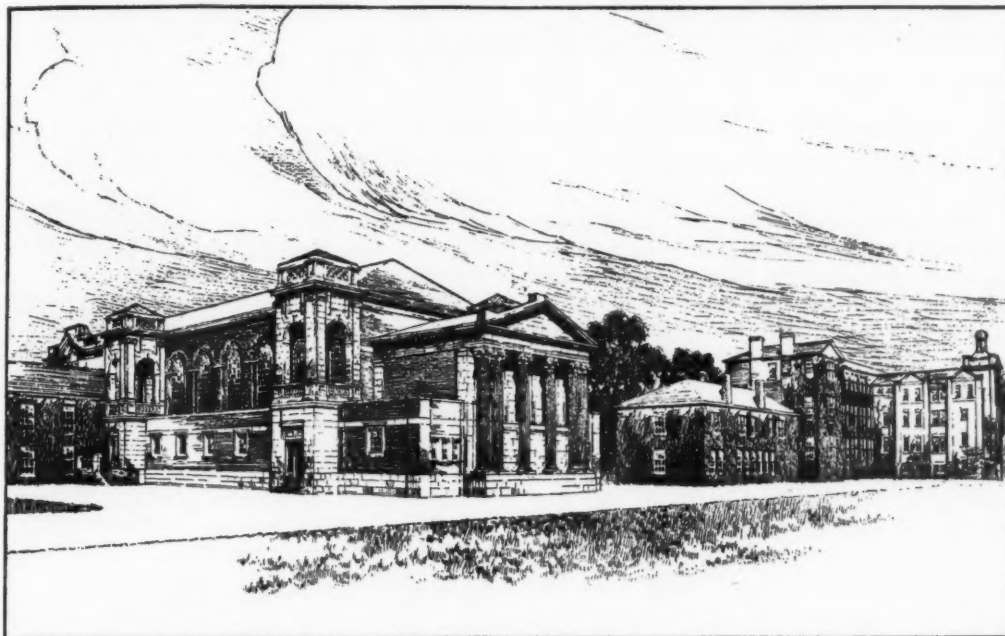


THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

VOLUME CIV.

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1913

NUMBER 1971



EAST FRONT, WITH NEW BUILDING, HAILEYBURY COLLEGE

NOTES FROM LONDON

(BY OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)



THE apprehension regarding the safety of St. Paul's Cathedral has been allayed to some extent by the measures which have been taken to deal with the problem. After the disquieting report of Sir Francis Fox, who had made an exhaustive survey of the fabric, a committee of experts was appointed to advise the Dean and Chapter on the best methods of strengthening the foundations and the decision of this committee, consisting of Mr. Mervyn Macartney, Mr. W. D. Caröe, Sir Francis Fox, Mr. R. C. H.

Davison and Mr. H. Darwin (acting on behalf of Sir J. Wolfe Barry), will be awaited with interest. Grouting is in progress already but only as an experimental measure and more adequate means of securing the Cathedral from the danger of further settlement will be devised. The loosening of the subsoil from various causes, including the pumping operations during the construction of a deep sewer some years ago, is at the root of the difficulty. It is not possible to underpin the piers of the dome, as a layer of running sand would be encountered. Several architects, including Sir T. G. Jackson, R.A., consider that the only way to avoid a calamity will be to



VIEW OF QUADRANGLE, WITH NEW BUILDING, HAILEYBURY COLLEGE, ENGLAND

bind the sensitive structure firmly together with cement and iron so that as a mass it may move without rupture. The Cathedral is the heaviest building in London with untied spaces and as it is suffering not only from structural weakness but from the excessive vibration caused by modern heavy traffic, its future is in the balance.

Less anxiety exists concerning Westminster Hall, but the condition of the fine hammerbeam roof there is far from being satisfactory. This is not surprising seeing that it has existed since the time of Richard II, but now that searching investigations are being made this triumph of Gothic carpentry shows such unmistakable signs of decay that special restorations are being undertaken. The annual cleaning operations did not reveal the extent of the trouble and it was only when the Office of Works began an examination of the structure that the ravages of dry rot and decay were detected. By the aid of a vast scaffold and the use of electric lights it was found that many vital parts of the roof had been attacked, and serious structural problems will have to be faced while the oak is being renewed. Whether oak should be used again has been debated but the advocates of teak have not made out their case. A curious sidelight on the problem has been thrown by Mr. W. D. Caröe, who was engaged on the fabric in 1885 under the late J. L. Pearson, R.A. He states that not only were signs of dry rot absent then but that the insect marks were some hundreds of years old. He suggests therefore that some fresh condi-

tions have been set up during the last quarter of a century, or that the Office of Works is too easily alarmed.

Questions of restoration and preservation are perennial. In spite of Ruskin's argument the tooth of Time is sharp, and sooner or later renewals and repairs must take place in every building. With Westminster Hall, Canterbury Cathedral, Winchester Cathedral, Richmond Castle, Carnarvon Castle and Eltham Palace, all of which, with many others, have been under treatment recently, the problem is simplified by the activity of competent guardians. It sometimes happens however that such work falls into unsympathetic hands, or is begun too late. Conservation is a science in itself, as Lord Curzon has said, and apart from the existing organizations a more far-reaching power was desirable. Hence the interest in the Act which Lord Beauchamp carried through Parliament during the past Session. The duties of the Commissioners of Works were thereby increased and certain buildings will not only be scheduled for protection but some may be bought if they are for sale. Point was given to the discussion of this Ancient Monuments Act by the fact that such properties as the Jacobean Quenby Hall, the sixteenth century Kirby Hall, and the Amesbury Abbey Estate, including Stonehenge, have been in the market recently.

There will always be differences of opinion regarding what should be saved and what methods of preservation should be adopted. Some objects of antiquarian or of artistic value are hall-marked for pro-

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

tection but others, of little less importance, are not so fortunate. Cockerell's Church in Regent Street was demolished a few years ago, to the regret of many people, and Crosby Hall, although re-erected at Chelsea, suffered grievously by being moved from Bishopgate. The old buildings in Cloth Fair, Smithfield, are now in jeopardy and the fate of Sir Isaac Newton's house near Leicester Square is sealed, apparently. As regards the "restoration" of ecclesiastical and other buildings the possibility of error is so great that were it not for the dangers of insecurity many lovers of antiquity would prefer that no steps should be taken to arrest the decay. William Morris, trained as an architect in Street's office, originated in 1877 the Society for the Protection of Ancient

Buildings, which he called the Anti-Scrape Society, to oppose the work of Sir Gilbert Scott: and the attention of this body is directed at the moment to the condition of Christchurch Priory, which seems to be in danger of over-restoration. The new Hon. Secretary of this Society is Earl Ferrers, who practiced as an architect before he inherited the title.

Whether a Ministry of Fine Arts, focusing the ideals of all workers, would command the respect of artists and the public is open to doubt. It has been proposed once more that such a Department should be created and still the Prime Minister of the day "does not consider the suggestion a practical one." There is much to be said, however, for the idea. Architectural and civic questions would be among



WEST FRONT OF NEW BUILDING, HAILEYBURY COLLEGE, ENGLAND
MESSRS. JOHN W. SIMPSON AND MAXWELL AYRTON, ARCHITECTS

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

those to be brought forward and dealt with under favourable guidance and if such a man as the late Lord Leighton were available the movement would be very widely supported. The selection of a responsible head is always the difficulty but it is not insuperable. Sir Aston Webb, Mr. Belcher, Mr. Ernest Newton and Mr. Lanchester are among the architects who believe that a Ministry would do good and such an organization may yet be instituted. The Earl of Beaconsfield had something to say about a similar matter in his novel "Tancred," published in 1847. "What is wanted in architecture as in so many things is a man," he wrote. "Shall we find a refuge in a Committee of Taste? Escape from the mediocrity of one to the mediocrity of many? Suppose an architect were hanged. Terror has its inspiration as well as competition."

What should prove to be one of the most interesting architectural events in London during recent years is the competition, open to British subjects, for the new Board of Trade Offices. The site is in Whitehall Gardens near the Banqueting Hall built by Inigo Jones, and the new building will have a frontage of some 350 feet on the Embankment. The assessors are Mr. Reginald Blomfield, P.R.I.B.A., Mr. John Belcher, R.A., and Sir Aston Webb, R.A., and from the sketch designs submitted the authors of not more than ten designs will be asked to submit drawings in a final competition at an honorarium of £300 each. It is certain that a very large number of sketches will be sent in, for the jury system of selection is generally favoured and there is an unusual opportunity for architects to secure distinction. As a Roman ferry existed at this part of the Thames it is probable that there will be many finds during the excavation of the site and when the building is completed the alteration in the appearance of the neighbourhood will be considerable.

Meanwhile the competition for the new Government Buildings in Ottawa is attracting attention in this country. Mr. T. E. Collcutt has been nominated by the Royal Institute of British Architects as the Assessor to share the judging with two Canadian architects. Several notable competitions out of London have been settled

recently, with the results that the High School, Motherwell, is to be built by Mr. S. B. Russell, the Devonport Municipal Buildings will be erected by Messrs. Ashley and Newman, and the extensions to William Young's Municipal Building in Glasgow will be made by Messrs. Watson and Salmond.

Among executed buildings the New Bedford College for Women, Regent's Park, takes high rank. Mr. Basil Champneys, who received the Royal Gold Medal last year, is the architect, except in the case of the Lady Tate Library, which was designed by the late Mr. Sidney Smith. The situation is exceptional, the site being within the eight acres surrounding South Villa: and the red brick buildings, an acre in extent, are almost hidden by old trees. Fortunately the College was to obtain such a position, but the renewal of the Crown Lease of the land has been objected to by those who know the value of open spaces in London and who fear that the precedent of Bedford College will be followed by similar enterprises. Accommodation is provided for 320 day students and eighty in residence.

Elsewhere in Regent's Park there is building activity. Attempts are being made to provide spectacular effects in the Zoological Gardens by the construction of terraces, the design for which by Messrs. Belcher and Joass was shown at the Royal Academy this year.

