

341
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WEEKLY BULLETIN



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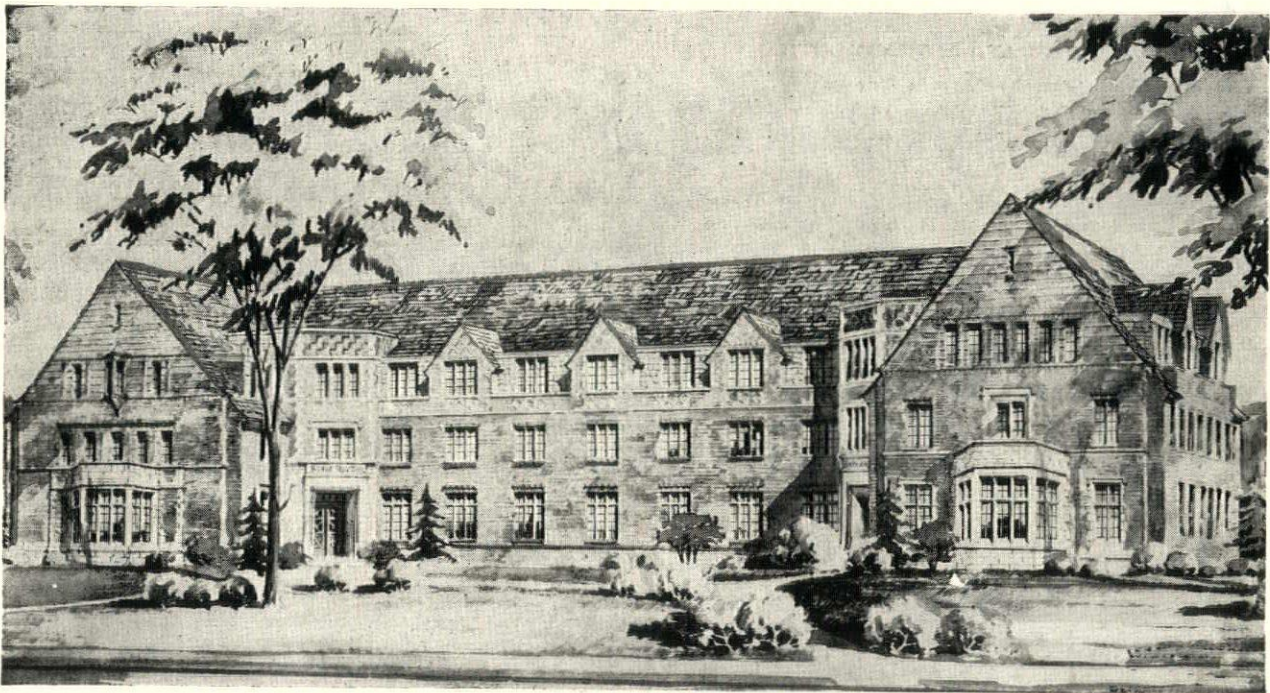
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Entered as second-class matter Dec. 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Mich., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Volume 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, FEBRUARY 3, 1942

No. 5



GIRLS' DORMITORY AND HEALTH SERVICE BUILDING
CENTRAL MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
MOUNT PLEASANT, MICHIGAN

C. William Palmer, Architect

See Pages 6 to 9

ARCHITECTS

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TUES., WED., THURS.

FEB. 3, 4, 5

Orson Welles

"CITIZEN KANE"

FRI., SAT.

FEB. 6, 7

Robert Preston—Nancy Kelly

"PARACHUTE BATTALION"

SATURDAY

11 P. M.

Joan Davis—"TWO LATINS FROM MANHATTAN"

SUN., MON., TUES.

FEB. 8, 9, 10

Irene Dunne—Robert Montgomery

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DETROIT ARCHITECTS HEAR OBERWARTH

A.I.A. Chapter given views of Regional Director—before and after he took office.

Some observations and misgivings of an ordinary, practicing architect, facing all of the problems which are so real and vital to the rank and file of our profession, were given some forty members of the Detroit Chapter, A. I. A., at their dinner meeting in the Wardell, Wednesday evening, January 21, by C. Julian Oberwarth, Regional Director for the Institute's Great Lakes District.

At the outset of his talk Mr. Oberwarth stated that during the first few months of his directorship he had undertaken to set down some of his thoughts as a corporate member, to serve as a guide during his tenure of office.

Emil Lorch, F.A.I.A., president of the Chapter, opened the meeting by calling the names of new members present. They were Messrs. L. R. Bennett, Lyle S. Cole, Barry L. Frost, Earl G. Meyer, Paul R. Sewell, Eugene D. Straight and Clair A. Stuchell. He also recognized Walter K. Johnson and Linn C. Smith, members of the Chapter's Student Branch at Ann Arbor. The president referred to the high character of the new members being admitted.

Following a progress report from J. Ivan Dise, newly appointed chairman of the Chapter's Civilian Protection Committee, the meeting immediately proceeded to the business of the evening, that of hearing Mr. Oberwarth's report. As the speaker completed one phase the president called upon a Chapter member to comment upon it. By previous arrangement, chairmen of committees had been furnished copies of the report, and they had prepared to lead discussions pertinent to their committee activities. In addition, all members were given opportunity to add their comments, and most of those present availed themselves.

Emergency

The first item was National Emergency, and Mr. Oberwarth noted the architects' spirit of amazing courage and fidelity to all our ideals in the face of threatened disaster. This almost unexpressed, but clearly discernable, fear for the immediate future he described as entirely justified.

"A combination of public and private work has made possible a continuation of conditions better than were to be expected, but this condition will not hold much longer unless the emergency ends or more and fairer diversion of defense construction to private architects is accomplished," he said.

Pointing to the Institute as the national leader of the profession, he advocated that its benefits and accomplishments be directed first to those who qualify themselves for membership and pay dues to its support. He strongly favored the forming of groups qualified to handle defense contracts.

Marcus R. Burrowes, F.A.I.A., was asked to supplement Mr. Oberwarth's statement on this subject. Mr. Burrowes was very concise in saying that we are at war, and cannot expect to lead a normal existence until it is over. He was, therefore, frankly pessimistic about the immediate future for architecture. He said he still had one client, an industrialist with defense contracts. When the client requested more office equipment, including steel stools, he was told he would have to use soap boxes. "We are now in the soap box stage," Burrowes said, "And we will have to make the most of it, and do our best, wholeheartedly, to win the war."



Oberwarth



Lorch



Dise

When man starts to kill man private business is of no consequence."

He believed it logical for the large offices to get practically all defense work, because of the time element, doubting that it was possible for newly formed groups to function quickly and efficiently. These statements were challenged by several members. Branson V. Gamber pointed out that such groups had done Government housing, while George F. Diehl cited other organizations already functioning, in which no members are architects. They hired the architects, he said, and the heads were "No more competent than anyone at this meeting."



Burrowes

Membership

Mr. Oberwarth next spoke on Membership, referring to the medical and legal profession by saying that membership is in direct proportion to what a practitioner feels he gets for his dues. He cited the medics' 85% membership and the lawyers' 2% as examples. "The architects' 20% indicates that they are undecided," he added. "Larger membership and more funds would result in greater benefits and lower dues, and so a concerted effort should be made to enlist all those who are willing to maintain a decent standard of practice, and are able to pay the dues," the speaker concluded, in urging that all effort be directed to enlisting the best qualified first, as an inducement to others.

This subject being closely connected with unification, C. William Palmer was asked to comment. He reviewed it in brief and asked Secretary Malcolm R. Stirton to read an interim report of Kenneth C. Black, chairman of the Joint Unification Committee.

Following a resume of the Committee's progress to date, Mr. Black added some of his personal opinions, which were so thought-provoking that we reprint them here, in full, with the understanding that they have not been acted upon by the Chapter, by its board or by its Committee on Unification.

Mr. Black on Unification

"For the purpose of pointing out the fact that instead of being a radical proposal, the proposed Michigan plan is in reality the most advantageous compromise that can be made with a minimum change to existing Institute procedure, I would like to take this opportunity to

See OBERWARTH—Page 4



Gamber



Diehl

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— in —
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OBERWARTH—(Continued from Page 3)



Palmer

state my own views on the subject. I wish to emphasize that they are personal views arrived at after extensive discussion of this subject with both Institute and non-Institute members throughout the state. They will undoubtedly be considered as really radical by many Institute members, but they will serve to point up what I sincerely believe must be the ultimate solution to this problem.

"To begin with, although it may be heresay for me, a director of this chapter, to say so, I honestly believe that the American Institute of Architects in its present form has outlived its usefulness to the profession of architecture in the United States.

"The Institute was formed at a time when there were probably fewer well-trained architects in the entire country than there are now in the City of Detroit alone. It was formed at a time when opportunities for architectural education were very limited, and before anyone had even considered the idea of State Registration laws. During the course of its history, it has been a most potent force in the development of architectural education, in the formulation of professional documents, in the furtherance of State Registration laws and in the setting up of standards of ethics and conduct which are essential to the building up of any profession.

"It is a fact that in addition to accomplishing these worthy advancements for the profession, however, the Institute has tended to become an exclusive mutual admiration society, and as such, it cannot adequately represent the profession in the type of society we live in today. To many architects who are members of the Institute, and to most architects who are not members, it often appears that the major objective of the Institute is the preservation of a society for the awarding of medals to those of its members who have had the distinction of being architects for buildings adorned with the most beautiful cartouches designed in the United States.

"The social revolution which has occurred in this country during the past ten years has left the American Institute of Architects, together with many other fine old American customs and organizations, in the category of a piece of antique furniture. It was wonderful in its day, and it probably still looks good, if you like antiques.

"This social revolution has, it seems to me, left the Institute with only two alternatives: It should either change its form and function so that, in addition to promoting ethics and artistic achievement, it can adequately represent all architects in the United States as a trade association; or it should retire into its academic shell and leave the field free for the formation of another organization which can perform that function.

"I think the time is fast approaching when the bars to Institute membership should not only be lowered, but should be thrown away. Under existing conditions of education and registration, it seems to me that the only requirement for full corporate membership in the Institute should be that a man is registered to practice architecture in the state where he lives, and that he is willing and able to pay dues. I think that as soon as a student enrolls in a college of architecture which is approved by the Institute's Committee on Education, he should automatically be enrolled as a member in a Student Chapter in that Institution. When he receives his diploma, he should be enrolled automatically as an associate or junior member of the A. I. A. and should remain in that category until he is eligible to take an examination for registration.



Stirton

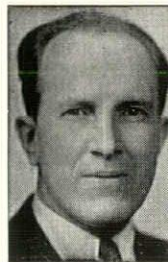


Black

"In addition to changing the requirements for membership to the form outlined above, I think the political organization of the Institute should be changed to provide for one Chapter in each state, with these State Chapters being self-governing and permitted to have as many Divisions as may be necessary to properly serve the profession in the State. In addition, groups of states having contiguous boundaries should be formed into Regions. Under this type of organization, the Board of Directors of the State Chapters should be made up of representatives of the local Divisions in proportion to the number of active members in each Division. Boards of Directors should be established for the Regions composed of representatives elected by State Boards of Directors in proportion to the numbers of active members in each State. The National Board of Directors should be elected by the Regional Boards with representation based upon the number of active members in the Region.

"In contrasting these suggestions with the present policy of the Institute in these matters, it will be seen that the proposed Michigan plan is a very mild departure from Institute tradition. It is the first step, however, in the working out of some scheme which should achieve the desired results within the framework of the Institute and should be an effective means of forestalling the formation of a competing organization."

So wrote Kenneth Black, and let us reiterate that they are his opinions. To say that there may be some who differ with him is perhaps an understatement, for it created a bombshell in a mild sort of way. Clair Ditchy, Mr. Oberwarth's predecessor, differed and defended the Institute by saying it was not some abstract thing, but all of us. "Ken Black is just as much the Institute as is anyone else," he said, "and when we talk about the Institute that way we are only talking about ourselves."



Ditchy

He pointed to the many fine accomplishments of the Institute over a long period, adding that the Detroit Chapter was "a pretty live corpse."

Ken was not there to talk back, and we were sorry he was not, for, knowing him as we do, we believe he would have had some pretty good answers. Without appearing to take sides we might speculate that he would say, "All right, we are talking about ourselves. Let's talk about ourselves, it's well to take stock now and then, and whether we are talking about ourselves or others doesn't change the situation."

We invite further comment on Mr. Black's "Interim Report," and, unless I am a poor judge, there will be plenty of them.

Institute Service

Under Institute Service Mr. Oberwarth advocated a full-time secretary whose duty it would be to obtain commissions for members, and members only; a full-time secretary of the technical service department to obtain and make available to members the results of tests of materials and products; a full-time secretary to edit and publish the journal of the Institute and to otherwise publicize the profession; a full-time secretary for administrative work; placing more responsibility in the committees, the chapters and the board members, and changing the time of submitting committee reports to an earlier date, requiring that each chapter study them and make recommendations to the board and to the convention.

With this last suggestion Talmage C. Hughes, chairman of the Institute's Public Information Committee, heartily agreed. "It is what our Committee has advocated, as the greatest impetus to our work. In past procedure we can only obtain reports at convention, bring them home to read, and find them full of the most interesting things which, if we had known before, would have changed our



Hughes

whole outlook at convention," he said. "Further, if they were released early enough to brief and put into newspaper stories they could be given the press before, during and after convention, with the result of greatly increasing the volume and character of such coverage."

Finances

The Institute's finances was the next subject discussed by Director Oberwarth, and he referred to his enumeration of Institute Services as the objectives to which funds might be directed. At this point he said, "I fail to find any mental relief in trying to scrape any money out of the expenditure side of the figures. It would be hard to find sufficient words of praise for the grand job being done by Edward Kemper and his staff." This brought a round of applause.



Thornton

John C. Thornton, treasurer of the Michigan Society of Architects, in response to President Lorch's request, expressed some thoughts on this part of the report. He stated that, while he found the Institute's financial statement a bit puzzling, he would not adversely criticize it. "Too many people see only one side, when the other side is just as important," Thornton stated, adding that a dollar spent can be just as good a dollar as the one in the treasury, and even better if spent wisely.

Outside Competition

Under the heading of Outside Competition, Mr. Oberwarth enumerated the various interests that are taking work that justly belongs to the architects. Nearly all on the list are directly benefitted by the work architects do, he said.

"Every time an architect gets a commission those opposing interests, outside the profession, get 20 commissions," the speaker pointed out.

"It appears that every time 21 projects are started an army of material dealers and what not are brought into play to preach the gospel that an architect is not necessary—and 20 of the prospects are convinced."

The speaker brought out the fact that every time a bill of lumber for an architect's plan goes to a lumber company that furnishes plans, a part of the overhead is charged for plan service. Thus the owner is paying for something he doesn't get. He suggested a system of discounts to the owner, in such cases.

Mr. Henry F. Stanton commented upon this by saying that what is needed most is better architecture. He believes that if all architects were better architects the public would be drawn to them.

Registration

Preparation for Registration was the final subject covered by Mr. Oberwarth. He mentioned that at the last convention a resolution was directed toward greater chapter activity in directing the course of aspirants for registration, which has been difficult because of territorial differences. Mr. Oberwarth was Chairman of the Institute's Committee on Registration until he became director. He has had wide experience in this field and was responsible, single-handed and with his own financing, for the preparation and passage of the Kentucky law. He was appointed a member of their first Registration Board and elected its first secretary and treasurer. He is the only surviving member of the original board, having been appointed by four successive governors. He continued with a number of suggestions including post-



Morison

college training courses for candidates, that chapters aid in such courses, and that candidates be given practical instructions under guidance of leading practitioners.

Andrew R. Morison, member of the Michigan State Board of Examiners for Architects, spoke on this point, stating that he did not believe the object should be to make it easier to become registered, but rather to endeavor to insure that those who do become registered are fully qualified. He believes that any improvement should come from our present educational institutions.

Mr. Oberwarth's thoroughness and his comprehensive survey of Institute activities held the interest of everyone to the very end, and even to discussion in an informal way after the meeting adjourned. Our director is giving an unusual amount of time and taking his job most seriously. He states that what he desires is to find out what members and chapters in his district want him to do.

Annual Meeting, Detroit Division, MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Wardell Apartment Hotel

WEDNESDAY EVE., FEBRUARY 4, 1942

Dinner at 6:30 P. M. \$1.50 (all inclusive)

Program begins at 8:00 P. M. Members who are unable to attend the dinner will be welcome at the meeting to follow.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS: Branson V. Gamber, Lyle S. Cole and Talmage C. Hughes have been named as a nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers and one director to be voted upon at the annual meeting. Other nominations may be made from the floor.

