THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT

THE OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF
THE STATE ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN ARCHITECTS
WISCONSIN CHAPTER OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE
OF ARCHITECTS
BUILDING CONGRESS OF WISCONSIN



New Buildings

A New Free Service

Minutes of Executive Board Meeting

Minutes of Convention of State Societies

New Buildings

The September issue of the Wisconsin Architect will inaugurate a new department. We will publish a list of new projects that have actually been started by the members of the State Association. This is to be state wide and we believe it will be of great interest to each of us. In no way is this news to supplant the reporting agencies but will collect under one heading a list of the projects under way.

Send all communications to

LEIGH HUNT, Editor Wisconsin Architect 152 W. Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee

Notice

All resolutions which are to be presented to the Annual Convention which will be held in Green Bay at the Beaumont Hotel on October 2, 1937 must be presented through the Resolutions Committee.

President Auler has appointed Peter Brust Chairman, H. W. Buemming and Frank Drolshagen to serve

on this Committee.

Resolutions must be either mailed to Peter Brust, 135 W. Wells St., Milwaukee, or be in Green Bay by noon the day preceeding the convention.

Resolutions changing the by-laws must be published at least 30 days prior to the convention date in

the "Wisconsin Architect."

A New Free Service

Beginning with the next issue of the "Wisconsin Architect" a free Employment Department will be inaugurated for employee and employer.

Address all communications to Leigh Hunt, Editor "Wisconsin Architect," 152 W. Wisconsin Ave., Milwaukee. Members of the State Association please place this notice on your bulletin board.

Important

It has come forcefully to the attention of the practicing architects throughout the State that architects on the payroll of Works Progress Administration and similar federal agencies are soliciting and obtaining commissions to execute work for municipalities and private interests.

We believe that continuance of this practice is decidedly unethical and contrary to all priciples of fair practice and in addition contrary to the regulation of the

agencies employing them.

If members of the State Association know of any such instances, will they please send their names and positions at once to your Secretary, Arthur L. Seidenschwartz, 2104 North 64th Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Minutes of Meeting of the Convention of State Architectural Societies, Held in Boston, May 31, 1937

REPORT OF LEIGH HUNT, DELEGATE TO CONVENTION OF STATE SOCIETIES HELD IN BOSTON, MASS.

The meeting convened in the Mahogany Room of the Somerset Hotel at 3 P.M.

Mr. Fugard, as Chairman of The Institute Committee on State Societies, called the Convention to order.

Present:

A. R. Morison Clair W. Ditchy Arthur B. Holmes Louis N. Crawford Albert J. Evers Charles Dana Loomis Clyde N. Friz Ralph B. Flewelling Ralph W. Gray H. Daland Chandler Samuel E. Lunden Sylvanus B. Marston Walter R. McCornack Charles F. Cellarius George C. Walter Wallace G. Teare Neil J. Convery John F. Fugard Thomas Pym Cope

Michigan Society of Architects Michigan Society of Architects D. Knickerbacker Boyd Pennsylvania Association of Architects Leigh Hunt Milwaukee Wisconsin State Association Lucien E. D. Gaudreau Maryland Society of Registered Architects New Jersey Society of Architects State Association of California Architects State Association of California Architects Maryland Society of Registered Architects Maryland Society of Registered Architects Maryland Society of Registered Architects Boston Society of Architects, A.I.A. Boston Society of Architects Southern California Chapter, A.I.A. Southern California Chapter, A.I.A. Cleveland Chapter, A.I.A Cincinnati Chapter, A.I.A. Ohio Society of Architects, Cleveland Section Ohio Society of Architects, Cleveland Section New Jersey Society of Architects Illinois Society of Architects Pennsylvania Association of Architects

The Chairman announced that he must be only considered as Chairman protem and asked for nominations for a permanent Chairman. Mr. Holmes nominated Mr. Fugard. Seconded from the floor and it was moved from the floor that nominations be closed.