One hundred years ago John Nash was in the midst of his scheme for creating Regent Street as a thoroughfare from the Portland Place, Regent's Park, of the Brothers Adam to Carlton House, Pall Mall, the residence of George IV when Prince of Wales. Building was begun in 1813 and with variations the stuccoed exteriors of the period have existed until the last few years. Little now remains, however, of the Regent Street of Nash and the metropolis is the poorer from the loss of one of the most complete architectural streets ever designed. The ingenuity of Nash in planning the Quadrant and Langham Place will always be apparent but the rest of the original scheme will be forgotten except by students. The new buildings can never possess that homogeneous quality which is the outcome of

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

individual control and though certain restrictions have been made, conflicting ideals have already influenced the appearance of the neighbourhood.

The height of the new buildings in Regent Street is noticeable. With increasing rental values an alteration in the sky line was inevitable, but the ultimate architectural and commercial effect is yet to be discovered. Norman Shaw's scheme for the new Quadrant has not realized expectations and the continuation of the design has been abandoned. It will be interesting to see how the Crown Authorities will solve the problem. Elsewhere in the street big buildings have been erected in different styles by Mr. Verity, Mr. Tanner, Mr. Crickmay, and Mr. Ferrier, while a corner site will be cleared shortly at Charles Street for the British Columbian Offices designed by Mr. Burr.

In other parts of London extensive building operations are in progress. The sub-structure of the County Hall, Westminster Bridge, is now complete and numerous derricks have been placed in position. When the structure is finished, in 1916, according to the contract, it will be seen that Mr. Ralph Knotts' competitive design has been altered considerably. The foundation stone of the Australian Commonwealth Offices in the Strand was laid by the King in July. The architects are Messrs. Marshall Mackenzie and Son, who built the Waldorf Hotel in Aldwych; and Australian sculptors, among them Mr. Mackennal, will be employed. Following on the Canberra project this ambitious building, on a site costing nearly £380,000, shows considerable enterprise on the part of the Commonwealth. The central portion of the Aldwych site has been reserved for a Dominion House but it is doubtful if this scheme will mature. Sir Aston Webb's Imperial College of Science, South Kensington, is nearly finished, and Professor Simpson's additions to University College, Gower Street, will be available for use this year. Typical business premises are in course of erection in Pall Mall by Mr. Henry Tanner, by Messrs. Dunn, Watson and Curtis Green, and by Messrs. Metcalf and Greig. A church of unusual size is approaching completion in Chelsea

from the design of Sir Arthur Blomfield and Son, while the Headquarters of the Theosophical Society are taking shape in Bloomsbury under the care of Mr. Lutyens.

The appearance of Buckingham Palace has been a reproach to the Empire for many years and since the white marble of the Victoria Memorial has been in evidence the necessity for making alterations has become more acute. Something is being done at last. With the departure of the Royal Family at the end of the season an army of workmen appeared and began the work of replacing Blore's Caen stone front with a Portland stone elevation designed by Sir Aston Webb. Other improvements are in progress in the Palace, which was built originally by Nash. It is interesting to remember that the drawings were made by Charles J. Mathews who, before he became a comedian, was an assistant in the office of the favorite architect to George IV. There is every probability that the Admiralty Arch scheme at the other end of the Mall will soon be brought to a satisfactory conclusion from an architectural point of view. A Committee on which Lord Plymouth and Mr. Reginald Blomfield are serving is trying to find a way out of the deadlock.

The amalgamation of Westminster Hospital with St. George's Hospital will release two important sites. The destiny of that in the Broad Sanctuary has not been revealed, but it is probable that an hotel will be built on the Hyde Park corner site, which has been bought by a syndicate for £460,000. The new home of the united hospitals has not been settled, for although Wandsworth is favoured by some, the advantages of Clapham Common are likely to turn the scale. A hospital of another sort will soon be built at Clapham Common from the plans of Mr. M. E. Collins. It will be known as the South London Hospital for Women and it will be staffed entirely by women. Mr. Pite's King's College General Hospital at Denmark Hill (600 beds) has been duly inaugurated though the work is not absolutely finished. On ground adjacent, now being cleared, the Maudsley Mental Hospital will be built. In designing this new type of hospital Mr. Clifford Smith has

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

had in mind the similar institutions at Baltimore and Boston.

Messrs. Simpson and Ayrton are adding a "Big School" or Assembly Hall to Haileybury College, Hertford, which was once a training college for cadets in the service of the East India Company. The new work will cost some £16,000. Leatherhead School in Surrey was burnt out in June and the work of rebuilding is in the hands of Mr. Leonard Martin.

The opening of the Carnegie Peace Palace at The Hague on August 28th reminded many architects in London and elsewhere of the competition of 1906, won by M. Cordonnier of Lille from an entry of over 200. The grounds of the Palace have been laid out by Mr. T. H. Mawson, whose recent work includes the Coldharbour Scheme, British Columbia, the lay out of the campus, University of Saskatchewan, and a town-planning scheme at Calgary. Mr. R. Stephen Ayling is at work on a large public abattoir at Callao, Peru, while Messrs. Rowntree and Son have made a beginning with the West China Union University, Chengtu, the scheme for which was chosen in a limited competition between an American, a Canadian and two English architects.

SKYSCRAPERS OF ANCIENT TIMES

THE tenement house is no new thing. So great was the number of such houses and so badly were they put up in ancient Rome that in 69 A. D. the Emperor Otho, who was then marching against Vitellius, found his way barred for 20 miles by the ruins of buildings that had been undermined by an inundation. The spontaneous collapse of tenement houses was so common an occurrence that little attention was paid to it.

The tenants of these houses have been described by a writer of the time as fearing to be buried or burned alive. Companies existed for the purpose of propping and sustaining houses.

In comparison with the tenements of most modern cities, those of Rome were excessively high. Martial alludes to a poor man, a neighbor, who had to mount 200 steps to reach his garret. That garret

must have been perched nearly 100 feet above the level of the street.

It is possible that Martial exaggerated, but it is certain that Augustus, to make less frequent the occurrence of disasters, limited the height of new houses that opened upon the streets to about sixty-eight feet. As this was a remedial regulation and referred only to new houses fronting on the street, it follows that some houses must have exceeded that height.

This, moreover, was irrespective of the breadth of the street. In Berlin the medium width of the streets is twenty-two meters, and in Paris the narrowest streets are nearly eight meters wide, while the streets of Rome extended only five or six meters, and on these narrow streets the tall houses were built. Light and air must have had some difficulty in penetrating those narrow, walled-in passages.—*Brooklyn Eagle*.

LIMITING HEIGHTS OF BUILDINGS IN NEW YORK

THE McAneny commission has been discussing the project of making a flat limitation on the height of structures in New York City, with no differentiation save what is based on the width of streets. Commenting on this, the *New York Times* states:—That many landholders, in Manhattan particularly, would favor such a plan is entirely possible. It would check the increasing competition of highly improved skyscraper buildings with those now standing of five stories or less. This competition is no laughing matter for the present owners in many parts of congested sections. It has gone so far as to lessen rents materially, at points, and has certainly checked the increase of rents that might have been counted on twenty years ago. But it is not the function of the community to make laws to keep rents up; and the letter of Electus D. Litchfield to the commission, pleading for the towers or skyscrapers of the city as its crowning glory, deserves serious consideration.

Mr. Litchfield favors the prohibition of skyscrapers only when they are erected

(Continued on page 132)

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

Founded 1876

PUBLISHED EVERY WEDNESDAY BY

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT (INC.)

No. 50 Union Square, New York
(Fourth Avenue and 17th Street)

G. E. SLY, PRESIDENT

E. J. ROSENCRANS, SECRETARY AND TREASURER

Address all communications to "THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT"

SUBSCRIBERS' RATES:

In the United States and Possessions (Porto Rico, Hawaii,
Philippine Islands and Canal Zone),
Mexico and Cuba

TEN DOLLARS PER YEAR, POSTAGE PAID
ALL OTHER COUNTRIES . . . \$12.00 PER YEAR
SINGLE COPIES (Regular Issues), 25 CENTS

CHICAGO OFFICE, Hearst Building
Page A. Robinson, *Western Manager*

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

VOL. CIV OCTOBER 1, 1913 No. 1971

SELECTION OF TRADE-MARKED OR DEFINITE BUILDING MATERIALS

THE disappointment of clients, consequent loss of the architect's prestige, and a multitude of minor evils, result too frequently from the "or equal" clause, still used to some extent in building specifications. When after thorough investigation an architect is convinced that a certain article or material is exactly suited to the needs of his clients it would seem that he should say so without hesitation or further discussion. To specify what is right, "or equal," in the first place discredits the architect's judgment and experience and is a tacit admission that he may have committed at least a technical error in specifying a particular article. From the time this iniquitous clause is made public until construction of the building is practically complete the architect must, to keep within the spirit of the specifications, listen with whatever patience he can command to the rival claims of each manufacturer whose goods are possible components of the future building. And then he must use his own judgment as to a possible substitute just as he presumably did when first drawing up the specifications. After such reflection,

the old excuse that the "or equal" clause is inserted to give others a "chance" and to prevent charges of favoritism loses its potency. Such accusations are as old as tradition, and now, as then, should have no weight where motives are just and sincere. When a reputable doctor prescribes a given drug under given conditions no one thinks of charging him with partiality toward its manufacturer, and similarly an architect should be able to specify a definite article without having his motives impugned, or, if they are, he should be able to rise above such malicious insinuations.

But when a certain article or material has been selected, how is the architect, or his inspector at the building, to know that no substitution has been made by an unscrupulous contractor or dealer? In these days of clever imitation even the most experienced superintendent may be readily deceived by mere casual inspection, and exhaustive tests of each item at the building are impracticable. The only satisfactory answer to the dilemma seems to be the exclusive use of trade-marked materials, or materials which are clearly marked as to quality or grade by the manufacturers. An article that is *not good enough* to be trade-marked, or bear evidence of grade backed by the maker, is not good enough to specify. Aggressive manufacturers in nearly all lines of trade have found some method of distinguishing their products and thus have accomplished what might be termed four-fold protection. By preventing substitution of another article for that of their own manufacture, they assure to themselves the full benefit of their extensive advertising, they assure to the consumer the satisfaction for which he is paying, they assure to the architect certainty and ease of identification, and they assure to the contractor and dealer freedom from possible charges of dishonesty.

