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The AMERICAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS

Regular Edition

Vol. XCIII.

MARCH 25, 1908.

No 1683.

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Additional:

Half-timber House, Chartres, France.

An Old House Front Set Up in the Yard of the Museum
at Rouen, France.

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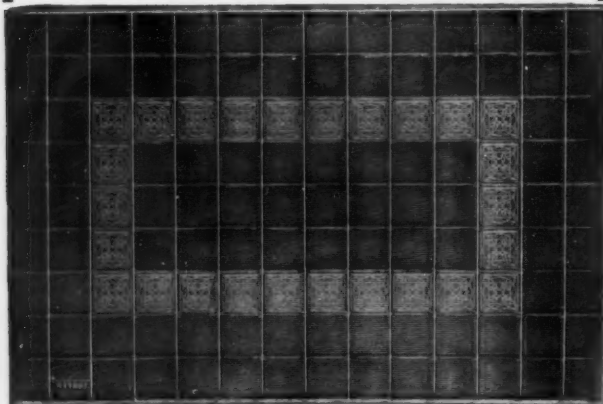
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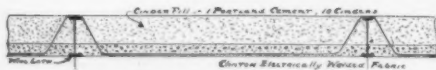
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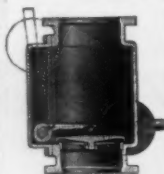


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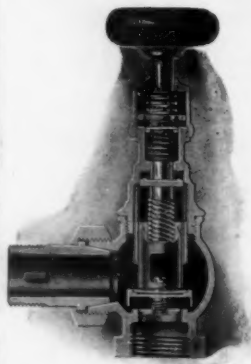
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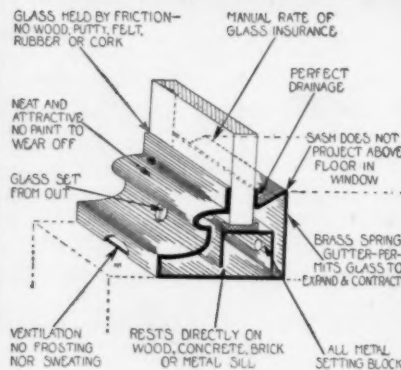
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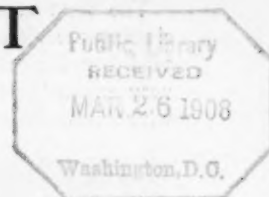
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THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

AND

BUILDING NEWS



Vol. XCIII.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 1908.

No. 1683.



The Municipal Building, Washington, D. C.

THE home—the first real home, for all other buildings occupied by it have been but rented quarters—of the Government of the District of Columbia is nearing completion. It is known in Washington as the Municipal Building and is a beautiful monumental structure of specially selected creamy white South Dover marble above the base, the base being of a warm gray granite from Blue Hill, Maine.

Everything that went into the construction of this dignified building is of the highest obtainable grade, both as to materials and workmanship, and while, as the illustrations show, it is a decidedly ornate building, not a single feature that counts for comfort, strength or utility has been sacrificed. When it is understood that from the plus 8 level, where the contractor for the foundations left off, the completed building, ready for occupancy, cost but \$1,750,000, including architects' fees and cost of supervision by Government officials, it will be seen that it is a marvel in the days of high-priced labor and material.

Congress in 1902 authorized the purchase of a site and the construction of this building for the Government of the District of Columbia and created a building commission composed of the Secretary of the Treasury, then Leslie M. Shaw, and the three Commissioners of the

District of Columbia, then Henry B. F. Macfarland, Henry L. West and John Biddle, and directed that the construction be supervised by an officer of the Government, to be appointed by the President. President Roosevelt appointed Major Chester Harding, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A., now in charge of the design and construction of the Gatun locks of the Panama Canal, as Supervisor of Construction, and Major Harding, with the assistance of Mr. C. A. McKenney, C. E., managed the engineering features and supervised the construction of the building. During July of 1907 Major Harding was relieved by Captain William Kelly, Corps of Engineers, U. S. A.

Immediately after the passage of the bill authorizing the building, the Commission, with the assistance of the Supervisor of Construction, and Messrs. D. H. Burnham, of Chicago; R. S. Peabody, of Boston; George B. Post, of New York, and Mr. J. Knox Taylor, of the Treasury, began the work of selecting a design from among several which were submitted in competition by prominent architects of the country. The successful one was the creation of Cope and Stewardson, of Philadelphia. This design contemplated the use of a creamy white marble superstructure and warm gray granite base, in which, as previously noted, it is executed.

The total amount appropriated for this building, including the site, was \$2,500,000. Of this \$550,000 was paid for the site, which, while ideally located, proved very expensive owing to the character of the foundation which it was found necessary to put in. These founda-

twelve inches at the butt, when sawed off at the required elevation. This latter requirement was by no means easy of fulfillment and great care had therefore to be exercised in selecting piles of sufficient diameter at the butt to insure the specified size at the cut-off.



GROUP OVER MAIN ENTRANCE.

tions cost \$189,000, exclusive of design and supervision, and contain 15,806 barrels of Portland cement used in making 15,000 cubic yards of broken stone concrete and laying 191,000 brick; 63,960 square yards of waterproofing, and 3,600 piles, nearly all of them capable of sustaining a load of twenty-five tons without settlement.

The site of the building was formerly occupied by a cable-car power-house which had been burned down to its foundations. As the plans of the power-house were destroyed with it, the removal of the old foundations proved no easy task, as the material to be removed changed character frequently and suddenly. It might be of interest to state at this point, that quite a large wall of broken brick concrete was unearthed and that it was among the most compact and hardest of destruction of any concrete work that the writer has ever seen.

The total amount of material excavated, including earth, concrete, brick and rubble masonry, and blue muck, was approximately 50,000 cubic yards. Water was encountered a few feet below the sidewalk level, necessitating the sinking of two sumps which drained the area and were in turn drained by two centrifugal pumps. At about the minus 14.50 level blue muck was encountered, in which it was necessary to use piling fifty feet in length. The specifications provided that the penetration of a pile at the last blow of a 2,000-pound hammer falling twenty feet should not exceed one-half inch. A number of tests were made with a static load of twenty-five tons and in no case did the settlement exceed one-quarter inch in twenty-four hours, during sixteen hours of which time the surrounding ground was being constantly vibrated by a number of pile drivers in operation.

The piling used was Virginia pine, none of which were less than eight inches at the top or point, nor less than

A peculiar sight witnessed during the placing of the concrete was that two entirely different systems of handling, mixing and placing were used side by side, the one being a most elaborate mechanical mixing plant, with material elevators of the continuous chain bucket type, automatic measuring devices, etc., and for distributing and placing the concrete, two cableways mounted on substantially built railways running at right angles to the cables, enabling the bottom dumping buckets (into which the mixers dumped directly and which were carried between the cable hoists and mixers by an industrial railway paralleling one of the cableway tracks), to be carried directly over the form to be filled; the other, the so-called primitive "hand-mixing" method, the aggregate being delivered to the mixing boards, and after being mixed, to the concrete forms, by means of wheelbarrows. Competent inspectors were ever present during the mixing of concrete, by both hand and machine, to insure a uniform product. In the hand-mixing process the sand and cement were thoroughly incorporated in a dry state, then the broken stone and water were added. The mass was then thoroughly mixed by the "cutting" method, not less than seven men being employed for each batch. Whenever it became necessary to reduce the output, because of the lack of forms, etc., the mechanical mixing and placing plants were invariably shut down, the contractor having satisfied himself that the other method was the most economical. Such results, of course, might not obtain on another work requiring a like amount of concrete but in different form.

As previously noted, 63,960 square yards of waterproofing were used. This waterproofing consists of eight layers of tarred felt and nine coats of coal tar pitch. The surface of the concrete to be waterproofed was first

made thoroughly dry, after which a coat of coal tar pitch was applied while almost at the boiling point. In this a layer of tarred felt was laid with lap seams, alternating the felt and pitch until eight layers of felt and nine coats of coal tar pitch had been applied. The result is a perfectly waterproofed foundation.

The building occupies the square bounded by E Street (where Pennsylvania Avenue intersects), 13½ Street, D and 14th Streets, Northwest, fronting 243 feet on E and D Streets and 193 feet on 13½ and 14th Streets, and is practically one hundred feet high from the Pennsylvania Avenue sidewalk elevation to the top of the parapet wall. The shape is rectangular to the second story, above which it is "U" shaped, the outer court facing on D Street. The inner court up to the first floor level is occupied by the engine and boiler rooms.

The Commission's invitation to competing architects called for a classic design in the manner of the English Renaissance and the building as erected may be well described architecturally under this head.

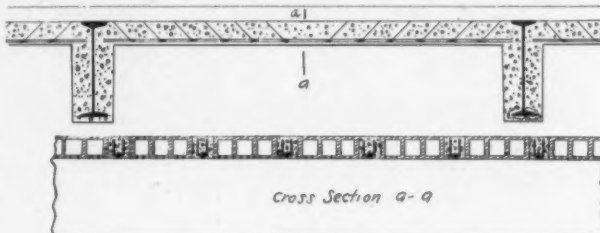
In exterior design the building may be defined as that of a high Corinthian order resting on a strongly rusticated base consisting of the first story and supporting an attic which is the fifth story of the building. The Corinthian order encloses the second, third and fourth stories. The columns in the bays are surmounted by marble statues, each nine feet and four inches in height, representing the Arts, Sciences, Agriculture, Commerce, Statesmanship, etc. There are twenty-eight of these figures in all, which, with the group over the main entrance, were modelled by Adolfo Nesti.

The particularly attractive principal entrance is at the center of the main front facing Pennsylvania Avenue. This entrance is surmounted by the beautiful group shown in the accompanying illustration. The figures represent Law and Justice.

The first floor is reached by a broad flight of steps to be flanked later by bronze statuary on the granite

the various stories. A wide corridor runs north and south to the wings traversing them southward to the rear. The offices open from this corridor on either side. Two sets of three elevators each are placed at this junction of the wing and main corridor. Entrances from 13½ and 14th Streets open directly into the basement at the north and south ends of the main corridor and close to the elevators.

The interior architecture is plain and simple throughout, as seems fitting for an office building such as this is, the only exceptions being the first story front corridor,

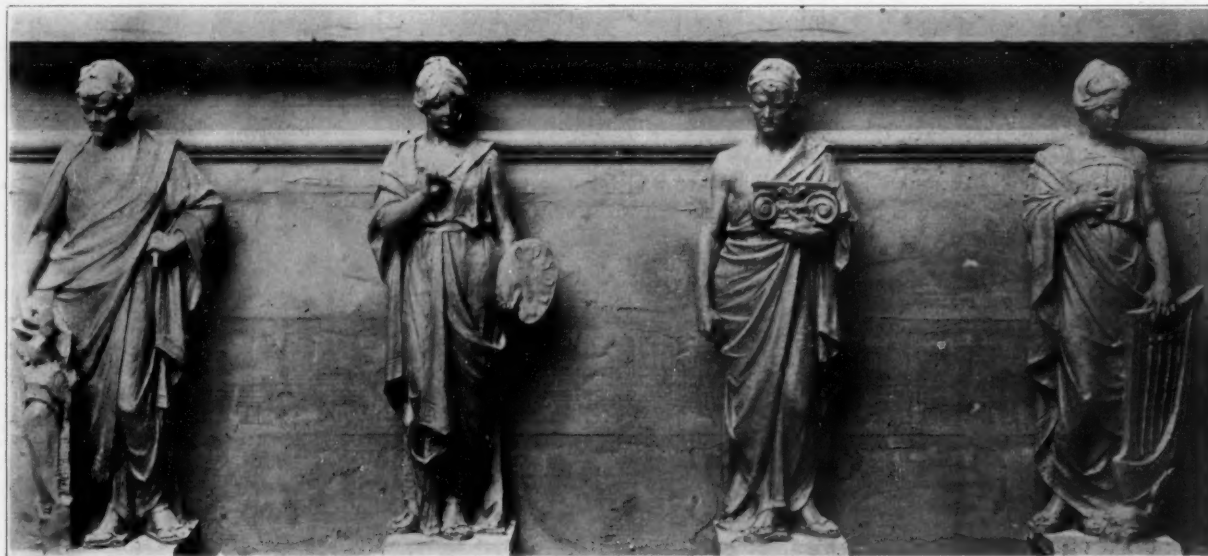


DETAIL OF FLOOR CONSTRUCTION.

the stairs, the Public Hall and the three Commissioners' suites.

The first story main corridor and stairs have been treated with marble and with the entrance vestibule on the Pennsylvania Avenue front, give a dignified approach to the offices. The marble used is from the "Kennesaw" and "Cherokee" quarries of Georgia, the light "Kennesaw" being used throughout the stairs. The ceiling of the corridor is supported by built-up Ionic columns bonding into the wainscoat, which is arranged to give the strong structural effect of plain ashlar work. In this a combination of the marbles is used. Reference to the first floor plan will show the arrangement and location of the columns.

