

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT



ILLUSTRATIONS
AND READING
MATTER PERTAIN-
ING TO ARCHITECT-
URE AND ALLIED
ARTS

PUBLISHED WEDNESDAYS IN N.Y. — FOUNDED 1876

VOLUME CVIII

DECEMBER 22, 1915

NUMBER 2087



"Viceroy" Bath, Plate No. V-12-A
(Patent applied for)

"Belmore" Lavatory, Plate No. 145-FA

The KOHLER trade-mark appears on every piece of KOHLER enameled plumbing ware. It is incorporated in faint blue in the enamel, at the points indicated by the arrows.

Add to the beauty of the house
you have planned by installing

KOHLER

Trade-marked, Enameled Plumbing Ware

KOHLER Ware is distinguished by these important features:

One quality—the highest.
Purest white enamel.
Permanent trade-mark.

The "Viceroy" built-in bathtub is a **one-piece** fixture that will delight you. It is exceptionally low in price, due to manufacturing economies.

The KOHLER trade-mark, permanent in the enamel, is our *guarantee of quality*, and prevents substitution.

Lasts a lifetime.

One-piece construction.
Modern, hygienic designs.

You can specify this beautiful, built-in tub, whether the bathroom is tiled or not.

KOHLER bathtubs, lavatories and sinks are unequaled in quality.

Write for catalog of the "Viceroy"—our new built-in bath.

MAKERS

Trade-marked, Enameled
Bathtubs, Lavatories
and Sinks

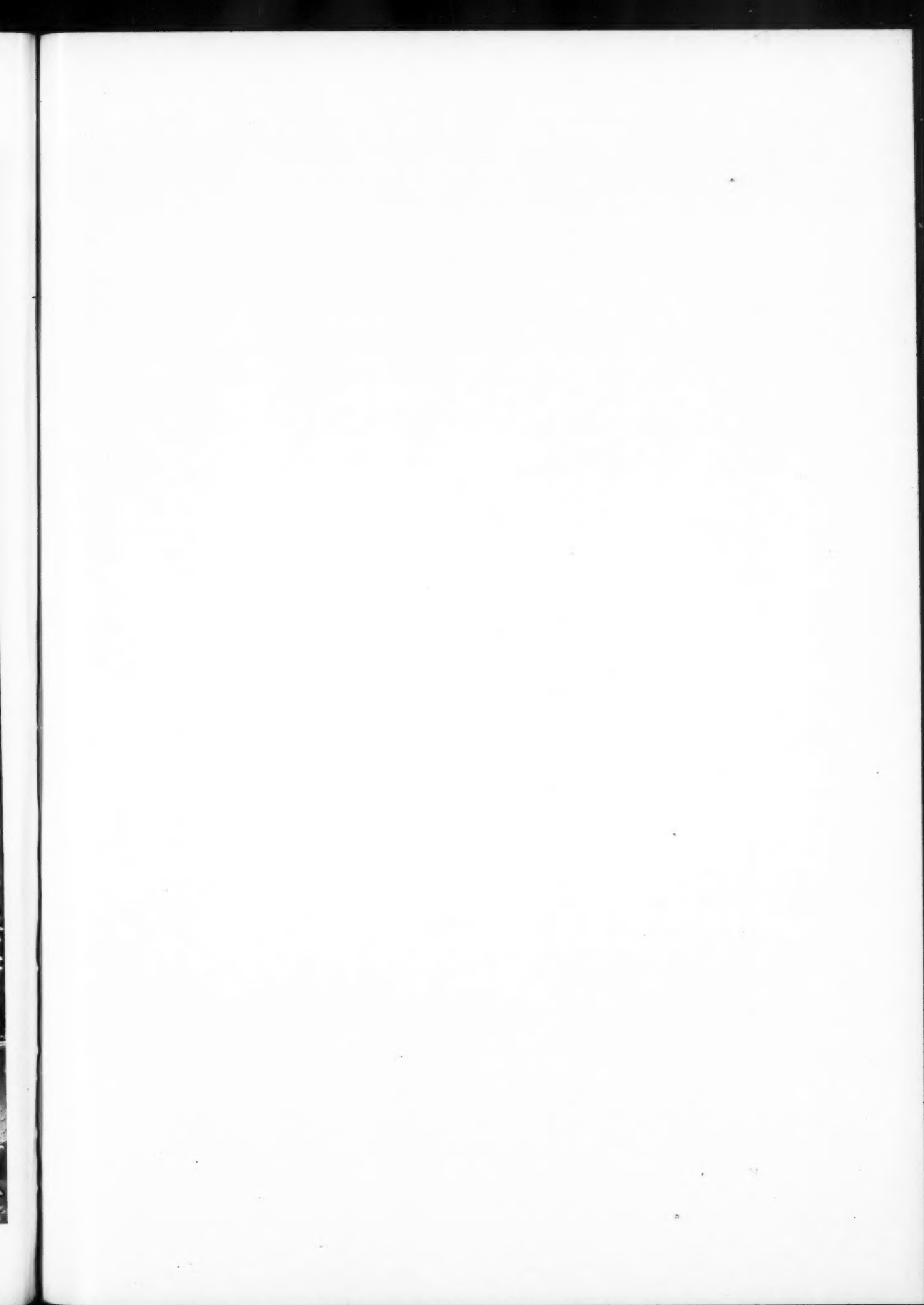
"It's in the Kohler Enamel"

KOHLER CO.
Founded 1873
Kohler, Wis., U.S.A.

BRANCHES

Boston New York
Pittsburgh Chicago
San Francisco London







TOWER AT ENKHUISEN, HOLLAND

From the Water-color sketch by Cass Gilbert

T

Vo

F

V

ord
ler
cer
lar
att

ton
bas
we

of
nes
at
ses
ter
the
pro

do
con
day
the
gat
for
Th
for
the

its
of
tion

fin
had
and

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

VOL. CVIII

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 22, 1915

NUMBER 2087

FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

WASHINGTON. D. C., DECEMBER, 1, 2, 3, 1915

WHEN President R. Clipston Sturgis called the Forty-ninth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects to order in the Hemicycle of the Corcoran Gallery in Washington on the morning of December 1st, there probably was present the largest number of delegates that have ever attended a convention of the Institute.

The delegates were welcomed to Washington by the Hon. Henry White, former Ambassador to France. Mr. White's remarks were received with the warmest approval.

With each succeeding year the machinery of these conventions takes on added smoothness. The confusion and uncertainty that at one time prevented the first day's session from affording anything of much interest or value is no longer present. From the tap of the president's gavel the work proceeded with orderly briskness.

Much of this commendable condition is doubtless due to the work that is now accomplished by the various committees on the day preceding the convention and also to the printing and circulation among delegates of the various Committee Reports before the convention was called to order. This meeting enables delegates to prepare for prompt and more thorough action at the proper time.

The convention hall was commodious, and its acoustic properties much better than those of the rooms in the hotels where the conventions have heretofore been held.

Treasurer Mauran's statement of the finances of the Institute showed that there had been received during the year \$25,372.37 and disbursed \$22,754.91.

To the receipts over disbursements of \$2,617.46 there is to be added the cash on hand at the close of the last fiscal year, \$1,093.56, leaving a balance on hand of \$3,711.02.

The reserve fund on hand Oct. 31, 1915, \$2,713.97, shows a shrinkage over the corresponding date in 1914 of \$715.90.

A report of unusual interest was that of the Board of Directors, read by Burt L. Fenner, Secretary, extracts from which are printed on another page.

This report is one that will furnish food for serious thought to every practising architect irrespective of his affiliations, and we commend its careful perusal. The measure of its importance was indicated by the very hearty approval shown by the delegates during its reading.

The reports of the House and Building Committees were with special reference to the upkeep and improvement of the Octogan, the Institute headquarters in Washington. It is to be hoped that the necessity for the care and preservation of this building may be thoroughly realized by every Institute member. Few, if any, organizations have come into possession of a headquarters building so thoroughly representative of its ideals. Lack of funds for adequate maintenance menaces this dignified structure. It has now reached a condition when it is necessary to contemplate a considerable expenditure to preserve the house. There have been subscriptions by private individuals and by Chapters, notably the Philadelphia Chapter, but while this action is commendable it is thus far entirely inadequate.

Many schemes have been outlined to pro-

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

vide the necessary funds, and it is to be hoped that the early future will show the way to start on the essentials of a comprehensive plan of restoration and improvement that has received the approval of the Institute. This plan is embodied in a Monograph on the Octogan prepared by Mr. Glenn Brown.

The report of the Committee on Contracts and Specifications, as presented by Mr. Frank Miles Day, was a simple recapitulation of revision and final acceptance by the leading Builders' Exchanges and construction organizations of the Institute standard documents.

The members were referred to the pages of the Institute Journal for an analytical account of these revised documents.

In a supplementary report, the Committee presented a form of a proposed agreement between owner and architect. This form was laid before the convention with a view to advancing a study of the subject and to eliciting the opinions of delegates.

Upon debate this matter was left to the judgment of the Board of Directors and the Committee.

The report of the Committee on the Lincoln Highway is of especial interest as showing the valuable and restraining influence of the Institute on the aesthetic features of this important undertaking.

It is held that artistic features of road-building have not kept pace with roadway improvement, and the report points to the proposed Lincoln Highway as a project that will set new standards of future road-building.

The following suggestions are embodied in the report:

"That each subcommittee assist in establishing in its respective State a State Art Commission, among whose duties would be to control design of bridges, monuments, and other highway structures.

"That each subcommittee shall, as far as possible, urge on State legislators the necessity of State control in the design and maintenance of the Lincoln Highway.

"That the president of the institute be requested to ask the American Civic Association to use its efforts in establishing State Art Commissions in each State traversed by the Lincoln Highway, the duties of this Art Commission to include control of design of bridges, monuments, and other highway structures."

The report of the Committee on Chapters brought up an interesting point and a pro-

posed amendment to the By-Laws as respecting membership.

Referring to these points the report states:

"The proposed Constitution and By-Laws vary from those presented and discussed at the last Convention mainly in the provision for a class of members known as Associates of the Institute. The draft of By-Laws prepared in 1914 had no such provision, and practically required that all present Chapter members must within three years become full Institute members. Thereafter there was to be no such thing as Chapter membership. Great objections were raised to this clause because of the fact that no provision was made for Juniors, those who were not yet in the opinion of their fellow architects eligible for *full membership*, and also for those who were not able financially to pay Institute dues.

"As it was, after all, the main purpose of the new Constitution to provide a form of organization whereby all members of any character in the Chapters would be directly allied with and responsible to the Institute itself, it seemed a wise solution of the difficulties to provide for this class of Associates of the Institute. Into this class would be taken at once (by the adoption of the By-Laws) all those persons who are now Chapter members of the various Chapters. No financial obligations would be placed upon them. That is to say, no dues would be paid to the Institute itself. Thereafter such Associates would be elected by the Institute members of the Chapter in the district in which they practice. The Institute itself merely records that election upon notification from the Chapter. The man would at once be an Associate of the Institute, even though he pays dues only to the local organization.

"This plan at one sweep takes into the Institute, in this modified class of membership, all those persons who are now after all credited with Institute membership, and yet have no obligations to the Institute. Associates of the Institute, under this plan, are responsible to the Institute, and whether they will or not must live up to its principles and may be disciplined for any infraction of the Codes. Moreover, anyone now a Chapter member could hardly object to this involuntary transfer to the Associate class of the Institute, since he has no added dues to pay and acquires an added honor in exchange for an added responsibility which he could not honorably waive.

"The plan seems to your committee to meet, at present at least, in the simplest way the conditions of the resolutions passed at the last Convention, namely, that a plan of reorganization shall be adopted whereby the Chapter shall consist of Institute members only."

After considerable debate, it was decided to defer any action on this matter until next year.

The report of the Committee on competitions carefully reviewed the subject, taking up such suggestions received throughout the year as were believed to be of sufficient weight to warrant consideration.

A suggestion to divide all competition

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

into three classes, based on the cost of the work, the class covering work costing less than \$50,000 to be exempt from Institute provisions at the discretion of the Chapter. This suggestion was rejected on the ground that the principles laid down by the Institute are fundamental and apply to all competitions.

A second suggestion was that the professional adviser must be a practicing architect of highest standing.

Inasmuch as many men not practicing are believed to be entirely competent to act in an advisory capacity, this suggestion was rejected.

The report further states:

"It was proposed to change Art. VIII, permitting the adviser to judge competitions for work costing less than \$150,000 and requiring a jury of three or more for larger work, all of whom should, and a majority of whom must, be practising architects, and making the adviser eligible for such service.

"The Standing Committee reaffirms its belief that a jury should consist of men having no information before them other than that given to the competitors and that the judgment, being the selection of an architect, should be rendered solely on the basis of the use made by the several competitors of the information before them. An adviser has gone over the problem with the owners at great length, and has much collateral information which never gets into the program and which it would be unfair to apply to the judgment, especially as it is quite possible that one or more of the competitors may have similar information obtained before a competition was decided upon, while the other competitors have only that in the program, while there is the further possibility that the adviser has, by the time of the judgment, arrived at a solution of his own which might prejudice his judgment.

"With reference to the personnel of the jury for larger work, your committee believes that the owner, an architect, and an expert on hospitals, libraries, apartment houses or whatever the work in hand might be, would be a competent jury and a sufficient guarantee to the competitors."

The report of the Committee on Education was presented at a specially arranged meeting on the evening of December 1st.

A more thorough and comprehensive resume of the field of educational art has perhaps never been issued by the Institute. Previous reports, all noted for their thoroughness, have made specific recommendations as to special fields in which it was believed the Institute might, with advantage, lend the weight of its influence. The present report avoids, in a large measure, such suggestion. It states: "We offer no resolu-

tions of a constructive character, believing that the work now on the hands of the Committee had better take a more definite shape, become more of a routine, before further responsibilities are assumed."

The amount of work and research as indicated by this report, and performed by this Committee, which has an appropriation of but \$100, would seem to indicate a most unselfish and generous spirit on the part of its members.

As to the best method of instruction in architecture the report frankly states that no final conclusion has been reached.

This report is too voluminous to admit of its publication in full. It is, however, of such moment and of vital interest that we feel warranted in recommending its careful study by every practicing architect in this country.

In the large school room on the floor above the convention hall there were exhibited the work of nine architectural schools. This exhibition proved to be unusually attractive and provided an opportunity to compare the various methods pursued.

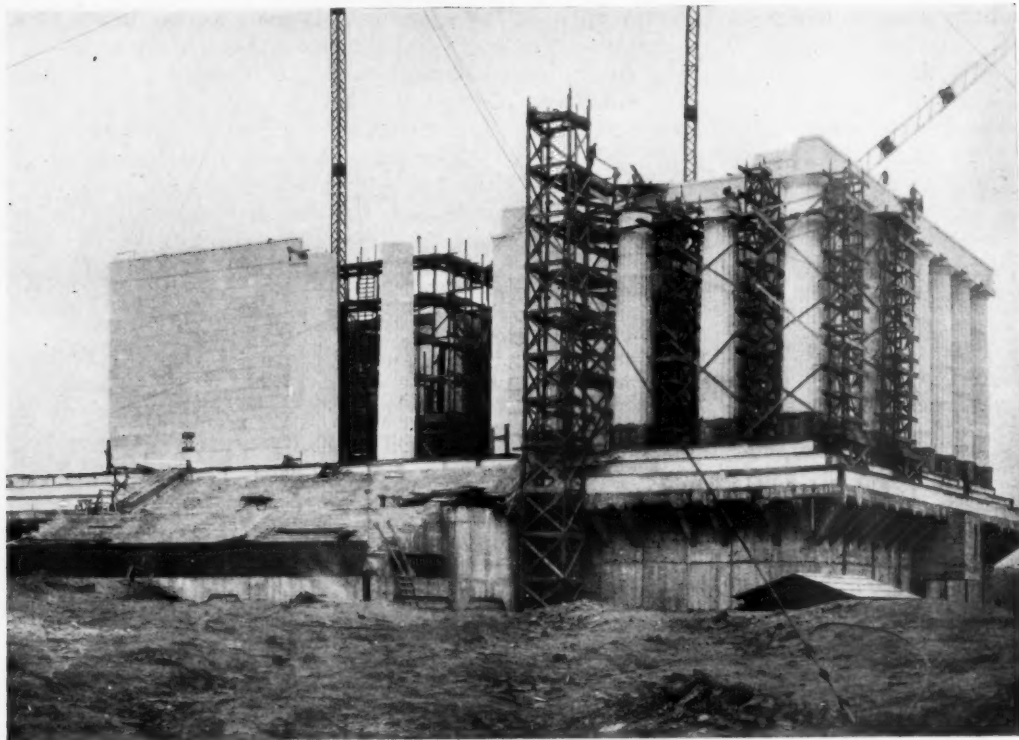
The nine schools, together with names of students awarded the Institute Student Medals, are as follows:

University of Pennsylvania, Harrold Hammond, B. S. in Arch., U. of P., 1915. Cornell University, Raymond McCormick Kennedy, B. Arch., Cornell, 1915. Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Henry Palmer Sabin, B. S., M. I. T., 1915. Columbia University, Joe Hunter McDonnell, B. Arch. Carnegie Institute of Technology, Owen James Southwell, B. Arch. Carnegie Inst. Tech., 1915. University of Michigan, Chandler Carroll Cohagen, B. Arch., U. of M., 1915. University of California, Albert Jose Loubet, B. S., U. of C., 1912; M. S. in Arch, U. of C., 1913; Graduate in Arch., U. of C., 1915. University of Illinois, Bernhard Ernst George Dirks, B. S. in A., U. of Ill., 1915. Harvard University, Alan McDonald, A. B. Harvard, 1912.