We believe that the time is coming when all manufactured articles entering into high class construction will be readily identified by a trade or other distinguishing mark, and the use of all others generally avoided. Even now the adoption of a rule to use only materials falling under the above classification would not seriously restrict an architect in his selections.

MOURNING TURNED TO MOCKERY
BY GROTESQUE AND ABSURD
ARRANGEMENT OF SOMBRE
DRAPERIES

IN sharp contrast to the spectacle of spontaneous sympathy afforded by the multitude of mourners that paid respect to the memory of the late Mayor of New York, William Jay Gaynor, on Sunday, September 21st, which in its accidental grouping presented a picture that would have inspired the pencil of a Hogarth or a Rembrandt, was the carelessness displayed in the attempts at draping in "sombre trappings of woe" the City Hall and the respective borough halls, throughout the Greater City. It would have been better to have entirely omitted the so-called "draping" of these buildings than to have executed it in the manner chosen. To the thoughtful observer, the slipshod and inartistic stretching of a lot of black material conveyed no hint of the sense of mourning it was intended to suggest, but, by reason of its careless arrangement was more likely to create an im-

pression of indifference on the part of those through whose orders this drapery was executed.

While at one time a disheveled state was assumed to convey the impression of grief, and people rent their garments and proclaimed in shrill tones the measure of their woe, these methods have no part in our present civilization. If we desire to express our sympathy to the family and show respect for the memory of a revered citizen, why not do so in a manner befitting the occasion and compatible with the dignity of the departed, and not permit those whose lack of artistic perception is so very evident to assume the dignified task of draping our public buildings?

To urge the suddenness of the occasion and consequent unpreparedness is not a sufficient excuse. Let us hope that when we are again called upon to mourn the loss of a public man of high civic virtue these matters will be placed in the hands of people having sufficient artistic knowledge to secure a result that will not leave so very much to be desired.

LIMITING HEIGHTS OF BUILDINGS
IN NEW YORK

(Continued from page 130)

on plots not proportionate to their height. Given a sufficiently large base, any height that is mechanically possible in intelligent construction should be permitted, in his judgment. He says:

"There is an infinite space above every building; but there is a very limited space between each building and its neighbor. . . . If you set a flat limit of height, commercial interests will tend to make a property holder build as completely as your light-court regulations will allow him over his entire lot. On the other hand, if you set an equivalent limit of volume, he will be enabled to leave greater light courts and have a much greater freedom in the design of his building."

This reasoning is at least plausible. The "infinite space above" cannot be used indefinitely, because of mechanical limi-

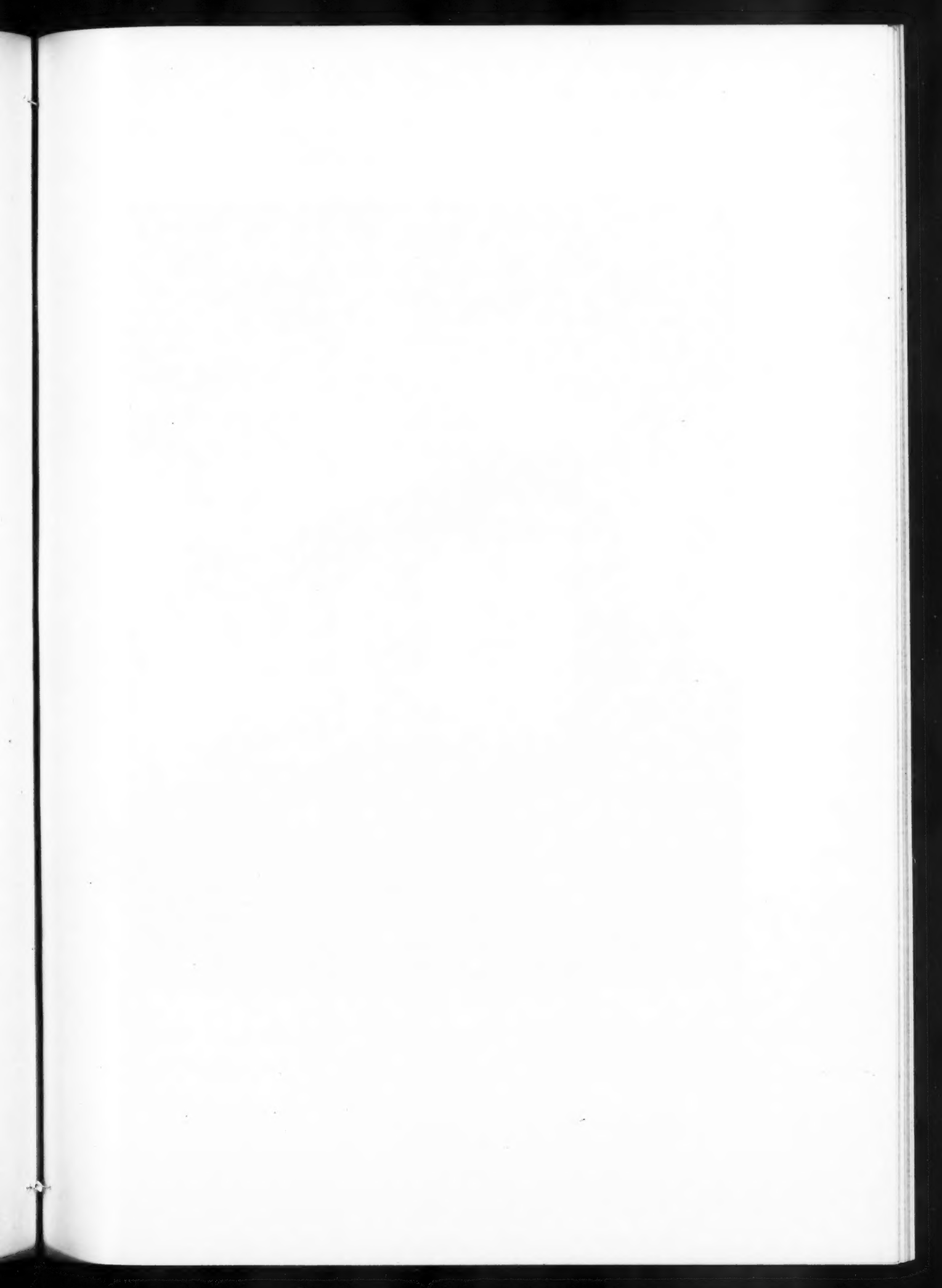
tations; but the more freely it is used, under due regulation, the better for all who have to rent accommodations in crowded sections.—*N. Y. Times*.

A RECENT LEGAL DECISION

EXTRAS SHOWN BY PAROLE EVIDENCE

A contract for the carpenter work on a building referred to specifications arranging the topics under headings of "carpentry and timbers," "roof," "wall plates," "ceilings," which were described as "steel ceilings," "floor," "partition ceiled," "plastering," and seven other topics relating to carpentry. It was held that the contract was ambiguous, and it was not error to admit parole evidence to show that the work of putting on the steel ceiling was not carpenter work, but an extra for which the contractor might recover.

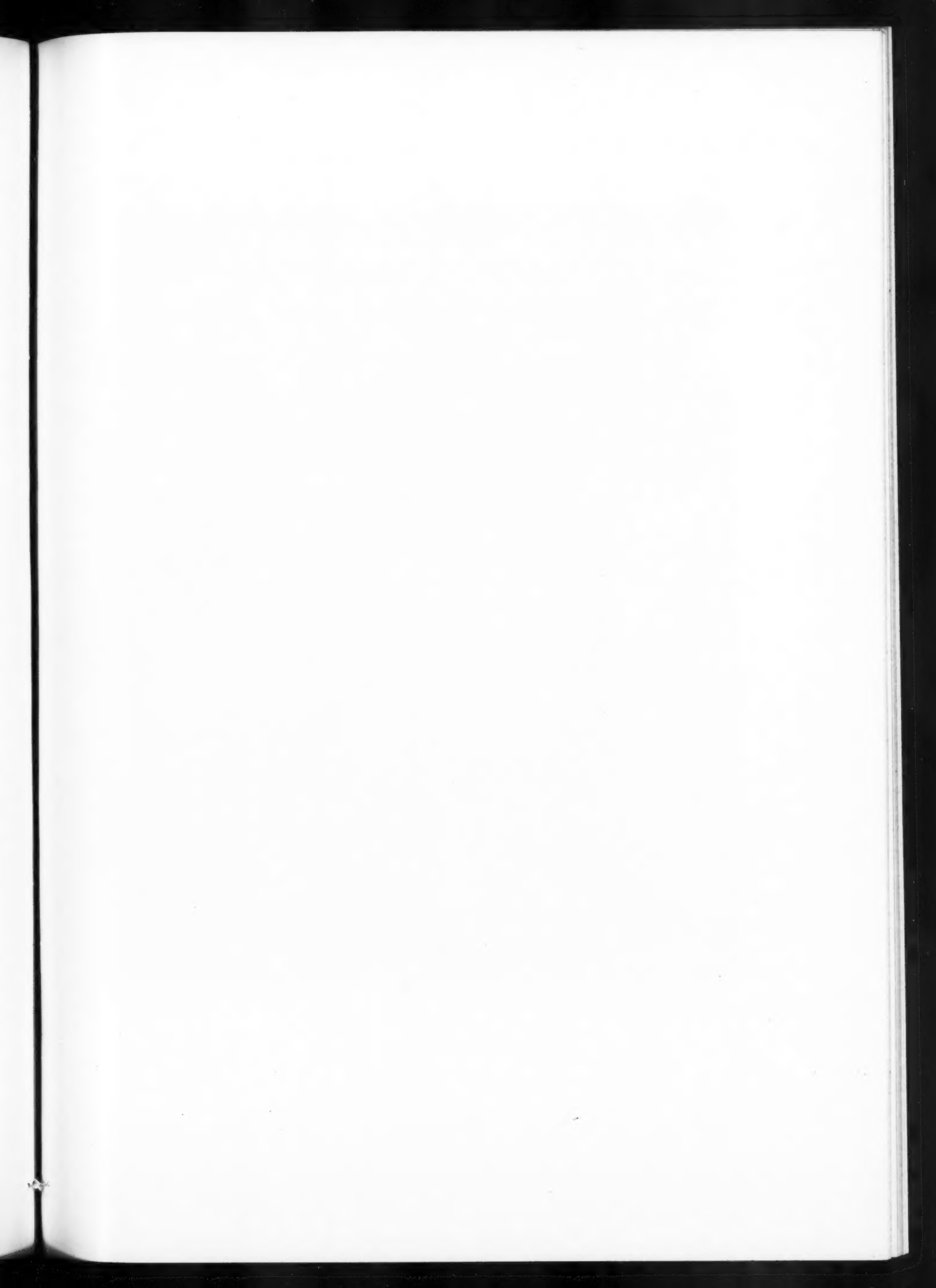
Todd v. Howell, Indiana Appellate Court, 95 N. E. 279. (J. S.)