Nominations have been made as follows:

For President	<div> Cornelius L. T. Gabler Frank H. Wright </div>
For Vice-president	L. Robert Blakeslee
For Secretary	Lyle S. Cole
For Treasurer	<div> Earl W. Pellerin Eberle M. Smith </div>
For Exec. Secretary	Talmage C. Hughes
For Director	<div> Chester L. Baumann Joseph W. Leinweber </div>

ANNUAL REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

DETROIT DIVISION

Michigan Society of Architects

REPORT OF THE SECRETARY

L. Robert Blakeslee

The Board of Directors of the Detroit Division, Michigan Society of Architects, have met five times during the past year at the offices of Herman & Simons, for the purpose of carrying on the general business of the Division.

There were three regular meetings of the Division. The first of these, held at the Intercollegiate Club on June 9, 1941, was a joint meeting with the State Society. At this meeting the changes to the By-Laws of the Michigan Society of Architects were accepted, and reports were given by the delegates to the A.I.A. convention in California.

The second meeting was held October 29, 1941, at Fort Shelby Hotel. A very interesting discussion was held on the question of architectural practice.

The third meeting, held November 25, 1941, at the Wardell, was preceded by a complimentary dinner and color talk

See REPORTS—Page 9

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C. William Palmer, Architect

At the opening of the college year this fall, this building, with an exterior of English design, was opened as one more unit to the college.

Doctor Charles L. Anspach, president, gives the following brief description of this unit, which houses a dormitory for 150 girls and a health center, each having its individual entrance and operating separately.

The dormitory wing contains a lounge 37'x50', two reception rooms 16'x24', matron's quarters, four large conference rooms, recreation room in the basement, and 75 double dormitory rooms.

Each dormitory room has a built-in dresser and is tastefully furnished with a double student desk, two single beds, a student lamp, an easy chair, and two student chairs.

The health service wing contains a spacious lobby, laboratory, doctor's suite, several examination rooms, and two resident nurses' suites laid out so that the student may have a complete physical examination in this unit as he enters college.

The infirmary, which is a part of this unit, contains two three-bed wards, and two private rooms where a student may have complete health service during the school year. The latest modern equipment for hospital service is housed in this unit and is an asset to this college which operates under the Michigan State Board of Education, of which Dr. Eugene B. Elliott is secretary.

Doctor Anspach considers this the last word in student dormitories as the architect, C. William Palmer, having had experience on other dormitories, has combined all the advantages in other dormitory buildings constructed during the past few years.

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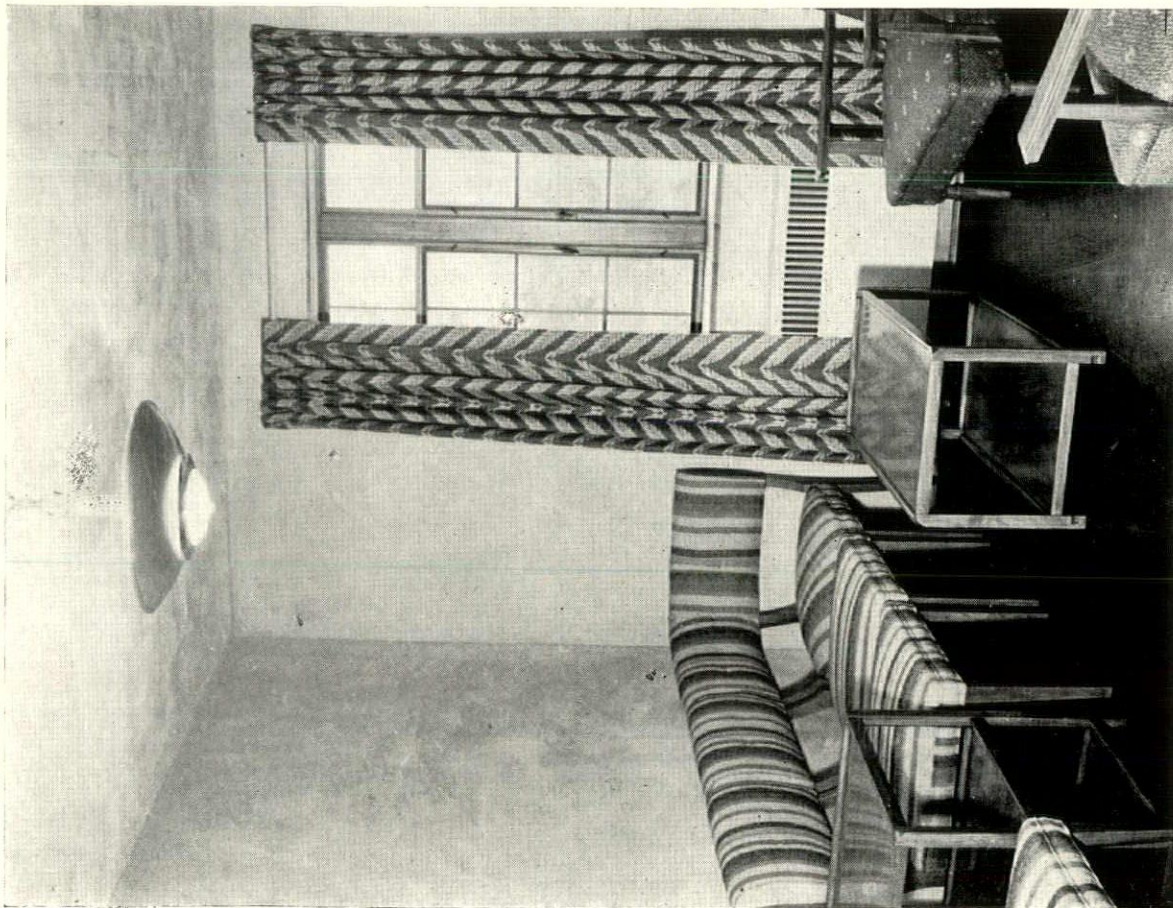
C. William Palmer, Architect, Detroit, Michigan



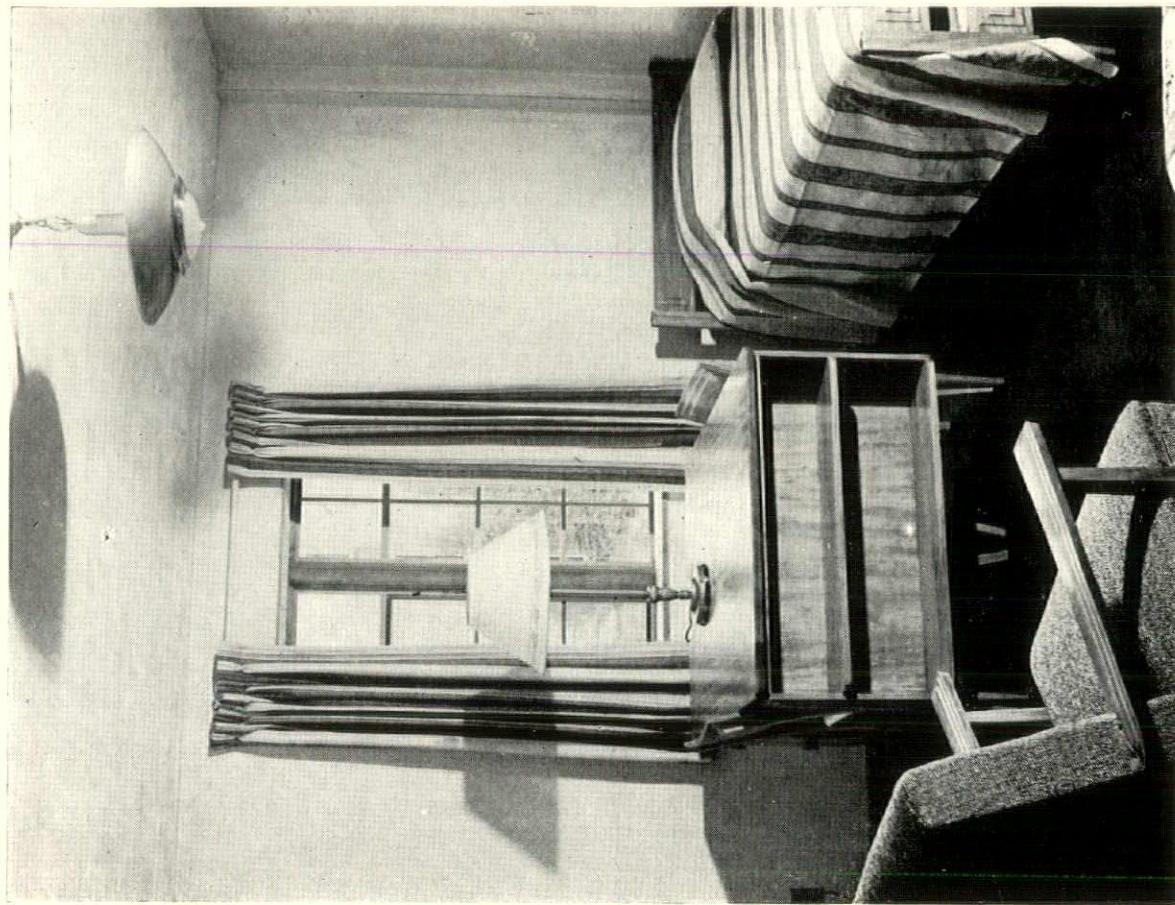
*Girls' Dormitory and Health Service Building, Central Michigan College of Education, Mount Pleasant, Michigan.
C. William Palmer, Architect*

Above: Lobby and Office. Below: View of Lounge.





TYPICAL SUN ROOM (one on each floor)



TYPICAL STUDENT ROOM

Girls' Dormitory and Health Center, Central Michigan College of Education, Mount Pleasant, Michigan -- C. William Palmer, Architect.

REPORTS—(Continued from Page 5)

given through the courtesy of the Glidden Paint Company. The general business of this meeting was a continuation of the discussion on architectural practice.

Your secretary has been present at all of the above meetings, and recorded the minutes thereof.

It has been a great pleasure and privilege to have served the Society as secretary, and I close my term of office with the best wishes for the continued success of the Division.

MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Lawrence E. Caldwell, Chairman

This committee has worked diligently to bring all those Architects residing in the Detroit area, into the division. All Registered Architects should back their organization, especially in times like the present. We need 100% co-operation and this committee has attempted to obtain that goal.

We feel rather proud that we were able to duplicate the substantial gains made by last year's membership committee. The gain this year in active members is about 80%. May this percentage increase until the entire profession in this area is included as active members of our society.

We would like to make a suggestion to the new officers of the Detroit Division M.S.A. Perhaps the Treasurer of the Michigan Society and the Treasurer of the Detroit Division could cooperate at the start of the year, and mail to each Architect in the Detroit area a combined notice of dues. This would conserve postage and time and also both dues could be paid at the same time. This plan could be adapted to the Detroit area very easily and would pay big dividends to both bodies.

I would like to thank Mr. John C. Thornton and Mr. Chester L. Baumann for their whole hearted cooperation during the past year. Without their support the results would have been considerably less. And may the committee

See **REPORTS**—Page 10

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Michigan Representative for "BRIXMENT"

REPORTS—(Continued from Page 9)

thank all the Architects who paid their dues and by so doing aided the Detroit Division in carrying out the aims of our Society.

PUBLIC INFORMATION

Talmage C. Hughes, Chairman

This activity has progressed as well as could be expected. There have been difficulties in interesting some architects in more activity along the lines of publicizing the profession but it can be said that on the whole a great deal of cooperation has been received.

It is the committee's belief that now, more than ever before, is the opportune time to educate the public as well as the profession, governmental officers and others toward a post war program in which the architects will take a leading part.

There is no doubt that we are now paying for not having done so long ago. We make the observation that at such times it is not easy to induce architects to devote their time to "missionary work" for the profession, since they are faced with very real and serious problems concerning the immediate future. The chief obstacle is that the undertaking involves a considerable amount of work, and unless some provision is made to enable some to be paid for at least a portion of their time and the expense involved, the committee member is likely to soon become inactive, through necessity of the everyday demands made on his time.

A comprehensive program of publicity is being planned for the coming A.I.A. convention, as well as for the Society convention in Lansing.

RELATIONS WITH BUILDING INDUSTRY

George F. Diehl

The spirit of cooperation between our profession and the other elements of the building industry has continued to increase during the past year. The report of your chairman's activities with the contractor groups with regard to specifications was published in the Bulletin and is believed to be of value to our members and theirs. Certainly such action makes for better understanding.

The Producers' Council has been most helpful both with their social activities as well as with informational meetings.

Perhaps the most significant work has been done by our Priorities Committee and their activities are still in progress. It is representative of the entire building industry here and, aside from the subject matter, much has been done to bring the various interests together, to solve many problems that have vexed the industry, the Building Department and others.

Our Committee has stood ready to cooperate toward a more unified industry.

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Frank H. Wright, Chairman

Items of interest for our meetings of the past year have been many and varied—they speak for themselves.

Meetings were well attended and our president has con-

ducted in a business-like manner, keeping every one on his toes. One important observation may be made—that attendants at meetings have been most free to express their own opinions and to be a real and vital part of the organization. This is perhaps because we have dealt with everyday matters of practice, of interest to all.

Best attendance was at a meeting on color harmony and how to attain it, at which some 120 were present. We took an important part in the delightful Summer Meeting at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island, and our members on the board of the State Society have been regular in attendance at divisional meetings throughout the State.

Plans for the 28th Annual Convention at Lansing on April 3 and 4 include a comprehensive exhibition. This program has just been published in the Bulletin. We also plan to help in every way possible to make a success of the A.I.A. Convention in Detroit, June 23-26, 1942.

MEETING**MICHIGAN CHAPTER****American Society of Heating and Ventilating Engineers**

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Bulletin:

May I add my thanks to other individuals to whom you are sending your Weekly Bulletin.

The enterprise and far sighted program of your group is one that should command the respect of the whole profession, and in these difficult days, the information as printed is timely and valuable.

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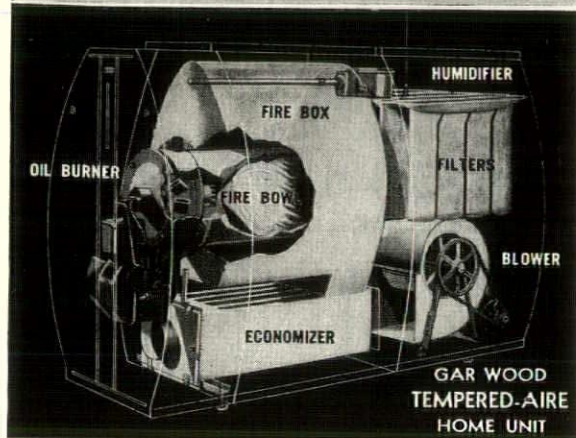
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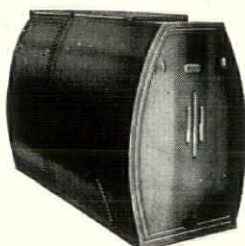
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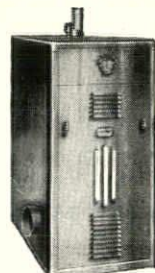
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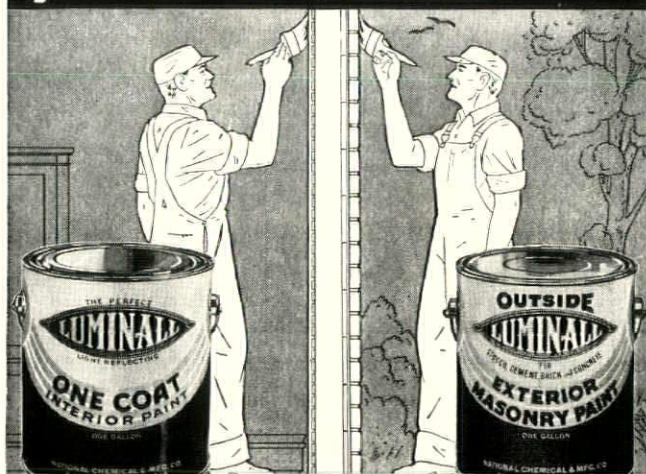
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WEEKLY



THE AMERICAN
INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS
BULLETIN

1942 FEB 10 AM 9:39

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Entered as second-class matter Dec. 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Mich., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Vol. 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, FEBRUARY 10, 1942

No. 6

DO YOU KNOW PEOPLE?