Mr. Fugard asked Mr. Evers to take the Chair. On question the motion was passed unanimously. Fugard resumed the Chair and called for nominations for Secretary of the meeting. Mr. Cope's name was put in nomination by Mr. Holmes, and seconded from the floor. It was moved from the floor that nominations be closed. This was seconded and on question was carried unanimously. The Chair therefore stated that Mr. Cope was duly elected Secretary to the meeting. The Chair opened the discussion by reading the report of The Institute Committee on State Societies to the Board of Directors of The Institute. port follows in full:

'Final Report: to the Board of Directors, American Institute of Architects, from the Chairman, Com-

mittee on State Societies.

During the year since the Convention of 1936, there has been no change in the number of state association members of The Institute. These remain as follows:

Michigan Society of Architects Architects Society of Ohio

State Association of California Architects State Association of Wisconsin Architects

At the present time there are non-member State Organizations as follows:

Florida Association of Architects Illinois Society of Architects Indiana Society of Architects State Association of Kentucky Architects New Jersey Society of Architects New York Council of Registered Architects Oklahoma State Society of Architects Pennsylvania Association of Architects Washington State Society of Architects

It is understood that there is in formation Associations of Architects in the following states:

> Maryland Minnesota

Thirty-nine states now have legislation which calls for registration of architects, and it is quite likely that the formation of Additional State Societies may be expected from time to time.

Question before the Committee:

Why have not the nine non-member state organizations listed above seen fit to present their applications for membership in The Institute.

It is considered of importance to seek the proper answer to this question, as such answer would naturally point the way with certainty to the possible expansion, or at least, revision of the present Unification plan. Possibly the answer might shed a revealing light on matters within The Institute itself which are in need of revision.

The Answer:

Unfortunately, no specific answer is at hand. The arguments which have been heard regarding the aloofness of the State Association quite generally fall within the following categories:

First: The Institute as a national organization is detached from local problems of the State Association, consequently is unable to exercise any helpful influences in meeting such problems. Membership in The Institute therefore, is just an added expense to be carried by State Organizations.

Second: The Institute should be conducted as an honorary or an aesthetic society, and should not attempt to handle the business or practical affairs of the profession, which fall more properly within the province of the State Organizations.

Recommendations: It is neither our purpose to answer the foregoing arguments, nor to make definite recommendations to the Board of Directors of The Institute. We are merely recording impressions, although it is recognized that there is much to be said concerning these matters.

Strange as it may seem both arguments have been advanced by Institute members as well as State Organizations. Furthermore, we wish to point out that in any attempt to evaluate this situation, it must be forgotten that quite generally the officers of the State Organizations are members of The Institute.

This fact is often overlooked by Institute Members in their consideration of the subject of Society rela-

tionship.

Constructive Suggestions: If The Institute desires to proceed along the lines of its present Unification projects, it must initiate, adopt and effectively promote a policy and a program which will appeal to the State Organizations as sincere efforts toward solving professional problems of local importance.

In consideration of that program the following items may be of importance to State organizations:

To increase the influence and importance of

State Organizations and their membership within their own geographical limits.

2. To serve the entire profession by group advertising, done in a professional way.

To oppose, as a profession, all unfair competition by governmental bureaus in whatever capacity they may be, and all others not qualified to practice architecture.

To suggest and promote laws which will tend to strengthen existing state laws concerning the registration of architects and the practice of the

profession.

To oppose vigorously any legislation which may tend to lower the standards of registration of architects or for the practice of the profession.

Conclusion:

It is suggested to the Board of Directors of The Institute, that:

1st: The name of this committee be changed to

"The Committee on State Organization."

2nd: The membership of the committee include one institute member from each of the thirteen existing state organizations, whether or not such organizations are affiliated with The Institute.

The membership of the Committee be made by election or appointment by the State Or-

ganizations:

4th: The Chairman of the Committee be a member of a State Organization as well as The Institute, and be appointed by the President of The Institute.

5th: The Board of The Institute appropriate a sum for purposes of this Committee sufficient to allow its representative to make one visit during the year to a meeting of each state organization, together with a sum sufficient to carry on the business of the committee.

The Committee on State Organizations 6th: report to the Board of The Institute not later than May 15, 1938, definite recommendations upon-

Whether or not The Institute should abandon its present plan of Unification through membership of state organizations.