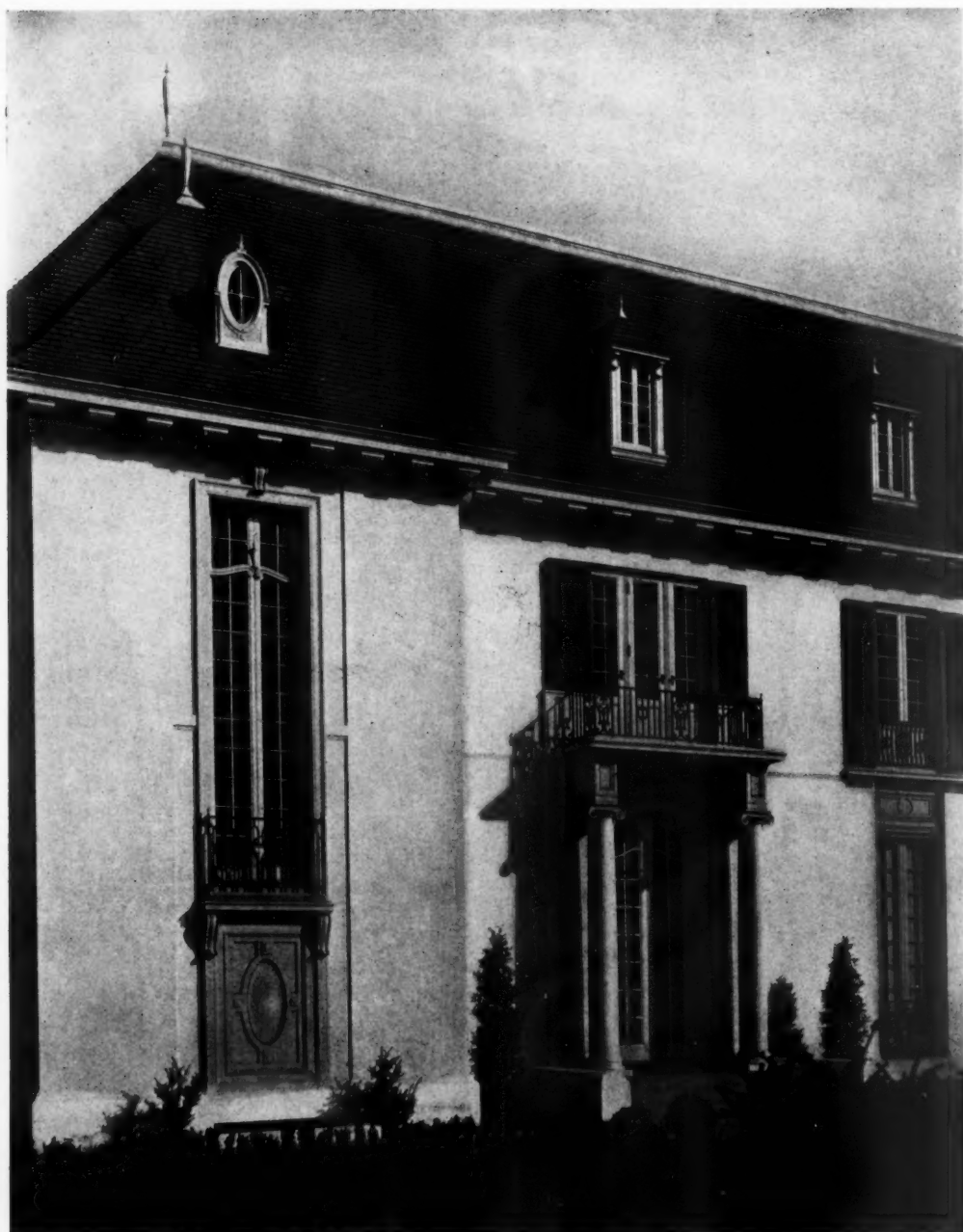




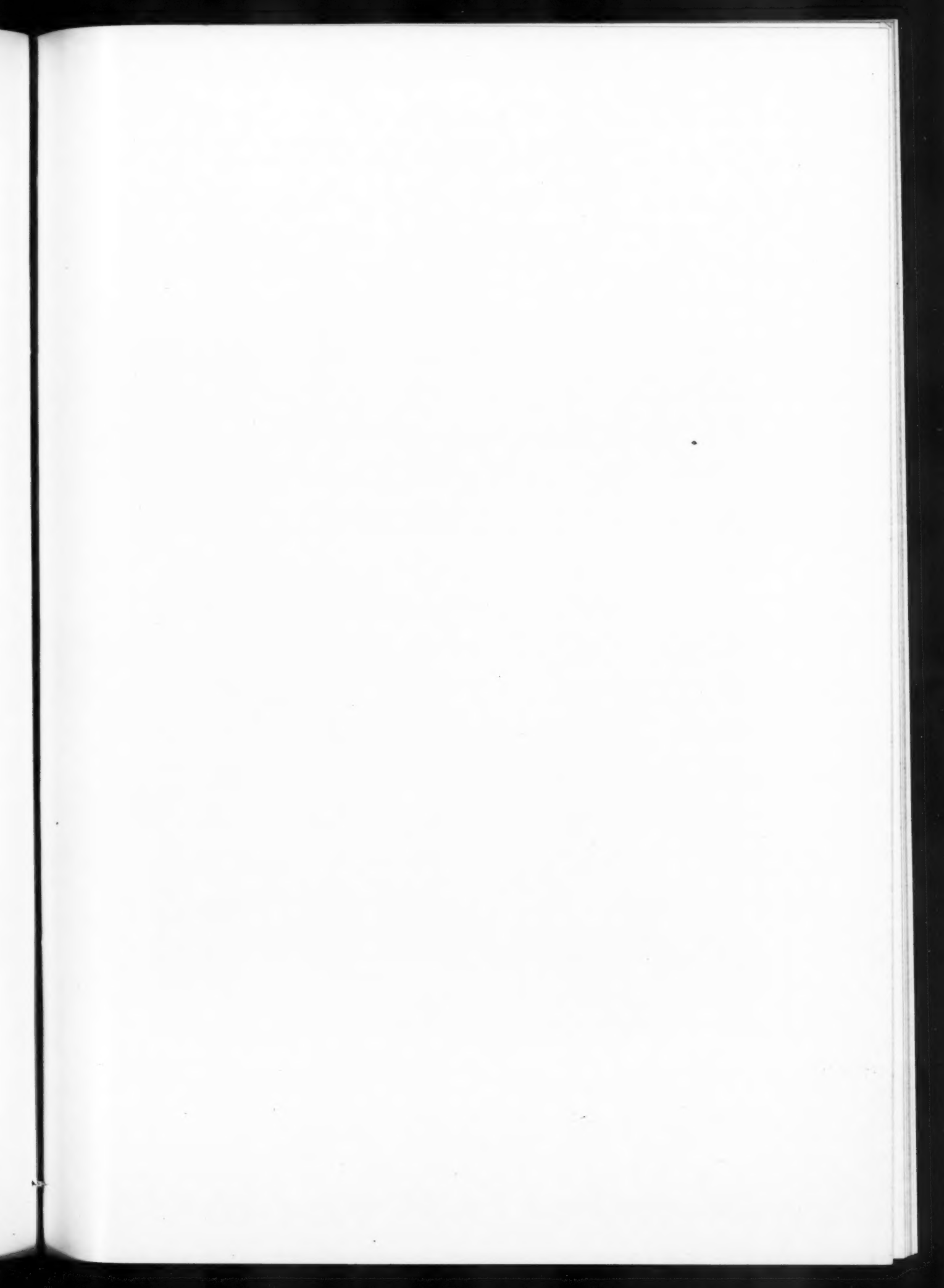
HOUSE IN LOS ANGELES, CAL.