By William H. Reid, Jr., A.I.A., M.S.A., of Billings, Montana

From time to time, effort has been made to get architects in general out of their erroneous and exalted opinions of what they believe to be the practice of architecture. Technically, we are trained to know what architecture is; but very few have found out the requirements of its successful practice. Albert Kahn, Frank Lloyd Wright, are becoming meaningful in name and relationship to architecture to the layman, through national publication effort. "This business of architecture," within the profession hasn't got away from Royal Barry Wills; but, what about the architect of Billings, Montana, the man in the street and this business?

Frankly, Albert Kahn and Frank Lloyd Wright are just as far away to the layman as architecture is. They are men of success in a luxurious profession that built temples in Rome and Greece, and their story is doubly exciting in this day and age when, from all outward evidence, the creatures are practically extinct. Think of their position, laying around in velvet robes with long bushy grey hair, hobnobbing with millions, and nothing to do but draw white lines on blue paper all day. Stick to your houses, boy; someday, one job like that and you can jump into a marquise and roll off in a cyma reversa with a niche in your curriculum!

Know people! This fundamental principle of existence makes life, business, communities, nations and we hope, now, will make a new world. What we know of the Japs, the Germans and the Axis will help us win this war. The more we try to know and understand these people, the longer we will enjoy the coming peace. For idle architects, if such there be; (and quit kicking my shins under the table)—for busy architects, and these are the men that can always find the time for the big jobs, this post-war project of knowledge is not only worthy of the time but should be definitely solved for guidance of the armistice. Here, the best to be offered by the boys in the velvet robes to the architect in Billings, Montana and the boy in the street will pay dividends.

Know people! If we all made a practice of knowing the candidates for city, county, state and national offices, let alone not taking time out to vote, there would be a difference of opinion in Washington (what difference does it make to you . . . that I'm a rankin' to wheel'er from Montana?). Note the Lanham Bill's pull. Somebody was pretty well acquainted with that cowboy. Start in at the top if you will, but there's a lot in knowing your city, county and state boys, too. The seed will grow.

Know people! As the principle works internationally and in government, so it will work in business. Our business is architecture; but architects don't know people! Consequently, people don't know architects . . . the way people should know architects!

Albertly, Frank Lloyd Wright and Albert Kahn are exceptions. They know people and well. At the start, they knew people; people knew them, had faith in them. Architects need to know people; people need to know architects, they'll be better off with faith in them. Architects know the many reasons why.

To know people in the United States is easy. There never was a people so anxious to be known. For years one could start a group, a fraternity, an organization on any street corner and in every pool hall. Now, there are so many lodges, orders and service clubs that they are making them international to fill the chairs. Join your commercial club! Feel around for an opening in a service club and by all means get into your architectural society and do things that will make you known.

Singular architects, here and there, are in one or more of these non-sectarian, indiscriminate of politics, race or color organizations and are members of the various orders, lodges and churches; but, one man deriving this good, question that if you will, it's at least knowing people, is not enough to swing each and all the organizations or to associate in state, interstate and national prestige for the good of the profession. These men know people and are going places. Why not ally with these men to make yourself and architecture known?

The going church, service club, commercial club or fraternal order in the community, today, exists because of its proven need. By sharing in the provision of satisfaction to these needs, you are not only helping your community to properly and forcefully thrive, but you cannot help from becoming known. You become known; your work becomes known and your work is architecture. Q. E. D.!

At 89, John F. Wing, Fort Wayne, Indiana, architect, believes he can "see to hit a Jap at a thousand yards" and has asked Mayor Harry W. Baals for an assignment by which he can best serve his country while it is at war. His letter was written on his personal stationery on which he had drawn in colors, the U. S. coat of arms.

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GABLER ELECTED PRESIDENT DETROIT DIVISION, MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Cornelius L. T. Gabler was elected president of the Detroit Division of the Michigan Society of Architects at its Annual meeting at the Wardell, Wednesday evening, February 4. He succeeds Aloys Frank Herman, who had served two terms.

L. Robert Blakeslee was elected vice-president; Lyle S. Cole, secretary; Earl W. Pellerin, treasurer; Chester L. Baumann, director, and Talmage C. Hughes, executive secretary. All are members of the A. I. A.

Retiring president, Herman, presiding, called on attendants to stand for a moment in silent memory of those members who died since the last annual meeting: Messrs. Harry Bonnah, John M. Donaldson, David Gorman and Grant C. Macomber.

Floyd Clise, of Johns Manville Co., was host, both before and after the meeting, when he conducted an informational program on new developments in asphalt tile. His motion picture on the subject was most interesting, and the Producers' Council scored another hit in their long line of productions.



Gabler

Gabler, who has been secretary of the Michigan Society of Architects for the past six years, was born in Brooklyn, New York, and worked in New York offices and for Mildner & Eisen, in Detroit. He was graduated from the University of Michigan, College of Architecture, in 1934 and became registered to practice in Michigan, by examination, 1935, since which time he has carried on his own practice. His offices are now at 616 Murphy Building.

Blakeslee, who served the past year as secretary of the Division, is assistant professor of architectural engineering at the University of Detroit. He graduated at the University of Michigan in 1928, and was registered, by examination in 1938. In addition to teaching he maintains offices for the practice of architecture at 16837 Livernois Avenue. His other affiliations include the Society for the Promotion of Engineering Education, Engineering Society of Detroit, and Michigan Engineering Society.



Blakeslee



Cole

Lyle S. Cole was treasurer of the Division during the past year. He was born at Shephard, Michigan and attended Central State Normal College for two years, then University of Michigan for four years, where he graduated in architecture in 1924. After employment in Detroit offices, he became registered, by examination, in 1927. He is now in partnership with Gerald M. Merritt, with offices at 1111 Collingwood Avenue, in Detroit. The firm is best known for its excellent churches.

Earl W. Pellerin is well known as an architect and as a teacher at the Lawrence Institute of Technology. He graduated at the University of Michigan in 1927 and took advanced studies in 1932. His experience was gained in such offices as Albert Kahn, Lancelot Sukert, W. E. N. Hunter, and Herman & Simons. He was registered by examination in 1931. In 1939 he was awarded one of the Edward Langley Fellowships enabling him to travel and study in Europe. He was the architect for the 1940 Ideal Home, built in connection with the Detroit Builders' Show.



Pellerin



Baumann

Chester L. Baumann, of Giffels & Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti, Associate, was born in Saginaw and started his architectural career there, with the Wickes Boiler Company. Other employers were Chalmers Motor Co., Pollmar & Ropes; Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, Albert Kahn, General Motors Corp., and George D. Mason & Associates. He was registered, by examination, in 1931. In his present connection he has had responsible charge of some of the Government's largest defense plants. He has done work on committees for his organizations, but has not before held office.

Meeting of Board of Directors MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Tuesday, Feb. 17, 1942 at Twelve Noon—Luncheon
Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, Michigan

Unification Committee 1 to 4 p.m.

Board Meeting 4 to 6:30 p.m.

Dinner and Meeting with Ann Arbor Division 6:30 p.m.

JANUARY MEETING CENTRAL MICHIGAN DIVISION, M.S.A.

Wednesday evening, January 14th nine hardy architects from Lansing braved the cold weather to meet in Jackson. A few were barely able to reach the Drum Room on the ground floor of the hotel, others stronger (probably not knowing the whereabouts of said Drum Room) reached the dining room on the third floor where promptness on the part of Carl Kressbach and the hotel personnel saved them for the evening.

Kressbach was, as ever the gracious and tactful host, being sure to feed the gang before springing the price of the meal. However, being well fed, if you like rare beef, no protests were registered.

Attending from Lansing were Zimmerman, Stewart, Black, Harris, Stow, Rosa, Simpson and Langius, with Pardee down from St. Johns. Kressbach, Frost and Sampson made up the Jackson contingent.

Someone has said that food stimulates the mind, which must be true as Stewart found a by-law stating that assessments could be levied upon the members. So a 25 cent assessment was in order and three dollars were collected to pay for the incidental expenses for the remainder of the year.

Stewart being especially sharp, managed to collect enough unpaid dues, "Stewart for Treasurer in 1942" (This is a paid political advertisement) to reimburse Zimmerman for flowers sent to Forrest Gildersleeve, Red being laid up with a heart ailment for the last month.

The main business of the evening was planning for the coming M.S.A. convention, in Lansing, April 13 and 14. "Boy, can architects plan or is it pan?" Gus passed the buck to Ken Black, who gave a report of the last Directors' meeting. The banquet has been set for Friday night with a smoker on Thursday night with Jim Stewart in charge of the latter.

Gus and his committee reported that speakers are being engaged. Gus is still looking for a convention theme (not a flower) so be prepared with suggestions at the February meeting. Art appointed Gordon Stow to arrange for the next meeting to be held in Lansing, February 11th.

Ken Black reported on the progress of the Unification Committee, and a discussion was held with Jim Stewart mostly coming out second best to Kressbach. Too bad, Jim, try again next time. However, don't forget to fill out the questionnaire which you will receive in a few days and return it as it is very important.

Respectfully submitted,

"Sammy" Sampson.

DETROIT'S SOOTY CITY HALL

By Frank Barcus -- City Plan Committee

Author of ALL AROUND DETROIT

There is one amusing quality about our City Hall. It will always be a subject for witticism and controversy. This ranges from the extreme of John Lodge's high opinion of the City Hall as an object of venerable beauty to that of Malcolm Bingay of the *Detroit Free Press* whose opinion is that the structure is a blight to Detroit civic self-respect.

Way back in December, 1914, George H. Fenkell, then Commissioner of DPW, insisted that a new City Hall was an urgent necessity. His criticism wasn't handled with kid gloves. He said that "a trip from cellar to attic was like a visit to an ancient ruin. The City Hall is not only overcrowded but it is unsanitary, filthy."

In one office Fenkell found the chief of the department sitting at his desk behind a battery of squirt guns which resembled fire extinguishers.

"What are these engines of destruction?" asked DPW commissioner.

"They are for cockroaches," replied the department head.

"We have to fight them all the time. There are days when we can't hang our clothes in this room until we have waged battle for an hour or so against the pests."

Ever since that day the mayor, council and City Plan Commission have had to look and listen to hundreds of schemes for a new City Hall or civic center submitted by self-starter architects and engineers. These schemes all had one thing in common—they were so towering that every city employee, if so inclined, could spit down on the Penobscot building. While it would be an ideal arrangement to have all the various divisions of the municipal departments under one roof, still it wouldn't take a WPA survey to show that Detroit does not need a City Hall that will compete with or surpass the Empire State building in New York, which has 102 stories to the sightseeing platform.

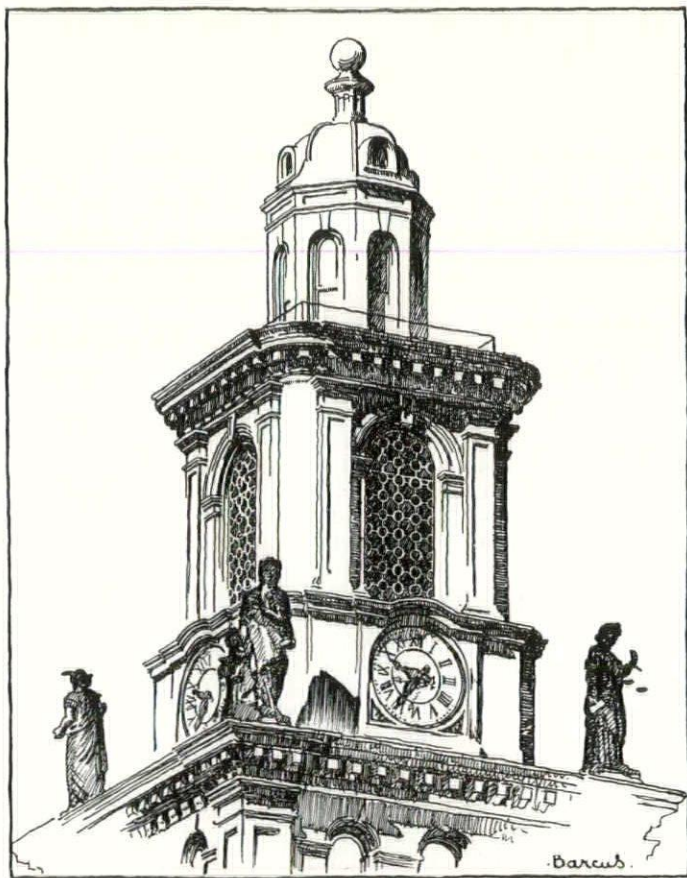
What an addition such a skyscraper would make in our sky line. And what a traffic problem on the Campus. Let us see. There are 16,224 civil service employees and 18,755 city employees in other departments such as fire, police, health, and education. That makes a total of 34,979 city employees. We'll say 20,000 to 25,000 city employees all leaving their offices at the same minute every day from this City Hall skyscraper. Not counting the added traffic from the Penobscot, Majestic, Dime Bank, National Bank and others. Why we would all be piled three deep at the curb. Even D. Grant Mickle couldn't solve this problem or could he?

Loftiness isn't the only characteristic feature of the submitted designs. The other element of novelty is the element of surprise in the shape of the floor plan. This feature ranges from a perfect circle in plan to a star shaped plan which may have five or six sides. Or it may have eight sides, sixteen sides, split sides or hardly any sides at all.

Erected in the General Grant period at an initial cost of \$508,000 when Detroit's population was only one twenty-fifth of the 1940 census, and remodeled in 1906 at a cost of \$150,000, the City Hall has been given so much wear that from now on even a new set of rings won't hold back the recurrent question of a new City Hall. It will come up again and again. Even in 1914 when Detroit's population was one fourth of the present number DPW Secretary Murphy said, "The building owes the city nothing. It has paid for itself, and the city would be throwing nothing away were the old structure razed to the ground tomorrow."

Eventually the city will have to solve this problem. But many factors enter into the picture before it can be tackled. The active life of the City is so closely bound up with its public affairs that it is impossible to consider a new City Hall or perhaps an effective grouping of all the municipal public buildings to create a civic center without reference to the plan of the whole city, and, its economic position.

With his far-sighted vision, Mayor Edward J. Jeffries, Jr. recognizes this important truth, that long-term planning for the physical growth and development of the City is



CITY HALL CLOCK TOWER—by Barcus

now not only desirable and feasible but entirely necessary and essential. Our haphazard growth of the past has brought home the fact that long-range comprehensive planning is one of the most basic elements upon which the city's economic and physical security rests.

With this in mind the Mayor sent a letter on January 11, 1941, requesting the City Plan Commission to report on the preparation of a Master Plan for Detroit.

"Recent events have convinced me that we can no longer postpone the making of a comprehensive outline for the future physical development for the City. Recurring problems on highways, recreation, rapid transit, civic centers, and rehabilitation are continually arising, the logical and satisfactory solution of which appears to be impossible without the aid of a guiding plan. This plan should include all of those things within the control of the city which influence and affect the safety, health and welfare of our people so as to assure them the utmost convenience, comfort and happiness.

"I realize that your commission has been active in planning for various activities but so far as I am aware none of these plans has been completely tied into any organic whole in which all essential elements have been thoroughly correlated and integrated.

"These plans should be complete and broad in conception and spirit, and should represent in the fullest possible degree, the dynamic desire of Detroit to excel in all things which she undertakes.

"I am making this request of your Commission with full knowledge of the scope and difficulty of these plans, but which, after all, are only in proportion to their potential value." Signed by Edward J. Jeffries, Jr., Mayor.

Eight years before the present City Hall was built a paper was signed that may settle the constant recurring dispute over the site for a new City Hall. The site of the present City Hall has always been public property. Part of the site was once donated by the Federal land board as a site for the Detroit Female Seminary in 1830. For almost forty years this seminary was one of the most prominent

buildings in Detroit in its day not only because of its location on the campus but for its great height—three stories, and because it was built of yellow brick. Everyone in Detroit called it the "Yellow Building" instead of the Seminary.

When this school passed out of existence the land reverted to public ownership and the State stepped into the picture or property and used it for public offices until the State Capitol building was finished in Lansing.

In 1856, the City purchased the property from the State for \$18,816.66 and used it for offices for the mayor and other city officials until finally torn down to make room for the present City Hall.