The Public Hall in the front of the fifth story is of monumental character, having an elliptical vaulted ceil-



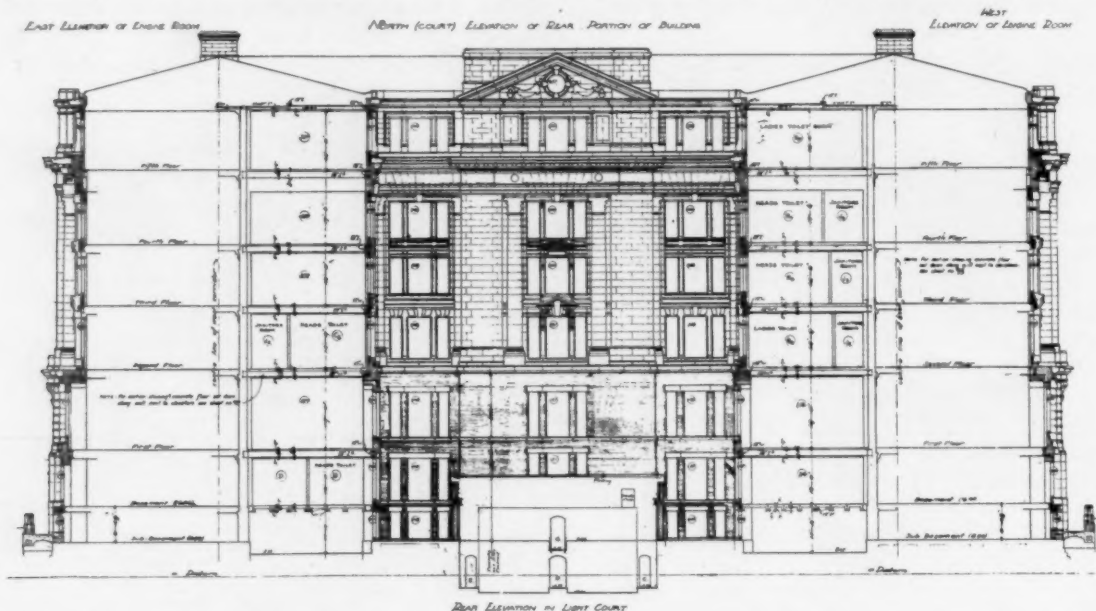
FIGURES SURMOUNTING COLUMNS IN BAYS.

pedestals which have been provided. The outer vestibule in highly carved white marble gives entrance by a triple doorway into the hallway proper. Facing this doorway the main stairway extends to the right and left up through

ing carried on fluted columns and pilasters with panelling between. The columns, pilasters and panels are in natural finish figured butternut. In this hall public receptions and hearings will be held, so that it is an apart-

ment differing materially from all others in the building, which are purely working offices. An opportunity is therefore offered to augment the architectural treatment of the hall by the addition of paintings of an historical

cotta arch end construction, and the front corridor and room floors a combination of reinforced concrete and terra cotta tile, as shown in the illustration. These floors were designed to carry a live load of seventy-five pounds



character. The details of this room and of one of the Commissioners' suites, shown herewith, give a very good idea of their treatment.

The amount of floor space originally required necessitated carrying the rooms of the upper stories all around an enclosed court, so as to form a hollow square. It was later determined that certain modifications could be made which permitted the court to be open towards the south above the first story, thereby admitting light and air to the rooms facing on the court, so that they are in all respects as desirable as rooms facing the outer line of the building.

The structure is almost entirely wall bearing, practically the only columns employed are those supporting the floors at the stairs and elevators, and the stairs themselves. All of these columns are of structural steel encased in concrete, and in some instances the concrete is faced with hollow terra cotta tile.

The walls are unusually massive, especially up to and including the first story, and are of hard burned red brick laid in Portland cement mortar, to which (above the basement story) was added ten per cent. of lime putty. All exterior walls are backed with hollow brick bonding with the ordinary brick. Wherever it has been found necessary to drill brick walls power drills were found to offer the only economical means of accomplishing results in a reasonable time.

The number of bricks used totals 6,757,050, made up of the following: Red, 6,196,900; hollow, 461,850; radius, 11,800; enameled, 12,000 and face 64,500.

Reinforced concrete beams are used over practically all rough brick openings that ordinarily would have been spanned by flat arches. This method effects a great saving and better structural results.

There are 1,262.5 tons of structural steel, exclusive of reinforcing bars, every pound of which is thoroughly fireproofed with concrete.

The plastering is all three coat work.

The side corridor floors are generally of 12-inch terra

per square foot in the rooms. As a test of one panel so designed, the span of which, from flange to flange, was 7.75 feet, was covered with sand to a depth of one inch to give a uniform load. The sand was then covered with planks, both together weighing fourteen pounds per square foot. On top of the planks were piled 112 bags of sand weighing 100 pounds each, making a total weight of 11,634 pounds, or approximately 375 pounds per square foot. The deflection with this load was less than one-quarter of an inch. This particular panel was selected for a test because it was thought to be the poorest one built. The result, as has been seen, was very satisfactory. Other panels of equal and greater span have been tested with much greater loads without any deflection.

For the purpose of determining the adhesion between the 4-inch by 4-inch concrete ribs and the 12-inch by 12-inch tile, four pieces of timber 11-inch square and two inches high were laid, one each, on four tiles outlining a square. A wooden platform was built on these four pieces of timber and loaded with 8,700 pounds of sand, or 2,175 pounds for each tile in addition to the weight of the platform. There was no apparent breaking of the bond between the concrete and tile, and upon removing the load the tiles were found to be uninjured.

The finished floors in all public spaces and toilets are in white terrazzo with Knoxville borders, and the public hall and three Commissioners' public rooms, white oak. In all other rooms, except boiler and engine rooms and laboratories, edge grain Georgia pine is used. The boiler room has a cast iron plate floor and the engine room and laboratories are laid with vitreous tile.

The roofs are of reinforced concrete carried on structural steel framing, waterproofed by the same method as the foundations and covered with flat, hard burned red tile and flashed throughout with heavy copper.

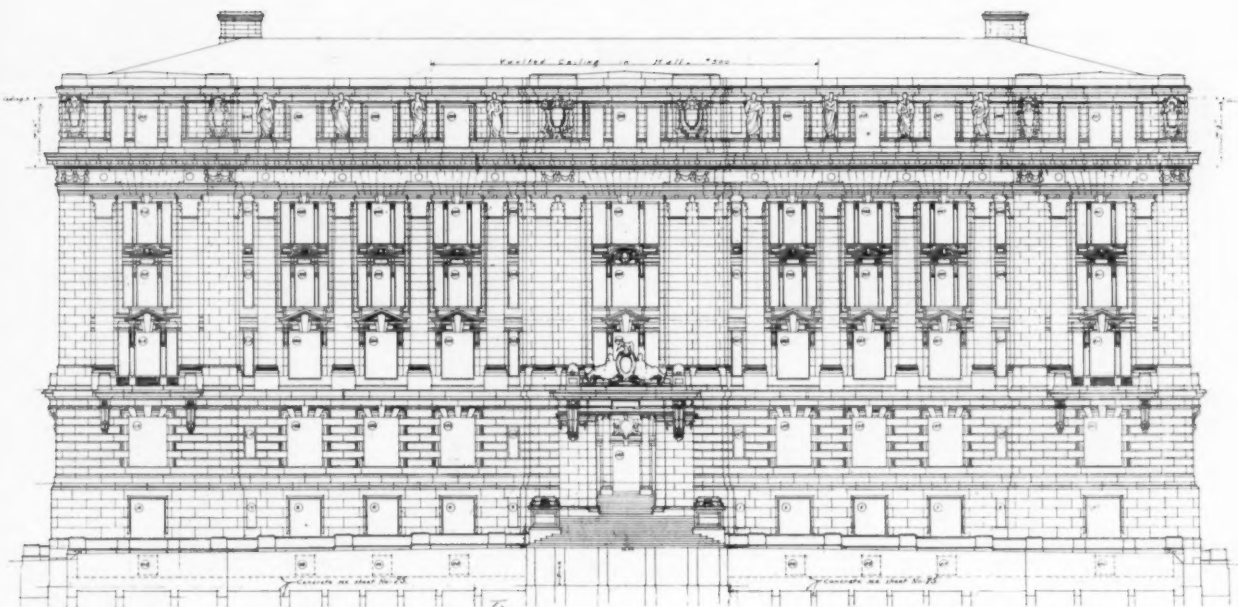
A feature of the building is its mechanical equipment. Four 150-horsepower water tube boilers and three horizontal, single cylinder, automatic cut-off high speed en-

THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

COPY 692 SHEET NO. 60.
SEPTEMBER 15, 1904. REVISED MAY 1, 1908
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"

FRONT ELEVATION

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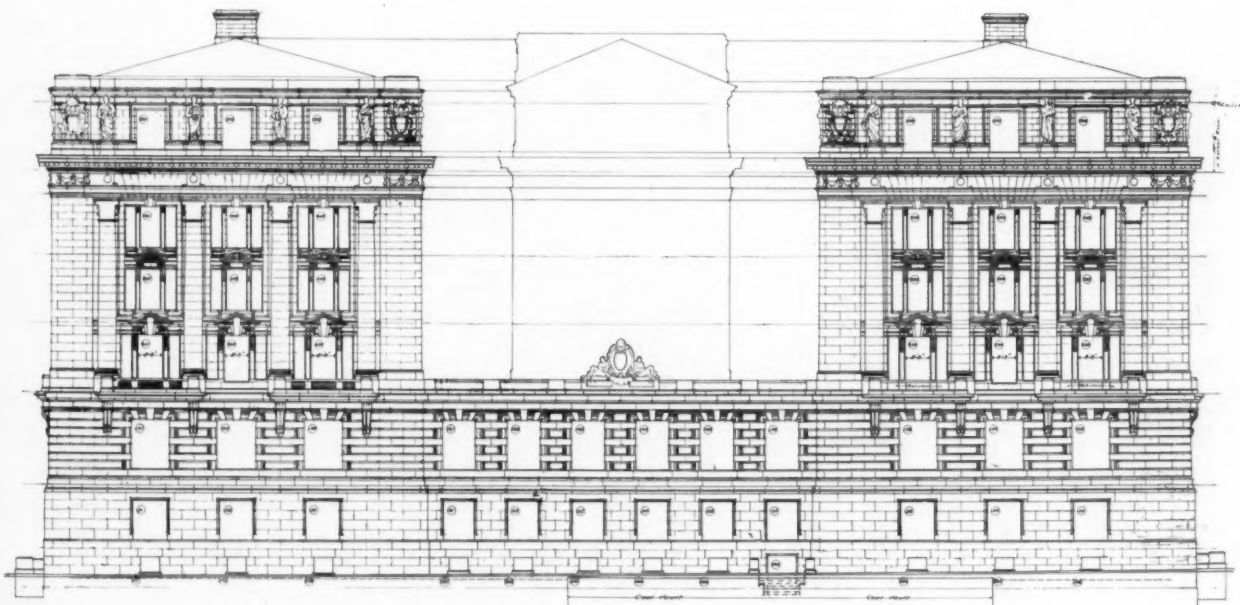


THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

COPY 692 SHEET NO. 60.
SEPTEMBER 15, 1904. REVISED MAY 1, 1908
SCALE 1/8"=1'-0"

REAR ELEVATION D-STREET

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ELEVATIONS: MUNICIPAL BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Messrs. Cope & Stewardson, Architects.

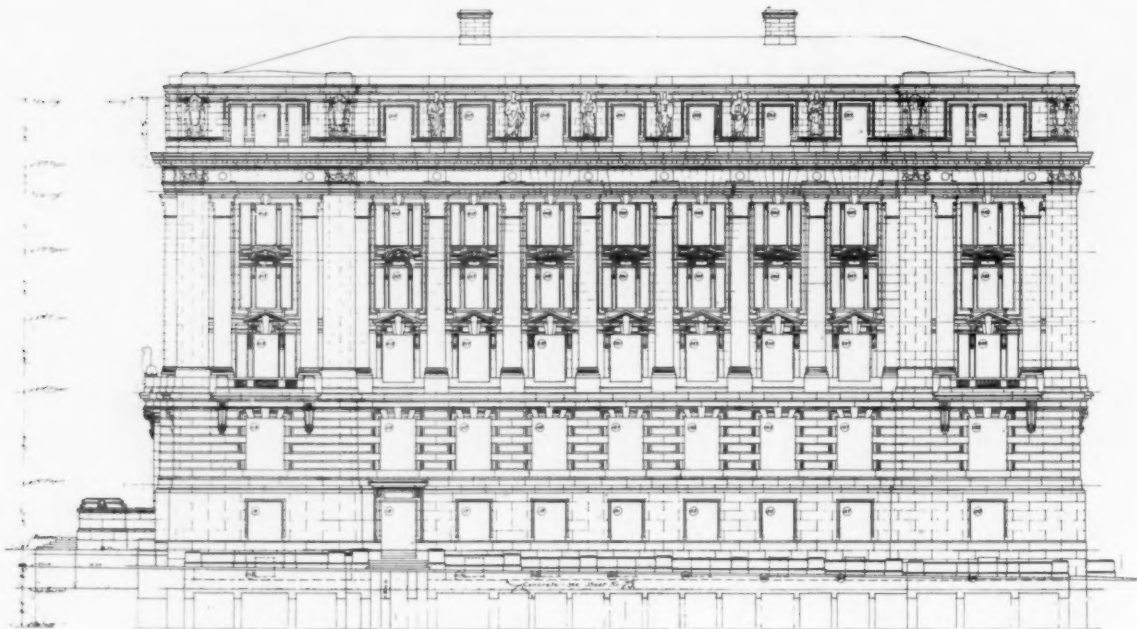
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Volume XCIII, Number 1683.
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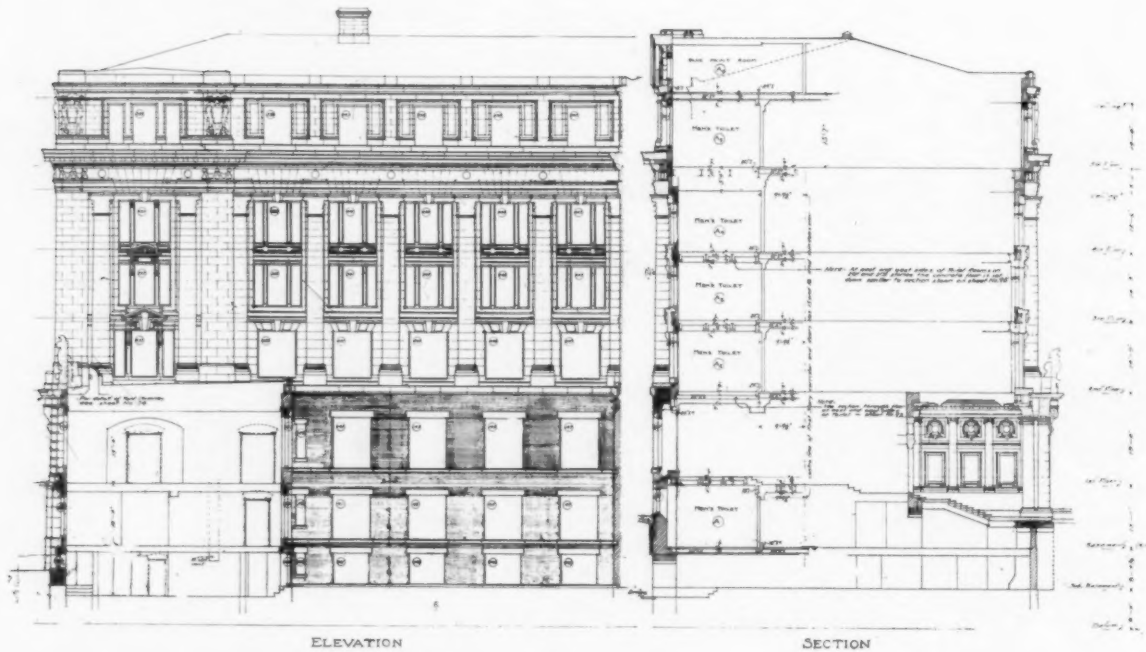
THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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SIDE ELEVATION ON 14TH STREET



THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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WEST ELEVATION IN LIGHT COURT
SECTION THRO' MAIN ENTRANCE



ELEVATION

SECTION

ELEVATIONS: MUNICIPAL BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

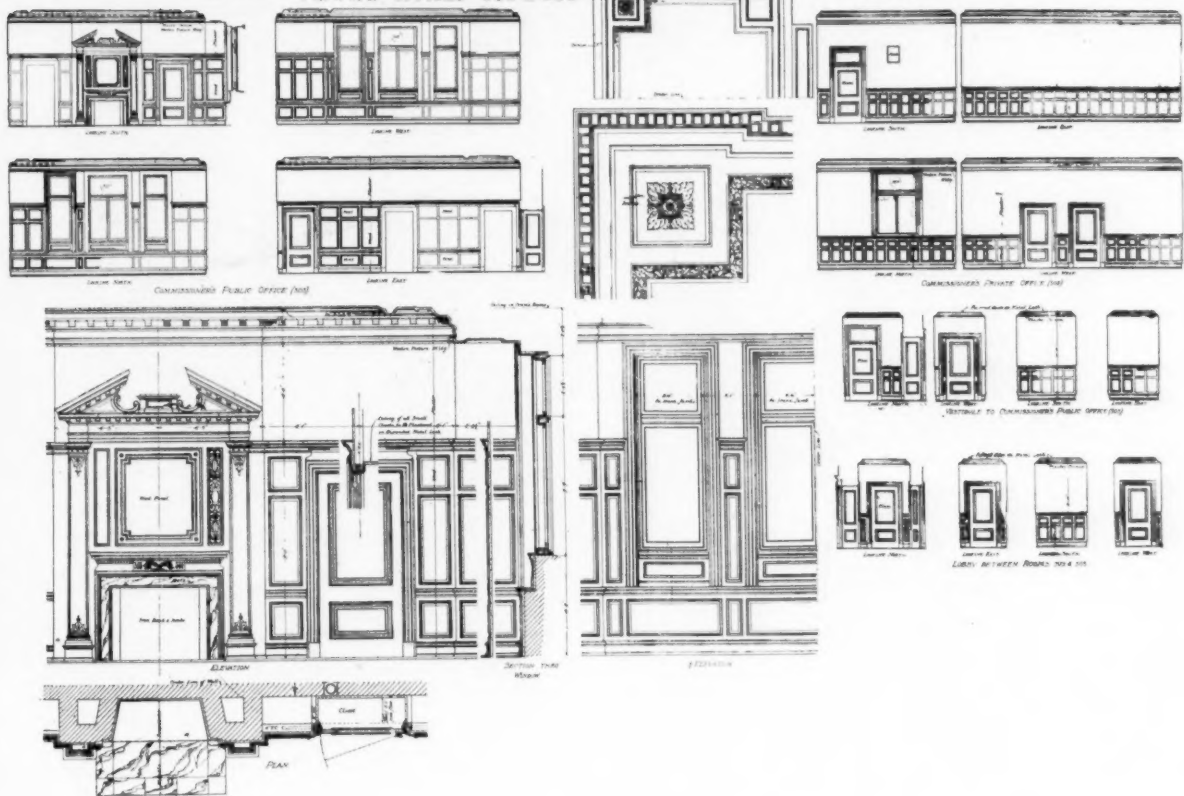
Messrs. Cope & Stewardson, Architects.

The American Architect and Building News,
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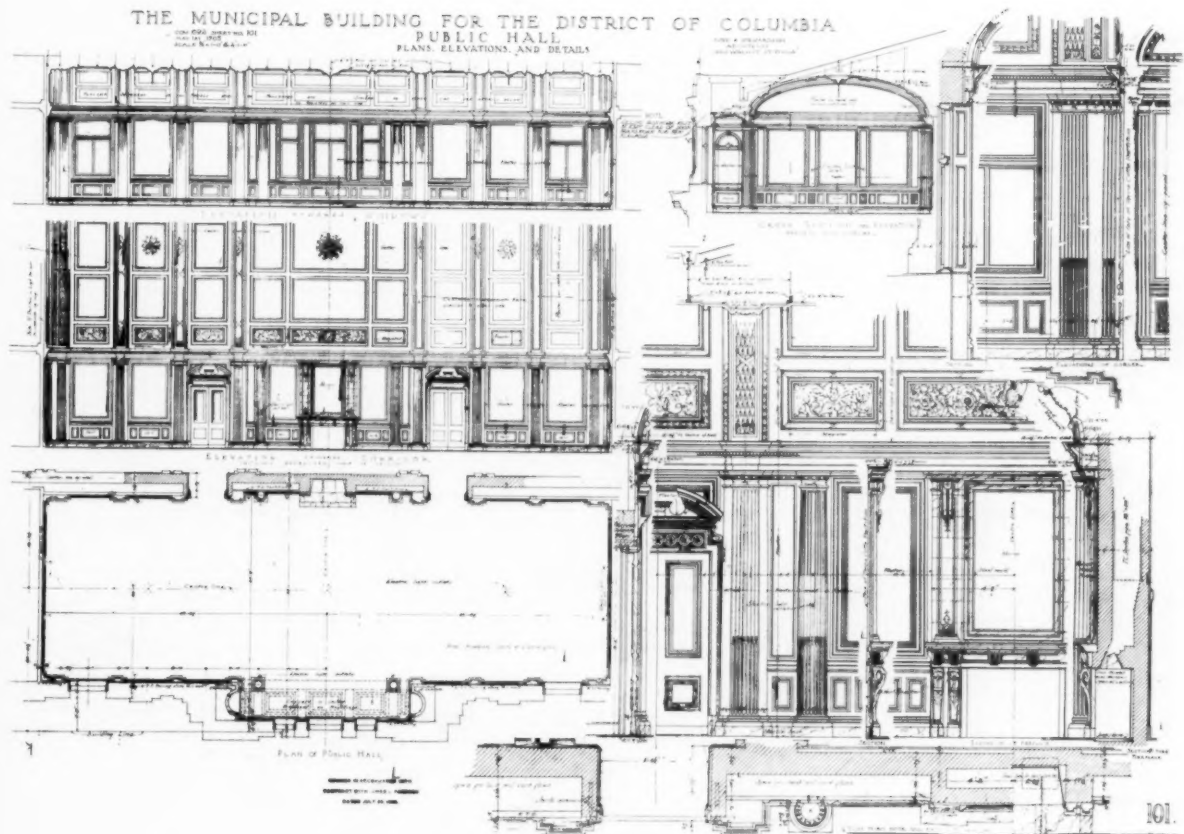
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March 25, 1908.

THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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 PRIVATE OFFICES - 503 & 505

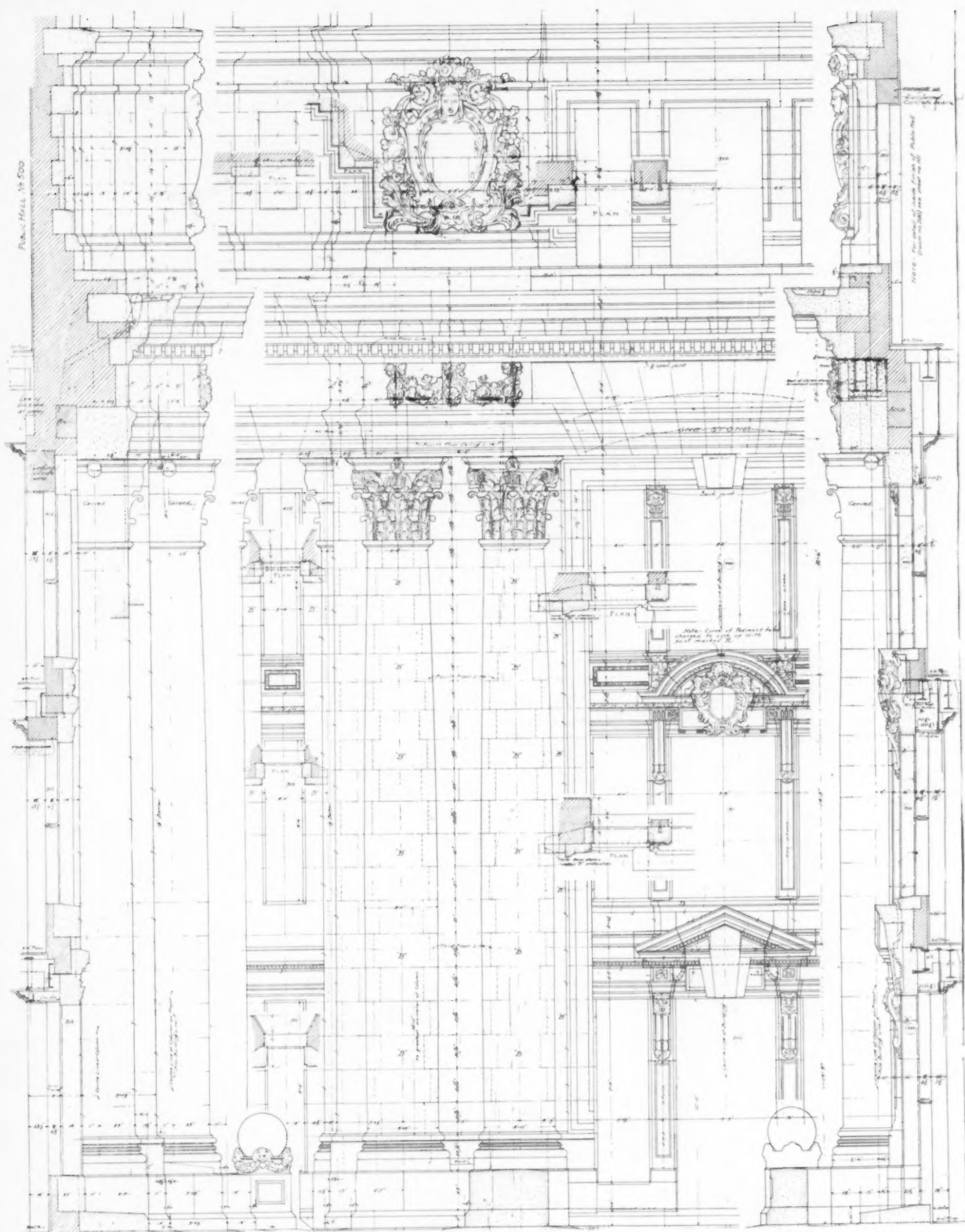


THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
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 PUBLIC HALL
 PLANS, ELEVATIONS AND DETAILS

