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Regular Edition

Vol. XCIII:

JANUARY 25, 1908.

No. 1674.

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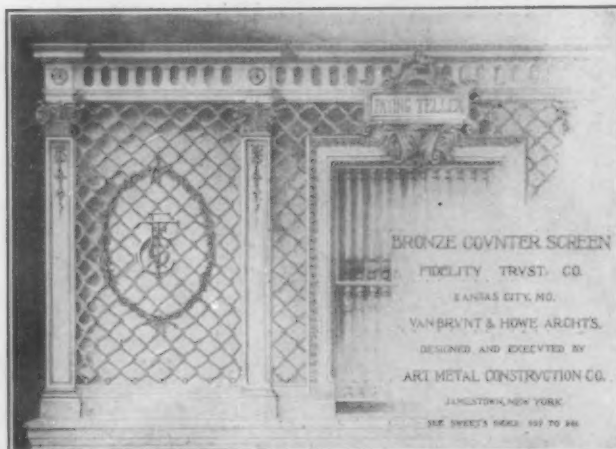
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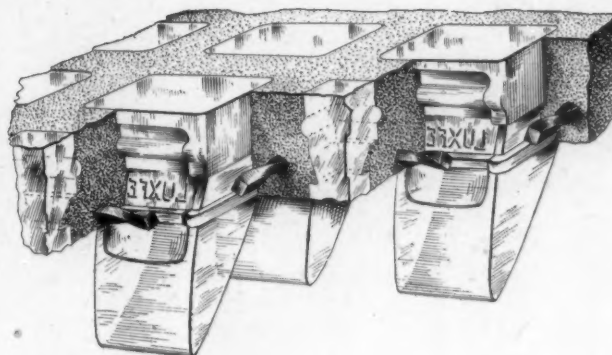
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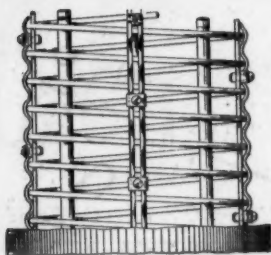
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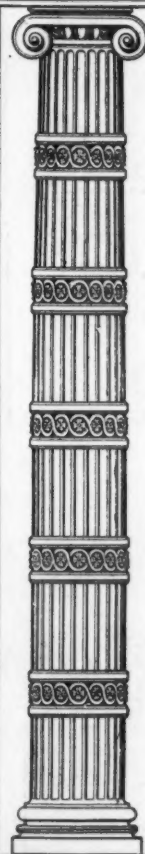
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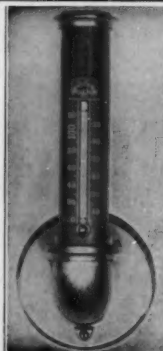
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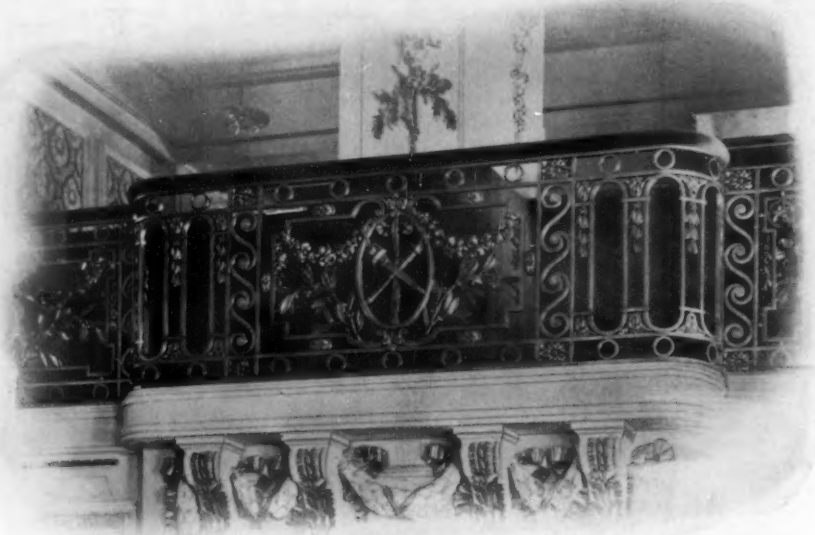
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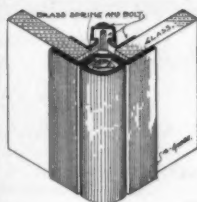
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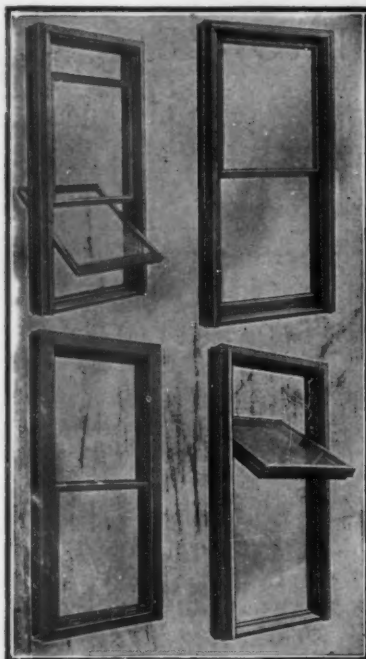
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BUILDING NEWS

Vol. XCIII.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 25, 1908.

No. 1674.



Public School Buildings in the City of New York

By C. B. J. SNYDER, F. A. I. A., Superintendent of School Buildings,
Board of Education, New York

PART I



THE total enrollment of pupils in the public schools of the City of New York is given as upwards of six hundred and twenty thousand, who are housed in five hundred and ninety-four buildings, forty-eight of which are leased. The annual increase in school enrollment is from twenty-three to thirty-six thousand, in which increase immigration forms a very important factor.

For some years the city steadily outgrew its school accommodations, as owing to lack of funds and other reasons equally cogent it was impossible to carry fully

into effect the plans which were made to provide enough new school buildings each year to care for the natural increase and for a goodly proportion of the pupils there receiving only part time instructions owing to the overcrowding of the schools in the neighborhood of their homes.

Both the pedagogical and the physical care of the public schools are under the direct control of the Board of Education, consisting of forty-six members, serving without pay, who are appointed by the Mayor in ac-

cordance with the City Charter, which prescribes the number to be selected from each of the five boroughs into which the city is divided.

The various working committees of the Board are appointed by its president; the Committee on Buildings consisting of nine members, having direct control of the Building Bureau with its force of clerks, draughtsmen, and inspectors.

The chief of this bureau, under the charter, must be an architect or an engineer in good standing, and is the executive officer of the board in respect to all matters relating to the bureau, and is charged with the preparation of plans and specifications and the supervision of all work on the buildings under control of the board.

Funds for the construction and equipment of new buildings and additions, as well as for the purchase of sites, are provided by the issue of corporate stock, under authority granted by the Board of Estimate and Apportionment and the Board of Aldermen.

During the year 1906 alone, upwards of ten millions of dollars were thus provided with which to meet the contracts let during that year by the Building Bureau.

Thus we have, on the one hand, the yearly requirement that provision shall be made for housing the thousands of new school children, and on the other hand the enormous sums required therefor.

The growth of the city seems to lie along two distinct and entirely dissimilar lines; the first being the rebuilding of the older portions where the old single family houses have given place to flats and tenements, housing from four to twenty families each with the consequent enormous increase in land values, and the second, in the outlying sections where the farms have been cut up into building lots, with the usual development of one and two family houses, although here and there the transformation from a cabbage patch to four-story tenements within twelve months is not uncommon.

Thus there are serious problems, the most important of which, especially in the older portions of the city where land values are greatest, often being in excess of \$12 per square foot, is that of economy in planning so that every inch of available surface may be utilized to its fullest extent.

Long and careful investigation, extending to the schools of France and Germany, caused the writer to reach the conclusion that there was a tendency in this country to construct classrooms of too great an area for the accommodation of a given number of pupils, resulting in poor lighting in other than corner rooms, greater expense in construction and undue strain on the voice of the teacher.

Especially unnecessary were the larger rooms found to be where there was also provided a gymnasium or an assembly room or both. This study and investigation was prompted by the belief that the enormous problem which confronted the educational authorities of this city could be successfully solved in no other way than by treating it purely as a commercial proposition, and while the writers on school house construction varied some 50 per cent. in the estimated size of school rooms for a given number of children, yet experiment proved most conclusively that under nearly all conditions the 660 square feet per room allotted by some of the German authorities was ample and there was no material gain

by increasing the area to 950 square feet, or, as in some cases, even more.

It has been found further that even the area of 660 feet may at times be reduced and still satisfactory results be obtained.

The lower easterly side of the old City of New York has suffered more than any other portion from overcrowding, notwithstanding the fact that several new schools, seating from 2,000 to 4,000 pupils each, have been built in this district each year, until there is one on almost every other block, and yet others are needed.

This increase in population has arisen from the replacement of the old one and two story houses with those of five and six stories before referred to with a corresponding increase in land values until the purchase of a school site involved such an enormous outlay for land alone that the erection of a ten story school house was seriously contemplated, and undoubtedly would have been carried out had not the opening of one of the new bridges across the East River reduced somewhat the congestion.

A school site selected about this time in this section, having a frontage of 200 feet and extending back 200 feet on one street and seventy-five feet on the other, cost the city through condemnation proceedings the sum of \$572,000, exclusive of one lot of the site already owned by it.

The requirements were for a building to provide for about four thousand pupils, also for a large assembly room, two gymnasiums and other necessary features, it being for both boys and girls.

Plates 1 and 2 show this building, known as Public School 62, but do not indicate the fact that the foundations thereof go down some 28 feet below the street level. The heating and ventilating apparatus occupies the sub-basement, which is under only a portion of the building, and also a part of the basement, the balance being devoted to a large assembly room which with its gallery, which is placed at about the level of the street, will seat approximately 1,600 pupils, and is used also for evening lectures delivered to the citizens of the neighborhood.

The first story, aside from the space used for the assembly room, is left open as an indoor recreation space, while on each of the four floors above there are twenty classrooms, together with toilets for teachers and pupils. The sixth story with its splendidly lighted spaces by means of the peculiar roof construction, which does not show from the front, is utilized for classrooms, gymnasiums, manual training and domestic science rooms.

Four elevators and eight stairways are provided, so arranged that the building may be vacated by its 4,000 occupants, using the stairways alone, in two minutes and forty seconds.

This, as well as all other of our school buildings, even including those two stories in height, are of fireproof construction throughout, and a description of the materials used in P. S. 62, will apply in nearly every other case as well.

The floor construction is usually of segmental terra cotta blocks, or some form of reinforced concrete construction, none of the flat arch systems however being used. Level ceilings are secured by the use of channel iron furring attached to the beams by special clips, upon which is secured one of the several standard types of metal lath.

The stairways are all of steel with cut stone or asphalt treads, and are enclosed from bottom to top with partitions on the corridor side made of wire glass set in steel frames, access being had to each landing by means of fireproof doors, all fitted with automatic check and spring. What we term a double stairway is used almost exclusively, the height of each story from floor to ceiling being 14 feet 3 inches, to which is added the thickness of the floor construction of about 1 foot 3 inches, affording sufficient head room to obtain a platform at an equal distance between floors.

This arrangement of stairways permits of a great saving in floor space, and, while quite confusing to a stranger, is highly appreciated by the teacher, who finds in them the certainty of easy and complete control of the pupils, and the pupils themselves quickly realize the fact that in these stairways lies perfect safety from the perils of fire, smoke, or overcrowding.

The first story being used for an indoor playroom is paved with rock asphalt and the walls wainscoted with glazed brick to the height of 5 feet 6 inches, the space above together with the ceilings being finished in hard white plaster.

The interior trim of this building is of ash, the specifications being drawn so as to permit the builder to use either oak, ash, cherry or birch, as he may elect, it having been found that the city many times reaps a substantial advantage in thus permitting the builder to take advantage of the market.

This principle is carried out also in the specifications for the stairways where the builder may use either North River bluestone or asphalt for treads, also in the use of second quality white enameled or a salt-glazed brick for the wainscot of playrooms and side walls of outside toilets, and also in such other materials as will permit of securing goods promptly and not tie the builder to one particular dealer.

Extreme difficulty, however, has been experienced in applying this principle of open competition to hardware, and after many trials of different schemes to bring the hardware men all to precisely the same standard of weights, material and workmanship, resort has been had to the drawing of specifications having for the principal elements that of weights and dimensions as presenting the only solution of the problem.

All wardrobes are placed at the corridor side of and communicate directly with the classroom so as to have the clothing immediately under the eye of the teacher.

A steam coil is placed along the base so as to dry the clothing when damp, this source of heat being also an aid in the ventilation of the wardrobe, which is sometimes accomplished through the wall into the corridor and again into special flues.

All of the corridor, storeroom and toilet room floors, are finished with rock asphalt, a durable, sanitary and cheap material, but altogether unsightly. No good substitute has, however, been found for less than three times its cost.

Dust chutes are provided at each end of the building leading to fireproof bins in the basement, which are connected with a flue so that if the contents should become ignited the smoke would be carried off without entering the building.

The cost of the building was as follows:

SCHOOL 62. BOROUGH MANHATTAN. YEAR 1903

Total accommodation, 4,250. Cubic contents, 1,918,000. Area second floor, 22,439.

Number classrooms, 104. Cubic feet per classroom, 18,442.3. Area classrooms, second floor, 14,014, equals 62.5 per cent.

VARIOUS CONTRACTS	Contract Price	Per Cent. Total Cost	Cost Per Cubic Foot	Cost Per Pupil	Cost Per Classroom
Building.....	\$518,000	.822	.270	\$121.88	\$4,980.77
Heating.....	54,293	.086	.028	12.78	522.05
Sanitary.....	38,666	.061	.020	9.09	371.79
Electric.....	19,590	.031	.010	4.60	188.07
Elevators, not installed.....					
Totals.....	\$630,519	1.000	.328	\$148.35	\$6,062.68

Remarks.—Duplicate sub-basement. Auditorium with gallery sub-divided. Four large elevator shafts. Only one classroom unit on first floor nineteen units given to gymnasium, lockers, baths, cooking, shop and offices

Plate 3, that of Public School 38, Clark, Dominick & Broome streets, is in that section of the lower west side of the town where the rebuilding has but more recently taken place. On the opposite corner at the right of the school may be seen some of the old houses typical of this entire neighborhood, while at the left and close up to the school walls is the first of a row of ten-family tenements.