The rest of the site, that is, the east side of the property fronting on Woodward avenue was expropriated out of the original idea of the Campus Martius "for the erection of a City Hall and for no other purpose whatever." This is the clause in the deed that the corporation counsel in 1927 gave as his formal opinion that this wording precludes the sale or use of this site for other than a City Hall or public building. This, however, would not prevent the City from building a new City Hall or civic center on another site retaining this one as the seat of government to house the mayor and common council.

ARCHITECT AND SON CALLED TO SERVICE

From the Grand Rapids Press, Jan. 22, 1942

Col. Adrian T. Benjamin, local architect and quartermaster reserve officer, left Wednesday for active service under the adjutant general in Washington. His son, Capt. Howard G. Benjamin, medical corps reserve and former local resident, was ordered to duty earlier in the week. He will be temporarily stationed at Fort Dix, N. J.

A member of the class of 1904 at the United States Naval academy, Col. Benjamin designed portable submarine bases for the navy in the World War. He was transferred to the army at the end of the war. His home is at 1934 Sherman st., S. E.

Capt. Benjamin is a graduate of East Grand Rapids High school and of Northwestern university medical school. He taught pathology in the medical school several years.

INSTRUCTIONS

WHAT TO DO IN CASE OF AN AIR RAID

Contributed by L. R. Blakeslee, who denies being the author.

1. As soon as bombs start dropping, run like hell. (It doesn't matter where, as long as you run like hell.)
2. Take advantage of opportunities afforded you when air raid sirens sound the attack warning, for example:
 - A. If in a bakery, grab some pie or cake, etc.
 - B. If in a tavern, grab a bottle.
 - C. If in a movie, grab a blonde.
3. If you find an unexploded bomb, always pick it up and shake like hell, the firing pin may be stuck.
4. If this doesn't work, heave it in the furnace. (The fire department will come later and take care of things.)
5. If an incendiary bomb is found burning in a building, throw some gasoline on it. You can't put it out anyhow, so you might just as well have some fun.
 - A. If no gasoline is available throw a bucket of water on it and lie down, you're dead.
 - B. The properties of the bomb free the hydrogen from the water causing rather rapid combustion. (In fact, it will explode with a helluva crash.)
6. Always get excited and holler bloody murder. It will add to the fun and confusion and scare hell out of the kids.
7. Drink heavily, eat onions, limburger cheese, etc., before entering a crowded air raid shelter. This will make you unpopular with the crowd in your immediate vicinity, eliminating any unnecessary discomfort that would be more prevalent if people crowded too closely.
8. If you should be the victim of a direct bomb hit, don't go to pieces—lie still and you won't be noticed.
9. Knock the air-raid wardens down if they start to tell you what to do. They always save the best seats for themselves and their friends anyway.

FEBRUARY 10, 1942

OPEN SEASON ON EDITORS

Bill Reid, author of the lead article in this issue, takes stock of the situation.

About this time of year, when a review of the previous year's accomplishments has been made and resolutions of the new year recorded, editors in general deserve an expression from their readers. It is the time when the good and the bad can be given earnest attention; the good can be reported and stored away as evidence of appreciation, the bad can be reported and kept on hand for guidance in the doing of that continuous, so often unsung, job that is the editor's.

As a personal friend of the editor, one is at liberty to make his punches count. The sincere friend is one who will get right into the gory details; not in the all too frequent spirit of self aggrandizing criticism that hurts and, diplomatically handled, laughed off; but the spirit of help and the basking in reflected glory.

Now, believe you me, mister, with that introduction, I have you and THE BULLETIN in a splendid position for unloading any and everything that may be crawling around among the hairs on my chest. Everything? Well—anything, if you get what I mean, and I think you Do!

It's just this, Tal, and I want you to take it like the man that I think you are . . . no hiding behind the tresses of our former dean and now prexy of the Detroit Chapter, no apologies in the light of your duty to the architectural profession, no quibbling about the stress of the times, no sobbing on the shoulder of a friend that knows you well enough to help you take it . . . (brace yourself! Here it comes!) . . . I, as an architect, whatever that is and with all the infringencies the name may mean in my case, do truthfully think that you are doing not only a wonderful job in the readability and makeup of THE BULLETIN, but accomplishing things for the profession, never in any other way gained as proven by the innumerable trial and error systems.

Now, go sulk!

Referring to my friend Roger and his troubles in writing his column; I wonder about those three hard things? I had three hard lumps in my throat once on several different occasions. Each time was either an opening paragraph by Allen, a good last line by Allen or that filling of the space in between . . . or wasn't that by Allen?

Editor's Note: Bill is, himself, an editor of no mean repute, having edited The Cogwheel, publication of his Rotary Club, since he was its president in 1939-40. The following editorial, "We'll Do It Again," from the current issue, was reprinted in the Brooklyn, N. Y., Rotary Fellow, one of the big-time Rotary publications.

WE'LL DO IT AGAIN!

Once again, from the front line to the birthplace of each and every fighting soldier and citizen, war is fire-testing the strength of world morale. Morale is a mental state reflected in the spirit and confidence of a body of men, the fighting force, the home guard, the nation. Given "all-out" equivalent strength on land, sea or air, that nation holds the balance of power whose morale, from the man leading the scout ship to the singing but unsung private of the rear, home guard, shall stand the test.

Morale is built upon service. Service is a profession of respect: duty, labor, assistance, or kindness to another. Americans respect and "love" service. We have come to know service as doing that little job, however small, uncommonly well. It's American morale that extends service wherever it is needed; through the Red Cross, even unto the enemy and suffering people anywhere. We practice service in peace that it may be doubled many times to meet the need of any emergency. And this war is "some" emergency.

American morale has ever spelled victory. We've done it before and we'll do it again!

—BILL REID.

W. Roy Akitt announces the removal of his office from 2060 National Bank Building to 1709 National Bank Building, Detroit, Michigan.

ELECTED TO A. I. A.

Eugene D. Straight, 201 Schaefer Building, Dearborn, has been elected to membership in The American Institute of Architects, it was announced by Emil Lorch, president of the Institute's Detroit Chapter, to which he was assigned.

Straight is a partner of L. R. Bennett, who was also recently honored by election to membership in the A.I.A. He was graduated from the University of Michigan, College of Architecture in 1921 and became registered, by examination, as an architect in Michigan in 1923. After employment by W. E. Hunter, prominent Detroit architect, he formed the Bennett and Straight partnership in Dearborn, which has been responsible for many fine buildings in the Detroit area, as well as throughout Michigan.



O'Dell

Also included in the announcement of election to membership in the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. are the following:

H. AUGUSTUS O'DELL, who has traveled in Europe four times and had as many partnerships: Baxter & O'Dell; Baxter, O'Dell & Halpin; O'Dell & Diehl; and O'Dell & Rowland. Registered in Michigan in 1915, served on the State Registration Board; as president, Michigan Society of Architects, Reserve Officers, American Legion.

O'Dell was captain in Aviation, and Major in the Engineers during World War I. He is a Justice of the Peace and a resident of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan.

CHARLES B. McGREW, at present with the Detroit Housing Commission, was born in Lewiston, Illinois and graduated from the University of Illinois in 1913, where he was awarded the Plym Fellowship, enabling him to travel and study at the American Academy in Rome during 1922 and 1923.

His early work was with J. C. Llewellyn, of Chicago; Board of Education, of Toledo; George D. Mason; Smith, Hinchman & Grylls; and Office of Municipal Architect, in Washington, D. C. He became registered in Michigan in 1917. McGrew is a member of the Michigan Society of Architects and its Detroit Division.



McGrew

GERALD M. MERRITT, of the firm of Merritt & Cole, of Detroit, was born in Montreal, Canada, and graduated from McGill University in 1925.

After working in office in Canada he came to Detroit, where he received further experience, and was registered by examination in 1930. Following a partnership of Morgan & Merritt, and a subsequent one with F. H. Spier, he entered business with his present partner, Lyle S. Cole. Offices are at 1111 Collingwood Avenue, Detroit, and the firm has specialized in church work.



Merritt

Mr. Merritt has been active in service organizations and in Detroit Division of the Michigan Society of Architects.

EARL G. MEYER, born in Ann Arbor, attended University of Michigan, College of Architecture, where he graduated in 1927, and received his master's degree in 1933. He spent 1930 studying in England, Germany, Austria and Italy, and 1937 in Denmark, Sweden and Russia. He became registered as an architect in Michigan by taking the examination, in 1930.

Following a period of employment in the offices of Detroit architects, he became a partner in the firm of Lane, Davenport and Meyer, of Detroit, which connection is maintained at present. Harold D.



Meyer

Davenport of that firm is a member of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. Meyer is a member of the Michigan Society of Architects, as are all of those mentioned here.



Wells

DALTON R. WELLS, who is also registered as a civil engineer, was born in Whitestone, New York and has practiced in Detroit for many years, at one time in partnership with Marcus R. Burrows, a Fellow of The American Institute of Architects.

Other connections have been with Smith, Hinchman & Grylls; Charles H. Shook, Inc.; Stran-Steel Corporations; U. S. Government, and Giffels & Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti, Associate. He is now with the last named and has been stationed at Louisville, Kentucky, in charge of one

of their large Government projects.

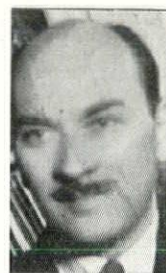
NORMAN KRECKE, a native Detroit, attended Detroit schools and the University of Michigan, College of Architecture, where he received his B.A.E. degree in 1914. He also studied at Cambridge, England in 1919. He served overseas with the 536th Engineers during the first World War, and was later employed in the Detroit offices of Van Leyen & Schilling; and Smith, Hinchman & Grylls.

He was registered to practice architecture in Michigan, by taking the examination, in 1921. Since that time he has practiced under his own name and has accounted for many important buildings in the Detroit area. He has specialized in commercial and industrial work.

REGISTERED IN MICHIGAN

Prominent architects of other states who have recently become registered in Michigan include Jerome Robert Cerny, Randolph Evans and Gordon B. Kaufmann.

MR. CERNY, who maintains offices at Clock Tower, Market Square, Lake Forest, Illinois, was born in Chicago and attended Lewis Institute, Armour Institute, and Art Institute there, from 1919 to 1926. He then went abroad and was a special student at the American Academy in Rome, traveling and studying with Prix-de-Rome scholars in painting, sculpture and architecture.



Cerny

He was registered as an architect, by examination, in Illinois in 1934, and began practice in Lake Forest and Chicago in 1935. His registration in Michigan, the latter part of 1941, was by reciprocity.

While his practice has been chiefly on country houses, his work shows great versatility. He loves to draw as well as to design and he gets as much pleasure from portraying in graphic form the architectural creations that take shape in his mind, as he does from seeing their eventual realization in concrete form.

Mr. Cerny is a member of the Michigan Society of Architects.

RANDOLPH EVANS, A.I.A., 140 Nassau Street, New York, N. Y., was born in Birmingham, Alabama, where he studied through correspondence and extension courses, with additional architectural training at the University of Alabama in 1920-21. For one year he taught evening classes in Tampa High School. He began practice in New York in 1930 and was registered in Michigan in 1941, on the basis of his N.C.A.R. senior examination.



Evans

His attractive designs for houses to fit the modest income has helped materially in raising the level of taste among suburban homeowners in the New York area—and elsewhere also. Nor are these the extent of his practice. He has become best known for his houses because of their excellence.

See EVANS—Page 7

UNIFICATION QUESTIONNAIRE

Of 705 mailed 156 were returned, about 22%. All but seven favored the proposed plan but, while this is a most decisive vote, it would be of great help to the committee to have expressions from a larger number of architects registered in Michigan. The Committee must report back to all of the groups concerned; Grand Rapids Chapter, A.I.A.; Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.; Michigan Society of Architects; and, finally, to the American Institute of Architects. If it can be said that a majority have expressed themselves, the report will carry more weight.

Therefore, the time for returning questionnaires has been extended to February 16. Please mark yours and mail it now. If you haven't the mimeographed form, use the one printed in the Bulletin of January 27, or the one in this issue.

QUESTIONNAIRE

To All Architects Registered In Michigan

Please fill out, sign and mail to Michigan Society of Architects, 120 Madison Avenue, Detroit, Michigan, Not later than February 16th, 1942

EDITOR'S NOTE: Copies of this questionnaire have been mailed to all architects registered in Michigan. It will not be necessary to return this page of the Bulletin.

1. Are you in favor of a plan worked out whereby the Michigan Society of Architects, the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. and the Grand Rapids Chapter, A.I.A. would be merged into one organization which would be similar to the Michigan Society of Architects, but which would actually be a state-wide chapter of the A.I.A.?

☐ Yes
☐ No

2. If such an organization is formal, do you believe that members of the Board of Directors should be chosen by the same method as is now used in determining the members of the board of the Michigan Society, i. e., one director elected by each division and three elected from the membership at large?

☐ Yes
☐ No (If your answer is "no," please set forth an alternative suggestive in a letter attached to this questionnaire.)

3. Which of the following methods of electing officers for the State Organization would you prefer to have followed?

☐ All officers elected by vote of entire membership after nominations by two separate nominating committees as in the Michigan Society of Architects at present.
☐ All officers elected by the Board of Directors.

4. If such an organization plan is formulated to submit to the American Institute of Architects for approval, which of these names listed below would you prefer

☐ Michigan Institute of Architects
☐ Michigan Society of Architects
☐ Michigan Chapter, American Institute of Architects

5. Which of the names listed below would you prefer for the local organization (Saginaw Valley is merely used as an example).

☐ Saginaw Valley Institute of Architects
☐ Saginaw Valley Division (of the Michigan Institute, Michigan Society or Michigan Chapter, as the case may be).

6. Do you believe that all members, whether corporate members of the A.I.A. or not, should be entitled to equal privileges in the state-wide organization as follows?

a. To vote for officers in local divisions and state-wide organization

☐ Yes
☐ No

- b. To hold offices in local divisions and state-wide organization (either as officers or members of the board).

☐ Yes
☐ No

7. Which of the following methods of paying dues would you prefer?

☐ State Organization dues to the treasurer of State Organization and local dues to the Treasurer of local division.
☐ All dues to the treasurer of the State Organization and to have him refund the local percentage to the local treasurer.

Signed

☐ I am now a corporate member of The American Institute of Architects.
☐ I am now a dues-paying member of the Michigan Society of Architects.
☐ I am not a dues-paying member of either organization.

Any further comments, on separate paper, if needed, will be welcome.

EVANS—(Continued from Page 6)

and because they have been so widely published.

Perhaps his well-rounded experience can be traced to the best offices in many cities where he worked as a draftsman, before entering his own practice. In 1928 he was chosen from among 200 candidates to be the architect for the Harmon National Realty Corporation, developers of several tracts of choice residential property. On all of this work he has rendered complete service, with most telling results.

In addition to his residential work Mr. Evans was architect for the Brooklyn College of the City College of New York, consisting of six buildings and costing more than \$6,000,000; Gould Academy, in Bethel, Maine, which includes a \$250,000 dormitory, a \$300,000 field house and the reconditioning of existing buildings. He is also architect for a Village Hall in Westchester County and for many other buildings smaller than those mentioned.

Among his other clients are Sears, Roebuck & Company, Bethlehem Steel, and the John B. Pierce Foundation.

GORDON B. KAUFMANN, F. A. I. A., 627 South Carondelet Street, Los Angeles, California, a director of The American Institute of Architects, has had a most distinguished career.

After receiving his education in London, England, and continental Europe he practiced for three years in Vancouver, B. C., and went to California in 1914. He is a director of the Union Bank and Trust Co., and of the State Association of California Architects; a member of the executive committee, Construction Industries—Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce.

His work has won Gold Medal, International Exposition, Paris, 1937, for Los Angeles Times Building; Bronze Medal, from the same exposition for his Los Angeles Turf Club; Diploma de Mencion Honorifica III, Exposition Panamericana, Buenos Aires, 1927; Certificates of Honor Southern California Chapter, A.I.A., for Eisner Residence, Halms Residence, Scripps College, California Institute of Technology, La Quinta Hotel, and Los Angeles Times.

Certificates of Merit were awarded him by the Chapter, for San Pedro High School, Los Angeles Turf Club, and Colwell, Cornwall & Banker Office Building. His work has been of the largest and most important, including commercial, industrial, institutional and numerous residences and other types. At present he is engaged on large defense work for the Government.

Mr. Kaufmann is a member of the Michigan Society of Architects.



Kaufmann

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Bulletin:

Since taking over this job of enforcement, I have had occasion to visit several building departments throughout the state. Nearly all have offered me their fullest cooperation in enabling the Board to keep in line men whom they have registered and to assist in bringing to time those who are engaged in unlawful practice.

