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WEEKLY



BULLETIN

EDMUND R. FURVELS

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Volume 21

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 2, 1947

No. 35

## MACKINAC MEETING WAS ENTERTAINING AND CONSTRUCTIVE

More than one hundred architects, their families and friends gathered at the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island for the Michigan Society of Architects' Fourth Annual Mid-Summer Meeting, August 4 and 5. Included were members of the Executive Committee of the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards: Warren D. Miller, President, of Terre Haute, Ind.; Clinton H. Cowgill, Vice-President, of Blacksburg, Va.; Roger C. Kirchoff, also a Vice-President, of Madison, Wis., and William L. Perkins, Secretary-Treasurer, of Chariton, Iowa.

Meeting with the Council in pre-Convention session were members of Michigan's Board of Registration: Wells I. Bennett, of Ann Arbor; Andrew R. Morison, of Detroit, and Wilfred C. Polkinghorne, of Houghton, Mich. Watts A. Shelly, Executive Secretary of the Michigan Board, was also in attendance.

At the final session of the Little Convention Mr. Miller reported on matters accomplished in the joint session, and he gave an enlightening talk on the aims and purposes of the Council. His talk is published elsewhere in this issue.

The Convention opened with a meeting of the Board of Directors, to which members of the Society had been invited. At this session the Society's Committee on Education and Research reported on its proposed Small House Program, consisting of a competition and exhibition. It is proposed that an exhibition be held in Convention Hall, Detroit in late February and early March, at which all designs entered in the competition be displayed. The Society's Annual Convention will probably be held for three days during the exhibition.

Also at this Board meeting it was decided that the Society should withdraw as a "State Association Member" of the A. I. A. and become a "State Organization" of the Institute. This is in line with the new unification plan of the Institute and the Society.

There remains yet to complete this matter a change in by-laws, on which Julian R. Cowin is now working.

The Federal Hospital Construction Program in Michigan was discussed and John P. Baker gave a very comprehensive report on this subject. His paper is also published in this issue.

Not all of the time was taken up with

meetings of a serious nature. There was much entertainment and recreation, as can be seen from the photographs herewith.

It was delightful to visit again this "Most Historic Spot in the Middle West," so designated by the American Historical Society, and the building designed by our beloved George D. Mason. Its more than five million cubic feet would seem to justify its claim to being "The World's Largest Summer Hotel."

Elsewhere in this issue is Mr. Dow's statement on the Small House Program of the Society's Committee on Education and Research, of which he is Chairman.



The President and his entourage are caught off duty. Messrs. Davis and Martin of the Portland Cement Association were hosts at a cocktail party.



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### BULLETIN:

I wish to thank you for the officers of the National Council for the courtesies extended and the very pleasant time we had while at Mackinac Island. I feel much was accomplished and a better understanding was reached and that the results will be beneficial.—WARREN D. MILLER.



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**"HOUSE FOR AN ARCHITECT"**

By ALDEN B. DOW, A.I.A.

There are two important reasons for building a house. First—to provide physical protection against natural elements; and second—to provide privacy which is fundamental to freedom.

This freedom is all important because it is the element that makes a house a home. It is the element that makes the house a part of us. We romp on the floor with our children, we sing like a Caruso in the bath tub, we change the garden and building to suit our fancies, and we tinker with fool ideas that no one else will believe in, yet as often as not, they are the seeds of a new industry.

This freedom gives us roots in the ground. It gives us the only place where we can really be ourselves, and being ourselves and developing as such is the greatest contribution we can give to society. The architect holds the key to this kind of development and it is the key that will some day make this profession outstanding among all professions.

Today the bulk of the housing in this country is not taking this approach. It seems to look at housing as only shelter. The individual is looked upon as one of a herd. His development is ignored. As a result, the growth of such pacifiers as beer parlors, dance halls, organized games, mass this and mass that, are developing at a rapid rate, and along with it more and more discontent and more patients in the sanitariums.

We are individuals because nature planned it that way, and, therefore, we should do everything we can to develop that quality because we cannot possibly ignore the will of nature. Proper housing or homes seems to be the natural starting point for this individual development.

Architects are always noted for their individuality, therefore, they should be best suited not only because of their profession but because of this individualism as designers of model homes, and by this I mean houses that reflect the individual character and interest of the dwellers.

These homes are never set examples of style, but rather growing expressions of the individuals living there.

The object of the "House for an Architect" that we are asking every architect in Michigan to present is to show the public that this sort of housing is the ideal of our profession and with it goes the richest kind of society. These houses that we are expecting the various architects to present will not be examples of so-called "Modern Architecture" but examples of organic living which means growing. These houses should grow out of the cost limitations, site limitations, material limitations and family requirements. Style should never be considered, only inspired healthy living. They may be a development of the tent idea, or the tree house, or even a cave, but regardless of how or what they are built of, they should represent a civilization or people interested in growing as individuals.

Some people say that all of this is wishful thinking. They say that many people do not want to live this way, that all they want is a roof over their heads

and a place to sleep. I look at that as being not unlike the household that never makes the beds, never cleans the floors, never cooks a special dish and never worries about clean clothes or buying new ones. Such households are headed for the stone age and are dragging civilization down along with them. Industry of every kind is dependent upon more and more individualized living for its development, whereas a slipshod lazy living can do nothing but degenerate the whole country.

I think that style in all of its forms is one reason for this laziness in living. Worrying about what the Jones' think often makes it difficult to grow. Rather than this point of view, we should worry about not hurting the Jones' but growing in all we can ourselves in any way.

Again that is organic living. As architects we must be thoroughly conscious of this and forget style in all of its forms. Some day we will do this, and when we do, we will be the keystone in our civilization. I'm betting on seeing that day.

But I do think this briefly outlines some of the reasons why architects must take part in this idea. It's not only the future of this profession that it is concerned with, but the future of this country and the civilized world.

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business sessions had been adjourned.

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### THE ARCHITECTS SHOW

By EARL W. PELLERIN, A.I.A.

Several months ago the Committee on Education of the Michigan Society of Architects had its first meeting. The group decided to go to work at once. One of the first decisions was to put on a real Architect's show. This will be held in a large hall, most likely at the time of the annual M.S.A. convention. All the Architects in the State will be invited to present work: models, drawings, photographs, etc. It is also contemplated that Painting, Sculpture, City Planning and Landscape Architecture will be represented. Building products may also be on display.

The show will be one not only for the profession but especially for the public. It will have a paid manager, a publicity man and will charge admission.

The show will run for nine days in Detroit where the convention is to be held and after that, portions of it will travel to other cities in the State. This exhibit is intended to be of interest to everyone and therefore housing and the small house will be features. An outline of the general program is well under way and details will follow as work progresses.

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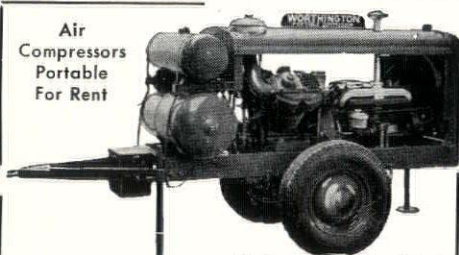
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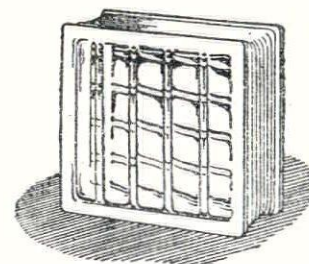
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## THE HOSPITAL SURVEY AND CONSTRUCTION PROGRAM IN MICHIGAN

By JOHN P. BAKER

At the risk of seeming to explain the obvious to those at least who have followed the progress of the U. S. Hospital Survey and Construction Program in Michigan, I will attempt to outline briefly some of the salient features of this nation-wide movement especially as it affects Michigan architects.

**THE FEDERAL ACT**—The 79th Congress in 1946 passed what is known as Public Law 725—Hospital Survey and Construction Act which authorizes the appropriation during the next five years of 375 million dollars of Federal Funds for aid in construction of hospitals. Since each Federal dollar must be matched with two local dollars the total construction volume under the act could total 1 1/4 billion dollars.

The purpose of the Act is to provide assistance, on a one-third to two-thirds matching basis, to the States in order that "the necessary facilities for furnishing adequate hospital, clinic, and similar services to all their people" be attained. To do this grants-in-aid are authorized to the State to:

1. Determine hospital and public health center needs through State-wide surveys.

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2. Develop State-wide programs for construction of the necessary additional facilities.

3. Construct such facilities as are thus determined to be necessary and are in conformity with an approved State-wide construction program.

Under the Act "Hospitals" are understood to be those classed as "general," tuberculosis, mental, chronic disease, and others, but excepting those intended to provide mainly domiciliary care. In order to be eligible for grants-in-aid these hospitals must be operated by governmental or non-profit agencies providing community-wide service to the general public. "Construction" may be in the form of new buildings or expansion and alteration of present ones, and the cost thereof for purposes of establishing the amount of federal grant includes architects' fees. The Federal administration of the Program is the responsibility of the Surgeon General of U. S. Public Health Service advised and assisted by a Federal Hospital Council.

Each State must designate a single State agency to administer the program on the State level and the State must provide a State Advisory Council. Under the Federal Act there have been established regulations relative to the methods of determining hospital distribution and of designating priority of projects based on relative needs, and general standards for construction and equipment. These minimum standards, which will be applied nation-wide, were brought into existence through the efforts and counsel of a Committee on Architectural Standards of which your president Mr. Langius is a member. In order to be eligible for federal grant the proposed construction must comply with these minimum architectural standards in addition to applicable State and local codes. Since all plans must be checked and recommended by the State agency to the Surgeon General's office for approval it is recommended that each architect, preparing plans for projects which will be presented for federal aid, secure the latest issue of the federal regulations.