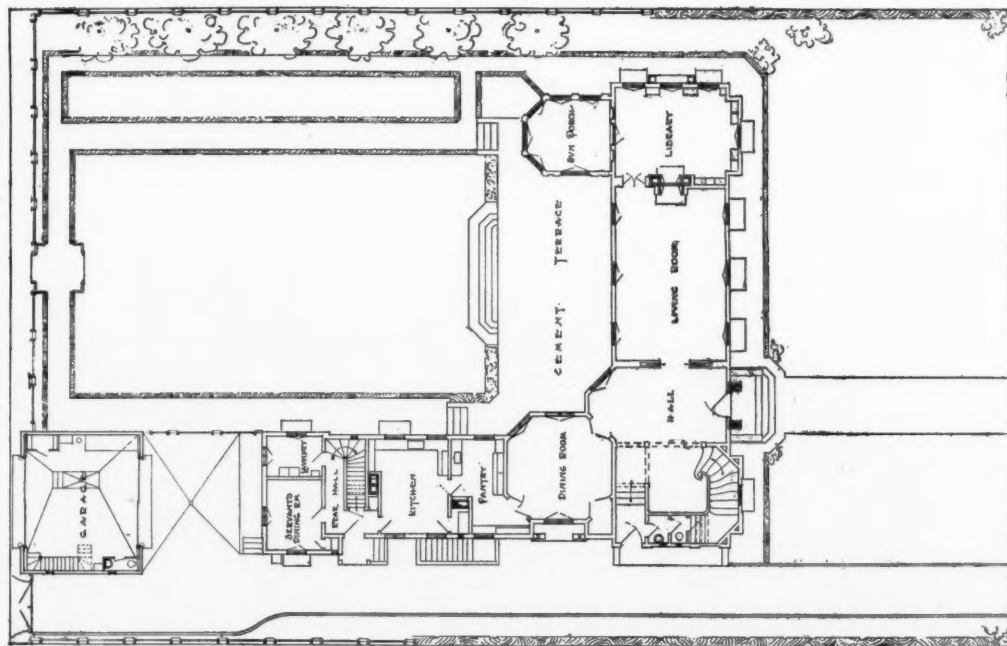
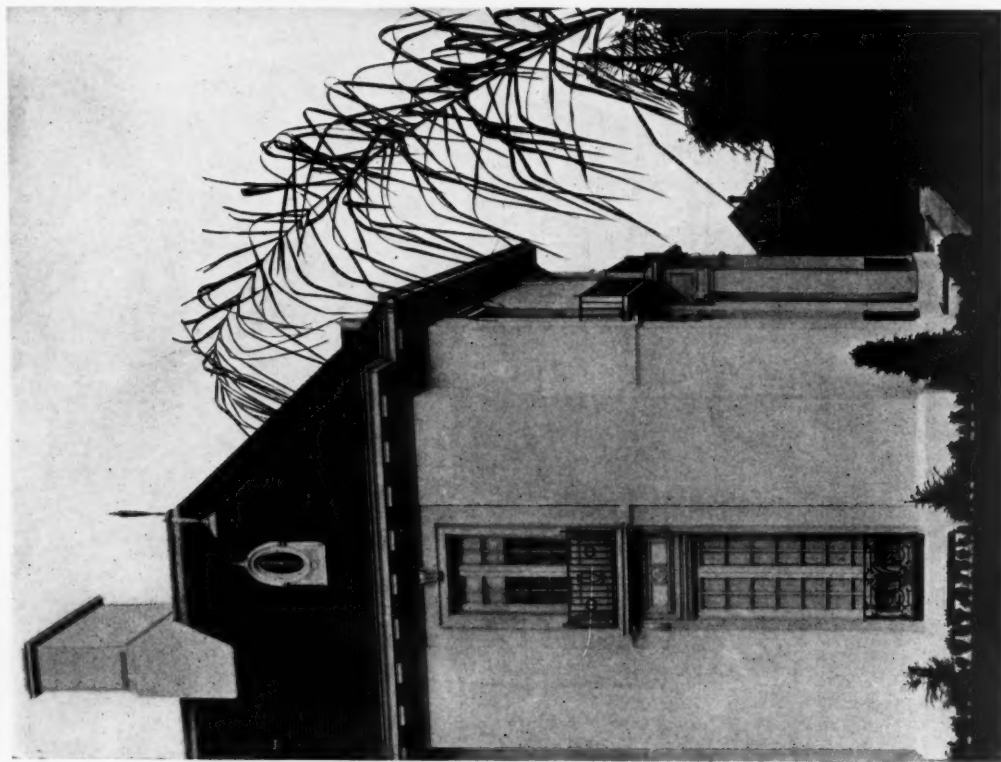
MR. ROBERT DAVID FARQUHAR, ARCHITECT





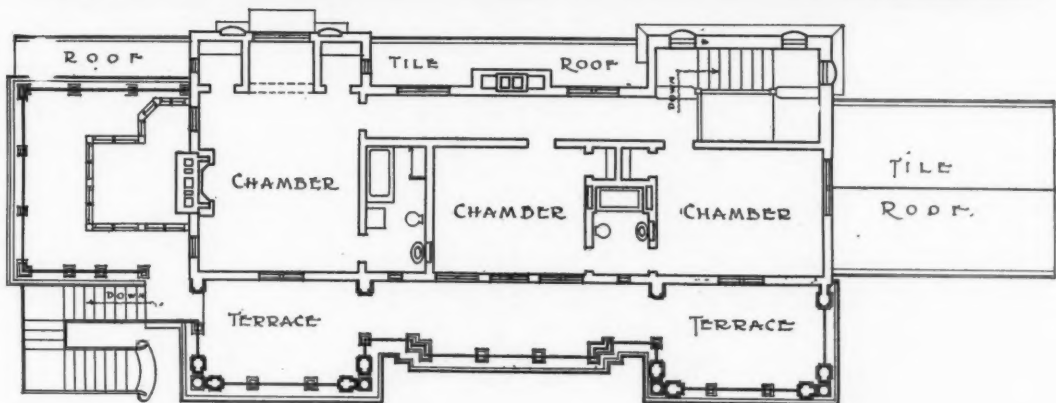
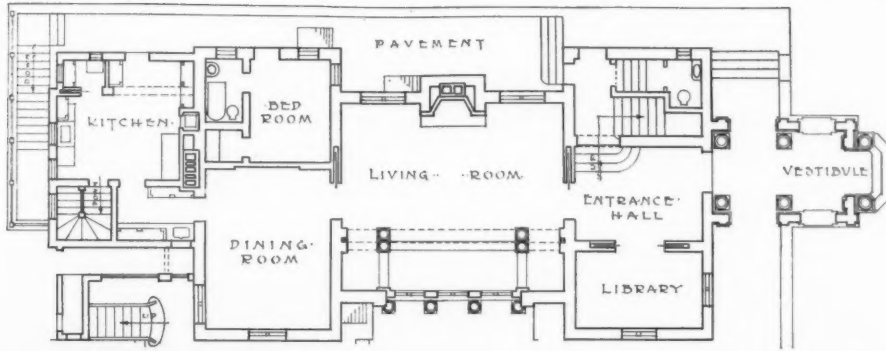
HOUSE IN LOS ANGELES, CAL.
MR. ROBERT DAVID FARQUHAR, ARCHITECT





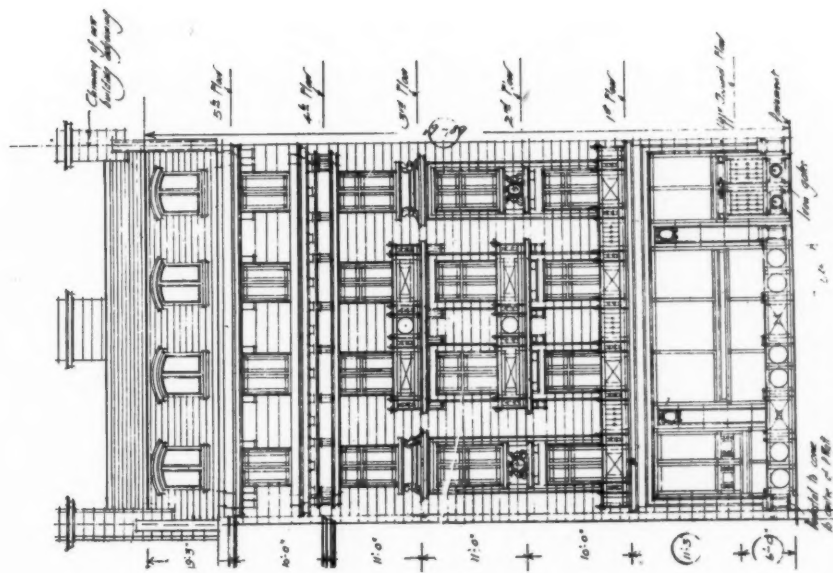
DETAIL AND PLAN

HOUSE IN LOS ANGELES, CAL.
MR. ROBERT DAVID FARQUHAR, ARCHITECT

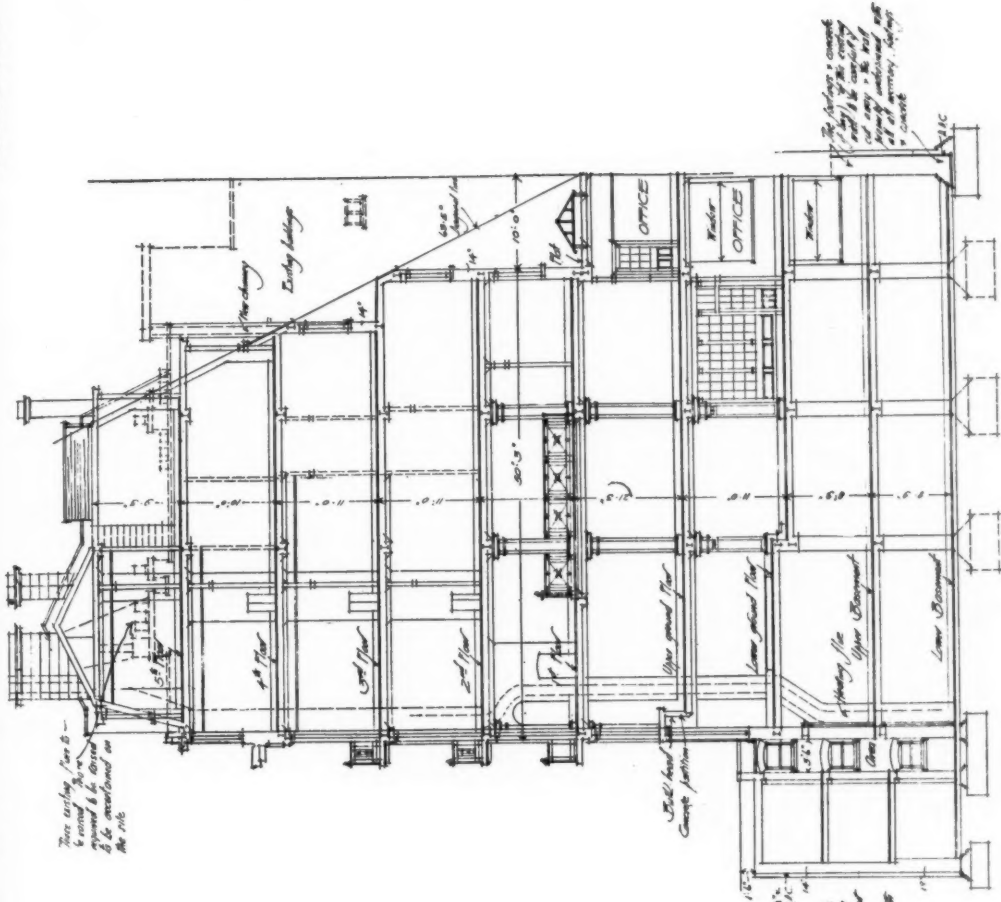


HOUSE IN SIERRA MADRE, CAL.

