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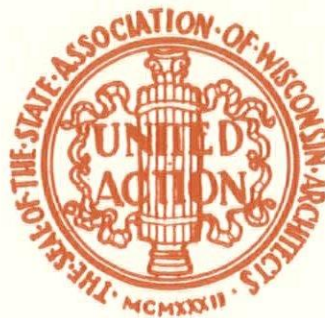
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# THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT

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

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*State Association Competition*

*Wisconsin Architects Exhibition*

*Conclusion of Darkroom Design and Equipment*



### Urban F. Durner

It would be hard indeed for the young or old-time architects, contractors, or citizens to think of a man who was more genuinely and lovingly regarded than Urban Durner.

As a potential help and loyal friend to architects his sterling qualities could not be over estimated. His word was as good as anyone's bond.

He spent a most useful life in the devotion to his craft making many strides towards its improvement and for the betterment of architectural accessories. He had a rare sense of humor and always did things with a gracious smile making you feel that what he was doing was cheerfully and willingly done. His domestic relations were most pleasant and his effervescent good humor made him a most gracious host. Particularly did these qualities manifest themselves when he arranged for the architects annual picnic at his country home on Nemahbin Lake. On these occasions he was tireless in his efforts to provide for the comfort and pleasure of his guests, and always with the same gracious manner.

It is with deepest regret and sorrow that we'll miss our friend Urban, and may we always cherish his memory.

### Outline for Proposed 1939 Wisconsin Architects' Exhibition

Plans for the 1939 Wisconsin Architects' Exhibition were discussed on April 11th by a committee jointly representing the Wisconsin Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and the State Association of Architects. The committee, headed by Harry Bogner, chairman, also includes architects Francis Gurda, Henry Hengels, Elmer Johnson, Robert Potter, Arthur Runzler and Alfred Zarse, all associated with both bodies.

The following tentative program was adopted, subject to suggestions from architects throughout the State:

It will be a traveling exhibit, starting with two weeks beginning Sept. 25 to Oct. 8, 1939, at the Milwaukee Art Institute, followed by a week's exhibition in each of the other seven "Districts" as defined by the State Association of Wisconsin Architects. Arrangements in such districts will be in charge of architects in those districts.

All entries must be at the Milwaukee Art Institute, 772 North Jefferson Street, Milwaukee, before September 18th.

Exhibitors are limited to resident architects registered in Wisconsin.

Exhibits are limited to commissions executed since January 1, 1930.

Not more than three entries of each exhibitor will be shown.

General requirements include that all entries are to be mounted on stiff board. Mounts are to be 14"x20", 20"x28" or 28"x40". No mounted photograph, architectural rendering or plan shall be less than 11"x14". Space allowed each exhibitor will be determined by the number of entries. Glass covered exhibits will not be allowed.

Each exhibitor is to pay his own shipping costs to Milwaukee.

Architects who have already promised to exhibit include Richard Philipp, Edwin J. Kraus, Peter Brust, Gerritt DeGelleke, Leigh Hunt, Arthur Runzler, Harry Bogner, Alfred Zarse, Herman Buemming, E. Brielmaier & Sons Co., H. H. Hay, Fred Wegner, Chas. Valentine, Grassold and Johnson, Robert Potter, Henry Hengels, Eschweiler and Eschweiler, and Arthur Seidenschwartz, all of Milwaukee, and Foeller, Schober and Berners of Green Bay; Raymond LeVee of Appleton; W. C. Weeks, Inc., of Sheboygan; Auler, Jensen & Brown of Oshkosh.

WISCONSIN ARCHITECT readers are asked to forward comments within two weeks from date of issue to Exhibition Committee, Harry Bogner, Chairman, 759 N. Milwaukee Street, Milwaukee.

### A Competition for a Small House Design Sponsored by The State Association of Wisconsin Architects

The purpose of this competition is primarily to select the one or several suitable small plans for a small house, which can at a later date be published in THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT giving all members of the State Association permission to use the same.

It is to be understood that this house is to be erected in a suburban locality.

#### Drawings:

The following drawings must accompany design on a 24"x30" maximum size sheet:

1/4" scale floor plans.