The old school building is directly opposite, and when the new one was planned with its fifty-three classrooms, more than double the number of those in the old, it was believed that care should be taken of the increase in school population of this neighborhood for several years to come.

The speculative builders of tenements, however, carried their operations to such an extent, using the size of the new school as an argument, that although it has been open only a year, it as well as the old building is filled.

Naturally this has a tendency to very largely increase the taxable values of the neighborhood and as such is a paying investment for the city.

This increase in values, due to the active operations of builders soon after a new school is started in a neighborhood, is evidenced in almost every case, there being instances where such increase has been upwards of 300 per cent. in two years.

The question of an outdoor playground is a serious one in such cases as that represented in Plate 3, where the tenements at the right and left extend back along the rear of the school wall to within twenty feet of each other, rendering the rear of the school premises dark if set off for an outside yard. The difficulty is met by enclosing the entire area of the lot on the first story and using it for an assembly room and indoor playroom, while the actual outdoor play space is on the roof of the main building where an abundance of light and air may be had.

The cost of Public School 38 was as follows:

SCHOOL 38. BOROUGH MANHATTAN. YEAR 1904-1905.

Total accommodation, 2,500. Cubic contents, 1,447,254. Area second floor, 15,560.

Number classrooms, 53. Cubic feet per classroom, 27,307. Area classrooms, second floor, 8,028, equals 57.4 per cent.

VARIOUS CONTRACTS	Contract Price	Per Cent. Total Cost	Cost Per Cubic Foot	Cost Per Pupil	Cost Per Classroom
Building.....	\$305,000	.793	.211	\$122.0	\$5,735.9
Heating.....	35,250	.092	.024	14.1	665.1
Sanitary.....	32,489	.084	.023	13.0	613.0
Electric.....	11,775	.031	.008	4.7	222.1
Totals.....	\$384,514	1.000	.266	\$153.8	\$7,236.1

Remarks.—Roof playground.

Plate 4. The Morris High School is unfortunately placed upon a street only forty feet in width, the plot having been selected for a small high school, but owing to delays caused by the revision of the city charter and other matters, the final orders were for a building to care for at least 2,500 students, and neither change nor enlargement of the site was possible.

The principal dimensions of the building are frontage 312 feet, depth of wings 104 feet, height of tower 179 feet.

The assembly room shown in Figs. 5, 6, 7 and 8, is placed at the rear, so as to be easily accessible for the general public for lectures and other purposes.

The cost of building was as follows:

MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL, BOROUGH BRONX. YEAR 1900.

Total accommodation, 2,630. Cubic contents, 2,679,500. Area, second floor, 22,430. Area classrooms, second floor, 10,360, equals 46.2 per cent.

VARIOUS CONTRACTS	Contract Price	Per Cent. Total Cost	Cost Per Cubic Foot	Cost Per Pupil
Building.....	\$467,483	.789	.175	\$177.75
Heating.....	49,447	.083	.018	18.80
Sanitary.....	37,445	.063	.014	14.24
Electric.....	28,886	.049	.011	10.98
Elevators.....	9,000	.016	.003	3.42
Totals.....	\$502,261	1.000	.221	\$225.10

Remarks.—Sub-basement, rock excavation. Auditorium extension. Large tower.

17 units devoted to offices, library, lecture rooms, lockers.

14 units in gymnasiums, providing for 5 classes. = Loss 9.

16 " laboratories, " 12 " 4.

TOTAL 30 units not providing accommodations.

Plate 11.—The Stuyvesant High School occupies a plot on Fifteenth street, near First avenue, and running through to Sixteenth street.

The requirements were for a manual training high school of the most advanced type.

It has therefore been planned with the shops on one street and the class of section rooms on the other (see Plate 12), these two portions being connected by a central corridor upon each side of which are the laboratories.

This leaves two large, light courts at the foot of which are the assembly rooms and gymnasiums, as shown in Plates 13 and 14.

This permitted of a complete separation of the shops from the balance of the building and simplified the floor framing, as that covering the shops is built to carry 300 pounds live load per square foot, excepting in the foundry, where it was increased to 600 pounds to the square foot. The floor systems for the balance of the building are designed to carry not more than 75 pounds live load per square foot.

The floor arches for the shops are of concrete—broken stone, sand and Portland cement—while 6-inch segmental terra-cotta arches are used elsewhere in the building.

The equipment is not complete at this writing, but while the general construction cost was only about 18½ cents per cubic foot, with a cubical displacement of 3,291,650 cubic feet, yet the equipment consisting of high power boilers, electric generators (in duplicate, one set being operated by a steam turbine and the other by a 125 horsepower reciprocating engine), iron and brass foundry or molding room, forge rooms, machine shops, pattern-making shop, wood turning, etc., will bring the cost per capita to rather a high figure.

(To be continued)

The Parker Building Fire

WHILE architects and engineers may be interested to a limited extent in the origin of a fire in a modern skeleton frame building, especially if there is a suspicion that it may have originated from defective electrical installation, improperly constructed flues, or other faulty details of the mechanical equipment, for the successful and safe operation of which they feel in a measure responsible, their chief interest from a professional standpoint is in studying the effects of the fire and endeavoring to account for them in a manner compatible with their preconceived theories of fireproof construction. In the case of the Parker Building fire in New York the task of accounting for the injury sustained presents little difficulties. Whether the fire started in the lower or upper stories is not apparent, for with few exceptions all inflammable materials have been consumed by the fire from basement to roof, and the walls, partitions, floor arches, and skeleton show about the same degree of injury in all stories.

The building occupies a site at the southeast corner of Nineteenth Street and Fourth Avenue, about 150 feet on the street and 120 feet on the avenue, with a court about 40 feet by 40 feet covering the rear inside corner of the plot about the second floor.

It belongs properly to the type of buildings known as lofts, with large undivided areas on various floors. The exterior walls of the building are constructed of limestone in the lower story, with brick and terra-cotta

above, and from a more or less casual examination they appear to be in comparatively good condition. A few terra-cotta lintels are burned away, and brick jambs and mullions are spalled and disintegrated in some few instances, while practically the entire façade is very much discolored by smoke and flames; but none of these injuries are beyond repair at a comparatively small cost.

Upon entering the building, however, an entirely different aspect is presented. Near the corner of the court, resting upon the basement floor and extending in height well up into the first story, is a huge mass of twisted beams, broken columns, terra-cotta blocks and mortar, resulting from a collapse of the floors from basement to roof, over an area approximately 30 feet by 40 feet in extent. A further examination disclosed a failure in the upper stories, allowing an area of the roof approximately 40 feet by 60 feet, together with a similar area of the twelfth floor to collapse and rest on the eleventh floor. In a like manner the roof over the first story extension at the bottom of the court, has fallen and is supported by the first floor. In trying to account for these failures of the frame work an examination of the form of construction was made. The columns used were of cast iron ranging in size from about 14 inches or 16 inches in diameter in the basement to 8 inches in the twelfth or top story. The framing of a typical bay is shown in Fig. 1, the 15-inch girders extending east and west, while the 12-inch floor beams running north and south carried the



PLATE I. MAIN ENTRANCE AND PORTICO: PUBLIC SCHOOL NO. 62, FLESTER, ESSEX AND NORFOLK STREETS.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

C. B. J. Snyder, Architect.

The American Architect and Building News.
Regular Edition.

Volume XCIII., Number 1674.
January 25, 1908.

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PLATE 2. PUBLIC SCHOOL NO. 62, HESTER, ESSEX AND NORFOLK STREETS.



PLATE 3. PUBLIC SCHOOL NO. 38, CLARK, DOMINICK AND BROOME STREETS.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

C. B. J. Snyder, Architect.

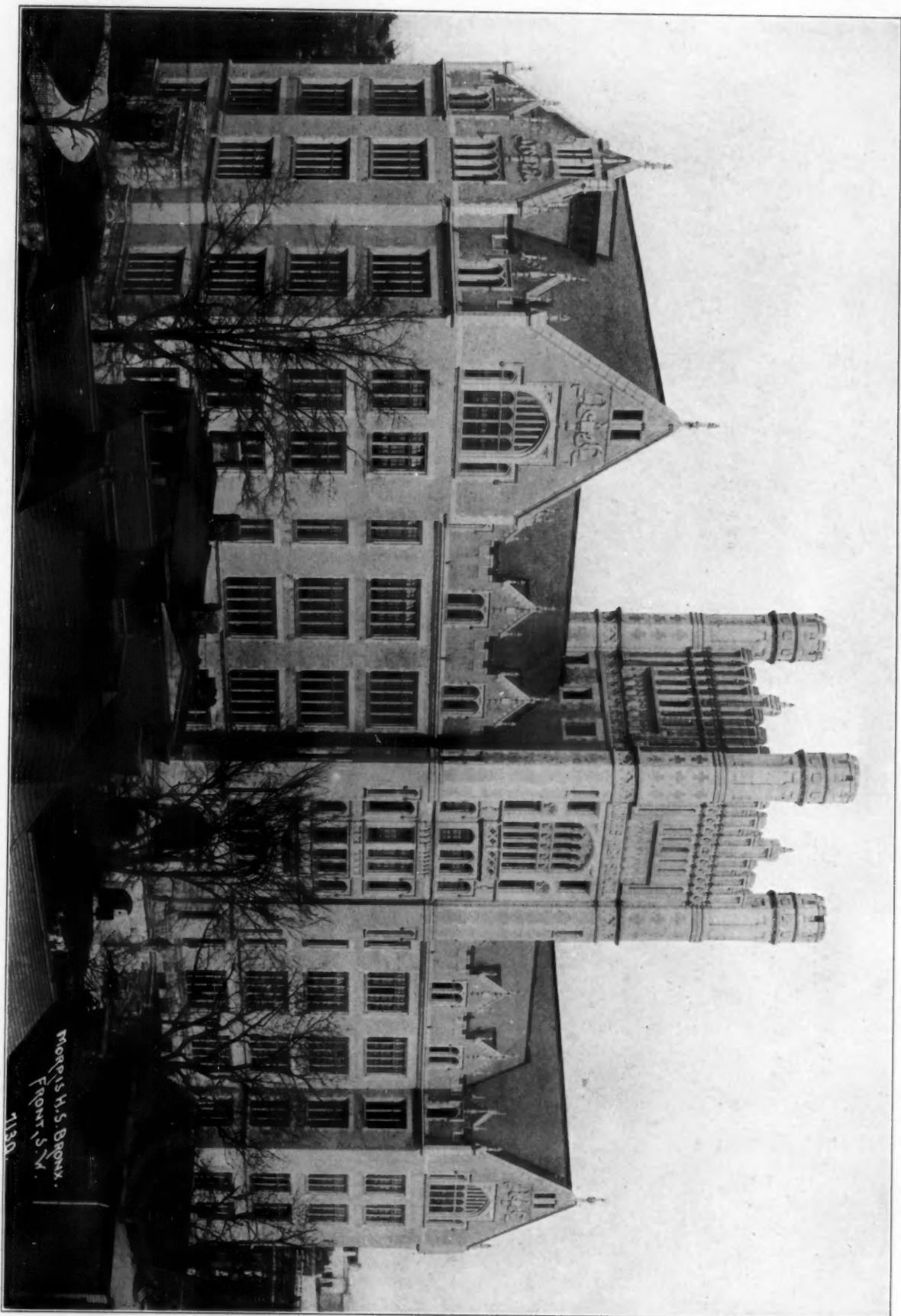


PLATE 4. THE MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL, 165TH STREET AND EAST BOSTON ROAD.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

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PLATE 5. ONE OF THE ENTRANCES TO ASSEMBLY ROOM.

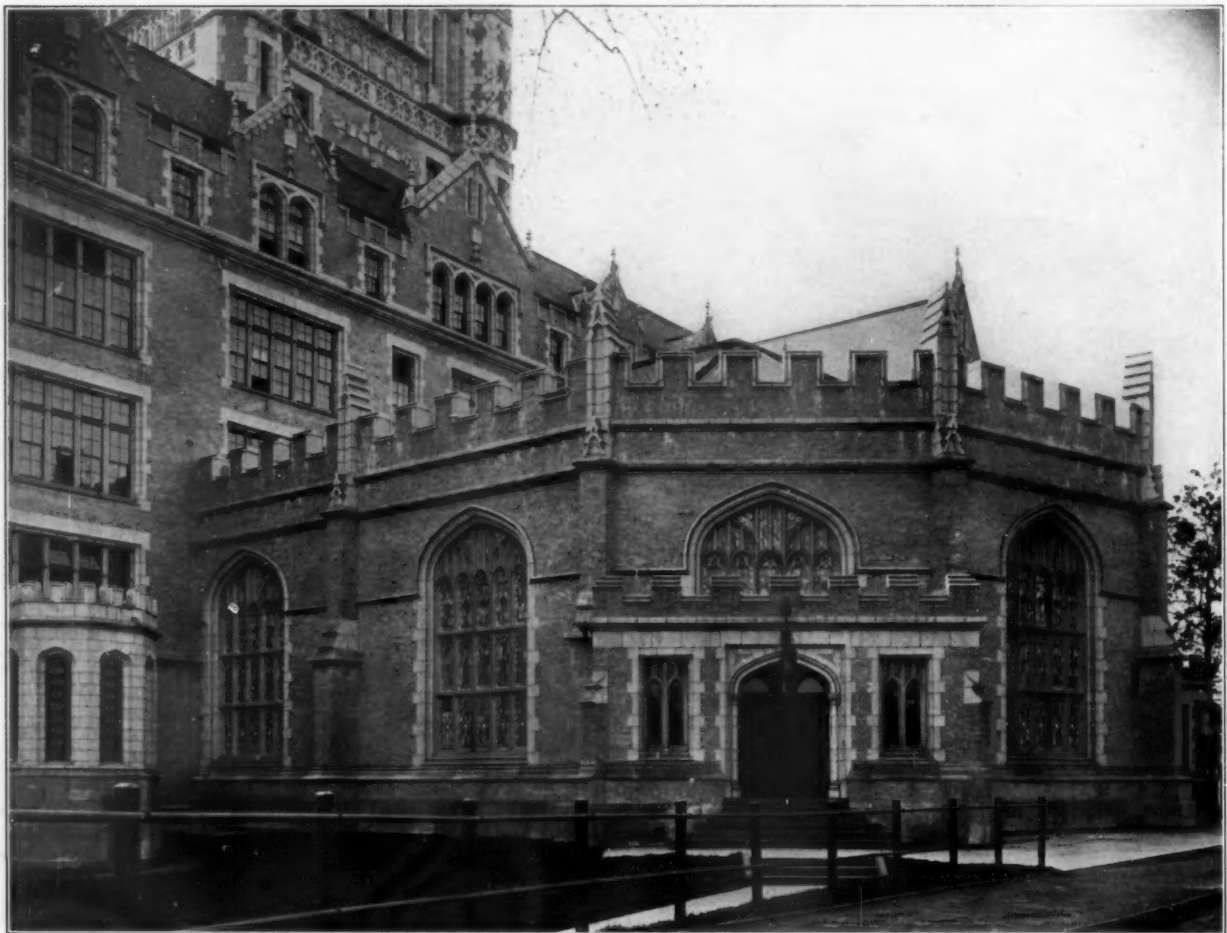


PLATE 6. EXTERIOR VIEW OF ASSEMBLY ROOM.

