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The AMERICAN ARCHITECT AND BUILDING NEWS

Regular Edition

Vol. XCIV.

JULY 22, 1908

No. 1700

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Dissatisfaction with Award in New York State Prison Plant Competition Probably Due to Archaic Methods Employed. Comparison of Results Attending Government Competitions with Those Held by New York State. Time Ripe for Improvement. Reported Discovery of Faithful Representation of the Venus de Milo Statue with Arms Complete.

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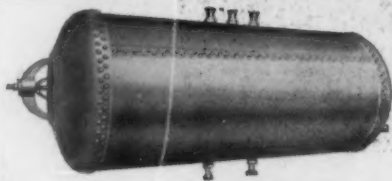
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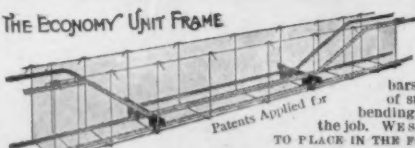
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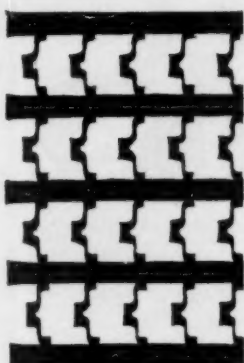


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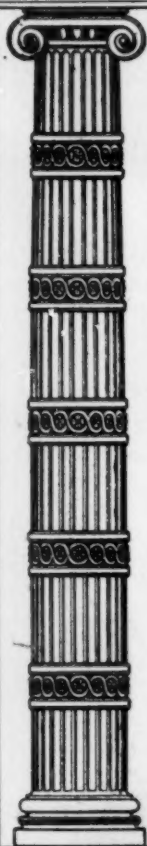
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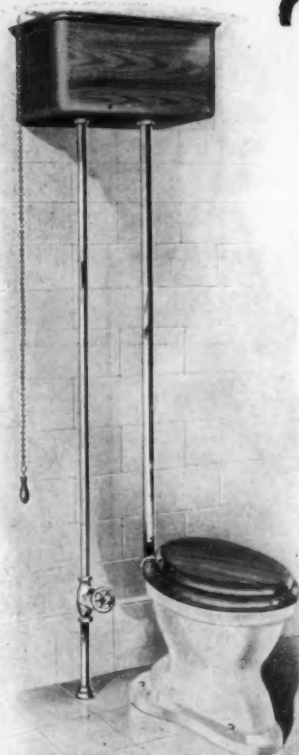


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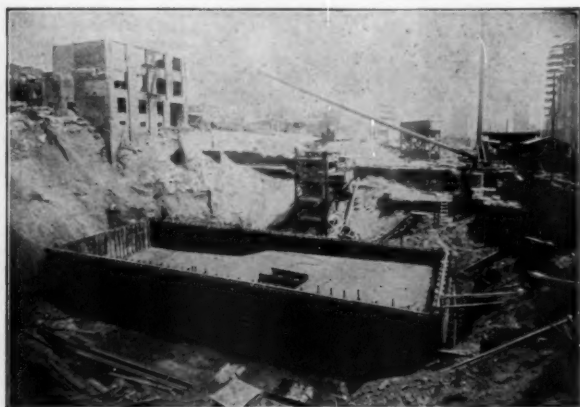
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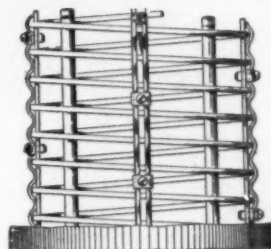
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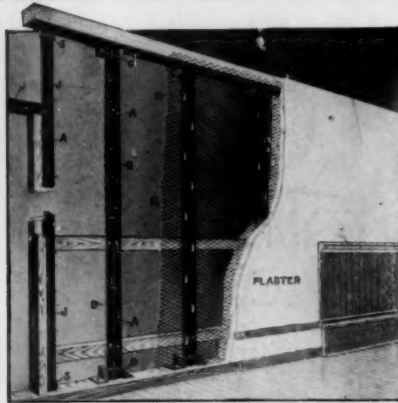
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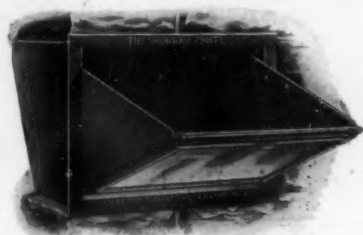
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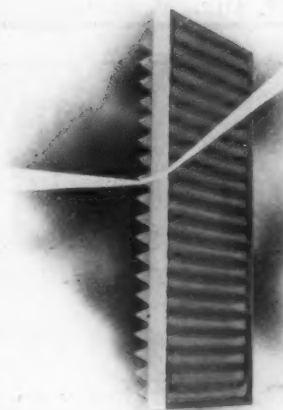
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VIEW LOOKING NORTH FROM HUNTINGTON AVENUE.

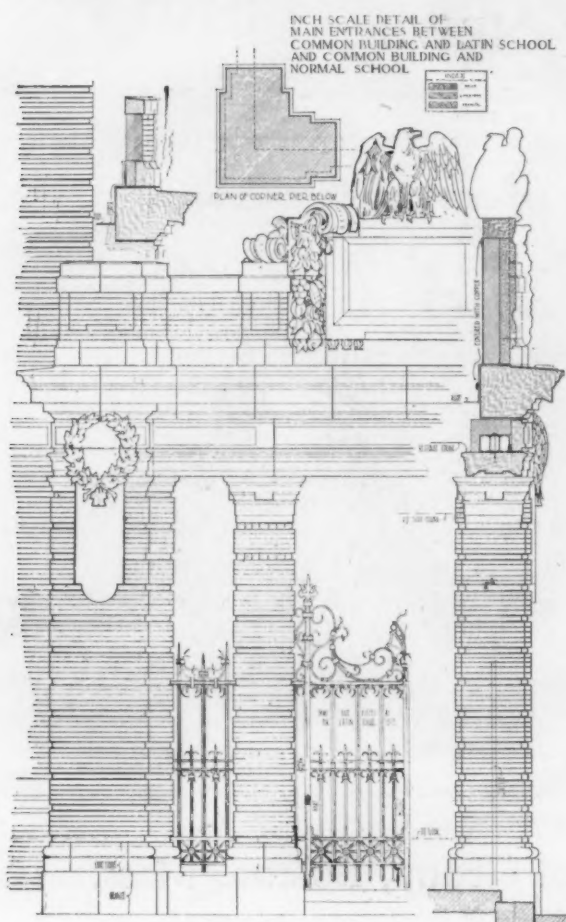
The Normal and Latin School Group, Boston, Mass.

AFTER a visit to the new "Normal and Girls' Latin Group" of school buildings in Boston the visitor, if he chance to call while the buildings are vacant, will find himself rather more disposed to ponder over certain educational and sociological problems than to give first heed to the architectural and structural excellences of the buildings—particularly if he has entered at the Normal School end of the group. Prepared to find the building vacant, the mind is naturally prepared also to discount the seeming excessive spaciousness of these educational buildings, and at once peoples the wide (12-foot) corridors with the ebb and flood of classes as they pass from room to room or, at last, into the open air. But imaginary beings are not as convincing as real ones and one wants facts as a foundation upon which to build inferences, and the fact seems to be that the Girls' Latin School, at the northerly end of the group, was designed to accommodate 600 pupils of the High School grade, while the Normal School, which balances it at the southerly end—a building which actually contains more space—is built to accommodate only 300 pupils, that is, taking account of the larger area of the Normal School, each pupil there has about twice as much space as is provided for each pupil in the Girls' Latin building, and this, too, although physically there is no great difference between the well-grown High School girl and the Normal School pupil. Further, although the buildings have excellent orientation, all of

them, yet if one of them is less favored than the others in this respect it is the Girls' Latin with its 600 pupils, not a few of mature age and so deserving, perhaps needing, the best physical conditions that could be provided; while if one of them is more favored than the others it surely is the Normal School, although the pupils there, not only fewer in number, are more mature in age and so better able to cope with unfavorable conditions. For some reason which we cannot detect the natural distribution seems to have been inverted as between these two buildings.

Bearing this seeming favoritism in mind as one wanders over the building, what seems to be another indication of it comes to light in the bath-rooms where the 350 Normal School pupils are provided with 60 shower-baths while the 600 Latin School pupils have but 30. From this and other indications it appears that, as the needs of the Latin School girls have been properly, even generously, provided for, their slightly older sisters have been still more handsomely cared for, and the lot of these teachers in embryo should be regarded as fairly ideal. But one consequence is that the "average cost per pupil," which in the twenty-seven new buildings built by the School-house Commission has averaged \$181.72, had in the case of the Normal School already mounted to \$914.70 at the time of rendering the Commission's report on February 1, 1907, some months before the buildings

were finished and a year before final accounts were adjusted. But it must be explained that the Normal School pupils have been charged with not only the cost of their own building, but with one-half the cost of the Common

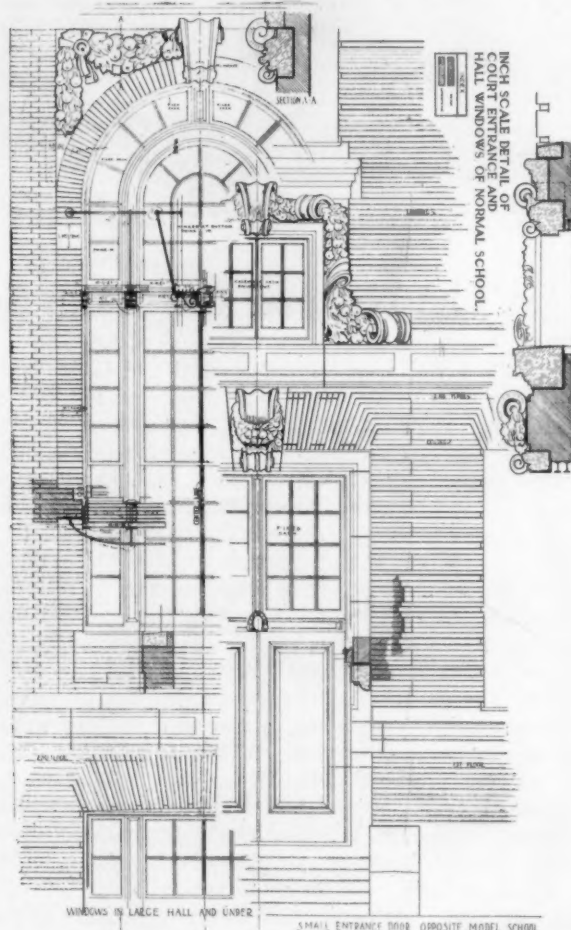


DETAIL OF MAIN ENTRANCE.

Building as well. This, however, is hardly a solace to the taxpayer.

Even the most parsimonious of taxpayers will admit that school-teaching is a nerve-racking occupation, tedious in its routine, and that teachers often have to occupy schoolrooms whose hygienic properties are certainly not of the best and, knowing this, will not perhaps be disposed to begrudge the money that has been spent in making the last years of the pupillage of the teachers of the future somewhat more than simply pleasant, something that comes fairly near to being luxurious—measured by the ordinary school-house standards. But if the said parsimonious taxpayer stopped to consider that a not inconsiderable percentage of these young women would shortly after having secured an expensive education abandon their intended work, one cannot help wondering whether he would still be content. But there are other ideas than sociological heresies that these buildings evoke. Architects have to satisfy the conditions of the problem presented to them: Professionally they do not have to concern themselves with determining whether a female teacher on marriage must abandon the schoolroom, or whether "equal pay for equal work" should be accorded to male and female teachers alike, and though sociological considerations are so attractive, it is well

here to examine how the conditions of the problem have been satisfied. Familiar with the exterior character of the group and the names by which its several members are designated for months before he found an opportunity to visit the buildings or to inspect the plans, the writer had inferred that the "Common Building," the one that holds the place in the group ordinarily given in such groups to the "administration building," was so named because it was used in common by the pupils of the three schools in the group—and so it is. But, arguing from the architectural expression given to the building, and perceiving that this must be a large hall, he more than half suspected that his ears had deceived him and that the proper title was the "Commons Building" and that when the group was finished and accessible to visitors he would find that the hall, sufficiently declared externally, was used for dining (or lunching) primarily and for lectures or assemblies when all the schools were brought together. He was quite unprepared to find that the real purpose—one might almost say the only one—of this costly building is to provide the young ladies with a very commodious and well-equipped gymnasium! To be sure there is housed under the same roof with it the kitchen and two lunch-rooms, but the gymnasium, with its boiler-rooms, toilet-rooms and bath-rooms, occupies at least