1/4" scale elevations and wall section.

1/8" scale basement plan.

Small specification outline covering sizes and materials of structural and finish characters.

The competition will be divided into two parts:

1. Class A.

2. Class B.

The prizes for both classes will be as follows:

\$10.00—1st prize Class A and B respectively and certificate of recognition.

\$5.00—2nd prize Class A and B respectively.

\$5.00—3rd prize Class A and B respectively.

#### Class A:

Class A requirements cover a livable house consisting of Living Room, Dining Space, Kitchen, 2 Bedrooms and Bath on one floor.

The floor area is not to exceed 675 square feet; a good plan less than this size shall receive additional recognition.

#### Class B:

Class B requirements cover the same as Class A, except same to be two-story. Floor area not to exceed 525 square feet per floor.

In all cases, plans must include the necessary clothes closets in bedrooms, linen closet, guest clothes closet, airing balcony or porch deck.

Garage or natural fireplace not required.

All drawings must show a furniture layout to consist of not less than the following:



## 1939 Milwaukee Home Show Exhibit



Hudson Photography

*Living Room:*

Divan, two large chairs, one small table, coffee table, radio, and three floor lamps.

*Dining Room:*

Medium size period style dining table, five chairs and hostess chair, serving table, or built-in china cabinet.

*Kitchen:*

Table and four chairs or table and bench, and all necessary equipment including stove, sink, ice box and cabinets.

*Master Bedroom:*

Twin beds, dressers, chest of drawers, dressing table, two chairs.

*Other Bedroom:*

Double bed, dresser, small table and chair.

It will be mandatory to consider ventilation, accessibility, good circulation, and minimum hall space.

*Timing:*

The competition will close Monday, June 1st, 1939, and all entries must be in by midnight of that date.

Necessary return postage must accompany all entries as they will be returned to the respective owners.

The Board to select the winning designs will consist of five architects, all members of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects. All contestants must notify below named committee before May 15 if entering contest, so as to permit the selection of above Board from non-contestants.

This contest is open to any registered architect in the State of Wisconsin, or any draftsman employed by a registered architect. In the latter case, each entry must be accompanied by a proper letter of authorization signed by the architect who employs him, or any draftsman unemployed who can get authorization from an architect.

The program committee consists of the following: Gregory G. Lefebvre, chairman, Walter Memmler, Urban Peacock, Walter Pollatz, Edmund Schranz.

**Darkroom Design and Equipment**

(Continued from March issue)

*Commercial or Professional Darkroom*

In planning the darkroom of a professional or commercial studio, very careful attention should be given to the routing of the work in order to eliminate as much as possible any back-tracking and extra steps, and to allow the work to flow through smoothly. Usually the negative darkroom should be located next to the studio proper, so that the loaded film holders can be passed out to the camera operator and the exposed films sent into the darkroom with a minimum of trouble. Likewise, the equipment in the darkroom should be arranged so that in passing from the loading bench through the developer, fixing bath, and wash water, and into the drying cabinet, the film moves around the room in an unbroken path. The prints, too, should have a similar smooth path to follow, without any carrying back and forth.

*General Construction and Equipment*

*Lighttraps:* As has been mentioned, it is desirable to be able to enter and leave the darkroom without admitting any light. This is made possible by the use of lighttrapped passages or double doors. The walls of the passageways should have a dark, nonreflecting finish, to prevent reflection of light around the baffle. When there are several small darkrooms in a unit, they can all open onto one dark passage.

The open passageway helps greatly in the problem of ventilating the darkroom and is practically necessary where several persons may be using the passage, but it takes up more space than the double door type of lighttrap. Therefore, when floor space is at a premium, it may be necessary to use a double door lighttrap. One or both of the doors may be replaced by heavy single or double curtains. If two solid doors are used, it will be necessary to place a lighttrapped vent in the wall of the lighttrap in order to

(Continued on page 7)



## THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT

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Wisconsin Chapter, The American  
Institute of Architects

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## State Association of Wisconsin Architects

April 1, 1939

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects was held at the Nelson Hotel in Racine, Wisconsin, on April 1, 1939.