**STATE LEGISLATION**—In order for Michigan to participate in the program the last State Legislature adopted House Enrolled Act 194 which provides for an inventory of existing hospitals, provides for a survey of the need for additional facilities in compliance with the federal act, provides for an office and Director of Hospital Survey and Construction and directs him to use the facilities of the Buildings and Construction Division as far as practicable, creates a Michigan Advisory Hospital Council and provides for an appropriation of \$25,000 to administer the program in this State. Governor Sigler recently signed this bill and it becomes effective October 11, 1947.

The State Administrative Board was designated by Governor Sigler as the official State Agency to carry the program forward through the facilities of the Buildings and Construction Division which has active charge of the program until the new legislation becomes effective and the new Office of Hospital Survey and Construction is established. Since the director of this new office will act with the advice of the new State Hospital

Council and since the whole movement is in reality a construction program, it seems unfortunate that under the terms of Act 194 the council which is to be appointed by the governor can not include among its membership a professional architect, who might be expected to possess some knowledge of the techniques of hospital design and construction and whose counsel might prove valuable in the various problems which will beset the Director as the construction program gets under way.

**LOCAL APPLICATION**—Many communities will wish to take advantage of the program and many projects will be advanced. Some will fit into the over-all State plan and will be eligible for grants-in-aid. We are not yet in a position to determine which projects will be eligible since the survey of needs is only in preliminary stage.

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Volume 21

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 9, 1947

No. 36

## N. C. A. R. B. EXPLAINED AT M. S. A. MACKINAC MEETING

### Address by

**WARREN D. MILLER,**

President of the N.C.A.R.B.

I was asked to make a short talk at this meeting relative to architectural registration and reciprocity between our states. As you know, the person called upon to speak by reason of his official position, rarely wants to do so and those who are forced to listen are surely in a worse fix. However, the program calls for a talk, so if you will bear with me, I will endeavor to make it as digestible as possible.

I feel just a little like the colored boy, who was being ridden out of town on a rail. When the mob reached the edge of town, he looked down from his perch and yelled—"Gentlemen, if it were not for the honor you are showing me, I'd just as soon not be here."

Our Council has been functioning for 27 years and it, in my opinion, has made much progress in that period, as it was laid on a very firm foundation, when it was organized at St. Louis. The original plan called for an annual meeting preceding or following that of the American Institute of Architects. This was adopted with the idea that the delegates to the Council would also attend the Institute Convention, and by this arrangement save time and expense.

Too much praise cannot be given to Emery Stanford Hall of Chicago, who practically gave the latter years of his life to the business of the council and, in fact, neglected his own personal practice. When Mr. Hall became unable to function due to sickness, he called upon his close friend, Mr. William Perkins. Mr. Perkins took over the duties from Mr. Hall at Mr. Hall's request, and after Mr. Hall's death, has certainly devoted his time and energy to building a better and stronger organization. It is impos-

sible to give too much credit to Mr. Perkins for the part he has played in the Council affairs. At Mr. Hall's death, the executive committee was faced with a most serious problem as the activities of the Council were very complicated. I really do not know where the Council would be today if they had not had Mr. Perkins to turn to. Mr. Perkins had the experience and knowledge necessary to do the work and more than that, was willing to accept the responsibility, and again, I wish to pay tribute to him for the part he has played.

In the early days, the Council was always in the red, but today it is in a sound financial condition.

The Council has developed from a comparatively small but active organization in the 27 years of its existence, and I feel that it now has reached a point of maturity and holds the confidence of all the State Boards. The steady growth of the Council is a tribute to its leadership throughout the past years. This leader-

ship vested in such men as Mr. Hall, Mr. White of Illinois, Mr. Butler of New York, and your own Mr. Lorch, who was its first president. These men had the confidence of the profession.

Today we have registration for Architects in 43 states. The only states not requiring registration are Kansas, Nevada, New Hampshire, Vermont, Wyoming. The District of Columbia, and Territories of Hawaii, Alaska and Puerto Rico require registration.

The first state setting up a registration law for Architects was Illinois in 1897, followed by California and New Jersey in 1902. It was seven years then until Colorado passed a law in 1909, Louisiana, 1910, Utah, 1911, North Carolina, 1913, and your own state of Michigan, 1915, which was the eighth state to register their architects; the same year, New York and Florida joined the procession. From there on it has been rather an orderly procedure as follows:

Idaho	1917
Montana	1917
North Dakota	1917
Wisconsin	1917
Georgia	1919
Oregon	1919

(See Miller—page 2)

Mr. and Mrs. Miller are here shown with the Milton Pettibones at the Mid-summer Meeting of the M. S. A. at the Grand Hotel, August 4 and 5.





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(Miller—from page 1)

Pennsylvania	1919
Washington	1919
Virginia	1920
Arizona	1921
Minnesota	1921
Tennessee	1921
West Virginia	1921
Hawaii	1923
District of Columbia	1924
Oklahoma	1925
South Dakota	1925
Iowa	1927
Puerto Rica	1927
Mississippi	1928
Indiana	1929
Kentucky	1930
Ohio	1931
Alabama	1931
New Mexico	1932
Connecticut	1933
Delaware	1933
Maryland	1935
Rhode Island	1936
Nebraska	1937
Texas	1937
Arkansas	1939
Alaska	1939
Massachusetts	1941
Missouri	1941
Maine	1945
South Carolina	

I believe practically all the states requiring registration have now passed laws or amended their laws, making them really fair and just, both toward the public and to the profession. Perhaps, one or two have a slight touch of politics that may tend to influence their boards.

The Council has a sound framework and functions smoothly, considering the fact that meetings are only held at long intervals and most of the work of the Council falls on the executive committee and especially the Secretary. The committeemen have functioned well and their work has been coordinated by the Secretary. I am sure that you all realize that all the committees—executive, Board of Review, etc.—serve without compensation, except that which comes from a sense of serving the Architects of the country.

The demand for the services as rendered by the Council are ever increasing and with our set-up, it is sometimes impossible to render service as expeditiously as the profession expects and the Council desires. You must know that the executive work of the council rests upon the shoulders of Secretary and how great the volume has become, I think he alone knows.

The Council has an overall picture of registration throughout the country and can be of service to the various state boards. It has been of assistance to States in setting up their registration laws. It acts as a clearing house for the various boards.

Right here, I would like to call attention to this fact. Many, yes, really, most Architects practice quietly and happily in their own State and balliwick and give no thought that they may be suddenly given a commission in a foreign state. Where such a circumstance happens, they immediately become anxious to be registered in that State (day before yesterday). They have gone along with-

out ever giving thought to having a Council record on file. Well, they immediately inquire how to go about getting such a record and it is perhaps several days before they have the forms to fill out and send in. There is much work to be done in Perkins' office when the proper forms are received. Letters written to parties given as reference are not always answered promptly and much time can elapse before the record is in final and complete shape. Why would it not be much better for an Architect to have his record on file and ready to be sent wherever he may request. Honestly, it takes quite some time for a record to be completely serviced and naturally the applicant gets impatient at what he thinks is unnecessary delay.

The cost of having a Council record certainly is not exorbitant. It costs \$25.

Now I would like to speak not as representing the N.C.A.R.B. but as a member of the Indiana State Board.

We have found the services rendered by the Council of unestimable value and we feel we can judge and review an applicant's credentials as set out in a record in a fair and unbiased manner. His entire educational history is before us.

We would not possibly have the machinery or set-up to get so much information relative to an applicant, as is set out in a Council record. We have his certified photograph, age, education,

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grades made in high school and college, experience, references, photographs, of his work, certification of his registration in his home state, showing how he received it, and if it is in good standing. In fact, I can't see how you could possibly get a better overall history of an applicant.

In Indiana, we require that an applicant from another State furnish our Board with a Council record and it is our practice that when an Architect is registered in his home State by either Junior or Senior examination, we practically always grant him registration in Indiana. If he is registered under the so-called grandfather clause, we request him to go before his own Board and take the senior examination. If his own State Board will certify that he has qualified by a senior examination, and his record shows such to be the fact, we will accept him.

We, as all states have had, had many Architects registered in Indiana under the grandfathers' clause at the time the law was promulgated, and who desired later to change their classification. These architects came before our Board and took the examination. Several of these were not allowed to change their classification. Of course, we could not take their Indiana registration away from them, but we sincerely felt we could not recommend them to a sister State.

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**AT MACKINAC**—The Langius family, Roger Allen, Bill Schumacher, Jr., Margaret Hughes, Bill Stone, Bill Schumacher, Talmae Hughes, Margaret Allen. Right: Doug Ainslee and family, Gus Langius and family.

Our Board feels from experience that the Council record gives us as complete a record of an applicant as it is possible to obtain.

Let us keep architectural registration on as high plane as possible and which the National Council is certainly encouraging. Let us also work for uniform senior and junior examinations in all the various States. Many of our perplexing problems will be eliminated in the next few years as practically all States now require the men entering the profession to do so by examination.

In closing I certainly want to pay tribute to Tal Hughes for the help and cooperation he is giving the Council in his publication "The National Architect."

The Council thanks the Michigan Society for its kind invitation to attend and take part in this, your summer convention.

### L. E. WILLIAMS

Louis E. Williams, 67, Manager of the Personnel Service of The Engineering Society of Detroit, died in Grace Hospital on August 21, after a short illness.

Born in L'Anse, Mich., he had been prominent in the engineering profession in the Great Lakes area for many years.

He had served as President of Detroit Engineering Society, Michigan Engineering Society, and Associated Technical Societies of Detroit.

Surviving are two daughters, Mrs. E. B. Harrison, Mrs. C. J. Jakust, and three grandsons.

### M. M. CONKLIN

Mark M. Conklin, 75, former Detroit architect, died in Veterans Administration Hospital, Fort Custer, Michigan, on July 22, following a long illness.