MR. ROBERT DAVID FARQUHAR, ARCHITECT



ELEVATION & WELL MALL



SECTION CC

Henry James 1913
The Legend of the Tower

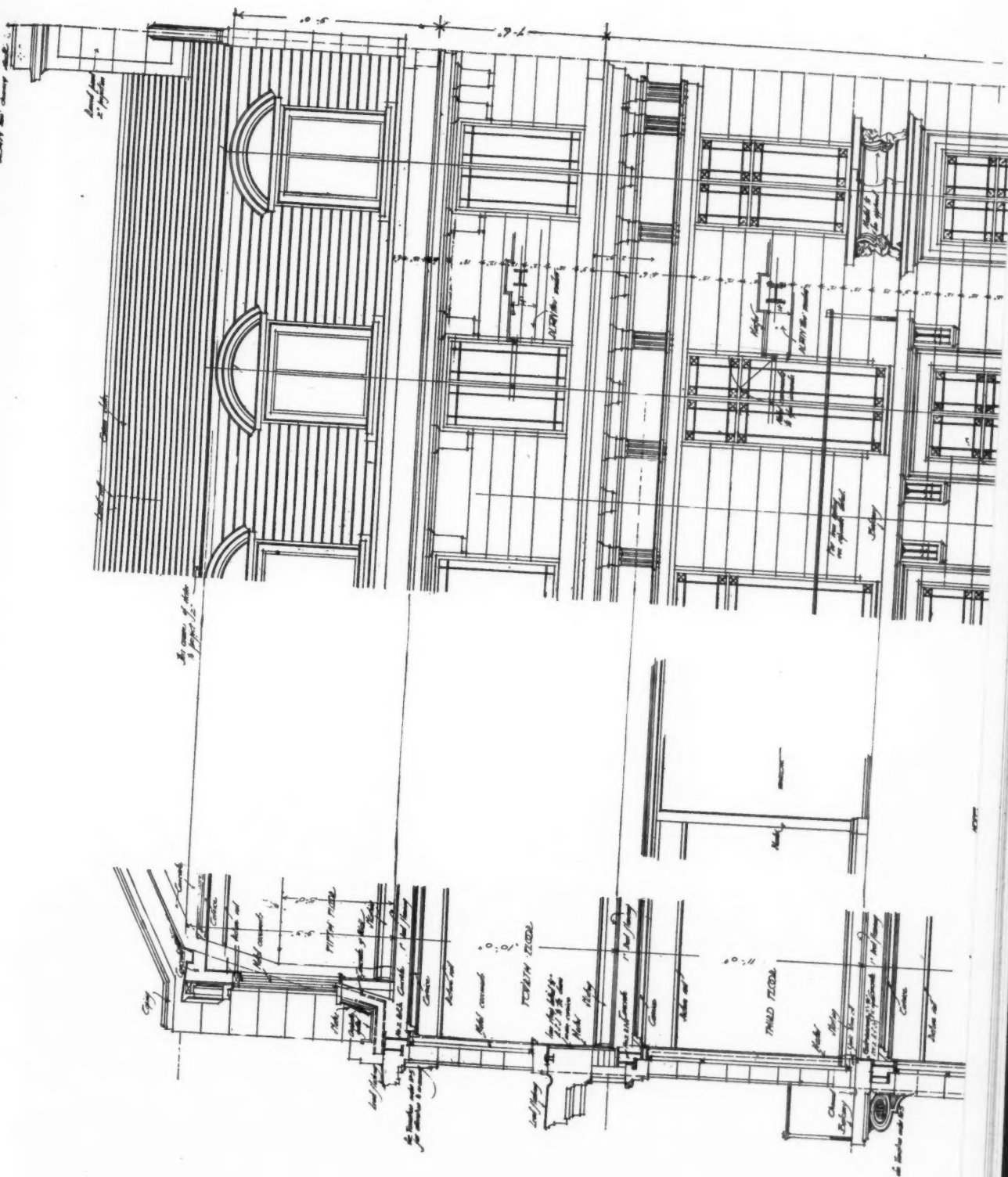
BUILDING FOR MESSRS. MOREL BROS., COBBETT & SON, LTD., PALL MALL, S. W., LONDON, ENGLAND

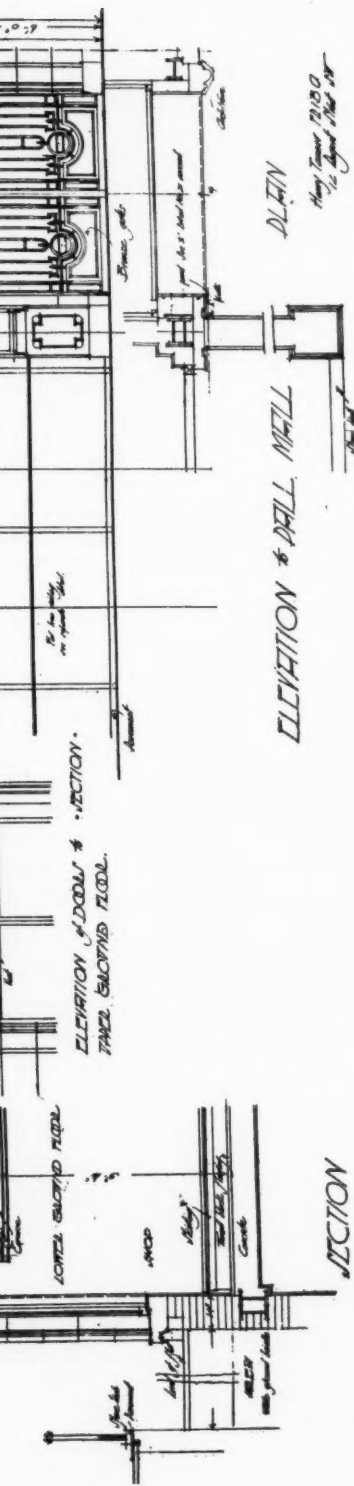
MR. HENRY TANNER, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT

(See notes from London in this issue)

OCTOBER 1, 1913

2200 W. Cherry St. St. Louis





BUILDING FOR MESSRS. MOREL BROS., COBBETT & SON, LTD., PALL MALL, S. W., LONDON

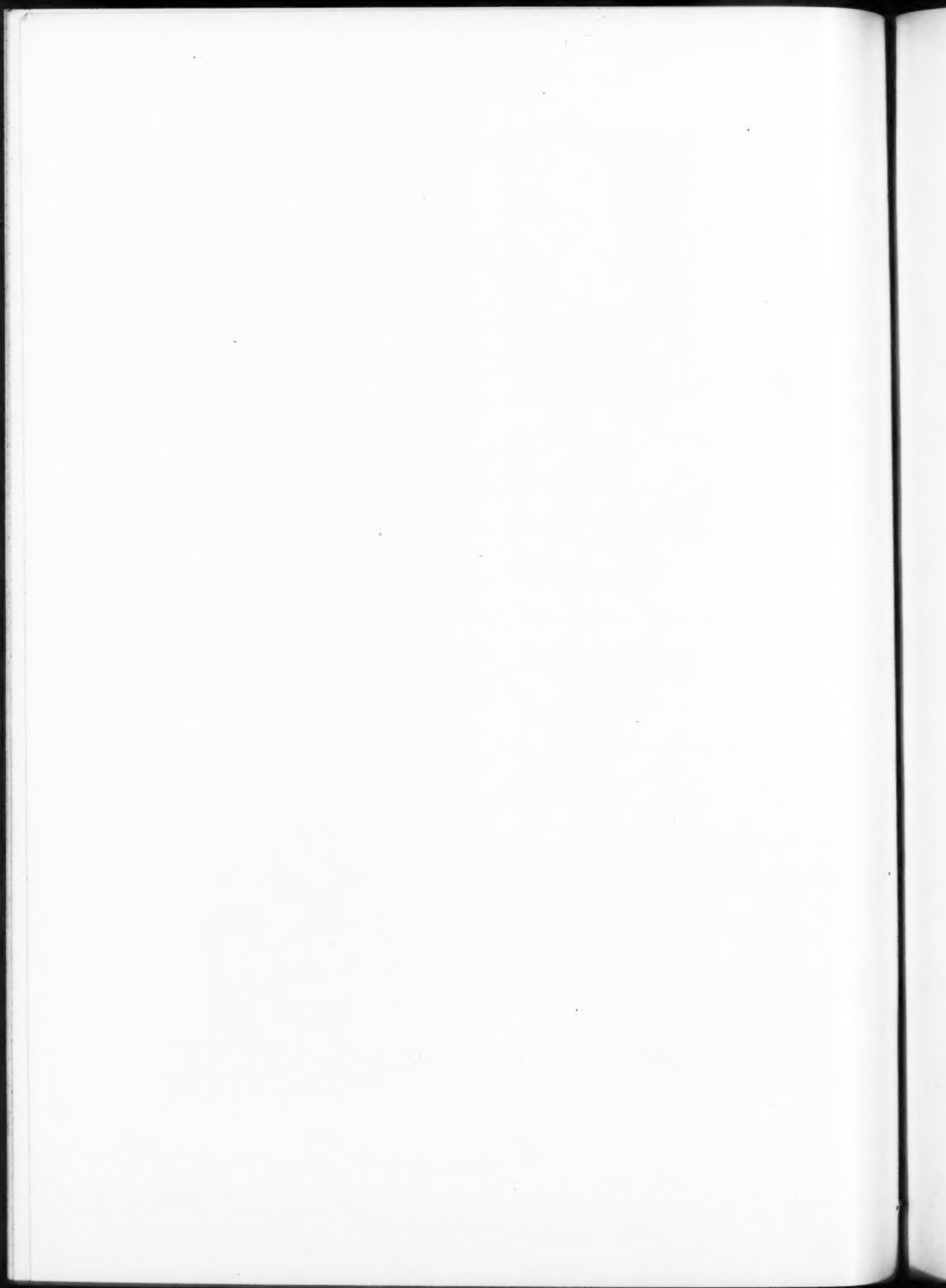
MR. HENRY TANNER, F.R.I.B.A., ARCHITECT

(See notes from London in this issue)



WINDOWS IN FIRST CHURCH OF PITTSFIELD MASS.