SECOND DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

THE futility of any effort on the part of the Institute to frame a basic building code at this time is set forth in the report of the special committee on Building Code. New codes and revisions of existing codes have been

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT



THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL, (VIEW DURING CONSTRUCTION), WASHINGTON, D. C.

MR. HENRY BACON, ARCHITECT

put forth by many cities and their success or failure in actual operation is being closely watched. It is therefore announced in the report of this committee that the present time is not regarded as favorable for the advancement of a basic code on the part of the Institute, and any action will for this reason be deferred for some time.

The report of the Committee on Government Architecture is a direct and forceful one. It recounts the efforts made during the past year to exert an influence that would redeem the architecture of Government buildings from the evils incident to the present plan.

In conclusion this report states:

"Your Committee on Government Architecture feels that, so far as the Treasury Department is concerned, its relations are not improved, nor will they be during the term of office of the present administrative officials, and that it would be a better policy to openly bring to bear whatever influence we have in the different communities, and to further what the Institute believes to be for the best interest of architecture in America, not confining it to the interests of the American Institute of Architects alone. We must

unanimously disapprove of such buildings as the new Interior building, for Washington itself. There might be excuse for an office-building type of Federal Building in such a city as Chicago, where any building of the lower type in the business center is simply overpowered by the surrounding skyscrapers, but these conditions occur in very few cities and are the exception. There is no reason why a high building should not be designed in a monumental manner.

"We believe a campaign of criticism intelligently carried out in the press, from all of the different parts of the country, not forgetting to impress the members of Congress from the several districts, is the thing to do. This can be done by utilizing the best writers in the different Chapters through the local press."

The fact that good architecture gets its greatest impulse from both economic and social conditions and that it is only through an honest interpretation of these that a vital aesthetic expression can exist, was emphasized in the report on Public Information.

The report states in part:

"We have attempted to discuss aesthetic questions,—to educate our people through the use of forms called beautiful, to import, in fact, a set of aesthetic values from Europe. In the meantime, we find that our

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

towns and our cities are growing more ugly every day.

"The relation between the social, economic, and political ideals taught in our schools have no relation whatever to aesthetic expressions. It is this fact that suggests the proper point of attack; it is our educational system which should be modified to include in its scope the establishment of this relation. What we need is to show the student that many of his notions concerning social values are impossible without a proper physical setting. It is not proposed that we should assume, ourselves, the actual work of instruction; our sphere is rather that of demonstrating the value of this idea."

In the report of the Committee on the Preservation of National Beauties and Historic Monuments, the work of the Louisiana Chapter is most deservedly praised. This report also praises the efforts of public spirited citizens throughout the United States to preserve the national beauties and historic landmarks of the nation.

The proposed National Capital Forest between Washington and Baltimore, to the furtherance of which the Institute is committed, has, the report states, owing to political and other conditions, not made progress. Its advantages are set forth in the report, and it is suggested that every possible effort be made to arouse public interest in an improvement that would afford a superb natural setting to the Nation's Capital.

The report of the Committee on Fire Prevention urges the members of the profession to keep in touch with the movement of fire prevention in all of its branches. It is only by close study of this important part of their profession they can keep abreast with modern efficiency.

The evening session of the second day, like that of the first, was devoted to a special topic. On this evening, Mr. George B. Ford, Chairman of the Committee on Town Planning, addressed to delegates.

The work of this Committee has, the report states, been concentrated on three matters:

First, bringing together national organizations for town planning education; second, an endeavor to induce the architects to take a more active part in both national and local town planning work; and third, the conducting of an active town planning and housing section in the Journal of the Institute, to contribute to both of the above objects, and to carry the propaganda to the public at large.

The report of the Committee on Institute Publications sets forth the fact that owing to

incomplete returns from the circulars sent out as to the desirability of publishing the proceedings in full, no decision in the matter had been reached.

The need of a well defined and continuing policy with respect to the conduct of the Journal and the membership of the Committee on Publication, is presented in the report.

Mr. Kelsey addressed the Convention with reference to this Committee. His remarks were frequently interrupted with the warmest expression of approval. He said, in part, as follows:

Mr. Kelsey: It seems to me only right and fitting that some word of appreciation should be spoken for the great service this committee is rendering the Institute. Very few delegates are familiar with the vast amount of time that has been required to bring about the successful results that Mr. Baldwin has reported upon, and still fewer know how much devotion has been given to this work. Also the financing has been a real act of optimism. I would like for one moment to refer to our good fortune in having such an able editor.

Those of you who read his admirable editorial entitled "Eothen" are perhaps not all familiar with the original. Fifty years ago when Kinglake wrote a book called "Eothen," which is a classic I do not think he penned the narrative of his journey with the same inspiring purposefulness as the writer of the editorial in our Journal did in alluding to the Panama-Pacific Exposition. Those of you who read that editorial will know what I mean. Those of you who have been to the Panama-Pacific Exposition and have not read that editorial will not altogether know what was before your eyes, for Mr. Whitaker has the seeing eye that some of us do not possess, and personally I feel under deep obligation to him for the inspiring tenor of what he writes.

It would be idle to hope that any commendatory words of mine could add to the intrinsic merit of what he is doing, but possibly my sincere words of appreciation may encourage him to continue that good work, and I feel that I voice the sentiment of the Convention when I say that we are under obligation to him, and rejoice in feeling that the Journal is safe in the hands of a scholar and a gentleman.

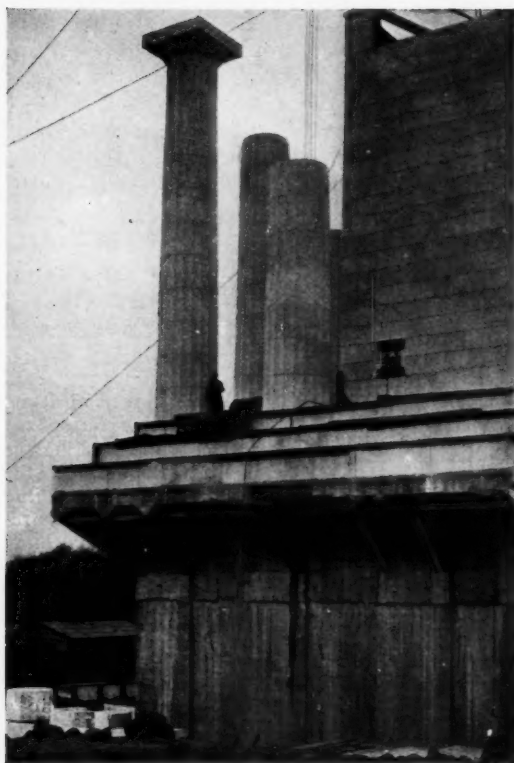
THIRD DAY'S PROCEEDINGS

THE work of the Convention on the third and concluding day was the election of Officers and Associates, and such unfinished business as might be in order.

The balloting for officers resulted as follows:

President, John Lawrence Mauraan, St. Louis; First Vice President, C. Grant La Farge, New York; Second Vice President, Milton B. Medary, Jr., Philadelphia; Sec-

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT



A CORNER OF THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL
DURING CONSTRUCTION

retary, Burt L. Fenner, New York; Treasurer, D. Everett Waid, New York. Directors for terms of three years: Edwin H. Brown, Minneapolis; Ben. J. Lubshez, Kansas City and Horace Wells Sellers, Philadelphia.

On the ballot for Fellows, the following were elected: Donn Barber, C. L. Borie, Jr., Owen Branard, George F. A. Brueggeman, Eleazer B. Homer, Warren Laird Powers, Guy Lowell, Frank B. Meade, George S. Mills, Charles H. Prindeville, Frederick A. Russell and W. H. Schuchardt.

The principal speakers at the banquet held at the Shoreham Hotel on the evening of December 3, and which brought to a fitting conclusion a convention of much importance were: Senator James D. Phelan, of California; Charles Moore, president of the Commission of Fine Arts; Dr. Jesse Benedict Carter, director of the American

Academy in Rome and Lawson Purdy of New York. More than one hundred men and women were seated in the large banqueting hall.

Senator Phelan advised the members of the institute and their guests that, coming here for the first time, it will be his pleasure to stand as "a bulwark for art and architecture" and for the idea that the National Capital is something which must endure for all time and should be treated accordingly.

The obstacles overcome during its infancy by the Commission of Fine Arts were described by Mr. Moore, who voiced the hope that in the near future politics will have no part in the construction of public buildings. Dr. Carter discussed "The Education of Public Taste," and Lawson Purdy, president of the department of taxes and assessments of New York, delivered a short address on "Science, Art and Business."



BRONZE LAMP, PAN-AMERICAN BUILDING,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

ALBERT KELSEY & PAUL CRET, ARCHITECTS

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

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, *Insurance Exchange*

Page A. Robinson, *Western Manager*

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

VOL. CVIII DECEMBER 22, 1915 No. 2087

ANNUAL CONVENTIONS OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE initial number of *The American Architect*, dated January 1, 1876, carried as its principal text feature an account of the ninth annual convention of the American Institute of Architects, held in the rooms of the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore, November 17, 18 and 19, 1875. In fact, excepting only a brief statement by the publishers, relative to the objects and purposes of the journal inaugurated with that issue, an editorial reference to the American Institute convention held the leading position. We are this week following the precedent established with our first issue, and are for the fortieth time devoting the greater part of our text pages to a report of the annual convention of the Institute.

Probably there has not been written a more accurate history of the struggles of the profession in this country than that recorded from year to year in these pages, in the form of reports of the proceedings of these conventions. Here are chronicled the efforts that have been made to elevate the standards of practice, the methods proposed by various succeeding committees to solve the

many vexing problems that have always confronted the profession, and here are recorded names and deeds that have given distinction to the calling of architecture in this country.

THAT American architecture has developed wonderfully during the past two-score years is apparent to all, and it is equally apparent to students of events during the same period that the establishment and general recognition of professional standards of practice which have unquestionably contributed much to this development have been due almost entirely to the efforts of the Institute. It seems remarkable, therefore, that the convention of forty years ago was confronted with some of the self-same problems that are before it today. For example, the question of government architecture was then, as now, before the convention, the committee appointed that year to investigate the feasibility of establishing a government bureau of architecture reporting in part as follows:

The subject of securing the best talent of the country for the architectural work of the Government has for a number of years engaged the attention of some of the members of the Institute. With the growth of population and the extension of trade the necessity of providing Federal buildings for the new states and territories, as well as for the old cities, is largely and rapidly increasing, and has indeed long overstepped the mark at which it would be possible for a single person, however talented, accomplished and experienced, to impress his artistic individuality on the design of the structures committed to his care. But though this fact has long been apparent, no favorable opportunity offered itself for asserting the artistic rights of the public, and of the specialists paid by the public in the matter, until the withdrawal, toward the end of last year, of the late Supervising Architect of the Treasury Department. Immediately thereafter the Board addressed a note to the Secretary of the Treasury, asking if he would like to receive some suggestions on the subject of a reorganization of the architectural bureau in his department.

A favorable answer being received, a communication was addressed to him by the secretary of the Institute, Mr. A. J. Bloor, containing the following suggestions:

First—That the Government Architect be an administrator in the interest of the government, and his duties be those of an executive.

Second—The architect of future public buildings

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

to be selected either by competition or appointment, as may be determined by the Secretary of the Treasury.

Third—The duties of such architect to be the same as prevail in private practice.

Fourth—The Government Architect to have the charge of all buildings heretofore erected, and to execute all contracts for all government buildings; a clerk of the works to be furnished for each government building in course of erection, to be subject to the control of the architect.

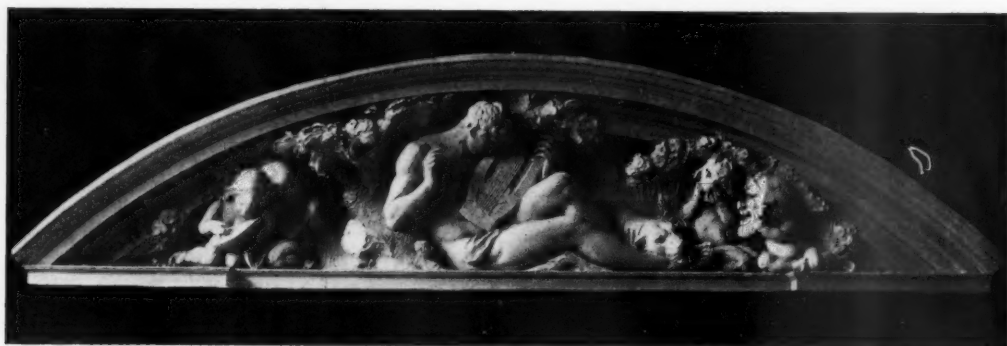
It seems, therefore, that the salient features of the Tarsney Act, which later became a law (only to be repealed a few years since) were proposed and advocated by the American Institute in 1875. We are now back at about the point noted in this report, if indeed conditions are not even less favorable than they were then. In fact, the committee on government architecture reports this year that the government has taken "a distinctive step in retrogression from its standards of architecture as originally conceived by Washington and Jefferson."

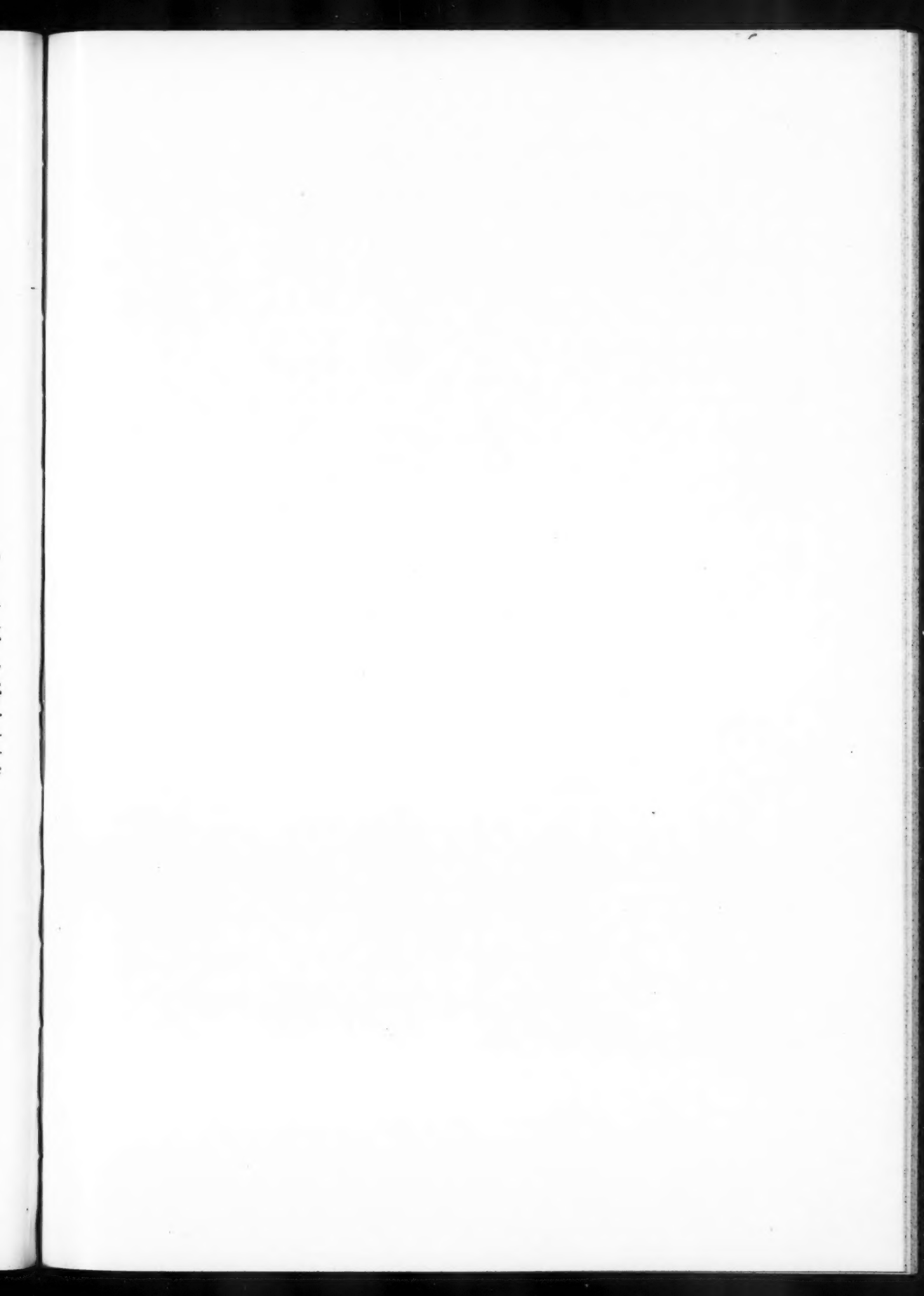
OTHER topics of never-failing interest reported on at both the ninth and forty-ninth—and we venture the prophecy that they will command some attention at the ninety-ninth convention—were competitions and professional practice. However, great improvement has been made in these, as in other matters, but only by untiring efforts on the part of Institute members who are unselfishly carrying the burden that might properly be considered to belong to the profession at large, as it unquestionably benefits from Institute activities.

The Institute's recognition at that time of the value of a medium through which announcements could be made to the members of the profession is shown by the acceptance of the following resolution, which referred to *The American Architect*:

Resolved, That the Journal of Architecture to be published by Messrs. Osgood & Co. be accepted by the American Institute of Architects as the organ of publication of the proceedings of its conventions and such other matters as it may think it expedient to make public; and that the Committee on Publications be directed to co-operate with the editor to that end.