Second:

Whether or not the Institute should promote a plan of nationwide organiza-tion of State Associations, separate and distinct from The Institute.

> Respectfully submitted, By JOHN R. FUGARD, Chairman."

Mr. Boyd asked that a resolution passed by the Pennsylvania Association of Architects on April 16, 1937 be read. The Chair directed this be read by the Secretary. It is as follows:

"Resolution passed by the Pennsylvania Association of Architects at their Annual Meeting, Philadelphia., April 16th, 1937

WHEREAS The American Institute of Architects has attempted by means of sponsoring State Associations to become the representative organization for the entire

(Continued on page 5)

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The Building Congress of Wisconsin

Wisconsin Chapter, The American Institute of Architects

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Minutes of the August Meeting of the State Executive Board

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects was held at the summer home of Mr. Urban Durner, Upper Nemahbin Lake, Wisconsin, on Saturday, August 21, 1937.

The meeting was called to order by President Henry

Auler at 11 A.M.

All members of the Board were present with the exception of Messrs. Herbert Tullgren, Fitzhugh Scott, Edgar H. Berners and Edgar A. Stubenrauch, who were represented by proxies.

It was moved by Mr. Herbst and seconded by Mr. Brust that the reading of the minutes of the previous monthly and special meeting be dispensed with Motion

adopted.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Publicity: Mr. Hunt suggested that a help want ad column be inserted in the Wisconsin Architect, both for employers and employees, as many requests for positions have come to both the Editor and the Secretary. This column would be of benefit to Architects and Draftsmen as there are many times that help is required and a list of men looking for positions is not available. It was also suggested by Mr. Hunt, that Architects report their projects in the Wisconsin Architect, all reports to be bonafide contracts and not mere reports on possible contracts. These reports in no way to be construed as being in competition with the trade reporting companies. It was moved by Mr. Brust and seconded by Mr. Stepnoski that the suggestions of Mr. Hunt be recommended by the Board to the Editor and that he give it a trial at an early date. Motion for recommendation was adopted. President Henry Auler instructed each representative of the several Districts to notify their District of this recommendation and to get their support.

Practice: Mr. Seidenschwartz of the Seventh District reported that the Advisory Board of his District had met and were making an investigation of the Markesan School matter and that a further report would be

made after all facts had been collected.

Treasurer's Report: Mr. Kirchhoff reported that the balance on hand in the treasury after all bills re-

ported to date had been paid, was \$334.56.

A letter addressed to President Henry Auler from Thomas P. Cope, Secretary of the Committee of State Society Organization was received and read. The letter directed our Association to appoint a representative to this Committee.

A letter addressed to President Henry Auler from Mr. Harry Bogner, Architect, making inquiry as to when the plaque of award would be presented to Mrs. Edmund Fitzgerald, was received. After some discussion on the subject it was moved by Mr. Eschweiler and seconded by Mr. Herbst that Mr. Hunt receive estimates on the cost of three appropriate plaques and present estimates at the next Board meeting. Motion adopted. The President instructed the Secretary to notify Mr. Bogner that this matter would be taken care of in the near future.

President Henry Auler appointed a Resolutions Committee, consisting of Mr. Brust, Chairman, Mr. Buemming and Mr. Drolshagen. The Editor of the Wisconsin Architect to print this fact in the next issue

of the Wisconsin Architect, notifying the members that any resolution they desire to present to the Convention, be presented to this Committee.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, same was adjourned at 12:30 P.M.

ARTHUR L. SEIDENSCHWARTZ Secretary

Minutes of Meeting of the Convention of State Architectural Societies, Held in Boston, May 31, 1937

(Continued from page 3)

Profession of Architecture in the United States, and whereas the American Institute of Architects is essentially an honorary society and cannot successfully perform both the functions of an honorary and selective society and an all inclusively representative and therefore non-selective society, and whereas these two differences of purpose have long made themselves felt within the membership of the American Institute of Architects and have caused compromises which have been to the disadvantage of both purposes, now therefore be it

RESOLVED That the Pennsylvania Association of Architects in Annual Convention assembled, at Philadelphia on April 16th, 1937, hereby places itself on record, recommends and directs, as the case may be,

- That these two purposes can best be carried out by two separate organizations, that the American Institute of Architects should relinquish its attempted heading of the State Associations, retaining its functions as an honorary and professional body, and that the various State Associations form a federation to be entitled the National Association of Architects and which would be an all inclusive and non-selective body representing the business of Architecture,
- That membership in this National Association of Architects be automatic upon registration or upon seven years employment as a draughtsman,

That dues in this National Association be a portion of or run concurrently with dues in any State Association so that the individual shall pay but one dues which shall entitle him to the privileges of both.