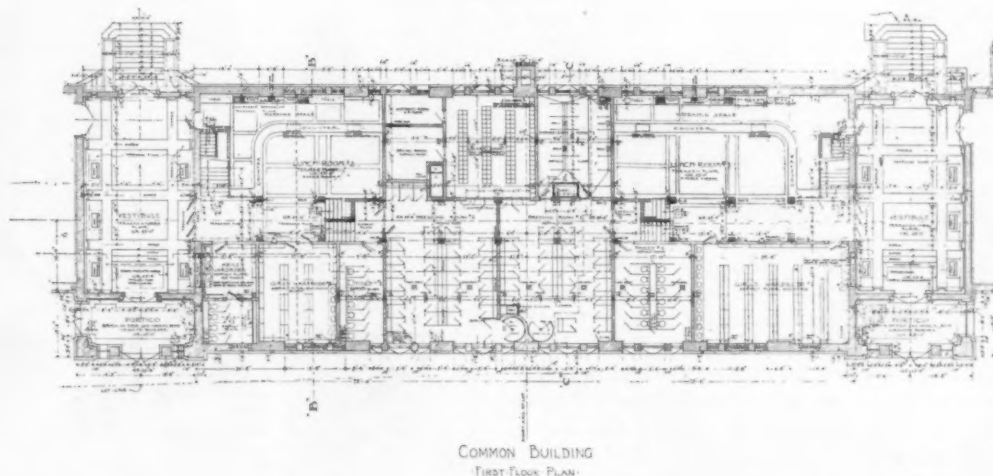
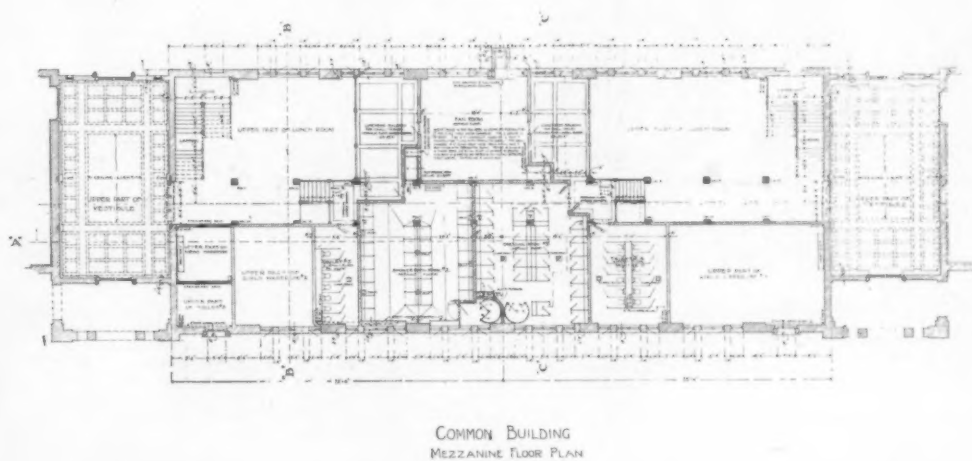
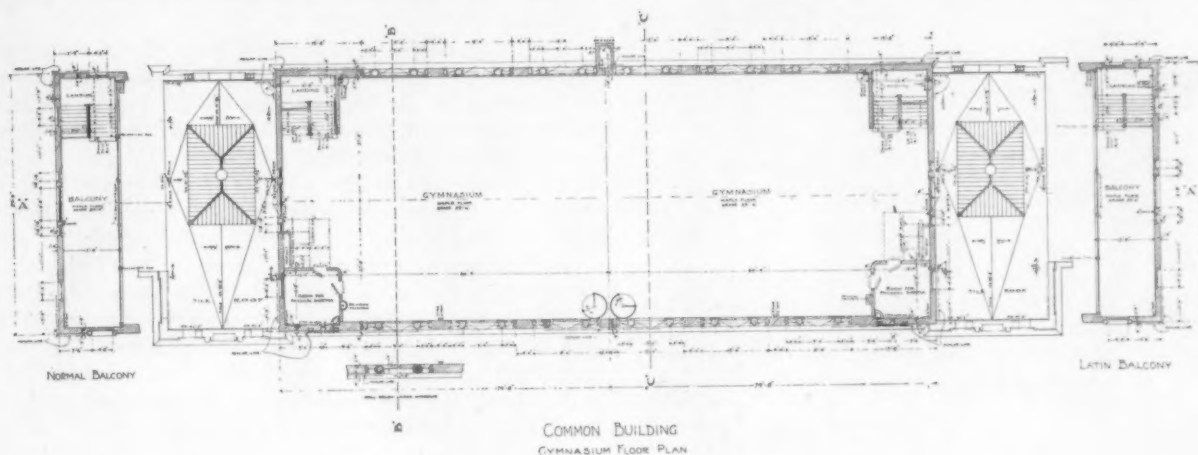
DETAIL OF COURT ENTRANCE AND HALL WINDOWS OF NORMAL SCHOOL.

four-fifths of the space and is chargeable with at least four-fifths of the cost.

It is in this gymnasium that was noted the only thing in the entire group that looked like a defect. Considering

the really considerable amount of wood finish in the room, augmented by the elaborate fittings for gymnastic exercise—all finished as usual with shellac or varnish—it certainly looked a little odd that the light steel trusses of the roof should be exposed unprotected by fireproofing of any kind. One is tempted to feel that in this room at

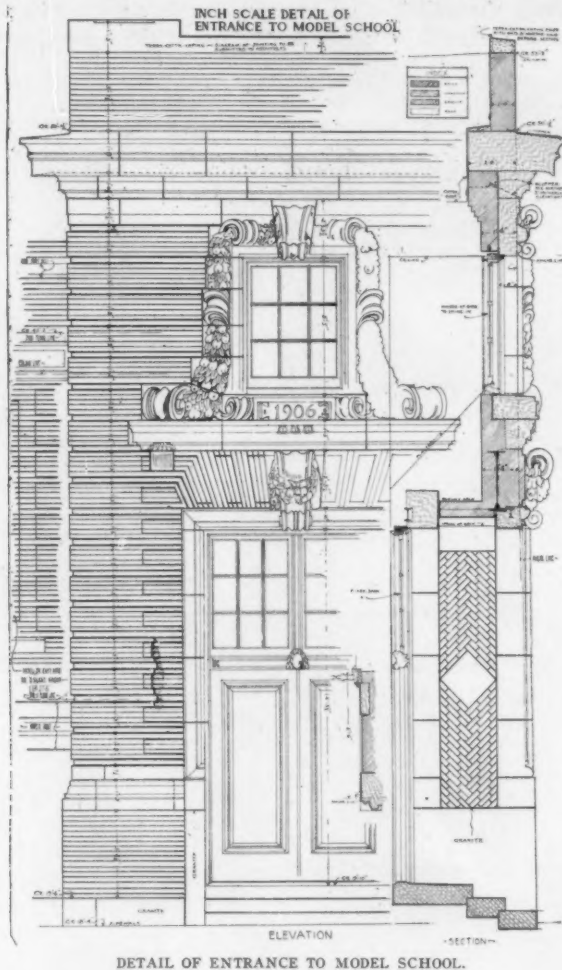
lently than the latter and, apparently, always as classes; the consequence of this is that they must resort to the bath-room, still as classes, and this leads to a peculiar arrangement, for though each pupil has her independent shower she still is a member of the class and so has to take the same dose that is served out at the same time to



least an automatic sprinkler system might have been provided without earning a rebuke. And, speaking of sprinklers, it may as well be explained here that the reason why the Normal School pupils require 60 showers to the 30 provided for the Girls' Latin pupils is that the former are expected to exercise more regularly and vio-

lently than the latter and, apparently, always as classes; the consequence of this is that they must resort to the bath-room, still as classes, and this leads to a peculiar arrangement, for though each pupil has her independent shower she still is a member of the class and so has to take the same dose that is served out at the same time to

peculiarities and differences of heart-action. The water used at these fountains is delivered from the roses at those temperatures, there being three "mixers," each with a thermometer attached so that the operator can secure



DETAIL OF ENTRANCE TO MODEL SCHOOL.

exactly the predetermined temperature at which the three courses of treatment shall reach the bodies of the pupils.

The Girls' Latin pupils, seemingly, are expected to take their exercise more as individuals and, except for those who are elected to positions on "teams" and those who have a real love for violent exercise, not to be greatly in need of bathing. At any rate the Girls' Latin pupils have the action of their shower baths under their own independent control, in the usual way.

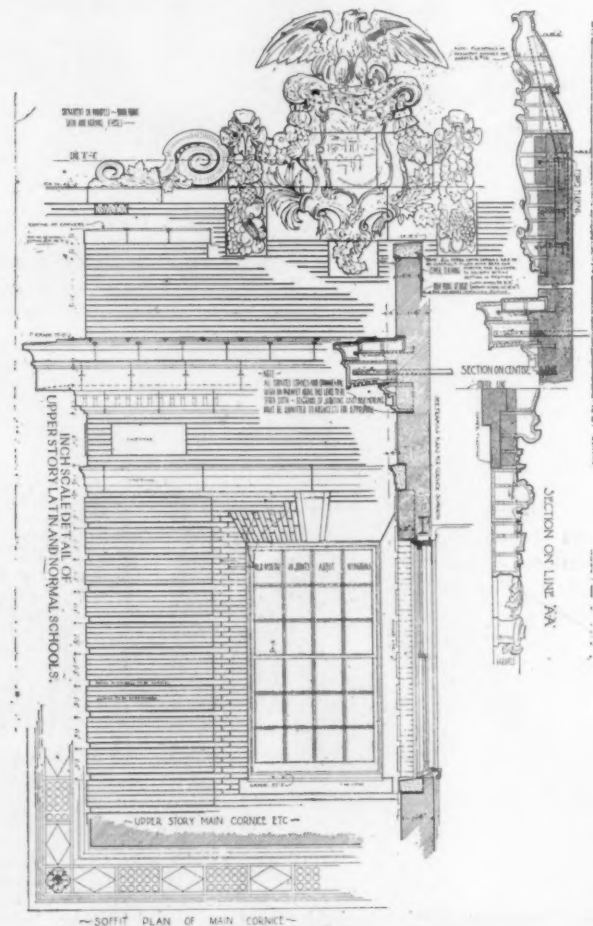
As all the buildings are of the "first-class" and really fireproof, structurally there has been no occasion for disfiguring the buildings with external fire escapes; fortunately the Boston building-law is more reasonable in its provisions in this respect than the similar laws in some other cities. Not only are the buildings fireproof, but they are well provided with doors to the outside and the wide staircases (five-foot) and the unusually wide halls (12-foot) seemingly remove any serious chance of injury during a panic, should one arise.

Our readers are already familiar with the peculiar system under which Boston has been building its school-houses during the last six or seven years, and the designs for the buildings in this group were procured in the same way; but, as the group was to be not only costly but

was to have as near neighbors some of the most notable buildings in the city, it was felt that every means should be taken to make the result satisfactory. Accordingly, the problem was put into the hands of three separate architectural firms to work out in cooperation with one another, the selected firms being Messrs. Peabody & Stearns; Coolidge & Carlson and Maginnis, Walsh & Sullivan.

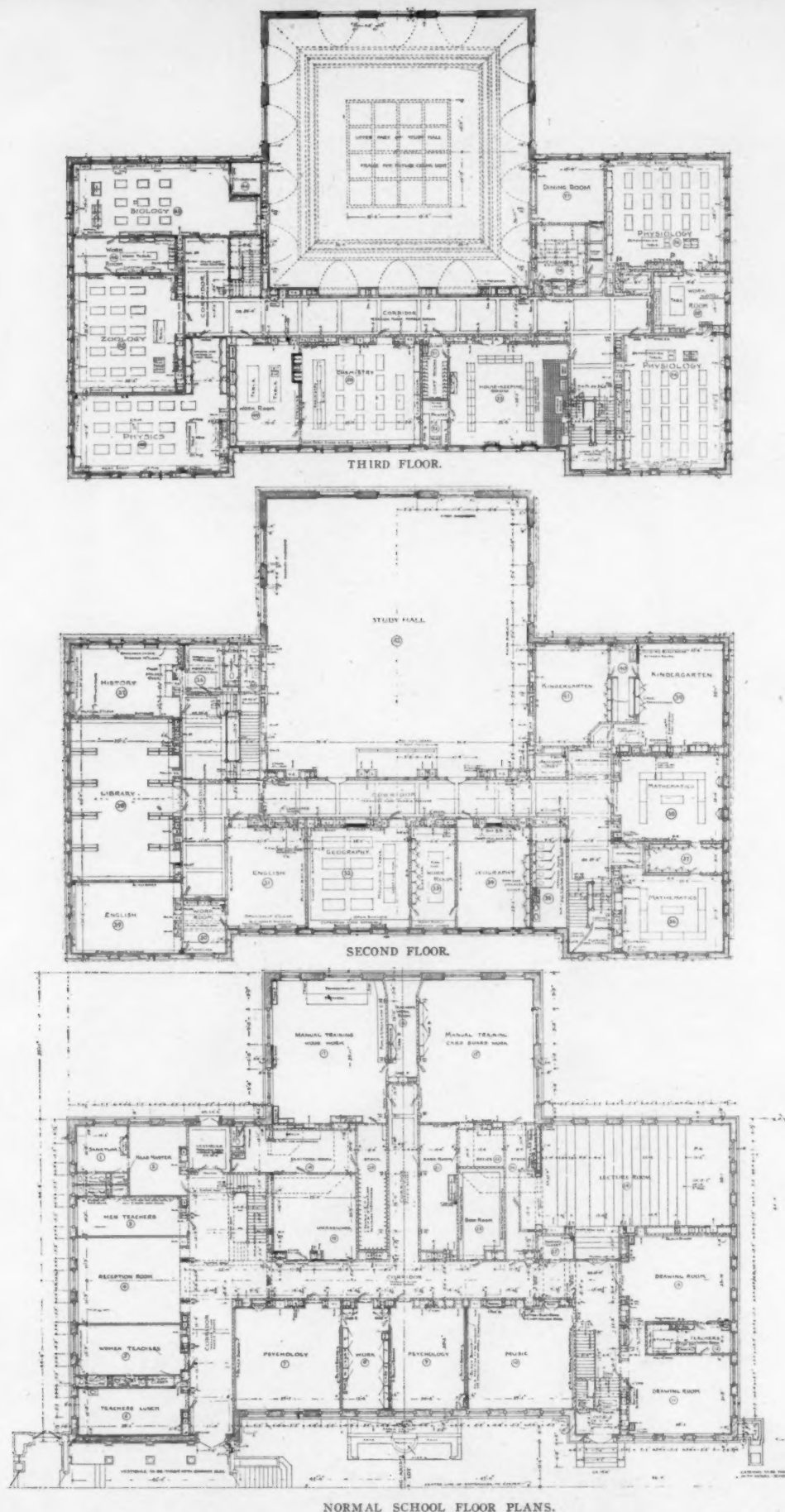
Naturally, coöperation between these several firms was essentially limited to the period of studying the problem and settling on the arrangement of the group, the distribution of rooms in each building and the architectural design of each, although all of course maintained an interest in the work at all times. The architectural supervision was undertaken by Mr. Stearns, while Mr. Carlson acted as the agent of the School-house Commission.