ONE of the strongest impressions gained by a perusal of the minutes of the convention of 1875 is that the destinies of the Institute were at that time directed by men whose work is looked upon today as an inspiration to the younger generation, now gradually taking the places of those old masters of their art. We find, for example, in the record of this early convention the names of Upjohn, Walter, Hunt, Van Brunt, Haight, Wight, Longfellow and Latrobe. Fostered and directed in its earlier years by such men, it is little wonder that the Institute has grown and extended its sphere of usefulness through each succeeding year, and that the forty-ninth annual convention, held in Washington the first three days of the present month, was probably of greater interest, value and significance to the profession and to the public at large than any similar gathering among the forty heretofore recorded in these pages.



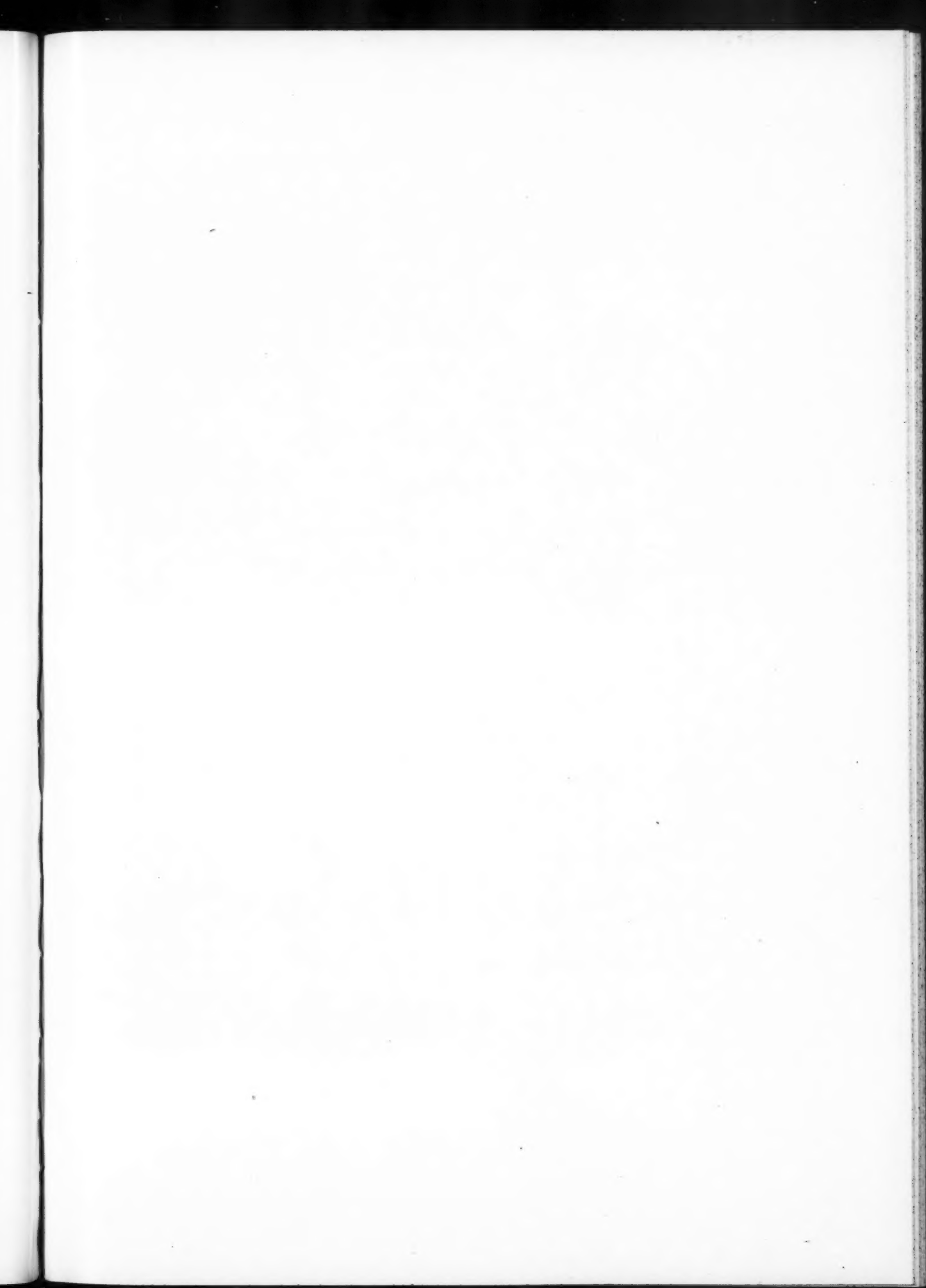


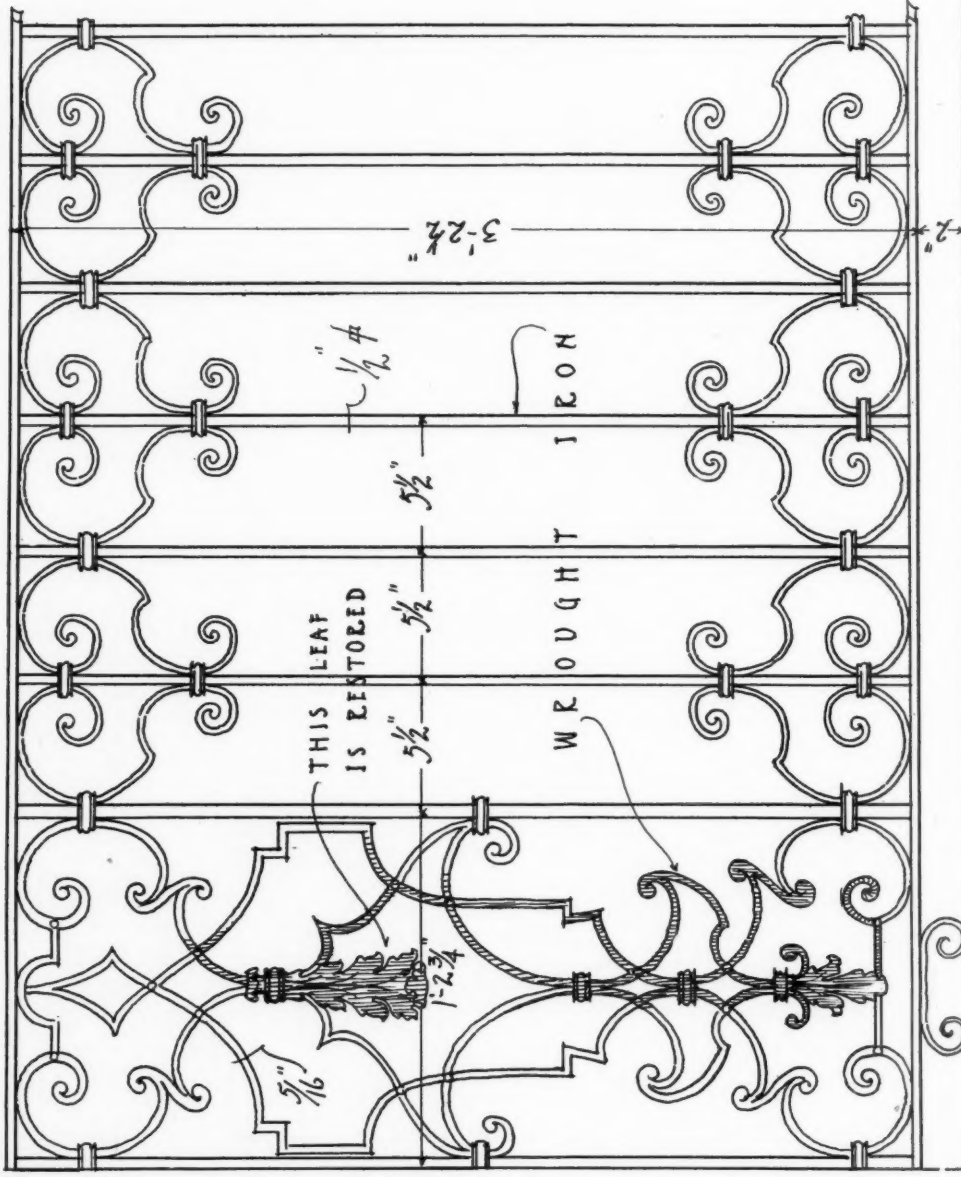


RAILING: PAVIA

PHOTOGRAPHS AND DRAWINGS
BY W. G. THOMAS AND J. T. FALLON

ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS
OF NORTHERN ITALY—PLATE 107





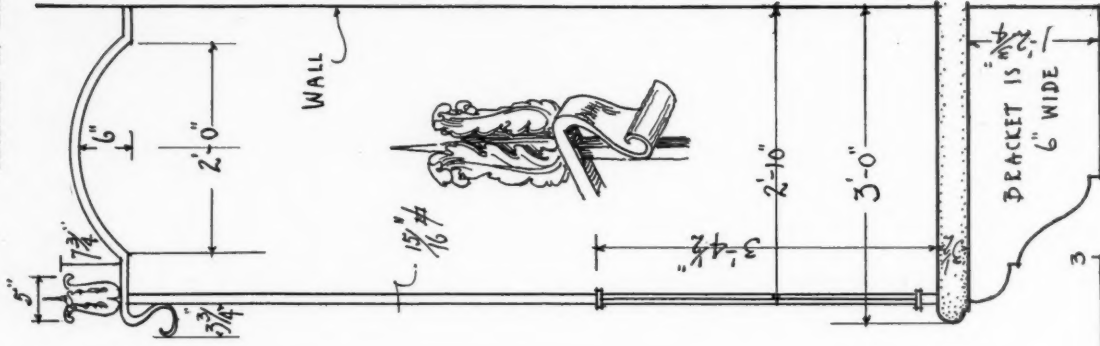
SCALE — 1 1 1 0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