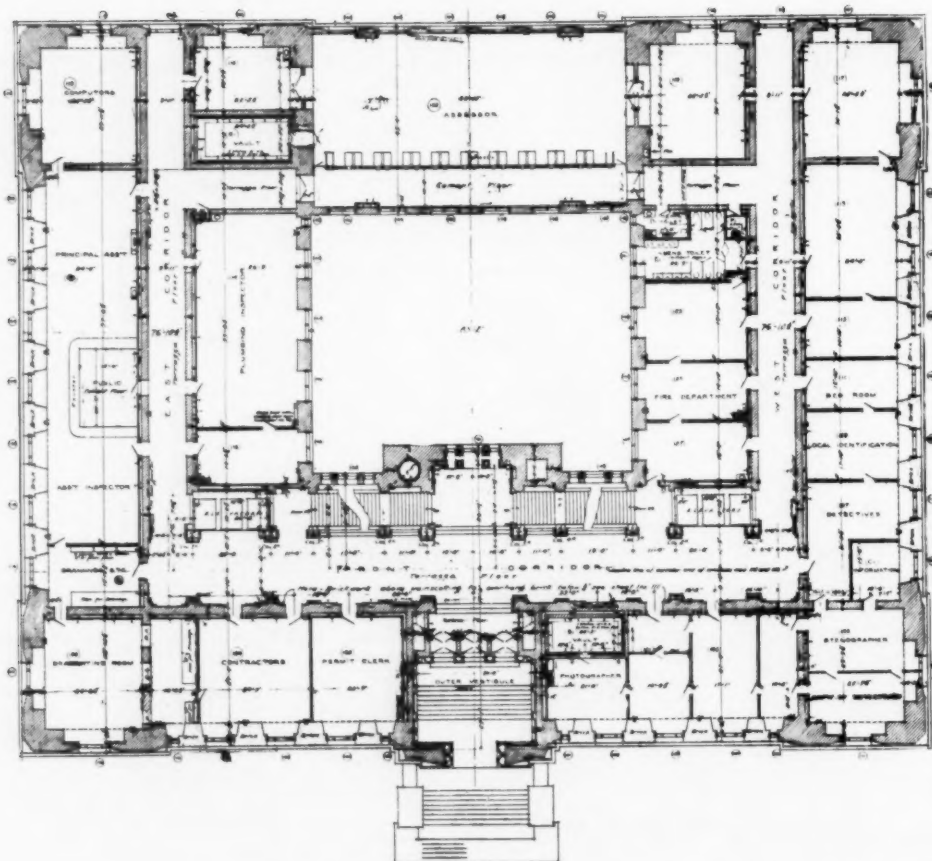
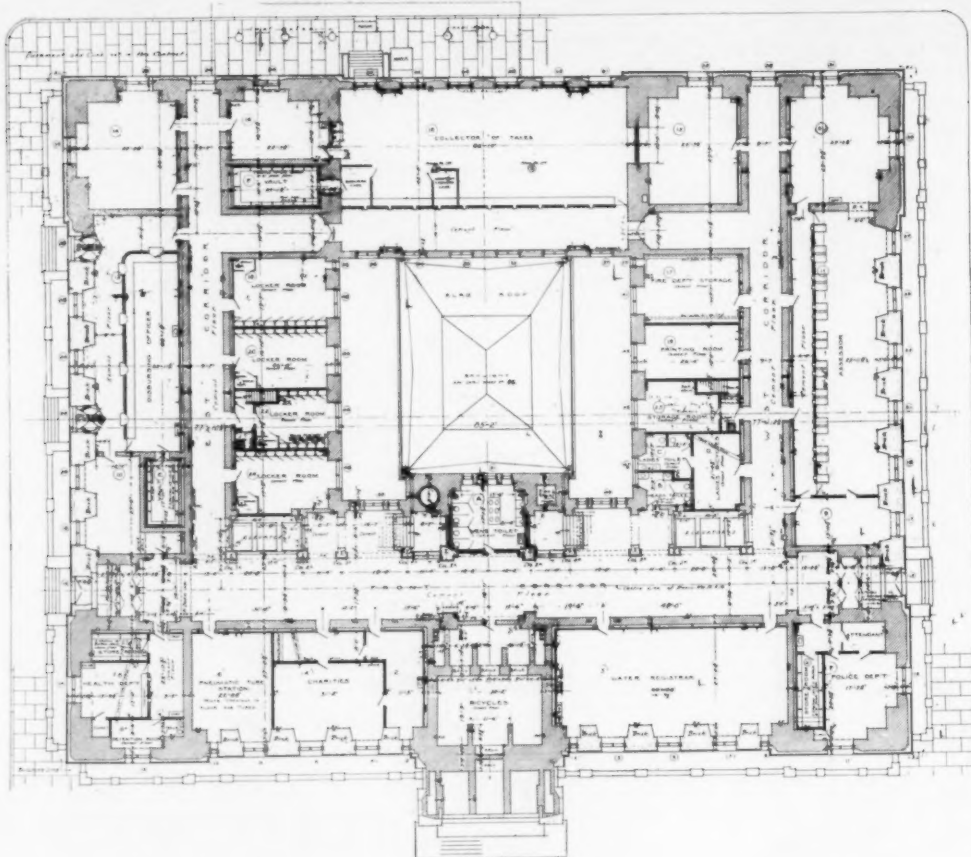


INTERIOR DETAILS: MUNICIPAL BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Messrs. Cope & Stewardson Architects.

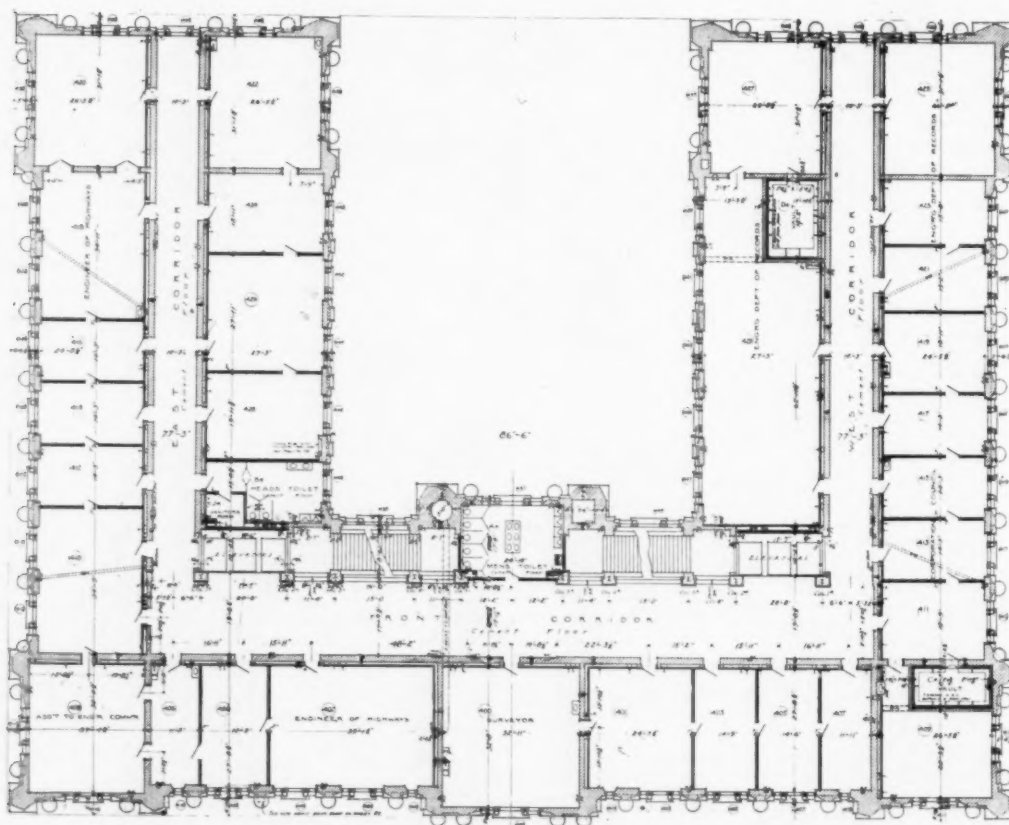
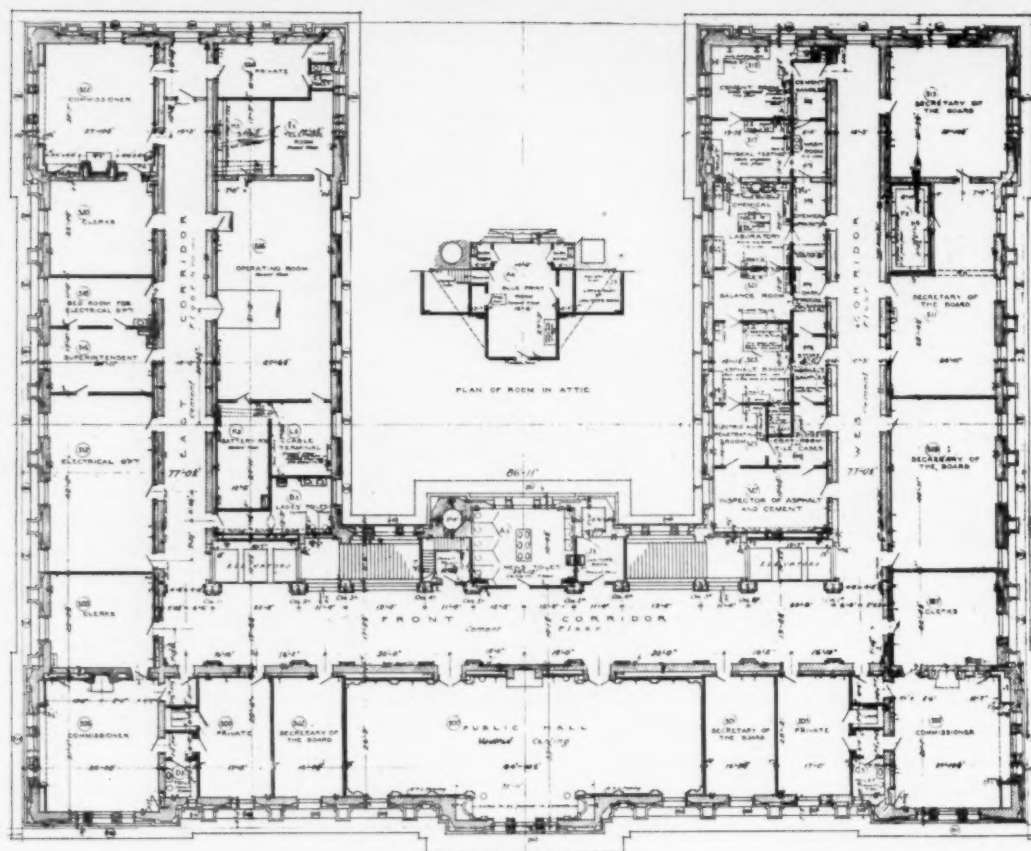


EXTERIOR DETAILS: MUNICIPAL BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.
Messrs. Cope & Stewardson, Architects.



BASEMENT AND FIRST FLOOR PLANS: MUNICIPAL BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

Messrs. Cope & Stewardson, Architects.



FOURTH AND FIFTH FLOOR PLANS: MUNICIPAL BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.
Messrs. Cope & Stewardson, Architects.

gines direct connected to two 150-kilowatt and one 75-kilowatt continuous current generators furnish all necessary heat, light and power for the electric passenger and freight elevators, electric and steam house, sump and fire pumps, circulating pump for cold drinking water system, vacuum cleaning system, air compressors for pneumatic tube and thermostadt systems, fans for the ventilating and heating systems, etc.

The boilers are equipped with an automatically controlled mechanical draft system which permits of the use of the lowest grades of buckwheat anthracite coal.

A complete system of hot-blast heating and ventilating includes three fresh air inlets from the inner court of the building, three centrifugal fans, each delivering air tempered by passing through steam-heated coils, through underground tunnels to three distributing points in the sub-basement and three secondary heaters at each distributing point in the sub-basement and there secondary heaters at each distributing point. From the secondary heaters double ducts carry tempered and hot air to the mixing dampers, which are controlled either automatically or manually in the individual rooms. After entering the rooms near the ceiling line the air is exhausted

by disc fans in the attic through vent ducts beginning near the floor. The corridors and toilets are heated by direct radiation. All fans in this system are driven by variable speed electric motors of from twenty-five to thirty-five horsepower each.

The three and one-half inch pneumatic tube system installed in the building has thirty-five single stations; a central exchange, branch exchange and six direct lines connecting departments having a constant exchange of papers. The large diameter of these tubes permits the passage of a file of papers of considerable size. Every room contains a telephone.

A circulating drinking water system furnishes drinking water at two "Cherokee" Georgia marble fountains on each floor.

A vacuum cleaning system and two specially designed mail chutes completes the list of modern conveniences and makes this building one of the most complete and best equipped office buildings yet constructed by the Government—in fact, it would be difficult to find an office building anywhere that contains a more complete and modern equipment.

Half-timber Buildings

IN these days, when there is so much life and growth in the "arts and crafts" movement which turn the thought towards the achievements of the deft and steady fingers guided by native or trained artistic instincts, it is rather curious that more has not been done in this country to revive one of the most satisfying—artistically speaking—forms of architectural expression that has ever been developed—half-timber work. To a limited extent there has been a revival, but it has been inadequate, imperfect, crude. Those who have attempted it seem to have recognized that their attempts have been failures and have been content to abandon the field, leaving as record of their endeavors a melancholy series of unreal and paste-board buildings—fortunately widely scattered, here and there.

It is significant testimony to the perennial influence and power of the Goddess Fashion that, in spite of the fact that England was studded thickly with admirable examples of half-timber work—modest in cost as well as costly—that must have been familiar to every one—the American builders of the eighteenth century, those who first gave attention to architecture as an art, preferred to base their designs in the classic revival of the period rather than make use of an earlier form and style of construction—half-timber work—that must have been quite familiar to them. It is very doubtful whether there now exists—or ever did exist—in this country any example of half-timber work in its richer and more architectural development. Of the simpler form, we do recall a few examples in New England, though these had so little of timber showing and so wide stretches of plaster that they classed rather with the "stuccoed" buildings of a later period than as half-timber work proper. And this is rather curious, for while the builders did not seem to care for the outward expression of the style then, in parts of New England at least, took advantage of its structural advantages, thus the brick nogged north and east walls of

apparently modern houses of the eighteenth century are quite a common feature.

It was the writer's fortune to spend the early years of his married life in an old farm house that dated from the earliest years of the nineteenth century and was structurally based on a close following of the methods used in still older buildings in the town. The huge central chimney with its spacious open fireplaces, the adze-hewn ceiling-beams, the low rooms—only six feet eight inches in the clear—the infinitesimal and crooked staircase all made the house a delightful residence for vigorous humanity, but for enfeebled nature it was a terror, as the writer discovered when, just beginning to convalesce from a life-and-death struggle with one disease, he learned that his first-born was in the adjoining nursery waging a losing fight against lung fever. It was bitter weather and that nursery could not be heated. The half-convalescent father must do something, no matter at what risk. A moment's staggering brought him to the scene of trouble only to find the child carefully sheltered by high screens placed so as to concentrate on him all the heat that a good fire could produce, only to find the window cracks carefully stopped and pasted over with paper, only to find the bottom crack of each door properly closed with sand bags; yet to find that, in spite of all this, one could see one's breath on the outer side of the sheltering screens. Where did the bitter cold, nay more, the searching air current, come from? It only took the trained mind a moment, and then, sighting along the wall the mystery was solved; there where the great corner post of the house showed inside the room, there, stretching from floor to ceiling, were two great cracks each half an inch wide, through which one could see all outdoors! A few busy moments with mallet, calking-chisel, rags, paper, cotton-batting—anything that came handy—closed those ghastly evidences of one of the weak features of half-timber construction,

the temperature within began to rise and the child was saved.