THE MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL, 165TH STREET AND EAST BOSTON ROAD.

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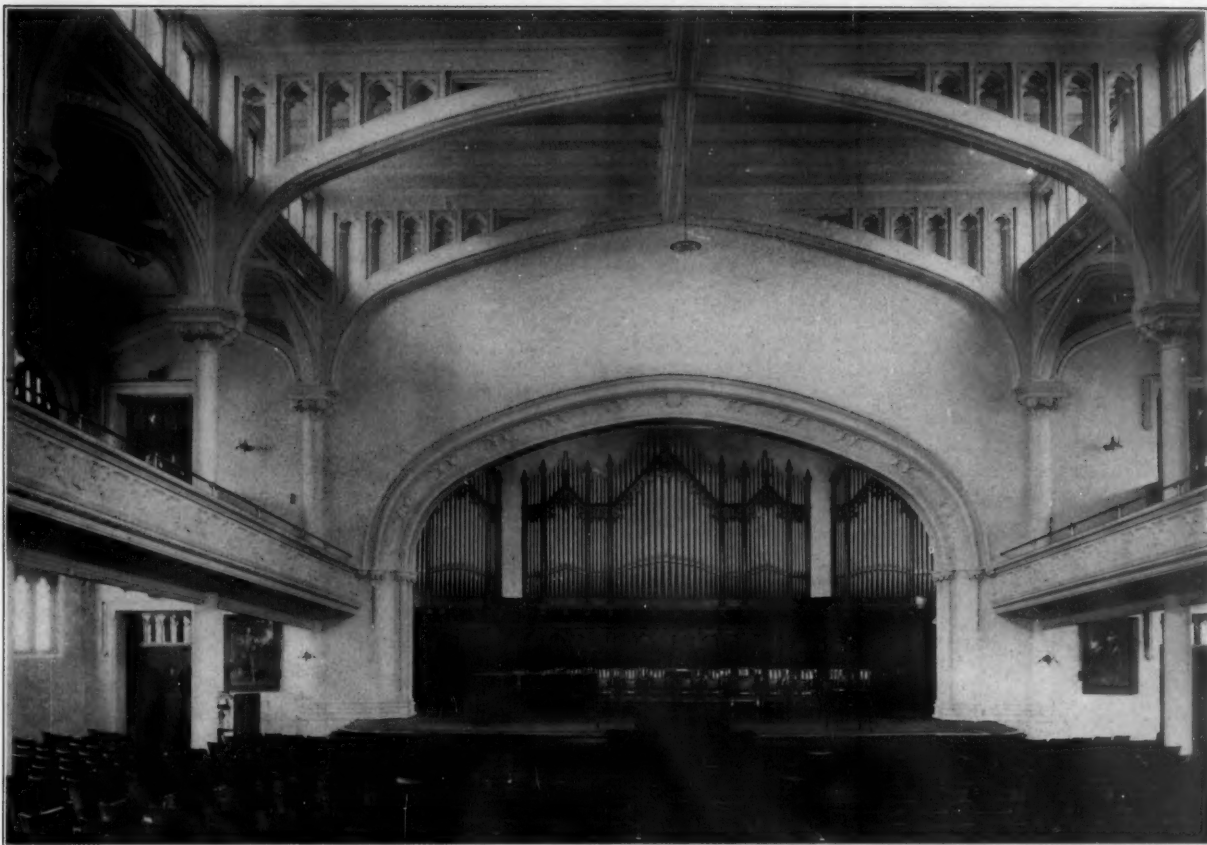


PLATE 7. ASSEMBLY ROOM.

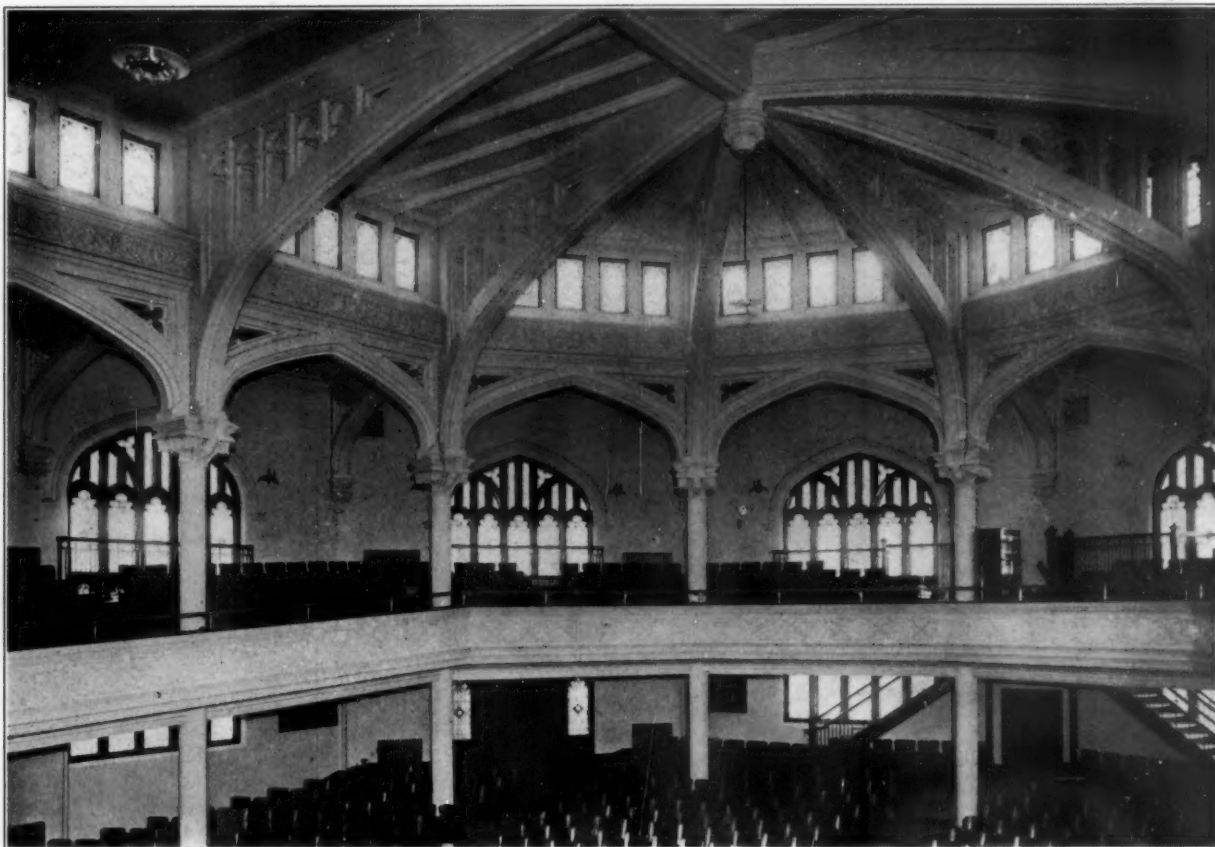


PLATE 8. ASSEMBLY ROOM.

THE MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL, 165TH STREET AND EAST ROSTON ROAD.
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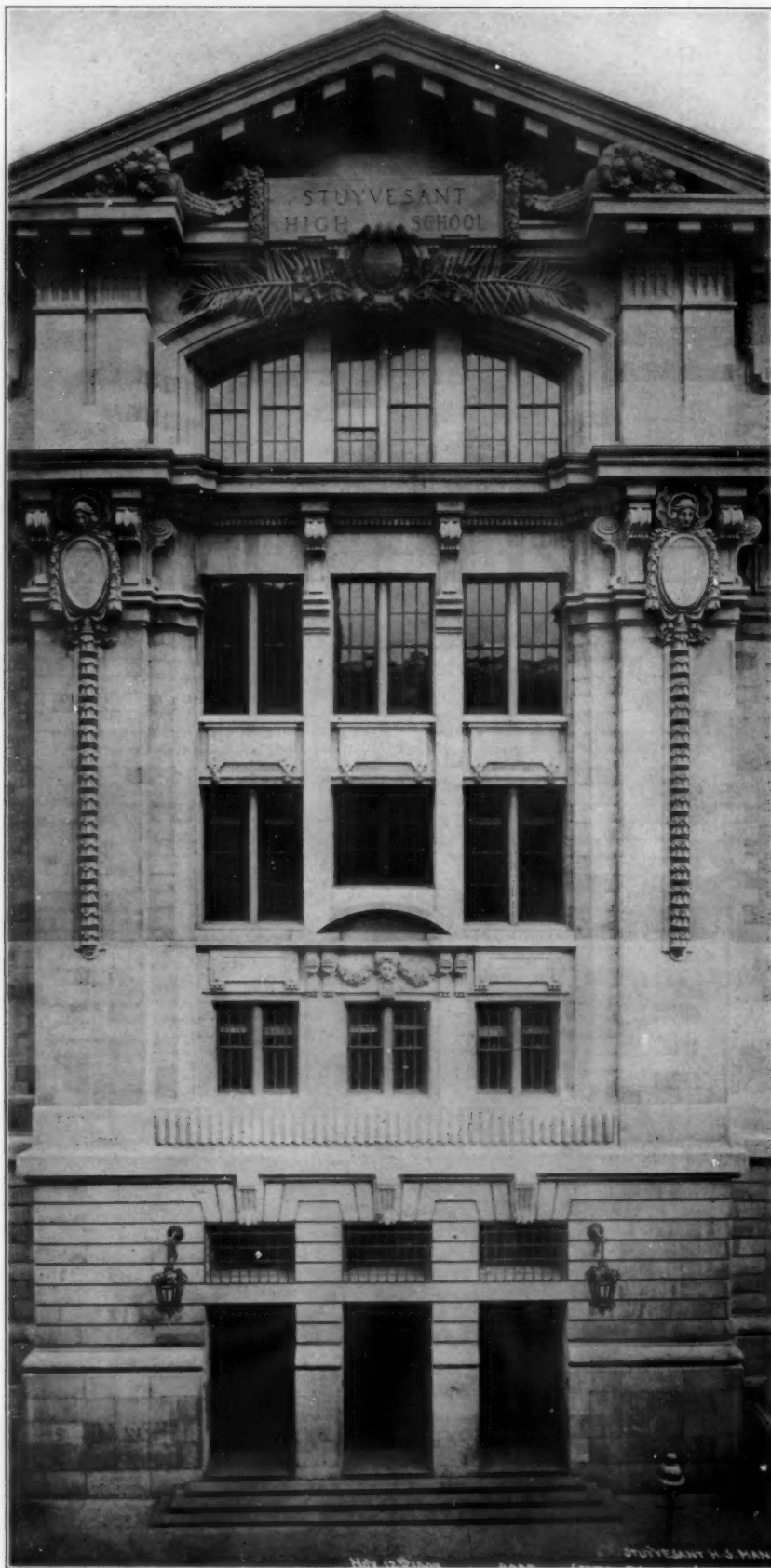


PLATE 9. CENTRAL PAVILION: STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH STREETS, NEAR FIRST AVENUE.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

C. B. J. Snyder, Architect.

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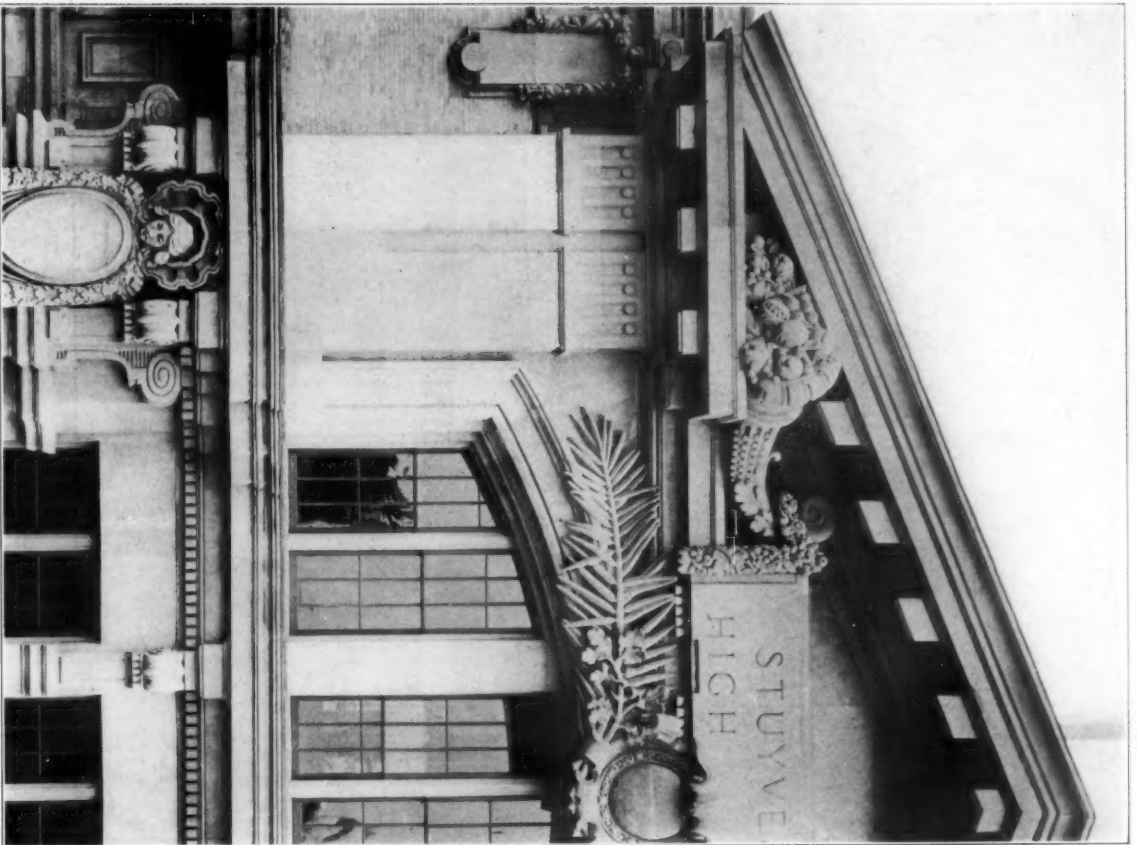


PLATE IO. DETAIL OF CENTRAL PAVILION.