Each, however, seems to have the same grievance, namely: illegibility of seals used by registrants. This matter was discussed at our last Board meeting and it was suggested that perhaps publicity through your society, calling attention to this condition, would be the best means of seeking correction. Some seals are so bad that the inspector has to turn the print over and rub it with red pencil to distinguish the registrant's name. In other instances, the impression of the seal, through many years' use, has become so blurred that the result is almost a blot on the blue print.

Will you help these men, who are trying to do a job for the profession, by suggesting the use of a legible seal at all times?

Watts Shelly, Executive Secy.
Board of Registration, Architects,
Engineers & Surveyors.

* * *

Bulletin:

There is none in the profession whom I admire more than Clair Ditchy but, after reading Ken Black's comments, I can only say Amen.

James William Kideney.

* * *

Notice:

Special evening courses in architectural design and reinforced concrete will be offered for the new semester starting Feb. 9 at the Lawrence Institute of Technology.

* * *

It's a girl at the Bob Blakeslees, and was he surprised! Bob had a name all picked out for a boy. Tuesday, January 27 was the birthday of the new secretary to the new vice-president.

* * *

Newly elected officers of the Builders' and Traders' Exchange for 1942 are Harry T. Wunderlich, president; vice president is Richard Bruny; treasurer, William F. Seeley.

Three new members elected to the board at the annual meeting are Benjamin Capp, Paul Marshall and William F. Seeley.

Edwin J. Brunner enters his fifteenth year as secretary-manager and the exchange starts the year with the largest number of active members in its history with 503.

* * *

"Modern Art" is the title of a booklist to be published by the Public Library on February 2. This helpful little booklet is designed to give aid to the general reader in understanding and appreciating the works of today's painters, architects, sculptors, musicians, and dancers.

Among the books described are Sheldon Cheney's "The Story of Modern Art"; "Frank Lloyd Wright on Architecture"; and Aaron Copland's "Our New Music."

Accompanying the booklists will be exhibits built around colorful panels in the style of the modern painters, executed by the Michigan Arts and Crafts Project.

The exhibits will be on view and the booklists available for free distribution at all agencies of the Public Library beginning Monday, February 2.

* * *

George J. Haas, A.I.A., has been awarded honorary life membership in the No. 1 Detroit Kiwanis Club, as one of its four living founders.

* * *

Leo J. Schowalter, M.S.A., has been appointed by Mayor Jeffries as secretary of Detroit's Civilian Defense Committee.

* * *

George D. Mason likes the Bulletin's defense issues. Says it's good to see the young men, his former draftsmen, doing so well.

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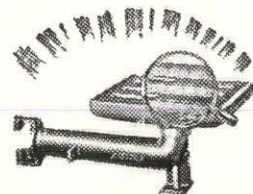
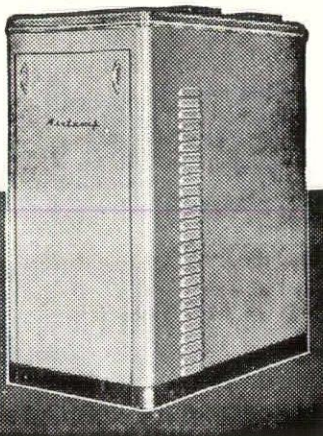
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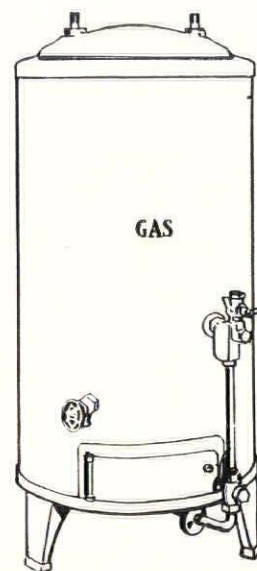
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Entered as second-class matter Dec. 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Mich., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Vol. 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, FEBRUARY 17, 1942

No. 7

DETROIT ARCHITECTS TO HEAR MacCORNACK

Dean will be Guest at Dinner Meeting of the Detroit Chapter, A. I. A., and Speak at Institute of Arts

Walter R. MacCornack, Dean of the School of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will be the guest of the Detroit Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, at a dinner meeting in the Horace H. Rackham Educational Memorial on Friday evening, February 20, it was announced by Emil Lorch, Chapter president.

MacCornack, vice-president of The Institute, will speak briefly to the architects' meeting, which will adjourn at 8:30 P. M. to the small auditorium of the Detroit Institute of Arts, where the dean will speak on City Planning. His lecture, under the auspices of the Metropolitan Art Association, will be in connection with the Exhibit of Planning and Housing at the Institute of Arts.

The speaker, before becoming dean at M. I. T., was a practicing architect of Cleveland, Ohio, and did some of the largest Government housing there, as well as other important projects. He is a member of a joint committee of The American Institute of Architects, The Urban Land Institute and the United States Chamber of Commerce, which has completed a report on Urban Land Use. His studies have qualified him to speak on this subject and it is expected that he will discuss many problems vital to Detroit and other cities, such as housing, zoning, slum clearance and related subjects.

Following the address an open discussion will be held, with representatives of various Detroit agencies taking part, including the City Plan Commission, Housing Commission, Citizens Housing and Planning Council and architects.

The Urban Land Institute was founded two years ago to make a new and realistic approach to the problem of decentralization, blight, wasted civic resources, urban disintegration and their by-products. Membership and support are drawn from the fields of real estate, building, finance, manufacturing, merchandising, public administration, public utilities, civic associations, educational institutions and the general public.

This group is studying the blight problem and has made

Meeting of Members, Detroit Chapter The American Institute of Architects

Rackham Educational Memorial, 100 Farnsworth
Friday, February 20, Dinner at 6:00 P.M., \$1.00

Board of Directors Will Meet at 4:00 P. M.

A brief program will begin at 7:30 P.M. Members who are unable to attend the dinner will be welcomed later.

Speaker: Mr. Walter R. MacCornack, Dean of the School of Architecture, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mr. MacCornack, vice-president of The American Institute of Architects, will speak briefly at the Chapter dinner.

At 8:30 P. M. members will adjourn to the small auditorium of the Detroit Institute of Arts, where Mr. MacCornack will speak on City Planning, under the auspices of the Metropolitan Art Association. Admission 55c.

surveys in many of our cities, reports of which have been issued.

It has recognized the acquisition of land in blighted areas as being one of the most fundamental and difficult aspects of redevelopment and, accordingly, it recommends the establishment of a Federal Land Commission empowered to extend grants to local land commissions for the acquisition of land and also to extend grants to the local planning agencies for the preparation of master plans and the re-planning of blighted areas. Further recommendations are that local land commissions be established by state statute, for each community to administer the land so acquired.

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PRODUCERS PLAN PROGRAM

Producers' Council of Michigan will participate in an informal way, in the program of the Twenty-Eighth Annual Convention of the Michigan Society of Architects at Hotel Olds, in Lansing, on April 3 and 4, it was announced by Frank Eurich, representing the Society and Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., as liaison officer with the producers, following the council's luncheon at La Casa Loma, on February 9.

While there will be no organized exhibits by the Producers, their members will be invited to attend all meetings, and at one session a report of the liaison officer will be presented. Frank promises to give us a complete definition of the term, the duties of his office, and how to pronounce it. This will be of great aid to the editor, for we have long been in doubt.

E. Douglas Ainslie, Producers' president, announced that the Council would also have an important part in the Seventy-Fourth Annual Convention of The American Institute of Architects, in Detroit, June 23-26. Ainslie, George J. Haas, Harry F. Wardwell, A. A. Shirley, Frank P. O'Neil and Paul R. Marshall have been named as local members of their convention committee.

Announcement was made that the Producers' Council national headquarters have been moved from New York to Washington. The new address is 815 Fifteenth Street, N.W.

It is expected that future luncheons of the local Council, the second Monday of each month, will be held at the new Rackham Educational Memorial Building.

JOHN A. GOTCH

John Alfred Gotch, former president of the Royal Institute of British Architects, one-time associate of Sir Edwin Lutyens, and a specialist in the work of Inigo Jones and the Renaissance period of architecture, died at Kettering, England, on January 17, after a short illness, in his ninetieth year. He was the author of numerous books on architecture. Sir Edwin Lutyens, in a tribute to him said: "His name will always live through the volumes he wrote on English domestic architecture."

More than fifty years ago Mr. Gotch was already a leader among his professional associates, for in 1886-87 he was president of the Architectural Association. He served on the council of the Royal Institute of British Architects for more than forty years and was president of the Institute, 1923-25. From 1911 to 1922 he was president of the Northamptonshire Association of Architects.

The list of Mr. Gotch's writings includes the titles: "Architecture of the Renaissance in England," "The Growth of the English House," "The English Home From Charles I to George IV," "Inigo Jones," "The Old Halls and Manor Houses of Northamptonshire."

WANTED—TEN MEMBERS

Treasurer John C. Thornton, reports that the Society now has 495 paid members. This is within ten of our record in 1939, which Johnny aims to equal, or surpass. How about helping him? If you are an architect registered in Michigan and have not yet sent \$5 for the current year's dues, please do so at once.

Percentage of paid members to registered architects in the divisions are as follows:

Southwest 83%, Central 83, Detroit 80.5, Ann Arbor 78, Saginaw Valley 75, Western 69, Upper Peninsula 66.2 and out-of-state 44.

The total of 495 is 69% of all registered in the State, of those resident in the State 78%.

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PRODUCERS PLAN PROGRAMS

Your editor, as chairman of the Institute's Committee on Public Information, has written Institute officers, directors and committee chairmen, requesting photographs and biographical sketches. Twenty-four have complied, but as many others have not.

To save the expense of further writing, may we take this means of soliciting the cooperation of those concerned.

This is important in preparing newspaper articles before, during and after the convention, in connection with annual reports, which we hope to obtain early enough to be of such use. Early reports will have the further effect of enlightening the membership on important matters to come before the convention.

ARCHITECTS' BOARD TO MEET IN ANN ARBOR

The board of directors of the Michigan Society of Architects will meet at the Michigan Union, in Ann Arbor, on Tuesday, February 17, it is announced by C. William Palmer, Society president.

The Society's Unification Committee will meet at a noon luncheon, the board at 4:00 p.m., and at 6:30 p.m. a joint meeting will be held with members of the Society's Ann Arbor Division.

The Society, which has seven divisions, throughout Michigan, has set a record for state architectural organizations, having as paid members 69% of all architects registered.

MISCELLANY

HAD YOU NOTICED—The resemblance between Frederick Crowther and Winston Churchill? Fred has met the Prime Minister, and it goes without saying that they're both good Britishers.



Churchill

Fred, who is tops in architectural rendering, has been giving us some instructions in water color rendering, spending the warm summer days, about the countryside. It gets pretty hot some times, so I have resolved that when we attain the age of 90, I'll give him an umbrella, so we can be 90 in the shade.



Crowther

Bulletin:

Looking over the biographical sketches of newly elected officers and directors for the Detroit Division, M.S.A., as given in the current issue of the Bulletin, I am convinced that we are indeed fortunate to have men of such character to lead us through the coming year. I thoroughly agree with the selections and, therefore, pledge my full cooperation.—Frank H. Wright.

I wish to express my appreciation for being included on the mailing list of the Michigan Society Bulletin and I read every issue with great pleasure. I note with interest, the unification program for the state of Michigan and wish you every success in its endeavor. I feel this is the only sound membership program for the profession.—Elbert I. Harrison, Editor, Central Illinois Chapter, A.I.A., Bulletin.

Just as a starter for defense thinking—

"Remember Pearl Harbor"

Then remember that poor planning placed hangers in neat rows side by side so that one bomb damaged many; also remember that large barracks were erected for many men so that one bomb caused many deaths.—Can't architects direct attention to reasonable site planning.—John L. McDermott, Sec., Association of Kentucky Architects.

You can pick anything out of a mail-order catalog, including a defense production chief.—Roger Allen.

WAR CREATES NEW INDUSTRIAL ARCHITECTURE



Mr. Kahn

"It is but natural that the present opportunities for building anew from scratch produce new ideas in plan and structure," Mr. Kahn points out. "Emphasis has been placed upon the need for speed and little has been said regarding external appearance. Elimination of non-essentials and of all else save the purely utilitarian is imperative. In the very observance of these requirements, however, lies an element which itself makes for attractive external effect. It makes for grandeur and dignity in these mammoth structures.

"Most manufacturing plants today are one-story structures with occasionally a second floor for certain departments. Many-storied manufacturing buildings, except in special instances and for special purposes—and then only where building areas are limited, are things of the past. For warehouse purposes and the like, they prove economical, but rarely for manufacturing.

"The 'windowless' type of building has been adopted in a number of instances. With fluorescent lighting recently developed, and with air conditioning now quite reliable, certain advantages are rightfully claimed for the windowless building. It affords simpler and speedier construction and it provides a uniformity of light and temperature scarcely obtainable in the daylighted plant. While manufacturing is carried on twenty-four hours per day, the cost of operation should be no higher.

"It will be higher, though, when we return to the normal eight-hour day. For this reason, manufacturers who are building their own plants, and expecting to meet keen competition sooner or later, are adhering largely to the older type. Then, too, many question the psychological effect upon workers entirely shut off from daylight. This can be determined only by experience.

"The Government rather favors the windowless buildings because of possible blackouts. The importance of this, however, would seem to be overstressed. Even on moonless nights, plants are easily located by dropping flares or incendiary bombs. And for that matter, blacking out a daylighted structure is a simple and easy task."

The buildings constructed for the present emergency differ from those of the first World War in that the current ones, Mr. Kahn says, are of permanent construction, as against the temporary structures built in 1917 and 1918. Most of the latter have been torn down since.

"It is obviously the intent of the Government to continue operation of many of the new plants, if not twenty-four hours of the day as now, at least enough to replenish material and keep equipment in proper order. This would seem the answer to questions often asked about what is to happen after the duration. Many fear surplus manufacturing facilities.

"Personally I have no such misgivings. believing that what is not needed by the Government will be readily absorbed by private industry, which will make excellent use of the modern facilities, scrapping much that is obsolete, something that should have been done long ago. Indeed, use of these modern plants will, I believe, stimulate erection of many additional ones, to meet future competition.

"Just as the mere clothing of the modern airplane by designers with an eye for line and a sense of fitness produces an object of beauty, so the direct and frank expression of the functional, the structural element of the in-

dustrial building automatically makes for impressive results. External beauty as such is never achieved by application of useless decoration, but rather by good planning, grouping, massing, and proportion. None of these need add to the cost of structure, or entail delays. Size itself is an important element in design which is fully recognized by the skilled architect."

No two problems are ever alike, even though the requirements are often the same, Mr. Kahn says in discussing the defense projects which he has carried out. "We, of course, observe standardization as much as possible, but rarely can a scheme or plant be duplicated in its entirety or without major differences," he explains. Even in such comparatively minor details as location or types of locker rooms and toilet rooms, there is a wide variation among operating men. Some prefer such in lean-tos, others in balconies or on raised platforms; still others insist on distributing them throughout the plant or placing them right on the main floor.

"What we have done in this regard lately, and with outstanding results, is the providing of an excavated basement with a wide general walkway, through which employees enter and leave the plant. From this passageway, we open locker rooms, cafeterias, lunch rooms, also toilet rooms. Stairways at numerous points lead to the working floor above.

"Many advantages are gained by this arrangement. First of all, those utilities are where they never interfere with future expansion—indeed they are automatically expanded as the plant grows. What is equally important, much travel of employees is avoided on the main floor, since the respective departments are reached direct from below. This is just one detail. There are naturally innumerable others.

"The column spacing is an important one. We used to build plants with columns twenty feet apart—at least in one direction. Now we aim to have them not less than forty feet apart. By careful study and design, we have been able to do this at little, if any, additional cost. Every column loses not less than four square feet of floor space—counting the useless area immediately surrounding it—and every added column interferes just that much with the economical placing of machine tools and also obstructs the flow of materials. Furthermore the additional floor space gained is considerable.

"The all-important point of planning for possible future expansion has been observed and to good advantage, for even now with plants barely completed, extensions are being built. With all necessary provisions for expansion made at the outset, enlargement becomes a simple matter, whereas, with lack of foresight, it is bound to prove difficult. We provide for expansion, not only horizontally for one-storied structures, but also vertically for multi-storied buildings, such as administration, engineering, and heating structures.