M. M. Conklin

He was born in Auburn, N. Y., September 1, 1872, received his early education there, then was a student in the Lawrence Scientific School at Harvard University from 1894 to 1898. He also studied through extension courses at Cornell University and University of Michigan summer school.

In 1898 he began the practice of architecture at Auburn, came to Michigan and

was registered as an architect in 1916.

He had been a member of the Michigan Society of Architects, Detroit Historical Society, Aborigine Research Society, and the U. S. Officers Reserve Corps.

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## Architect of the Month

### MAXWELL E. WRIGHT

Maxwell E. Wright, A.I.A., has been selected as the "architect of the month" for August at Kern's Civic Center for Home Planners, ninth floor Ernst Kern Co.

The design of the month features a Lakeside year round home that is now under construction for a G.I., his wife and child, and is planned to take advantage of the view, and easy access to and from the lake with a minimum of maintenance and upkeep. It is being built of cinder block, cedar boards and battons, which are stained the color of redwood. Full basement with one side open on a terrace makes this area a liveable area with a fireplace in the basement recreation room.

Total main floor area 1188 sq. ft. with a contract price of \$10,500.00, will be ready for occupancy next spring.

Maxwell E. Wright was born in Detroit, 1906, and worked and studied in New York for 10 years at various schools and offices. Besides his architectural work he has widely exhibited his watercolors in the New York, Philadelphia and Michigan Watercolor Exhibits and also the Chicago International Watercolor Show. He was a member of the Long Island Photographic Society and won several prizes for his photography of landscape subjects. Studied painting and woodblock printing under Paul Honore of Detroit and exhibited his etchings and drypoints at the Village Artist Gallery in New York.

He is well known for his store front and interior design here and in the New York area.

### GROUP INSURANCE

Harley, Ellington and Day, Inc., Detroit architects and engineers, have just announced a group insurance plan for their employees that is unique among firms of its type.

All employees have the opportunity to take out a \$2,000 straight life policy on a group plan without physical examination. Most of the premium is paid by the company.

The policy, which was written by the Ralph C. Wilson Agency for the Continental Assurance Co. of Chicago, also contains a complete disability clause.

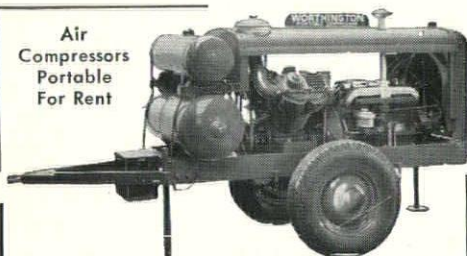
Over 100 of the firm's employees are involved.

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*Max Wright has received recognition as an architect and also for his interests and accomplishments in the other arts.*



### PROF. HENRY H. HIGBIE

Prof. Henry Harold Higbie, 64, a member of the University of Michigan Engineering Department teaching staff for more than 40 years, died August 3 in St. Joseph's Mercy Hospital, Ann Arbor, after a brief illness.

Emil Lorch, F.A.I.A., says: "Professor Higbie was the first to specialize here in the teaching of illumination, to do extensive research and write authoritatively in that field. Many of the students in architecture now in practice will regret his untimely death, remember the man with affection and the teacher and scientist with deep appreciation."

Tribute to Professor Higbie was paid by Professor A. H. Lovell, Chairman of the University's Electrical Engineering Department, in the *Ann Arbor News* of August 5:

"Prof. Higbie," declared the department head, "was one of the most distinguished teachers and researchers in the College of Engineering. He had been an instructor in both mechanical and electrical engineering and in the latter department had particular charge of the fundamental courses in alternating currents and in illumination."

"Teaching was his chosen career and profession to which he brought great inspiration, thorough preparation and clear presentation. His texts in those fields typify his ideals of teaching in which the practical application of problems developed step by step with the fundamental theory. His researches in illumination, particularly the correct structural design for use of daylight, are known the world over."

Prof. Higbie received the Pulitzer scholarship which enabled him to attend Horace Mann High School in New York City, November 10, 1882, and joined the staff of the University in 1905, shortly after his graduation from the Columbia University engineering school.

From 1911 to 1913 he was on special leave in Boston, where he organized the then newly authorized engineering department of the Western Institute.

During the first World War he was in charge of the student auxiliary military training program on the Michigan campus.

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Journal of The A. I. A.  
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# WEEKLY BULLETIN

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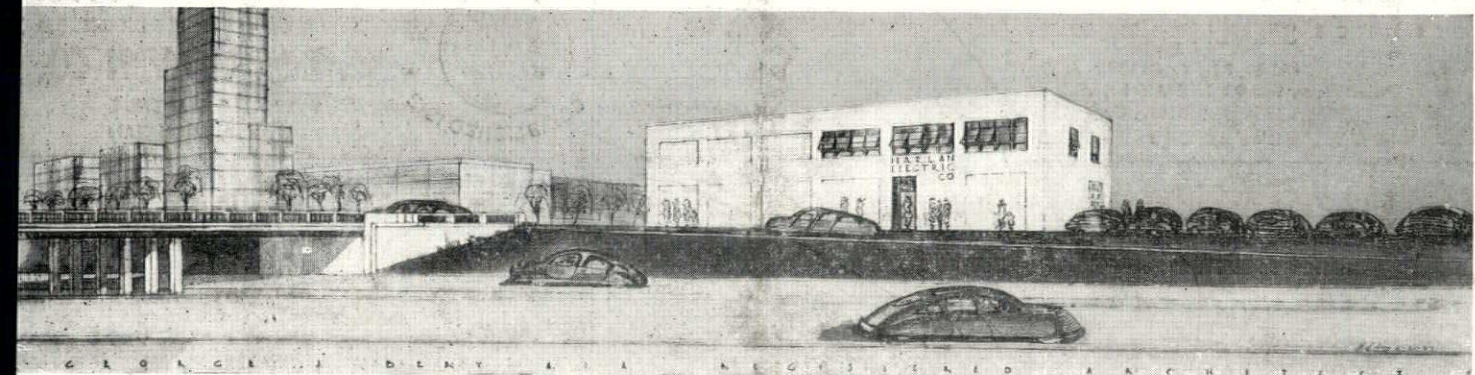
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VOLUME 21

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 16, 1947

NO. 37

## NEW BUILDING FOR HARLAN ELECTRIC COMPANY



### GEORGE J. BERY, Architect

First plans for a commercial establishment on the John C. Lodge Expressway have been announced by the Harlan Electric Company.

The company, now situated at 3139 Hamilton, will build a two-story office and warehouse building on the east-side of the Expressway at the Milwaukee overpass.

The ground floor area will be given over entirely to warehouse and storage facilities.

Executive and general offices on the second floor, comprising 2,000 square feet, will be lighted with the most advanced methods of office illumination.

At the request of the owner, George J. Bery, A.I.A., architect for the project, consulted with the Nela Park Lighting Institute in Cleveland before planning the illumination.

The lobby will be decorated with murals showing the historical development of electrical theory and apparatus. The entire mural area will be lighted with flush troffer.

The president's office will be of walnut panelling, illuminated by the Louverall method.

Adequate public parking facilities will be provided on the building's site. Darin & Armstrong are the contractors.

## DETROIT CHAPTER, A. I. A.

First Meeting of the 1947-48 Season

RACKHAM BUILDING, DETROIT

Wednesday, September 17, 1947

Dinner at 7:00 P. M., Program at 8:00 P. M.

BOARD MEETING AT 4:00 P. M.

**SPEAKER:** EDMUND R. PURVES, F.A.I.A., Director of Public and Professional Relations, The American Institute of Architects, Washington, D. C.

**SUBJECT:** "The Institute's Program of Public and Professional Relations."

To be accepted, requests for reservations for dinner must be received by 9:00 A. M., Tuesday, September 16, the day BEFORE the meeting, and are not cancelable after that time.