The meeting was called to order by President Leigh Hunt at 10:30 A.M.

The following members were present: Messrs. Leigh Hunt, B. H. Knobla, William Mickelsen, Gregory Lefebvre, R. S. Chase, Noel Ross Safford, Wallace Brown, Urban Peacock, and A. L. Seidenschwartz. Mr. Walter Memmler of the Seventh District was also present.

Represented by proxy were Messrs. C. Madsen, Emiel Klingler, and William Oppenhamer.

Messrs. Gerritt DeGelleke and Henry Auler were absent.

The minutes of the previous monthly meeting and of the special meeting held in Milwaukee on March 16th were dispensed with as all members of the board had received copies of same.

### REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

#### Publicity Committee:

Mr. Leigh Hunt reported that a contract had been drawn up between Mr. Cramer as publisher of the WISCONSIN ARCHITECT and the State Association of Wisconsin Architects for one year. The contract was carefully analyzed, all items gone into thoroughly, and it was moved by Mr. Seidenschwartz and seconded by Mr. Lefebvre that the contract be entered into and be properly signed by both parties, that financial statements be prepared by Mr. Cramer every month to be submitted to the Executive Board and be made a part of the Minutes. Motion was carried.

After a general discussion on the advisability of the publisher of the WISCONSIN ARCHITECT on the matter of preparing specification covers and taking care of the sale of contract documents as prepared by the American Institute of Architects and other printed matter of value to the Association. It was moved by Mr. Lefebvre and seconded by Mr. Brown that this program be carried out. Motion was carried.

### FINANCIAL STATEMENT OF THE WISCONSIN ARCHITECT

for the period, December 1, 1938, through March 28, 1939

Total Receipts		\$551.22
Expenses		
Printing	\$205.83	
Publishing office expenses	90.00	295.83
		<hr/>
		\$255.39
Amount paid on debt of John S. Holbrook		162.23
		<hr/>
Net Gross Income		93.16
Total Amount Drawn for Personal Use		35.58
		<hr/>
Balance in bank — March 28, 1939		\$ 57.58
15% of \$93.16 due State Association of Wis. Architects		\$ 13.98

On the question of newspaper advertising, Mr. Hunt submitted a series of 26 advertising slogans to be used weekly in newspaper advertising. The slogans were carefully studied, several were eliminated and suggestions offered to improve others.

Mr. Seidenschwartz reported that he had received a call from the broadcasting station WISN informing the State Association that the real estate board was sponsoring a broadcast program. Participation by the State Association was not advocated.



Mr. B. H. Knobla, Vice Chairman of the Legislative Committee, submitted the following report relative to the request of the Milwaukee Building Trades Employers Association to have our Association endorse the amendments offered by them in regard to the present Unemployment Insurance Act, as it affected the construction industry.

#### REPORT OF LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

It is the recommendation of this committee that the proposed amendment to the present Unemployment Insurance Act, sponsored by the Building Trades Employers Association of Milwaukee, be endorsed by the Wisconsin State Association of Architects, and that the Secretary be instructed to inform said organization of such action.

Furthermore, it is highly recommended by this committee that each and every member of the State Association familiarize himself regarding the drastic changes in the laws governing labor and unemployment compensation. These bills will be presented by certain influential groups in the present session of the state legislature, and if there is no more organized opposition than exists at the present time, they will most certainly be passed either in part or in full, in the near future.

This is a problem which is going to directly affect all of us who are connected with the building industry. A casual glance at the proposed bills would show that:

1. Ninety-five percent of these bills favor the labor groups to such an extent that they cause an unreasonable burden to fall on the shoulders of the employer.
2. It doesn't take much imagination to conclude that the net result of such action means an increased cost of construction, which we know from experience will be eventually passed on to the general public, and in particular to your client.

We, as architects, have been striving for the lowering of building costs to a reasonable level to encourage construction by private capital as a means of stimulating the entire industry.

However, we, as architects, have been too lax in observing what outside interests have done, or are attempting to do, in the way of regulation of our own industry. It is high time that we cease to remain neutral and indifferent to these things, and lend our support to those groups which have taken the initiative in challenging this discriminating legislation.