It is the difficulty of making tight the joints, particularly the long vertical ones, that probably, has interfered



LIVING TOWER ON THE FORTIFIED WALL SURROUNDING PEGNITZ, GERMANY. BUILT IN 16TH CENTURY.

with the adoption of the half-timber style—the true style, that is—in this variable climate. In the damper countries on the other side of the ocean, particularly in the ever-moist English countryside, there is not so much difficulty as here in keeping the joints closed. Another cause lies in the fact that most of our American buildings are framed of soft wood—pine or spruce—which shrink largely in seasoning—while abroad—even now in England where timber is so scarce—it is oak that almost invariably is used for the framework of these structures. It is this difficulty of making joints satisfactorily tight that led some American architects, when, a score of years or so ago, they began to turn their thoughts to half-timber effects, to overcome the difficulty by plastering the outside from corner to corner with an unbroken sheet of plastering; this dried, they then converted it into half-timber work by frankly tacking on over the plastering seven-eighths inch boards of divers patterns and widths. Seen from a distance the effect, sometimes, was not bad; but a close view quickly revealed the work as the most despicable of shams.

The desire to overcome this trouble with the opening of joints, aided, perhaps, by a disposition to adopt the fashion of the American, caused certain English householders in the time of Queen Anne to reverse, as it were, the method as above practiced. In their case they concealed open joints and stopped off sneaking air-currents by the simple expedient of giving their old half-timbered buildings a complete veneering of a single thickness of brick work, the new face being treated in the Renaissance spirit

of the hour. These unsuspected really half timber structures—enmewed like an indiscreet nun—come to light now and then when an old house is torn down or has to be repaired. Perhaps it was a knowledge of this that gave rise in this country, in certain of the Northwestern States at least, to the practice of building what is there known as a “brick-veneer” house, which is simply the ordinary wooden frame house in which the clapboarding or siding has been replaced by a walling of brickwork, one course wide, tied to the woodwork by nailing into the joints from the inside. On this general method there have been many improvements devised.

Although there is a difficulty in making joints in half-timber work that will stand, it is not one that is insurmountable, and by judicious rebutting, by using double or vaulted walls, by using thoroughly seasoned or “treated” timber the difficulty, if not wholly overcome, is at least so minimized that the weather is kept out, and what is of almost equal importance, bees, wasps and insects and the tendrils of ivy and other vines, with their powerful leverage and inducement for decay, precluded from entering.

The technical difficulties in the way of the architect who would “do” half-timber work are great, though not insurmountable, but they are not the matters which concern us here as for the moment the matter of design engages our attention.

It should be remembered by designers that half-timber work is completely a constructive style or, rather, method, and where the design shows impossible, imperfect or undesirable construction the result is bound to be offensive; for a half-timber design properly conceived, exhibits first of all, the necessary skeleton, the actual constructive framework of the building, and nothing can be more unpleasant than to find main supporting members expressed with weakness or struts and braces running in a wrong direction or applied where no such braces are called for.

The English term “Post and Panel” work in itself discloses what half-timber work is in its simplest expression—the expression usually found in the picturesque cottages of Surrey and the southern counties, mere wooden uprights and horizontal beams with panels of plastering filled in between. In these simple buildings the faces of beams and plastering are usually flush with one another,



LEAMINGTON, ENGLAND.

as it obviously must be the quickest and simplest way of building to finish the wall in this way and in such buildings as these cost and simplicity are of the first importance. But from this point of departure, this plane in reality, designers made many variations. They used more plaster and less wood, or *vice versa*, according to their

whim or need, and it should be noted that in the older examples more wood was used than in the later ones, when the failing forests compelled economizing. In some of these early cases where practically only uprights were used the frontal area of the woodwork seems quite to equal that of the plaster; but in later examples the plaster area gains and often vastly exceeds that of the wood. But, later again, when they found that by increasing the number of panels while decreasing the area of each they could utilize a lot of bits of short and crooked wood, otherwise unusable save for firewood, the area of the wood surfaces once more gained on the plastering. Hence it is not possible for one nowadays to argue that a half-timbered building to be just right must or must not exhibit a greatly preponderating surface of plastering—or brick work, for brick-filled panels are as admissible in the style as are panels of plastering. Whether one surface or the other should predominate is a matter of taste with the designer.

Besides varying from the early examples in the relative areas of wood and plaster, designers introduced variations in the degree to which the woodwork is made to advance in front of the plane of plastering. In a general way, while the likelihood of decay and the consequent necessity of repairs are increased by the boldness of the projection

It is at the line of juncture between the brick or stone lower story and the wood-and-plaster upper story that designers most signally fail, even when they avail themselves of the ordinary device of giving a considerable



FT. SHREWSBURY, ENGLAND.

over-hang to the upper story. Still more commonly failure follows when the faces of the two stories are flush and the junction is made by the introduction of horizontal members of wood. Even where these members have a mass that is satisfactory and does its duty properly in the general effect, mistake is made in passing too abruptly from the coarse forms that are consonant in association with stone or brick to those more refined members and mouldings so readily worked out in wood. Designers seem to pay too much regard to "merchantable sizes" in working out this portion of their designs and consequently one often sees main brackets, corbel-tables and particularly the corbels themselves far too thin. In a general way, it may be said that that treatment is most successful where the woodwork is, at points, carried down into the masonry work below; it seems to tie the upper and lower stories together in a more satisfactory way than does the commonly adopted plain horizontal line of demarcation. As a rule, American designers have been content to treat their half-timber work with simplicity, and comparatively little attempt has been made to treat the woodwork decoratively. But the time is obviously approaching when they will venture on those more elaborate treatments which



SIXTEENTH CENTURY HOUSES IN BRICK NOGGING, DUDERSTADT.

of the woodwork, there is little doubt but that the design increases in dignity proportionally as the boldness of this advancement emphasizes the construction

Perhaps modern designers have done more to wrong the style by the use of paint than in any other way. It is true that in the "magpie" architecture of Cheshire and the Western counties of England one finds violent contrasts of black and white; but even then the painted surface, especially when fresh, is not agreeable. One finds pleasanter effects where the oaken woodwork has been left to weather naturally. The same sort of agreeable effect we have noted in this country where the architect has been clever enough to finish his woodwork in only three sides of each piece, leaving the front side as nature fashioned it, only stripped of the bark. The really attractive thing to do would be to put the framing into the hands of an intelligent gang of ship-carpenters with instructions to them to get it out so as to take as much advantage as possible of natural growths and surfaces.

In another point American designers show a weakness. As a rule they are content to confine their efforts in half-timber work to the upper stories of their buildings, usually country houses of considerable size and having, as usually, either brick or stone lower stories.



CHARTRES, FRANCE.

they have long been familiar with in photographs of the highly decorated half-timber buildings common in Germany and elsewhere, and when that time comes our Arts and Crafts friends will find ample occupation.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

AND

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MARCH 25, 1908.

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IT is gratifying to learn that Superintendent Maxwell of the New York Public Schools, acting on the recommendation of Mr. C. B. J. Snyder, architect of the Board of Education, has caused certain rooms in something like a dozen school buildings in Greater New York to be closed, as a precautionary measure, until the facilities for exit from the closed portions of the buildings shall have been increased and improved. The buildings undergoing changes in this respect are without exception those erected long before the adoption of the type, plan, and character of buildings provided during the past decade, and that there are not more of these older buildings deficient in the matter of exits and other provisions for the safety of pupils in the event of fire is a source of real surprise.

EVIDENCES that the recent horror at Collingwood has caused an awakening throughout the country to the danger that menaces the school children in numberless ill-planned and faultily-constructed buildings, are abundant and of unmistakable character. Not only have numerous town and urban schools been closed by the authorities whose conscience was quickened by the Collingwood disaster, but the amount of thought and attention which is now being bestowed upon the question of how the lives of the little ones can best be safeguarded against any possible danger of a fate similar to the one which overtook the children of that stricken community, must certainly result in notable improvements in both

the means of protection provided and the general planning of school buildings. The daily press reflecting this thought contains a multitude of suggestions, from a variety of contributors, some commendable, some quite the opposite, but all bearing unmistakable evidences of the intense earnestness and concern of their authors.

THE past fortnight has been productive of much evidence tending to establish the fact of an almost complete recovery in the real estate market of New York. There are even those who profess to believe that the recovery is too rapid to be stable, and that the record of the past two weeks should be considered rather alarming than otherwise. Be this as it may, after a period of some months during which practically the only transfers recorded were those made by persons more or less embarrassed financially, it would seem as though much encouragement might be derived from the reported sales of large vacant plots for improvement. Apparently the speculator has recovered sufficient confidence to again enter the field, and although the improvements made by him are often not of the highest class, the element which he represents is probably one of the most potent and essential in making up what is commonly termed real estate and building activity.

AT a recent hearing given by the Committee on "Limits which can be covered to a height equal to once and Commission in New York, the consensus of opinion expressed seemed to favor the adoption of proper regulations limiting both the height of buildings and the proportion of lot area which might be covered by any structure. In the minds of those present the enactment of such regulations would go far toward solving the problems of street congestion and how best to secure needed light and air in connection with the lofty buildings of the financial district. But while the broad proposition seemed to find favor, there were widely differing views expressed as to what would constitute "proper regulations." It might be observed, however, that with the notable exception of one carefully developed and clearly presented scheme by Mr. Ernest Flagg, the suggestions made were for the most part of a somewhat nebulous character, their authors apparently belonging to the more-willing-than-expert class.

MR. FLAGG'S plan, that of no limitation on the area which can be covered to a height equal to once and a half the width of the street, but in no case to a greater height than one hundred feet; and no limitation to the additional height to which buildings or parts of buildings can be carried covering an area equal to one-quarter of the area of the plot on which they are built; with the added conditions that the higher building or parts of buildings must be erected a distance from the building line equal to the combined width of the sidewalk and roadway of the street on which the building faces; and shall contain no wood either for the building or its equipment above the first mentioned limit of height, would seem to offer rather more advantages than any other yet proposed and deserves very careful consideration.

Current News Section

GRANITE MONOLITHIC COLUMNS.

The Architect and Engineer, in a recent issue, states that much interest is being taken by engineers and contractors in the erection of the First Federal Trust Company Building, at Post and Montgomery streets, San Francisco, particularly in the setting of the cored, monolithic columns, the first ever placed in position in this country, it is said. The weight of these monolithic columns is not remarkable, as many heavier ones have been placed in position, but the fact that there is a large core through the center to provide space for steel supporting columns, renders it very fragile, and the great weight had to be handled with the utmost care.

Willis Polk, the architect in charge of the building for D. H. Burnham & Co., regards it as a personal triumph that he was able to induce the building committee to decide upon a cored monolith in place of a column built up in sections. Nearly every contractor reported against it, as the plan broke all established precedents. Some of the contractors who were asked to bid on the work demanded as much as \$9,000 bonus as an insurance against accident in handling the monoliths.

A contractor finally agreed to take the work and assume the risk without a bonus. D. H. Burnham & Co. insisted that the grain of the monoliths should be the same when standing in the building as in the natural state. In other words it was made a condition that the columns should be cut from vertical sections in the quarry and not from horizontal sections. There are said to be few granite quarries in the world outside of California where a bed of sufficient thickness could be found to permit of cutting the twenty-one foot columns from vertical sections.

There are four columns in all and they were cut out in two sections, two columns to the section. Before cutting and coring the columns, they weighed forty-six tons and afterward twelve tons, which shows the amount of work done upon them. It was necessary to bore more than 300 linear feet of holes in each column in order to take out the cores. This work had to be done with great accuracy, as it was essential that the monoliths should retain a perfectly vertical position after they had been fitted closely over the steel columns.

The columns were moved from Raymond to San Francisco on a special train and the crew had received instructions from the officials of the Southern Pacific Company to proceed slowly and with great care in starting and stopping the train.

Many larger granite columns have been placed over steel columns in New York and other cities, but they have not been monolithic. They have been sawed on a vertical cross-section and cemented with marble workers' wax after being placed in position. The piece of work just done is an innovation in stone construction.

Limiting the height of skyscrapers in New York City was the theme of speakers at a public hearing March 7 before a com-

mittee of the Building Code Revision Commission. All the speakers contended that a continuation of buildings thirty and forty stories in height will ultimately make it possible for a congestion in the streets downtown which is not imagined at the present time. Ernest Flagg, architect of the Singer Building and several other prominent buildings, advocated a decided reduction in height from his recent undertaking. He recommended that this general height ought not to be more than once and a half the width of the street, and in no case more than one hundred feet. George W. Babb, president of the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, in expressing the views of the Board, condemned so-called fireproof buildings. "No building is fireproof," he said, "against the possibility of combustion. Fill a building with inflammable and combustible material and the heat of its burning will bring the building to the ground. There is a possibility that if fire started in one of these high buildings it would develop into a conflagration before the fire department could gain control."—*New York Herald*.

MOISTURE AND ITS EFFECT UPON WOOD.

The effect of water in softening organic tissue, as in wetting a piece of paper or a sponge, is well known, and so is the stiffening effect of drying. The same law applies to wood. By different methods of seasoning two pieces of the same stick may be given very different degrees of strength.

Wood in its green state contains moisture in the pores of the cells, like honey in a comb, and also in the substance of the cell walls. As seasoning begins the moisture in the pores is first evaporated. This lessens the weight of the wood, but does not affect its strength.

It is not until the moisture in the substance of the cell walls is drawn upon that the strength of the wood begins to increase. Scientifically, this point is known as the "fiber-saturation point." From this condition to that of absolute dryness the gain in the strength of wood is somewhat remarkable.

In the case of spruce the strength is multiplied four times; indeed, spruce, in small sizes, thoroughly dried in an oven, is as strong, weight for weight, as steel. Even after the reabsorption of moisture, when the wood is again exposed to the air, the strength of the sticks is still from 50 to 150 per cent. greater than when it is green.

When, in drying, the fiber-saturation point is passed, the strength of wood increases as drying progresses, in accordance with a definite law, and this law can be used to calculate from the strength of a stick at one degree of moisture what its strength will be at any other degree.

Manufacturers, engineers and builders need to know not only the strength, but the weakness of the materials they use, and for this reason they are quite as much interested in knowing how timbers are affected by moisture as they are in knowing

how they are weakened by knots, checks, cross-grain and other defects.