"In the building of new defense plants, there has been a minimum of Governmental interference. In most instances, the respective operators have been permitted to build as they believed best for their purpose, which has made possible employment of the latest practice and experience in industrial planning.

"These new plants are to serve just one purpose; namely, to produce in the shortest possible time and at reasonable cost the material needed to put Hitler and his gang where they belong. And, let me tell you, our manufacturers are certainly doing their part in a manner which leaves no doubt in anyone's mind as to their intent."

The employees of Giffels & Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti, associate, have subscribed for defense bonds, by making use of the payroll system plan, amounting to \$202,000 for the year. This is a splendid example from a firm that is going all out for defense.

* * *

In our last issue we placed Dalton R. Wells with the firm of Giffels & Vallet, Inc., L. Rossetti, Associate. Our apologies—this should have been Shreve, Anderson & Walker. Dalton has been on the Hoosier Ordnance plant at Charlestown, Indiana.

THE EYES OF MONTANA ARE UPON US

A Communication by A. V. McIver, President, Montana Chapter, The American Institute of Architects.

I have been following with great interest the articles in your splendid Bulletin concerning the activities, arguments and reactions of the Joint Committee on Unification and the members of the two bodies. I refer in particular to the one published in your issue of Feb. 3 entitled "Detroit Architects Hear Oberwarth."

Being a graduate of the University of Michigan and having an acquaintance with many of the state architects my interest has been both personal and professional.

I wonder if the Michigan architects realize that the profession as a whole is watching their actions with keen interest. This is so for several reasons; first, because of the large membership in the two bodies; second, because of the concentration of defense work in that area; third, because of the publicity resulting from the large projects being handled by some of your members. What the Michigan architects do and how they solve their problem will greatly effect the profession throughout the entire nation.

I might state as we hear so much lately, that the following remarks are my own personal opinions and do not necessarily reflect those of the Montana Chapter.

The Montana architects have without doubt been hit harder than any group in the country. Without exception we have all taken it on the chin and are now waiting out the long count. Private work stopped overnight on Oct. 7th following the drastic ruling the SPAB. No defense work of any kind has been allotted to this state which eliminates of course even minor housing projects. I leave the reason for this omission to your own surmise. By and large the members of the profession here are taking the situation gracefully, and with a smile, albeit one by one closing their offices. Fortunately they do not blame the chapter president, the regional director, nor the Institute for their predicament. They prefer instead to blame the society in which we live.

I believe too many architects in the country have a WPA attitude and are expecting the Institute or some other body or part of government to solve their individual problems. Certainly it is not the function of the Institute to provide projects on the desk of every licensed architect, nor is it the function of any society or the Institute to obtain commissions for any individual or group of individuals. This leads to favoritism and all the ills of bureaucracy which we are all trying to eliminate. Human nature did not change on the morning of Dec. 7th. Where is the individualism which induced the members to follow architecture in the first place?

Government now seems to be the rule of strong minorities rather than the will of the majority which our forefathers tried to write into our basic law. Because of this it is necessary to maintain in Washington a strong organization to represent us. Our work is gradually becoming more socialized and controlled. The government enters into all of it in some manner whether the work be private or public. From a professional standpoint we are far in the minority. The engineers both by number of Societies and membership can outvote us five to one, for to the public an engineer is an engineer whether he be civil, mechanical, electrical or what not. They have their troubles as well for which I can vouch being a member of the ASCE. Because of our minority it behooves us to have the strongest central representation.

Now this Institute of ours cannot do much for us in the legislative and administrative branches of the government unless it has something worth while to offer. This can be only one thing, the service and ability of the profession as a whole. If we as individual practitioners do not have that ability and cannot render that service then the Institute has no goods to sell and must perforce go out of business. I cannot in any respect agree with the interim report of Mr. Black. He would have us function as do so many of the trades wherein just because they carry a certain colored card they overnight become craftsmen. How many times has this worked out to the detriment of our jobs. Remember to differentiate between the meaning of

the word "profession" and the word "trade." Let us not lower the bars to Institute membership, much less throw them away, but rather let us increase them. Ability and service is all we have to sell and the words architect and profession should be synonymous. Stating it in the vernacular of my country I would say that we should not lower the corral bars or we will have a herd of dogies instead of thoroughbreds or even grades.

Why all this furor about the profession being on the downgrade? Who said so? If we are the only ones to admit it then we are in a bad way. It would appear that the largest and most complicated problems in this national defense has been awarded to architects. They have solved them. True, all of us can't have the plums, but as it happens some of us like figs. What if you were a doctor and looked socialized medicine and regimented surgery in the face, or the engineer whose every turn is supervised by some department or bureau, or even the lawyer whose only out is to become a politician?

To summarize a rather long and disjointed statement, allow me to say that I believe the function of the Institute is definitely divided into two parts.

First: To represent the profession to the governmental agencies and to the public both by contact and publicity. By contact I mean personal conferences and appointments between the Institute and committees of the congress and various agencies and with an increasing resistance to Bureau architecture. Publicity I believe can best be gained if such magazines as Time, Newsweek, etc., etc., were induced to carry a department of architecture for layman reading much as they do now for the other arts. This would reach the greatest number of people with the least effort.

Second: To promote better architecture among its members and raise the quality of the service rendered by the average office. This can be done by means of our periodicals and bulletins. There is so much to be told of standardization, office procedure, methods of presentation, concise specifications, modern trends in design, structural and mechanical layouts, etc. The journal "The Octagon" is well worth while but there is room also for such publications pertaining to architecture as the Proceedings and magazine of the ASCE, and "The Guide of the ASH&VE." Don't tell me that architecture is so abstract that it cannot be told. Many offices, as far as specifications and plans are concerned, are still practicing in the manner of the late twenties. Something could also be done with the curriculum of the architectural schools to introduce the students to modern office procedure.

I agree with Mr. Henry Stanton when he says, "What is needed most is better architecture." This can be accomplished by the Institute starting at the bottom and raising the level of the average office by education. Mr. Black's idea that the Institute should retire into its shell and leave the field free smacks of Hitler's ideas about his generals, much to the delight of the Russians. There is no satisfaction in curing the patient by killing him.

I firmly believe that membership in the Institute should signify that the holder is an architect per se. If this be so then the Institute has something to sell and is a going concern and can accomplish wonders. We are only indispensable if we make ourselves so. In the past too often the public has trod the weary path and has come back with a bees' nest instead of the mouse trap.

This is from one away out in the sticks who can still see the forest because someone cut down all the trees. I offer an apology for intruding on strictly a local problem but as I mentioned before please remember that "The eyes of Texas are upon you."

Best wishes and good luck for solution to your problem.

ELECTED TO A. I. A.

Emil Lorch, president of the Detroit Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, has announced that Barry L. Frost, of Jackson, has been elected to membership in The American Institute of Architects and assigned to its Detroit Chapter.

Mr. Frost was born in Jackson and is an alumnus of Jackson High School. He attended Michigan State College for one year and was graduated from the University of Michigan, College of Architecture, with the degree of Bachelor of Science in Architecture in 1924. After traveling and studying in England, France, Holland, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, he became employed by the Commonwealth Power Company in Jackson. Upon becoming registered, by examination, he formed a partnership with Carl Kressbach of Jackson, and later with Leon Snyder, Jr. of Battle Creek. At present he is practicing alone at Armory Court, Jackson, Michigan.

Mr. Frost was an officer in the U. S. Engineers during the first World War, and subsequently in the Michigan National Guards. He is a member of the American Legion, Kiwanis Club, Tau Sigma Delta Fraternity, and the Michigan Society of Architects.

Also included in announcement of election of membership in Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. are the following:

PAUL KETELHUT, graduated from University of Michigan's College of Architecture in 1923. He took the architectural engineering course, and received his certificate of registration, by taking the examination, the same year. His experience was gained in such offices as Albert Kahn, Cuthbert & Cuthbert, Michigan State Architect's office, Coral Gables Development Company, and Smith, Hinchman and Grylls. He has become an important part of the last named organization and is now stationed at St. Paul, Minnesota, supervising construction of the Twin Cities Ordinance Plant, one of the Government's gigantic projects, for which Smith, Hinchman & Grylls are architects and engineers.



Ketelhut

JOHN KASURIN, who was born in Finland, and educated there in Ecole des Beaux Arts, Paris, France. He worked for the Stockholm City Gas and Electric Works, in their architectural department, for two years. American architectural offices where he worked include Lord & Hewlett, Ewing & Chappell, Louis Jallade; McFarland, Colby and McFarland, Frank D. Shea, Reid Brothers, and Lansburg & Joseph.

Kasurin was registered in Michigan in 1916 and has practiced here under his own name since. He is a brother of Paul Kasurin of Ann Arbor, who is also a member of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.



Kasurin

ROBERT W. HUBEL, of the firm of Albert Kahn, Associated Architects & Engineers, Incorporated. He was a former member of the Brooklyn Chapter, A.I.A. and attended Atelier Hornbostel and Columbia University, receiving the certificate of Beaux Arts Institute of Design. He spent ten years with Kirby, Petit & Green, architects, of New York, and later entered partnership with Beckett & Akitt, of Detroit. Hubel became registered as an architect in Michigan by reciprocity on the basis of his registration in New York State. He has been a main stay in the Albert Kahn organization for many years, and his specialty is design.



Hubel

CLAIR W. STUCHELL, an alumnus of University of Michigan, College of Architecture, was registered in Michigan, by examination, in 1923. He served with the United States Army during the first World War, was employed by Albert Kahn, C. Howard Crane, Detroit Board of Education, Van Leyen & Schilling, Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, the Charles B. Bohn Corporation, and in association with Harold W. Buchheit, civil engineer. At present he maintains offices in the Lafayette Building, Detroit.



Stuchell

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLEDGES ARCHITECTS' SUPPORT OF DEFENSE

Remarks of Mr. Samuel E. Lunden, upon taking office as president of Southern California Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, at its recent Annual Meeting.

PROGRAM AND ACTIVITIES FOR 1942

We can be sure that this year will see all of our members playing their part in an all out War effort for 1942. Some members will serve and others are already serving in the armed forces. Some architects will do their bit as civilian employees and certainly all will serve in the Civilian Defense program. Henry C. Newton, Los Angeles Architect and member of this Chapter is a colonel stationed at Fort Knox as instructor in Mechanical warfare. Savo Stositch, Charles Fry and Richard Cook are in uniform, some in the far East. Edward Taylor has designed the big Douglas Aircraft factories and Consolidated Aircraft plants in San Diego. Gordon B. Kaufmann, Fellow of the Institute, is in charge of the big magnesium plant at Las Vegas. Palmer Sabin, retiring as vice-president of the Chapter, is co-ordinating the big Naval Hospital at Long Beach. Hunt and Chambers have designed the huge Army cantonments at Camp Callan and in Oregon. Cassatt Griffin, a member of this Chapter is acting chief engineer of the County Building Department and is a member of the County Civilian Defense Council.

Our first objective as Architects must be to serve in Civilian Defense, our second job to plan for the future and give the Country and this community the benefit of our training in long range planning. We must organize top men to protect lives and property. We must coordinate our efforts with the officials in charge, as well as offering our services in specialized fields. Our *patriotic duty* is to serve where our particular talents best fit us to be of value to our community. We can pattern our activities after the work of the British Architects who have so bravely carried on in the face of War to help in rebuilding, demolition, decontamination and greatest of all in long range future planning for the post war period when the scars of war will be erased and new cities will grow on the rubbish of the old.

After the present emergency is over we must all go back to peacetime pursuits. We will have tremendous problems of employment and rehabilitation and the difficulty of "getting tooled up" for Peace and live as usual. The Architect and Planner can, and will be of the greatest value to society in this planning of building and rebuilding. Our cities are not as beautiful or as pleasant or as healthy as they should be. Our transportation is inadequate and dangerous—we haven't enough play space even here on a vast coastal plain where nature has richly endowed us. In the rebuilding and future building we must as Architect-planners set the goal and point the way so that life will be better and healthier and more pleasant.

Louis C. Kingscott, A.I.A., has been named by Governor Van Wagoner as chairman of a new defense sub-committee, to plan post-war construction and speed production.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

Detroit Division, Michigan Society of Architects
February 4, 1942

By Aloys Frank Herman

Perhaps of this outgoing presidency, it may be well said in the words of Kipling, that, "... we meant well, tried a little, and failed much."

In accepting the high honor of the presidency of this organization to which you have elected me some two years ago, we pledged ourselves to the two fold proposition of improving the standards of our practice and secondly, to improve the conditions under which we practice. Herein, we meant well, very well indeed.

We have held exhibitions and have given a series of lectures at the institute and elsewhere, in the past two years, in an effort to parade before the inquiring world the best in architecture and architectural thought as produced by our local men. This we believe to have been of some value and is something that should be continued, since it is persistency that wins. Herein again we believe that we tried a little.

Relative to improving the conditions under which we practice, we feel and know that we have failed much. We have our registration law, we have had it amended. We have the greatest evil with us now; namely, the large contracting firm, made up many times of registered engineers, who provide a complete building service. This we can only recognize as an encroaching menace.

We had unanimously resolved on a certain line of action, namely, to send letters to such contractors and owners, calling their attention to this unfair and illegal procedure, and warning them of our avowed intention of, (putting it plainly) boycotting them, only to be advised by our counsel that it may not be done since the personnel of these firms are in most instances registered engineers, and so the requirements as set up in the law are being complied with.

It is, therefore, our strong recommendation to the incoming officers that we;

1. Continue without fail to hold our exhibitions and competitions yearly.

2. Have our best qualified men deliver lectures and speak on architecture as an art and its value to humanity and society as a whole, at every opportunity available.

3. That we bend every effort and almost demand a single unified architectural society, such as will present a strong united architectural front, and will make it possible for us to engage and adequately pay a full time capable secretary. We shall get nowhere until this is done.

4. That we persist in prosecuting all cases that come under our law as it is now written.

5. Lastly, that we organize a Registration Law Committee made up of seasoned thinkers, preferably chosen from the large offices, and let them work with the engineers and our counsel in an effort to produce the desired registral legislation, which will protect the public and return the practice of architecture to architects, where it belongs.

A. H. ALDINGER, SR.

Albert H. Aldinger, president of Walbridge-Aldinger Co., general contractors, died at Grace Hospital on February 9, at the age of 65, after an illness of two weeks.

Mr. Aldinger, who had lived in Detroit 26 years, had supervised construction of the Federal Building, Olympia, United Artists Theatre and office building, General Motors and Chrysler plants, and foundations of the Penobscot Building. His home was at 80 Rhode Island Avenue, Highland Park.

He had both bachelor's and master's degrees from Purdue University and was a fellow in Tau Beta Pi, honorary engineering fraternity. He was a member of Ancient Landmark Lodge, F. & A. M., of Winnipeg, Man.; Palestine Lodge, R.A.M., and Detroit Commandery No. 1.

He was a member of the Detroit Athletic Club, Detroit Golf Club and Rotary Club.

Surviving are the wife Lucy; two sons, Albert H. Jr., and Cyrus B. Aldinger, and two sisters, Miss Marie Aldinger and Mrs. J. M. Scott, both of San Antonio, Tex.

FEBRUARY 17, 1942

ANNUAL REPORT, M.S.A.
COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION

Earl W. Pellerin, Chairman

Many informal discussions among members of this committee, as well as with many other interested architects, have at least given much encouragement to the general picture in this city. Some of the aims and suggestions have been carried out with much success, others hold possibilities for the future. The chief thought in regard to students is to make their standard of training as high as possible. Their training is bound to be reflected in the years to follow.

A course in Architectural Practice was given in one of the local schools this year. This dealt with professional ethics, contracts, laws, drawings, specifications, office records and the relationship between the architect and others. Considering the experiences of many of the present committees on practice, this course certainly can develop into one of great value.

At another school here, besides regular class work, outside activities are not only strongly recommended, but have been surprisingly well carried on. These include reading and collecting of certain books, visits to various exhibits, new buildings of note, either individually or in groups, attending certain plays, operas, concerts and lectures and travel as often and widely as possible. This younger group of architectural men meets every few weeks for general discussions. This year stimulating news and facts have been brought back from coast to coast, including Spring Green, Wisconsin, Washington, Charleston, and other places. An annual weekend sketching trip was one of the high lights of the season.

All these things have brought much enthusiasm to these young men and noticeable improvement in their work. Realizing the stature and brilliance of men like White, Goodhue, Wright and others, gives an idea of their own small efforts and what they have to strive for. Possibilities for a junior A.I.A. group here are now being considered.