As has been said the orientation of the buildings is admirable and the site is nearly ideal, for not only is there a wide avenue in front and streets on the other sides, but the group practically is on the outskirts of the Back Bay Park and has as near neighbors the Harvard Medical School, the new building of the Museum of Fine Arts, now under construction, and Simmons College, not forgetting Mrs. J. S. Gardner's famous "Venetian Palace." But while, so far as position and surroundings go, the site is unusually satisfactory, the same cannot be



DETAILS, LATIN AND NORMAL SCHOOLS.

said for it as a building site. The sixty or more borings taken disclosed the fact that the southeasterly part of the Normal School would rest on natural land while the



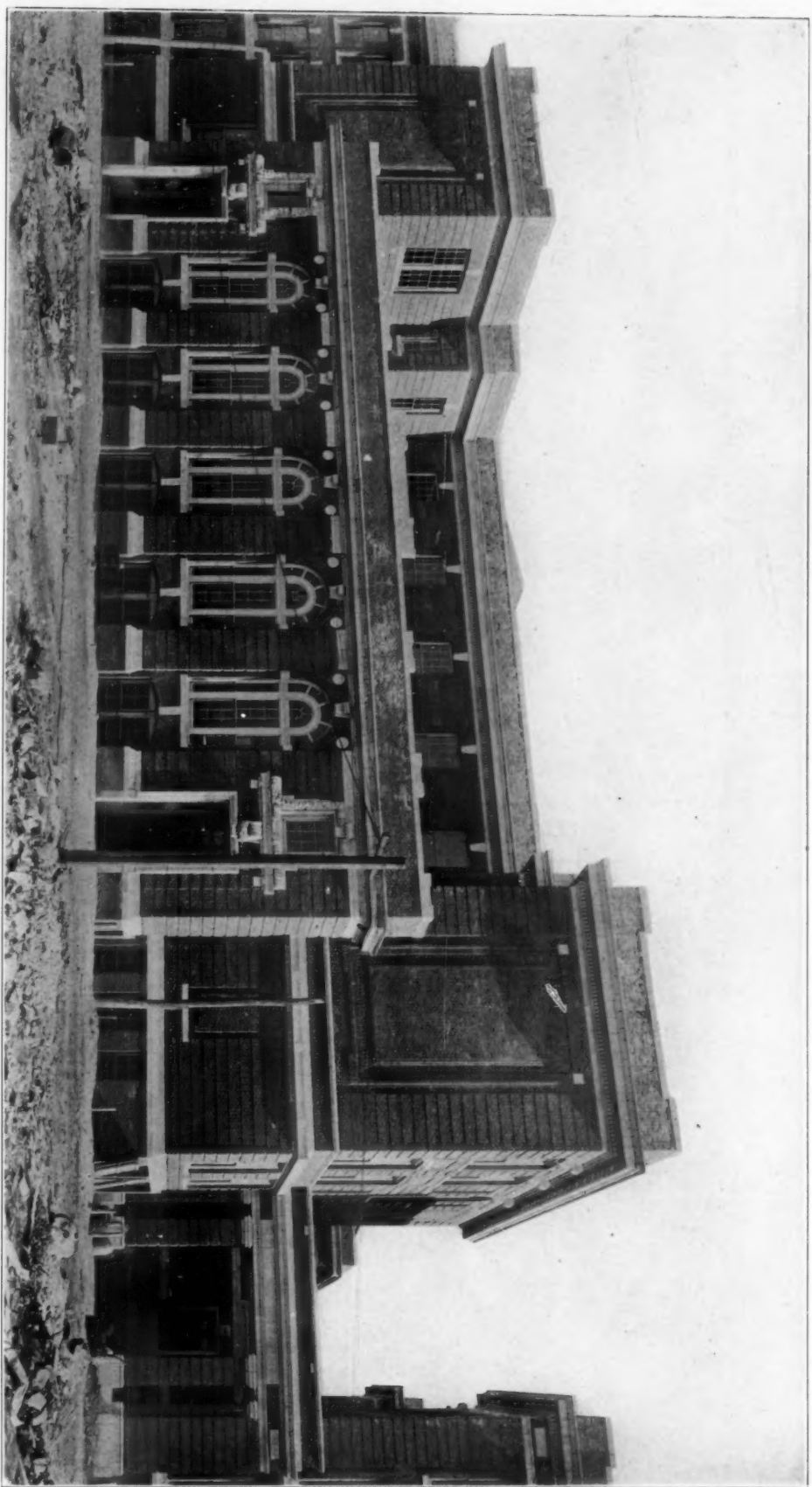
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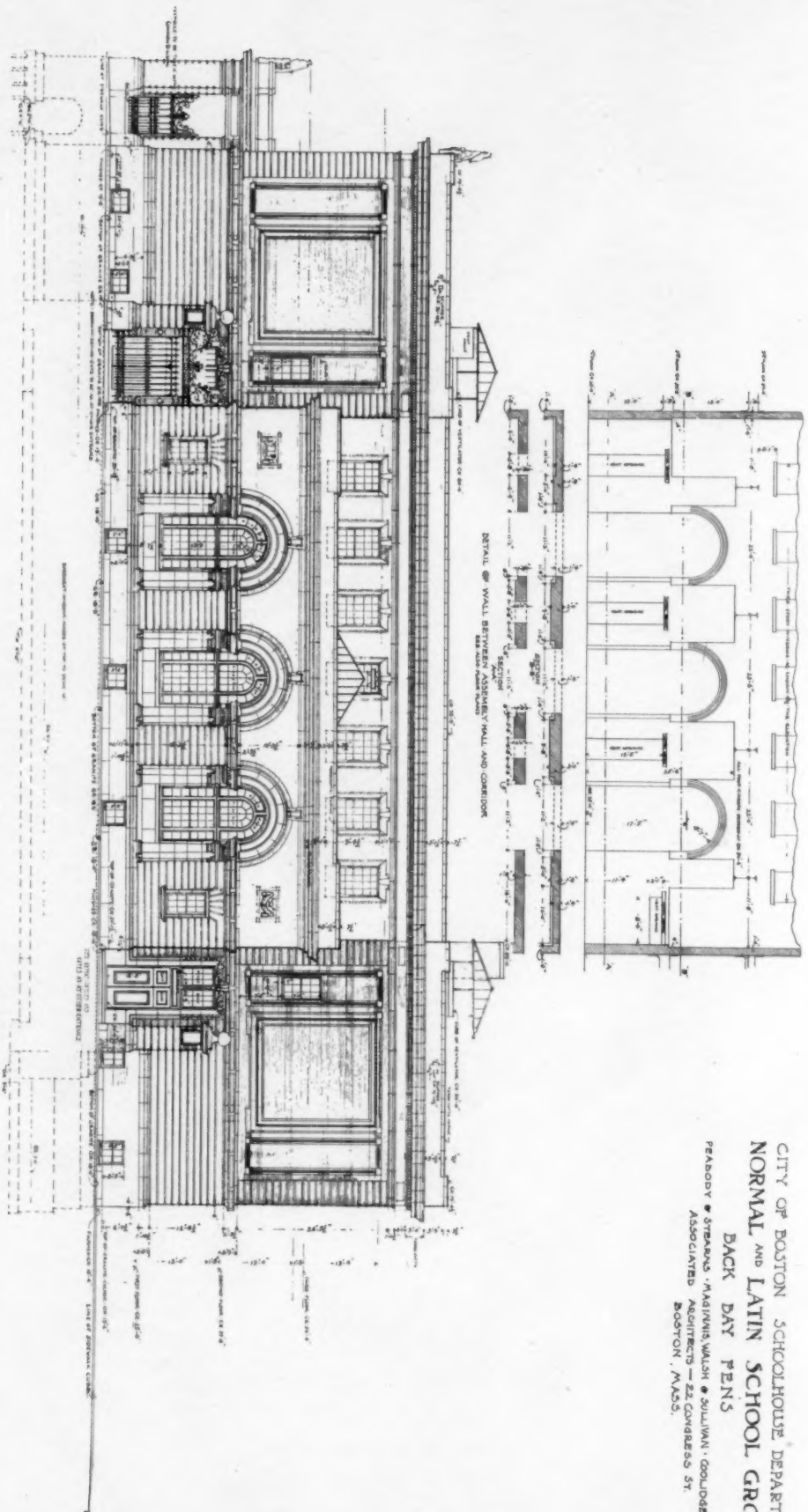
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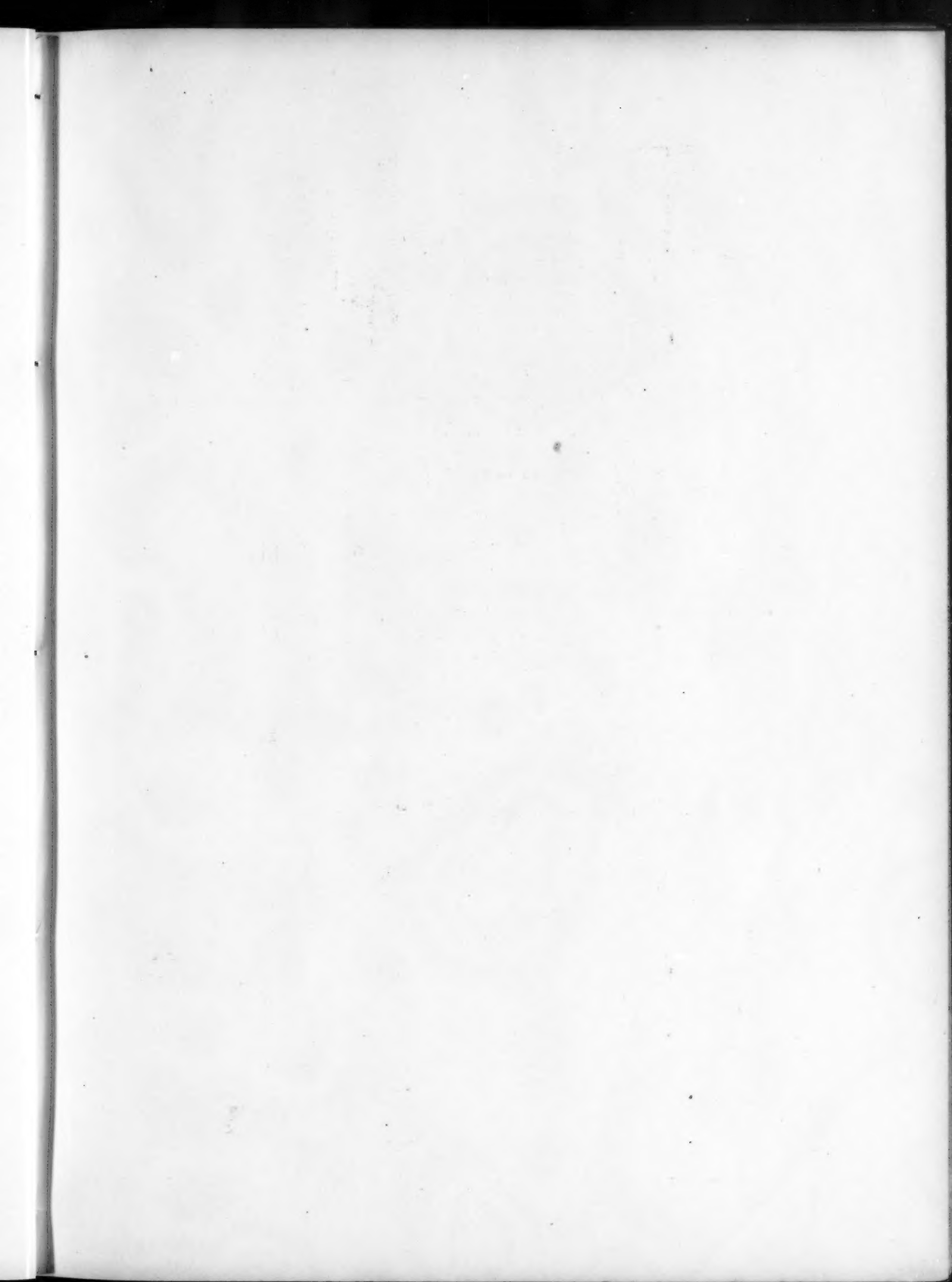
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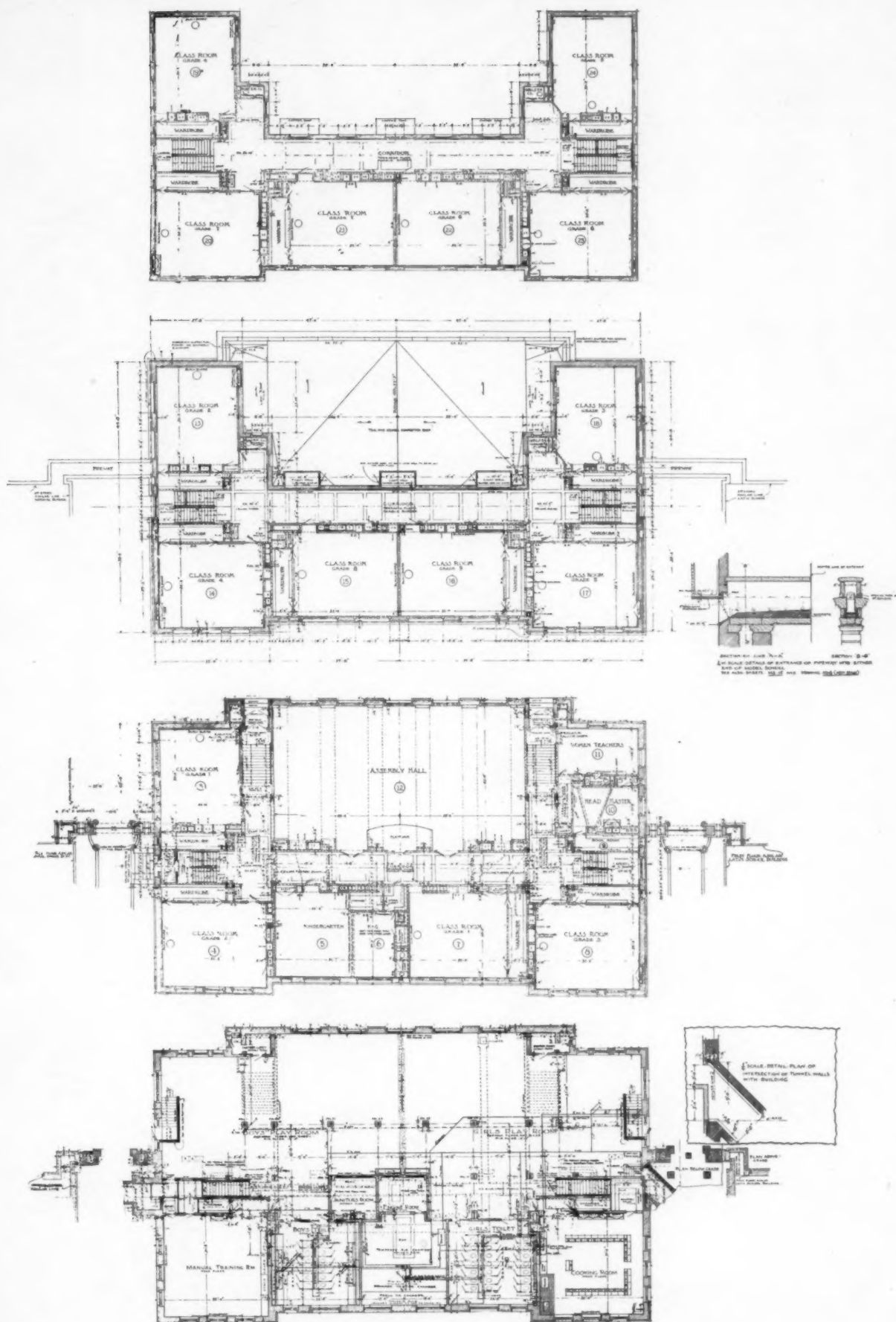
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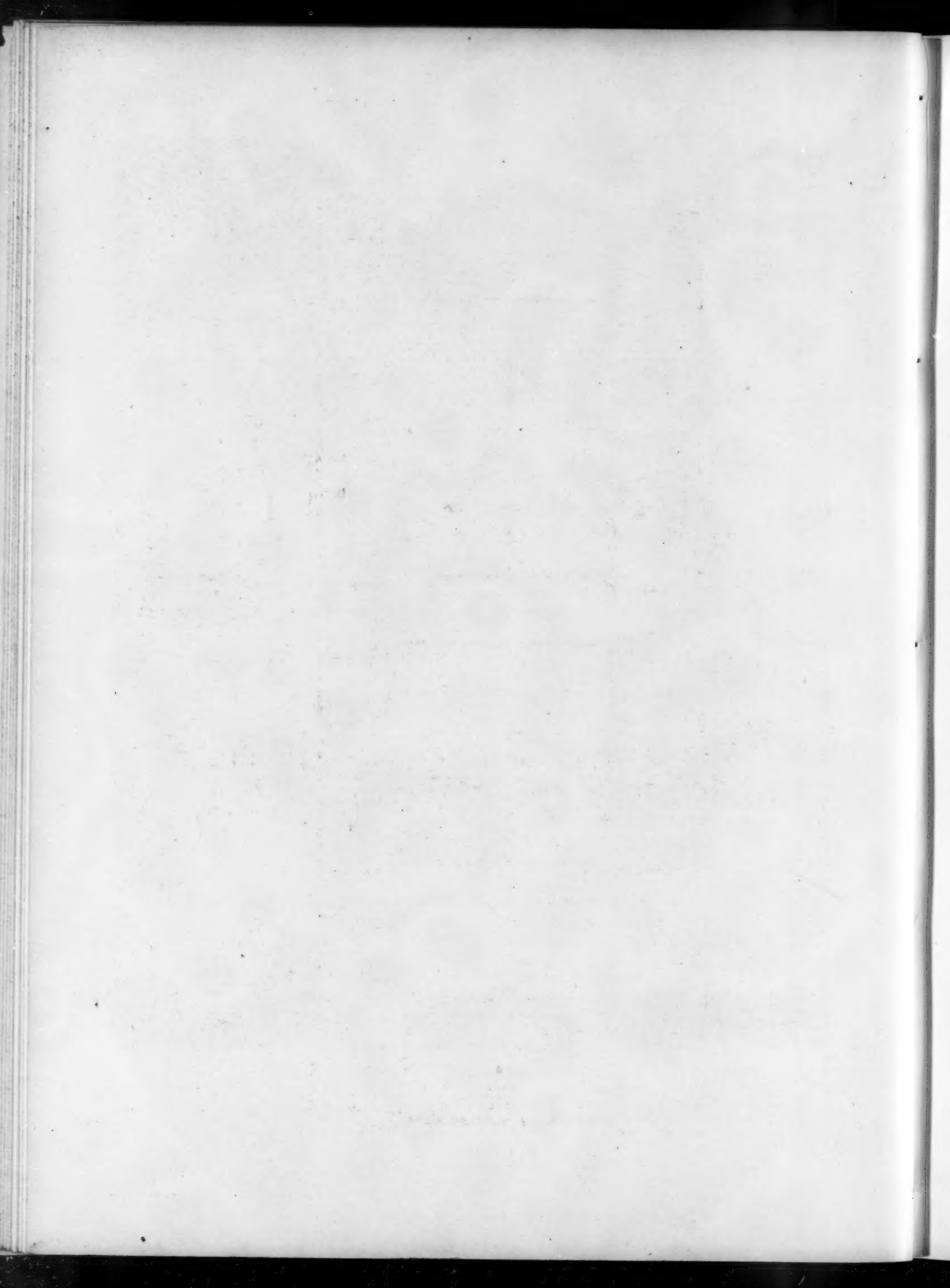
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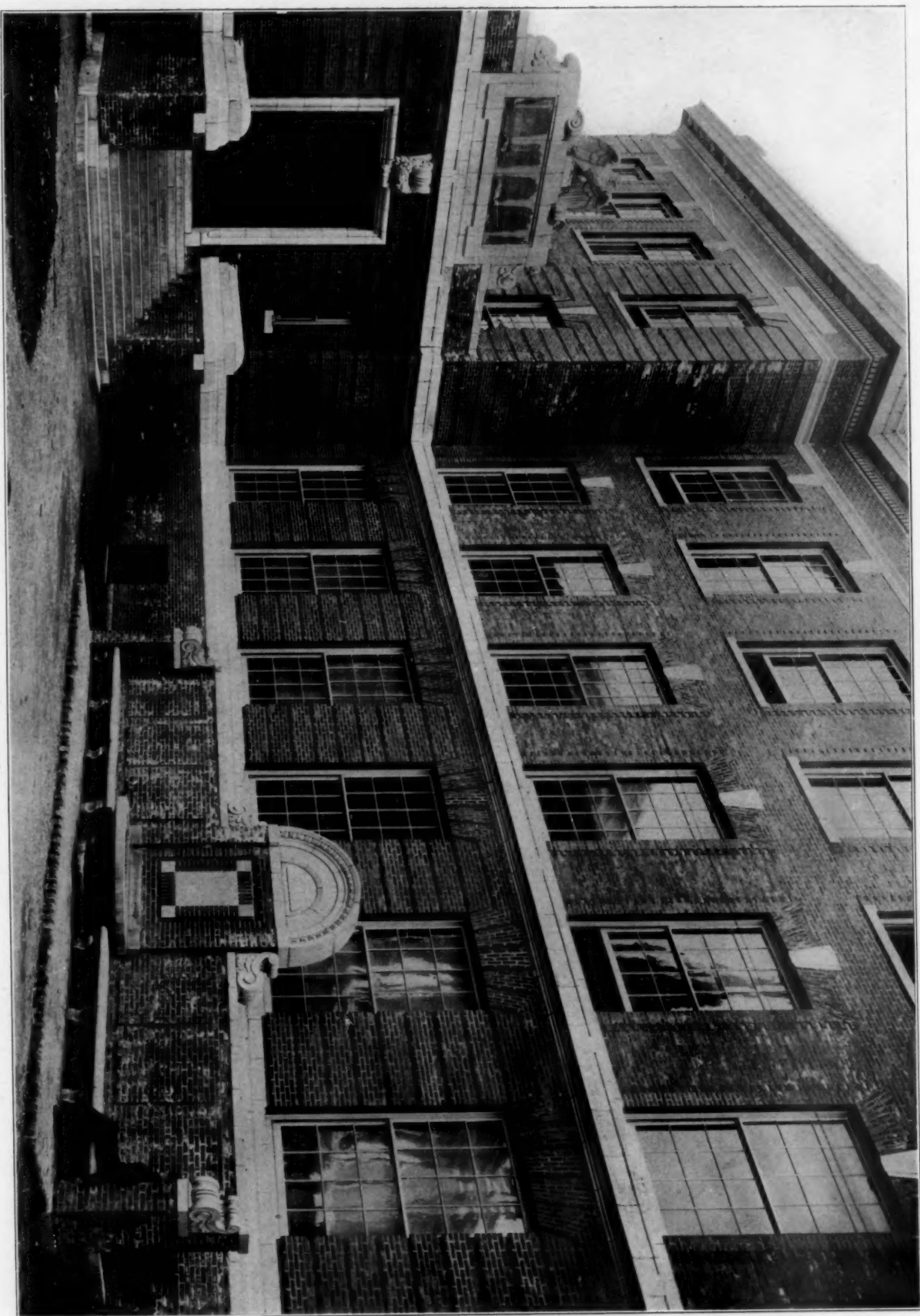
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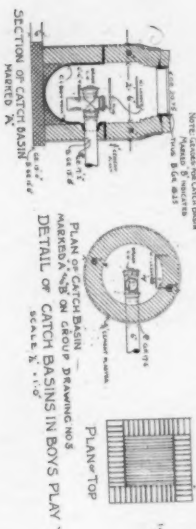
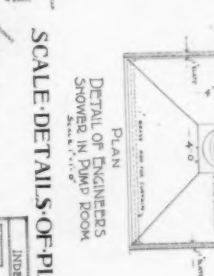
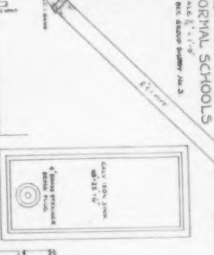
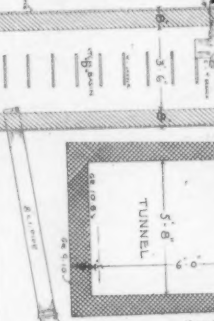
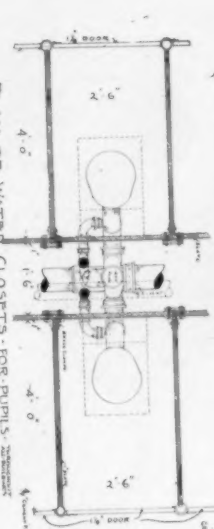
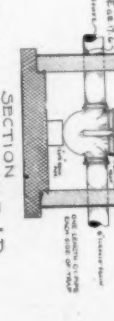
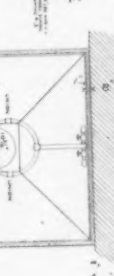
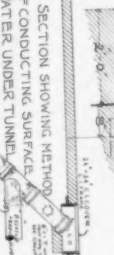
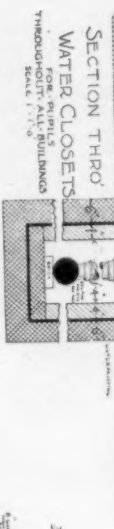
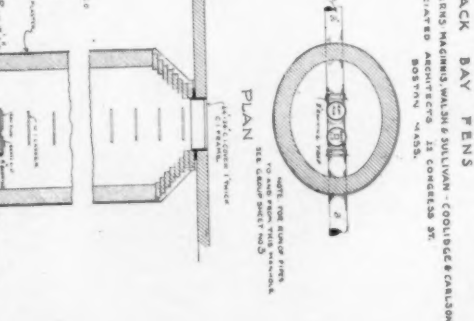
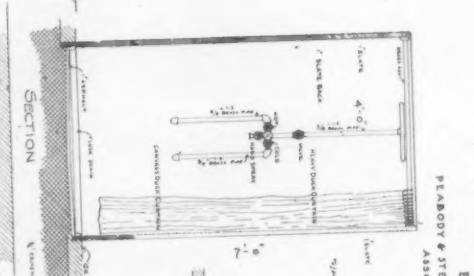
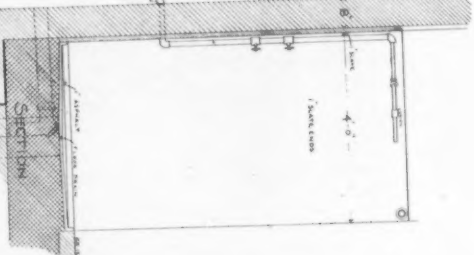
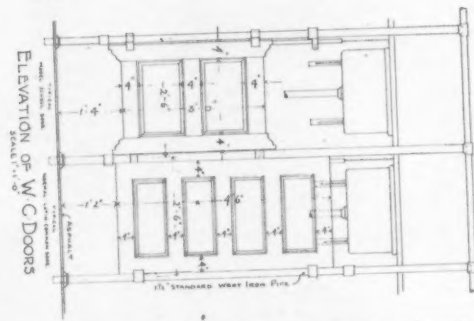
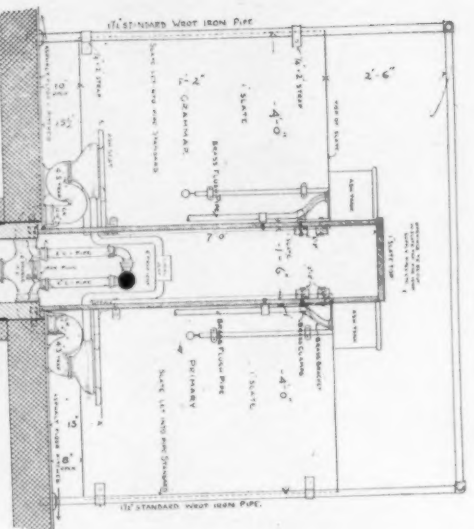
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BACK BAY FENS
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rest of the building and all of the others would be built over "made land," the gravel filling forming a layer 6 to 14 feet in depth overlying a layer of soft marsh mud that had an average depth of some 7 feet, the tough clay subsoil being found from 8 to 26 feet below the surface, according to circumstances, and the usual difficulties of building in the Back Bay district would have to be coped with. Accordingly, the buildings were all built on piles over which was spread a sheet of concrete reinforced under the Model School and the Girls' Latin with rods here and there.