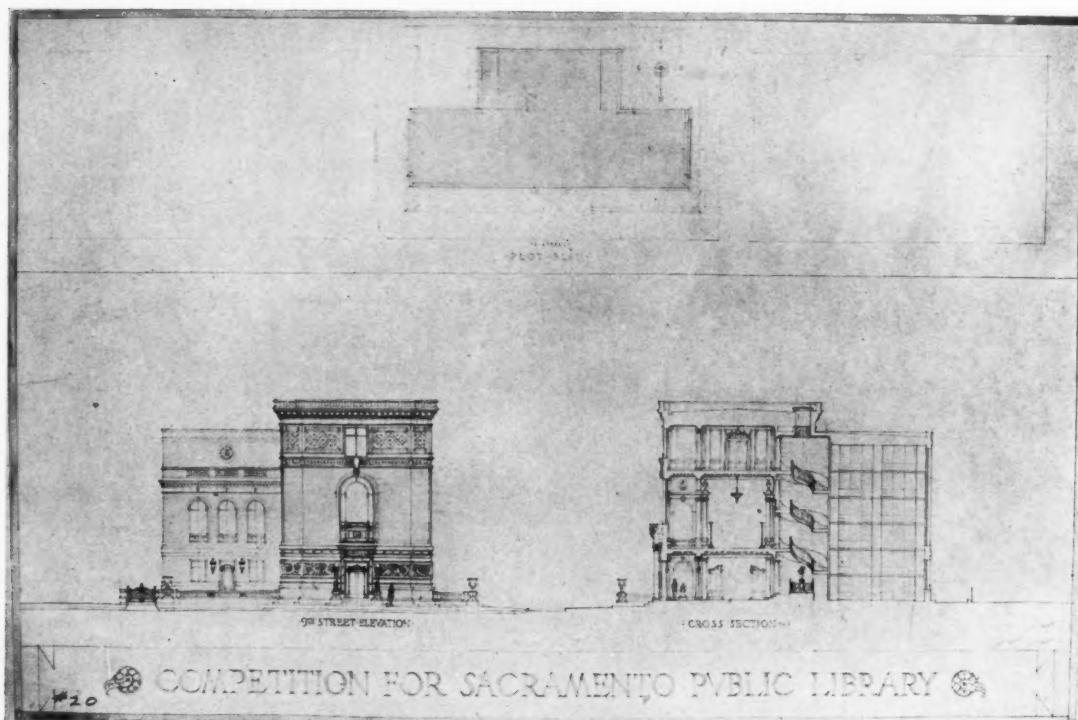
SCALE FOR DETAIL 0 1 2

RAILING: PAVIA

PHOTOGRAPHS AND DRAWINGS
BY W. G. THOMAS AND J. T. FALLON

ARCHITECTURAL DETAILS
OF NORTHERN ITALY—PLATE 108

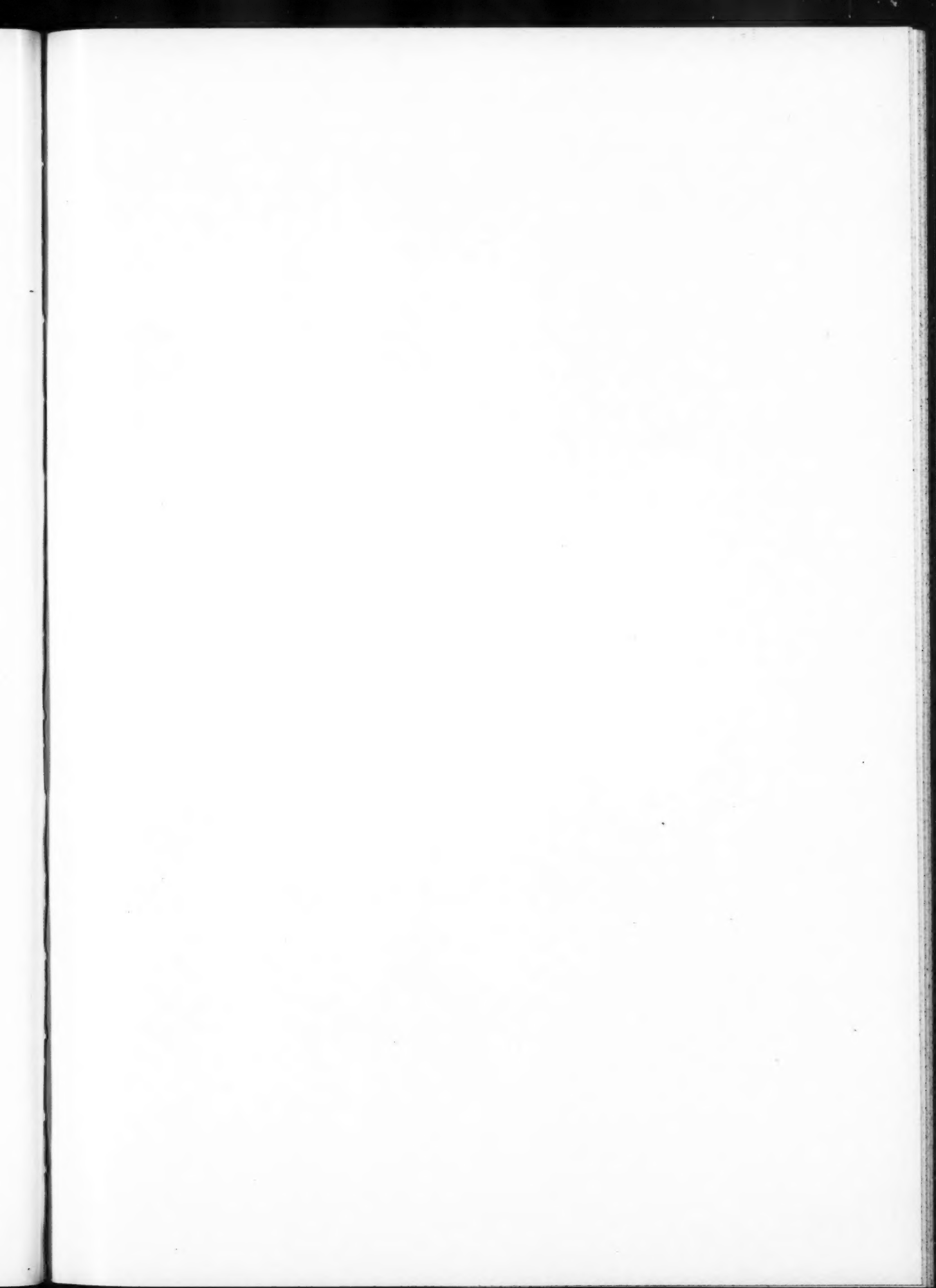


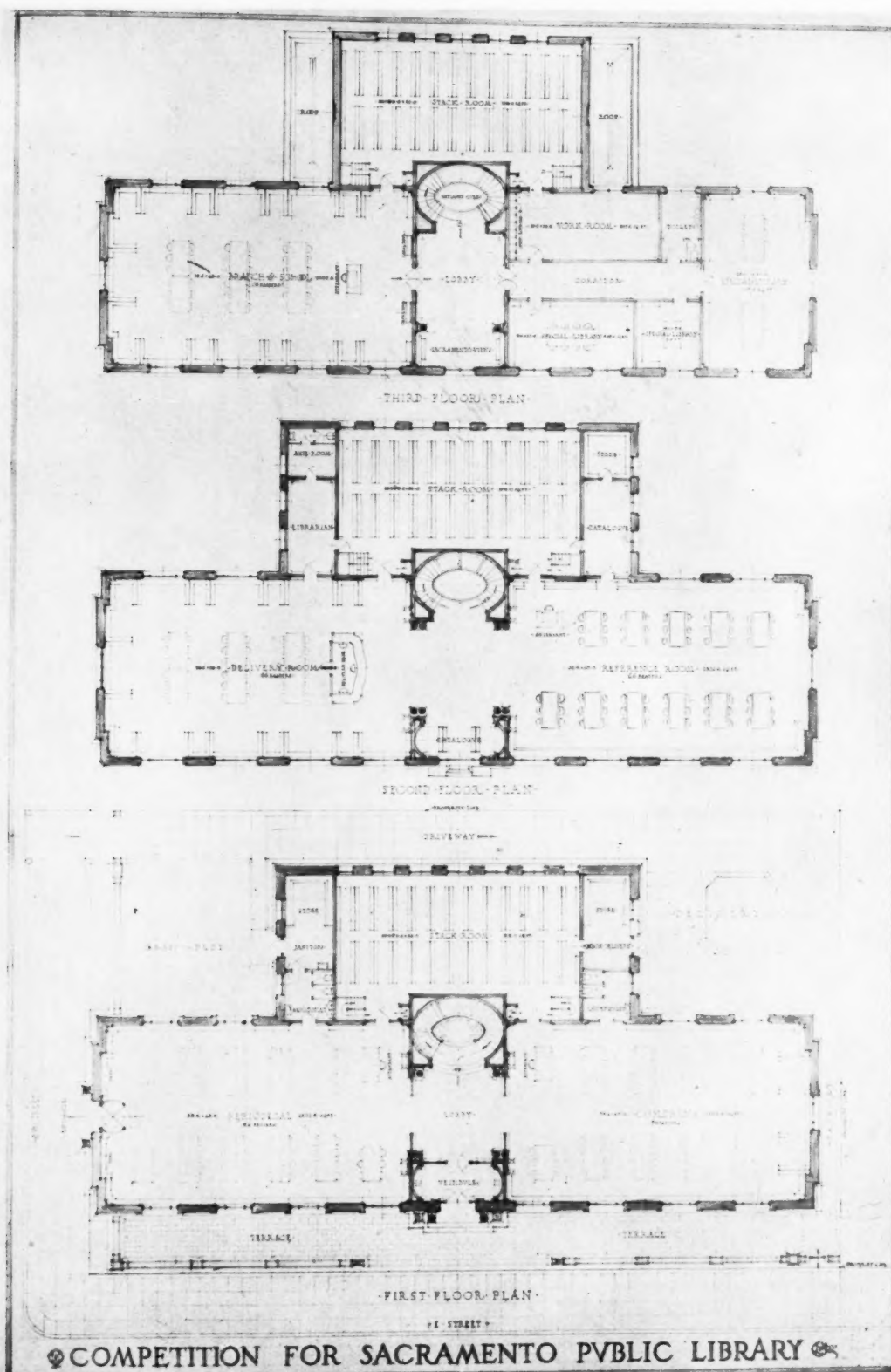


PRIZE WINNING DESIGNS

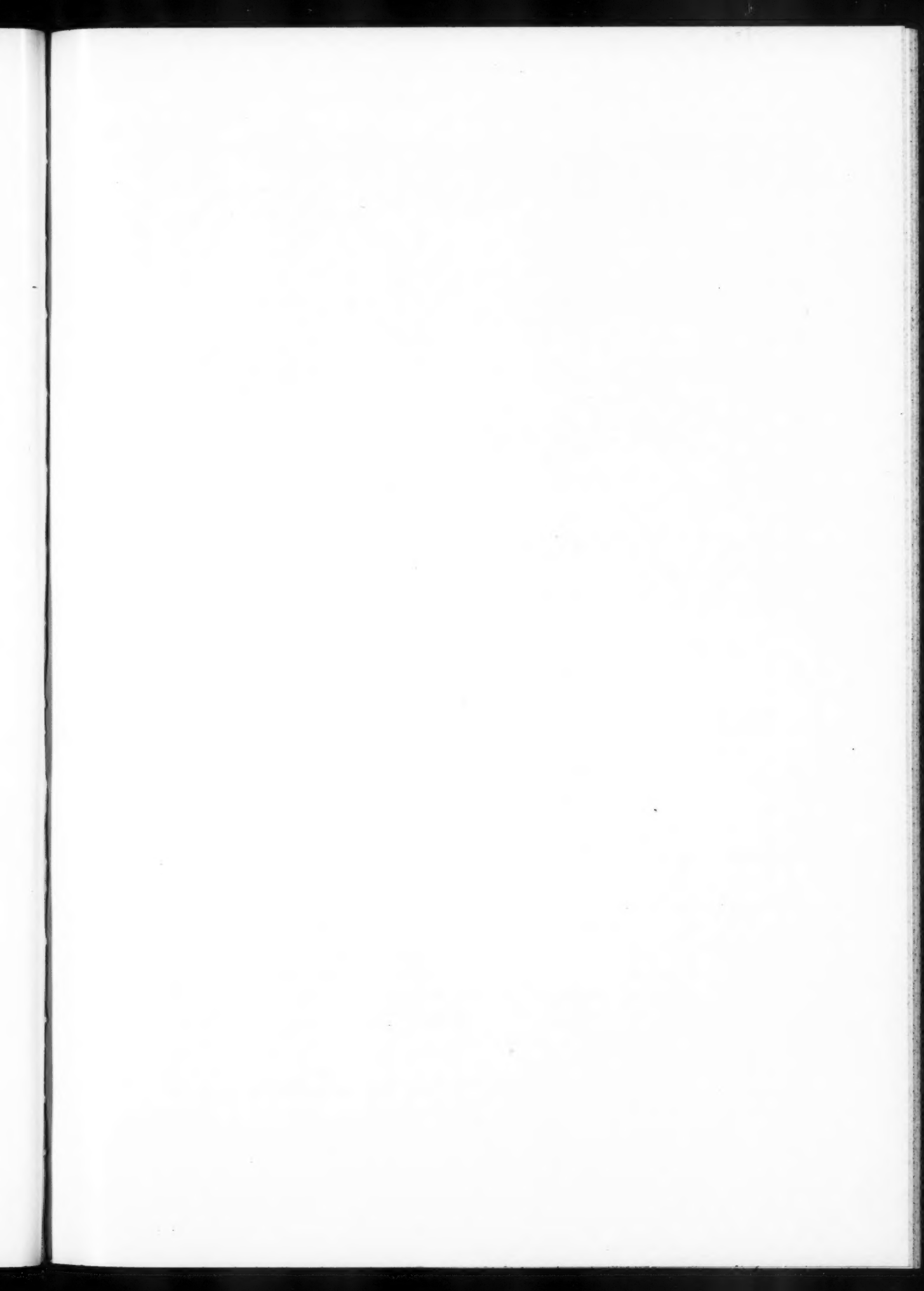
COMPETITION FOR SACRAMENTO, CAL., PUBLIC LIBRARY

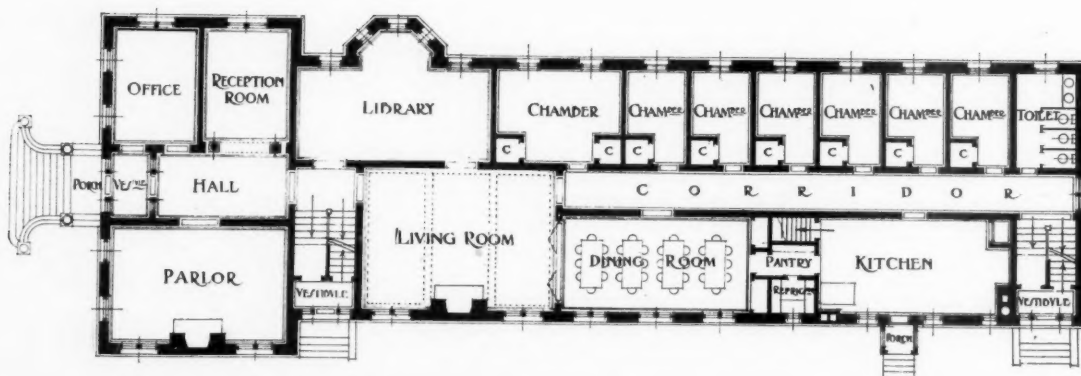
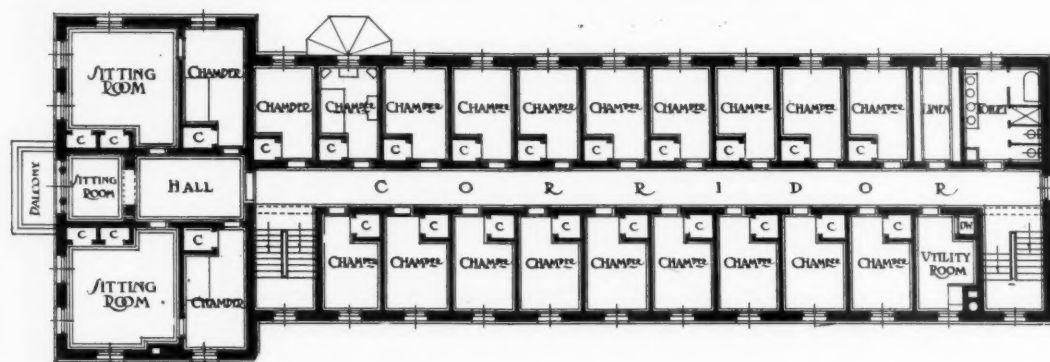
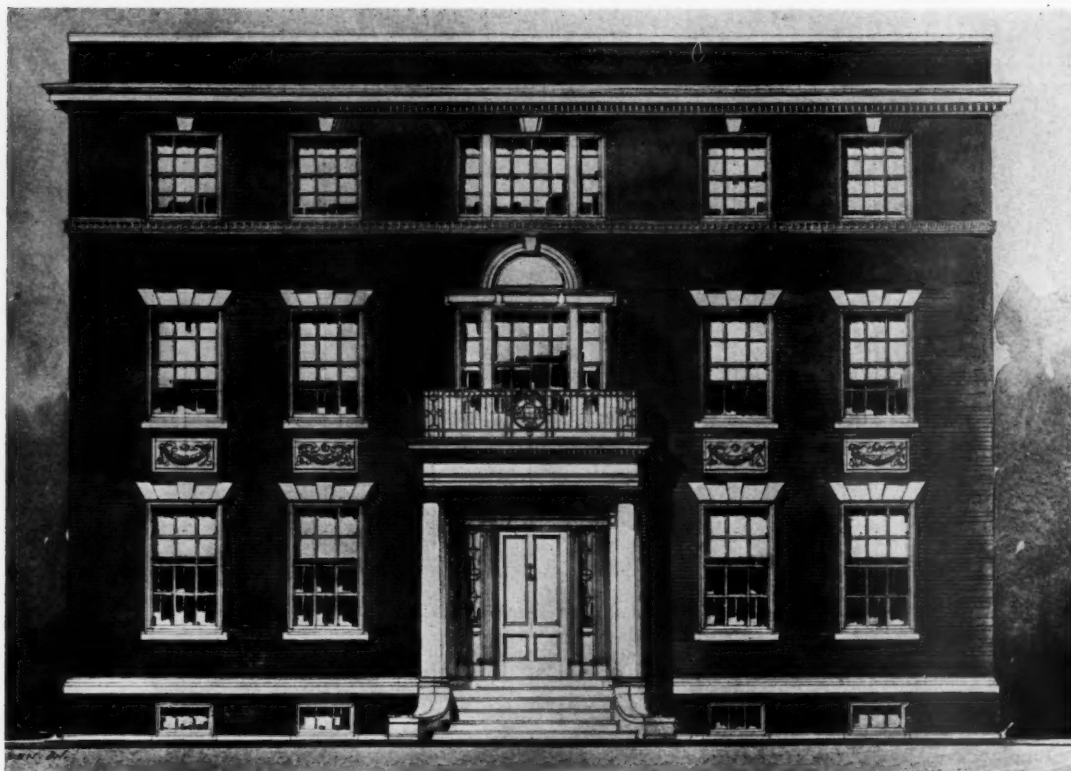
MR. L. P. REXFORD, ARCHITECT





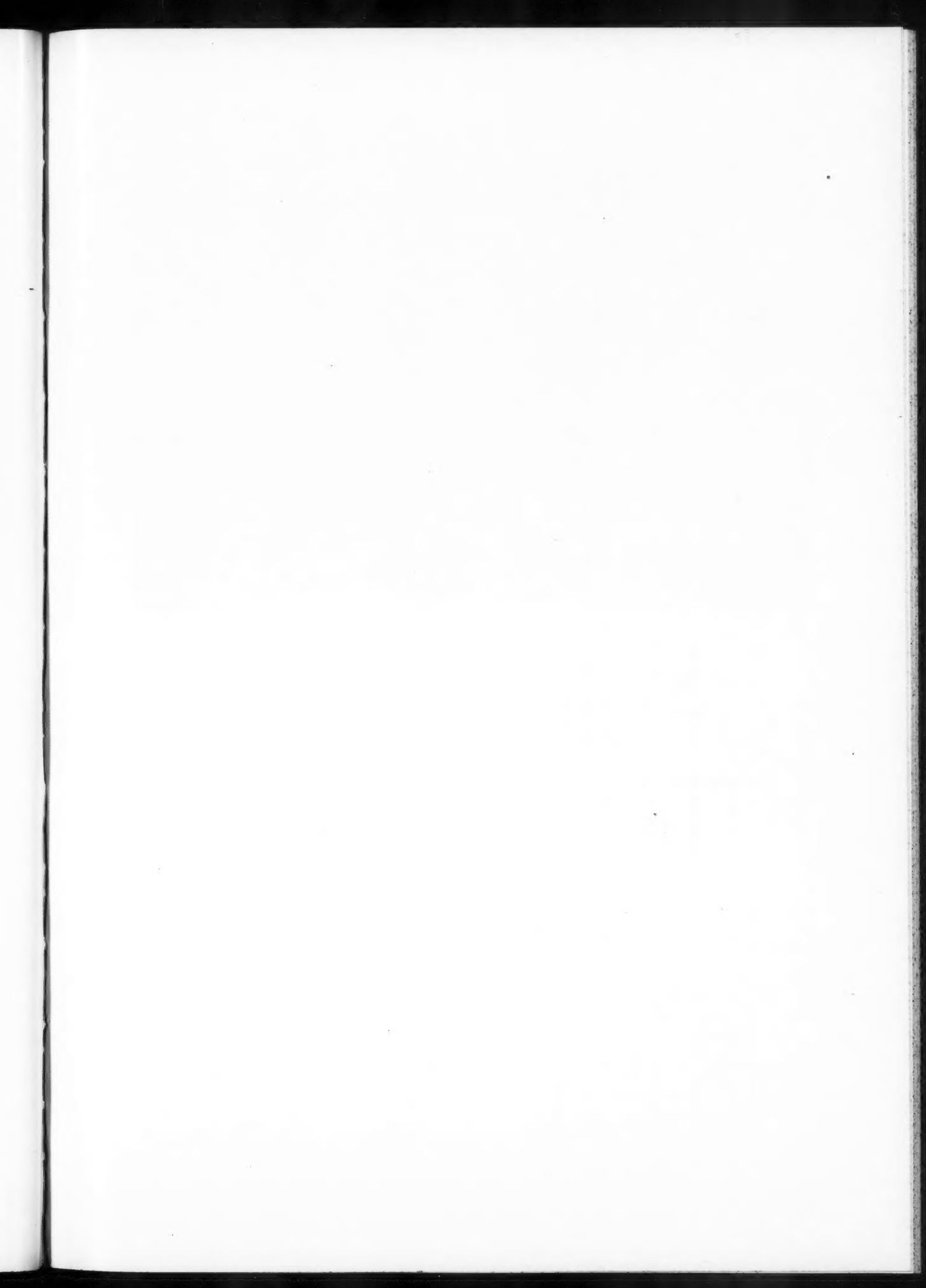
PRIZE WINNING DESIGNS
MR. L. P. REXFORD, ARCHITECT

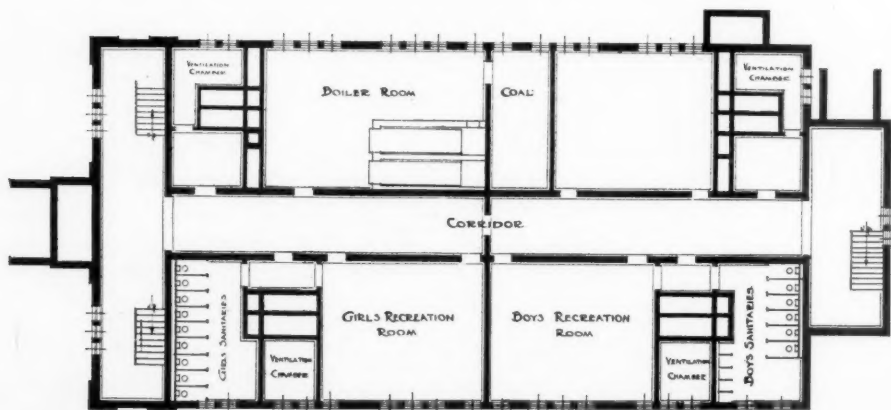
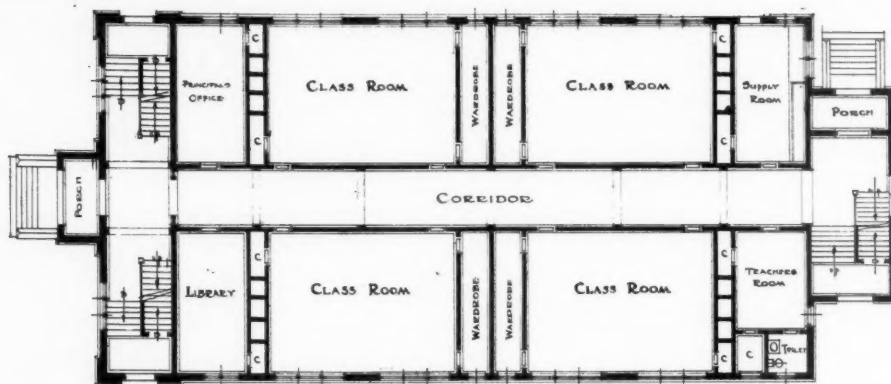
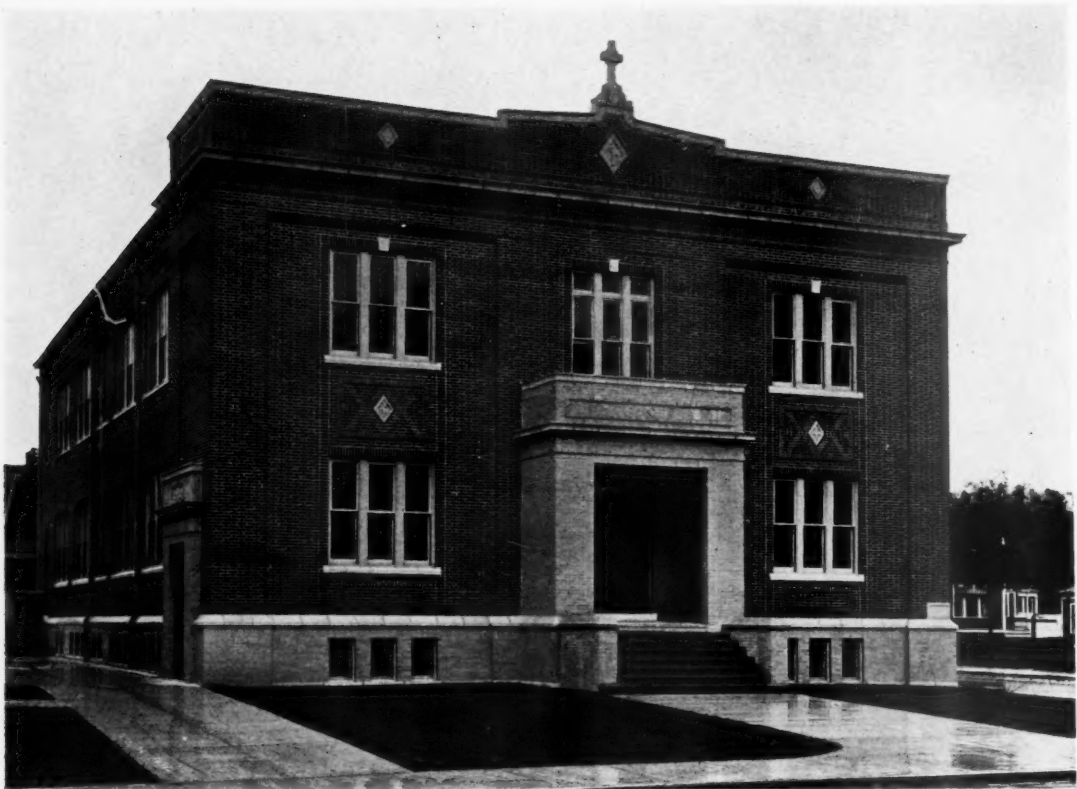




ST. LUKE'S HOME FOR SELF-SUPPORTING WOMEN, SPRINGFIELD, MASS.