THE STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH STREETS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

C. H. J. Snyder, Architect.

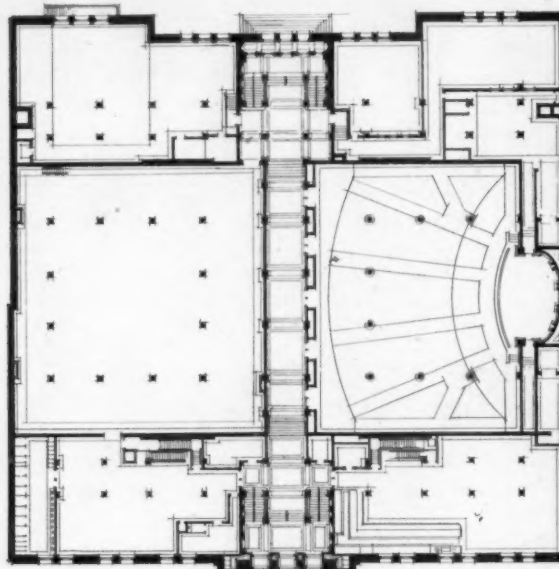
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PLATE II. FIFTEENTH STREET FRONT.

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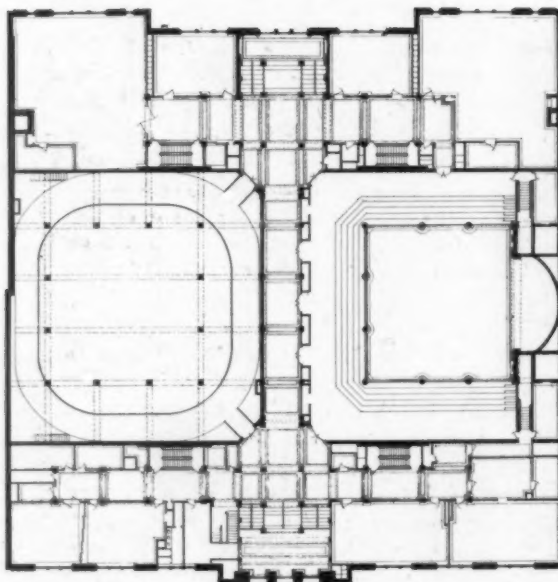
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~ BASEMENT PLAN ~
~ Stuyvesant High School ~ Manhattan ~

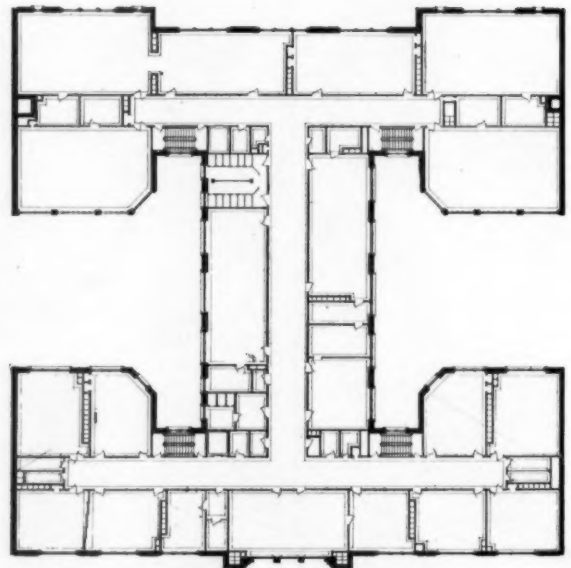
PLATE 12.

FIG. 26. THE STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL: BASEMENT PLAN.



~ FIRST FLOOR PLAN ~
~ Stuyvesant High School ~ Manhattan ~

PLATE 13.



~ SECOND FLOOR PLAN ~
~ Stuyvesant High School ~ Manhattan ~

PLATE 14.

FLOOR PLANS: STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL, FIFTEENTH AND SIXTEENTH STREETS, NEAR FIRST AVENUE.

PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS, NEW YORK, N. Y.

C. B. J. Snyder, Architect.

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flat terra-cotta floor arches between them. It will be noted that the centre panel in each bay is six feet wide, an arrangement probably made to reduce the bending moment on the girders.



VIEW ON FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING EAST.

The direct cause of failure of the skeleton framework in each instance seemed to be the breaking of a column and the consequent collapse of the portion of the floor carried by the column in each story. It was impossible to determine from an examination whether, in the case of the column that had broken from basement to roof, the initial failure had taken place in the lower stories, thus leaving the upper floors without support, or had occurred in one of the upper stories, and the weight of the structure above falling on the next floor had crushed through it and the floors below successively to the basement. Likewise the cause of the column's failure was not apparent. It is possible that the fireproofing was displaced by a falling piece of machinery and the exposed column became greatly heated, after which a stream of water was directed against it, causing the cast iron to fracture. Or it may be that a falling safe or printing press was deflected against the column in some story with sufficient force to displace it.

The fireproofing of the columns consisted of terra-cotta blocks about 1 inch or 1¼ inches thick provided with vertical ribs about ¾ inches high on the inside to insure an air space between the column and the covering. In the majority of cases where the columns were still standing, the fireproofing was intact, although in a number of instances it had been knocked off apparently by some weight falling against the column.

In examining the floor system a number of interesting facts were noted. The first was a matter of framing and

consisted of connecting the 12-inch beams in the centre of the 15-inch girders, thus avoiding the expense of coping the floor beams, but leaving the bottom flange of the girders projecting 1½ inches below the beams. When the arch blocks were placed they projected below the beams to a depth bringing them approximately flush with the girder flanges, and the ceilings were plastered level. In this process the girder flanges were covered with plaster, but without metal lath being first wrapped around the flange to furnish a clinch for the mortar. As a result the flanges are practically bare, the plaster having dropped off wherever the flames touched it.

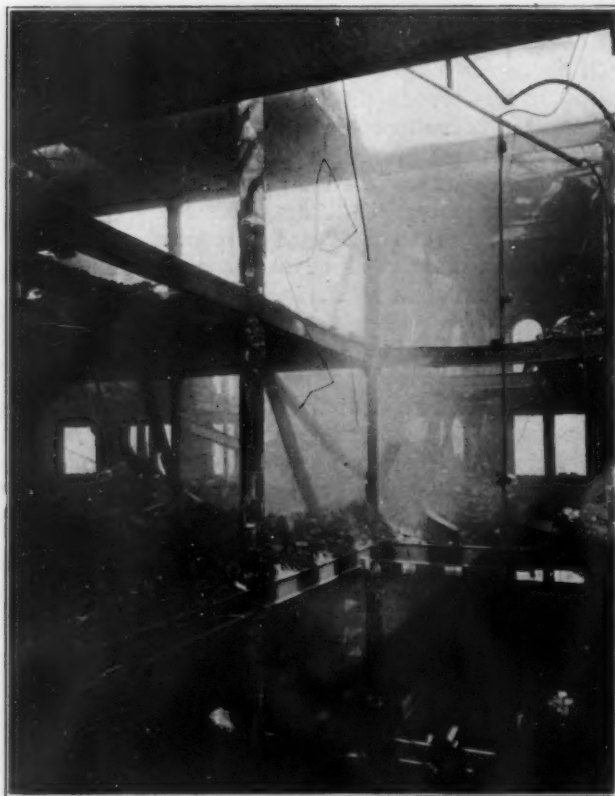
A second important fact noted in connection with the floor system was the depth of the flat terra-cotta arches. These were but eight inches deep, although practically one-third of them were six feet span as shown by the framing of the typical bay. The weight of the floor construction was materially increased by a cinder fill on top of the arches of a depth to finish flush with the tops of the beams. That these arches were of insufficient depth is very evident. They have dropped out in many places throughout the building, but in the vast majority of cases this has occurred in the six foot spans. In some instances the arches have dropped out leaving the wood floor and sleepers in place uninjured over the opening left by the fallen arch. Apparently the shock of falling debris has driven the arch out from beneath the wood floor while the floor possesses sufficient strength to support the load after the arch has fallen. A considerable damage was done to the floor arches by the falling of



VIEW ON FIRST FLOOR, LOOKING SOUTH.

safes. The practice of blocking up safes with wood to distribute the load proved disastrous, for the woodwork under one side almost invariably burned away first, and

caused the safe to tip over, and ordinarily, unless the safe happened to fall upon a beam, it broke through the frail arches and continued down to the basement. It is



VIEW FROM ELEVENTH FLOOR.

not improbable that one or more of the unfortunate firemen who lost their lives at this fire were struck by one of these falling safes.

So far the defects noted might be termed faulty construction or misuse of materials, but what appeared to be a serious defect in the terra-cotta arches themselves was observed in numerous places. It took the form of broken blocks, the lower slabs of the arch blocks in some cases including the vertical webs up to half the depth of the blocks, having dropped off. This had occurred where injury was apparently due entirely to the action of the fire, and not to water having been turned onto the ceiling while hot.

The partitions enclosing the elevator halls were built of three-inch terra-cotta blocks, as were also some of the few partitions in the building. The numerous and extensive openings in these partitions were framed with heavy wooden bucks, and all doors, casings, baseboards, etc., were of wood. These partitions, with such a quantity of inflammable material entering into their construction, offered but little obstruction to the fire. Indeed there were numerous partitions built entirely of wood, while others were of wood studding covered with plaster boards and plaster. The wood frames and sash throughout the building also furnished considerable fuel.

The elevator shafts were enclosed with terra-cotta partition blocks, but the doorways were merely protected with iron grille doors, offering no obstacle to the free communication of the fire from story to story. The walls of the shaft were bulged and broken. The stairs

were of iron with slate treads, and although the fire was hot enough to consume the hand rails in most cases, the stairs are still passable. Some slate is slivered and cracked, but without the supporting iron plate now required by the New York code, the treads withstood the heat without crumbling.

To recapitulate:—The exterior walls are not very seriously damaged.

All woodwork of every kind and description, including glass and plastering, is a total loss.

Practically all heating, plumbing, and electrical work is ruined, although probably some piping can be saved, and possibly the boilers.

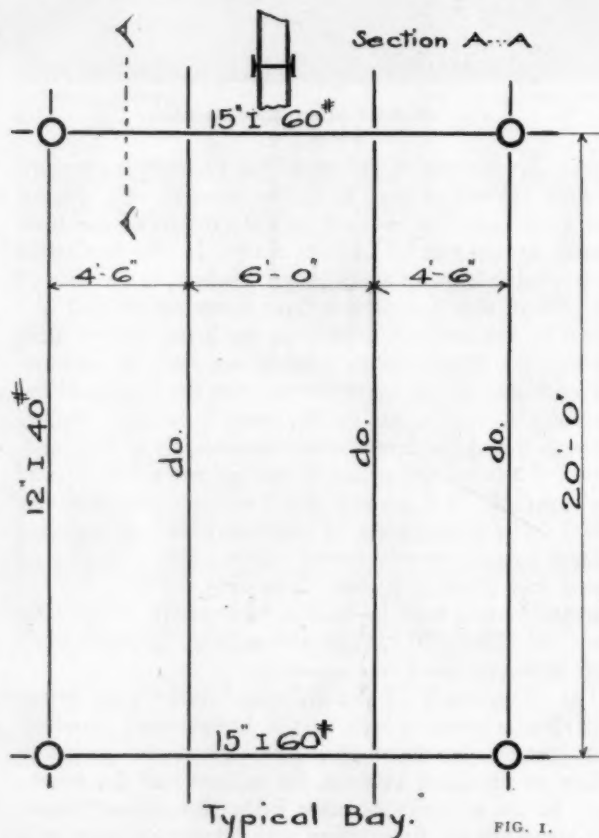
The fireproofing is in such condition that it would appear to be unsafe to allow any of it to remain.

The elevators are probably a total loss.

The condition of the skeleton frame can be seen from the cuts shown herewith.

While there are columns and beams undoubtedly in as good condition as ever, there are numerous girders sagged and distorted, aside from the large number that went down with the failing columns and were twisted out of all semblance of structural shapes. To reclaim the skeleton will require months of work, and the replacing of a considerable portion of the steel and iron.

Taken all in all there seems to be no reason for any disappointment in the results of this fire, disastrous as they have proven to be. If the building had been built in accordance with the best practice, if the columns had



been of steel and properly fireproofed, if the girders had been protected, if floor arches of sufficient depth had been furnished, if partitions had been fireproof, if eleva-

tor shafts and stair halls had been closed and fireproof, if trim had been kalameined, and glass wired, if a sprinkler system had been installed and in working order, and then a disastrous fire had wrecked the building, even though the fire department had failed to render assis-

tance, we would indeed be apprehensive as to the safety of our modern skyscrapers; but with all these things lacking in the Parker Building the results of a fire could not reasonably have been expected to prove less serious than our examination has shown them to be.

Widening of Fifth Avenue

IN Mayor McClellan's message addressed to the New York Board of Aldermen under date of January 6, 1908, attention is again called to the matter of widening Fifth Avenue from Twenty-third Street north as far as the present congestion of traffic exists. Explaining in detail what this will amount to, the mayor writes:

"By such widening I mean the removal of all obstructions and encroachments beyond the building line, the curtailment of the outer line of the sidewalks by about seven and one-half feet on either side of the avenue, and the consequent enlargement of the roadway by about fifteen feet."

Referring to the part taken in this plan by New York architects the message reads:

"The New York Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has appointed a committee to consider the question as to how far cornices or other ornamental work in the upper stories of the buildings should be allowed in order to preserve the architectural effect. This committee has made a report as to what in their views would be sufficient for the purpose without interfering with the use of the sidewalks."

THROUGH the courtesy of Mr. Carrère, chairman of the committee referred to, we publish below the recommendations made to the New York Chapter A. I. A.

1st. That purely ornamental projections, such as balconies, moldings, pilasters, cornices, etc., shall be permitted when occurring twelve feet or more above the sidewalk level, provided, however, that they do not contain any floor space which is enclosed or roofed over.

2nd. That non-supporting ornamental columns or pilasters may project not to exceed two feet beyond the building line in the lower story of the building, provided that the wall surfaces, whether glass or masonry, between the same, set back an amount at least equal to the projection of the column or pilaster; and provided that the sidewalk shall be extended in to the said wall surface, either continuing the level of the sidewalk or stepping up not more than eight inches.