Our readers will recall that it was this group of buildings that was made the scene of one of the fantastic investigations which the notoriety-seeking attorney for Suffolk County is so fond of conducting, charges having been brought that a sub-contractor was not using as much cement in the concrete as his contract called for. The very thorough investigation that followed showed that the concrete was of unusually good quality.

It was originally intended to build only the foundations of the fourth building of the group, the one known as the "Model School," but, as it was found necessary to provide a temporary home for the new High School of Commerce, a supplementary contract was made and the superstructure erected. This slight *contretemps* somewhat enhanced the total cost of the entire group which, in round numbers, has amounted to about \$802,000, not at all an extravagant sum to pay for buildings of the character, but still overrunning the Commission's preliminary estimate by some \$60,000.

As just said, the Model School building is now temporarily occupied by the High School of Commerce, but as the term "Model School" is unusual, it may be well to explain that a model school is a necessary, or at least a very desirable, adjunct of a Normal School; for housed in it and in full daily operation, equipped with live scholars, are a kindergarten and the nine grades of primary and grammar schools, with their manual-training and cooking-school attachments. The teaching in the Model School is done by the pupils of the Normal School under supervision so that they get actual training in their life work before they receive their graduating diplomas.

ONE visits such a group of buildings as the "Normal-Girls' Latin Group" in Boston for the sake of observing those things which cannot be observed elsewhere—unless by chance there happens to have been employed constructive methods and materials of unusual interest. But of these there was nothing that calls for comment: the buildings are of brick, limestone and buff terra-cotta, built in the usual "first-class" manner, the dimensions of the rooms presenting no unusual problems. There are, of course, many places where ingenious solutions were reached, many places where there were clear evidences of good workmanship and careful preparation, but we could find precisely similar evidence in other buildings which were not specifically intended for educational uses.

In a somewhat similar way a visitor could justly disregard a close examination of the system adopted for heating, ventilating, lighting and plumbing the buildings, for they have their prototypes in thousands of other buildings, so a general statement will meet the present requirements.

The group is heated by a low-pressure gravity system, operated at about 40 pounds pressure. The plant, situ-

ated in the basement of the Girls' Latin Building, consists of a battery of four horizontal tubular boilers which have a total capacity of 532 horsepower. It was demonstrated during this first winter of occupancy—even though it was an unusually mild one—that it would be needful to fire only three of the boilers, so that the fourth will be utilized only in case of emergency or while one of the others is undergoing the regulation cleaning and repairing.