DESIGNED BY C. M. BURD



CURRENT NEWS AND COMMENT

TO REHABILITATE MODERN ATHENS

Modern Athens, long a reproach to its inhabitants and a sharp contrast to the heritage of traditions that at one time marked the ancient site as the most beautiful of cities, is to be rehabilitated if the plans proposed by the prefect, M. Dessios, are carried forward.

A correspondent of the *Washington Star* at Athens comments as follows:

"Modern Athens has arisen without any method, and despite the manifold beauties of position, climate, sky and classical ruins that she possesses. The city is by no means what she could be. Athens must follow her natural trend toward the sea, and grow toward Phalerum, three and one-half miles away—which should speedily become the capital's second port. Already the port of Piræus, despite the considerable extensions which have been made in the course of recent years, is getting too small for the Greek commerce and marine. Phalerum was long ago the port of ancient Athens until Themistocles persuaded the citizens of the superior advantages of Piræus."

TO STUDY VENTILATING PROBLEMS

An Experimental Study of Ventilation Problems will be carried on for the next four years by a commission having at its disposal a fund of \$50,000, which is part of a gift made by Mrs. Elizabeth Milbank Anderson to the Association for Improving the Condition of the Poor. The chairman of the commission is Dr. Charles Edward A. Winslow, of New York.

A RECENT LEGAL DECISION AFFECTING LIABILITY FOR PLANS ORDERED

A recent decision relates to liability for plans ordered.

In an action on a contract for architects' services the defendants stated to the plaintiff that they wanted plans drawn for houses to be built on land they had purchased, and an agreement engaging an architect to draw the plans was signed in the name of a corporation, not in existence, by one of the defendants as president. The architect drew the plans and obtained the approval of the city departments. Neither the defendants nor the corporation ever got the property.

It was said that the defendants were both liable, though only one of them signed the agreement, both having ordered the work to be done, and the fact that the title had never been obtained for the property did not affect their liability, nor did the

fact that the architect did not obtain the approval of the city departments until after he had been told to go no further with the plans. The agreement signed, however, must be disregarded for all purposes except, possibly, as fixing the rate and time of payment to the plaintiff, the court held.

SMOKE SAID TO COST PITTSBURGH \$10,000,000 A YEAR

A bulletin recently issued by the Smoke Investigation Bureau of Mellon Institute, University of Pittsburgh, endeavors to show that the smoke nuisance in Pittsburgh entails an annual cost to the people of that city of not less than \$10,000,000 or \$20 per capita. This report, it is stated, has been prepared by John O'Connor, Jr., the economist of the bureau, and who has been in charge of the investigation. Included in this report is a statement of losses from a similar cause in other important cities. Paul Bird, former Chief Smoke Inspector of Chicago, is quoted as saying that the loss in his city was \$17,600,000, or \$8 per capita, and E. P. Roberts, the present smoke inspector of Cleveland, that the loss in Cleveland was \$6,000,000, or \$8 per capita.

At the close of the report is a list of the items that are claimed to make up this large total. They are interesting as showing the thoroughness of the investigation and affording an opportunity to learn of the major items of the gross amount. The details are set down as follows:

Cost to the smoke maker.	
Imperfect combustion	\$1,520,740
Cost to the individual.	
(a) Laundry bills	1,500,000
(b) Dry cleaning bills.....	750,000
Cost to the household.	
(a) Exterior painting	330,000
(b) Sheet metal work.....	1,800,000
(c) Cleaning and renew wall paper.....	550,000
(d) Cleaning and renew lace curtains.....	360,000
(e) Artificial lighting	84,000
Cost to wholesale and retail stores.	
(a) Merchandise	1,650,000
(b) Extra precautions	450,000
(c) Cleaning	750,000
(d) Artificial lighting	650,000
(e) Department stores	175,000
Cost to quasi-public buildings.	
(a) Office buildings	90,000
(b) Hotels	22,000
(c) Hospitals	55,000
Total	\$9,944,740

It will be noted that according to the figures compiled the cost to the smoke maker, due to imperfect combustion is but 15 per cent. of the total, while the remaining 85 per cent. is shouldered by the community at large.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

"SMOKE-PROOF" BUILDINGS

A fireman of long and varied experience in the service of the New York City Fire Department recently stated that of the bodies recovered from burned buildings, a surprisingly large number showed no visible effect even of being slightly scorched by the flames, which means, of course, that a large proportion of the fatalities are due to simple asphyxiation. In the Park Avenue Hotel fire of some ten years ago, most of the guests who lost their lives were found, if we remember rightly, without a visible mark of fire upon their persons or clothing.

So far as the fatal effects are concerned, the poisonous gases that accompany smoke are as deadly to human life as flame. Hence, if the lives of the inmates of a tall office building are of greater value than the structure itself, we should take greater pains to protect human life against asphyxiation than we do to protect the steel and masonry building against fire. But to secure both of these results, it is necessary, not merely to construct the building itself of incombustible material, but to see to it that everything of a combustible nature in the way of fittings and furnishings be most rigidly excluded. If the tons of wooden furniture in the lower stories of a 300 or 400-foot high building were ablaze, and the products of combustion, the smoke and gases, were sweeping upward through stairways and elevator shafts and filling the various corridors, what earthly chance would the inmates of the upper stories have of getting out of the building before they were overcome by suffocation?

All of which considerations give great force to the protest which has recently been made by Mr. A. G. Patton, manager of the Special Hazards Department of the New York Fire Insurance Exchange, against the plan of the Board of Estimate to equip our new municipal building with wooden office furniture. We have buildings from 400 to 700 feet and more in height in this city to-day. They are fireproof, that is to say, incombustible, it is true; but what about their contents?

By all means let the Board of Estimate rescind its action and provide for making our municipal building fireproof not only in itself, but as to its contents.—*Scientific American*.

SMOKE POLLUTION IN BIRMINGHAM, ENGLAND

Atmospheric pollution is so disastrous to the durability and the beauty of buildings, as well as to the health of the community, says the *Architect and Contract Reporter* of London, that we must welcome the action of Dr. Robertson, the Medical Officer of Health for Birmingham, in undertaking an

investigation of the air of his city, so that in common with other towns, more particularly of industrial character, the municipal authorities may have convincing evidence before them that it is their duty to do something, and impress upon smoke-makers that it is to their advantage as well as an imperative obligation to practise economy rather than waste in their use of coal.

BOOK NOTE

BUILDERS' QUANTITIES. By Wm. Edgar Ballard. Full cloth, 123 pages, size 5 x 7. Price, 90 cents. London and New York: Longmans, Green & Co.

Just at this time when the question of the institution of an association of quantity surveyors in this country is receiving attention, a handbook of this character will be of especial interest. The present volume is one of a technical handcraft series and has been prepared, the author states in his preface, to meet requirements of those seeking to prepare themselves for the work of the quantity surveyor.

The methods of practice are, of course, those in England, but the book has, nevertheless, general application in the working out of results and would seem to present a basis for a similar, and what will, undoubtedly, soon become a much-needed work adapted to practice in this country.

PERSONAL

Mr. Charles William Eldridge, formerly of the firm of Eldridge & Upham, architects, Rochester, New York, announces that he has opened offices in the Cutler Building in that city, where he will practice his profession.

Mr. C. V. Snedeker, Jr., and Mr. Henry J. F. Ludeman, architects, announce that they have associated for the practice of their profession and will have offices in the National Building, Savannah, Ga.

Mr. C. F. W. Lundberg and Mr. C. Frank Mahon, architects, Tacoma, Wash., have effected a partnership and have secured office in the Provident Building, that city.

Messrs F. Felkel & Sons, Architects, Pittsburgh, Pa., announce that they have opened a branch office in the Marshall Building, Cleveland, O.

Mr. Frank F. E. Elvin, Architect, Springfield, Mass., announces that he has moved his offices from 874 Main Street to 182 State Street.

INDUSTRIAL INFORMATION

IN this section will be found information concerning late catalogues issued by manufacturers of building materials, fixtures or equipment. Also under this head will be printed, from time to time, certain data relative to new devices or methods of construction considered to be of interest to architects. Architects are invited to make use of THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT'S Catalogue Files and Information Department whenever they can do so to advantage. Any assistance we can render or information we can furnish in this connection will be freely given

NEW FITTING TO TAKE THE PLACE OF LEAD BENDS IN PLUMBING CONNECTIONS

The H. W. Johns-Manville Company, of New York City, has issued a pamphlet descriptive of the J-M Sanitary Closet Fitting, intended to replace the old-fashioned lead bend connections.

The fitting is made with a number of flanges on each end. The flanges are three-quarters of an inch from center to center and have the appearance of corrugations running around the fitting. In case the fitting is too long on either end it can be readily shortened by simply taking off one or more of the flanges with a cold chisel and hammer.

The makers state that this fitting can be screwed or caulked into any stack and since it can be turned to any angle it is exceedingly simple work to connect with any closet. It is claimed that it will last as long as the building in which it is installed and the joints are guaranteed to be absolutely gas tight after being made.

Booklet on this subject will be forwarded to anyone interested upon request.

SPACE SAVING DEVICE

The space-saving wardrobe device, manufactured by John Thomas Batts, Grand Rapids, Mich., is illustrated in a recently issued pamphlet that may be had on application, in a manner that will appeal to architects.

In addition to photographs showing actual installation of wardrobes, and the devices used for the compact storage and proper hanging of wearing apparel, there are floor plans of typical houses and blueprints, showing the exact sizes of different types of wardrobes and their capacities.

In locations such as hotels, small apartments and various other places where space-saving is desirable, it would seem that these wardrobes afford an opportunity to accomplish desired results in a most efficient manner.