It is clear that where timbers are certain to be weakened by excessive moisture they will have to be used in larger sizes for safety.

So far, engineers of timber tests, while showing that small pieces gain greatly in strength, do not advise counting on the same results in the seasoning of large timbers, owing to the fact that the large timbers usually found in the market have defects which are sure to counterbalance the gain from seasoning.—"The Strength of Wood as Influenced by Moisture," Department of Agriculture.

A commission of awards in competition among architects for furnishing plans for State buildings was provided for in a bill introduced in the New York Assembly on March 6 by Mr. Wainwright, of Westchester. The architect, with the approval of the governor, may receive plans for the erection of any public building by competition, the competitors to be not less than five in number, and to receive each a fee of not more than \$5,000. The commission of award is to consist of three members, the State architect and two appointees of the governor, one of whom shall be a representative of the board or commission under whose jurisdiction the building is to be erected, and the other an architect to be selected by the competitors. The commissioners of award, if not receiving salaries from the State, are to receive a fee of not to exceed \$500.—*Albany, N. Y., Journal*.

M. Albert Ballu, under whose supervision the historical researches at the ruined city of Timgad are being conducted, announces the discovery of a large monastery covering 11,000 square yards, surrounding a Christian basilica. The monastery incloses four chapels, a cloister with well preserved cells and a Christian burying ground.—*Exchange*.

PERSONAL

Arthur C. Clausen has opened an architectural office at 541 Lumber Exchange, Minneapolis, Minn. Mr. Clausen has been with Long & Long for nearly eight years, and with other Minneapolis architects, and is well known among the contractors and builders of the twin cities.

John L. Smithmeyer, architect, died from carcinoma in Providence Hospital, at Washington, D. C., on March 12. Mr. Smithmeyer designed and superintended the construction of the Congressional Library. He was born in Austria about seventy-six years ago.

Chas. J. Clarke, architect of Louisville, Ky., died suddenly of heart disease in his apartments at the Willard Hotel on March

12. Mr. Clarke was seventy years of age and had been an architect of Louisville since 1865, a period of forty-three years. In 1891 he formed a partnership with Mr. Arthur Loomis, under the firm name of Clarke & Loomis, which partnership existed up to the time of his death.

SOCIETIES

PRIZES FOR TECH MEN

BOSTON'S SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS ASKS
FOURTH-YEAR MEN TO DESIGN BAY
WINDOW FOR CITY HOUSE

Fourth-year men in architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology are now fully occupied with the annual competition. The prizes are given by the Boston Society of Architects in the second term each year, one to a regular student, the other to a special student presenting the best solution for a certain problem.

Prof. Despradelle has this year given the problem of designing a bay window for a city residence.

The designs are to be judged by a committee from the Society of Architects assisted by a number of professors from the department of architecture. The judges from the society are J. R. Coolidge, Jr., W. C. Appleton, C. N. Cogswell, Allen W. Jackson, Calvin Kiessling, J. L. Little, Jr., William S. Parker, E. Putnam, Jr., and George C. Shattuck.—*Boston Globe*.

A Kansas association of architects is to be organized in Topeka, March 25, for the purpose of regulating practice in a uniform way; notably the regulation of competitions and the advocacy of a uniform scale of prices.

The invitation to the architects of Kansas reads: "Believing that the younger members of the profession must have work and that it takes a young architect longer to build up his prices to an organized standard after once starting in on a low grade than it will to get a paying business on the 'traveled road,' and believing that a good license law would be of great benefit to us, as well as to our clients, therefore we, after due consideration, have decided to ask all the architects doing business in this State to meet in the city of Topeka, March 25, for the purpose of considering these questions and any others that may come before the meeting, for the good of the fraternity. We cannot get a license law without an organization behind it."—*Topeka, Kan., Capital*.

At the February meeting of the Atlanta Chapter, American Institute of Architects, Mr. A. C. Bruce was elected President and Mr. Harry Leslie Walker Secretary and Treasurer for the current year.

Henry Read, president of the City Art Commission, of Denver, Col., addressed the members of Colorado Chapter, American Institute of Architecture, on "The New Civic Center." He explained the different features and expressed his confidence in the early culmination of the undertaking. Mr. Read is opposed to any arrangement

of the civic center other than that designed by Macmonnies.—*Denver, Col., Republican*.

Charles P. Baldwin, of Newark, has transmitted to the several members of the New Jersey delegation in Congress copies of resolutions recently adopted by the New Jersey Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, urging that the Secretary of the Treasury throw open to competition the designing of the proposed new Federal building at Jersey City, so that architects outside of the office of the supervising architect of the Treasury may compete. Mr. Baldwin is secretary of the New Jersey Chapter.

It is stated that the United States Government will under no circumstances depart from its rule to have the plans drawn by its own supervising architect, who is regularly employed for that purpose.—*Jersey City, N. J., Journal*.

The Washington Chapter of the American Institute of Architects has sent to the Senate resolutions praying that the original plan of l'Enfant for the greater Washington be adhered to, and protesting against a change in the site selected for the Grant Memorial.—*Washington, D. C., Post*.

BOOK NOTES

GENERAL SPECIFICATIONS FOR CONCRETE BRIDGES. By Wilbur J. Watson, Consulting Engineer. \$1 net. Cleveland, O.: M. A. Vinson, sole agent, 205 Caxton Building.

This is a comprehensive and well written book of eighty pages, printed in large type and arranged in a manner that makes it possible to readily avail of the information contained.

These specifications meet an actual need and most of the clauses represent ideas gained from the author's personal experience.

No work of this nature can serve as an arbitrary guide; clauses must be changed or modified to meet existing conditions, as well as varying class of material, but in cases where these specifications are used as the basis of competitive design they are especially useful. It will then be possible to compare all such designs on an equal basis.

DECORATORS, SYMBOLS, EMBLEMS AND DEVICES. By Guy Cadogan Rothery. London, The Trade Papers Pub. Co., Ltd.; New York, *The Painters' Magazine*, 100 William Street. 130 pp., 5x7, price, \$1.25 net.

The author of this work, in his introductory chapter, announces the novel theory that decoration is a matter of economy, and to support this statement classes as decoration even the paint and varnish applied as a preservative of the material it covers.

What is sought to be impressed on the reader is the necessity for consistency in decorative treatment; that all symbols and devices used should typify the use for which the building is intended, and form a part of the scheme of decoration. He

deprecates the haphazard selection of motives entirely foreign to the purposes of the structure, of which there are endless examples. Of course, architects have long realized this, and we fail to find any arguments or statements in this work that are not already generally accepted rules in modern decoration. The illustrations are a rather indifferently drawn lot of conventional types.

INDUSTRIAL INFORMATION

CLOCKS.

The clepsydra, or water clock of the Greeks and the modern accurate timepiece, seems to mark the alpha and omega in the measurement of time. The introduction of the weight propelled clock, which necessitated that it should be suspended a considerable distance above the floor, first suggested a case to keep the movement from dust and strong drafts, and afforded the decorative spirit of the age a further object for embellishment.

The modern clock is not only an accurate timepiece, but serves in its case to attract the highest decorative skill.

Architects who are engaged in interior work, and desire to select appropriate clocks for various places, will find in the catalogue of the Waltham Clock Co., of Waltham, Mass., a large variety of styles, fitted with the most accurate time-telling movements. This catalogue presents an attractive assortment of antique standing hall clocks, in very many well designed cases, together with marble faced clocks suitable for large interiors.

METAL COLUMNS.

The introduction of metal columns in veranda construction, and also throughout the lower floors of houses, might, perhaps, be considered marking another advance towards the construction of the non-combustible dwelling.

The Union Metal Post Company, of Canton, O., have issued an interesting pamphlet describing their various styles of metal columns for exterior and interior construction. These columns, it is claimed, have longer life than the wooden columns. They are kept in stock at varying lengths from five to eleven feet. Longer columns can be supplied on special order. They are made of 24 to 26 gauge galvanized sheet steel, and the capitals and bases of either cast gray iron or, where ornamented capitals are desired, of composition. Plain sheet steel collars of varying widths are supplied to permit of slight lengthening or shortening.

The designs shown are of the various architectural orders, with well-proportioned bases and capitals. The various advantages claimed are interestingly explained in the pamphlet above referred to, which may be had on request.

AIR VALVES.

James P. Marsh & Co., sole makers of the original "M-P" and "Acme" Automatic Air Valves, 224 Washington street.—Issued on the fortieth anniversary of this company. Contains twenty-seven pages of text and illustrations of these standard valves.

Building News

MASSACHUSETTS

HAVERHILL.—We learn from exchanges that Architect C. Willis Damon has prepared the plans for the proposed new High School, to be erected at Main, Summer and Newcomb streets.

NEW BEDFORD.—Architect S. C. Hunt, Odd Fellows' Building, it is reported, has started on preliminary sketches for a public building, to cost \$300,000.

RHODE ISLAND

PROVIDENCE.—According to press despatches, the residents of the section halfway between Arlington and Auburn are considering the erection of a new school-house.

CONNECTICUT

HARTFORD.—According to press reports, the amended plans for the new Arsenal School call for an outlay of about \$80,000.

NEW YORK

AUBURN.—Architects S. E. Hillger, Auburn, and H. Van Buren McGonigle, New York City, we learn from exchanges, rejected all bids, and will revise the plans and call for new bids for a four-story High School building, 70 x 222 feet, at Auburn. Estimated cost, \$150,000.

BUFFALO.—According to press reports, the Ellicott Club, William H. Lyons, president, 1000 Ellicott Square, will invite competitive plans for a club building, to be erected at the southeast corner of Church and Franklin streets. Cost, about \$200,000.

HOMER.—According to reports, Charles E. Colton, of Syracuse, N. Y., won the competition for the new Town Hall and Opera House. Estimated cost, \$25,000.

GLEN COVE.—Reports state that the town board committee will readvertise for bids for the building of a new courthouse.

NEWBURGH.—We understand from exchanges that Architects Renwick, Aspinwall & Tucker, New York City, and Frank E. Estabrook, Newburgh, are about to let contracts for a four-story addition to St. Luke's Hospital, Newburgh. Proposed cost, \$40,000.

NEW YORK CITY.—The Century Holding Company, Lee & Fleischman, according to reports, has acquired the property on Riverside Drive, between Ninety-eighth and Ninety-ninth streets, and will improve same by the erection of a twelve-story high-class modern apartment house.

Architects Hunt & Hunt, we learn from the local press, have been selected to prepare plans for a new residence to be erected on the corner of Madison avenue and East Fifty-first street for Mrs. O. H. P. Belmont.

According to reports, the Trustees of the Carnegie Library Fund have ordered the work stopped on the Glenmore Avenue Branch, in the Brownsville section of Brooklyn, and instructed the architects to arrange for the enlargement of the building.

Jacob Corday is reported as contemplating the erection of a twenty-story structure on Nassau street, at the site of his old store.

Architect H. R. Brewster, of New York, is receiving bids on a fireproof theatre, to be erected on Flatbush avenue, near State street, to cost about \$250,000.

Architects Helmle & Huberty are receiving estimates, reports state, for a two-story parochial school building for the Roman Catholic Church of the Visitation.

According to local press, Architect Charles I. Berg will prepare plans for a two-story addition to the City Court building for the Borough of Manhattan. Contemplated outlay, \$50,000.

ROCHESTER.—The congregation of the St. Casimir's Polish National Catholic Church, according to press reports, will erect a new edifice, to cost \$25,000, at Hudson avenue and Ernst place.

ROME.—Architect John A. Hobbes, Utica, is reported as having been retained to prepare plans for a two-story and basement county home, at Rome, for the county board of supervisors, Fred. F. Lorin, chairman. Estimated cost, \$150,000.

SYRACUSE.—According to reports, Architects Archimedes Russell & Melvin L. King are preparing plans for a two-story and basement women's building for the Onondaga County Home. Estimated cost, \$100,000.

Architect Archimedes Russell is reported having completed plans for the new House of Providence building.

Reports state that competitive plans are being made for enlarging the Turn Hall. Frank W. Traugott, president.

TAPPAN.—Architect L. Allmendinger, Brooklyn, it is reported, is preparing plans for the three-story home of the Ninth Masonic District, at Tappan, for the German Masonic Temple, New York City. Estimated expenditure, \$50,000.

TROY.—The committee of the Boys' Club of Troy are contemplating, it is reported, the erection of a new building.

UTICA.—Architect John A. Hobbes is reported as completing plans for the two-story and basement McMillan Grammar School building for the Board of Education, Dennis Kelley, clerk. \$125,000 is the estimated cost.

WILLOWVALE.—Architects Melvin H. Hubbard and H. M. Decker, Utica, have completed plans for a one-story and basement church building for the St. John's Catholic congregation, to cost approximately \$25,000.

NEW JERSEY

HADDONFIELD.—Architect W. W. Slack, Trenton, it is reported, will prepare plans for a two-story High School building for the Board of Education, at an approximate cost of \$40,000.

WEST NEW YORK.—Architect Joseph Turch has completed plans for a three-story school building for the Board of Education, reports state. Estimated cost, \$90,000.

PENNSYLVANIA

CHARTERS.—According to press despatches, two new school houses are to be erected here at an approximate expenditure of \$50,000.

DALLAS.—The Catholics of Dallas, according to reports, are contemplating the erection of a fine building on the corner of Main and Maple streets, to take the place of the structure recently destroyed by fire.

DONORA.—It is reported that bonds to the amount of \$80,000 will be issued to be used towards the erection of a new school building.

DUQUESNE.—The crowded condition of St. Joseph's parochial schools has made it necessary to erect a new building. Plans are being prepared.

FRAZER.—It is reported that plans are being prepared by local architects for school buildings to be erected for the Convent of the Immaculate Heart.

HARRISBURG.—The congregation of the Messiah Lutheran Church, we learn from exchanges, has decided to erect a church edifice, to cost approximately \$100,000.

According to reports, Architect C. Howard Lloyd, of 216 Market street, has prepared plans for a new school building, to be erected at the corner of Thirteenth and Cliff streets. Bids will be received until March 31.