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See FOLEY, page 4

**A Tribute to Raymond M. Foley,  
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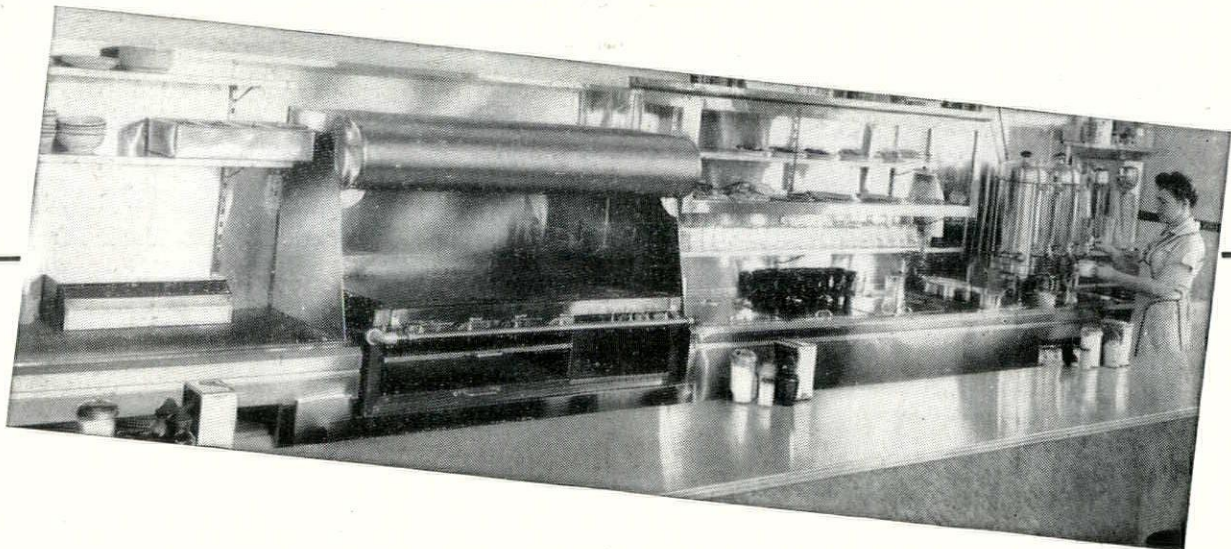
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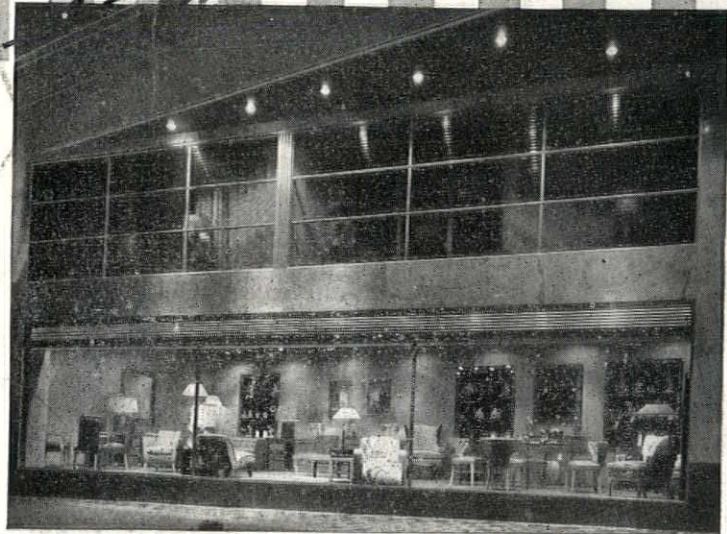
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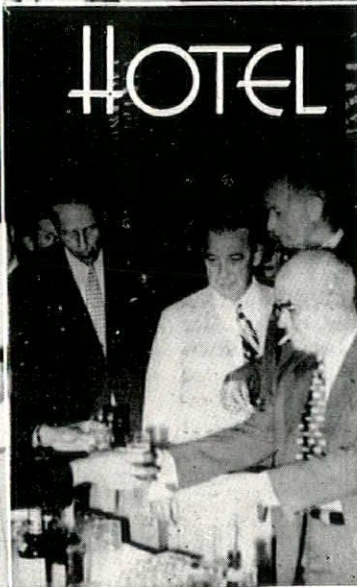
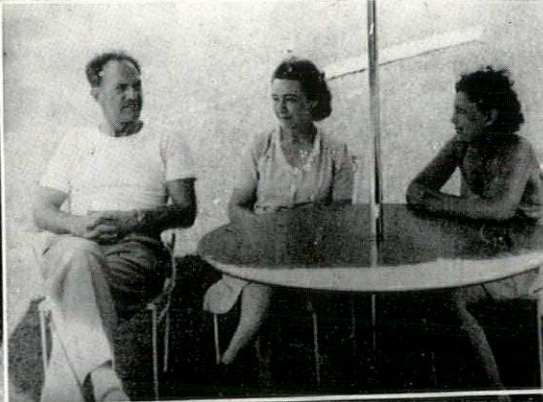
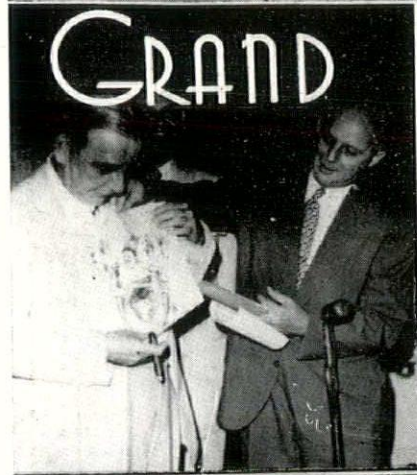
To CAPITALIZE on that first three-second look, the House of Modern Chairs at 18430 Livernois Avenue in Detroit uses inside reflector floodlights, and lighted floor and table lamps to highlight each chair. From the extended canopy, 300-watt reflector floodlights bathe the outside tile floor with light that sells. Lawn and garden furniture is displayed here during the summer. Flower beds set along the outer edge of the walk complete the garden atmosphere. The over-all effect

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MORE SCENES from The Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, Mich., Aug. 4 and 5. Photographs are by Gordon A. Sheill, A.I.A.

A. M. Davis, District Engineer, and J. Gardner Martin, Structural Engineer, of the Portland Cement Association, were hosts at a cocktail party.

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**FOLEY** *Continued from page 2*

erating expenses for the same period were \$128,130,017.00, a gross profit of \$70,094,106.00. A remarkable record, when it is realized that FHA did not begin to operate at a profit until 1939, when a surplus of \$1,464,516.00 was realized.

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See FOLEY, page 5

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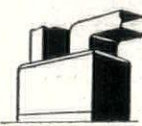
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## FOLEY *Continued from page 4*

a staggering total of \$10,000,000,000.00. Upon his appointment as Commissioner of FHA in 1945, Mr. Raymond M. Foley was immediately faced with many difficult problems. Experienced labor was scarce. Wages were on the increase. Materials were hard to get. And with it all was a demand for low cost housing unprecedented in the history of America.

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The cost estimating system has been streamlined and a high degree of discretion is permitted the field office in using locally devised methods to cut time.

### Many Improvements

A fee schedule has been established to apply uniform and equitable fees. Mortgage credit processing has been revised to reduce the time required for decision and to liberalize findings in borderline cases.

These and other changes and improvements are being effected that FHA may operate even more efficiently than in the past. The objective is best described by Mr. Foley, who declared recently:

"I believe that when the program is completed we will have made much progress along the lines I have advocated consistently since I have been Commissioner—that is, a better coordination of all segments of this far flung, too-loosely knit industry and a greater use of modern techniques and new materials. I believe we will have made it possible to apply greater efficiency and to reduce waste to the end that we may attain our objective in private enterprise—better housing for the great masses of the people on terms they can afford."

## NEW ORDINANCE

Off-street parking requirements recently ordered by Detroit's Common Council became effective on September 4, 1947. After that date, applications for building permits must show that the required space is provided before permits can be issued by the Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering.

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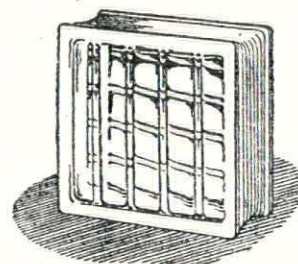
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VOLUME 21

DETROIT, MICHIGAN, SEPTEMBER 23, 1947

No. 38

## ARCHITECTS' CONCERN OVER COSTS

By JAMES R. EDMUNDS, JR.

*Past President, American Institute of Architects*  
**FROM THE CONSTRUCTOR**

Neither our architecture nor our building is in a healthy state.

True we are all swamped with work but how much of all this is under construction or even likely to be in the near future?

This condition of affairs cannot go on indefinitely. Our clients will not much longer continue to employ our services for the design of projects which they are not permitted to build. This is to warn you, if you need warning, that our present happy state of "full employment" is nearing its end unless something is done about the condition in which the construction industry finds itself.

Architecture is but a part of the construction industry and must prosper or suffer with it. Our industry is being strangled by forces which a few years ago we considered to be none of our business.

We know now that these forces are our concern, and what we can do to control and direct them properly should be undertaken and at once. Indeed we may be already too late.

We find ourselves in the same boat with the little Negro boy who, after vainly chasing a street car for two blocks pulled up out of breath on the curb. A kindly old gentleman said, "Sonny, you didn't run fast enough." "Uh, uh," gasped the little Negro, "I kin run fast enough, but I didn't start soon enough."

### Designers Recognize Responsibility

We in the design professions have but recently become fully conscious of our position in the construction industry, and of the latter's important place in our national economy. We have but more recently recognized our responsibility therein and made some effort to shoulder it.

This is being done through the Construction Industry Advisory Council sponsored by the United States Chamber of Commerce. On the council are represented all phases of the construction industry; labor, general contractors, sub-



contractors, manufacturers and distributors of construction materials, real estate boards, operational builders, the lending agencies and the design professions:—the A. S. C. E., the A. S. M. E. and the A. I. A.

All of us in the industry today admit freely that it is in very bad shape. Demand for construction is at an all-time high, production at an all-time low. The war disrupted our industry; it is short of labor, it is still short of material.

### Costs Must Come Down

What is the greatest difficulty we face? The cost of building has risen greatly as compared with prewar levels, and I find no one who is not alarmed by that fact.

Born in Baltimore, Maryland, Mr. Edmunds has had his entire architectural career in that city. He began as a draftsman in 1912 and engaged as a principal in the practice of architecture in 1915. Following two years in Canton, China, 1918-1920, he returned to Baltimore as senior draftsman in the office of Jos. Evans Sperry, becoming a partner in the firm in 1923. In 1930 he became a member of the firm of Crisp & Edmunds. Since 1939 he has practiced alone.

A fellow of the American Institute of Architects, Mr. Edmunds was president of the institute, 1945-1947. He has been treasurer and director, 1943-1945. He is now chairman of two national committees of the A.I.A.: Committee on Industrial Relations and Committee on National Capital. He has served as treasurer of the Maryland Board of Examiners and Registration of Architects, chairman of the Housing Authority of Baltimore, president of the Baltimore Building Congress. He has been chairman of the Lexington Market Authority of Baltimore since 1945.

The cold truth is that it has risen more than the cost of most other goods and commodities with which this industry must compete for the buyer's dollar.

True, individual incomes have risen sharply as a result of wage increases and record employment, but that does not enable us to sit back and do nothing. Building costs must come down.

Much of what I have now to say represents the collective thinking of all of these phases of the industry, which under present conditions is presented with so many vexing problems. We must act in unison if they are to be solved. We architects are numerically weak, but by engaging the help of the entire industry, we are potentially strong.



# Reprinted from SCOPE, Magazine for Industry, London, England

EDITOR'S NOTE: C. Howard Crane, A.I.A., of London and Detroit, is a member of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.