- That the functions of this National Association be to coordinate and increase the influence of the State Associations, and serve the Profession throughout the Country with group advertising, publicity for the Profession, exposure of bad practices, misfeasance and malfeasance in practice, to fight the inequitable or unfair competition of government bureaus and any and all others not qualified to practice architecture, to give legislative and legal advice and in any and all other ways to further the standing, ethics, influence and position of the Profession throughout the Country,
- That the whole of this resolution be sent to all State and other Associations asking them to send delegates to the meeting of the State Associations to be held the day previous to the American Institute of Architects Convention, that is, in Boston on May the 31st, prepared for a full discussion and action upon this important matter,
- 6. That the whole of this resolution be also sent to the American Institute of Architects with the request that it be published in the pre-Convention number of

the Octagon, and that the Board of Directors of The Institute place this matter upon the Agenda of the forthcoming Convention in such a way that any action which might be taken by the State Associations on May 31st along the lines set forth herein may receive full debate and action by The Institute in Convention,

7. And that the whole of this resolution be published in the next issue of the Pennsylvania Association

of Architects' Bulletin.'

The Chair opened the meeting for discussion.

Mr. Holmes of New Jersey spoke briefly concerning his feeling that while there should be some connection between the A.I.A. and State Societies, he nevertheless believed this connection as existing was bound to cause trouble sooner or later. Mr. Holmes read a resolution prepared by him which is as follows:

(This draft represents the personal thought, only,

of the undersigned)

WHEREAS, the field of architectural leadership and control in the United States embraces both professional and business characteristics which are vital to all who practice architecture and

WHEREAS, the American Institute of Architects has in its membership only a selected group representing a comparatively small number of those architects registered and practising in the United States, and

WHEREAS, the interests of the few whose practice consists mainly of large commissions and those of urban character are often not identical with those of the greater mass of the architects whose work is mainly with smaller units and these often suburban or rural in character and

WHEREAS, the interests of the smaller architects are threatened frequently in manners beyond the control and understanding of those respected leaders of the profession who govern the destinies of the American Institute of Architects, now, therefore,

BE IT RECOMMENDED, that a National Federation of the State Architectural Societies be formed for the purposes of

1. Coordinating and increasing the influence of the

State Societies and Associations,

2. Properly publicising the profession along ethical lines by means of group advertising and a more vigorous publicity in selected public channels,

Furthering standardized practice in registration

of architects and in building code requirements,

4. Combatting menacing influences within and without the profession which tend to weaken and to lower the standards of the profession,

5. And in other ways, along approved lines, to further and improve the standing, ethics, influences and position of the profession throughout the United States.

AND BE IT FURTHER RECOMMENDED, that the National Federation of State Architectural Societies shall, in structure, have as its members only accredited State Societies or Associations and shall not seek or permit individual memberships in order that it may not, in appearance or actuality, compete with the American Institute of Architects, which the Federation recognizes as the dominant controlling influence in the architectural profession in the United States.'

Mr. Gray of Boston spoke, taking exception to the Pennsylvania resolution's "accusation" of the A.I.A. as being "honorary" and gave a brief history of The

Institute effort to represent the entire profession. He spoke of his doubts as to whether any new national body could accomplish as much. He asked what this proposed new national body could do that the A.I.A. had not the ability to do, and said he foresaw weakness

in two organizations rather than strength.