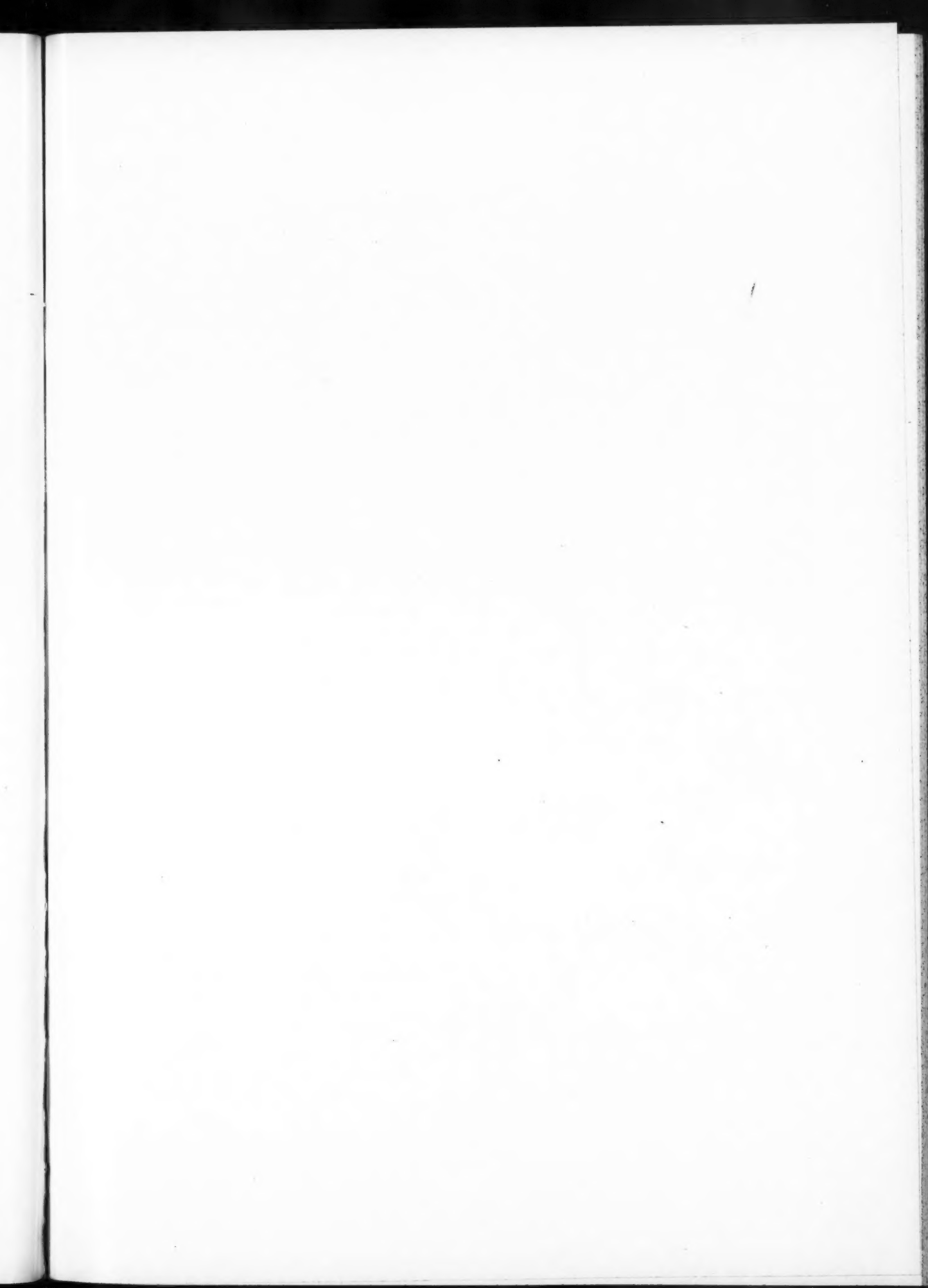
MR. JNO. WILLIAM DONOHUE, ARCHITECT





PAROCHIAL SCHOOL, HOLYOKE, MASS.

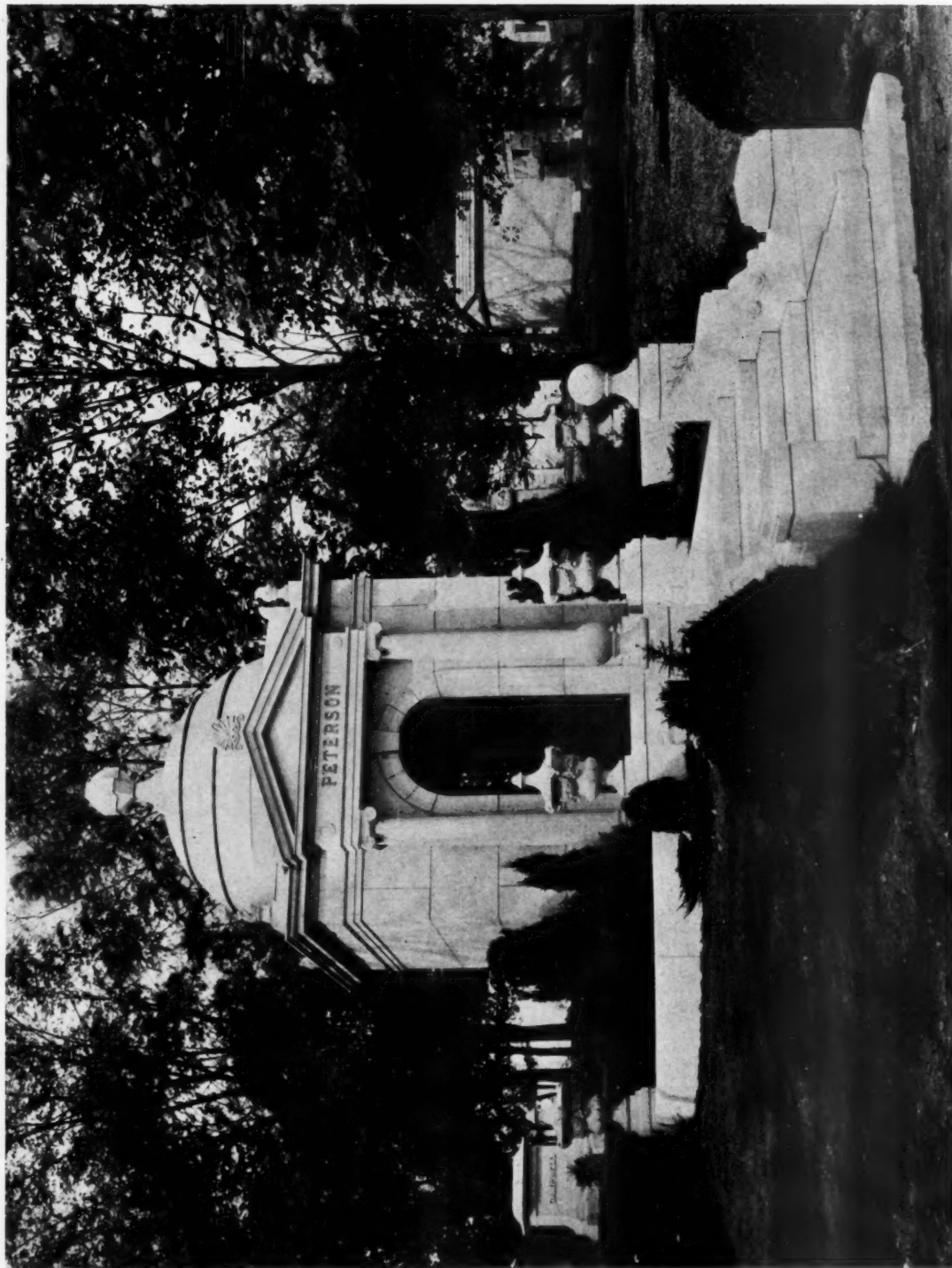
MR. JNO. WILLIAM DONOHUE, ARCHITECT





SOUTHWARK BRANCH, PHILADELPHIA, PA., PUBLIC LIBRARY

MR. D. KNICKERBACKER BOYD, ARCHITECT

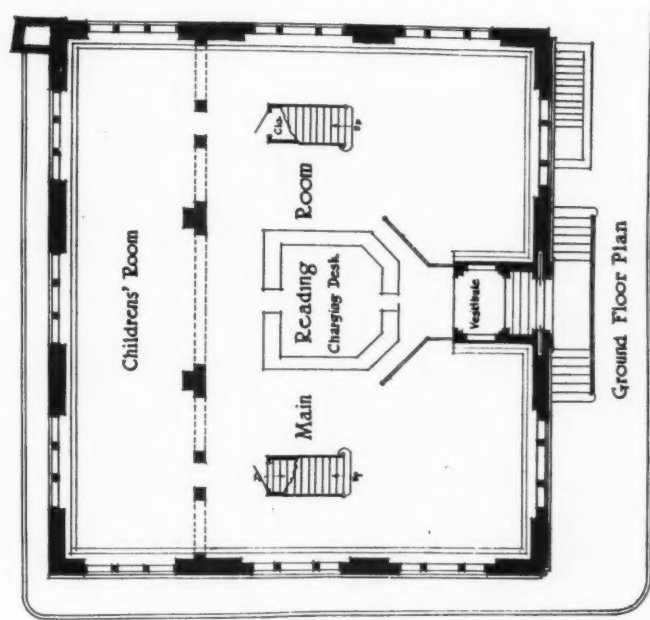


MAUSOLEUM, WEST LAUREL HILL CEMETERY, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

MR. D. KNICKERBACKER BOYD, ARCHITECT

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

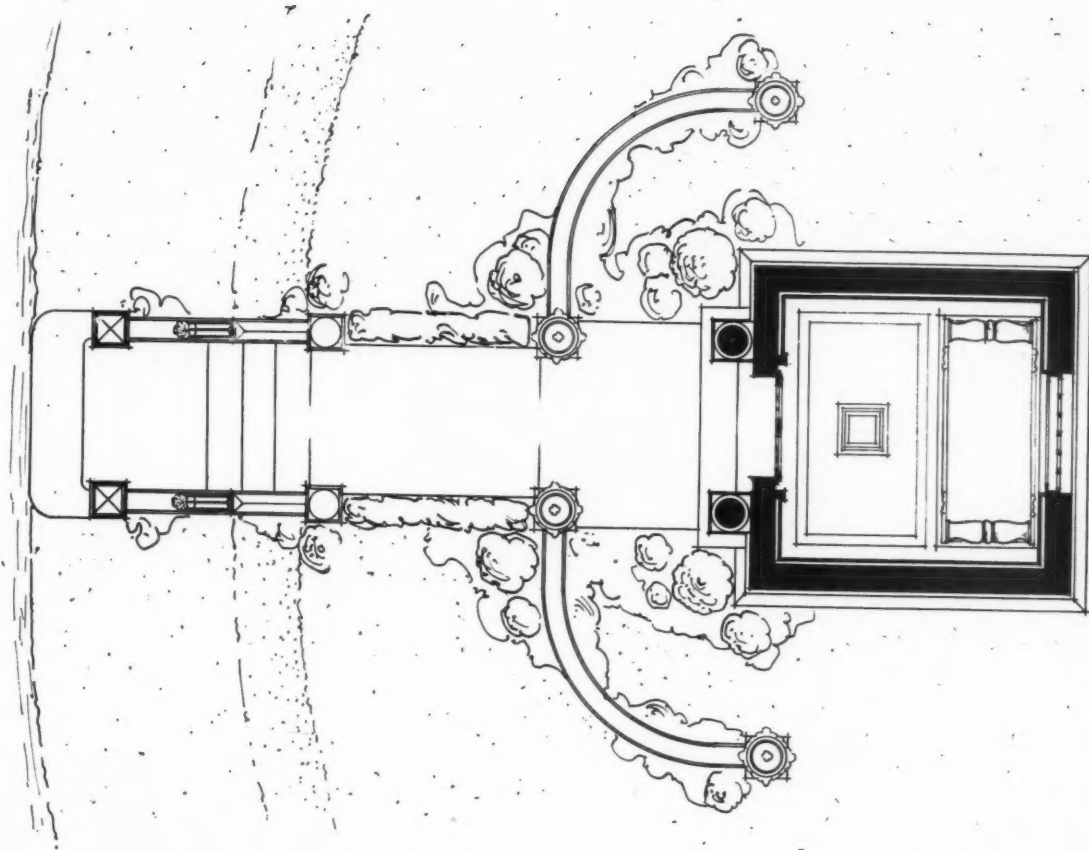
MR. D. KNICKERBACKER BOYD, ARCHITECT



ABOVE: FIRST FLOOR PLAN, SOUTHWARK BRANCH, PHILA-
DELPHIA PUBLIC LIBRARY

AT RIGHT: GROUND PLAN, MAUSOLEUM, WEST LAUREL HILL,
CEMETERY, PHILADELPHIA, PA.