Britain is spending 120 million pounds on the construction of nearly 3,000 new factories. What sort of buildings will they be? And how efficient? In planning this decisive operation the revolutionary conceptions of a leading exponent of modern industrial architecture may be disputed but cannot be ignored.

BRITISH industry has suffered untold loss through the installation of the latest machines and the world's finest craftsmen in obsolete factories. It is so much a matter of daily occurrence that we are hardly aware of it—any more than the Victorians were aware of the trouble they were storing up for us by their total indifference to town planning. Sensitive to the contrast between American O.P.M. and our own, we have, and rightly, pinned our hopes to technological efficiency. But how often do we think of the part the *factory building* plays in output per man-hour?

The slum, it has been said, is the root cause of the slum-mind. Do we realize how much industrial inefficiency, out of date method, allergy to change, unscientific management and general business wrongheadedness is caused by the deadening influence of the wrong sort of factory; how it cramps reorganization, devours money in maintenance, and throws dark shadows over urgent problems for management as well as over the men and machines at work under its dirt-encrusted roof? What is the use of expecting men to take a pride in modern types of machine tool, smoothly finished with streamlined housing in light enamels, when the cracks in the factory floor gather filings and filth, the walls are drab and dirty, the daylight falls in shafts on the wrong places, smuts rain continually into working parts and operatives' hair alike, and the whole impression is of congestion and disorder?

Yet this is the sort of factory in which the battle for output—for low-priced, well-designed, competitive British exports—is largely being fought. An American industrial architect, Mr. C. Howard Crane, A.I.A., who has been practising in London for fourteen years and whose work in this country has been the creation of modern factories, designed for efficiency, considers that, by current standards of factory construction, 90 per cent of Britain's factories are obsolete. He sees us irrevocably committed, not merely to a vast task of re-housing and slum clearance, but to an almost equally vast task of factory rebuilding.

A score of factories, built by the Howard Crane organization in Britain, demonstrate the difference between industrial architecture and factory building. Whenever possible, Howard Crane puts valuable plant and machinery, and still more valuable craftsmen, in a glass case. This is not because he thinks they must be as carefully protected as costly sensitive scientific instruments—though it is a happy symbol of the care and respect we should have for the men and machines upon whose efficiency the success of our post-war industrial effort depends. It is because his first principles are the proper use of light and air—the only things you can get free.

In a Crane factory, glass walls start from a five foot sill level and the roof is castellated so as to permit the use of vertical glass sections on the "clear story" principle. The first impression

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you get inside is of light—of even, diffused daylight and absence of shadow. A third commodity which nature provides free is rain, and rain cascades down the outside of the vertical glass sections of a Crane factory, cleaning them without charge. Inside, they must be cleaned; but, being vertical, the majority of sections can be opened and easily washed. Fumes and dirt do not gradually render them opaque as happens to patent glazing fixed in a pitched roof, making even the sunniest day seem overcast.

Light pours into a Crane factory from every point of the compass, not just from the north; but the sun's heat is diffused by wired cast glass, the rough texture of which breaks up the rays. The use of glass in this way solves the central factory problems of heat and ventilation. In any structure more heat is lost through the roof than through the walls. A pitched roof with patent glazing or north lights cannot act both as an insulator and as a window. If you get the light, you get the direct heat of the sun on hot days, and lose your own laboriously warmed air on cold days. If you give up roof glazing and use reinforced asbestos, protected metal steel sheeting or porous concrete tiles, all properly insulated for your roof covering, you can control your thermal loss. The clear story design gives you both—light through the walls in the roof, and full insulation of the roof itself. A wall made of standard steel factory sash and glass is almost as efficient as one made of brick so far as heat conservation is concerned.

Most British works engineers have to be convinced that a glass walled factory is warmed in winter and cooler in summer. Temperature records show it to be true. The warmest building at the Bayliss, Jones and Bayliss plant in the cold spell last winter was the one built by Howard Crane with glass walls and vertical glass monitors in the clear story roof. In the June heat-wave the temperature of the other older buildings averaged ten degrees higher. In Detroit,

where mean average temperatures range from 10 degrees below zero in winter to over 100 degrees in summer, glass walled factories have proved cheaper and more efficient.

Most modern factories are single-story covers for production lines. Howard Crane believes that for nearly all purposes a structure of steel with glass sashed walls will prove the most efficient cover. Steel stanchions to carry the roof trusses can be widely spaced in the clear story type of construction in order to give the maximum clear area. At the Joseph Sankey and Sons factory, stanchions are 112 feet apart with spans of 50 feet. In other words, there is only one stanchion in an area of 224 feet by 100 feet and yet the roof steel is designed to carry heavy point loads for supporting conveyors, welding machines, etc. Further, in clear story design, the weight of the roof is carried by the pillars on the cantilever principle which enables the load in the adjoining bays to reduce the bending moment of the central trusses. The weight of steel in the roof is therefore reduced.

This efficient type of construction costs no more than the usual brick factory and does not take as long to erect. Before the war, Howard Crane reckoned that for 8s. a square foot a steel and glass factory could be built that would do everything that a brick built factory costing 10s. a square foot could do. No doubt a factory "shed" still cheaper can be run up—but "No man is rich enough to be able to afford a cheap building," said Henry Ford. In Britain, the cost of fuel, electricity, and general maintenance will find out an inefficient building in less than five years and prove it a costly incubus. There are plenty of firms who would be startled to know how much of their selling-price is the result of a bad factory.

No factory should be built without thought of future extensions; but many are. Subsequently, management is faced with Hobson's choice between the prohibitive cost of knocking down brick walls and shoring roofs in order to add a section, or the hopeless dislocation of the production-flow caused by squeezing new machines into an inadequate area. A steel and glass sashed factory can be extended with a minimum of effort and a maximum of salvageable material, and without disturbing the routine of production during alterations.

Britain is a land of brick factories, both single and multi-story types. For certain processes, of course, multiple story factories are necessary. Paint manufacture, for example, demands a steel or reinforced concrete structure designed for heavy floor loads to permit "gravitational" production flow. But most assemblies, particularly those which involve the movement of heavy components, demand a single story cover. Howard Crane's prescription for them is "steel and glass." More than that, he prescribes the rebuilding of the traditional type. At Beeston, near Nottingham, he is reconstructing a foundry without interfering with production. He has transferred the roof to steel pillars, lifting it in some cases to improve clearance, knocked down the brick walls to a five foot level, and filled in the gap with standard steel sashes and glass. Section by section an old factory has been invested with the severe functional beauty which is the reward of the industrial architect's art, and the hallmark of efficiency. In the new factory, foundry

work has become a clean process of mechanical handling in a light, airy building. This operation is the prototype of a process of industrial rehousing which must go on all over Britain.

Industrial architecture, in Howard Crane's view, is 90 per cent engineering and ten per cent architecture. This does not mean that the plant engineer can design an efficient factory; but many, perhaps most, factories are, in fact, the handiwork of the plant engineer, and the man who would scorn a machine or process that was twenty years out of date will cheerfully erect a factory that is forty years behind the times, proceeding in sublime ignorance of the principles of proper heating, lighting and ventilation, and specifying totally unsuitable types of construction. To him, the architect is the little man who prepares the front elevation for a facade to carry the firm's name in neon lights.

Howard Crane's approach is radically different. Starting with the conception of a factory as "an economical cover for a production line," the industrial archi-

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tect and engineer begins with a study of the client's plant layout, and the line of production from receiving bay to delivery bay, holding himself as free to offer suggestions for improvement, as if he were an industrial consultant (which indeed, in a sense, he is). He examines the whole prospect of the process and of the firm, to decide what must be done to enable extensions to be easily and cheaply made at any time. He studies the ways of distributing power, if possible running all services through underground ducts in order to avoid festooning the roof trusses with wires and piping. He studies the removal and disposal of swarf and other waste products. He gains insight into any requirements of the process in the way of temperature control. In a steel factory he can arrange to conserve floor space and cut down interruptions to work by hanging toilets and washing facilities in central positions; he may be able to provide plant offices, insulated against noise, in the same manner. If he is C. Howard Crane, he will certainly urge the superiority of glass and steel over other materials; he will also argue the importance of setting the canteen and welfare sections in graceful brick buildings away from the factory and its atmosphere. But Howard Crane agrees that, when the factory faces a main road, the brick-built office may be erected as an appropriate frontage to the glass case in which the machinery and production is housed.

It has been proved that a well laid-out factory means a gain in efficiency. This is the reward of attention to every detail from simplified maintenance of the building and its services to the selection of floor materials to reflect light and to serve its different usages. The result is a piece of architecture in which clear thought is facilitated by a sense of elbow room, an easily-observed flow of production which can be readily rearranged to suit new processes. The factory grows with the business. When recently a client asked Howard Crane if such a factory would cost more to heat than the crowded brick building in which he operated, Crane demonstrated that, if the efficiency of the men increased by only 1 per cent, better light, ventilation and other improved working conditions would pay for any extra heat costs three times over.

In Britain we have under construction today 2,746 factories costing 120 million pounds, of which 486 are being put up to counteract the decay and desolation which taints the atmosphere of the "special areas." How far are these factories designed to ensure increased productivity—how far are they merely doomed to become the substandard industrial premises of the day after tomorrow? How far are we building our industrial future in the likeness of our industrial past? An industrialized community is always build-

ing new factories, and new factories are always deteriorating into old factories, old factories into slums for machines to rust and rot in. Are we adding to our task of reconstruction or subtracting from it? We may well look at the few outstandingly good factories built in the last few years, compare them with the general run of hurriedly erected sheds called "factories," and wonder. It is the merit of modern industrial architecture that it has evolved a functional factory which adapts itself to technical changes, serves technology and psychology together and fulfills the first canon of good design: "fitness for purpose." No one has done more to make this country conscious of its importance than C. Howard Crane—not merely for the new factories of the post-war era, but as a means of bringing even the antiquated workshop in a crowded area into line with the best and latest modern practices. When, from a railway embankment in the black country, we view our English heritage of dark satanic mills, we see in his achievement something which deserves our gratitude—best expressed in emulation.