To any of you who would question the advisability of taking sides in this issue, we wish to state this: First read the list of proposed bills relative to this subject pending in the Wisconsin legislature. Take a few minutes to unscramble the legal phraseology and acquaint yourself with the far-reaching policy proposed. Any open-minded person will agree that the entire set-up is prejudiced and unfair, and would immediately sense the abuses which would be the natural result of such legislation.

Similar forces have been gradually working along these lines for a considerable period of time, and due to the self-satisfied and indifferent opposition, have accomplished a major portion of their objective already. We are just beginning to wake up to what is going on, and if we don't do something in the near future to protect the best interests of the building industry, it may be

a bit too late to feel sorry about the state of affairs later.

It is considerably harder to bring about a repeal of these bills once they become a part of the statutes than it is to oppose them beforehand.

Therefore, let each member who is sincere in his interest to help the building industry, and indirectly himself, support those bills which are fair to both sides, and vigorously oppose such bills which are distinctly prejudiced and detrimental.

Signed:

ELLIS J. POTTER,

Chairman

B. H. KNOBLA,

Vice Chairman

Legislative Committee

March 30, 1939

Robert S. Chase

It was moved by Mr. Peacock and seconded by Mr. Lefebvre that the report be adopted and made a part of the Minutes of this meeting. Motion was carried.

Mr. Walter Memmler, who was present at this board meeting, called the Board's attention to legislation being drafted by the Wisconsin Real Estate Board to relieve the home owner of undue heavy real estate taxation. Some discussion was had on the matter of present real estate taxes as to its effect upon home building and upon our profession. It was moved by Mr. William Mickelsen and seconded by Mr. Noel Ross Safford that the State Association endorse any sound action taken by the Real Estate Board in this matter. Motion was carried.

#### Practice Committee:

Mr. William Mickelsen reported that no action of any kind had been taken relative to a matter affecting violation of our Registration Act in the Third District. However, in view of the fact that legal proceedings were being taken in this matter Mr. Mickelsen stated that he would get in touch with Mr. Oppenhamer of the Third District and be ready to report further at our next Board meeting so that proper action could be taken.

Mr. Wallace Brown presented a copy of the procedure for securing plans and specifications from architects on public and private work. The resolution, as presented by Mr. Brown, was carefully studied by the Board and considerable discussion was had in regard to same. As this question of plan procedure should be carefully studied, it was moved by Mr. Lefebvre and seconded by Mr. Knobla that copies of procedure be prepared by the Secretary and mailed to all members of the Board and that they report back at the next Board meeting so that resolutions can be drafted at an early date. Motion was carried.

#### Housing Committee:

Mr. Brown suggested that some program be adopted and a prize be offered for a competition to prepare a base type plan for small house construction. This idea was well thought of by the members of the Board, as no house in the past ten years has in some way or other failed to follow a base plan which in many ways could be decidedly improved upon. If some base plan were developed by the architects, it would be possible for them to prepare accurate estimates on different types of finishes in connection with such plan, and would help the architect materially to get this business. A motion was offered by Mr. Seidenschwartz and seconded by Mr. Lefebvre that a small house committee be appointed to prepare such a program. Motion was carried.



*Model Display Committee:*

Mr. Seidenschwartz, chairman, reported that the model display had met with great success at the Milwaukee Home Show, also at the Racine Home Show where same was displayed on March 22nd to 25th inclusive, and that at present the display was at the Oshkosh Home Show.

A motion was offered by Mr. William Mickelsen and seconded by Mr. Gregory Lefebvre that a vote of thanks be given to Mr. Arthur L. Seidenschwartz, chairman of the Display Committee, and the members of his committee, Mr. Walter Memmler, and Mr. Clarence Knuth, also Mr. Edmund Schrang who assisted in the preparation of same, for the wonderful work displayed in the conceiving and carrying out of this display.

*New Business:*

Mr. Wallace Brown reported that the P.W.A. office was demanding a retained percentage of the contract after completion of work of 20%. This percentage

materially hampered the contractors working on P.W.A. work and also affected the possibility of getting bids on future P.W.A. work, as the contractors are not in a position to finance the work to such an extent because the profits in construction work today are very small.