MR. D. KNICKERBACKER BOYD, ARCHITECT

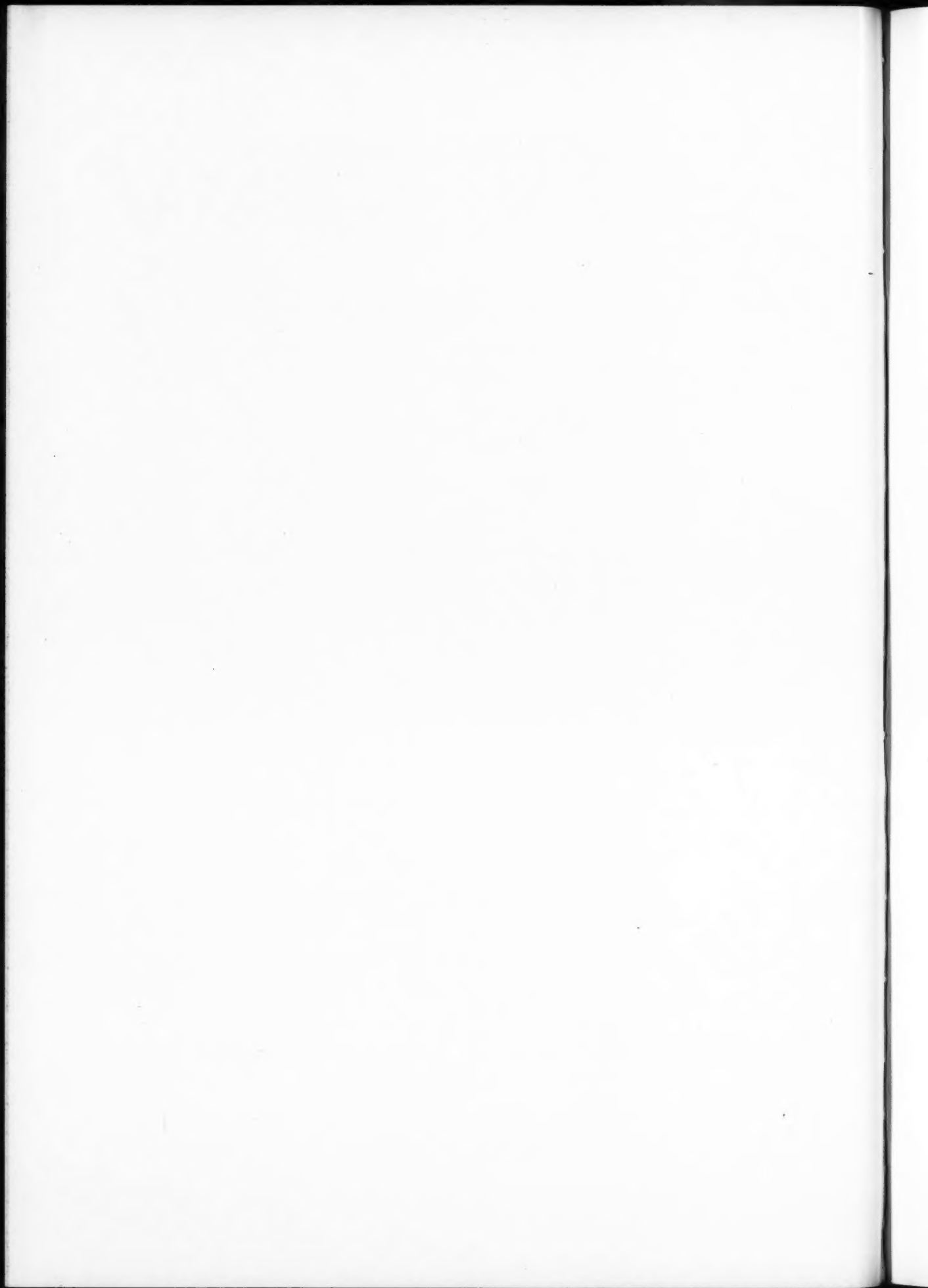


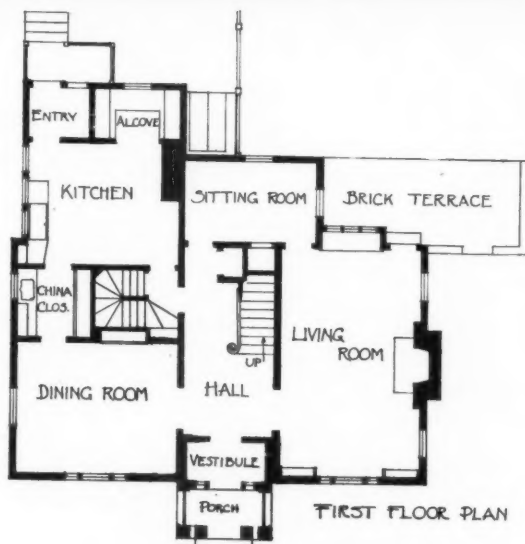
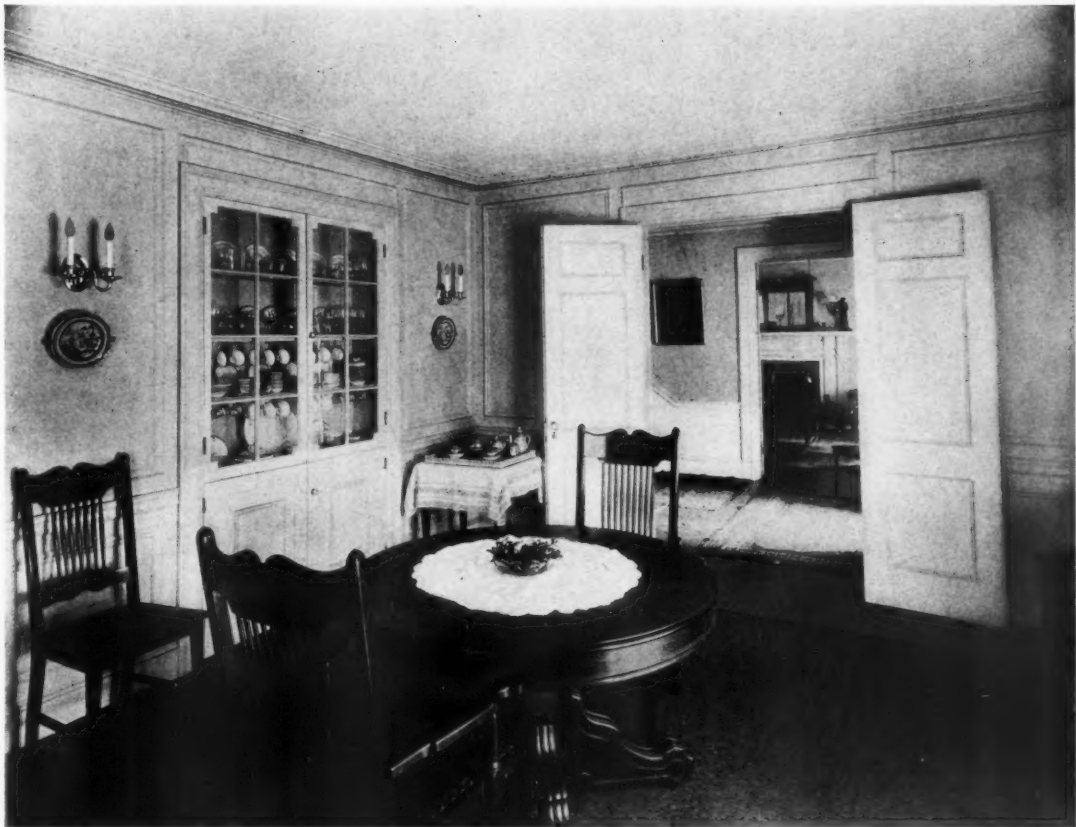


HOUSE OF W. H. LOTHROP, ESQ., NEWTONVILLE, MASS.

MR. BENJAMIN PROCTOR, JR., ARCHITECT

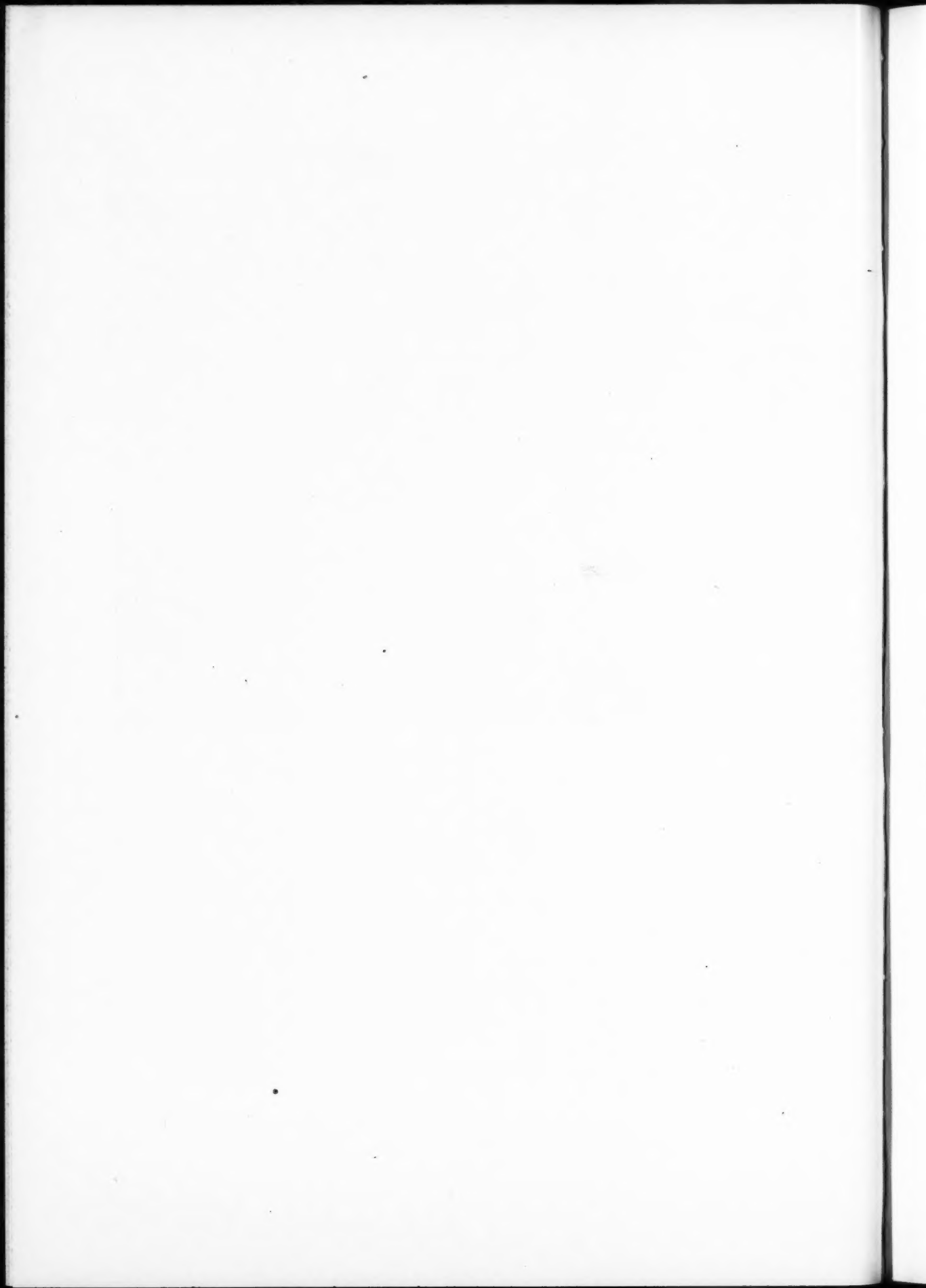
NON-FIREPROOF, STONE FOUNDATION, SHINGLE ROOF, WOOD FRAME CLAPBOARDED. INTERIOR, STUD, LATH AND PLASTER. HOT AIR FURNACE, ELECTRIC LIGHT

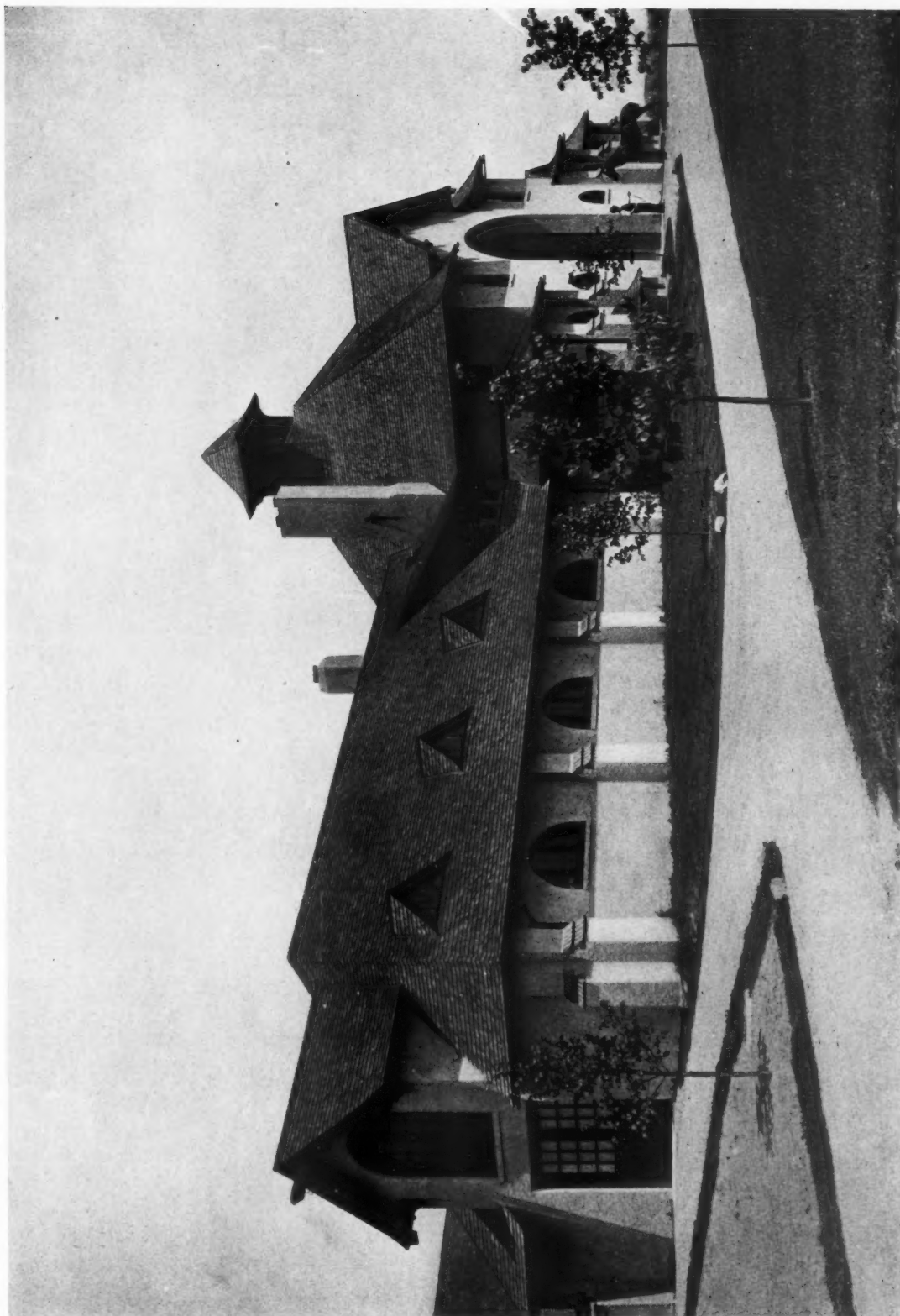




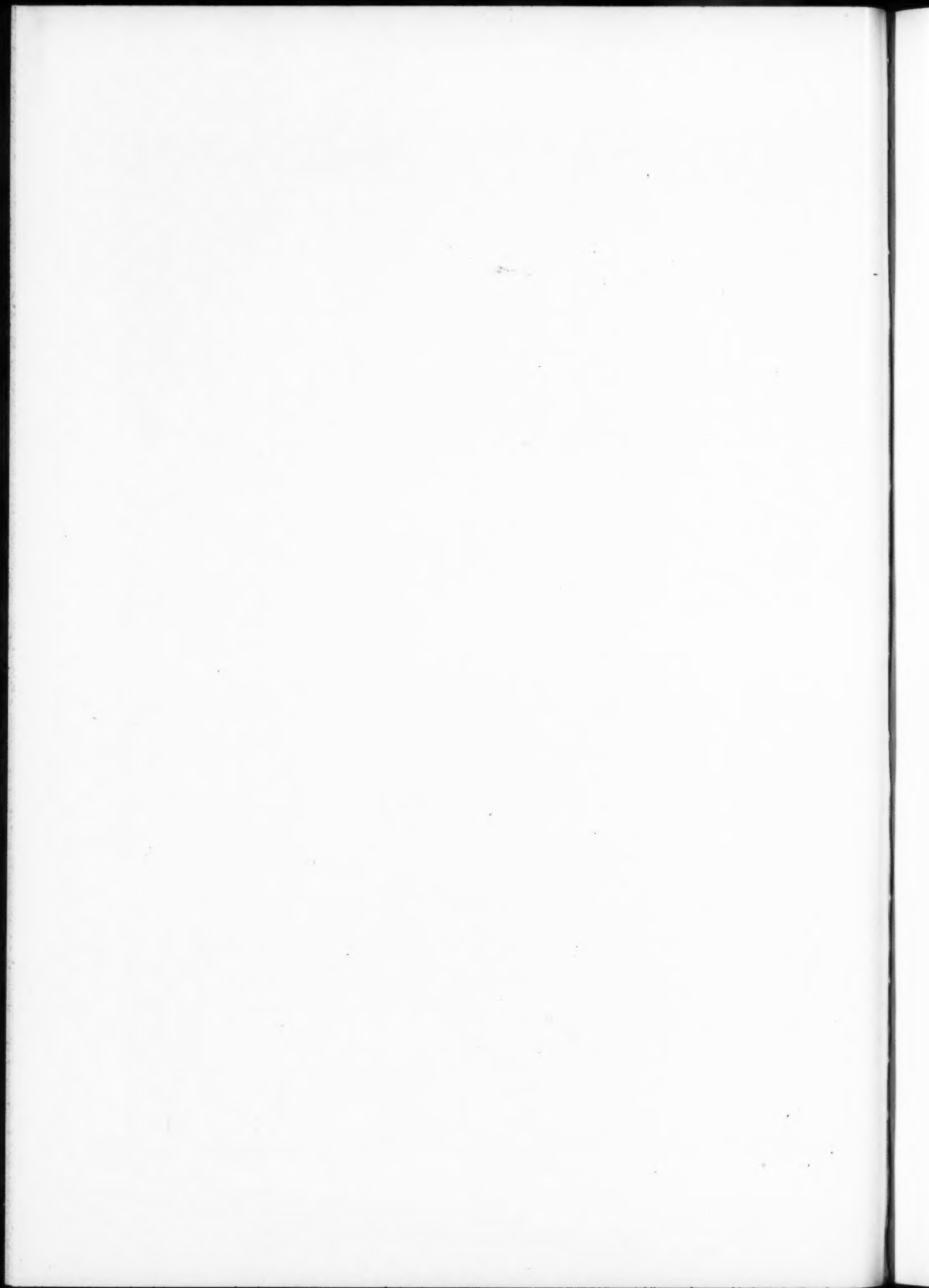
HOUSE OF W. H. LOTHROP, ESQ., NEWTONVILLE, MASS.