## BULLETIN:

The Commission on Church Architecture of the Lutheran Agastana Synod has requested the writer to advise all members of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., of its desire to have members who may be interested in doing Lutheran Church work on its register of Architects.

Applications, with photographs of work if the applicant desires, may be submitted to:

Commission on Church Architecture  
Lutheran Agastana Synod  
464 Maria Avenue St. Paul 6, Minnesota  
Attention: Rev. Carl H. Sandgren

Since the Commission is writing other chapters in areas where a new register is to be created or the existing one revised, it is obvious that this request applies only to the Detroit district. Architects outside the Detroit area will, I understand, be notified through their own chapters if a new or revised register for their communities is needed. Chas. B. McGrew, Secretary, Detroit Chapter A.I.A.

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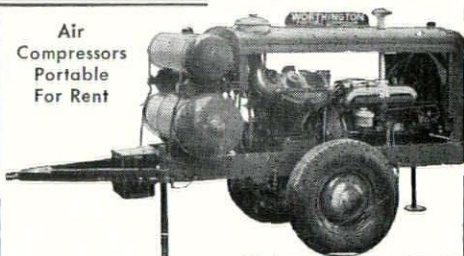
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No. 39

## HOUSING SHORTAGE BRINGS OUT MANY NEW INVENTIONS TO HELP BUILDING INDUSTRY

By Lawrence N. Eldred

With everybody thinking and talking about the housing shortage these days, perhaps it is only natural our draftsmen and inventors should be laboring overtime to figure out new and better ways of building. Nevertheless the National Foundation for Science and Industry registered considerable surprise, when it was launched a few months ago, at the excellence and wide variety of ideas which were bobbing up in this field.

It is the Foundation's purpose to bring inventors with unsold ideas to the attention of manufacturers wanting new items for their assembly lines. It was felt that by bringing them together the general public would benefit from better products and more efficient methods in everyday living.

The idea clicked in all directions. Inventions poured in from every state in the Union, Canada, and several dozen foreign points. In the building field everybody from architects to day laborers offered new devices, tools, and methods in droves.

Whether it was a thermostatic fire alarm system for the home and other living and working units, a new kind of structural building framework, wallboard, furring clip, masonry building block, or a model home-building kit—the variety and quantity seemed endless.

But by way of flashback—

A Chicago tax consultant, Alfred R. Babcock, who was an inventor himself, had noticed there was a constant need in industry for new ideas and there were many inventors who had them. But he had noticed also that the demand and the supply often did not get together. He decided something should be done about the situation.

"I looked at it this way," Babcock said. "Business and the world's general economic life depend on more and more new ideas to keep on expanding. Public taste for old products goes stale, new needs arise as in our present housing shortage, new amusements are desirable to fill increasing leisure time, and new machines and methods are in demand to achieve greater efficiency and lower labor costs.

"On the other hand, many an inventor probably is kicking around a sure-fire

idea in his mind or in his basement workshop just because he doesn't know how to go about having it commercialized. And many manufacturers are constantly product-hungry to keep their production lines going."

With all these things in mind, Babcock and a group of trustee-businessmen in Chicago launched the Foundation.

At no charge to himself, an inventor may send in a sixty-word description of his invention to the Foundation at 203 North Wabash Avenue, Chicago 1, Illinois. He must have a patent or an application for patent on file before the Foundation will accept it, so as to ensure his idea will be fully protected.

The non-profit Foundation publishes these condensations, several hundred each month, in its Digest of New Inventions. This publication is mailed exclusively to manufacturers who subscribe to the Foundation's service.

"It takes from two to five years for a patent to be publicized in the Patent Office's 'Official Gazette' after the original filing is made," Babcock noted, "so by bringing the inventor and industrialist together at the outset both have all that extra time and profit advantage over their competition.

"And when you consider that just eighteen once-unknown inventions resulted in ten million jobs and billions of dollars in income and investment, it isn't hard to see why manufacturers are always on the lookout for others."

Like Inventor John C. Parcell's building block, new both in design and in method of laying. It can be made of concrete or any lightweight aggregate. It can be laid in a mortar bed, the same as a conventional block, or it can be laid up dry and bound together with concrete

rivets formed by shooting mortar from a caulking gun through entry grooves on exterior edges.

The block is ribbed with a tapered hole in the face of the rib to receive a wooden doll-pin to which a batten strip is nailed. As the blocks are set up, the rib is continuous from floor to ceiling. Then wallboard, metal lath, or any other desired interior finish is fastened to the batten strip. Behind the wallboard would be formed a continuous space 5½ x 14 inches between each pair of ribs for heat ducts, plumbing, electrical wiring, and so forth.

Parcell claims the block can be laid down faster than conventional blocks, by either skilled or unskilled labor, is more efficient and no more expensive than other types, and will cut several hundred dollars off construction costs through its speed and efficiency.

J. H. Byers developed a model house kit for the home dreamer who wants to know what his dream will look like before it comes true. Each wall section is put together, lying flat on the print, before the walls are brought together to form the completed house. The kits, says Byers, can be made in any style or size and distributed through architectural supply stores, hobby shops, or other stores.

Ray S. Wellner came up with a pre-fabricated plaster wallboard and anchor bolt. The board has a reverse bevel to provide a shoulder for receiving the bolt-head. Speed and permanence of installation again are important here.

Another inventor, William R. Workman, seeks to reduce the time and cost required for electrical installations. Under present building codes, says he, conduits must lay flat to the wall surface, stud, or joist, yet the entry holes for outlet boxes are offset a half inch to give room for locknuts and bushings needed to fasten the conduit to the box.

"The national code says the wireman must bend the pipe to compensate for the half inch by making two bends in opposite directions so the pipe lays against the wall surface but enters the box by means of an offset," declares Workman.

"To do this the man must use a bender  
See ELDRED—page 2



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### ELDRED—from page 1

or hickey and by careful work bend the pipe near the end at a slight angle, which he has to guess at, then move the pipe along a few inches and after turning it over half way bend an identical bend in the opposite direction.

"To get an offset which is parallel to the rest of the pipe and still only half an inch takes skill and perhaps several tries. When you get through the result is a mess viewed from any angle and pushing the wires through the pipe with these offsets is more difficult."

A series of inventions by Workman to overcome these various wiring problems consists of factory-made offset fittings which can be used either with standard or thinwall conduits and which produce a better job with markedly shorter installation time.

Two somewhat similar inventions sent in were a signal device for electrical circuits by F. R. Jackson and a home fire alarm system by Joseph Baranowsky. Purpose of the first is to set off an alarm when a short circuit or overload occurs or when a fuse blows. A buzzer and light bulb give both audible and visual signals in the hookup.

The fire alarm system uses strategically placed thermostats in a wired circuit extending throughout the house and so set up as to use either electricity or, in case of short circuit causing or being caused by the fire, longlife drycell batteries. This system can be adapted to any kind of building, the inventor points out.

Burl Carter developed an improved window and screen sash made of extrusion aluminum. Felt strips permit expansion and contraction of the glass when used as a storm window.

Also somewhat similar in purpose are inventions by Leonard Deddo and James L. Handley. The first is for "a series of elongated structural elements such as pipes in combination with special fittings and connectors whereby the structural elements may be assembled and locked into a rigid structure which may form the framework of a building, bridge, shed, etc."

Handley offered a metal cross bridge to stabilize floor joists in home building. The average dwelling requires a hundred or more of the bridges, he said, and they usually are laboriously cut from wood and nailed in at the building site. The Handley bridge is a punch press item costing about 16½ cents each for both material and manufacturing. Installation speed is at a rate of five metal to one wooden cross bridge.

Besides its timesaving advantage on the worksite, there is no shrinkage, as there would be with wooden crossbridges, and consequently there would be less warping and twisting of the floor joists due to their drying out. This in turn decreases plaster cracking and checking, Handley added.

Where living space is at a sharp premium, as in many of the small houses and prefabricated units being built in today's emergency, an architect named David Henry Fergusson devised a complete packaged personal bathroom unit, including toilet, lavatory, shower bath, medicine cabinet, mirror, and lighting fixtures, all in a space three feet wide and five feet deep.

Fergusson points out his unit can be completely shop fabricated and sold as a unit. When shower is to be used, lavatory and toilet recess into the wall beneath the medicine cabinet. When toilet

is to be used, the lavatory can be pushed out of the way. The medicine cabinet, mirror, and lighting fixtures are flush with the wall and waterproofed to avoid damage through use of the shower.

E. L. Emerson designed a mechanical device for attachment to the private garage door by means of which the car itself can open and close the doors, while Inventor Erving Toelke made an interlocking weatherboard which forms an airtight waterproof siding but is so simple to fasten unskilled workmen can do the job without getting it unaligned.

In addition to these inventions of every scope and caliber there were dozens of tools, instruments, accessories, machines, and mechanical devices which flooded into the Foundation's office after the first announcement.

When a manufacturer finds in the Digest an idea he thinks usable, he gets in touch with the Foundation and a contact between inventor and industrialist is made—with the Foundation keeping an eye on any ensuing transactions to be sure neither party is "taken in."

The Foundation's income results from manufacturers' subscriptions to its service. A subscription amounts to \$10 for the first month, including cost of a binder to hold successive looseleaf issues of the Digest, and \$5 a month thereafter. On an annual basis the charge is \$50 in advance.

"Either way it comes to less than a nickel per invention," Babcock pointed out.

The Foundation is a non-profit corporation, and all surplus funds are plowed into research on other inventive ideas. This can take the form of grants to schools and colleges for specific projects, or the Foundation can give financial backing to individual inventors who have good ideas but lack the means of developing them to the commercial stage.