3rd. Steps which are not continuous and which lead either up or down at entrances, provided they do not exceed (whether taken together or separately) one-fifth the width of the lot, may project two feet beyond the building line.

4th. No area shall be allowed to project beyond the building line excepting where covered with iron gratings, provided, however, that the gratings do not extend more than two feet beyond the building line.

5th. The base course of the building, including the water table, provided it does not exceed three feet in height above the sidewalk, may project not to exceed ten inches beyond the building line.

6th. Any moldings or ornamentation of a decorative character, not including, however, rustications when occurring on the lower floor of the building, may project not to exceed ten inches beyond the building line.

7th. In the case of rustications, the face of the rustication shall not project beyond the building line, excepting that vertical lines of rustication, when treated as quoins, may be considered as moldings.

IT will be noted that some difference exists between the recommendations made by the committee, to which we referred in a previous issue without quotation, and the work as indicated by Mayor McClellan.

The New Campanile of St. Marks, Venice

JUST when the new campanile of St. Marks' at Venice will be finished is conjecture, but the fact that it now rises fifty-four feet above the plaza, a height only

reached in almost two years since the laying of the corner-stone, indicates a remote day for its completion.

The preparation for the foundation alone consumed almost a year, as the engineering problems to be solved before a firm base for the new structure was secured were many and intricate.

Certain it is, that the traveller who knows his Venice well, and who on later visits has missed this beautiful feature of the Venetian sky-line, or who has mourned over the ruins of the original tower as they lay strewn about the plaza, will be gratified to learn that progress is making in this restoration. Not progress, perhaps, in the sense of other and more energetic people, but progress none the less, and perhaps surer and better, because slower.

Alden House to be Saved

THE Alden Kindred Association of America has purchased for \$200 the picturesque old homestead of John and Priscilla Alden in Duxbury. The house was erected in 1653. It will be repaired and improved and perpetuated as a memorial to the famous Mayflower Pilgrims.

The place was sold under a foreclosure of outstanding mortgages originally held by Frank and John Alden, direct descendants of John and Priscilla Alden.

All the characteristics of the early builders are shown in the Alden house. It is seemingly erected around a great central chimney and displays the plain rectangular lines of Puritan architecture, with shingles rather than clapboards covering the unpainted walls, and small windows instead of panes.

Never in the 250 years and more that have elapsed since the homestead was constructed has it passed out of the hands of direct descendants of its builders.

ILLUSTRATIONS

PART I. PUBLIC SCHOOL BUILDINGS OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK. MR. C. B. J. SNYDER, ARCHITECT. PUBLIC SCHOOL NO. 62. PUBLIC SCHOOL NO. 38. THE MORRIS HIGH SCHOOL. THE STUYVESANT HIGH SCHOOL.

Additional Illustrations in the International Edition.

FRANCIS I. MANTEL AND FIREPLACE: CHATEAU DE CHENONCEAUX, FRANCE.

FRANCIS I. MANTEL AND FIREPLACE: PALAIS DE FONTAINEBLEAU.

Announcement

AFTER this issue, the publication day of THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT will be Wednesday, instead of Saturday, as heretofore. The next issue will be on Wednesday, January 29, in which will appear Part II of New York City Public Schools.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

AND
BUILDING NEWS

PUBLISHED EVERY SATURDAY BY THE

SWETLAND PUBLISHING COMPANY

Flatiron Building, New York

H. M. SWETLAND, *President*. F. P. BURT, *Secretary*. J. T. MORRIS, *Treasurer*.
G. E. SLY, *Advertising Manager*.

M. C. ROBBINS, *Western Manager*, Monadnock Building Chicago, Ill

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Regular Edition, . . \$ 6.00 a year; Single Copies 15c. to \$1.00
International Edition, \$16.00 a year; Single Copies 40c. to \$1.00
Foreign Postage, \$2.00 a year

To insure the accuracy of our mailing lists, subscribers are requested to notify us promptly of any change of address, stating at the same time the address to which the paper was formerly sent. Our Subscription Department should also be notified if, for any reason, copies are not received promptly.

Entered at the Post-office, New York, as Second-class Matter

VOL. XCIII., No. 1674.

JANUARY 25, 1908.

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Lessons of the Parker Building Fire.—The Boyertown, Pa., Opera House Fire.—Theatres in the Public Schools.	

THE recent disastrous fire in the Parker Building in New York (to which we referred briefly in our last issue), entailing heavy loss of property, causing serious interruptions to surface road and subway traffic, and costing the lives of three firemen, has brought the fire-resisting qualities of the skyscraper again into question. That incalculable injury to the cause of modern fireproof construction will be done by the sensational press, and the no less sensational public, using the mere fact of a so-called fireproof building having been in a measure destroyed by fire as a proof of their inefficiency, there can be little doubt. That this distrust and injury is warranted or deserved, there is the gravest doubt. The Parker Building did not represent even approximately the modern up-to-date type of skyscraper. A large amount of wood was used in the construction and trim, and the structural members were inadequately protected. Elevator shafts, stairways, and corridors were not enclosed in fireproof walls or partitions. In short very few of even the well-known and generally considered indispensable features of a fireproof structure were incorporated in this building. In addition, it was filled with vast quantities of inflammable materials. But even under all these adverse conditions it would seem that had it not been for inadequate water pressure, inability on the part of the firemen to operate two of the water towers, and the inferior quality of the hose, the building would still be intact. Fire tests in the better constructed skyscrapers are not lacking, and the results of these tests are such as to lead to no uncertain conclusion. In San

Francisco, in Baltimore, and in more than one instance in New York, buildings of this type have withstood fiercer fires than that which wrecked the Parker Building. The larger cities of this country cannot afford to abandon the erection of tall buildings, and the need of their doing so is not apparent. That they can be made fireproof there is abundant evidence, and fire-fighting means must be devised to protect their inflammable contents.

IT would seem almost a reflection on human intelligence to suggest that anyone who had ever entered the recently destroyed "opera house" at Boyertown, Pa., had failed to realize that the building was lacking every requisite for safety, and yet it is probable that no one had ever made complaint or done aught to avert the appalling consequences invited by that lack. It is a curious and incomprehensible truth that the human mind seems to require ocular demonstration of what might almost be considered self-evident facts before accepting them. The demonstration in this instance has carried desolation into hundreds of homes, but it has served to arouse other communities throughout the land to a realization of their danger, and a tardy investigation has been started in scores of villages where conditions are undoubtedly very similar to those at Boyertown. Everyone knew that the narrow stairs, lack of exits, oil lamps, and inflammable scenery common to the majority of village theatres was a menace, just as everyone knew that urban theatres were unsafe before the disastrous Iroquois fire, but until the whole country is shocked by some appalling disaster the public is indifferent to the danger. It required the Slocum holocaust to direct attention to the conditions prevalent on excursion steamers everywhere, and not until after the Parker Building fire had occurred was any notice taken of the deficiencies in the equipment of New York's Fire Department or had the well-known faults in the Parker Building type of construction received more than casual attention.

THE ever-increasing demands of our national system of free education, are admirably illustrated by a comparison of the modern school buildings with those of even twenty-five years ago. How far these demands, and the consequent development of this most important of educational adjuncts, the school building, will extend, it is impossible to foresee, but certain it is that every year adds to its already complicated requirements. Probably the latest innovation is the reported plan to include a theatre, equipped with stage, footlights and scenery, among the departments of the proposed Washington Irving High School in New York. While undoubtedly the scope of our public school system is susceptible of extension in many directions, and much might be said in favor of an educational theatre, it is a debatable question, whether public money would be invested in a manner securing the greatest benefit to the greatest number by the addition of this feature. Under present conditions, with the school population in nearly every city of the country increasing so rapidly that accommodations for the pupils in the lower grades are lacking, and with the cost of buildings constantly becoming greater it would seem as though there might be strong opposition to extending the curriculum to include instruction in histrionic art.

PERSONALS.

In company with W. R. Wilcox of Burlington, W. J. Sayward plans to open in the near future an architect's office in Seattle, Wash. Mr. Sayward has been with the widely known firm of McKim, Mead & White, of New York, since his graduation from the University of Vermont and Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Architect Charles J. Byles, of Newark, N. J., contemplates an extended tour of Europe for the study of old world architecture.

The firm of Olds & Puckey, architects, of Wilkesbarre, Pa., has recently moved into new offices on the tenth floor of the Coal Exchange Building.

The new architectural firm of Woodrooffe & Constable, of Tacoma, Wash., will occupy offices at 314 Fidelity Building. Mr. Woodrooffe is a fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects and a member of the American Institute of Architects. Mr. Constable is a student of the Royal Institute of British Architects and has won several honors.

Mr. Arthur Archer, of Little Rock, Ark., is reported to have accepted a position with the United States government, as supervising architect at the West Point Military Academy.

It is reported that Brett & Hall, landscape architects of Boston, have been engaged to prepare the general plans for the model city, which the Grand Trunk, Pacific Railroad is to build at Prince Rupert, B. C.

Information is received that the name of the magazine formerly known as *Technical Literature* has been changed to *Engineering Digest*. The field of the publication will not be changed, but it is stated that the scope of the paper will be largely increased.

SOCIETIES

At the Annual Meeting of the Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, held on January 3, the following officers were elected for the year 1908: President, E. W. Donn, Jr.; Vice-President, W. J. Marsh; Treasurer, F. B. Pyle; Secretary, Percy Ash. Committee on Admission: J. R. Marshall, Robert Stead, Snowden Ashford.

The Michigan Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has elected the following officers: President, H. J. Maxwell Grylls; Vice-President, Averton E. Munder, of Bay City; Secretary, Arthur H. Scott; Treasurer, James S. Rogers; Director, Frank C. Baldwin.

The Boston Society of Architects, at the annual meeting, held in the Exchange Club, elected the following officers: President, Robert S. Peabody; vice-president, Ralph Adams Cram; secretary, H. J. Carlson; treasurer, Charles A. Coolidge.

INDUSTRIAL INFORMATION

GRECIAN MARBLES.

Those architects who admire the ancient Greek marbles for decorative purposes will be interested in a leaflet recently published by A. E. Bockman, 1265 Broadway, New York. This describes the marbles that are being taken from the quarries of

Greece at the present time and which are similar to those used in building the ancient temples. The various types of Skyros are the lighter colored of the marbles, having cream, pink and yellow shades. This marble was used in the new United States Custom House in New York. Tinos varies from an Alps green to a reddish green with lighter zig-zag veins. The Carnegie Library in Pittsburg and the Knickerbocker Trust Company Building in New York show samples of this marble. There is also the soft green Cippolin Antico, blending two shades of green, which, by many, is considered the most famous of antique marbles. The Rosso Antico is one of the most durable. Pentelikon is a white marble that is much used at the present time.

WELLS.

A sixteen page envelope leaflet from the Artesian Well and Supply Company, Providence, R. I., gives some of the advantages which wells possess over city supply. They claim that the cost of drilling the wells and pumping the water is less than the water rents usually charged. The company drills wells in all parts of the country.

VARNISH.

After having been in course of construction for a year and a half, the new factory of the Glidden Varnish Company, at Cleveland, Ohio, is now completed and in full operation. The old factory, which has been the home of this company since it was organized in 1874 as Glidden, Brackett & Co., is idle for the first time in its history. The new plant, costing over a half million dollars, is built of brick concrete and steel. The company is naturally very proud of its new home and extends a cordial invitation to visitors in Cleveland, who are interested, to call and inspect its works.

CONCRETE CONSTRUCTION.

A recent illustration of the growing confidence in the permanency of concrete construction is given by a decision of the Streets, Walks and Drives Committee of the City Council, of Atlantic City, New Jersey, to reconstruct a large portion of the famous boardwalk, using concrete piles connected by concrete girders. This contract has been awarded to the Raymond Concrete Pile Company, of New York and Chicago. The portion of the walk which is to be reconstructed, extends from Connecticut to Pacific avenues, and is located between 300 and 500 feet nearer the Ocean than the site of the present walk. The upper surface of the walk is faced with 2-inch plank, thus retaining to a certain extent, the appearance of the former boardwalk.

SCAGLIOLINE.

A booklet received from the Fireproofing Partition Co., No. 1 Madison avenue, New York, tells of some of the advantages claimed for Scaglioline Blocks, and shows a number of buildings in which they are used. Made of plaster-of-Paris, chemicals and the aggregates of well burnt cinders, Scaglioline block produces a partition for which exceptional fire-resisting qualities are claimed. Besides being a good fireproofing substance it is said to be sound

proof because it is made in solid blocks. The cost is also stated as being cheaper than other materials used for the same purpose as there is little breakage in transportation and as it can be erected more quickly and with less work. The blocks are 18x24 inches and furnished in 2, 3 or 4-inch thicknesses.

CEMENT.

An illustrated booklet received from the Universal Portland Cement Co., Chicago & Pittsburg, shows a large number of undertakings of all kinds in which this cement has been used. Universal Portland Cement is made from slag and limestone burned to a hard clinker and then ground. The makers state that their cement is guaranteed to be fully equal for all classes of work to any other Portland cement manufactured. This company is a subsidiary company of the United States Steel Corporation.

CONCRETE COUNTRY RESIDENCES.

In a book of almost two hundred pages, entitled "Concrete Country Houses," the Atlas Portland Cement Co., of 30 Broad street, New York City, presents in a most attractive form a number of the best examples of recent concrete construction.

Each of the many subjects, has in addition to well executed half tone views, floor plans, which add materially to the value of the work.

This book might well be called a "year book of the best cement houses."

The building of a home is an epoch in the lives of most people, and before that eventful time comes, it is well to make a careful investigation of the relative merits of building material.

We know of no work that presents the claims of cement more attractively.

WELDED PIPE.

A very interesting and artistically illustrated pamphlet of 35 pages, issued by the National Tube Co., of Pittsburg, describes the progressive operations in the manufacture of Wrought Steel Pipe, from the blast furnace to the finished product.

We have had occasion to comment heretofore on the literary and educational value of much of the "trade literature" published, and this pamphlet, designed for free publication, has all the interest of a well-written magazine article.

Keen competition in this industry has stimulated inventors and the cheapening of production, until to-day the contrast of modern methods with those of fifty years ago, read almost like romance. The dealer as well as the user of wrought steel pipe will find much of interest and instruction in this pamphlet.

A SYSTEM OF WATER SUPPLY.

The Kewanee Water Supply Co., of Kewanee, Ill., have issued a very attractive book of some sixty pages, describing in detail, their system of isolated water supply.