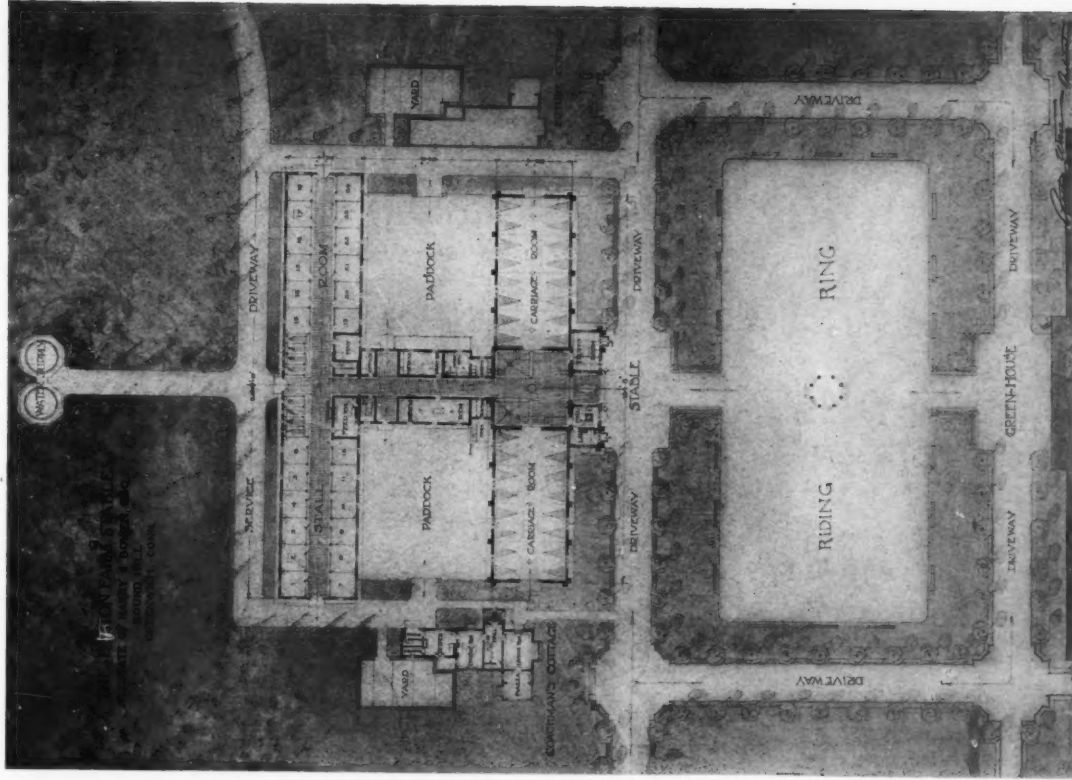
MR. BENJAMIN PROCTOR, JR., ARCHITECT





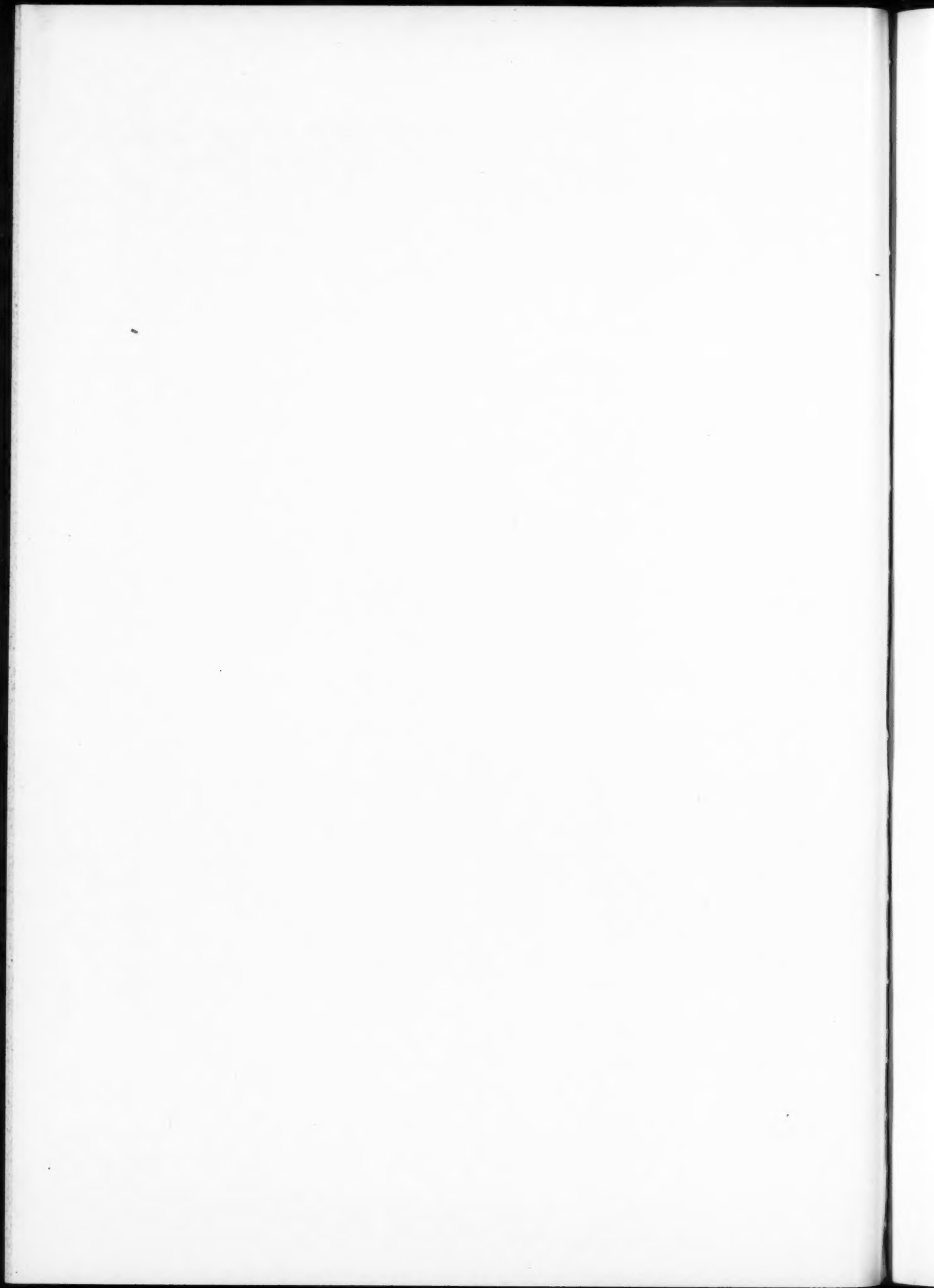
STABLE AT BELTON FARMS, ESTATE OF H. S. BOWEN, ESQ., ROUND HILL, CONN.
MR. ARTHUR WARE, ARCHITECT

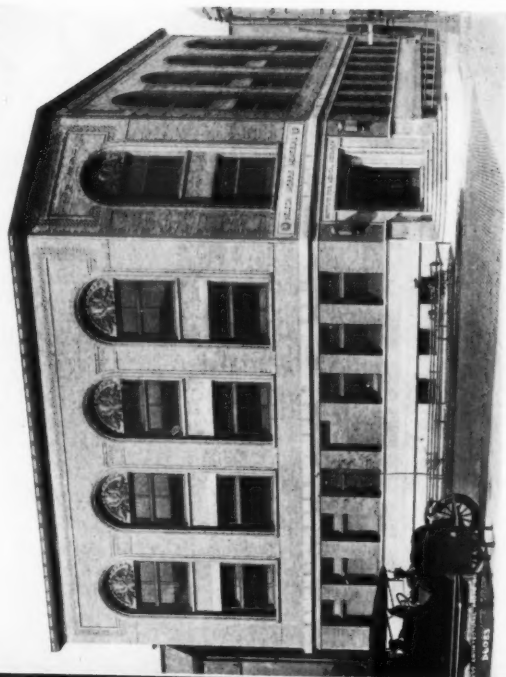




STABLE AT BELTON FARMS, ESTATE OF H. S. BOWEN, ESQ., ROUND HILL, CONN.

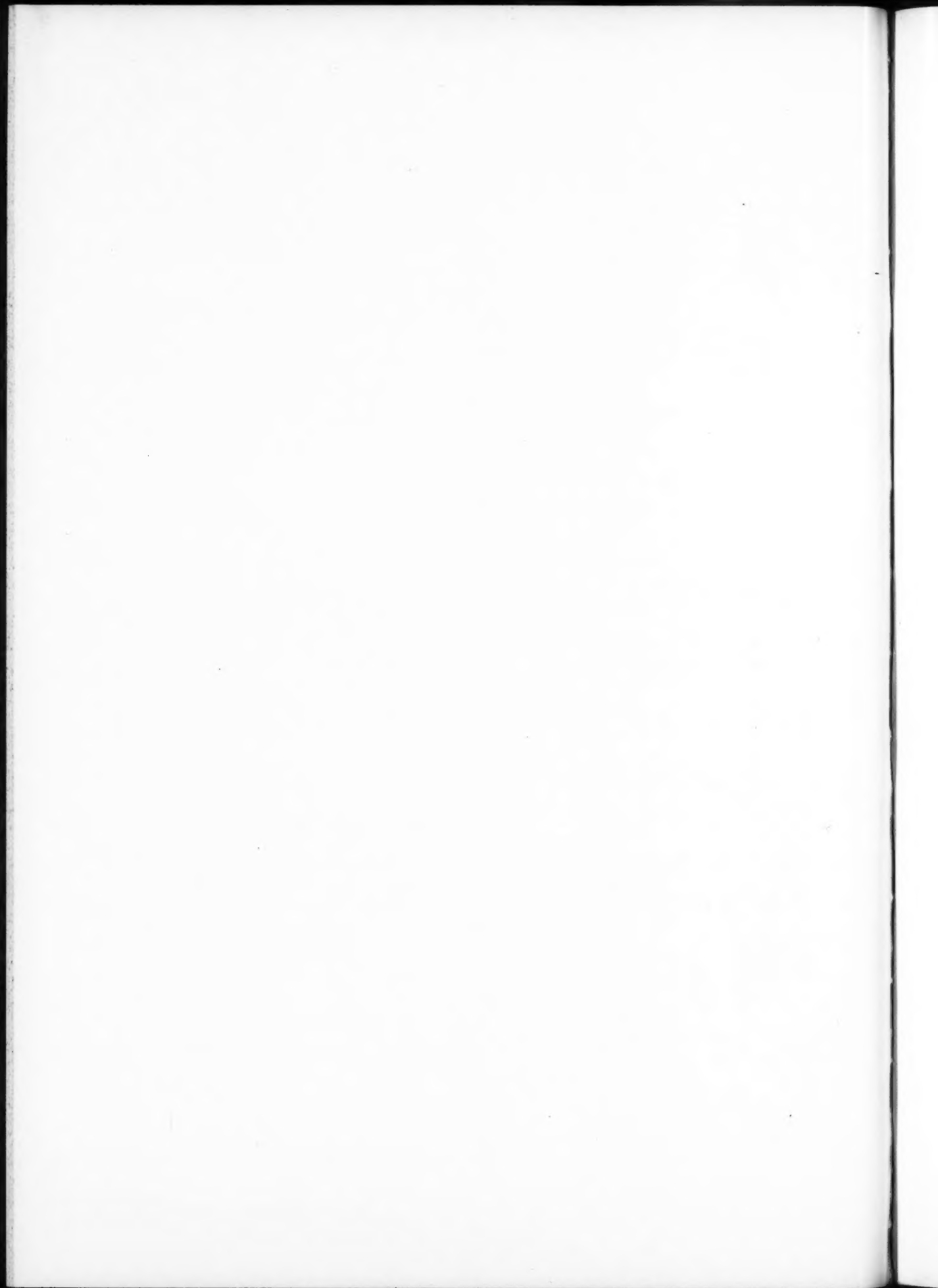
MR. ARTHUR WARE, ARCHITECT





NELSON MORRIS MEMORIAL INSTITUTE FOR
MEDICAL RESEARCH, CHICAGO, ILL.

MESSRS. RICHARD E. SCHMIDT, GARDEN & MARTIN, ARCHITECTS





SECOND FLOOR PLAN

NELSON MORRIS MEMORIAL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH, CHICAGO, ILL.
MESSRS. RICHARD E. SCHMIDT, GARDEN & MARTIN, ARCHITECTS



NELSON MORRIS MEMORIAL INSTITUTE FOR MEDICAL RESEARCH, CHICAGO, ILL.

MESSRS. RICHARD E. SCHMIDT, GARDEN & MARTIN, ARCHITECTS



FOURTH FLOOR PLAN.



THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT



A CORNER IN THE GARDEN OF THE PAN-AMERICAN BUILDING

ALBERT KELSEY & PAUL CRET, ARCHITECTS

NORTHERN ITALIAN DETAILS

NO. 51—RAILING, PAVIA

THE courtyard remains throughout the Italian Renaissance the keynote to the planning of the house. Accessible directly from the street, its sheltered sides form the main circulation of the palace, and from it lead directly the doors to the various apartments. So far the system is an admirable one, but planning according to modern notions of comfort and privacy end there, and upon penetrating from the courtyard to the interior rooms one finds them intercommunicating and little adapted to present ideas of planning.

In the courtyard in Pavia from which the railing, illustrated in this week's issue, is

taken, the second floor rooms are accessible only from a rather narrow balcony that runs around three sides of the court. This is unsheltered except for the covering projection of the overhanging eaves. On the fourth side it widens out and forms the roof for a



THE LINCOLN MEMORIAL, DURING CONSTRUCTION

loggia below. The simple railing of wrought iron is a product of the late Renaissance and shows the tendencies of the times to flowing curves of indeterminate shape here, however, repressed by economy of design.

ADDRESS OF R. CLIPSTON STURGIS, PRESIDENT AT OPENING OF FORTY-NINTH ANNUAL CONVENTION, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

TWO years ago the work of the Institute was proceeding along normal lines. Among the committees appointed at the Board meeting in January, 1914, was the Committee on International Congress of Architects, which was planned to meet in St. Petersburg in May, 1915. How infinitely far away that time of apparent peace seems! Even the name of the city has gone and Petrograd is now the Russian capital. Yet, in some respects, the world is a nobler world today than it was then. We have seen Belgium, connected in our memories with the atrocious conduct of the Congo Colony, take her place surely and deservedly among the heroic nations. We have seen England forget her home strifes and troubles and respond with united mind and heart to the defence of her plighted word. And, perhaps above all, we have seen with amazed admiration the superb courage and fortitude, and the intense and devoted patriotism that have welded into one splendid whole the people of France. No nation or people can come through this war without being refined as gold by the fire—such response as we have made to the call for help is the measure of our spiritual gain in the war.

We here belong to a profession which deals with things of the spirit. We belong to that group of workers who share in the divine work of creation. No man can earnestly and reverently do such work without receiving in return a larger vision, more of that insight or sympathy which one calls spiritual, because it is not material.

It is not unreasonable to expect that architects will see and profit by the lessons of this war, and indeed one cannot talk with a group of architects anywhere without feeling their quick intellect, ready understanding, and above all their sympathy and their ability to share and understand the spirit of others. These qualities, more than any others, are necessary if our civilization is to be enduring. It is not might but moral force which is strong. It is not the state, as opposed to the individual, but the individuals who compose the state, that produce a stable society.

On the one hand is competition and strife, on the other co-operation, and, as in all relations of life, both sides have their place; both are good, and both, carried to extremes, are evil. Nothing is really worth while that is not worth fighting for. For after all strife is life and it was the universal statement for all time made by our Lord that it was not peace but the sword that he brought as emblematic of what this life is. And in fixing our ideals and being prepared to fight for them, we should at least see to it that our ideals are so fixed as to make it practicable for us, in striving toward their realization, to move forward. Our national body, this American Institute of Architects, can exist and perform its work only through

understanding and sympathy; and, at times, competition and strife may be the only means by which to reach understanding. They should, however, be a last resort. Generally the work of the Institute will be accomplished directly by co-operation. The day is past when a small group of men can with advantage to the whole body make laws and determine standards, or do constructive work for the common good. The Institute is indeed a representative body and must reflect the thought of its members everywhere.

If there was one thing that was brought home to your officers during the recent trip across the continent, it was the necessity of keeping a mind and heart open to see and understand. Everywhere that your officers went it was necessary first to understand the point of view of a group of men who felt themselves isolated, or at least far away from the Institute headquarters. The natural result was that these men looked upon Institute legislation as being framed to meet conditions differing from theirs, framed in ignorance or disregard of conditions that were local and important. This is just human nature. It is what every one of us does; and, having made up in advance a point of view, a premise, everything is seen through a medium thus colored. Sometimes it was true that local conditions caused difficulties, but nowhere was it found that local conditions were peculiar to that locality. They were common elsewhere and were the normal difficulties which must always confront a society which legislates for so large and varied a body as the architects of the United States.

The first need then in all our efforts toward co-operation, whether it be establishing the standards of our own members, or improving the housing conditions of workmen, or arousing the interest of the public in what is good and true and beautiful—the first need is sympathetic understanding. We cannot enforce standards of practice without knowledge of the special difficulties in some cases, and how much harder it is for some than for others. It is easy for the busy, prosperous, or financially independent architect to refrain from drumming up work, and not at all difficult for him to view with scorn and contempt the man who scrambles for it. It is quite a different thing for the man whose office is idle, whose pocket is empty, and whose children need food and clothing and education. "How very hard it is to be a Christian, hard for you and me."

We cannot improve the housing conditions of the poor without understanding their point of view, and what they consider the essentials of their home life. We cannot force them to accept standards of living which they are not fitted to adopt, any more than we can force them to accept charity. The workman who accepts a model house under conditions unsuited to his needs, merely because he makes some gain thereby, is not the sort of man we want to help. It is the

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

independent man who thinks for himself, but not by himself, who deserves, not our help, but our sympathy. Then if help is given, it will be mutual.

We cannot arouse the public to interest in our own life-work—studying conditions, solving problems with sound common-sense, and then adding, with creative imagination, the beauty which is the vital element of it all, unless they see our point of view and know it is disinterested. The crying need of the Institute today is for a better understanding on the part of the public, and a fuller recognition of the profession and what it stands for. This can be accomplished only by a high stand on the part of his own responsibility for the attitude of the public toward architects. It is the sacredness of the individual and the obligation of unity which makes the only true society.