The heating is partly by direct radiation and partly by indirect radiation, each building being furnished with its separate plenum-chamber and fan for forced circulation, ten-inch fans being used in the Girls' Latin and Normal Buildings, while a nine-inch fan serves the Model School. For the toilet-rooms in the Common Building there is a 24-inch fan run by a direct-connected electric motor, while two other motors driving five-inch fans remove the vitiated air from the gymnasium and other rooms. The larger fans have, each, separate stationary engines. The heat supply is subject to direct control by a complete system of automatic temperature control apparatus established in each of the rooms of the three school-buildings.

The primary coils are, of course, installed near the plenum-chambers. The total radiation for the Girls' Latin is 10,486 square feet; for the Normal 10,591 square feet; for the Model 8,355 square feet, and for the Common 5,270 square feet. The vitiated air is led by ducts to the ventilators in the attics, the current being accelerated by exhaust fans, motor-driven. As the buildings are grouped about a spacious interior court, fresh air for the plenum-chambers can safely be drawn from that source. This court-yard is spacious enough for a certain amount of leisurely strolling, if not for any violent form of exercise, and much attention has been given to intelligent planting with shrubs and vines, while large exedras at the north and south add agreeable decorative features. The size of the courtyard together with the moderate height of the buildings allows to each factor of the group as good lighting as if it stood completely isolated. One consequence of this arrangement is that not only does the group present an agreeable *ensemble* from every point of view, but also the architectural effect of the frontages on the courtyard is highly satisfactory. Considering the magnitude, character and complication of the plumbing-work, its cost was very reasonable, as the original contract, which covered work in all but the Model School, amounted to only \$29,062.

The character and thoroughness of the work required may be instanced by the fact that all cast-iron pipe and fittings had to be delivered at the building free from paint or tar coatings, so that they might thus be tested by the oil-test. After the work was erected it had to be tested by the water-test, as required by law, and finally the whole system had to endure successfully the smoke-test. Although lighted by electricity, the buildings had to be piped for gas, so that there is an auxiliary lighting system at hand in case of need. But, apart from lighting, gas would have had to be laid in for the sake of the cooking-ranges in the cooking-school, for the Bunsen-burners in the laboratories, and for other uses in connection with laboratory or manual-training work.

The specifications for electrical work covered pretty nearly the entire field of electrical engineering, for, besides wiring the buildings for lighting—3,501 lamps had

to be installed—there had to be set 1,702 outlets and receptacles in the exact spots called for by the drawings and the perfect convenience of pupils, teachers and demonstrators who were to use them. A perfect system of intramural telephonic service with its annunciators, switch-boards, desk telephones and so on had to be installed, and so too did an equally complicated system of bell signalling with different-toned bells, buzzers, etc. To this must be added the clock system, not only time-keeping clocks, master-clocks and secondary clocks as well as the outside, four-dial clock on the tower of the Common Building, but programme-clocks, and finally in the same category there are eleven three-inch and six six-inch door-bells.

The contractor had also to install a subsidiary fire-alarm system, furnish the stereopticons and an equal number of reflectoscopes. By the aid of these reflectoscopes solids can be thrown on the screen quite as satisfactorily as if the subject had been prepared on the usual glass slide.

Besides this a number of motor-generators and induction motors, ranging from one horsepower up to twenty, had to be installed for running heating and ventilating fans, operating machinery in the manual-training room and still others for instruction and demonstration in the physical laboratory and lecture-rooms.

As one studies the specification and views the buildings it is borne in on him that for educational needs in the modern understanding of the term electricity plays an even more important part than either heating or plumbing. But one visits a school-house for the sake of seeing things that cannot be seen elsewhere, the things that really make the building a school-house and not something else. The arrangement and distribution, of course, count for something, but the same rooms just so arranged might be used for other purposes. It is then the educational equipment, the "school fixtures," that give school-houses their distinctive character, and these should have the visitor's careful consideration. Now the one thing that gives distinctive character to the school-room is the blackboard, and it is a distinct disappointment to observe that Dr. C. H. Williams, who has the eyes of the school children of the city in his care, seems not yet to have accomplished the acceptance of his advice that lighter-colored "blackboards" and colored crayons should be substituted for the chalk and blackish surfaces which have been used from time immemorial. All the blackboards in these buildings are slabs of natural slate, and so in some degree better than the positively black-painted boards. Many of them are associated with an interesting feature, the "battery blackboard." This is set in a window casing that projects somewhat beyond the face of the slate blackboard and is furnished with double-hung sashes of solid wood—narrow slips carefully glued up—and covered on the school-room side with manila paper which has been given three coats of "blackboard paint." The natural slate blackboard is, however, continuous, but when it passes behind the "battery" frame it is set back so as to allow the upper sash of the battery to slide down in front of it. The teacher or pupil who uses it thus has three surfaces on which to work at need or discretion. The device is so obviously useful for lecture-work, for the preservation of a series of fundamental formulas or for certain kinds of diagrammatic work that one rather wonders to see only a single battery in a given class-room or lecture-hall.

The major part of other school equipment, aside from the all-important matter of the chairs in which the pupils pass most of their time, consists of shelves, drawers, cabinets and bookcases which are useful and necessary but are pretty generally of the type that is provided for other buildings, and, moreover, these articles are fitted into such spaces as the planning affords. They are not fixtures of definite size and form for which provision has to be made.

The fittings of the laboratories—chemical and physical—and the equipment of the manual-training and cooking rooms are of much interest, but it is impossible within permissible space to describe them—it takes half a dozen or more printed pages of the School-house Commissioner's report to describe the fittings of a chemical laboratory—but a few of the peculiarities can be noted. In the first place the sink is the all-important feature, and the water-supply must be abundant, but must be furnished under controlled or reduced pressure. The sinks here are of soapstone and about the waste outlet in the bottom slab are cut five concentric grooves called "mercury-rings," the object of which is to prevent any mercury—which is costly—from being carried away to the drains in cases where it is accidentally spilled.

The construction of the "hood" which, next to the sink, is the most necessary of equipments, is sufficiently shown in one of the accompanying plates, and so, too, is the arrangement of the two and three-level sinks that have to be used in the collection of gases. The hood, enclosed by glass sashes connected at the top with a separate vent-pipe, and furnished with a bevelled, dished and drained floor of slate about two feet ten inches above general floor level, is used in the case of those chemical mixtures which give off noxious or unpleasant fumes while being evaporated. Gas connections for the Bunsen-burners are a necessity, the stop-cocks or valves being outside, not inside, the hoods, and the sashes in front should give an opening when raised that allows ample freedom to the student. Hoods in a laboratory should have a total floor space equal to about one-tenth of the space occupied by the working desks or sinks.

Wall-maps and charts on spring-rollers housed in hoods bracketed out from the wall are amongst the obviously convenient fixtures; but a less obvious convenience is furnished in the shape of slotted mouldings over the blackboards and elsewhere, so arranged that small wall-charts or photographs can easily be slipped in or out.

As the pupils here are generally of fairly mature age, the desk seat is of not so much consequence as in those schools where the children are still growing, but even here the seats are provided with backs which, within a small range, can be adjusted to the figure or stature of the user. Moreover, the back tilts forward so as to give passage between the seat rows, a much better arrangement than when the seat itself tilts up against the back.

The fact that the buildings are to be used mainly by girls and women has not been lost to sight, and there have been provided sundry "rest-rooms," and hospital rooms where first aid of a simple kind can be administered without loss of time. In fact the visitor leaves the buildings with a very sensible perception of the fact that the architects and the authorities have been as keenly alive to the humanitarian as well as to the educational and economical conditions of their problem.

The Secret of the Sphinx Revealed

UNTIL recently—to be precise, until the publication last week of the report of the proceedings of the Spiritist Congress—it has been assumed, erroneously, as it now appears, that the sole recipient of the secret of the wonderful construction and mechanical skill of the early Egyptians was that mysterious being with the head of a man and the body of a lion, known to the Arabs as the "Father of Terror." Among the architectural achievements of the Egyptians, the Pyramids, for ages past, have held the pride of place. Lénormant describes them as "the most prodigious of all human constructions," and they were regarded by Greece and Rome as among the seven wonders of the world. Historians of all ages and of all countries, from Herodotus to James Ferguson, have felt and expressed the warmest admiration for the vast amount of skill displayed in their construction, skill which enabled these Egyptian builders to pile one over the other, blocks of granite weighing more than fifty tons, some over thirty feet in length, and so well set and fitted that the joints are scarcely perceptible. By what means the Egyptians were enabled to deal with these immense blocks of granite, which a modern engineer would hesitate to handle, has long been a mystery. But the secret has now been revealed, for at the meeting of the congress held in Paris on June 11, M. Bose announced to an awestruck and sympathetic audience that the superposition of the granite blocks of the Pyramids was effected by the combined *wills* of the assembled thousands acting under the control of adepts in their midst, and of priests in the adjoining temples, whose ruins are always close to these monumental piles. In short, the early Egyptians were masters of the art of levitation. We are pleased to be able to draw our readers' attention to this profound and scholarlike solution of a much-debated problem, and, incidentally, with this glorious result of a congress fresh in our minds, we take the opportunity of expressing our regret at having recently published some rather disparaging remarks concerning congresses in general.—*Builders' Journal* (London, England).

The Assertive Billboard

IF the people and press of the country would take united action to suppress the billboard nuisance, something might be accomplished toward a better enjoyment of life out of doors.

The dweller in large cities finds his æsthetic sensibilities constantly affronted by the insistent demands on his attention by advertisements that flaunt their announcements at ever turn. Whether he saunters upon the surface, betakes himself to the elevated cars, or drops into the subway, these vari-colored posters, whose color schemes offend good taste, claim his notice. Of course, that is what they are there for, but it is doubtful if there is any good reason for the use of public vehicles to foist upon one's notice the wares of tradesmen.

No one can dispute the value to the vendor, of judicious advertising, but there is a time and proper place for it. If we walk abroad these offensive billboards stare at us with all their ugliness; if we take train for some distant

city we find the entire route lined with signs, and, while we may object to this defacement of the landscape, the discordant note in a beautiful view—and it always happens that the most assertive signs are set up in the most picturesque places—we cannot cease to admire the skill of the advertiser who so persistently repeats his story between New York and Washington, that it is indelibly fixed on one's memory.

It is to be regretted that the scenic preservation societies, now largely inactive, could not be urged to energetic action toward mitigating this nuisance.

That architects are ordinarily alive to the bad taste displayed in the discriminate placing of advertisements on fences and walls is generally recognized, as it was by the architect of the new municipal building at New Bedford, Mass.

With a proper sense of the artistic properties, and doubtless warned by past experiences, he inserted the not unusual condition in the specifications that, if it was found necessary to place a fence around the lot during construction, no advertisements should be allowed thereon.

It appears that, ignoring this condition, the city committee in charge of public buildings allowed themselves to be swerved from their better judgment, and gave a concession to a local advertising agent, permitting him to cover the fence surrounding the municipal building with many conspicuous advertisements.

Naturally, the better element among New Bedford's citizens have expressed in a most forcible manner their disapproval of this action, and there is now in progress a mimic warfare for the abatement of what they very properly term an infringement of the rights of the people.

We shall watch with interest the outcome, and would be glad to know that other cities were equally insistent of their rights.

Melrose Abbey

THE description of Melrose Abbey by moonlight which appeared in "The Lay of the Last Minstrel," published in 1805, was not without its influence in creating interest in Gothic. At the time a part of the ruins was used as a parish church. Southey remarked in 1805 that the finest of the abbey windows was injured by the weight of a clock placed above it, and another window served as a passage into the church. The ascent to it was on planks. About 1810 a church was erected in the village of Melrose, and this was partially destroyed last week by fire, for, although the walls remain, it is doubtful whether they can be restored. The organ in the church cost £700, and is now lost. After the new church was set up, Scott was able to carry out some reparations at the Abbey, the Duke of Buccleuch, who possessed the Abbey lands, paying the expenses. Scott was proud of his amateur restoration, for in a letter to Lord Montague he wrote: "Melrose is looking exceedingly well. I begin to think taking off the old roof would have hurt it, at least externally, by diminishing its effect on the eye. The lowering of the roofs of the aisles has had a most excellent effect." Much as he admired Melrose, Scott loved to make occasionally a raid on it in order to carry off pieces of sculpture and other ornament for the embellishment of Abbotsford.—*Architect and Contract Reporter* (London).

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Illustrations:

The Normal and Latin School Group, Boston, Mass.
(10 pages).

THE almost universal, and, it must be admitted, righteous dissatisfaction which has been expressed with the award in the recent prison plant competition held in this State is in striking contrast with sentiments voiced in the case of many other important competitions conducted throughout the country during the last decade. It is true that in the majority of instances where satisfactory results have been attained modern methods have characterized the proceedings by which plans were obtained, yet some states and municipalities continue to secure plans for important buildings in accordance with the faulty and archaic method employed in this latest fiasco. They are, however, fortunately few, and the number is fast diminishing as a consequence of lamentable results that have almost invariably attended the practice. The recent unhappy experience of a sister State in the erection of her public buildings, plans for which were secured by a surprisingly similar method, would seem to have offered an object lesson that New York might well have profited by, but apparently it was either misunderstood or ignored.

IT is inconceivable, however, that matters can longer remain unchanged in this State. The invariably gratifying outcome of competitions held for Federal buildings, in accordance with the provisions of the "Tars-

ney Act," by which three judges are chosen from the ranks of prominent practicing architects to make the award, cannot be ascribed to fortuitous circumstances. The Act has been in operation long enough to effectually disprove any such claim. While naturally there have been at times some slight differences of opinion concerning awards made under this Act, they were of a character to be expected and respected, and in no instance, so far as our memory serves, has there been any suspicion of favoritism or undue influence. Even cases of dissatisfaction have been rare. Recognizing the wisdom of the method employed by the Government in selecting architects for public buildings as evidenced by results, Mayor McClellan adopted it in a slightly modified form when plans for a City Prison on Ricker's Island were desired, and again in the case of the new Municipal Building which this city proposes to erect at the Manhattan end of the Brooklyn Bridge. In both instances the wisdom and success of the plan was amply demonstrated.

WITH the long list of successfully conducted competitions on the one hand, where the awards have been just and accurate, where the buildings have been erected without a word of suspicion or just criticism being directed against the conduct of the operation, a credit to the architect and to the State, while on the other are arrayed buildings too numerous, and in most cases of too malodorous origin and fame to mention, the majority of which resulted from what were called by courtesy "competitions," conducted on the political plan, there can be no doubt concerning the attitude of right-minded and intelligent men toward this question. The matter must, however, be brought to general attention if it is to be corrected. New York is entitled to better service and better buildings than can ever be secured or reasonably hoped for under the present régime: and it would seem as though present conditions offered peculiar opportunities for efficient action in the cause of progress and reform. Moreover, it appears probable that the architects of the State, if alive to their own as well as the public good, could be of much service at this juncture.