The preparation of trade literature to-day requires a technical knowledge, together with a fine editorial capability, and many of the pamphlets and books received by us are of so high a character as to almost merit the extended notice of a book review.

This book is of this character and combines within its pages information of value, not alone to the architect but to his client as well. The Kewanee Water Supply Company, after more than ten years' successful experience, is enabled to speak with some authority on the subject of water supply.

COMPETITIONS

ALBANY, N. Y.—It is stated that the architect for the new prison at Highland Lake will soon be selected by a public competition. The buildings will consist of a complete plant for a state prison including cell house, administration building, warden's residence, domestic building, school building, shops for eight or ten industries, power house, barn, prison wall, and other equipment at the estimated cost of \$2,000,000. The materials to be used probably will be brick and concrete. Bids probably will be received in the spring. How much construction will be undertaken this year cannot be stated until after the Legislature has determined the amount of appropriation for this year.

It is reported that the Building Committee of the Y. M. C. A. of Davenport, Ia., have sent out the conditions of the competition which will be held to secure plans for the new Association Building. Plans are to be submitted on or before February 5 at 2 o'clock.

Prof. Warren P. Laird, of the architectural department of the University of Pennsylvania, has been selected as the professional adviser in the architectural competition for general plans for the new Western University of Pennsylvania buildings to be erected at Oakland, near Pittsburgh. It has been decided to open the competition for plans to all architects in the United States. The Rev. Samuel B. Linhart, Secretary of the University, will give all information desired by those wishing to enter the competition.

It is said that Alonzo M. Hurlock and E. J. W. Revell, Baltimore, Md., will invite competitive plans for a four-story fire-proof apartment-house, to be erected at Baltimore, at a cost of \$175,000.

The Trustees of Boston College, Mass., according to reports, have secured additional grounds and will soon ask competitive plans for a building which it is proposed erecting. Father Gasson is president of the college.

Mr. W. E. Riley, superintending architect for the New County Hall Competition, writes from the County Hall, Spring Gardens, S. W., London, as follows: "The London County Council has decided that, after the final adjudication, the twenty-three designs shall be on view, free to the public for one week, at the Examination Hall, Victoria Embankment, London, W. C. It will probably be three or four weeks before they are exhibited."

BOOK NOTES.

CYCLOPEDIA OF ARCHITECTURE, CARPENTRY AND BUILDING. A general reference work of the building industry and its allied arts and trades. Prepared by a staff of practical experts. Ten volumes. Illustrated with over 3,000 engravings and about 400 special plates. Red half-mo-

rocco, gilt stamped, marbled edges. Indexed. List of plates. Published by the American School of Correspondence, Chicago, Ill. List Price \$60.00. Introductory price \$19.80.

The lives of self-taught men are so interwoven with the history of this country, that to set down a list of them would be to enumerate men of prominence in every field of modern endeavor.

The trials and struggles that confronted the lad on the farm or in small towns fifty years ago, in his endeavor to acquire knowledge and at the same time earn his living, are matters of history.

These conditions exist even to-day. It is interesting to know that the desire for an uplifting from present and often undesirable conditions is creating a positive demand for text books that will supply as far as possible the place of the teacher. To thousands of men and women throughout the country, earnest workers who seek for a betterment of their condition, the text book is the only road to learning.

While free lectures and libraries afford material for study, it is true that misdirected effort to acquire knowledge on specific subjects leads to error and often results disastrously.

The text books issued by the American School of Correspondence, of Chicago, are intended to afford just the sort of well directed study that will give an intelligent grasp of the subject, and with this well-grounded theoretical knowledge, its practical application is made more easy of acquirement.

Among the later text books issued by this Correspondence School is this series.

The volumes are especially adapted for purposes of self-instruction and home study. The language is clear and simple, and the arrangement of matter such as to take the reader along by easy steps. Every section has been specially prepared for practical use by men of acknowledged professional standing. The books are compiled from the regular Instruction Papers in the Architectural Course of the American School of Correspondence, to fully demonstrate the thorough character of the instruction given. As an educational power, it is doubtful if the value of this quiet but forceful work is generally appreciated. Its influence is to instill a knowledge of the principles that are fundamental to all good design, and an appreciation of what is good and simple and straightforward in architecture.

The Cyclopedia has a number of unique features:

Each section is followed by a list of test questions to impress the important points on the reader.

The solution of over forty practical problems, based on the Rotch Scholarship Examinations is given. These were carefully selected to meet the requirements of ordinary office practice, by S. T. Strickland, an upper classman at the Ecole des Beaux Arts, with a collaboration of Mr. W. T. Rutan, of Shepley, Rutan & Coolidge, Architects, Boston.

The section on "The Architect and his Legal Relations," defining the law as it relates to building contracts.

The section on "Reinforced Concrete,"

discussing the latest developments in this new and important branch of building.

The section on "Estimating," and the section on "Steel Construction," as well as the sections on "Specifications," "Superintendence," "Wiring for Bells and Light," "Plumbing," "Heating," "Ventilation," "Sheet Metal Roofing," "Cornices and Skylights," "Elevators," etc., are full of practical information.

The artistic side is also well covered by sections on "Perspective and Freehand Drawing," "The Greek and Roman Orders," "Rendering in Pen and Ink, and Wash," "Water-Color Hints for Draftsmen," "Architectural Lettering," "Shades and Shadows," etc.

A specially noteworthy feature is the number of illustrations, many well-executed drawings and half-tone cuts are scattered through the work, besides several hundred full-page plates giving views and working drawings of residences, office buildings, etc., reproduced from designs of well-known architects.

The books are well printed, on high-grade paper, and are substantially bound. The analytical index to the ten volumes, with the list of plates, adds to the value of the work for reference purposes.

CATALOGUES RECEIVED

J. A. & W. Bird Co., 34 India street, Boston, Mass. December copy of "The Ridgepole" telling of their various materials.

Yawman & Erbe Mfg. Co., 360 Broadway, New York, folder "The Office Boy of To-day and the Executive of To-morrow," telling the advantage to both boy and man of the knowledge of filing systems.

The General Fireproofing Company, Youngstown, Ohio, leaflet describing their new "Trussit" metal for reinforcing fire-proof construction. Particular attention is called to the fact that no wood form is necessary in this type of construction.

Standard Sanitary Mfg. Co., Pittsburg, Pa. January issue of Modern Sanitation, describing the public baths of Pittsburg and the Fleischman Baths in New York.

Fisher Hydraulic Stone and Machinery Co., Baltimore, Md. Forty pages, 8x12, giving descriptions and illustrations relative to their machines for making concrete stone.

Royal Ventilator & Manufacturing Co., Philadelphia, Pa. Thirty-two pages, 4x8, showing different styles of ventilators and examples of their application, together with letters from some satisfied customers.

Lawrence Cement Co. of Pennsylvania, Harrison Building, Philadelphia. An illustrated pamphlet of 130 pages, setting forth the merits of "Dragon" Portland cement.

Sargent's "Union" Lock Sitz. An illustrated catalogue of lock and door check fittings for exterior and interior application, issued by Sargent & Co., New Haven, Conn.

Broomell's Vapor System of Heating, Vapor Heating Co., Philadelphia. This publication of fifty pages explains the vapor system of heating and by means of well executed half tones and clearly written text states this company's claims for the desirability of installing the vapor method of heating.

Building News

BUILDING statistics gathered from fifty-five leading cities of the United States show a falling off of thirteen per cent. in 1907 from the figures of the preceding year. Much of the loss seems to have come in the last two months of the year, when operations appear to have been retarded by the financial stringency.

MAINE

LEWISTON.—Andrew Carnegie, it is reported, has offered to erect a \$50,000 building for the study of science at Bates College on condition that a like sum is raised for maintenance.

RHODE ISLAND

PROVIDENCE.—It is reported that Mayor Coughlin will probably recommend the loan of \$125,000 for new hospital buildings.

CONNECTICUT

STRATFORD.—During the present year, it is reported, an architect will be selected to draw the plans of the new church to be erected by St. James Parish.

NEW YORK

BROOKLYN.—Dock Commissioner Benschel, of New York City, it is stated, has accepted the plans of George H. Post, Borough of Manhattan, for the terminal building of the 39th Street ferry on the Brooklyn side.

NEW YORK CITY.—A careful scrutiny of Building Superintendent Murphy's annual report supplements that made after the recent financial panic, and most clearly shows that the "decrease" in the activity of the building industry in this city has, as we have heretofore stated, been confined to the speculative branch of the trade, affecting principally the construction of tenements projected in the expectation of quick sales. The other items showing a decrease largely represent what is classed as municipal buildings, including school-houses and kindred public buildings. These improvements, temporarily halted, were due solely to principles of economy on the part of the city and cannot be counted as a permanent loss of capital, as the work has only been deferred. To instance this reduction in speculative tenement building is shown the fact that tenement-houses erected in Manhattan last year numbered 309, built at a total cost of more than \$27,000,000, as against 965 tenements projected in 1906, at an aggregate cost of \$57,000,000. As the decrease in new buildings in 1907 was over 1906 \$33,000,000, it will be seen that \$30,000,000 of this amount represents the purely speculative class of buildings.

Superintendent Murphy's report shows a substantial gain of capital investment last year over 1906 in the construction of office-buildings and in high-class private dwellings, the latter representing desirable property improvement, much of which is to benefit the upper West Side. The office-buildings provided for in 1907 number 61, representing a total investment of \$21,116,500, as against 43 buildings, in which \$17,392,480 was invested in 1906, a total gain of \$3,724,000 to the credit of last year. Sixty-five private dwellings were projected

in 1907, to be completed at a total cost of \$2,622,800, as compared with 55 projected in 1906 at an aggregate cost of \$2,344,500.

Last year was marked by a large gain also in the matter of new hotel construction planned or actually under way in December, five buildings of this class on which \$997,000 will be expended being credited to 1907, as against a single hotel-building costing \$100,000 reported in 1906.

There was another notable gain in favor of 1907 as against 1906 in a branch of work not embraced in Statistician Spencer's tabulation issued recently, but which will appear later in another division of Superintendent's Murphy's comprehensive report—a gain represented by the construction of elevators, an important distinctive branch of the building industry, upon the steady progress of which the panic made no discernible impression whatever.

The Department table of comparisons is as follows:

New Buildings	No.	1906 Cost	No.	1907 Cost
Dwigs, costing over \$50,000.	16	\$1,335,000	10	\$1,503,000
Dwigs, between \$30,000 and \$50,000.	18	722,000	23	895,000
Dwellings less than \$20,000.	21	187,500	32	224,800
Tenements.	965	57,372,400	309	27,081,500
Hotels.	1	100,000	5	997,000
Stores over \$30,000.	80	11,710,000	73	10,338,000
Stores between \$15,000 and \$30,000.	15	368,000	31	754,000
Stores less than \$15,000.	23	135,100	28	205,200
Offices.	43	17,392,480	61	21,116,500
Factories and workshops.	37	3,111,100	18	1,340,000
Schools.	18	2,700,000	14	2,295,000
Churches.	9	587,500	4	340,500
Public buildings, municipal.	18	1,476,275	15	1,783,000
Public places of amusements, etc.	35	7,144,000	21	3,360,700
Stables and garages.	63	3,327,500	55	2,303,700
Other structures.	250	307,700	240	312,000
Total.	1,621	\$107,977,515	948	\$74,930,000

Alterations	No.	1906 Cost	No.	1907 Cost
Dwellings.	540	\$2,630,445	588	\$2,133,465
Tenements.	2,450	5,202,241	2,222	4,405,584
Hotels.	81	623,000	58	320,445
Stores.	408	1,063,400	431	1,016,634
Offices.	127	4,824,995	214	4,141,135
Factories and shops.	132	477,800	118	625,510
Schools.	21	204,200	23	296,750
Churches.	20	312,775	24	330,925
Public build'gs.	81	1,070,700	108	2,215,551
Stables and garages.	81	690,485	68	320,000
Other structures.	2	7,100	...	...
Total.	3,961	\$18,008,050	3,854	\$16,783,899

Plans have been filed, according to report, for a ten-story brick apartment-house to be built on 116th Street west of Broadway, and costing about \$200,000. Paterno Brothers, of 616 West 116th Street, owners, and Schwartz & Gross are the architects.

The members of the Press Club, 120 Nassau street, it is stated, have approved the general plans for the club house to be erected at William and Spruce streets, ten stories high, of iron and brick, and cost about \$75,000.

Architects Allen & Collens are reported to be revising the plans for five buildings

for the Union Theological Seminary. Estimated cost \$1,000,000.

SPRINGVILLE.—It is stated that bids will be received until February 6 by the Board of Education, Union School District No. 1 (Bernis L. Bensley, Clerk) for erecting a school. Bids to be submitted separately on ventilating and heating. Probable cost, \$75,000. E. E. Joralemon, Architect, Niagara Falls.

SAYVILLE, L. I.—Louis G. Hulse, of Evergreen, is reported to be preparing plans for a three-story brick hotel to be erected at Sayville by Charles E. Egan, of New York, N. Y. Cost \$30,000.

Lloyd E. Brown, of Watertown, N. Y., contemplates erecting a four or six-story flat building on Buffalo property.

NEW JERSEY

EAST ORANGE.—Mayor William Cardwell in his annual message advises the erection of a new high school, instead of adding to present building.

MORRIS PLAINS.—The Board of Managers of the State Hospital for the Insane at Morris Plains in its annual report to the Governor, it is stated, recommends an appropriation of \$150,000 for the betterment of the institution, which will include seven fire-escapes, \$8,750; nurses cottage for men, \$35,000; kitchen, \$28,000; storehouse, \$15,000; cold storage plant, \$15,000; dairy stables, \$8,000; plumbing in main building, \$6,000; fire alarm system, \$5,000; water main and fire hydrants, \$1,500.

NEWARK.—Kitchell & O'Rourke, 738 Broad Street, it is stated, are preparing plans for a \$65,000 parochial school to be erected on Pennsylvania avenue, for the parish of St. Columba's R. C. Church. The building is to be of gray brick with limestone trimmings three stories high.

WESTFIELD.—The erection of a school at a cost of \$45,000 is reported under consideration by the Board of Education.

PENNSYLVANIA

NEW CASTLE.—It is reported that plans have been prepared by Architect W. G. Eckles, Lawrence Trust Building, New Castle, for a three-story brick and stone high school, 200x190 feet, to be erected here. Bids will be received until May 1. Estimated cost \$250,000.