"We are discovering a lot of inventors are in this fix," Babcock said, "and we want to be able to help them more and more through the expense of having a model built and a patent search made."

To assure that development funds will not be wasted on any "crackpot" ideas, the Foundation has set up twelve technical committees of disinterested scientists and businessmen who will pass judgment on the worthiness of any project.

To Babcock's mind there are lurking in the shadows behind modern industry the memories of the long battles which had to be fought before some of the greatest inventions reached the commercial stage, and it is these shadows which help to give the Foundation impetus.

There were Morse and his telegraph, Bell and the telephone, Fulton and the steamboat, and McCormick and his reaper, to mention but a few. One purpose of the Foundation is to see to it that today's great inventors are able to get before the public today, not in some distant tomorrow.

Beyond that there is still something more. In Babcock's words:

"The long-range goal we're aiming at, aside from the immediate hope of bringing inventor and manufacturer together, is to encourage inventors to bring their hidden ideas out where the world can benefit from them, and to stimulate further creative thinking, backed by the inventor's knowledge that there IS a way to achieve success with what he will have to offer."



## LIFE IN THE UNITED STATES

A comprehensive pictorial exhibit of life in the United States and of the way the people live, work and play in this country will be displayed to the architects of North and Latin America in Lima, Peru, Julian Clarence Levi, Chairman of the Committee on International Relations of The American Institute of Architects, has announced.

"The exhibit, which was prepared by The American Institute of Architects and The American Institute of Planners, in collaboration with the U. S. Department of State, will have its first public showing at the Sixth Pan American Congress of Architects which will meet in Lima October 15 to 25," Mr. Levi said.

"Consisting of 50 panels, four feet square, the exhibit will give the architects of the Western Hemisphere a representative and accurate picture of the physical plant of the United States. This birds-eye view of architectural and community planning practices consists mainly of pictures contributed by members of The American Institute of Architects, the Architectural Forum, and the Public Buildings Administration, by Columbia University, and by The American Institute of Planners.

"The first section of the exhibit shows a general background of the United States, including the character of the

land and the distribution of population between urban and rural areas, together with a short historical review of popular architecture. This first section endeavors to depict the way the American people live in relation to their buildings and their communities.

"It includes also scenes of families in their homes, scenes of workers in office, factory, and store, children in classrooms, and farmers at work.

"The second section presents American architecture in four functional groups: residential, recreational, working, and public services.

"The residential architecture shows a variety of typical small and larger homes in both hot and cold climates, urban apartments, a public housing project, and other large scale rental developments and gives an indication of the wide variety of plans from which American dwellings have been built.

"In the field of recreation, the exhibit ranges from theaters and tourist cabins to private clubs and beach houses.

"Typical factories, warehouses, and office buildings are pictured in the portion which deals with the country's working plant.

"In the category of buildings devoted to public service are schools, airports, and municipal buildings.

"A third section deals with the American community as a whole, indicating how the separate elements are combined into towns and cities, and what can be done by sound and progressive planning to weld the individual buildings into communities which function efficiently. It includes planned neighborhood units, redevelopment projects, city and regional plans, and low-rental housing developments.

"The fourth section deals with modern building methods, new materials which have come or are coming into general use, and new methods of building, such as prefabrication, while a final section covers education in the field of architecture and planning.

"Through the exhibit and technical papers which will be presented to the Congress from the United States, architects from other countries in the Western hemisphere may well receive a new appreciation and conception of present day architecture which might broaden greatly the influence of U. S. architecture in neighbor countries which heretofore have been inclined to look to Europe for their inspiration in the field of design and planning.

"The United States will be represented at the Congress by a delegation of five distinguished architects officially designated by President Truman.

"In view of the tremendous amount of building contemplated in Latin American countries, the great technical achievements and architectural advancement in the United States, as displayed in the exhibit, are certain to stimulate widespread interest among the designers and planners from other nations and to have a profound effect on many aspects of future building in the countries to the South."

## ROBINSON TO RESIGN

Alexander C. Robinson, III, F.A.I.A., Secretary of The American Institute of Architects, has offered his resignation to the Board of the Institute, to be acted upon at its December meeting. He will continue for the present to do the paper work. No successor has yet been found.

## HOUSING IN BRITAIN

The latest housing figures issued by the British Government show that, despite economic and labor difficulties, Britain is making more progress with the building of housing accommodations than any other nation in the world. Moreover, the 250,000 permanent houses built or under construction in less than two years are a great deal better in quality than the average house built before the war. They are one-quarter to one-third bigger, and much better equipped.

During June, 11,922 permanent houses were completed, as against 11,759 in May and 9,720 in April.

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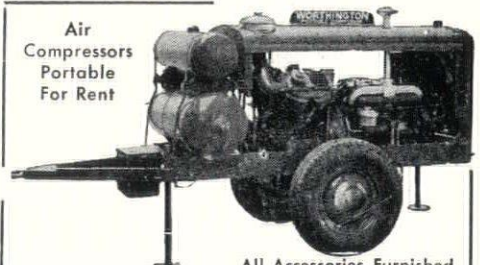
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## PURVES SPEAKER AT CHAPTER MEETING SEPTEMBER 17, 1947

Edmund R. Purves, F.A.I.A., Director of Public and Professional Relations, The American Institute of Architects, was the speaker at the Detroit Chapter's first meeting of the current season on September 17. The dinner meeting, as usual, followed a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Chapter.

Wells I. Bennett, F.A.I.A., Chapter President, presided and announced the presence of two new Chapter members. He also stated that the Board had named a nominating committee to prepare a slate of officers and directors to be voted on at the Annual Meeting on October 15. This committee consists of Messrs. Jonathon Taylor, William E. Kapp and Joseph W. Leinweber. The other committee, named by the President, consists of Messrs. Henry F. Stanton, Arthur K. Hyde and C. William Palmer.

Other action taken at the Board meeting was to the effect that, beginning immediately, members will have to be in good standing with regard to Chapter dues in order to be eligible to have dinners subsidized by the Chapter. This motion was at the suggestion of Treasurer Gabler, who has done a wonderful job of collecting dues the past year. He has also set up a bookkeeping system that is second to none.

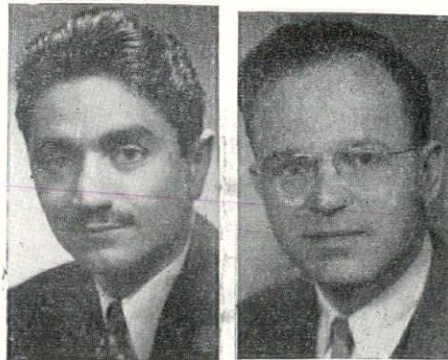
It is announced that Mr. Gabler will be the speaker at the Chapter's January meeting on January 14, 1948. He will show colored pictures taken in the Pacific. The October meeting, so says the President, will be the Annual Meeting, election and an open forum for discussion by members of any topics they choose. Some reports of principal committees that have been active will be presented. Mr. Wallace K. Harrison, Director of Planning for the United Nations, will be the speaker on November 19. There will be no meeting in December.

It is hoped that the Civic Design Group will be heard from in February, on the 11th. In March the Chapter will join with the Michigan Society of Architects in its Annual Convention, scheduled for Detroit. No speaker has been selected for April 14. In May the meeting will be in Ann Arbor.

President Bennett called upon Branson V. Gamber, F.A.I.A., Director of the A.I.A., representing the State Associations, to introduce the speaker. Gamber paid high tribute to Purves, as one who had given up his architectural practice to represent the Institute "on the Hill," stressing the valuable services he is rendering the profession.

Some of these services were outlined by Mr. Purves, indicating that the architects are now in a better position with the Government than ever before. He stated that there are no less than 85 different groups in the building industry represented in Washington, and he pointed out what a task the architects have if they are to assume leadership of all these. He said that public relations had been in an extremely bad way and that all were working together to overcome this handicap. He outlined the Veterans Hospital program, which was thought to be satisfactorily resolved when it came up again and required vigilance to keep it from being done by Government bureaus.

## NEW ARCHITECTS' FIRM



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MONTANA

Frank Montana and Suren Pilafian announce the consolidation of their architectural practices under the firm name of Pilafian and Montana, occupying the offices at 112 Madison Avenue, in Detroit, where Pilafian has been for some years.

Suren Pilafian studied architecture at Columbia University, was employed by Cass Gilbert; Shreve, Lamb & Harmon, architects, and Norman BelGeddes, all of New York. He is registered to practice in New York and Michigan. He won first prize in the international competition for the Teheran Stock Exchange Building in 1935, also first prize in the Wayne University competition, Detroit, for his group plan and for Student Center.

Frank Montana studied at New York University and at Ecole des Beaux Arts in Paris. He had been employed by Holabird & Root, of Chicago, in their New York office. He also worked in Paris, France, where he won first prizes in competitions and was awarded medals by the government. He practiced in South Bend, Indiana and was professor of architectural design at Notre Dame.

## BOOKS WANTED

### Appeal Is Made for Technical Library in Finland

Finland has an excellent and keenly scientific minded Technical Institute, Teknillinen Korkeakoulu. During the war its library was bombed by the Russians and totally destroyed.

On my recent trip to Finland for the American Friends Service Committee, I discussed the situation with Dr. Martti Levon, Director of the Institute. He said he would welcome gifts of Scientific and Technical Books and Periodicals from America to take the place of those destroyed. In the remarkable efforts for recovery which the Finns are making, the lack of technical library facilities is a very serious handicap. It would be a practical act of friendship to a nation which holds America in high regard if Americans should contribute good technical books and periodicals to this library.

Any such gifts should be marked for the Institute of Technology, Helsinki, and sent to the Legation of Finland, 2144 Wyoming Ave., N.E., Washington, D. C. Dr. K. T. Jutila, the Finnish Minister, will arrange for their being shipped to Finland.