HOMESTEAD.—We gather from press exchanges that a new post-office will be erected in this city.

HOMEWOOD.—Architect E. V. Kerner, Pittsburg, is reported as receiving bids for a three-story school building for the Board of Education, to cost about \$100,000.

JOHNSTOWN.—According to reports, the Johnstown Trust Company will erect a building on Main street, to cost \$150,000. Henry M. Rogers is the architect.

LEWISTOWN.—Architects Charles W. Bolton & Sons, Philadelphia, have plans about ready, it is reported, for bids on a one-story church for the First Presbyterian congregation. Estimated cost, \$60,000.

MT. HOPE.—Plans have been drawn by the Co-operative Architects, of New York, for a forty-eight-room hotel, to cost about \$25,000, it is reported. Messrs. McNabb, Smiley and Garrett are interested.

PHILADELPHIA.—Architect R. C. Loos, according to press reports, is preparing plans for the rebuilding of the Eagles' Club House, at 1334 Spring Garden street, recently destroyed by fire. Cost, estimated at \$50,000.

According to press reports, Architect Clyde S. Adams will shortly invite estimates for a \$20,000 home for the Tacony Club, at the northeast corner of Longshore and Marsden streets.

Architects Cope & Stewardson, according to reports, are receiving bids for the new building to be erected at Darlington for the Girls' House of Refuge.

We learn from exchanges that Architect Rowland W. Boyle has won the competition for a \$100,000 college building for the Holy Ghost Fathers at Cornwells-on-the-Delaware.

PITTSBURG.—Architect John T. Comes is reported as preparing plans for a hospital building to be erected at South Twenty-second and Carson streets for the St. Joseph's Hospital.

Architects Kiehnel & Elliott, we learn from press reports, have been chosen for the fire engine houses that are to be erected in the Nineteenth and Twenty-first Wards, to cost \$25,000 each.

Architect Rudolph Berry has been selected to prepare plans for a brick and frame club building at Phillips avenue and Concord street, it is reported. Estimated cost, \$25,000.

The Union Labor Temple Company, it is stated, are contemplating the erection of a new building.

HOMEWOOD.—According to press reports, bids will be taken about May 1 by Architects Alden & Harlow, of Pittsburgh, for the brick and stone building to be erected at Hamilton and Lang avenues for the Carnegie Library.

READING.—From exchanges, we learn that \$50,000 has been appropriated toward the erection of an armory for Companies A and I of the National Guard, stationed in this city. The building will be situated at the northwest corner of Walnut and Rose streets.

SCRANTON.—It is reported that several societies of St. Mary's Church are working in unison, securing funds for the erection of a new hall, to be erected at the site of the St. Mary's Hall, located on Hickory street.

Myer Davidow is reported as intending to build an eight-story building on the 400 block on Lackawanna avenue.

WILKES-BARRE.—John N. Bauman is reported as contemplating the erection of a new hotel at South Main and Ross streets.

The Lehigh & Wilkes-Barre Coal Company, it is stated, has acquired the property on South River street, and will erect a seven-story office building.

OHIO

AKRON.—The plans prepared by Architect H. B. Briggs, of Cleveland, we understand from reports, have been accepted for the new Science Hall for the Buchtel College.

CLEVELAND.—According to reports, Architects Searles, Hirsh & Gavin have been commissioned to prepare plans for rebuilding the Collinwood school building, which was recently destroyed by fire.

COLUMBUS.—Architect Meyer J. Sturn, Chicago, is preparing plans for a hospital, it is reported, to cost about \$150,000.

CORRYVILLE.—According to current reports, a new school is to be erected here.

DAYTON.—Charles Webbert is reported as having plans prepared by Architects Wm. H. Stacy & Son for a three-story brick business building at 1119 West Third street.

Reverends W. A. Hab and W. Wolfinger are reported as having selected site for the erection of a seminary building, to cost about \$200,000. Architect not selected.

GREENVILLE.—According to reports, plans are being drawn for a new Odd Fellows' Temple, to be located on the Ramsey property, in Main street.

NEW LEXINGTON.—It is reported that the New Lexington Catholics will build a parochial school in the near future, to be erected near St. Rose Church.

NILES.—Architects Robinson, Winkler & McDonald, Pittsburg, are receiving bids, it is stated, for a church for the First

Methodist Episcopal congregation, to cost \$35,000.

STUEBENVILLE.—It is stated that a Federal building is about to be erected here.

INDIANA

ELWOOD.—According to reports, the First Spiritualist Church of America proposes to erect an orphans' home near this city, to cost approximately \$100,000.

FORT WAYNE.—The Bloomingdale School is to have a four-room addition, according to the plans of Architects Griffith & Fair, it is stated.

LIBERTY.—Griffith & Fair, architects of Fort Wayne, Ind., are preparing plans for a pressed brick modern eight-room High School, to be erected here.

MICHIGAN CITY.—The bids for the proposed courthouse will be received, according to reports, until April 23, at the County Auditor's office at Laporte. Plans have been prepared by Architects Mahurin & Mahurin, of Fort Wayne.

NEWCASTLE.—Architects W. S. Kaufman & Son, Richmond, it is stated, are preparing plans for a two-story dormitory building for the Indiana Village of Epileptics, Dr. Van Nuys, superintendent. Estimated cost, \$30,000.

SIDNEY.—According to reports, an eight-room brick and stone High School is to be erected here. Plans are being prepared by Griffith & Fair, architects, of Fort Wayne, Ind.

ILLINOIS

MORRISON.—Architects Hyde & Blood, we understand from reports, have been asked to draw up plans and specifications for the remodeling of the South Side High School building.

MICHIGAN

DETROIT.—Architects J. G. Kastler & Co., we learn from exchanges, are preparing plans for a cathedral for the St. Hedwig's Polish Roman Catholic congregation, to cost approximately \$200,000.

PORT HURON.—D. Frank is reported as having acquired nine lots on North Tenth street, where he will build three new houses.

WISCONSIN

MILWAUKEE.—According to exchanges, plans and specifications for a model for the proposed municipal comfort stations will soon be asked for by the Board of Public Works, Charles J. Poetsch, chairman.

MISSOURI

EXCELSIOR SPRINGS.—Architect Louis Curtiss, of Kansas City, is reported as about to receive figures on the general contract for the four-story hotel for the Elms Realty Co., to cost about \$150,000.

HIGH POINT.—Steps are to be taken at once for the erection of a school building, it is reported.

INDEPENDENCE.—We learn from exchanges that \$80,000 has been appropriated for the erection of a Federal building at the northwest corner of Osage and Pexington streets.

ST. JOSEPH.—The plans for the new Immaculate Conception Church, at Tenth and Angelique streets, prepared by a St. Louis architect, have been accepted. Estimated cost, \$60,000.

According to exchanges, steps are to be taken for the erection of a new church for

the First Presbyterian congregation. Rev. William R. Dobyns is pastor.

MINNESOTA

BREEZY POINT, LAKE MINNETONKA.—Figures are being taken, we understand, by Architect William Channing Whitney on a residence to be erected for John Washburn, to cost about \$25,000.

MINNEAPOLIS.—"Crombie's" Hotel, on Fifth street, is to be enlarged and entirely remodeled, it is stated. The probable expenditure is estimated at \$50,000.

Long & Long, architects, are said to be at work on plans for a building to be erected on Seventh street, near Nicollet avenue, for Mr. Simon Kruse. Estimated cost, \$100,000.

SOUTH DAKOTA

ABERDEEN.—Bids, it is reported, will be received by D. C. Washburn, architect, until 9 A. M., April 15, for the erection of a brick and stone church for the Methodist Episcopal congregation.

FORT PIERRE.—George S. Huston is reported as contemplating the erection of a large hotel in this city.

RAPID CITY.—From exchanges, we learn that Rapid City voters decided to issue \$20,000 worth of bonds for a new school building.

NEBRASKA

LINCOLN.—It is stated that Architects Tyler & Brandt have drawn the preliminary perspective for the proposed Labor Temple to be erected in this city.

KANSAS

GARDEN CITY.—It is reported that the People's State Bank will erect a new building this spring.

LAWRENCE.—According to press reports, a \$25,000 jail building is to be constructed in Lawrence.

SALINA.—It is practically assured that over \$100,000 will be spent in Salina for construction of school buildings. The expenditures will be made as follows: By the city for a new High School Building \$50,000; by the Sacred Heart Catholic Church \$25,000; by the Kansas Wesleyan University \$25,000.

COLORADO

DENVER.—According to press reports the Walter S. Chessman Realty Company will erect a four-story hotel and store building on California Street, to cost about \$125,000.

PUEBLO.—Architect Albert Randolph Ross, of New York, is reported as having been selected to prepare the plans for the new Courthouse to be erected here, to cost approximately \$400,000.

MONTANA

GREAT FALLS.—The Deaconess Hospital of the Methodist Church, it is reported, will be erected this summer at a cost of \$60,000.

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE.—The congregation of the Protestant Episcopal Church on the St. Paul Street Boulevard is considering the erection of a new church edifice.

Announcement has been made by Mr. William H. Grafflin, president of the Guilford Park Company, it is stated, that \$200,000 will be expended in the erection of a

modern eight-story apartment house to be erected at the northeast corner of Charles and Franklin Streets.

The Board of Public Improvements approved the appointment of a commission consisting of the Mayor, the City Comptroller and the President of the School Boards to decide how the \$400,000, provided for in the ordinance of the estimates for a new Polytechnical Institute should be expended.

Haskell & Barnes, architects, it is reported, have been commissioned to prepare plans for an edifice for the Forest Park Methodist Episcopal Church.

WILLIAMSPORT.—The Potomac Lodge, Knights of Pythias, according to reports, has authorized the expenditure of \$12,000 for the erection of a new three-story building.

WEST VIRGINIA

ELKINS.—Exchanges state that bids for the new Odd Fellows home at Elkins will be closed and the contract let on April 8. The home will be built this summer.

MOUNDSVILLE.—According to press dispatches we learn that the citizens of this City have decided to issue bonds to the amount of \$35,000 for the purpose of erecting a modern new school structure on Eastern First Street.

WHEELING.—Plans, according to press reports, for the new Market Street Theatre have been practically completed by Architect Ebersson of St. Louis. Messrs. Bearley and Shafer are the owners. Estimated cost, \$30,000.

We learn from exchanges that a new Boys' Home is to be erected near the Catholic Church.

The plans of Architects Geisey & Farris are reported as being accepted for the new Union District School building to be erected in this city.

VIRGINIA

NORFOLK.—The erection of a new arcade building, extending from Main Street to Plume, it is reported, is being considered, to be erected at the site of the Academy of Music.

The Norfolk Country Club, we understand from exchanges, has selected a site and will soon start erection of a new clubhouse.

RICHMOND.—We learn from exchanges that \$85,000 has been appropriated towards an addition to the State Library.

KENTUCKY

ASHLAND.—We learn from exchanges that the Board of Education will receive competitive plans up to 7 P. M., April 1, for a ten-room modern school building, cost not to exceed \$25,000 complete. Geo. F. Parks, secretary.

BARBOURVILLE.—The Mountain Lodge, No. 187, F. and A. M., is reported as having purchased a site and will erect a modern Masonic Temple and theatre.

LEXINGTON.—Architects H. L. Rowe & Co., according to press reports, have been selected to make the plans for the Widows' and Orphans' Home of the I. O. O. F.

LOUISVILLE.—The Congregation of the Third Presbyterian Church are contemplating the erection of a new house of worship, according to press reports.

TENNESSEE

HIXSON.—We learn from exchanges that the County Board of Education has decided to erect a school building to cost approximately \$15,000.

MEMPHIS.—The Bry-Block Mercantile Company, according to exchanges, will remodel the structure at the northwest corner of Main Street and Jefferson Avenue, known as the Equitable Building, at an expenditure of \$175,000.

Architect John Gaisford, it is stated, has completed plans for the three-story theater for the Jefferson Theater Co. \$75,000.

NORTH CAROLINA

GREENVILLE.—H. W. Simpson, of New Bern, associated with Hook & Rodgers, of Charlotte, have been chosen the architects for the Eastern Carolina Teachers' Training School.

SOUTH CAROLINA

CHARLESTON.—Architects M. H. Hubbard & H. M. Decker, of Utica, have completed plans for a one-story and basement church for the Morris Street Baptist congregation, it is reported. \$50,000 is the estimated cost.

COLUMBIA.—According to exchanges sketches will be received by the president and Board of Trustees of the University of South Carolina until April 14, for a building, to cost \$30,000.

ROCK HILL.—Architects Edwards, Walter & Parnham, of Atlanta, are preparing plans for the Model School building to be built at Winthrop College. Cost \$100,000.

MANNING.—Edwards, Walter & Parnham, of Atlanta, are beginning plans for a new graded school, to cost \$30,000.

GEORGIA

ATHENS.—Architect A. Ten Eyck Brown, of Atlanta, is ready to receive bids on fixtures and furnishings for the new Athens Hotel. The total cost of the building will be about \$150,000. Now under construction.

ATLANTA.—It is reported that Asa G. Candler has acquired the property on Decatur and Courtlandt streets, and that he will erect a large department store on the property.

From press reports we learn that the Atlanta Hosiery Mills, recently damaged by fire, to a loss probably amounting to \$40,000, will rebuild in the near future.

AUGUSTA.—L. C. Goodrich has been chosen to draw the plans for the new City Hall, which is to cost about \$300,000.

Architects Kemp & Wendell are beginning plans for the Union Savings Bank, to cost about \$75,000. Building is to be of stone and fire-proof. Bids will probably not be asked for until mid-summer.

MONTEZUMA.—Architect C. R. Ellis, of Macon, Ga., is drawing plans for a \$15,000 residence for W. H. McKenzie.

FLORIDA

ST. AUGUSTINE.—Plans are being prepared by Edwards, Walter & Parnham, of Atlanta, for the State Deaf and Blind College, to cost about \$75,000. Bids received about April 15.