Several highly commendable lectures were given during the year by members of our society to clubs, faculties, student groups and over the radio. It is our hope that some of these beginnings will bring further results this year.

DEMOUNTABLE CITIES

An Editorial in the New York Sun, Jan. 30, 1942.

What will follow the skyscraper era in American architecture? The American Institute of Architects quotes Harvey Wiley Corbett in criticism of tall buildings, of which, on Mr. Corbett's own word, he "used to be a strong advocate." The war in the air has changed the thinking of those who plan our offices, homes, factories and public buildings. Indeed, some authorities may assert that the era of skyscrapers ended when the depression made tall buildings costly because the general curtailment of business led to a period of expensive vacancies in some of the city's skyscrapers. In other cities a skyscraper era has only begun.

Mr. Corbett forecasts buildings of lighter construction, but the most interesting part of his prediction concerns the flexibility of the buildings we may have in the post-war period. These will be fashioned of prefabricated materials that can be assembled and dismantled rapidly. An advantage will be the ease with which changes in design can be made to fit the needs of occupants.

The relation of design to safety in air raids has, of course, been more intensely studied in this country in recent months, but many an architect has long considered necessary and even radical departures from present practice. Recently Konrad F. Wittman in Architectural Record wrote of the need to disguise buildings in ways not commonly included in the art of camouflage. It is easier to spot from the air buildings designed in geometrical shapes that throw straight shadows than buildings so constructed that their outlines cast irregular curves on the ground. Roof gardens may become more popular—indeed, perhaps small golf courses can be laid out on the roofs of factories—all in the interest of confusing the destructive observer.

ANNUAL REPORT, M. S. A., COMMITTEE ON PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE

Leo M. Bauer, Chairman

It is well known to all members of the Profession that the 27th Annual Convention of the Michigan Society of Architects held in Detroit in March, 1941, adopted the recommendations in full made by the Practice Committee to that assembly. Those recommendations are listed as the following:

1. Referral to the APELSCOR Committee of amendments to Act No. 240, P. A., 1937.
2. (a) The repeal of the action of the 24th Annual Convention establishing requirements for architectural practice.
(b) The adoption of standards of professional conduct by the Michigan Society of Architects.
3. Recommendations that the State Board of Registration for Architects, Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, adopt the standards of professional conduct so enacted by the Convention, as its measure for the qualifications of Architects.
4. That the Society arrange for, and provide radio spot announcements to better acquaint the public with the profession.
5. The adoption of certain specific amendments of the by-laws of the Society as follows:
 - (a) Incorporating the new standards of professional conduct.
 - (b) Raising the annual dues to the sum of Five Dollars (\$5.00).
 - (c) Certain other minor amendments.

It is pertinent to discuss here each of those recommendations.

It may be remembered by some that the Chairman of the Committee objected on the floor of the Convention, to the referral of these amendments to the APELSCOR Committee. That objection was raised despite the fact that it was believed that the professional engineers of the State would not accept the amendments as originally drawn, because those amendments would regulate the practice of engineering in the same manner as that of Architecture.

It may be remembered also that the Convention by its referral of these amendments to the APELSCOR Committee adopted only two (2) minor measures of the proposed amendments, which in fact strengthened the Act little, if any. It might be said also that several high officials in the State Government insisted that the amendments be presented to the Legislature as originally drawn. They were not presented because of objection by the engineers.

The Chairman of the Committee takes the responsibility of having informed officers and members of the Society on many previous occasions, that the Act as finally amended is but slight improvement over the original Act.

In substantiation of that statement, it is well known that construction firms are engaging in architectural and engineering practice much to the detriment of the profession. Only recently the Detroit Division of the Society adopted a resolution bearing on this subject.

Some time ago the Committee presented to the Detroit Division a resolution wherein was approved the appointment of a Committee of three (3) to meet with a like number to be appointed by the professional engineers, for the purpose of its study of the Act relating to the improvement of the condition recited herewith. It should be pointed out here that such Committee was to report its findings to the APELSCOR Committee sixty (60) days prior to the submission of its report to the Michigan Engineering Society. The Committee on Professional Practice strongly recommends that this Committee be appointed forthwith, in order that an intelligent study may be given toward further amending the Act at the next session of the Legislature, which regular session will convene in less than eleven (11) months.

The standards of professional conduct are in effect, though no cases have been presented to the Committee for any action or decision thereon.

Information has been received from the State Board of Registration, that such standards of professional conduct cannot be made official by the Board because the Act as now constituted, does not empower the Board to so adopt them.

Apparently no action has been taken in this regard and perhaps it is reasonable not to adopt such a program until after the present National Emergency.

The picture however is not entirely dark.

Immediately upon the retention by the State Board of Registration of an Executive Secretary, numerous cases on which the Committee had information were referred to him. I can assure the Division that the Executive Secretary has made investigations of most of the cases reported to the Board, and in some instances action has been taken to correct malpractice. On the other hand, the Committee can report that there are some alleged violations which do not warrant any action other than a warning.

To quote from a letter from the Executive Secretary, to the Chairman, "The chief complaints, namely: engineering contractors and dual-capacity architects are still before the Attorney General. There is one error in the engineering contractor complaint. Each of the firms has a registered man in charge of the work, who does seal the plans. We have taken steps to correct this practice."

The Committee offers no apologies for the work it has endeavored to do. We hope that what has been done may merit, in some small measure, the approval of the profession.

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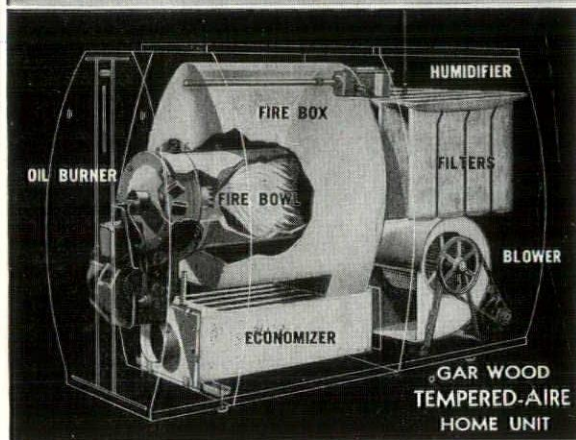
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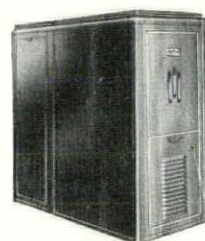
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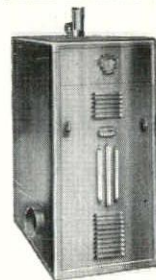
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Entered as second-class matter Dec. 9, 1930, at the Post Office at Detroit, Mich., under the Act of March 3, 1879. Published Weekly. Subscription Price: 50c per year (Non-members \$4.00) 10c per copy.

Vol. 16

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, FEBRUARY 24, 1942

No. 8

SOCIETY'S BOARD HOLDS MEETING IN ANN ARBOR

Unification, Directors Meeting and Dinner with Division Fill Afternoon and Evening.

WATTS A. SHELLY IS SPEAKER.

A report of Watts A. Shelly, executive secretary of the State Board of Registration for Architects, Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, was given at a joint meeting of the Society's board and members of its Ann Arbor Division, at the Michigan Union on Tuesday evening, February 17th.

The dinner meeting was presided over by L. L. Woodworth, president of the local division, who introduced the speaker. Shelly stated that while he had been with the board for some months this was the first time he was able to report in a definite way. The executive secretary, who is a graduate in engineering from the University of Michigan, said that in a short time he has learned a great deal about the practice of architecture. He outlined the work entailed by his office, classifying it into several categories, stating that he is an enforcement officer for the board and, therefore, their agent in carrying out certain policies.



Shelly

He mentioned that about twenty-five complaints had been made through the Practice Committee of the Society and as

many others from different sources, all of which must be followed up in regular order, entailing considerable time and effort. This, he explained, as the reason why it was not possible to immediately pursue any one case to its final conclusion.

Another of his duties is to assist applicants and registrants in interpretations based upon board action and upon rulings by the Attorney General's office. The speaker stated that upon studying laws of other states, he felt that ours compared very favorably.

He mentioned that, according to board instructions, his goal was to assist in stabilizing the profession of architecture in Michigan and improving its standing in the community, so that it will be comparable with that of other professions. He enumerated various cases, such as the misuse of seal, the dual-capacity practitioner such as architect and contractor combined, the misuse of the title of architect by those not registered, and other miscellaneous violations.

Upon completion of Mr. Shelly's talk, Branson V. Gamber characterized it as "the most encouraging report on this subject that we have ever heard."

Unification Committee

At the Unification Committee meeting, which began at noon, reports of the letter ballots were given. Of 705 mailed 184, or about 26%, were returned. This is con-

sidered a good percentage for letter ballots. Of this number 174 favored the proposed plan, while eight opposed it. The "No" votes were cast by members of the Grand Rapids Chapter or those in its area. However, 25 in the Grand Rapids area voted for the plan. It was decided to continue with the committee's work, while endeavoring to satisfy the desires of Grand Rapids members. Accordingly, Chairman Black appointed a sub-committee to prepare proposed by-laws, consisting of Talmage C. Hughes, chairman; Cornelius L. T. Gabler and Paul E. Flanagan. Another committee will consider finances, and this is composed of John C. Thornton, chairman; Leo I. Perry and Paul E. Flanagan. The third committee, which is to prepare a petition to be sent to the Institute, will be headed by Clair W. Ditchy. Working with him will be C. William Palmer, Emil Lorch and Adrian N. Langius.

Mr. Mead, representing the Grand Rapids Chapter, invited the committee to send a representative to appear before a Grand Rapids Chapter meeting for the purpose of further discussing the plan. The board authorized the acceptance of this invitation.

The next meeting of the committee will be held at noon on March 10th in Detroit, preceding the Society's board meeting.

Board of Directors

The Society board meeting at 4:00 P. M. was conducted by C. William Palmer, Society president. It was announced that Harry L. Mead of Grand Rapids had been named director to succeed John P. Baker, of that city who is now in Pine Bluff, Arkansas.

Kenneth C. Black, chairman of the Committee on Arrangements for the Society's 28th Annual Convention to be held at Hotel Olds in Lansing on April 3 and 4, announced that a tentative program had been arranged. An exhibition of architectural drawings and photographs will be held in the lobby on the club floor for one week beginning on Sunday before the convention. This lobby is used by many luncheon clubs in Lansing, as well as for meetings of other groups and is in almost constant use. It will, therefore, afford an excellent opportunity to show the architects' work. In addition the public will be invited, as well as others from the college art classes.

See BOARD MEETING—Page 3

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SOUTHERN ARCHITECTURE HARD TO PIGEONHOLE, SAYS THE AUTHOR OF "WHITE PILLARS"

Southern architecture, with its characteristic tall columns, copious wings and rambling "verandahs," was an expression of the pattern of life in the Old South before the Civil War, J. Frazer Smith, Regional Director of the Gulf States District of the American Institute of Architects, says in "White Pillars," a study of the early life and architecture of the lower Mississippi valley country.

Asserting that architectural study of the homes of Tennessee, Kentucky, Alabama, Mississippi and Louisiana has been neglected, Mr. Smith points out that in no section of the United States did the inhabitants pioneer more boldly or successfully in home building.

"From the time of the American Revolution to 1861, these Southerners west of the mountains erected homes that confidently combined the old with the new, and united their traditions and learning with their desires and ambitions," says Mr. Smith, an architect of Memphis, Tennessee. "Yet all classifications fail that try to define the types by arbitrary rules. Perhaps this is why textbook makers have neglected the architecture of the South—it is not easily pigeonholed as Colonial or Greek revival or Early Republican, and above all things it cannot be called Southern Colonial.

"The South produced an architecture characteristic of its way of life. The War-between-the States put an end to the slavery system upon which was based the South's entire social and economic background. The civilization was never fully developed, but was cut off so abruptly that within four years it was only a memory. Had the South been permitted to continue its particular way of life to full development, probably today it would have developed an architecture unmistakably characteristic, and its style would be known by a specific name."

A "Southern" house is unmistakable, even though it eludes precise definition, for the reason that it is functionally adapted to a particular way of life, Mr. Smith declares. "The Southerner developed a characteristic plan. His plantation, plantation housing, and big house plan were unmistakable products of his way of living. His materials of construction were definitely local and his craftsmen were trained to know and respect the use and limitations of these materials. The climate taught him the value of shade, and his great "verandahs" were the resultant original motif and his crowning achievement. During the formative periods of Southern architecture, his house facades took on forms reflecting these plans, materials, and craftsmanship.

"It is significant that about 1820 the apparent opportunities in the Southland attracted men of great wealth, intelligence and influence. Accompanying architects brought with them forms fresh from the old world, and soon fine examples of classical monuments sprung up in the form of state houses and public buildings. This was the introduction to European influences as well as those of our Atlantic seaboard. The Southerner at once recognized in the orders of ancient Greece and Rome: columns to support his verandahs, entablatures to span spaces and support roofs, refined mouldings to frame his fenestration, crown his mantels and glorify his interiors. As if by magic, his crude forms took on refinement and his white-pillared house was rapidly developed.

"The orderly evolution of forms is an honorable process in architecture. Civilizations are permitted to borrow elements from predecessors, but are expected to contribute their bit toward advancement. The Southerner, without doubt, contributed substantially to this evolution. He was most original in his functional use of the orders. He applied them in his own materials and adjusted their parts to function properly and to appeal aesthetically under their use. The mouldings and lesser forms of the classical styles he applied in wood and plaster to suit his own requirements, and emerged with forms definitely different."

The formative period of Southern domestic architecture, 1776 to 1830, was an era of great national pride and ambition, a fact which vastly influenced building styles, Mr. Smith

says. "The winning of independence from Great Britain was followed by the erection of public buildings designed to be as impressive as possible. To Jefferson, Strickland, and other leaders in building, the style which best embodies the young nation's ideals was the classic temple.

The states and counties often strove to emulate the federal style in building their capitols and courthouses. Therefore many an American who knew no formal rules of architecture vaguely associated the grandeur of the tall columns of his courthouse or his home with the glory of the political commonwealth of which he was a citizen.

"It fitted his conception of democracy that a successful man's house should resemble the Parthenon or at least, the state capitol. Southerners were not unique in this era in admiring and appropriating the classic manner for their homes; the vogue for it appeared everywhere. However, they used it so independently and with such little regard for formal rules that they achieved more originality than did people of other sections."

Seventy-five Southern homes are sketched and described by Mr. Smith in "White Pillars," the forword to which is written by Leicester B. Holland, Fellow of the American Institute of Architects, Chief of the Fine Arts Division of the Library of Congress. Floor plans are given for many of the mansions, including The Hermitage, historic home of General Andrew Jackson near Nashville, Tenn. Built in 1818 after the General had become the hero of New Orleans, the house was remodelled in 1831 when Jackson was President of the United States to make it larger and more adaptable for entertaining on a lavish scale. Previous to 1818 Jackson and his wife had lived for many years in a log house, a typical southern pioneer dwelling.

"Rosedown," a palatial home where John James Audubon lived as a tutor-guest while he finished his "Birds of America," is also sketched.

BOARD MEETING—(Continued from Page 1)

The convention will begin with a buffet supper on the evening of Thursday, April 2. A board meeting will be held at breakfast Friday morning and the first business session at 10 o'clock, that day. It is proposed that a series of round table meetings be held at a luncheon on Friday, with another business session on Friday afternoon. The banquet will be held Friday evening, at which William A. Cory of Otis Elevator Company of Detroit, will be toastmaster. It is said that this alone should make the convention unique, since neither Roger Allen nor Clair Ditchy will be toastmaster at an architects' banquet in Michigan. The speaker at the banquet will be Thomas S. Holden, president of the F. W. Dodge Corporation. Saturday morning a meeting of the newly elected board of directors will be held at breakfast and at 10 o'clock a business session. This will be followed by a luncheon at which Captain Donald Leonard will be the speaker. This will be the concluding event. Registration is set at \$1.00, the banquet at \$3, and luncheon at \$1.50, or \$5 for the complete package.

While there will be the usual good fellowship, it is planned that this year the convention should be devoted seriously to the many problems of the profession. It is a short convention and, therefore, no time must be lost. Hotel rooms start at \$2.50 per day, and from all accounts this will be one of our most successful annual meetings.

President Palmer reminds all committee chairmen that their annual reports should be submitted to the Society's board meeting, in Detroit on March 10. It is also planned to have reports from division presidents. These will be given at the convention.