The Chairman called on Mr. Ditchy of Michigan. Mr. Ditchy said his feeling was that membership in the A.I.A. was essentially honorary and that there was need for an organization which would represent the business of architectue. He said that at the meeting of the Michigan Society in Detroit it was very clearly brought out that the State Associations in their region were becoming increasingly necessary and important. He said he believed that there was a distinct function to be performed by a National Federation.

Mr. Chandler of Boston asked Mr. Ditchy to explain just what such an organization could handle better than the A.I.A. Mr. Ditchy answered that the first and foremost thing was that such an organization would represent all architects, good, bad and indifferent, which was something the Institute definitely could not do. He also mentioned the importance of local contacts with other State organizations and officials, legis-

lation, etc.

Mr. Morison, the President of the Michigan Society, spoke. He said that when the Unification program of The Institute was first discussed it was very much needed, that both the discussion and the need for it had somewhat lapsed during the depression but that it was very much needed again. As an example of how it was needed he spoke of the Federation of Draftsmen, Chemists, Engineers and Technicians and the sitdown strike which they had called a few days ago in the Ford factories in Detroit. He said it was his belief that the State Associations could handle such matters very much better than the Chapters because of their full representation. He also spoke of his recent appearance before the State Legislature and how important it had proved to be, that he was able to state that he represented every registered architect in the State. He said he was in favor of keeping in close touch with The Institute and of the formation of state societies as had been described by Mr. Holmes.

The Chair read a letter from Seattle which he said was a splendid example of how important it was that the architects in each state be effectively organized. This letter is as follows:

"The AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS Washington State Chapter

April 26, 1937

Mr. E. C. Kemper, Executive Secretary The American Institute of Architects, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Kemper,

This Chapter is confronted with a situation of utmost moment and I am asking that you present this situation to the officers of the Institute and would request that you inform us of how other Chapters have met similar situations.

The architects of this city have received an ultimatum from the business agent of Local 17 of a socalled Association of Technical Engineers and Architects giving them until July 1st to unionize their draftsmen. This Local apparently is sponsored by A.F. of L. and has the endorsement of the Central Building Trades Council. It sets up a catagory for every Architectural draftsman and architect and establishes a minimum wage scale. They will lend a Union stamp to all "fair Architects offices" and union labor will refuse to build from any working drawings not thus stamped.

In order to understand the gravity of the situation, one must understand that Seattle is now completely unionized. All of the master associations of technical trades such as plumbers, plasterers etc., have now reached an agreement with Union Labor so that all bids will be pooled and any bids lower than five per cent of the average are automatically thrown out. Thus it is impossible for any new man to enter business as a plastering contractor, etc. This practice has increased the cost of building here far more than have increases in wages for labor or for increased cost of materials. These two items have increased approximately ten per cent since the first of the year while building costs have risen practically 35 per cent. All of this is strictly enforced by the strength of the teamsters union and the fact that we have a union city administration.

The union of engineers and architects offers a similar status to architects if they will sign up. In other words, they would enforce standard fees for a group and allow no other architect to practice. A small tribunal would decide whether an architect could practice or not by the simple expedient of allowing him to use the

stamp or withdrawing it.

We are having a special meeting to discuss this matter today. Members of the Chapter seem very much disturbed about the situation and we would appreciate anything the Institute can do to help us.

Yours very truly, (Signed) LANCE M. GOWEN, President."

Mr. Fugard discussed briefly the situation in Seattle which is a completely unionized city in which absolutely nothing can be done by anybody in business unless he is able to obtain the good graces of the group of politicians and labor officials, who have practically

usurped control of the city.

The Chair called upon Mr. Lunden of California. Mr. Lunden spoke of the growth in membership and importance of the California State Association and of the correspondingly small increase in Chapter members. He spoke of the inadvisibility of forcing the members of the State Association into The Institute. He expressed his own personal feelings somewhat as follows: He said that at the present moment he was withholding his Association dues as a protest against its affiliation with the Institute. He said that it was his desire that the whole question brought up by the Pennsylvania Association should be discussed throughout the year by a Committee on which there would be true representation and no undue influence from the Institute.

The Chairman called on Mr. Walters of Ohio. He spoke briefly of his belief that the Association should stay with The Institute. He said that his views were entirely personal and therefore he preferred that the Chair should ask other delegates.