PHILADELPHIA.—Reports state that work will be begun early in the spring on the new office building for the Bell Telephone Company, at the corner of Broad and Spruce streets. The building, for which plans have been made by John T. Windrim, Architect, Commonwealth Building, will occupy the corner lot and four lots adjoining, which have been purchased by the company for about \$300,000. The lot has a frontage ninety-five feet on Broad street, from Spruce to Cypress streets, with a depth of about 100 feet.

Report has it that the Knights of Columbus, after obtaining a charter for a corporation to be known as the Knights of Columbus Hall Association, will erect a substantial building, with stores on first floor, with a large hall and society rooms on the upper floors. Cost \$50,000.

POTTSTOWN.—George E. Savage, Provident Building, Philadelphia, is stated to have been engaged to prepare plans for a stone Baptist Church, 75x120 feet, to be erected in Pottstown, to have an auditorium seating 1,200.

SCRANTON.—Report states that Architect Harry Blackwood is at the head of the stock company which is to erect a large apartment house at Mulberry and Quincy avenues, costing \$65,000.

It is reported that the home of the Country Club, destroyed by fire four months ago, is to be rebuilt, at a cost of between \$35,000 and \$45,000.

PHILADELPHIA.—According to reports, the Philadelphia Consistory, Scottish Rite Masons, have secured the Muhr Building, at Broad and Race Streets, and will remodel it at a cost of \$150,000.

OHIO

CINCINNATI.—Bids will be received until February 17, by Dr. J. M. Withrow, Chairman Building Committee, Board of Education, for erecting a high school on Clifton avenue, McMillan and Guy streets. Bids may be submitted as a whole or separately on all branches of the work. Bids will also be received, same time and place for installing a ventilating and heating system in the Westwood School on Harrison avenue. For further information address Henry Klein, Superintendent Buildings, 910 Main street.

Plans have been accepted for the new half million dollar building of the Ohio Mechanics' Institute, it is reported.

CLEVELAND.—It is stated that plans are now being prepared for the new \$80,000 library. The exact location for this building has not yet been decided.

DAYTON.—Plans are reported as being prepared by Architect G. Jaekle, 1313 U. B. building, for the erection of a church for the Rev. F. G. Coffin, at a cost of \$35,000.

MADISONVILLE.—Architects Bausmith & Drainie, Johnson Building, Cincinnati, are said to have prepared plans for a three-story school building for the Board of Education, Dr. G. L. Krieger, president, Madisonville. Estimated cost, \$100,000. Mentioned previously.

OBERLIN.—It is stated that the members of the First Congregational Church propose making improvements costing about \$35,000.

PORTSMOUTH.—Reports state that plans are being prepared by Architect A. B. Alger & Son, Turley Building, for the erection of a church for the First Presbyterian Congregation. Rev. J. D. Elder, pastor. Bids will be received about March 1.

YOUNGSTOWN.—It is reported that a resolution will probably be introduced at the next meeting of the Board of Education, asking that plans and specifications be authorized for the new High School Building.

INDIANA

ANDERSON.—It is stated that bids will be received about March 15, for the erection of a high school to cost about \$125,000. Architects R. P. Daggett & Co., and Dunlop & Glossop, of Indianapolis.

GARY.—Architect William B. Ittner, Board of Education Building, St. Louis, Mo., according to reports, has prepared

plans for a two-story brick, fireproof school building, 170x300 feet, 24 rooms, at Block 67, for the Board of Education, A. Wirt, Superintendent of Schools, Edward Jewell, Thomas H. Cutter and C. O. Holmes, Gary.

GREENCASTLE.—Reports state that the trustees of DePauw University have adopted preliminary plans, prepared by Oscar D. Bohlen, of the firm of D. A. Bohlen & Son, of Indianapolis, for the Carnegie Library, to be erected at the University. Estimated cost, \$50,000.

LAFAYETTE.—It is said that bids will probably be received in May, for the erection of a Masonic Temple.

SALEM.—It is reported that bids will be received until 7.30 p. m., February 5, by School Trustees Charles Shrewsbury, Chairman, for erection of joint graded high school building. E. F. Routh, Architect, Salem.

TERRE HAUTE.—It is proposed to erect three schools, at a cost of \$70,000. Architect J. G. Vrydagh, of Terre Haute.

ILLINOIS

AURORA.—It is reported that a Young Woman's Christian Association Building will be erected here at a cost of \$45,000. Worst & Shepardson, 341 Colter Building, Aurora, are the architects.

BLUE ISLAND.—Reports state that plans are being prepared by Architect H. W. Huehl, county architect, 163 Randolph street, Chicago, for the erection of an infirmary building, three miles southwest of Blue Island. Cost, \$1,000,000.

CHICAGO.—It is stated that plans have been prepared by A. L. Haley, architect, Henne Building, for a ten-story theatre and hotel structure on the east side of Hill street, between Fifth and Sixth streets. It will be of steel frame construction, fireproofed with concrete. The lower part will be fitted for a theatre and the upper stories will be used for hotel purposes. The estimated cost of the building is \$250,000.

It is said that Huehl & Schmid, architects, 165 Randolph street, have revised plans and will take estimates again on a mercantile building, at 286 Fifth avenue, for Washington Porter, 77 Jackson Boulevard. It will have ten stories and will be 60x100 feet, brick, steel and concrete construction. Cost, \$150,000.

Architect George F. Kingsley, 36 LaSalle street, is reported to have finished plans for an apartment house to be erected at Evans-ton and Foster avenues for William A. Pickard. It will be a three-story building, measuring 50x125 feet, and will be divided into three stores, five offices and twelve apartments. The building will be constructed of brick and stone, with composition roof, hardwood finish, steam heat, etc. Cost \$50,000.

CHICAGO.—Dwight H. Perkins, Architect, for the Board of Education, Tribune Building, is at work upon plans for a three-story addition and alteration in the Dante School at Desplaines, Ewing and Forquer streets. The new building will contain fifteen rooms, an assembly hall and a gymnasium. It will cost \$175,000.

City Architect, Charles F. Herman, has just completed plans for a smallpox house, to be built on the grounds of the present institution, at Hamlin and Laundale ave-

nues. Thirty-fourth and Thirty-fifth streets. Cost, \$50,000.

The Fox Lake Yacht Club has bought a site and will build a new clubhouse at Stanton Point in the near future, it is said. Cost, \$40,000.

The Homewood Country Club, it is reported, will erect a clubhouse costing about \$40,000.

CLINTON.—It is stated that bids will be received until February 7, by the Board of Education (K. S. Brown, Secretary), for erecting a high school. Spencer & Temple, Architects, Champaign.

QUINCY.—It is reported that the members of the Christian Science Church have accepted plans for an \$80,000 edifice.

MICHIGAN

ANN ARBOR.—Smith, Hinchman & Grills have been chosen architects for the new chemical building to be erected at Ann Arbor by the University of Michigan, James Angell, President. Cost, \$275,000.

DETROIT.—Spier & Rohus are preparing drawings for remodeling the building corner Woodward avenue and the Campus, for Fred Sanders, confectioner. Cost, \$50,000.

The Council Committee on Public Buildings, it is stated, is considering plans for the convention hall which is to be erected here, at a cost of about \$350,000.

Plans are being prepared, it is reported, by Architects Malcomson, Higginbotham & Clement, 404-405 Moffat Building, for the erection of a church for the Church of the Disciples of Christ, Rev. William D. Campbell, Pastor.

It is stated that plans are being prepared for St. Paul's Cathedral, which is to be erected for the Episcopal Church, at Woodward and Hancock avenues, at a cost of about \$250,000. Rev. Samuel S. Marquis, D. D., Rector of St. Paul's, may be able to give further information.

FLINT.—The Masonic Temple Building Association, it is stated, has decided to erect a temple at Saginaw and Fourth streets, to cost about \$100,000.

MENOMINEE.—The Directors of the First National Bank, it is reported, have accepted plans for a two-story banking office building estimated to cost \$40,000.

WISCONSIN

EDGERTON.—Leenhouts & Guthrie, of Milwaukee, are said to be preparing revised plans for the Florence Child Memorial High School, to be erected here at a cost of \$40,000. The building is to be of brick, two stories, and bids for the construction will be received about March 2.

FOND DU LAC.—A. D. Conover, of the State Board of Control, is stated to have submitted to the Board of Supervisors, plans for two wings and improvements to be made to the County Asylum, which will cost, including plumbing and heating, about \$100,000.

OSHKOSH.—The late Mrs. H. A. Beach, of Oshkosh, it is reported, has bequeathed to this city \$150,000 with which to erect a manual training school.

ST. FRANCIS.—It is reported that the Trustees of St. Francis Seminary are having plans prepared for a library, to cost \$60,000.

WAUSAU.—It is reported that plans have been prepared and the contract will soon

be let for erecting a building for the Citizens State Bank of Wausau, which is to cost about \$20,000.

MISSOURI

KANSAS CITY.—A permit has been issued for a four-story stone, steel and terra cotta apartment house to be erected at 925 Paseo street, by J. H. Martling, at a cost of \$30,000.

ST. LOUIS.—Aaron Fuller, of the firm of Stix, Bear & Fuller Dry Goods Co., it is reported, intends erecting a residence on Washington Terrace, to cost \$60,000.

It is stated that Comptroller Player advises the appropriation of \$5,000 for the employment of an architect, and for the expenses of drawing permanent plans for the new bridge.

IOWA

DES MOINES.—It is reported that F. M. Hubbell will build a five-story block, 132 feet square, on the old Reinking site, Eighth and Walnut streets.

MUSCATINE.—It is stated that Company C have plans under way to sell the present armory and build a new one.

MINNESOTA

ALBERT LEA.—The County Commissioners are said to be considering the erection of a hospital, costing about \$30,000.

MANKATO.—It is reported that George Pass has completed plans for a three-story Y. M. C. A. Building.

NORTH DAKOTA

FARGO.—The Oak Grove Ladies' Lutheran Seminary, it is stated, has planned to erect a \$50,000 college building during the present year.

SOUTH DAKOTA

MADISON.—It is reported that a bill has been introduced in Congress to appropriate \$100,000 for a postoffice building here.

WESSINGTON SPRINGS.—It is said that the school board wishes sketches for a school building, brick, with stone facing, containing eight grade rooms and high school or assembly room, office, etc. Miss Della England, Clerk.

NEBRASKA

KEARNEY.—It is stated that bids will be received until February 10, by the Building Committee (James Cope, Chairman), St. Luke's Church, for erecting the superstructure of the new edifice.

OMAHA.—The Paston Real Estate Company, it is reported, contemplates the erection of a \$100,000 apartment house at Farnum and Twenty-fifth avenues.

KANSAS

ELLINWOOD.—It is stated that Wolf & Son are making preparations for the erection of one of the largest flouring mills in the State. Cost, \$75,000.

COLORADO

COLORADO SPRINGS.—It is stated that the trustees of the Colorado College, Rev. Dr. William F. Slocum, President, plan erecting a college Y. M. C. A. Building, at a cost of \$50,000.

WYOMING

BELLINGHAM.—The Eagles of Whatcom Aerie, No. 31, propose the erection of a two-story brick building in the immediate future which will cost in the neighborhood of \$50,000.

MONTANA

BILLINGS.—It is stated that arrangements are being made by the I. O. O. F. lodges

of this city for the erection of a temple near the corner of First avenue and Twenty-seventh street north, immediately across the street from the Grand hotel. The building will represent an investment of approximately \$35,000, and at the present time \$20,000 has been subscribed. The building will be three stories high, the lower floor containing two store rooms, the second the Odd Fellows' Hall and other necessary rooms, and the third will be fitted up with office rooms. Work on the structure will be commenced next spring if present plans are carried out.

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE.—It is reported that Rufus Woods, Equitable Building, will erect a large department store at the southwest corner of Eutaw and Franklin streets.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON.—It is reported that Mrs. Alexander Stewart has purchased lot, 72x83 feet, at the southwest corner of Massachusetts avenue and Q streets N. W., and will erect a large dwelling on the site to cost \$100,000; Bruce Price & de Sibour, Architects, Washington Herald Building, 734 Fifteenth street, N. W., Washington, D. C., and 1135 Broadway, N. Y.

It is said that Mrs. Sarah Stewart Wyeth, of Philadelphia, Pa., will erect a large dwelling on Massachusetts avenue and Sheridan Circle; Wyeth & Cresson, Architects, 1517 H street N. W.

Report states that Andrew W. Luke, 1737 DeSales street N. W., will erect eight three-story brick dwellings with modern conveniences on Adams street, between North Capitol and First streets N. W.

VIRGINIA

NEWPORT NEWS.—The City Council will be asked to petition the Legislature for authority to issue \$75,000 of bonds for the erection of a school building and probably for additions to the present school buildings; W. E. Puckett, President School Board.

NORFOLK.—It is stated that the Monticello Realty Co., D. Lowenberg, president, will receive proposals for interior decorations of the Monticello Hotel, now in course of construction; building previously mentioned.

RICHMOND.—At a mass meeting of the Presbyterian Churches, it is reported, it was voted to donate as their share toward the enlargement of the Theological Seminary, the erection of a refectory building at a cost of \$40,000.

WEST VIRGINIA

BLUEFIELD.—It is reported that L. Kaufman, Northfork, W. Va., has had plans prepared for the erection of a hotel to cost about \$60,000.

KENTUCKY

BOWLING GREEN.—It is said that H. H. Hussey, 420-422 Hollister Block, Lansing, Mich., will prepare plans for the Y. M. C. A. Building to cost \$30,000. L. J. Darter is the general secretary.

LOUISVILLE.—The Building Committee of the State Fair Board, it is reported, has announced that it is proposed to erect at once a coliseum building costing about \$90,000, a building for the horticulture and dairy exhibits and a building for the fine arts and women's exhibits.

It is reported that Architects D. X. Murphy & Bro., are preparing plans for the rebuilding of the Bourbon Stock Yards, recently destroyed by fire. Cost, \$200,000.

TENNESSEE

MEMPHIS.—It is stated that bids will be received about March 15 for the erection of the Y. M. C. A. Building, to cost about \$150,000.

SOUTH CAROLINA

MANNING, S. C.—It is reported that the trustees of the School District No. 9 proposes to erect a \$30,000 school building at this place.

ROCK HILL.—The trustees of Winthrop College, it is stated, have selected Edwards, Walter & Parham, of Atlanta, Ga., to prepare plans for the school building, which is to cost about \$50,000.

FLORIDA

TAMPA.—Bonfoey & Eliot are reported to have prepared plans and specifications for five-story Y. M. C. A. building to cost about \$50,000; G. E. Mabry, treasurer, Young Men's Christian Association.