After some discussion on the matter it was moved by Mr. William Mickelsen and seconded by Mr. Urban Peacock that the Construction Industries Advisory Council be asked to draft a resolution asking that the retained percentage be decreased to 10%, and that the State Association endorse said resolution. Motion was carried.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, same was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

After the meeting was adjourned, the members of the Board, under the guidance of Mr. Mickelsen, made an inspection trip through the new office building of the Johnson & Son Company, manufacturers of wax, etc., in Racine, Wisconsin. The trip was a great success.

Respectfully submitted,

ARTHUR L. SEIDENSCHWARTZ,

*Executive Secretary.*

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(Continued from page 3)

relieve the changes in air pressure caused by closing the door.

If several persons are to use the lighttrap, it is a good plan to install a warning bell or buzzer which will operate when either door is open, thus reducing the danger of both doors being opened at once.

As mentioned before, it is often desirable to have a

lighttrapped cupboard in the wall through which the film holders can be passed from the darkroom to the studio. This port should be arranged so that it can be opened from either side, but only when the opposite side is closed.

Cost: While it is obviously impossible to give any exact figures on cost because of the varying conditions in different parts of the country.

in appreciation!



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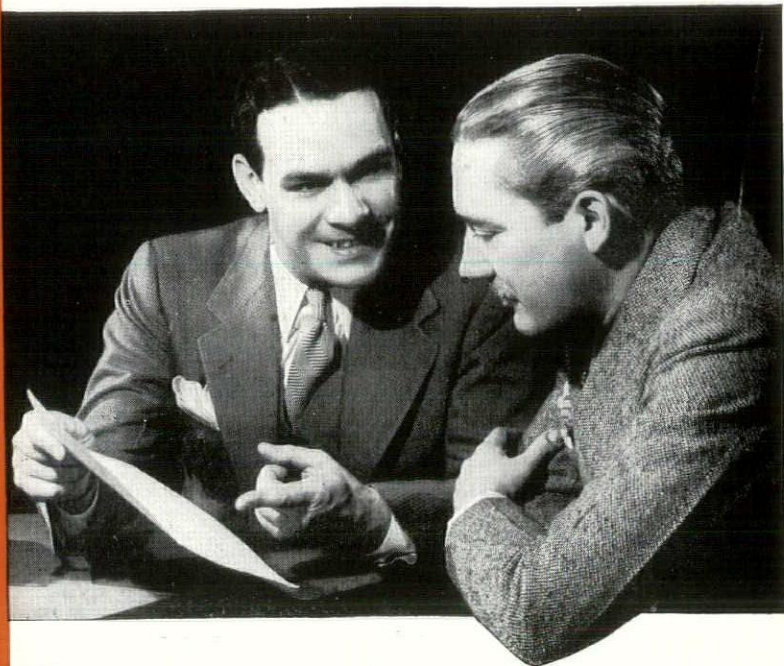
WIRING SERVICE BUREAU

Room 380 Public Service Building

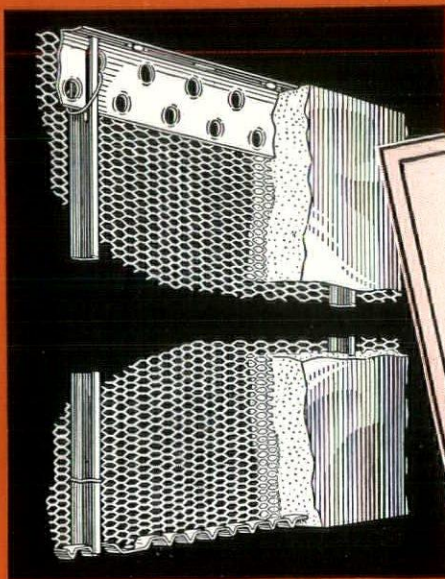
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F-47



• The Ten Eyck (Williamsburgh) Housing Project. A 50,000-yard installation, of Milcor Solid Plaster Partitions in Buildings 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8. Photo courtesy of FHA.

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