited to have an architect speak on a new program being planned by Miss Dorothy Spicer of Station WWJ. The first interview will be at 9 A.M., October 5th. This is a woman's program and it is expected that architects will be interviewed at intervals about planning the home, civic beauty and other architectural subjects of interest.

The series of talks at the Detroit Institute of Arts this fall are the best sort of publicity. Three have been scheduled for this fall and it is expected that others will be scheduled after Christmas.

With Detroit represented on the board of directors of the Institute by Clair W. Ditchy a great deal of credit as well as favorable publicity has come to Detroit. One of the outstanding examples was his inauguration of a Mid-West Conference of Architects which will, undoubtedly, result in a permanent organization.

This meeting at Notre Dame was publicized widely nationally as the speakers were men of importance in the profession and what they had to say made real news.

The reason we were able to publicize this meeting so effectively is because of cooperation of the speakers in furnishing manuscripts in advance. They were then sent to the Associated Press, United Press and International News Service, as well as to many newspapers with a release date in advance. That is what Mr. Grady refers to as "long range spot reporting," meaning that the story could be written and speakers quoted just as if the reporter had been at the meeting. The response showed that newspapers appreciated this kind of service.



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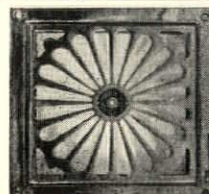
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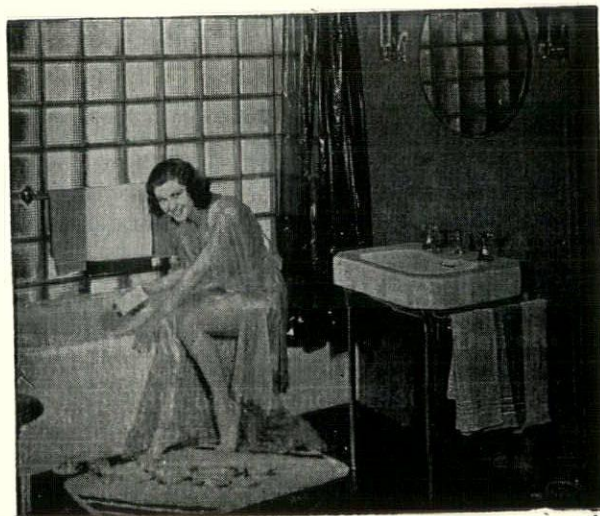
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