THE perennial and general interest in art circles that attaches to the subject of the Venus de Milo and the controversy regarding the exact position of the missing arms is greatly stimulated by the recent report to the effect that an un mutilated terra cotta representation of the famous statue, with arms complete, has been discovered in Greece. According to this report the statuette found exactly reproduces the Venus de Milo type, and represents the goddess holding a mirror in her right hand, while her left supports her drapery. After nearly a century of doubt and uncertainty which has been productive of much speculation and a prodigious amount of literature, in the form of articles by archæologists and others, it will undoubtedly be disappointing to many if this latest apocryphal work is finally accepted as settling the question. Indeed the solution offered does appear inadequate, and although we realize there is a possibility that future developments may require a redistribution of the matter, we are inclined to allow the report to rest for the present under the "important-if-true" classification, feeling that there is a strong probability of its lacking in the essential quality.

Current News Section

THE ASSUAN DAM AND THE TEMPLES AT PHILÆ.

A correspondent of the Pittsburgh, Pa., *Chronicle*, writing of the Assuan Dam, that marvel of engineering skill, and the probable destruction of the Temples of Philæ by the damming of the river, causing the water to engulf the foundations of the temples, entertainingly writes as follows:

For the hundreds of miles from Cairo to Assuan the scenery of the Nile is somewhat monotonous. Hour by hour and day by day as one's boat makes its way southward there is the same unvarying view—the yellowish white mud-walled villages along the river's edge, the fringe of palms, the green belt of fields now narrowed as the hills close in, now expanding into a level plain some miles broad, and, beyond, the reddish gray terraced hills of the desert, for the most part too low and too featureless to add dignity to the scene.

But when the region of the cataracts is reached and the Nile roars down between bold ridges and scattered islands, and foams over half-sunken ledges, and the hills break into peak and precipice, one sees at last really beautiful river scenery. At the First Cataract the great dam of Assuan has utterly changed the landscape and made a widespread reservoir the chief feature of what was a few years ago a wild scene of rocks and rapids.

The fame of Philæ's beauty in old days came no doubt partly from the contrast between its wild surroundings and the monotonous character of the sluggish river below the cataracts. But there is another contrast that makes it a delight to the traveler who has any artistic insight. Massive, almost brutal, strength is the salient characteristic of the temples of the lower Nile. But those of Philæ were built under the Greek rulers of Egypt, and in later Roman imperial days when the Greek was still the chief artist-craftsman of the land.

Here the architect was not content to make mere titanic bulk and strength the leading feature of his work, as in the towered gateways and the pillared halls of Karnak. But he brought to his task the Greek sense of balanced proportion and added a charm of detail of which the earlier builders of Egypt had no idea.

But there is no need to dwell on the beauty of these Graeco-Egyptian temples, with their wonderful setting of rock and river. The world acknowledged that the Philæ of old days was the gem of the Nile. And when the construction of the Assuan Dam was first proposed, and the plans showed a barrier of such a height that the whole of Philæ would be buried under the waters of the lake above it, there were protests from the artists and art lovers of every civilized land. In the front of the movement in England was the late Sir Frederick Leighton, who went so far as to say that "any tampering with Philæ would be a lasting blot on the British occupation of Egypt."

It was suggested that the dam might be placed a few miles higher up so as to close the gorge where the Nile runs between the cliffs of the pass of Kalabsheh. But the engineers objected that there they could not get the secure foundation for their work afforded by the mass of syenitic granite through which the river cuts its way at Assuan. The protest of the art world was not, however, without result. The original proposal had been that the dam should be raised to the height of 118 meters (387 feet) above the low water level at the foot of the cataract. The engineers and promoters of the scheme consented to reduce this height to 106 meters (347 feet). With this modifications, instead of the temples being drowned in the flood, the highest level of the reservoir would (they said) inundate only part of the island, and the artists were assured that the temples would be safe enough.

And now the engineers and the financiers have asked to be allowed to take back part of what they conceded a few years ago. They then cut 12 meters off their projected dam. The government has now agreed to their adding half of this to the existing barrier. It is to be raised six meters, nearly 20 feet, and for a great part of the year Philæ will be under water, with only the upper part of its towered gateways rising from the surface of the reservoir.

The matter has been decided. Egypt wants more water, in order that the irrigated area may be extended and the revenue increased. There will be a gain of millions in return for the million and a half sterling that the additional work will cost. It is too late for protest. But is it too late for a plea that something should yet be done to save the temples?

When the Assuan Dam was first decided upon, several projects for the preservation of the beauties of Philæ were proposed. Dr. Wallace Budge, the keeper of Egyptian and Assyrian Antiquities at the British Museum, has suggested that the buildings should be removed stone by stone and rebuilt on one of the hills that look down on the river. The cost would be about £50,000, a trifling sum compared with the millions that Egypt gains by the reservoir. The chief objection is that placed thus on the mainland the buildings would lose all the added charm of their old position in the midst of the Nile. Another plan, at once the best and the most daring, was that suggested by the late Sir Benjamin Baker, who gave his great authority for its feasibility. He said that at the cost of about £200,000 the temples could be taken down, their foundations made good and raised above the highest water level, and then they could be rebuilt on the new platform thus provided.

Might not this suggestion be now reconsidered? It would have been easier work a few years ago and would probably be somewhat more costly now. The restored group of temples would not indeed be the old Philæ, but standing on the raised site serve most of its traditional beauties for future ages, and tell the men of those days that our own was not entirely one of vandal utilitarianism.

ABBEYS AND PRIORIES

An interesting correspondence in the *Architect and Contract Reporter*, of London, as to the difference between an Abbot and a Prior and the buildings in which they had authority, is being printed. The following letter by an architect will be read with interest:

SIR,—It is not of much importance to architects to learn the difference between an abbot and a prior. What is desirable is information concerning the difference, if any, between the buildings in which they presided, or had either any special characteristic by which it could be recognized? I learn from books that originally the priory was simply a farm, or rather a piece of land fitted to become one, and the prior or prapostus was the monk who had charge of it. If a dwelling were erected for the laborers—farm labor being a duty of the Benedictines—it became a priory. Where an abbot of, say, the Canon Regulars, obtained from the bishop (who was originally the parish priest of his diocese) the right to serve a certain district, the vicar or curate-in-charge from the abbey would then become a prior—prieurs-cures they were called in France. A vast number of chapels were in consequence priories, and the monk in charge was allowed to perform certain clerical duties, but not all for which a secular priest would be privileged. In that way the prior was controlled by the abbot; but in certain cases, when a king claimed the right of nomination, the prior was independent of his abbot. The circumstances which determined the position of a priory were so various I cannot discover any law of planning which applied solely to priories. A prior might one day be elected abbot, and, as far as I can see, a successful priory might become an abbey. It would not have the associations of the original monastery, but compensation could be found for them in other ways. We know that changes have occurred in bishoprics, one place after a time being preferred to the spot on which the episcopal chair was originally set up, and no doubt the abbatial seat also was liable to removal. But, unless I am mistaken, the normal type of the monastic church and of the monastic dwellings and offices was followed without regard to whether the buildings were to form an abbey or a priory. As in modern secular establishments, it was an affair of £ s. d. Without record or tradition it is impossible, I imagine, to determine whether a ruin was an abbey or a priory. I regard the subject mainly from the evidence of plan.—Obediently yours,

AN ARCHITECT.

NEW YORK'S NEW HIGH PRESSURE SYSTEM FOR FIRE USES

The tests recently made of the high pressure mains of the new water system in New York City have been so very successful, that the passing of the steam fire engine in that city seems assured.

With the new system a conflagration should be impossible. An ample supply of water, under the heaviest pressure that can be

controlled, will now be available at all times. Curtains of water may be put on every side of a fire, and with proper connections the tallest buildings will receive adequate protection.

The system as installed makes it possible in case of droughts or other causes of a lack of the regular supply, to draw the water from the North and East Rivers.

Personal

Seward G. Dobbins, formerly connected with the office of Howard A. Stout, architect, has opened an office in the Bartlett Building, Atlantic City, N. J., for the practice of architecture. He would be glad to receive catalogues and samples from contractors and materials men.

J. H. Albright of Fort Dodge, Iowa, and J. W. Bradford of Sioux City, have formed a co-partnership for the practice of their profession as architects and have opened an office at Fort Dodge.

At a recent meeting of the State Association of Architects at Oklahoma City, J. J. Walsh of McAlester was elected President and W. M. Fowler of Oklahoma, Secretary.

The association proposes to advocate the passage of a bill regulating the practice of architecture in their State.

Book Notes

THE GARDENS OF ENGLAND IN THE SOUTHERN AND WESTERN COUNTIES. Cloth, 8 x 11, 307 pp. text, 8 color plates and 128 halftone illustrations. Published by *The Studio*, London, Paris and New York. \$3.25, express paid. M. A. Vinson, Caxton Building, Cleveland, Ohio, agent for the publication.

One naturally expects interesting and instructive books, volumes that find a welcome place on the library table, or on the book shelves of the architect, when issued by *The Studio*, and this volume is no exception to those that have preceded it.

It presents a splendid photographic record of the most picturesque spots in the best part of scenic England.

Now that the home of the American of means vies in its cost and completeness with many of the stately homes of England, the architect will find between the covers of this valuable work much that will admirably serve his purpose in a suggestive way.

While the illustrations accent the garden feature, many of them also present architectural details of much beauty and value.

EXAMPLES OF SWEDISH ARCHITECTURE OF THE PRESENT TIME. Paper. Text, V; Illustrations, 95 pp. Price, \$5.00. Bruno Hessling Co., 64 E. Twelfth St., New York, Sole Agents for the United States.

This work is an interesting pictorial presentation of Swedish architecture as it exists to-day, as shown at the architectural exhibition held at Vienna the early part of this year.

It interests, because it shows the endeavor to cut adrift from previous forms and traditions, and to replace these with something that might perhaps inaugurate a national school of architecture.

Much of the material illustrated will have value to the architectural student, whose appreciation will be enhanced by the excellence of the halftones and the color plates.

Industrial Information

VENTILATION

We have received from the Garner Ventilating Co., of 115 Dearborn Street, Chicago, an interesting pamphlet giving a brief description of their system of ventilation and setting forth the merits claimed for it. The pamphlet describes two mechanical ventilators which appear to be the prime movers of a most novel and effective method of ventilating small offices and rooms.

The fresh air supply is drawn into and discharged from the device by means of a positive pressure fan of the centrifugal

type, which would seem to insure certain and equal ventilation at all times regardless of varying conditions of weather.

It is claimed for this system that it gives positive ventilation, is self contained and portable. The air is positively filtered, tempered and regulated, and there is no possibility of draughts. The Garner Ventilating Company invite correspondence from architects and builders.

A NEW HEAT REGULATOR AS APPLIED TO VARIOUS FORMS OF HEATING APPARATUS

Just as any temperature below 68 degrees in a room produces discomfort, a temperature above 72 degrees is equally uncomfortable. A higher temperature means needless heat—an unnecessary waste of fuel.

The Ideal Syphon Regitherm is the name of a newly devised temperature regulator now being placed on the market by the American Radiator Company of Chicago. It is a self controlled, self contained instrument, and when adjusted to the temperature required, which is instantly effected, requires no attention. The many advantages claimed by the makers of this regulator are set forth in a pamphlet which the American Radiator Company will mail to architects and builders on application.

This system is so novel in its construction and apparently so positive in its working, we believe it will be of interest to investigate its merits.

WINDOW COAL CHUTES

If one doubts that this is an age of special attention to detail in construction one has but to glance in review over the vast amount of trade literature now being published.

No part of the building appears too insignificant to warrant the care and inventive study of specialists. After years of the usual cellar window, with its lack of convenience, the Holland Furnace Company, of Holland, Michigan, has perfected a most ingenious chute for which they claim many advantages. Being "a chute with a glass," it does not keep light from the cellar, it is said to be burglar proof and its appearance makes it an ornament to the house. The Holland Furnace Company have prepared a number of cards which illustrate these advantages claimed, which they will send to architects and builders on application.

PRESSED RADIATORS

A new way of making radiators for steam and hot-water heating is announced in a 16-page brochure recently issued by the Pressed Radiator Company of Pittsburgh. The new radiator, instead of being made up of a set of iron castings, as hitherto, consists of a light but rigid sheet-metal structure, fashioned and assembled by special machinery.

Each section of the radiator is made up of a pair of the metal sheets, dished or "pressed" to the required shape and joined by an impervious seam designed to withstand the pressure without leaking in service. The completed section is then heavily galvanized inside and out.

It is claimed that these pressed radiators are smaller and lighter than the kind now in general use, and that on account of their lightness they are cheaper to install. It is also claimed as an advantage that the comparatively thin walls of the radiator permit it to heat up and cool off very quickly.

H. W. Johns-Manville Company of New York has opened a branch office at 30 South Pennsylvania Street, Indianapolis, Ind., to take care of the local requirements of the trade in that territory. Mr. Charles E. Wehr will have charge of this new branch office.

NOVEL HARDWARE FOR METROPOLITAN TOWER.

Yale & Towne Co. have originated for the Metropolitan Life Insurance tower an entirely new lock, harmonizing with the fireproof features of the door, attached to the door with no visible means of fastening, and without cutting or marring in any way the edge, and having for its economical feature that of being interchangeable with the letter hole plate which is set in the hinge stile. Thus, if the swing of any corridor door need be changed, the lock is set into the mortise of the letter hole plate and the letter hole plate set into the mortise of the lock.

Building News

MAINE

BANGOR.—Congregation Beth Israel has decided, it is said, to erect a new synagogue, to be more conveniently located than the present structure on Centre street. Present structure is to be sold and new and modern structure erected.

PORTLAND.—The Second Adventist Church has sold property and has purchased new site on Portland street, near High street, for the erection of a new church, it is reported. Address Rev. Chas. F. King, pastor, for further information.

RUMFORD FALLS.—Rev. Father A. J. Barry, of this place, has charge of the erection of a new Catholic Chapel at Oquossec. Work is to be pushed forward rapidly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

PETERBORO.—A meeting of the City Council Committee on Finance was held recently, when the erection of a new schoolhouse on Fenn street was discussed. Address Mayor MacInnis for further information regarding the matter.

WARREN.—At a recent meeting of the Governor and Council at this place, it was decided to make arrangements immediately for the erection of a new State sanatorium in this town. Architects will be asked to submit plans at once, and about \$50,000 is to be expended.

MASSACHUSETTS

ATTLEBORO.—Fifty thousand dollars is to be spent at this point in the erection of a new Young Men's Christian Association Building, it is stated.

GLOUCESTER.—According to reports, Charles A. Hight of Coolidge & Hight has purchased property on Adams Heights, Annisquam, for the erection of a new residence of Elizabethan architecture.

NATICK.—We understand from the local press that Edward L. McManus has purchased property on Walnut Hill for the erection of a large and handsome new villa.