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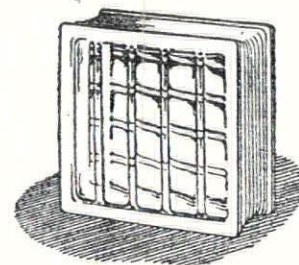
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## HOWARD MYERS

Howard Myers, publisher of Architectural Forum and a leading spokesman for the contemporary trend in architecture, died September 18 of a heart ailment in his home at 125 East Fifty-seventh Street, New York City. He was 52 years old.

Mr. Myers was active in the promotion of the revolution in design that has occurred in the last three decades. He was one of the first editorial champions of the factory-produced house and he published the experimental designs in the early Twenties leading to the establishment of the prefabrication industry.

Foster Gunnison, president of Gunnison Homes Inc., recently said of him:

"When the history of prefabrication is written, the name of Howard Myers will loom larger than any other."

During the war and the subsequent housing emergency Mr. Myers frequently was called upon by the Government to act as a housing consultant.

As chairman of the architectural advisory committee of the Federal Public Housing Authority, he was instrumental in promoting the most advanced standards in public housing. He was a director of the National Public Housing Conference and the New York Citizens Housing Council.

### Introduced New Design Here

By publishing the early work of leading American architects, Mr. Myers influenced the building industry to abandon traditional styles and adopt concepts founded on technological advances in structure and materials. He introduced in this country the pioneering work of the Bauhaus school of functional design. He also published building designs by many distinguished European architects.

Commenting upon the death of Mr. Myers, Wallace K. Harrison, director of planning for the permanent headquarters of the United Nations, said:

"The architectural profession of this country had no wiser friend, no more inspiring leader and no more effective spokesman for the last thirty years than Howard Myers. His influence, always on the side of better architecture, better building and better living, was enormous. The gap left by his passing will be almost impossible to fill."

### In Field for 32 Years

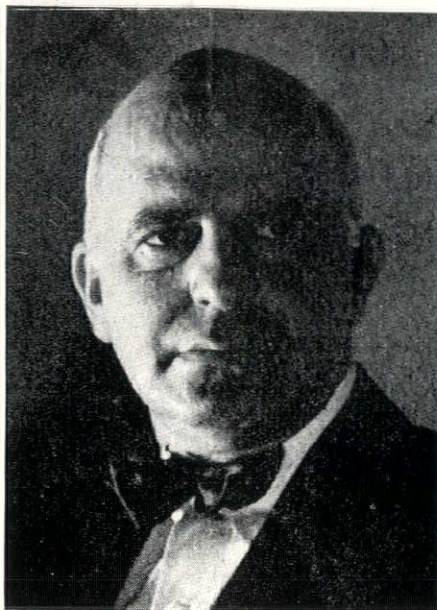
Mr. Myers was born in Philadelphia and attended New York University and the New York School of Fine and Applied Arts. Starting on the Conde-Nast publications in 1915, he devoted his entire career to the building field.

He was manager of the housing department of the National Lead Company from 1915 to 1919, vice-president of Architectural Forum from 1919 to 1925, its president from 1925 to 1929, and publisher from 1930 until his death. He also had been president from 1929 to 1930 of a corporation that published a group of trade journals, including Building Age, Good Furniture, Heating and Ventilating, and Building Material Marketing.

A governor of the New York Building Congress, he was a director of the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design. He was

a member of the American Design Award Jury, the Architectural League of New York and the Manhattan Club.

Surviving are his widow, Mrs. Louise Weigand Myers; two daughters, Barbara King and Mary Myers, and a son, Howard Jr.



HOWARD MYERS

## PRODUCERS TO CONVEENE

The course of the building industry in the months ahead will be analyzed by industry and government officials at the opening session of the annual meeting of the Producers' Council, which will be held October 2 and 3 at the Commodore Hotel in New York City.

Major General Philip B. Fleming, administrator of the Federal Works Agency, will discuss plans for construction of public works, and John L. Haynes, chief of the Construction Division of the U. S. Department of Commerce, will speak on the improvement in the building outlook.

Wilson Wright, economist of the Armstrong Cork Co. and chairman of the Council's Construction Economics Committee, will present the committee's forecasts of future construction volume.

New developments in home building will be described by William J. Levitt, president of Levitt & Sons.

The meeting will open with an address of welcome by John Splain, Commissioner of Construction of New York City, and a report by Tyler S. Rogers, Council president.

Charles F. Cellarius, treasurer of the American Institute of Architects, will address a luncheon meeting on the opening day.

Preceding the regular sessions, the Council's New York Chapter will hold an exhibit at the Commodore on October 1 of new building materials and equipment, to which building industry representatives are invited.

## GEORGE HAAS ILL

Word has been received that George J. Haas, A.I.A., now of Miami, Fla., was stricken at his home on August 27. He remained at home until September 6, when a severe setback necessitated his being removed to a hospital, where he was under oxygen for some time. On September 9 the report was that he was very low but hope was held out for his recovery.

George K. Haas, the son, is conducting the Haas office at 702 Olympia Building, Miami 32, Fla.



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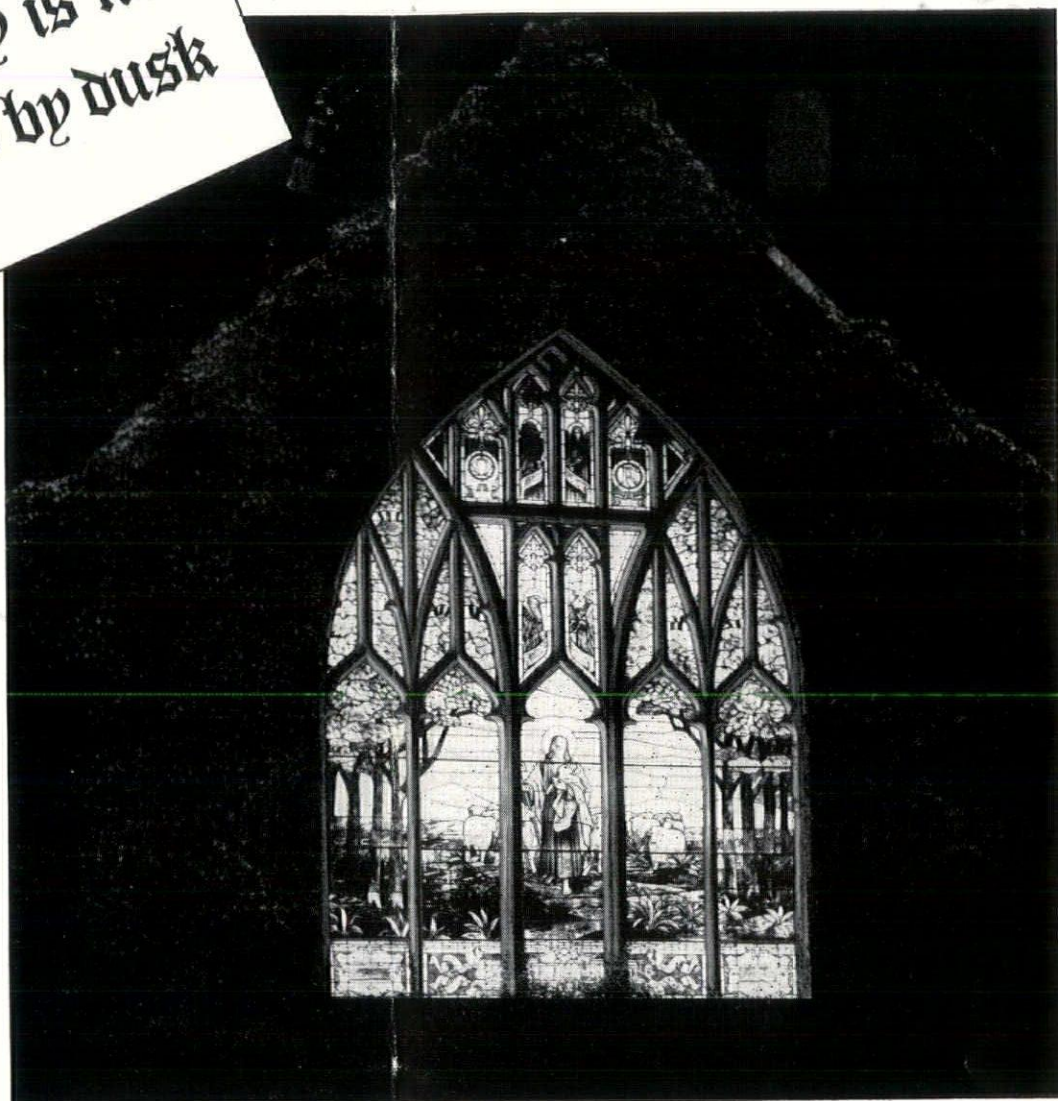
9080 ALPINE AVENUE  
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AIR CONDITIONING

ESTABLISHED 1912



*Its glory is not  
dimmed by dusk*



*—Window in the south transept of the Iroquois Avenue  
Lutheran Church, Iroquois at East Vernor Highway, Detroit.*

The beauty of a stained glass window is immeasurably enhanced by modern lighting. A stained glass window, so illuminated at night, will adorn and dignify its church, inspire members of the congregation and impress passersby.

As with other buildings, modern lighting makes churches more attractive—reflects the architect's accomplishment during the important evening hours. It's wise to include window lighting recommendations in your specifications for churches.

Even though inside window floodlighting is not contemplated for immediate installation, it's also wise to provide for the required wiring and outlets in planning and erecting new churches. Our lighting engineers have made a special study of church lighting, and will be glad to spot outlets in your plans. For this service, call Edison's church lighting specialist, RA 2100, Extension 9221.

**The Detroit Edison Company**