ALABAMA

MOBILE.—Mr. A. C. Neal, of Atlanta, is reported as contemplating the erection of a theatre to seat 1,750 people.

MISSISSIPPI

BILOXI.—It is reported that Architect W. T. Harkness has prepared plans for a three-story Masonic Temple for the Magnolia Lodge, No. 120. Estimated cost \$25,000. Address T. H. Gleason.

LOUISIANA

HOUMA.—According to press dispatches a new High School Building is to be erected here, to cost about \$45,000. Architects Favrot & Livaudals, of New Orleans, have submitted plans.

SHREVEPORT.—According to reports, E. E. Harkey stated that he expects to shortly begin erecting a three-story brick business building on Milam Street, on the site adjoining the City Hall property.

OKLAHOMA

CLINTON.—We learn from exchanges that several business men will erect an opera house. The building is to be 75x100 feet in dimensions, and a modern structure. The plans are now in the hands of Architect Smith, of McAlester, and are to be submitted to the promoters as soon as possible.

GUTHRIE.—The Roff School District at a special election, it is stated, voted a \$20,000 bond issue for the purpose of building a new school house.

According to reports ground has been broken preparatory to erecting the new First Methodist Church Building. It is estimated that the new church will cost in the neighborhood of \$40,000 and will be constructed of brick and stone.

OKLAHOMA CITY.—It is stated that the members of the Carnegie Library Board held a meeting and accepted the plans for the addition to the present building to be erected at a cost of \$25,000. Williams & Wells are the architects.

ARKANSAS

PINE BLUFF.—We gather from exchanges that funds are being collected for the erection of a large City Hospital.

SULPHUR SPRINGS.—It is reported the Swedish Lutheran Church is to have a hospital and sanitarium at Sulphur Springs. The building is to be erected at a cost of \$25,000.

TEXAS

HOUSTON.—It is reported that plans are now being drawn for a three-story brick building to be constructed on Travis Street, between Rusk and Capitol Avenues, by D. R. Beatty at a cost of about \$20,000.

Reports state that all the plans for the theater building contemplated to replace the old Houston Theater Building, which was destroyed by fire, will soon be ready for the inspection of contractors.

MONTGOMERY.—From exchanges we learn that the Masonic and Knights of Pythias Lodges will in the near future erect a new building on the Public Square.

PALACIOS.—The Citizens Bank recently organized will erect a brick building, reports state.

IDAHO

CLARINDA.—Burt Harwood, of Clarinda, reports state, will erect a fine modern residence and also a fifty-foot brick building for the housing of his newspaper, the Wright County Monitor.

COEUR D'ALENE.—According to reports bids will be received up to April 6, for the construction of a \$40,000 City Hall, 50x100 feet, three stories and basement.

IOWA CITY.—Reports state that the Elks' Lodge of Iowa City is planning to build a new home that will cost \$30,000.

MASON CITY.—At a meeting of the members of the Board of Control of the St. Francis Schools, it was decided to rebuild the St. Francis Academy, reports state, recently destroyed by fire, at a cost of about \$25,000.

TWIN FALLS.—A \$50,000 school building is to be erected here, reports state. Wayland & Fennell, of Boise, Ida., are the architects.

UTAH

SALT LAKE CITY.—We learn from exchanges that the property on West Temple Street, between First and Second South Streets, has been purchased by Simon Brothers, who will erect a four-story building on the site, to cost about \$60,000.

NEVADA

GOLDFIELD.—It is currently reported in this city that \$100,000 has been appropriated towards the erection of a Federal Building.

CALIFORNIA

AUBURN.—It is stated that plans have been completed by Architect A. D. Fellows, East Auburn, for a Public Library Building and bids will be shortly received.

LOS ANGELES.—According to press reports, Mme. Ida Hancock has accepted the plans of Architect John C. Austin for a residence to be erected on the corner of Vermont Avenue and Wilshire Boulevard, to cost \$70,000.

SAN FRANCISCO.—We learn from press reports that about \$50,000 will be applied towards the rebuilding of the Cliff House, which belonged to the estate of Adolph Sutro, and of which Dr. Emma Merritt is executrix.

We understand that the German House Association of this City contemplates the erection of a building to cost \$500,000, which will be the home of all the German Societies in San Francisco.

OREGON

HOOD RIVER.—Bonds to the amount of \$43,000 are to be issued, it is stated, for the erection of a new school building.

MARSHFIELD.—According to press reports the City has voted to bond for \$50,000 to raise a fund for two school buildings.

WASHINGTON

SEATTLE.—The Executive Committee of the A.-Y.-P. Exposition has decided to erect an additional building, which will be used to exhibit foreign manufactures. The proposed building will be 100x400 feet, constructed of staff and wood. The estimated cost is \$80,000.

The State Armory Commission, reports state, has accepted the revised plans for the new home of the Second Regiment and bids for the construction of the building will be advertised for in two weeks.

SPOKANE.—I. J. Galbraith has completed plans for a twenty-suite apartment house, to be built by F. O. Berg, on Ida Avenue, near Maple Street, at a cost of \$30,000.

Plans are being drawn by D. Holzman for two stories to be added to the Germond Building, at Sprague Avenue and Lincoln Street. The structure will also be remodeled and converted into an office building. The cost of the work has not been fully determined, but will probably be between \$40,000 and \$50,000.

Thirty thousand dollars is to be invested by A. P. Harold in an apartment house at Ninth Avenue and Monroe Street. The plans have not yet been drawn.

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PROPOSALS.

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS.
State Fair Building.

Sealed proposals will be received at the office of the New York State Fair Commis-

sion, Yates Hotel, Syracuse, N. Y., up to 3 o'clock p.m., Monday, March 30, 1908, and opened in public, for the entire work of construction of the Manufacturers and Liberal Arts Building, to be erected on the State Fair Grounds, Syracuse, N. Y.

Proposals shall be accompanied by a certified check in the sum of five thousand dollars (\$5,000).

Contractor to whom the award is made will be required to furnish a surety company bond in the sum of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000).

The right is reserved to reject any or all bids.

The contract will provide that the building shall be completed on or before August 15, 1908.

On and after March 17, 1908, drawings and specifications may be consulted and blank forms of proposal obtained at the office of Green & Wicks, Architects, 110 Franklin street, Buffalo, N. Y., or at the office of Hon. Franklin B. Ware, State Architect, Albany, N. Y. Complete sets of plans and specifications will be furnished to prospective bidders upon reasonable notice to Messrs. Green & Wicks, Architects.

A. E. PERREN,
Chairman Grounds Committee.
Yates Hotel, Syracuse, N. Y.
(1682-83)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., March 21, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 4th day of May, 1908, and then opened, for the construction (including plumbing, gas piping, heating apparatus, electric conduits and wiring) of the U. S. Post Office at Bar Harbor, Maine, in accordance with drawings and specifications, copies of which may be had from the Custodian of Site at Bar Harbor, Maine, or at this office, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1683-84)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., March 14, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 23d day of April, 1908, and then opened, for the steam heating and ventilating apparatus,

etc., complete, in place, for the U. S. Post Office, Court House and Custom House building at Spokane, Washington, in accordance with drawings and specification, copies of which may be had at this office or at the office of the Superintendent at Spokane, Washington, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1682-1683)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., March 14, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 20th day of April, 1908, and then opened, for the low pressure steam heating apparatus for the U. S. Post Office and Court House at Green Bay, Wisconsin, in accordance with drawings and specifications, copies of which may be had at this office or at the office of German & Lignell, Architects, Duluth, Minn., at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1682-1683)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., March 14, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 28th day of April, 1908, and then opened, for the construction (including plumbing, gas piping, heating apparatus, electric conduits and wiring) of the U. S. Post Office at Watertown, South Dakota, in accordance with drawings and specification, copies of which may be obtained from the Custodian of Site at Watertown, South Dakota, after March 23d, or at this office after March 18th, at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1682-1683)

Treasury Department, Office of the Supervising Architect, Washington, D. C., March 16, 1908.—Sealed proposals will be received at this office until 3 o'clock p.m. on the 28th day of April, 1908, and then opened, for the construction (complete) of the U. S. Post Office building at Crookston, Minnesota, in accordance with drawings and specifications, copies of which may be had at this office or at the office of the Postmaster at Crookston, Minn., at the discretion of the Supervising Architect.—James Knox Taylor, Supervising Architect. (1683-84)

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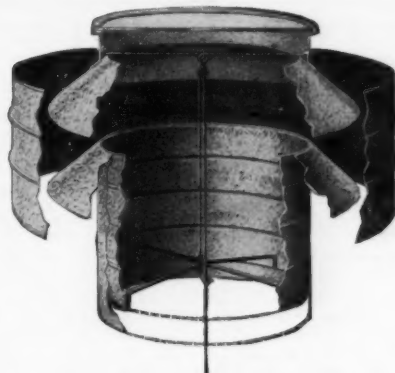
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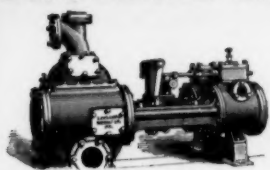
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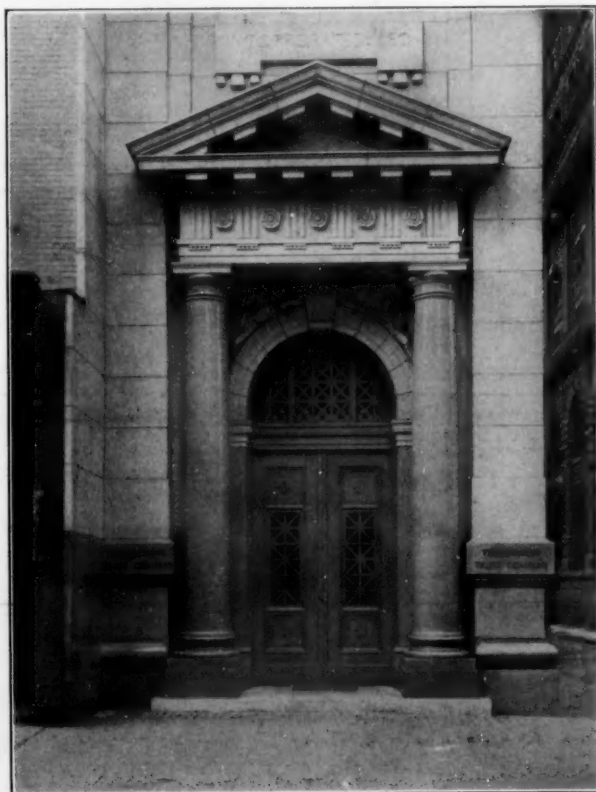
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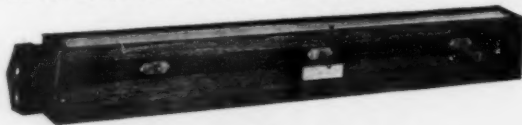
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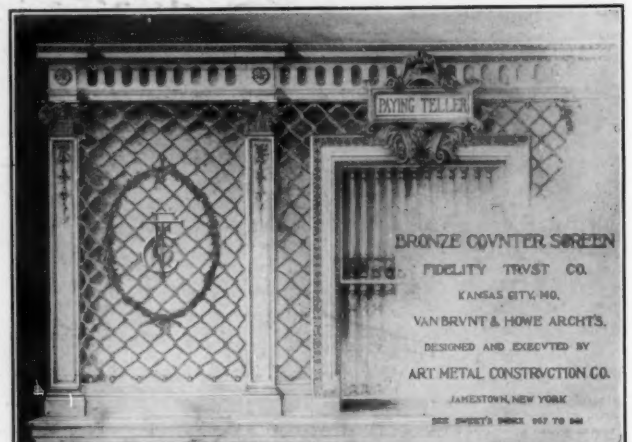
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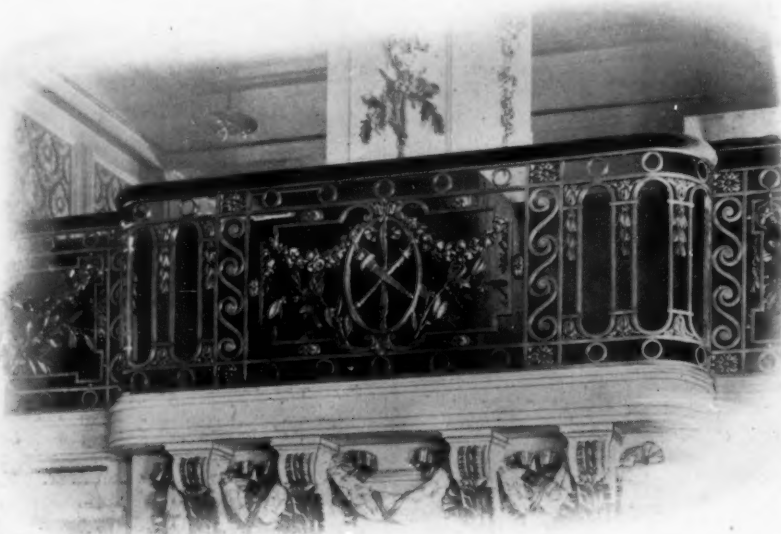
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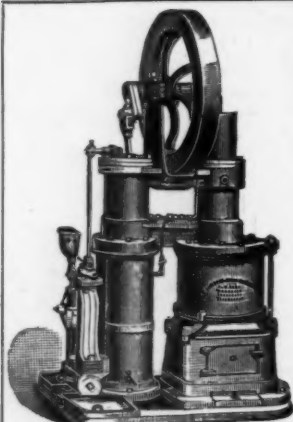


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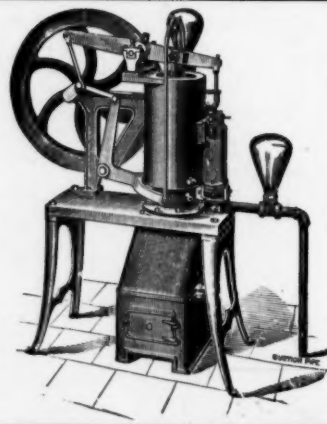
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