NEW BEDFORD.—Pentecostal Church of the Nazarene, on Cottage Street, near Kempton street, is reported to be considering the purchase of property in that vicinity for the erection of a new church. The church was organized recently by the Rev. Theodore E. Beebe, and tent meetings are now being held on above location.

SPRINGFIELD.—According to the decision rendered in the recent preliminary competition for the new City Hall Building at this point, the plans prepared by Architects Evans & Bright of Philadelphia, associated with Wilson, Harris & Richards of Philadelphia and Louis R. Kaufmann of New York were selected, and they were invited to enter the final competition together with Cass Gilbert, Hale & Rogers, Lord & Hewlett and Pell & Corbett of New York and Peabody & Stearns of Boston.

RHODE ISLAND

NEWPORT.—P. F. Collier of New York is said to be contemplating the erection of a handsome residence at this point, to cost approximately \$100,000.

CONNECTICUT

MIDDLETOWN.—We learn from dispatches that Rev. S. Musiel, pastor of St. Mary's Church, on Hubbard street, has under consideration the erection of a new school for the children of his parish.

NEW LONDON.—Arrangements are now being made to raise funds for the erection of the new St. Joseph's Church. Address the pastor or Charles U. Sauter of Ocean avenue and Perry street for further information.

NEW YORK

AFTON.—A special election was held here recently, when it was voted to erect a new schoolhouse; \$20,000 has been proposed and will be used for this purpose, it is stated. Address the School Board.

CANASTOTA.—The Methodist Society of this city is reported to be making arrangements for a new church, to be erected on site of burned structure at New Boston and North Main streets. Building Committee has been appointed to secure plans.

DUNKIRK.—The Italian Catholic Church of Holy Trinity has purchased the property at the corner of Wright and Ruggles street for the erection of a new church. Funds are to be raised as soon as possible for new structure.

FLUSHING.—The Central Board of Education recently held a meeting, when it was decided to secure site here for the proposed new high school. Address School Commissioner Rupert B. Thomas for further information regarding the matter.

HAMILTON.—The Methodist Church of this place is to be torn down and a modern new structure is to be erected in its place. Address the pastor for further information regarding the matter.

JAMAICA.—A new English Lutheran Church is to be organized here, and it is probable that new building may soon be erected. Address Rev. George U. Wenner of the Christ Church of New York City for further information regarding the matter.

LAKE GEORGE.—At a recent meeting of the Business Committee of the Silver Bay Association, the question of rebuilding the auditorium at Silver Bay, Lake George, recently destroyed by fire, was discussed. W. H. Hollister, Jr., is interested.

MOUNT MORRIS.—It is stated that next Summer the Catholics of this city are to make arrangements for erecting a new parochial school. Address Father Day of this place for further information regarding the matter.

NEW YORK.—Independent estimates will be taken by the Washington Heights Development and Construction Company, Terminal Building, New York, for the erection of two apartment houses on Audubon avenue and One Hundred and Seventy-seventh and One Hundred and Seventy-eighth streets. Plans for these two buildings have been drawn by Architects Mulliken & Moeller.

Architects Warren & Wetmore are said to be preparing plans for a fourteen-story brick hotel structure for Robert Water Golet, to be located at the corner of Forty-sixth street and Madison avenue.

Architects Bannister & Schell are said to have prepared plans for a twelve-story commercial building, to be erected at Beekman street by the Nassau-Beekman Company at a probable expenditure of \$800,000.

Montgomery Maze has purchased property at the corner of Broadway and One Hundred and First street for the erection of a large and modern new auditorium, we understand. Address Mr. Maze at Lexington avenue and Forty-third street.

Father Donatis, pastor of the Church of St. Rocco, Brooklyn, has purchased a site at the corner of Twenty-eighth street, near Fourth avenue, for the erection of a new building, it is reported.

YONKERS.—Architect George Starin Cowles, according to press reports, has been commissioned to prepare plans for a bathhouse and swimming pool, to be located at the southwest corner of Yonkers avenue and Oak street, and to cost in the neighborhood of \$40,000.

NEW JERSEY

ASBURY PARK.—Rev. Thomas A. Roche, pastor of the Church of the Holy Spirit, recently called a meeting when the erection of a new church was discussed. It has been proposed to raise between \$75,000 and \$80,000 for this purpose.

ATLANTIC CITY.—A Business Men's Club is to be formed here as soon as possible and it is stated between \$150,000 and \$200,000 is to be expended for the erection of a new clubhouse. Address President Salus of the Business League.

PITMAN.—It is stated that the Camp Meeting Association and the Pitman Cottagers Association are interested in the erection of a large new auditorium here.

NEWARK.—It is currently reported in the local press that Architects George B. Post & Sons of New York have been commissioned to prepare the plans for the additional buildings to be erected by the Prudential Life Insurance Company at this place, at a probable expenditure of \$1,500,000.

STOCKTON.—At a special election held by the Board of Education, the question of a new school at this place was discussed. It is proposed to erect on old site.

TUCKERTON.—At a recent meeting of the Board of Education, \$20,000 in bonds were discussed for the erection of a modern new brick school, it is stated.

PENNSYLVANIA

EASTON.—Sealed bids are to be received until July 30 by the Secretary of the Board of Control, Second street, for the new addition to the Easton High School, to be modern construction and after plans by John W. Stewart, Beeder Building, architect.

ERIE.—The members of Christ German Evangelical Congregation have purchased a piece of land, situated on the west side of Sassafras street, near the corner of Sixteenth street, upon which they are about to erect a new church building. Rev. Val Kern is the pastor.

FRYSVILLE.—The question of dissolving the Lutheran and Reformed Church here is being discussed. It was decided re-

cently by the Lutheran portion of the church to purchase site opposite building for the erection of a new edifice.

NORTH SCRANTON.—According to report the members of the Holy Rosary Church are endeavoring to raise funds toward a new church, which is to be erected here soon.

OAKDALE.—The congregation of the First Presbyterian Church, of Oakdale, has decided to build a new house of worship, we understand.

PHILADELPHIA.—C. E. Schermerhorn, architect, has completed drawings and specifications for a church to be built at the northeast corner of Forty-fifth and Walnut streets, for the congregation of the Fortieth Street Methodist Church.

H. L. Reinhold, Jr., has been commissioned to prepare plans for a three-story stone school house, to be built in Upper Darby Township, Delaware County, at a cost of about \$40,000.

Architect W. Copeland Furber is preparing plans for a \$50,000 building for the Textile National Bank, at Kensington avenue and Huntington street. It will be a one-story structure, of granite, to measure 45x100 feet.

PITTSBURG.—The B. H. & B. Trunk Company will shortly have a new factory and warehouse built on the North Side to replace the one burned last year. The new building will be as large as the original one and will occupy the same site on Isabella street. Plans of the warehouse have been completed by McCollum & Dowler, architects.

PITTSBURG.—Architect Thomas Podmore of Wilkes-Barre, is reported to be preparing plans for the erection of a handsome building for the Pittston Gazette on Broad street.

UNIONTOWN.—The congregation of the Methodist Episcopal Church of this place, of which Dr. J. B. Risk is pastor, is said to be contemplating the erection of a new edifice. Dr. C. H. La Clair is chairman of the committee in charge. Estimated expenditure, \$125,000.

WASHINGTON.—According to the daily press, the school directors of Amwell Township recently held a meeting when the erection of two new schools was discussed.

YORK.—Edward S. Brooks, former county treasurer, has purchased property in Springetsbury Township, east of this city, along the Plank road, for the erection of a handsome new country residence.

OHIO

CLEVELAND.—The Board of Trustees of the Cleveland Newsboys' Association recently held a meeting in the office of Harvey D. Doulter, in the Rockefeller Building, and elected W. P. Murray president. The organization now occupies quarters on Prospect avenue N. W., but is discussing the raising of funds as soon as possible for the erection of modern new building.

Five million dollars has been donated by the Cleveland capitalist, Benjamin Rose, for the erection of an institution for the care of the needy on East Ninth street, near Eagle. Louis Esty is the attorney in charge.

DELAWARE.—The trustees of the Girls' Industrial Home, according to reports, have had plans prepared by Architects Mariott & Allen of Columbus, Ohio, for a new

building and estimates for the construction will be received until August 1.

PERRYSBURG.—The Fort Meigs Memorial Commission is reported to be having plans prepared by Architect David L. Stine of Toledo for a new building to be erected at this place.

MANSFIELD.—Sealed proposals will be received by the Commissioners of Richland County at the court house, Mansfield, O., until August 7, for constructing a dome on the court house, and also constructing a power house, conduits for steam pipe and installation of heating plant in court house, and boilers and steam pump in power house, all according to plans and specifications which will be on file in the office of the auditor of Richland County or at the office of Vernon Redding, architect, after July 18.

NEWARK.—The congregation of the First Presbyterian Church of this place is reported to be having plans prepared by Architect Vernon Redding of Mansfield, O., for a new church edifice.

TOLEDO.—The trustees of the Second Congregational Church have commissioned Architect F. E. Walker to prepare plans for the proposed new building, it is said.

INDIANA

EVANSTON.—Architects Joseph G. Steinkamp & Brother are reported to have been commissioned to prepare the plans for the Sisters' Home to be erected by the congregation of the St. Mark's Church at a probable cost of \$25,000. Several other improvements are being planned by the congregation.

FAIRMOUNT.—According to reports, the M. E. Church members have decided to purchase a site and erect a new church building here in the Spring.

INDIANAPOLIS.—C. A. Wallingford, architect, has prepared drawings and is about to let contract for a flat building for Bert Essex, to be erected in Woodruff place, in this city, at a cost of about \$25,000.

A new temple, of Egyptian design and costing \$250,000, is to be erected by Murat Temple, Mystic Shrine, on the ground located at the northeast corner of Michigan and New Jersey streets. Plans for the building are now being prepared by D. A. Bohlen & Son, architects, and probably will be approved by the building committee this week.

TERRE HAUTE.—We understand that announcement has been made that W. S. Rea is contemplating the erection of a five-story building at Eighth and Cherry streets.

ILLINOIS

CANTON.—The School Board recently held its regular meeting, and it was decided to appropriate \$15,000 for new school.—Address President W. T. Reichert for further information.

CHICAGO.—According to the daily press, John B. Carter has bought the northeast corner of Cottage Grove avenue and Forty-seventh street, and it is said that he will improve same with a store and flat building.

Plans are being drawn for a four-story theater that is to be built by John Cort at 75 Dearborn Street. The cost will be about \$100,000. J. E. O. Pridmore is the architect.

Thomas E. Wells is reported to be plan-

ning to improve a large tract of land in Tracy with one hundred dwellings, to cost approximately \$300,000.

The question of building a police headquarters on property owned by the city on Madison street is being discussed at this place, it is currently reported.

Directors of the Illinois Manufacturers' Association are planning the construction of a manufacturers' exchange and public hall for the use of conventions, public meetings, concerts and theatricals. A site in Randolph street, or on a line with it, near Lake Michigan, was considered desirable. The proposed building would cost from \$1,000,000 to \$3,000,000.

W. A. Wieboldt, proprietor of the Lion department store, will erect a theater in connection with his property at the corner of Ashland avenue and Division street. The building will be four stories high and will cost \$100,000. Plans are now being prepared by Robert C. Berlin and John Ebersson of Hamilton, O.

MATTOON.—C. E. Wilson of the Mattoon National Bank has purchased property on Charleston avenue, it is reported, for the erection of a new residence.

ROCK ISLAND.—Architect H. S. Bill of Chicago has been commissioned, we understand, to prepare plans for alterations to the Harper House at this place, of which Montrose & McHugh are proprietors. The total cost of improvement will be between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

SPRINGFIELD.—Members of the Slav race residing in this city are planning a magnificent \$20,000 Roman Catholic Church in the southwestern section of the city. Stephen Loch, 1913 South Grand avenue, east, is interested.

STREATOR.—Alonzo Allen, architect, we understand from the daily press, has prepared the plans for the new public service building to be erected in the park.

MICHIGAN

DETROIT.—According to reports, Campbell Avenue M. E. Church members are endeavoring to raise a fund of \$30,000 for the erection of a modern new brick and stone church, to take the place of the present structure, at Campbell and McMillan avenues.

SAULT STE. MARIE.—The Church of Christ is to purchase property at the corner of Spruce and Douglas streets, it is said, for the purpose of erecting a new church.

WISCONSIN

GREEN BAY.—John Miller has acquired property at the corner of Adams and Pine streets, and it is currently reported that he will improve same with a hostelry to be three stories high.

WAUKESHA.—A new theater building will be erected this Summer by the Waukesha Theater Company at Waukesha, Wis. It is being designed by Architect Henry Christian Hengels, of Milwaukee, who is completing the working plans and details.

MISSOURI

ST. LOUIS.—P. Kimball, 405 North Sixth street, has purchased a large site at McPherson and Waterman avenue, Parkview, for the erection of a large and handsome new residence, it is said.

At a recent meeting of the Kings Highway Presbyterian Church, held here, it was

decided to raise a fund of \$55,000 for a new building to be erected.

Plans have not yet been prepared for new Hope Congregational Church, to be erected on site just purchased at Semple and Cote Brilliante avenues, to cost from \$25,000 to \$30,000, and take the place of building recently sold at Theodosia and Belt avenues.

IOWA

CEDAR RAPIDS.—The promoters of the Sunday meetings in this place have suggested the erection of a new tabernacle for the meetings. Such a building would seat about 5,000 people and would cost at least \$10,000. Address the City Clerk.

CLINTON.—We understand that there is a movement on foot to secure the erection of a union depot. The proposition is being pushed by the Manufacturers and Shippers' Association.

COUNCIL BLUFFS.—Bids have been rejected on the Y. M. C. A. building because of excessive cost. Modified plans will be made and new bids asked. The cost will be about \$30,000.

DAVENPORT.—It is proposed to erect a clubhouse for the Davenport Boat Club on the river, at a cost of \$10,000.

DES MOINES.—Mr. Nate Frankel will remodel and add one story to the McQuaid block, at Seventh and Locust streets, covering an entire quarter block. The cost will be from \$75,000 to \$100,000.

Liebbe, Nourse & Rasmussen, architects, have plans for a brick and cement stable for Charles Bond, to cost \$15,000.

Hallett & Rawson have drawn plans for Richard R. Rollins for a new Grant Club house, to cost \$30,000. It is to be of brown-faced brick, 66x132 feet, fitted with gymnasium, bowling alleys, baths and cafe.

Architects Liebbe, Nourse & Rasmussen have prepared plans for a white marble bank building for the Des Moines National Bank. It shows a building 132x25 feet, one story, high ceiling with a half basement. It is designed to cost \$100,000.

SIOUX CITY.—Plans have been drawn for a hospital for the German Lutheran congregation showing a building to cost \$35,000. Bids will be asked this Fall.

MINNESOTA

MINNEAPOLIS.—St. Anthony Commercial Club is endeavoring to raise a fund of \$50,000 and competitive designs will be asked for a new clubhouse to be erected on the East Side. Club is now located on Central avenue, between University avenue and Fourth street.