BUILDING PROGRESS

Building Progress for September, the "house organ" of National Fireproofing Co., is an attractive and well-prepared issue. The leading article, "A Formal Move to Limit the Height of Buildings," reviews the discussion on the topic and records the results achieved and limitations proposed in various cities. An article by Charles E. White,

Jr., on "The Part Tools Bear in Contracting," contains many valuable suggestions to builders and illustrates a number of devices that have been found to facilitate the easy handling of materials in building operations.

ARTISTIC LIGHTING FEATURES

An attractive pamphlet has been recently issued by Rush Bros. Co., 136 West Lake street, Chicago, Ill., illustrating in color and describing their line of art pottery and sanitary white porcelain fixtures for direct and indirect lighting.

The illustrations would seem to indicate applications of artistic perception in the designing of these fixtures, and present numerous examples displaying in a high degree the development of modern craftsmanship. This pamphlet will be interesting to architects. It may be had on request.

FURNACES FOR HEATING BY WARM-AIR

The Majestic Furnace Company, Huntington, Ind., are manufacturers of the "Square Majestic" furnace. These furnaces, the makers state, are made throughout of cast iron, which they claim has proved to be a more durable and more adaptable material than steel. A feature of these furnaces is a down-draft radiator that it is claimed insures complete combustion, and conserves all the heat generated by the coal.

Many features for which the makers claim unusual advantages are illustrated in a pamphlet which may be had on application.

AUTOMATIC CELLAR DRAINER

An automatic device for removing water from cellars, excavations or any depression where water accumulates is made by Philip Braender, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, and is illustrated and described in a leaflet recently issued.

These drainers, the maker claims, when placed in a suitable depression and connected with the service pipe, will keep the cellar, vault or pit dry automatically and reliably at small expense, as no water is used to operate the drainer except when it is actually discharging accumulated water.

The drains are made in three sizes, with varying per hour capacities of from 375 to 1275 gallons.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

DRAINAGE SYSTEM FOR COUNTRY HOUSES

Waring, Chapman & Farquhar, 874 Broadway, New York City, announce in a recently issued pamphlet, that they design and build "Waring Systems" for disposing of sewage from houses and institutions beyond the reach of public sewers. The pamphlet referred to, which may be had on request, contains a large amount of information on this important subject, and presents diagrams and drawings describing in a very complete way various systems installed and the manner of their placing. These permit a comprehensive idea of how the sewage is finally disposed of. The pamphlet should be of interest to architects engaged in the designing and planning of suburban houses.

WOOD MOULDINGS

Klise Manufacturing Company, Grand Rapids, Mich., are manufacturers of hand and machine cut wood mouldings. In a recently issued catalogue there are illustrated a large variety of mouldings that will afford a wide selection. The makers desire to correspond with architects who are in need of special designs to complete decorative motives, and state that if a sketch of any special pattern is sent them they will be glad to promptly forward an estimate for its execution.

FIBER-RUSH AND REED FURNITURE

The Ford & Johnson Company, whose offices and factory are in Michigan City, Ind., have issued a catalogue of 150 pages, size 8½ by 10½, for the purpose of illustrating and describing what appears to be a very complete line of fiber-rush and reed furniture.

It is interesting to note in the pages of this catalogue the very ingenious way in which these materials have been used to produce artistic and durable results, and also the successful combination of fiber and reed with wood and other material.

Inspection of this catalogue will, we believe, offer a wide range of suggestions to architects in the furnishing of the country house; not only of the porch and the living rooms, but of the bedrooms as well. Catalogue will be sent to architects on request.

PLUMBING SUPPLIES

The catalogue of the Illinois Malleable Iron Co., Chicago, Ill., manufacturers of plumbing supplies, is a large volume of more than 500 pages, size 5½ x 9, bound in full cloth. This catalogue illustrates in detail, so varied an assortment in all the various utilities manufactured that its possession will be of service to architects in the selection of equipment for specific locations or particular service. The catalogue will be sent on request.

FLUSH-VENEERED DOORS

Veneered doors, without panels and with a flush even surface are made by Roddis Lumber & Veneer Company, Marshfield, Wis. These doors are illustrated in color and fully described in a pamphlet that may be had on application.

The makers advance many arguments in favor of the introduction of this type of door over the usual paneled door, and state that the unbroken surface of the door insures the preservation of the beauty of the veneer and gives a decorative sweep and good character to interiors in which they are placed.

It is further stated that, owing to the laminated method of construction employed, there is no possible shrinkage or distortion of the doors, and that this fact has been fully demonstrated under the most adverse conditions.

The makers will forward the pamphlet and full information on request.

LOCK JOINT COLUMNS

The Colonial Column Manufacturing Company, 206 Broadway, New York, in a recently issued pamphlet illustrate and describe the various types of lock joint columns, of which they are the manufacturers, and state that they will be glad to correspond with architects who contemplate the introduction of wooden columns into work about to be executed.

The pamphlet illustrated a number of important buildings in which these columns have been used.

SASH PULLEYS

The American Pulley Company, Philadelphia, Pa., are manufacturers of pressed metal sash pulleys, designed for use wherever a device of this nature can be employed. Unusual care, the makers state, has been exercised to produce a pulley that will meet every requirement of service, and give the most efficient results. The many different styles are shown in a recently issued pamphlet that will be mailed on request.

SPECIAL PAINT FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES

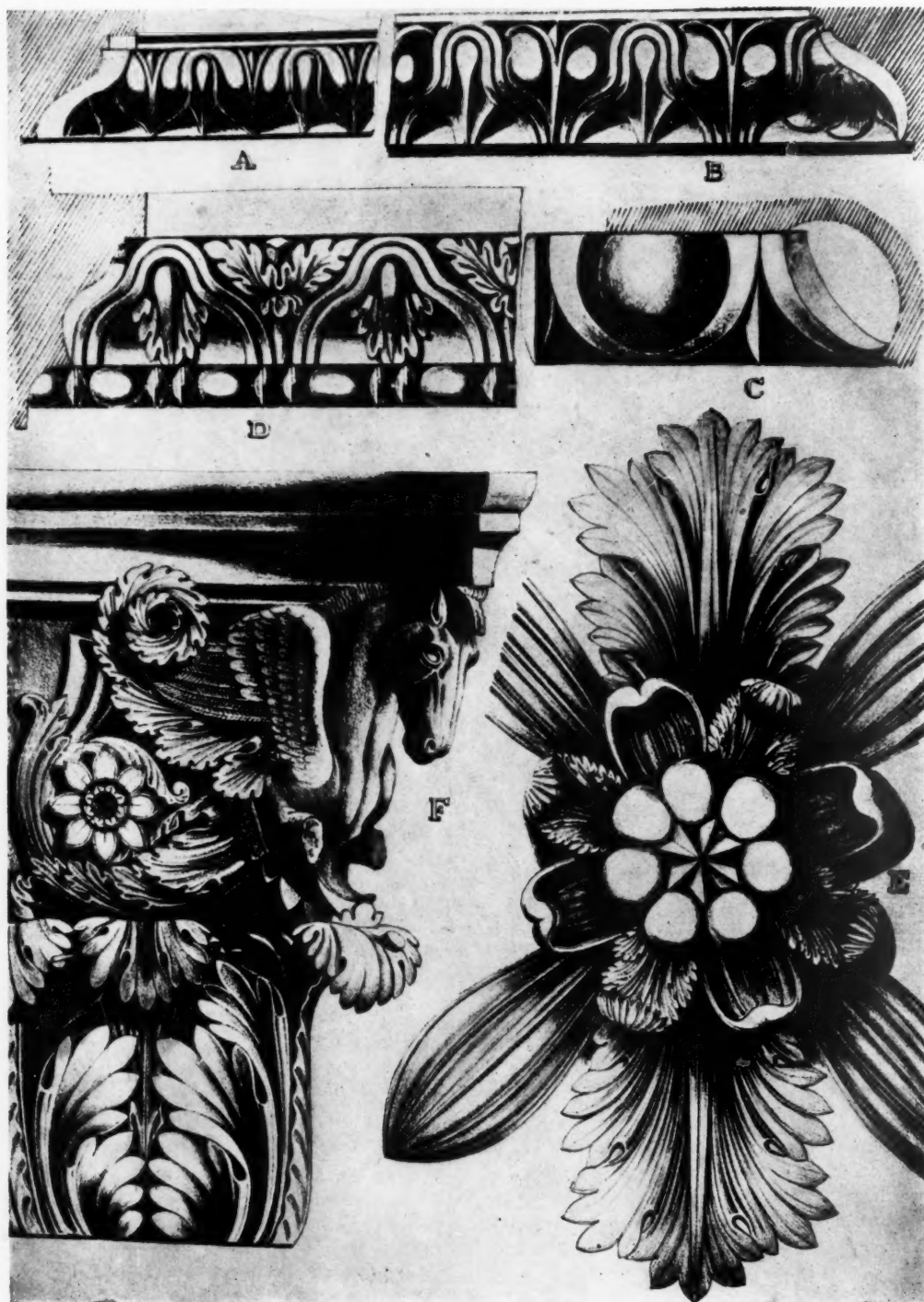
In a pamphlet and color card issued by the Atlas Paint Company, 101 Park Avenue, New York, four distinctive lines of paint for protective coverings of metal are shown. A varnish paint for sheet metal, a linseed oil paint for tanks, a fused vehicle paint for all steel work and a graphite paint for steel, which is also available for wood work. The makers state that long experience has demonstrated that one paint of given constituents is not applicable to metal under all conditions. To meet the requirements of exposure and character of service to which metal is subjected, these different grades of paint have been perfected. Further information and color card will be sent on request.

THE TEMPLE OF MARS ULTOR AT ROME

Various details

ON this plate are represented miscellaneous ornaments from this temple. These are executed in a broadness of spirit indicative of the best period and which is not found in the work of the age of the decline. At the top of the plate are mouldings (A) (B) (C) from the coffers of the peristyle and the upper moulding (D) of the architrave, while at the bottom is the rosette (E) from the coffers of the peristyle and a pilaster capital (F) supposed to have belonged to the interior of this temple, which in composition is quite similar to some of the Greek types, the detail however being of the best Roman character.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT



TEMPLE OF MARS ULTOR, ROME, ITALY

(For description see preceding page)