The Chair called upon Mr. Loomis of Maryland. Mr. Loomis described the situation in Maryland, the lack of cohesion between the architects outside of the two metropolitan districts of Baltimore and Washington and of the fact that with the new registration law they had for the first time discovered the architectural population of the state. He said that this was of great importance to those architects in Baltimore and Washington who had previously been organized under the Chapters of The Institute. He said that the organization of the State Association in Maryland was so new that they had not been able to take any action concerning the Pennsylvania resolution, but that as far as he had been able to find out, most of their members were primarily interested in the function which their association could perform as protector of their new legal status.

He said that all those he had talked with wanted to know a great deal more about The Institute and affiliation with it before they would consider it. He said he personally believed in the old maxim of "In union there is strength" and that the State Association should be affiliated with The Institute, but that the younger men nevertheless wanted to know what the implications thereof were.

The Chair called upon Mr. Hunt of Wisconsin. Mr. Hunt said the Wisconsin Association had discussed the Pennsylvania resolution but had decided it was far too big a question to be decided at any one meeting and that therefore he had no instructions as delegate. He said the Wisconsin Association would unquestionably study the matter further.

The Chairman called upon Mr. McCornack, asking him partciularly to speak as a member of that Association and not as a member of the Cleveland Chapter. Mr. McCornack said he was in favor of the question being discussed but that personally he was not in favor of splitting off from The Institute.

He described the local Chapters of the Ohio State Society and their functions in regard to legislative matters, labor situations, group advertising, etc., and their representative at the State Capitol at Columbus. He said most officers were Institute Members and he believed this indicated that the State Associations were the best method for building up memberships for The Institute. He said he hoped action would be along the lines of Mr. Fugard's report as Chairman of The Institute Committee on State Societies and spoke of his gratefulness to the Pennsylvania Association for bringing up the question.

The Chair called on Mr. Higby of New Jersey. Mr. Higby spoke of the presentation to the State Society of Mr. Holmes' resolution. He brought out the fact that there were 14 State Associations, only 4 of which were affiliated with The Institute. He said that in New Jersey they had 16 Chapters of the State Association and that the Institute was a completely separate thing, both in membership and in interest. unification was discussed the New Jersey State Society turned it down on the grounds that they did not want to embarass The Institute with the local business of the Society. He said that membership in the State Association was automatic upon membership in any of the local Chapters. He spoke of his belief that the State Society was a "build up" for The Institute and that the State Society could take care of local matters, but said that personally he was vehemently opposed to the formation of any new organization which would run parallel to The Institute.

Mr. Marston of Southern Section of the California Association asked that Mr. Flewelling of the Southern Chapter speak. The Chair called upon Mr. Flewelling who stated he wanted to discuss the relationship of the Southern District Board of the State Association and the Chapter. He read a letter to Mr. Flewelling from Mr. Hibbard, President of the California Association of Architects. This letter is as follows:

May 18, 1937

"Mr. Ralph C. Flewelling, President Southern California Chapter, A.I.A. 816-West 5th Street, Los Angeles, California Dear Mr. Flewelling:

The action of the joint meeting of executive committee of the Southern California Chapter of the A.I.A., and the executive board, Southern Section, of the State Association of California Architects, with reference to the affiliation of the State Association with the A.I.A. and the effect of the proposed Chapter by-laws upon such affiliation has brought to light a number of items of general policy which would seem to be detrimental to the successful carrying out of the policy of affiliation.

The State Association Board feels that the relationship between the two organizations should be one of mutual helpfulness, rather than a relationship brought about by mandatory by-law requirements of their organizations. These requirements under certain circumstances might hinder independent action by either one or the other organization on matters of importance in their separate spheres. The Board of the State Association feels that the more simple the requirements of affiliation are made the closer will become the relationship of the two bodies. This relationship must be dependent upon mutual good faith and cooperative action.

The Board of the State Association feels that the restrictions placed upon the Executive Committee of the Chapter by the new by-laws which would tend to place responsibility upon such committee in administering or acting upon the affairs of the State Association is unwise and is not desired by the State Association.

(Continued in the next issue)

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