ST. PAUL.—St. Agatha's Conservatory of Music and Art is to be greatly enlarged this Summer by the erection of two additional buildings. One of the buildings will be a dormitory and the other will contain a chapel, refectory and community room.

NEBRASKA

MAYWOOD.—A special election was held here recently, when it was voted to issue \$10,000 in bonds for the purpose of erecting a new school here.

COLORADO

COLORADO SPRINGS.—E. E. Murphy is treasurer of the Modern Woodmen Sanitarium Fund and is endeavoring to purchase a 1,000-acre tract north of the city for new buildings, to be erected as soon as possible.

Architect Thomas Barber has completed the plans for the proposed \$30,000 addition to the First Presbyterian Church, it is currently reported.

PUEBLO.—Architects Ross and Roe, it is said, have completed the working plans and specifications for the proposed new court house to be erected here.

MONTANA

ANACONDA.—Bond issue has been authorized, we understand, for the erection of a new court house, to be erected here. Commissioner Holland or Paul Ozanne, Clerk, can be addressed.

MARYLAND

BALTIMORE.—Otto G. Simon, architect, American Building, is said to be preparing plans for an addition to cost \$70,000 for the Maryland Casualty Company, of which John T. Stone is president.

Joseph Natwick has purchased a large lot on Hamilton road, near Chestnut Hill driveway, and it is reported that he intends to erect a fine dwelling of modern architecture thereon.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

WASHINGTON.—The Auditorium Amusement Company of Washington is reported to be contemplating the erection of a new theater building on H street, northwest, between Thirteenth and Fourteenth streets.

It is stated that the directors of the Central Dispensary and Emergency Hospital, Fifteenth and D streets, N. W., are considering the erection of a new hospital. Address Dr. Magruder for further information regarding the matter.

M. L. Harper has purchased four lots on Sycamore avenue, near Carroll, Takoma Park, for the erection of a new residence, it is reported.

VIRGINIA

ALEXANDRIA.—Architects Vogt & Morrell, Corcoran Building, Washington, D. C., are reported to be preparing plans for a new building for the First National Bank at this place.

ASHLAND.—Episcopalians have decided to secure suitable site as soon as possible for a new and modern Episcopal church to be erected here. E. W. Newman is chairman of the building committee.

PETERSBURG.—A union of Methodist official workers is to be formed here, and it is stated that funds are to be raised as soon as possible and property purchased on West Washington street for a new church. Address Presiding Elder J. C. Reid of the Petersburg district for further information.

WEST VIRGINIA

BUCKHANON.—We understand that Chaplin & Alexander, architects, of New Martinsville, were awarded the contract for furnishing the plans for the new Buckhanon High School. The building is to cost \$50,000.

WHEELING.—As a result of the recent competition held for the new high school building to be located here, Geisey & Faris were selected as the architects by the Board of Education.

KENTUCKY

LEXINGTON.—According to reports, it has been decided by the congregation of the

Woodland Christian Church to erect a tabernacle at the corner of High street and Kentucky avenue. Later on it is the purpose of the congregation to erect a large church edifice. Chas. E. Powell, Frank Corbin and J. R. Baker have been appointed to secure plans, etc.

LOUISVILLE.—We are informed that Architect W. H. McElfattrick of New York has prepared the plans for the new theater building to be erected here at a probable expenditure of \$150,000.

Architects D. X. Murphy & Brother are said to have prepared the plans for the new St. Cecelia Catholic Church, to be erected at Twenty-fifth and St. Cecelia streets at a probable cost of \$40,000.

RICHMOND.—Plans have been prepared by C. C. and E. A. Weber, National Bank Building, Cincinnati, Ohio, for the new normal school buildings, to be erected here to cost about \$150,000.

TENNESSEE

CHATTANOOGA.—The finance committee of Centenary Church recently held a meeting, when the erection of a handsome new edifice on the corner of McCallie avenue was decided upon. Address Creed F. Bates.

GEORGIA

CORDELE.—Dorr Browder is reported to preparing to erect a modern four-story hotel on Wall street, to be known as the Browder Hotel. The hotel will cost about \$40,000.

FLORIDA

KISSIMMEE.—The Kissimmee high school was recently destroyed by fire, causing a loss estimated at about \$20,000, including contents, partially insured. It is stated that arrangements are to be made as soon as possible for replacing building with handsome new brick structure.

ALABAMA

BIRMINGHAM.—Architect D. O. Whildon is reported to have been appointed to prepare the plans for the new schoolhouse to be erected at the southern end of Elyton at a probable cost of \$25,000.

ENSLEY.—The building committee of the Methodist Church on Avenue G has made definite plans towards the erection of a new church building, it is said. The plans of Architect D. H. Hunt, of Birmingham, have been adopted. The building will cost between \$25,000 and \$30,000.

HARTSELLE.—Site has been purchased east of the railroad for a large new State high school, which has been proposed, and which is to be erected as soon as possible.

MISSISSIPPI

CLARKSDALE.—The Elks' Lodge, No. 977, of this city, is making active preparations to build a handsome new home here, at a cost of about \$25,000. A building committee, composed of Henry J. Davis, chairman; A. H. Cage, treasurer; Y. E. Howell, secretary; A. J. Moseley and J. H. Johnson, has been appointed.

LOUISIANA

NEW ORLEANS.—Architects Diboll, Owen & Goldstein are said to have been commissioned to prepare the plans for the new clubhouse to be erected for the members of the Chess, Checkers and Whist Club of this place. Probable cost, \$200,000.

It is currently reported in the local press that the Equitable Real Estate Company, Emilien Perrin, president, will rebuild the structure recently occupied by the American Oriental Importing Company, and which was destroyed by fire. Proposed building will be five stories high and will cost about \$40,000.

OKLAHOMA

ENID.—The Board of Trustees of the Baptist Church recently held a meeting and decided to purchase a site at Maine and Adams street for the erection of a new edifice. About \$25,000 is to be expended.

TEXAS

DALLAS.—Plans have been perfected for the immediate erection of a new \$10,000 building by the Dallas Free Kindergarten and Training School Association. The structure will stand next to the old Neighborhood House, corner Harwood and Cedar Springs road.

NEW MEXICO

ALAMOGORDO.—Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of Trustees of the New Mexico Institute for the Blind at Alamogordo, N. M., until Aug. 17, 1908, for the construction of a steam heating plant and power house for the New Mexico Institute for the Blind at Alamogordo. R. H. Pierce, secretary and treasurer.

IDAHO

BOISE.—According to dispatches George Schellenberger of the Idaho Bank and Trust Building, has purchased property on Warm Springs avenue for the erection of a large and modern new residence.

CALIFORNIA

BAKERSFIELD.—The Elks' Hall Association has recently been formed with a \$50,000 capital stock for the purpose of erecting a new hall, to cost about \$30,000. Everett St. Clair is secretary of the association and can be addressed.

BERKELEY.—Architects Howard & Galoway, Atlas Building, San Francisco, have drawn plans for the Doe Memorial Library for the University of California, at Berkeley. The building will be 200x265 feet, four stories high, with granite exterior, concrete floors and walls, and will cost \$750,000.

BURLINGAME.—Architects Howard & White of San Francisco have prepared plans for a residence here, to cost \$20,000. The building will be one-story, treated in shakes and plaster with pergola; the style is modern English. Mr. E. L. Hoag is the owner.

HOLLYWOOD.—The members of the Prospect Park M. E. Church have purchased a site at the corner of Normandie and Prospect avenues for the erection of a new church edifice.

LOS ANGELES.—Daniel S. Holladay has recently purchased property on the west side of Catalina street, near Seventh street, for the erection of a large new residence.

At the weekly meeting of the Federation Club, held here recently, it was decided to start a campaign for funds to be used for the erection of a new clubhouse. It is proposed to raise about \$10,000 for this purpose. W. H. Frost is interested.

OAKLAND.—A temporary structure is to

be erected immediately, to take the place of the Altenheim, destroyed by fire recently. It is stated that new building will be erected as soon as possible. Address either Theodore Gier or C. C. Volbert.

MARTINEZ.—Architect Henry F. Starbuck, MacDonough Building, Oakland, Cal., has prepared plans for a grammar school at Martinez, Cal.

PALO ALTO.—George J. Carey is having plans prepared for a handsome new business building, to be erected on his lot at 227 University avenue, adjoining the Murphy building. The building will be of reinforced concrete.

POMONA.—The question of erecting a \$25,000 Art Building to the Pomona College is being discussed by the members of the Rembrandt Club of Claremont, it is said.

SALINAS.—Architect Jacob Lenzen, San Jose, Cal., has drawn plans for the Carnegie Library, to be built here.

SAN FRANCISCO.—Architects Grim and Scott, Kearny street, San Francisco, have prepared plans for a two-story brick building for Mrs. Canfield, on Dupont street, between California and Sacramento streets. Cost, \$25,000.

Grim & Scott, Kearny street, San Francisco, have drawn plans for a four-story building for Geo. A. Knight, to contain stores, flats and apartments, to be located at Filbert and Montgomery streets, San Francisco; the estimated cost is \$40,000.

The Native Sons' Hall Association is making preparations for the rebuilding of Native Sons' Hall on Mason street, between Post and Geary. It is proposed to erect a six-story building, of brick, to cost \$150,000; the structure will contain a large hall several floors of lodge rooms and one floor devoted to club room for members.

The Italian residents of the North Beach district soon will have a church building, it is said. A lot has been purchased in Filbert street, between Powell and Stockton, and plans have been prepared for the erection of a noble edifice.

City Architect Tharp has just finished the plans for the new City and County Hospital, which, it is estimated, will cost \$250,000. It is to be a three-story fire-proof structure, built with two wings extending from the main building and so arranged as to get light and sun in every portion of the building. Bids for its construction are to be called for in the very near future.

The trustees of the Mechanics' Institute have selected an architect for its new library building, and also adopted the type, height and general character of the structure. The architect chosen is Albert Pissis.

WOODSIDE.—Architects Howard & White, Lick Building, San Francisco, have drawn plans for a residence for Mr. Josselyn. The building will be one story, frame, plastered, Italian style, with courts, and will cost \$45,000.

OREGON

LA GRANGE.—At a recent conference of the Latter Day Saints, the erection of a new Mormon Temple here was discussed. It is proposed to expend about \$1,000,000 for this purpose.

KLAMATH FALLS.—L. Jacobs & Co., of San Francisco, will build a hotel and de-

partment store at Klamath Falls, of brick, to contain 100 rooms.

PORTLAND.—Gay Lombard is about to erect a six-story hotel building on the Matthew Brady quarter block, northwest corner of Fifth and Stark streets, it is said.

Plans are being drawn for a five-story rooming-house for working women, which Edward Holman proposes to erect on the north side of Mill street, between Second and Third. The cost is not known at present, but is supposed to be in the neighborhood of \$40,000.

J. L. Carman, president and manager of the Carman Manufacturing Company, of Tacoma, has just purchased a quarter block at Nineteenth and Savier streets, upon which he will begin the immediate construction of a six-story reinforced concrete furniture factory and warehouse. Architect Otto Kleeman has been asked to prepare plans and specifications for the building, which with the site will cost not less than \$75,000.

WASHINGTON

AUBURN.—Methodists of this place are discussing the erection of what is to be one of the largest and most modern churches in the city.

SEATTLE.—L. B. Youngs is to have a handsome new home on Thirtieth avenue, plans for which have been prepared by Architects Josenhans & Allan.

It is currently reported that Armour & Company has bought property at the corner of Third avenue South and Jackson street and that they intend to improve same with a building to cost \$250,000.

Zbinden Bros. will erect an apartment house on the northwest corner of Fourth avenue and Cedar street after plans prepared by Swope & Waterman. It will be three stories in height and will occupy a lot 108x120 feet. The exterior will be brick and concrete. The cost will be about \$40,000.

Officers of the Realty Owners' Syndicate of the United States, whose organization was completed at a recent meeting, announce that within six months work will be started on a skyscraper in the downtown district. This company is capitalized for \$1,000,000 and will have its principal offices in Seattle.

E. W. Herald is erecting an apartment house at First avenue and Denny Way, after plans prepared by Architect Warren H. Milner. The building, which is to cost about \$45,000, will occupy a lot 60x120 feet and will be four stories.

SPOKANE.—The Union Labor League of this city is reported to be discussing the erection of a new clubhouse here.

H. E. Oechsli, proprietor of the Spokane Meat and Poultry Company, will erect a three-story brick building at the southeast corner of First avenue and Jefferson street. The building will be 50x156 feet and will cost about \$30,000. Keith & Whitehouse and Arthur Cowley are the architects.

CUBA

PORTO RICO.—Architect Frank E. Perkins of New York has been definitely appointed by the commission and has been authorized to prepare working drawings. Bids for the proposed new structure will probably be received in November.

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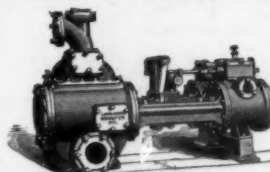


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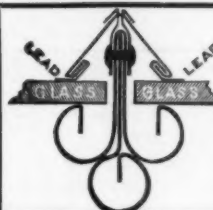
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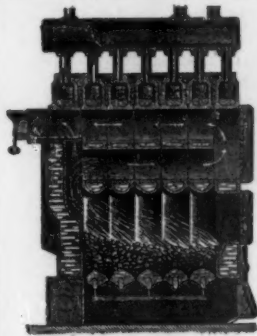
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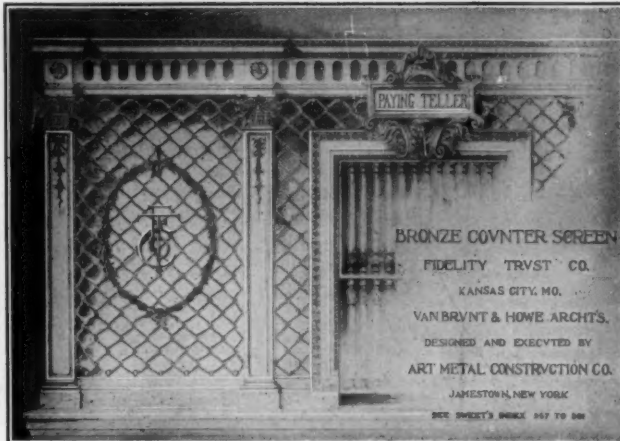
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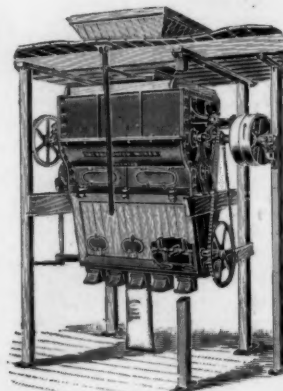
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