MISSISSIPPI

COLUMBUS.—Press reports state that the First State Bank will have plans prepared by W. C. Watson, Birmingham, Ala., for the erection of a bank and office building, probably six or eight stories high and equipped with high-pressure elevators.

OKLAHOMA

TULSA.—Henry Kendall College is reported to be having plans prepared by W. A. Cann, Missouri Trust Building, St. Louis, Mo., for erection of two dormitory buildings; two stories and basement; 120x80 feet; brick and stone; cost \$50,000.

ARKANSAS

CAMDEN.—It is stated that W. G. Hays and T. J. Moore will rebuild the Ouachita Hotel, reported burned in November at a loss of \$50,000. It is understood that new structure will cost about \$75,000.

TEXAS

BIG SPRING.—L. A. Dale, County Judge of Howard County, it is reported, will open bids February 11 for erection of two-story courthouse. Plans and specifications on file at office of Lang & Witchell, architects, Wilson Building, and at office of L. A. Dale at Big Spring; certified check, \$500, payable to Howard County; usual rights reserved.

DALLAS.—It is stated that a six-story fireproof building is to be erected by the Crane Co. at Jackson and Santa Fe streets, to cost \$90,000. James E. Ludlow, local manager.

C. J. Sorrells has purchased site at \$30,000 on which it is said he will erect a business building.

EL PASO.—El Paso County has voted \$28,000 of bonds to build three-story brick addition to courthouse.

HOUSTON.—Houston Theatre Co., composed of H. T. D. Wilson and H. Prince, reported to be having plans prepared by H. C. Cooke & Co., opera House Bldg., for erection of fireproof theatre to replace structure burned at a loss of about \$120,000. It is reported that the structure will be five stories high with frontage of 150 feet; front to be used for office purposes, and theatre about three stories high, 30 feet in the rear.

ARIZONA

MESA.—The erection of a high school costing about \$30,000 is reported under consideration. J. D. Loper, principal of the schools, may be able to give further information.

CALIFORNIA

The *Western Contractor*, which is devoted to the building interests of the West, does not see any signs of discouragement for this year. Speaking of the Pacific Slope, it says: "There has been extraordinary activity in railroad building, both of steam and electric, in California during the year just past, and while there has been a temporary reduction of construction forces in this line, assurances are given that there will be even greater activity during the coming year with increased demand for labor.

"Building operations in all the cities of the State have been normal during the entire year, and reports indicate that this will be continued during next year. The coming of the fleet of warships will bring 20,000 men, for whom food supplies will have to be provided, thus adding increased market for California products and increased demand for labor.

"The following summary shows California conditions from November 29 to December 28, inclusive and for the year 1907: San Francisco building permits, \$3,910,085; year, \$58,970,541. San Francisco building permits since the fire, \$93,276,065. Los Angeles building permits, \$383,267; year, \$14,234,421. Oakland building permits, \$290,579. San Diego building permits, \$79,715; year, \$2,176,685. San Francisco real estate sales, 450; value, \$1,000,000; year, \$31,624,122."

IMPERIAL.—It is reported that the First National Bank is planning the erection of a handsome bank building. President Leroy Holt has called on an architect for plans for the building.

LOS ANGELES.—It is stated that plans have practically been completed for the erection of the handsome new theatre to

be built on Broadway between Eighth and Ninth streets, and will be known as the Majestic Theatre.

It is stated that a modern lodge hall and studio building in which will be a theatre auditorium, will be erected at a cost of \$100,000 on Grand avenue, near Seventh street, by George W. Walker for Emil Olcovich, who has already secured a long term lease on the structure. Plans have been completed by Architect Theo. A. Eisen, who will supervise the work of construction.

Plans are reported as being prepared for a five-story office building for the Pacific Mutual Life Insurance Company.

OAKLAND.—According to reports, Sorenson Bros. have secured the contract for the foundation walls of the new \$2,000,000 Banker's Hotel. Other contracts have not yet been let.

POMONA.—It is stated that the details and specifications for the new school building on San Antonio avenue are under completion and bids will soon be called for for the construction of the building.

SAN DIEGO.—Reports state that Mr. Henry Timken will build a \$200,000 structure at the corner of Sixth and E streets in the near future.

SAN FRANCISCO.—It is reported that plans are being prepared for the erection of a hotel on Market street for Mahony Brothers, St. Francis Hotel, at a cost of \$2,500,000. Trowbridge & Livingston, Post and Leavenworth streets, are the architects.

VALLEJO.—City Engineer Noyes is reported to be preparing plans for the proposed new city hall to be erected in conjunction with the branch county jail.

OREGON

BAKER CITY.—It is stated that a \$150,000 United States postoffice and federal building is to be erected here this year.

PORTLAND.—C. C. Robbins, it is stated, is preparing plans for the superstructure of the Central Christian Church, Twentieth and East Salmon streets. Cost, \$40,000.

WASHINGTON

EVERETT.—At a special meeting of the Board of Education held recently, the Whitney block was purchased for a high school to be built next summer at a cost of about \$120,000.

SEATTLE.—It is stated that work upon the structure on Western avenue will begin in sixty days. The plans for the armory as prepared provide for a building 156 feet by 260 feet. The amount of the appropriation made by the State Legislature is \$130,000. Kerr & Rogers are the architects.

H. Ryan, Globe Building, is reported to be preparing plans for a \$40,000 four-story residence to be erected for D. M. G. Brogan.

Eames & Young, Wright Building, are reported to be preparing plans for a fifteen-story office building for the National Bank of Commerce, Seattle, Wash. Brick, stone, granite, terra cotta and reinforced concrete will be used in construction. Cost, \$1,000,000. Bids will be received by the James Black Masonry and Construction Company, Wright Building, St. Louis. Previously mentioned.

The Southern Methodists have bought the lot at Mercer street and Federal avenue and the dwelling house thereon has been converted into a chapel for temporary use. In the near future, work will begin on the new \$75,000 edifice that is to be erected. The first work will be to erect a Sunday school building which will be used for worship until the main building is ready for occupancy.

SPOKANE.—Reports state that plans for the magnificent new edifice of the First Presbyterian Church, soon to be erected at Fourth avenue and Cedar street, the site of the old cannon residence, were finally agreed upon by the church directors Monday night. The church will be built of sandstone blocks and will cost not less than \$80,000.

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WANTED.—A New York representative, by a concern manufacturing architectural bronze and brass; one who is at present established in some allied line, and in touch with architects and contractors; commission basis; state experience. Address 2-A, care American Architect. (1672-t.f.)

PROPOSALS.

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., January 13, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 25th day of February, 1908, and then opened, for the construction (complete) of the U. S. Post Office at Marinette, Wisconsin, in accordance with the drawings and specifications, copies of which may be had at this office or at the office of the Postmaster at Marinette, Wisconsin, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1673-1674)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., January 13, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 21st day of February, 1908, and then opened, for the construction (including plumbing, gas piping, heating apparatus, electric conduits and wiring) of the U. S. Post Office at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, in accordance with drawings and specifications, copies of which may be had at the office of the Custodian of site at Pine Bluff, Arkansas, or at this office, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1673-1674)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., January 20, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 2nd day of March, 1908, and then opened, for the construction (including plumbing, gas piping, heating apparatus, electric conduits and wiring) of the U. S. Post Office and Court House at Colorado Springs, Colorado, in accordance with drawings and specifications, copies of which may be had at this office or at the office of the Custodian of the Site at Colorado Springs, Colorado, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1674-75)

of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1674-75)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., January 20, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 28th day of February, 1908, and then opened, for the construction (except elevators) of the U. S. Post Office and Court House at Tuscaloosa, Alabama, in accordance with the drawings and specification, copies of which may be had at the office of the Custodian of Site at Tuscaloosa, Ala., or at this office, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1674-1675)

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.

Sealed proposals, suitably endorsed on envelope, for plumbing changes, Wards 2 to 12 inclusive, and Wards 19 to 23 inclusive, Buffalo State Hospital, Buffalo, N. Y., will be received up to 3 o'clock p.m. on Wednesday, the 29th day of January, 1908, by the State Commissioner in Lunacy, at the Capitol, Albany, N. Y., when bids will be opened and read publicly.

Drawings and specifications may be consulted and blank forms of proposals obtained at Buffalo State Hospital, or by application to Franklin B. Ware, State Architect, Capitol, Albany, N. Y.

Contracts will be awarded to the lowest responsible and reliable bidders, unless the bids exceed the amount of funds available therefor, in which case the right to reject all bids is reserved.

T. E. McGARR,

Secretary, State Commission in Lunacy. Dated Albany, N. Y., January 8, 1908. (1673-1674)

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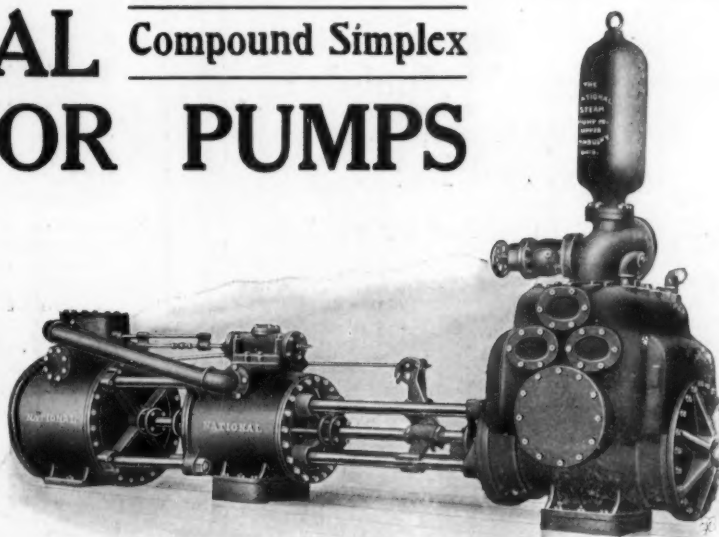
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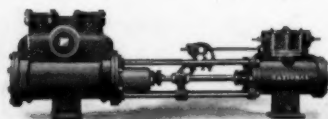
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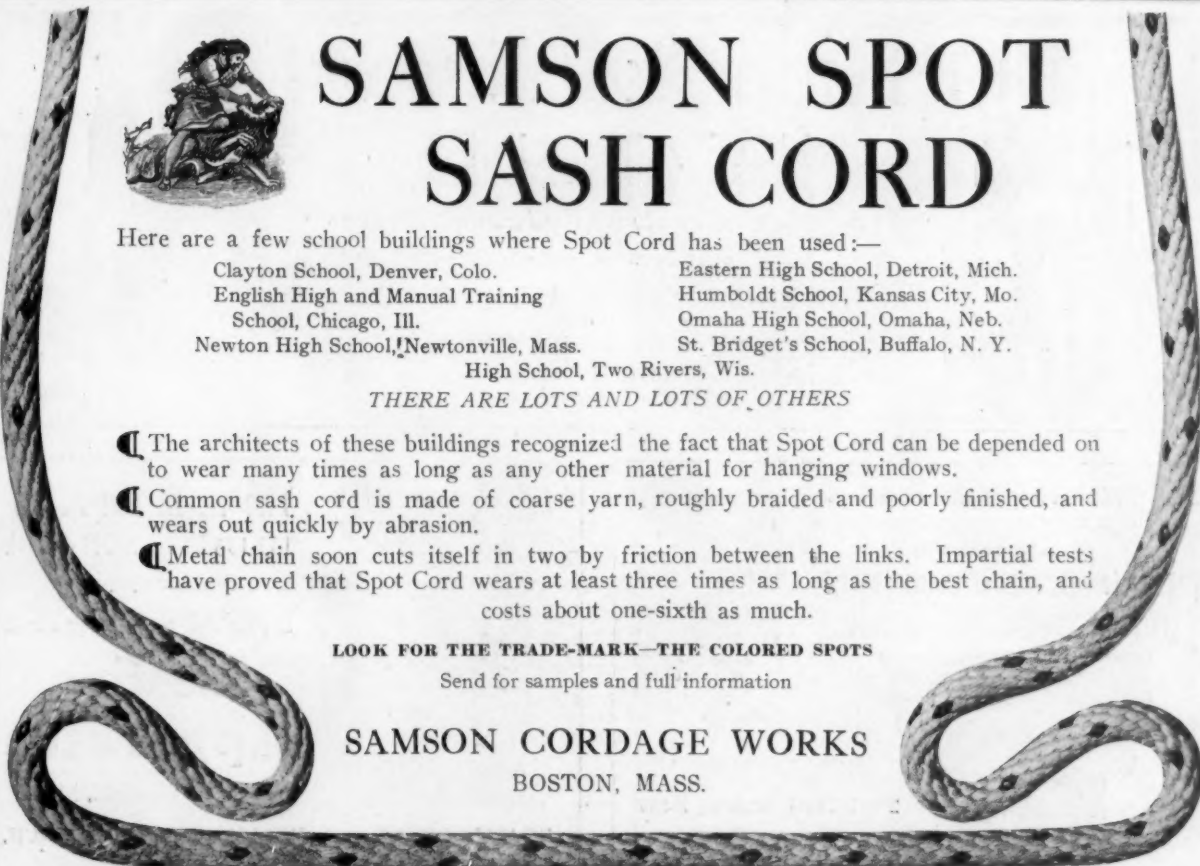
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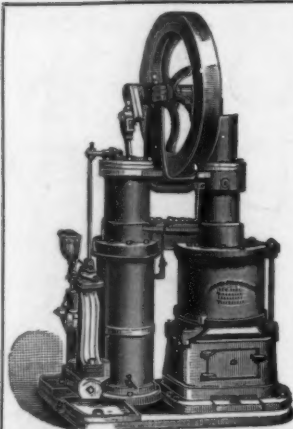
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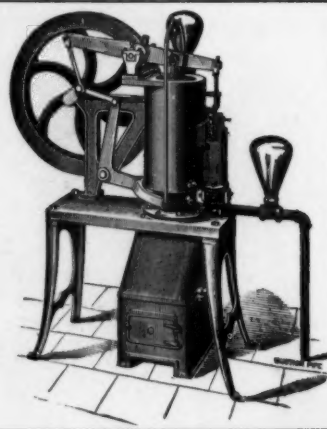
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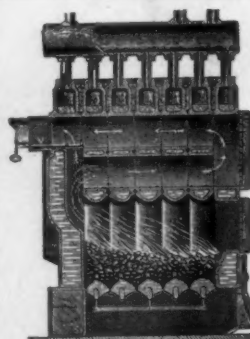
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