Nominating Committee

President Palmer announced that he had appointed a committee to nominate officers and directors for the coming year. His committee consists of Adrian N. Langius, chairman, Harry L. Mead and Andrew R. Morison.

A second committee to prepare a separate slate has been named by the board of directors of the Society. It consists of Lynn W. Fry, Robert B. Frantz and A. B. Chanel.

PRESENT DAY ECONOMICS MAKE WHOLE OF ARCHITECTURE SICK

Automobile, Airplane Chief Among Factors That Turn Attention and Interests Away From the Cherished Home, Which Has Become Mainly Automatic and Servantless.

By ARTHUR I. MEIGS

From his talk before The Philadelphia Chapter, A.I.A., published in The Pennsylvania Architect.

The main factor that makes residence architecture sick today is an economic one. In fact, present day economics make the whole of architecture sick.

Before automobiles came into existence people lived in houses. I do not see how we can get away from that. If we imagine the date to be 1875, and we moved through the houses of man and went and knocked on the door of one of them, almost for sure somebody would be inside the house.

This proposition seems to me to be simple, because for all the little houses and houses of the poor, there wasn't much method of the inmate getting away from them. Of course, the man would be off at his work, but the woman would be around. In short, the house would be inhabited. How could she get away? It cost money to buy a railway ticket, and she did not have a horse and carriage. So, therefore, if she wasn't in the house she was within walking distance of it the vast majority of the time.

Things are pretty different now.

If anyone doesn't believe this, all he has to do is to look at a street or a highway, and there he will see the citizenry moving around like a lot of little scuttlebugs. Now, a person naturally cannot be as much interested in a house that he is always away from as he can be in a house he lives in—and that goes for 90% of the population.

This brings us to the point where a man, instead of having one main principal possession—which is his residence—now wants to reduce that thing to the simplest possible degree. This is particularly true among the young married people. The servantless house is completely in vogue. Everything is automatic. Its most desirable feature is that the young married couple have only to walk out the front door and close it and lock it and not come home for as long as they like.

The most desirable feature of a modern house is how easy it is to leave it. Things go by fashion. Fifty years ago, a successful, rising man of thirty-five to forty would wish nothing better than to have a beautiful place in the country, surrounded with a beautiful garden and a beautiful farm. Today, if you offered that same rising young man of thirty-five to forty the same thing, he would raise his hands in holy horror and say, No, no, that would be the last thing in God's green world he would want. He wants the automobile. He wants his ability to go north in summer and south in winter, and to Europe—if there isn't any war; and he wants plenty of money in the bank to throw parties. He wants to be able to take his wife and friends to New York and go to the theatre. He wants to be in a position to do this over and over again and spend a hundred or so of dollars every crack, but he doesn't want his money tied up in a house.

Perhaps the best manifestation of the whole movement is the trailer—which is, of course, no more than a house on wheels; and, as far as that is concerned, an ordinary automobile is pretty nearly that.

These are a few of the reasons why a house is not as popular today as it was in the past.

Now, the way architecture gets produced is by the people who build it: and by that I mean the Owners being in a competitive state of mind. One millionaire builds a house on Fifth Avenue, or at Newport, and the next millionaire sets out to build a house to beat the first millionaire's; and that goes right up the line. That gives Mr. Architect a chance, as it were, to "practice." In a sort of parenthesis, I have often wondered where they got that word "practice." It always seems to me a very frightening sort of word. A lawyer and an architect "practice" on their clients; and a doctor "practices" on his patients. The word "patient" is

almost as funny, for God knows, a patient has to be patient; and what a discouraging idea it is for a man to realize that he has to be "practiced" upon. Hot thought. Maybe one of the "practitioners" might make a mistake. They often do.

In this connection, I remember a story about Mr. Frank Miles Day that always amused me. It was something like this:

Mr. Day was on the witness stand, and a heckling lawyer said to him: "Mr. Day, did you ever make a mistake?" "Not that I can remember," said Mr. Day.

But, coming back to "practice," the only way anybody can get anything is by practicing it. You practice tennis, or you practice bridge; and practice makes perfect. The Greeks kept on building temple after temple, and the Christians kept on building cathedral after cathedral, and damn the expense. The competitive thing was there, and the practice thing was there, and both outfits took two or three centuries in the process.

Now, there was another place where the ancients had the advantage over us moderns in architecture, and that was that they had plenty of money to spend. I do not like the term "money," because perhaps it was not money in those days. It was really energy: just a flow of human energy that could be controlled and directed. We have the exact same flow of energy today, except I suppose it is ten to one hundred times as big as in ancient times, but that flow of energy does not go into architecture. It goes into airplanes and tanks and ships and motor cars. It goes in by the billion. The fellows who are building airplanes today can put out a cheap little machine for a couple of million dollars or so, and have it blow up and everybody killed, and all that is said is, "Oh, well, what the hell, we learned something." So then they start in to build another one costing more, and rectify their mistakes.

We are not allowed to do that in architecture.

An architect once told me there were only two main questions that clients ask. One was: "When will it be done?" The other was: "How much will it cost?"

The airplane builders and the tank builders are asked: "When will it be done," but as for the cost, the hell with that.

I said, a little way back, it was an advantage to me to be able to talk from the position of one who was retired. I realized, through the "grape-vine"—and, really, it was not very difficult for me because the "grape-vine" was sometimes pretty articulate—that I was supposed to be a most terribly expensive architect. This irritated me, and to my dying day I will never believe it. Of course, the meat of the matter is, not how many dollars and cents does a particular thing cost. The real word is the one so frequently used by our Business brethren—namely, Value. There is a question which comes in here of the relation between how much does it cost and how much do you get. An architect's job is not to save money. The owner pays him to spend money. If he doesn't know how to spend money he is no good of an architect.

Can anyone suppose that the architectural force that brought into existence the cathedral for Versailles or the Louvre was particularly concerned with the saving of money?

We all know, I suppose, the Paris Opera House. To me, that always seemed a magnificent example of spending money. It was done fairly recently—about 1870, I think—and when one examines it architecturally one finds that Mr. Garnier must have had a very definite idea that an opera house looked nice with a whole lot of people moving up and down staircases. What I am getting at is that a large percentage of the cube of the building is simply devoted to staircases, and devoted at the price, I fancy, of a good many million francs.

It is quite an important thing in a discussion of this kind to come to what the debaters call the "definition of terms." What is Architecture? A cathedral, a palace, a great house? They are all architecture. But can we call an office building, an apartment house, a factory, or a housing project (and I know at this point I am treading upon some of you gentlemen's toes) architecture at all? I

do not think so. Not in the big sense. These latter classifications are designed to make money, and the former, as I pointed out before, are designed to spend money. Perhaps that makes a pretty clear line of demarkation. The two types look different.

If we are considering the countenances of two human beings, and one was a holy man like St. Francis of Assisi and another was a good man like George Washington, would we expect their countenances and their kind and patient and sorrowful eyes to look the same as the dirty glint in the eye of a money-lender? The jobs that St. Francis and George Washington had to do made them look one way, and the money-lending job makes the money-lender look the other way.

So it all comes down to this: that architecture is a pretty troublesome kind of companion—one that is very lovely when achieved but pretty hard to achieve.

I have not said much so far about ancient and modern house architecture itself. I am really afraid to tackle the subject.

I cannot keep from laughing at the very hot-stuff Modernists. They seem to be in a perfect fury about something. They are mad all through. It seems as if they suffered from frustration. The argument is, very simply, that one must not be a stick-in-the-mud, and one must move with the times, but when they get going, they knock out everything that got done in the past, both the good and the bad, and by that time it always seems to me they have gotten themselves into a fix.

I think almost all of us must have felt in our practice a certain feeling of dismay when, after working hard to produce something that seemed to us awfully good, we turned it over to the client and the client in turn turned it over to the family and friends. They have just one idea, and that is to show how bright they are, so they begin to suggest all the changes they can possibly think of—and the things they think of to knock out are invariably the best ones.

Now, just why should a house be built mostly out of glass? And yet, as far as I can see, that is one of the ambitions of the Modern. Put in the glass and let the light in, and put up the curtains and keep the light out. Put in the glass to make it cold, and pile in the radiation to counteract it. Fine for the glass manufacturers and fine for the heating manufacturers, but what happens to the poor benighted creature that has to live inside? He likes to look at the view, he says. Most of the time when he is indoors he spends looking at a glass circle at the bottom of which is a whisky-and-soda, and most of the views he could look at—he'd better have his back to.

However, if we approach the subject from the Gallup Poll standpoint, and consider the thousands or hundreds of thousands of horrible little houses that are going up all over the country-side, and selling anywhere from \$4,000 to \$8,000, we find that very few indeed are Modern. There seems to be a passion for Brick: Little brick so-called Colonial houses, with double-hung windows and variegated materials to put in the fanciful touch; a house of brick with a couple of stone corners, and maybe some white clapboards put in just to mix things up and attract the buyer—though God knows why.

As far as style goes, I have run through a good bit of it myself, and have come pretty near to ending up on a Georgian note.

As perhaps some of you know, I never went to school, myself, but grew, just like Topsy, and any little thing I found out about architecture came mainly through my eyes. I used to go to Europe pretty often shortly after we started in practice, and every time I came back some poor client got himself fixed up in the style of the country I had last visited. After a trip to England, in the Cotswold district, in 1911, nothing would do but I must jam my best friend into what was as near as I could come to the Cotswold manner, done at St. Davids, Pa. This one had casement windows in it, opening out, and in big groups; and a hell of a time I had selling that idea to a cross old real estate man, who said it was all very well for me, a young man striving to make my reputation, but what was going to

happen to him, poor soul, who had to put up the money? The only way I got that cross old real estate man to go ahead with it was to waive my own commission until after the house should be sold. That little offer did the trick and the old fellow lapped up the idea like a kitten. It may be of some interest that the house ultimately did get sold, and for a good price.

We went further along in this style a few years afterwards in a house at Haverford for C. W. Morris.

The next time I went abroad I went to Italy, and after that, Frank McIlhenny was the sufferer. I tried to get him to build an Italian house but he choked over it, so what ultimately got done was partly Italian and partly Meigs.

Then the War came, and French Ways and Their Meaning bit deep into me. McCracken's and Newbold's houses eventuated from this last experience, but they got a little of everything into them, as did also the McLean house and Goodhart Hall at Bryn Mawr College.

By this time I felt as if I were trying to talk an architectural Esperanto, and being young and energetic I spent all my time trying to make everything as difficult as possible: difficult for me, difficult for the builder, and difficult for the owner. But there was a lot of fun mixed up in it.

Finally, with old age creeping on, it seemed to me that just to build a decent house was trouble enough, and so, in the last five or ten years most of our stuff has been just ordinary Georgian. When I say "Georgian," I mean windows that slide up and down.

Going back to the question of "Modern,"—if anybody thinks that he hasn't enough work to do in building a Georgian house, after all the modern requirements have

See MEIGS—Page 6

QUESTIONNAIRE

To All Architects Registered In Michigan

Please fill out, sign and mail to Michigan Society of Architects, 120 Madison Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Editor's note: The Unification Questionnaire, together with explanation of the proposed plan of membership in one architectural organization in Michigan, has been mailed to all architects registered in Michigan. It has been published in the Weekly Bulletin twice.

Herewith is an abbreviated form. If you have not returned your questionnaire please use this one now. It is important to have an expression from a majority of those registered in this State.

Are you in favor of a plan worked out whereby the Michigan Society of Architects, the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. and the Grand Rapids Chapter, A.I.A. would be merged into one organization which would be similar to the Michigan Society of Architects, but which would actually be a state-wide chapter of the A.I.A.?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Do you believe that all members, whether corporate members of the A.I.A. or not, should be entitled to equal privileges in the state-wide organization as follows?

a. To vote for officers in local divisions and state-wide organization

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

b. To hold offices in local divisions and state-wide organization (either as officers or members of the board)

- ☐ Yes
☐ No

Signed

- ☐ I am now a corporate member of The American Institute of Architects.
☐ I am now a dues-paying member of the Michigan Society of Architects.
☐ I am not a dues-paying member of either organization.

Any further comments, on separate paper, if needed, will be welcome.

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**WAR ARCHITECTURE
New Type Seen Emerging**

From the New York World Telegram, Feb. 9, 1942

By DAVID DIETZ

Scripps-Howard Science Editor

First of the permanent changes in American life to emerge from World War II is a new type of industrial architecture. It is one more evidence of the old maxim that necessity is the mother of invention.

The rapid expansion of war industries meant that these plants be designed and built in the minimum of time. And out of this has come new and impressive beauty.

How this was achieved is described by Albert Kahn of Detroit, fellow of The American Institute of Architects and regarded by many as the leading industrial architect of the nation.

Mr. Kahn has designed more than 50 defense projects, including the Wright Aeronautical plant in Cincinnati, largest building in the world, the Chrysler Tank Arsenal in Detroit, a number of plants for General Motors and Ford and air bases in Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico.

"Elimination of nonessentials and of all else save the purely utilitarian is imperative in these structures," Mr. Kahn says. "But the very observance of these requirements contained an element which made for attractive external effect. It made for grandeur and dignity in these mammoth structures."

"Just as the mere clothing of the modern airplane by designers with an eye for line and a sense of fitness produces an object of beauty," Mr. Kahn continues, "so the direct and frank expression of the functional, the structural element of the industrial building, automatically makes for impressive results."

"External beauty as such is never achieved by application of useless decoration, but rather by good planning, grouping, massing and proportion. None of these need add to the cost of construction or entail delays."

The trend today is toward one-story structures, with only an occasional second floor for some specialized reason, Mr. Kahn says.

"Many-storied manufacturing buildings, except in special instances and for special purposes, and then only where building areas are limited, are things of the past," he continues. For warehouse purposes and the like they prove economical, but rarely for manufacturing."

However, Mr. Kahn does favor the use of basements in which lockers, dressing rooms, toilet facilities and the like are concentrated. With large numbers of stairways leading to the manufacturing floor these basements reduce greatly the amount of traffic on the manufacturing floor.

MEIGS—(Continued from Page 5)

been forced upon him, he must be a capable architect. When I refer to the "modern requirements," I mean heating and lighting and plumbing, and above all, bathrooms and closets. There isn't much left for the happy staircases that I referred to earlier, after he has got his bathrooms and closets.

Then there is another reason why I think house architecture is harder to do than it was thirty years ago, and that is on account of the decay in the state of mind of the client. Something seems to have happened to clients. They got "took," as it were. The economists have got hold of them, and the specialists have got hold of them, until they have got to a point where they don't trust anybody or anything. They seem to think that they can design a house just as well as the architect. This is an old tendency, but getting always worse. It is quite possible that this same tendency goes through the other professions—like the Law and Medicine, but I think not quite as badly as it does through Architecture. But, at any rate, it is all caused by surrounding world conditions.

We men are not alarmed at the news that we can no longer get a cuff on a pair of trousers. What worries us is how to get a pair of trousers on the cuff.—Roger Allen, G.R. Press.

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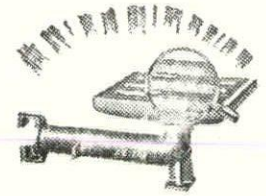
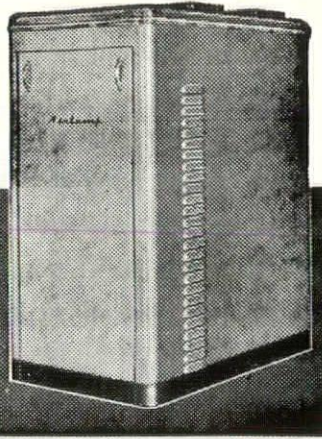
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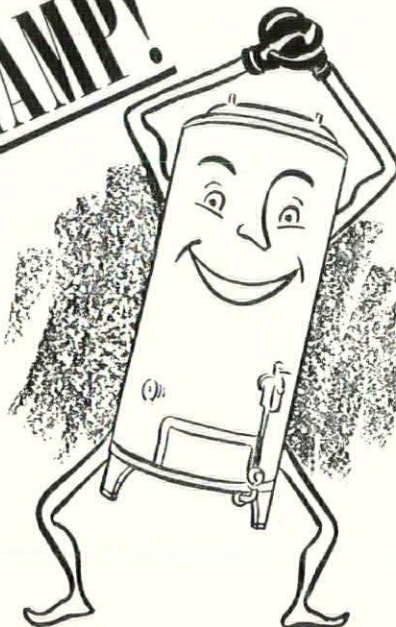
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