The Interstate discourages offering services gratuitously, discourages advertising, looks with disapproval on employing agents or drummers, because it injures the standing of the individual practitioner, and injures the profession in the eyes of the public. The Institute discourages unfair or unbusinesslike competitions, because they imply an absence of uprightness, which is the architect's most valuable asset. The man who gambles for work is not to be trusted. The Institute tries to eliminate careless and incompetent work on the part of its members, through spreading knowledge of what good work is, that the profession may be respected and trusted by the people.

Nothing has done so much to establish the profession in the respect of the community as its disinterested service, and its record of achievement. The members of the Institute who appeared last winter before the Congressional Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, in Washington, were heard with interest and attention, not merely because they had some definite and desired knowledge of the subjects under discussion, but because they had no interest in the work under discussion, the smaller federal buildings. No work of preserving and restoring old landmarks has been more to the credit of the profession than the work done in Philadelphia through the unselfish and united work of the Philadelphia Chapter. Town planning, and the establishment of well-considered centers of municipal life, have met with support because they contemplated work for the general good and often brought no reward to the individual whose brain conceived them.

It is not without value that all our accomplishment is the result of co-operative work. The public understands and appreciates what disregard of self, in the light of the common good, is involved in any work carried on by a group of men, and especially a group of professional men, whose aims and points of view are matters of opinion and of imagination, and generally not capable of proof. The achievements of groups of architects have had great influence in molding the public opinion of the profession.

These matters of which mention has been made are related rather to the moral than the esthetic side of the architect's work, but the record established in raising the standards of good design—among ourselves and in our country—may well be counted among the things which help to strengthen the position of the profession.

Not in a spirit of pride but of thankfulness may

one consider the definite achievements of architecture. First, one may place a fine spirit of loyalty to sound tradition, which is more marked today in this country than it has been for a century, and more marked here, in what may be called a new country, than in the older European nations; sound precedent is acknowledged and valued. Our own early traditions in good design, the precedents established by the English and Dutch in the East, by the French in the South, and by the Spanish on the Coast, are now fully appreciated. The old examples are cherished and preserved. Everywhere strong movements, backed by popular sentiment, are demanding the preservation of the architectural landmarks and monuments of our earlier history. The study and appreciation of these has been the work of architects, and has led not only to accurate and reverential restoration, but also to fine new work based on old tradition, full of vital imagination.

And second, one may place a new *esprit de corps*. The Exhibition at Chicago marked the first great movement toward that co-operation among architects which has been so marked a characteristic of our work since then. The exposition at San Francisco is a logical outcome of the work of that group of men who at Chicago decided that they would establish a standard and work toward a harmonious whole. They rightly chose the dignity and restraint of classic precedent for their work, and at that time it was probably not only a wise choice, but the only one that promised a successful issue. In San Francisco a more difficult task was attempted,—to follow precedents of the East and the West and weld them into a harmonious whole typifying the union of the two great oceans. In the one case it was but the lesson which all beauty gives; in the other it was that and something more—a beauty with a definite meaning lying enshrined in it. The great court with its classic colonnade had pavilions which suggested, in the combination of the classic order with Indian parapets and domes, the eastern and western design, and led logically to the splendid groups of sculpture typifying the East and West facing each other across the court. The unity of the various courts, and the unity of the outer inclosure, was a new thought in exposition architecture, and was carried out with great skill. The restful outer walls, accented here and there by richly decorated doorways, or niches with sculpture, displayed restraint and knowledge—a combination as rare as it is admirable. Stage effects and the picturesque have here, if anywhere in architecture, their true place, and nothing could be more picturesque than the circular temple and colonnade of the Fine Arts Building with its wonderful setting of water, great hedges and trees.

Looking back twenty-five years we may well feel that San Francisco has achieved a success which would have been impossible then. If San Francisco with its great exposition group is encouraging, San Diego seems almost a *chef-d'oeuvre*. Smaller, more harmonious, having more of the value of permanency, and more of romantic setting in its enchanting gardens and wild gorges, it stands a wonderful example of early precedent renewed and vitalized by creative imagination. Expositions, however, are at best a sort of *tour de force*—not the ordinary humdrum work which must

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

be well done if we are to make a true advance. That good work in these transitory and show places is the sign of vital work elsewhere is shown throughout the country. Just now our federal buildings have suffered a severe check in the expressed determination of the Government to seek economy and efficiency by dispensing with trained, professional service, or using only such service as can be obtained on Government salaries. If these attempts of the Government are due to a belief in the incompetency of architects who have done Government work, it is our duty to show in other work that this belief is unfounded, and that good architecture must of necessity, and as a first requisite, be practical and economical. This is a temporary phase with the Government. It will pass. Each in his own place can strive to establish such respect for architecture and those who practise it as shall lead to a popular demand for the very best professional services for federal buildings. These should establish standards for other public work. It does not follow that they should set standards for all work. Lavish expenditure, justified, perhaps, by colossal fortunes, is not the right example to be set by the Government of a democracy which should practise and teach that thrift which is the foundation of true prosperity.

In state and municipal work the record of achievement is one upon which the profession may well look with satisfaction. The Institute has aroused interest in the broad problems involved, has guided the work along proper lines, and the individuals to whom such work has been entrusted have justified the confidence placed in them. States, cities, and towns have buildings that are a constant pleasure and an ennobling influence. In domestic work a return to sound precedent, and above all an honest appreciation of simplicity, has spread throughout all classes. Not only the houses designed by architects, but even the products of popular journals, of builders and of speculative real-estate brokers are far better than they were a decade ago. On the whole our people are better housed in material ways, and with more beauty in their houses than the people of any other nation. One element, however, and an important one in domestic work, is perhaps overlooked or misunderstood in the eagerness to do all that is possible for the public—the rights of the individual, especially his domestic, private and home rights, have been overlooked, and where true consideration has been given in so setting houses and planning surroundings as to recommend such work as a part of the beauty of the community, there has been generally no recognition of the right of the owner to that use of his own grounds for which privacy is essential. It is an over-emphasis of the debt due to the public and an underestimate of the individual rights. The achievements of the profession in their actual work may be paralleled by the accomplishment of the Institute in work that has been done for the bettering of the profession.

To the Institute are due the better standards of practise and a clearer understanding of the obligation of service and the better opportunity for architectural education that are everywhere being offered throughout the country.

This work has been accomplished quietly and in

the main so unobtrusively as to create but little remark, and on looking back and comparing this work with that executed twenty, or even ten years ago, we can see how far the profession has gone forward. One may therefore feel encouragement for architecture, sure that the universal art will take its right place.

It rests with each individual who practises the profession so to discharge his obligations as to command the respect of the people about him. As it is with the physician, so it is with the architect; work which brings no reward is constantly called for; service which is for the public good and utterly unrequited is needed. The more we can respond to such calls for public service the more surely will our calling be respected. It is not enough to proclaim our high ideals. Above all we are called upon to stand firm by the principles in which all believe but which are so hard to practise. The order of St. Benedict in addition to the usual monastic vows had also the vow of *stabilitas loci*. St. Paul urged the same thing long ago when he urged the soldier, after he had done all he could to prepare himself for struggle and for victory, to stand fast. Over on the other side of the Atlantic that quality is again proving the most trying. To stand fast by honor, to stand fast by friends, to stand fast when to go forward even would seem the easier course. In the rush of modern competition and strife, let us remember that only through working together shall we obtain results that are worthy, but that co-operation must be by individuals who preserve their own souls because they recognize and respect the souls of others. We have seen nations coming through fiery trials, inconceivable to those of us who sit at home, and, with calm courage and sure confidence, awaiting the issue. We have seen our own people eager to serve, and we know that the best service rendered—the only service worth while—has been in the hospitals and in the relief work, where there could be no hint of self-interest. Our protests of various sorts have fallen idly because either lacking in the courage of conviction or tainted by selfish motives.

All this is perhaps far removed from architecture, and yet if there is any profession which is universal, which depends on knowledge and sympathy, on the love of beauty, and of the truth which underlies all beauty, that profession is architecture. So all that is universal and vital, as is this testing of the souls of men, is close to our hearts and lives. Many wonderful lives have been given freely that truth may prevail; rich and poor, high or low, side by side as was their blessed lot. Many beautiful structures, the expression of lofty ideals, have gone ever to be replaced, but the truth remains, nothing is lost. In the imperishable words of a great poet:

"All we have willed or hoped or dreamed of good shall exist!

Not its semblance, but itself; no beauty, nor good, nor power

Whose voice has gone forth, but each survives for the melodist

When eternity affirms the conception of an hour.

The high that proved too high, the heroic for earth too hard,

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

The passion that left the ground to lose itself in the sky,

Are music sent up to God by the lover and the bard;
Enough that he heard it once: we shall hear it by
and by."

So this year, if not a year of achievement, is not a year lost. The work of your officers and of your many earnest and efficient committees will bear fruit. Even the year's disappointment and trials are not to be looked upon as failures unless classed with those failures that mark the forward progress.

It is not without significance for us that we have for a year stopped money-making and faced hardship, stopped looking with satisfaction at ourselves and our material progress and given our thoughts and our sympathy to that superb exhibition of faith and loyalty. Perhaps we have realized as never before that there are things of the spirit which are inestimable and imperishable, worth living for and worth fighting for. Perhaps when this war is over we may find that even we have gained thereby a higher standard of ideals and that our public life will be less sordid and our private lives less selfish through the sacrifices made by others. On us as architects, professors of a noble creative art, lies the burden of responsibility to be in the forefront of the battle for what is true, and because true, beautiful.



IN THE GARDEN OF THE PAN-AMERICAN
BUILDING, WASHINGTON, D. C.

ALBERT KELSEY & PAUL CRET, ARCHITECTS

CONVENTION NOTES

MEMBERSHIP

Report of the Board of Directors

The total membership of the Institute to date of November 15 is now 222, made up as follows:

Fellows	309
Members	789
Honorary Members	88
Honorary Corresponding Members.....	36

Since the last report of the Board there have been:

Advanced to Fellows.....	13
Elected Members	80
Reinstated	1

There have been the following resignations and removals:

Fellows	5
Members	22

There have been the following deaths:

Fellows	9
Members	8
Honorary Members	2
Honorary Corresponding Members.....	1

The total number of new active members has been

81
The total number of resignations, removals and deaths of active members have been

Leaving a net gain in active members of 37

Resolutions

That the Institute approves the issuance of a form of agreement between owner and architect, together with general conditions based on the form presented by the Committee. That the Board be empowered to issue the document in the name and under the authority of the Institute as soon as its form and contents be found satisfactory to the Board.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be extended to Mr. Louis B. Runk, of Philadelphia, for the time and labor he has devoted to the work of the Institute in connection with the revision of the Charter.

Resolved, That a vote of thanks be extended to the members of the Philadelphia Chapter for their generous contribution toward furnishing the Board Room in the Octagon.

That the Chapters be requested to work out such programs as are seemingly suitable to their local questions, provided they adhere to the principles laid down in the Code, and that they submit these to the Standing Committee for its comment and approval.

On the Illness of Past President Robert S. Peabody

Missing the friendly presence of its former President, and having heard with deepest regret of his illness, the Institute sends to Robert S. Peabody its warmest appreciation and its hopes for his speedy recovery.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

On the Deaths of Members During the Year

The Institute paid tribute to the memory of each of the following members who have died during the last year: William Robert Ware, William Sylvester Eames, Douglas H. Thomas, Jr., John W. Alexander, and Abraham Salm. These are not reprinted in the Journal because notices of the deaths have already appeared in the Journal.

On the Collection of Historical Data Relative to Members of the Institute

That the Directors be requested to consider the subject of the collection and preservation of material illustrative of the professional work of the members of the Institute, so that the permanent headquarters may in time contain the documents for the history of architecture in this country.

On the Character of Future Conventions

It was the sense of the meeting that the Board shall prepare for the next Convention a program which shall have for its purpose the devotion of one day to a discussion of architecture as a fine art, and to which all architects of this country shall be invited.

On the Recognition of the Work of Craftsmen

Whereas, The recognition of distinguished achievements on the part of craftsmen, whose work is accessory to that of the architect, such as metal-workers, modelers, carvers, makers of leaded glass, etc., would lead to a higher appreciation on the part of the public of the value and importance of such craftsmanship, be it

Resolved, That the Board of Directors be, and they are hereby, instructed to establish a medal, which in successive years would be awarded in turn in each of the more important of such crafts, and further be it

Resolved, That the Board establish such rules for the choice and order of the crafts for the selection of the recipient for the conferring of the medal and otherwise as they may see fit.

On the Retirement of President R. Clipston Sturgis

The Institute hereby records its deep appreciation of the devoted services of its retiring President, R. Clipston Sturgis: Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; bearing all things; serving the Lord.

The Preservation of the Octagon

The Institute is to be congratulated upon having made a real start on the preservation of the Octagon and having, as the trustee for the property of its members, taken actual measures to protect it. The work so well begun at last should, however, be looked upon only as preliminary. Every other work of preservation known to be necessary should be undertaken with as little delay as possible, and the means found to that end, including the restoration of the stable and the laying out of the grounds.

Resolutions Not Passed

Resolved, That the next Convention be held in May, 1917.

In the discussion of this matter it was clearly shown that the Institute is not yet ready to make so marked a change in its administrative routine, and that during the next year the matter should be carefully studied by the Board.

EXTRACTS FROM THE REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS, AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

ONE year ago the Convention took a long step forward in eliminating from the Competition Code the mandatory requirement of a fixed fee. During the discussion which preceded the adoption of the resolution the belief was expressed by some that the change would result in breaking down the Institute's minimum fee and would undo much that has been accomplished in this direction in recent years. It is therefore interesting to note from the report of the Committee on Competitions that no such result has been observed, but that, on the contrary, no competition program for which the approval of the Committee has been sought during the past year has carried a fee of less than 6 per cent. The Committee also reports that with the exception of the suggested amendments presented at the last Convention by the New Jersey Chapter, no specific criticisms of the Circular of Advice relative to Competitions have been received during the year. It is perhaps not fair to assume that the elimination of the mandatory fee is

alone responsible for the more general acceptance of the Institute's position with reference to competitions, but it removed the only point which was incapable of defense on ethical grounds.

"The American School Board Journal," a highly influential publication, urges upon school committees the fairness of the Institute's Circular and advises its literal adoption. It has recently said, in its editorial columns:

"An architectural competition is the least satisfactory of the several methods of obtaining plans for a new schoolhouse. It is frequently necessary when many architects press their claims, but it is successful only when conducted with rigid fairness and with due consideration of all the principles formulated by the American Institute of Architects. These principles are not the arbitrary dictum of a portion of the architectural profession; they are the result of many years' experience and observation, and simply state the conditions which will assure fair and honest conservation

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

of the rights and interest of the architect and of the owner."

It is to be hoped that such advice will more and more commend itself to school boards throughout the country, for there is no class of clients which shows so little intelligence in the choice of its architects as the very class which is concerned with developing the intelligence of others.

An interesting incident occurred during the year in the small city of Miami, in Southern Florida, a town in which there is no member of the Institute. A competition for a public hospital was held, limited to local architects. The building committee, in some manner unknown, obtained a copy of the Institute's Circular and followed it in every essential detail because it appealed to them as a fair and equitable business proposition. That such an occurrence is possible in a town which is entirely outside Institute influence appears to the Board deeply significant. The Institute's stand in the matter of competitions will not be accepted by the public merely because it is the mandate of the Institute, but rather because it is reasonable and fair and guarantees to the owner, as far as that is possible, a satisfactory result.

* * *

IN the spring of this year this Committee completed the laborious work of revision of the Standard Contract Documents upon which it had centered its attention for more than a year. The new documents have received the endorsement of building interests generally throughout the country and the sales for the first six months justify the belief that all costs of publication and placing on the market will more than be met inside the first year.

The Board recommends that those Chapters which have not already taken such action should formally approve the new documents and let their approval be locally known, for each community is to a considerable extent a law unto itself in matters of building practice.

No committee of the Institute in recent years has been charged with a more burdensome duty than the preparation of the revised documents, and none has fulfilled its duty more completely and successfully. The Board has already passed a special vote of thanks to the Committee and wishes to here record its high appreciation of the splendid service which the Committee has rendered.

The concluding paragraphs of the Committee's report were due to a misunderstanding of the action taken by the Board at its May meeting. The misunderstanding has happily been cleared away and the Committee will submit for the consideration of the Convention a draft of a Contract between Architect and Owner.

There has been an increasing demand for such a document during the last year or two, and it is hoped that the Convention will either adopt the form as submitted by the Committee or authorize the Board, in conjunction with the Committee, to issue it with such modifications as the Convention may deem wise.

* * *

IN its report one year ago, the Board stated that the increase in dues adopted the year before (1913) had not deterred Chapter members from joining the Institute, as shown by the fact that the

number of new members in 1914 was but one less than in 1913. In view of business conditions the Finance Committee this year deemed it wise, in preparing its budget, to count on a reduction in the number of new members of 33 1/3 per cent. It is, therefore, especially gratifying to report the election of eighty-one new members, as against fifty-eight for the year previous, an increase of 40 per cent., together with forty-four applications pending.

It has been many years since so large a growth has been recorded, and when we consider that during this year there has been unprecedented depression in all building industries, it is fair to conclude that the Institute is making its influence more and more widely felt and that reputable practitioners of our profession are coming to feel that they cannot afford to hold themselves aloof from the one society of national scope which represents the profession.

The Institute has, however, felt the effect of business conditions in a reduction of its income from current dues because of the inability of members to meet their financial obligations. Where the Board has been convinced of the sincerity of those in arrears it has exercised the leniency permitted by the By-Laws; but where the Treasurer's repeated requests have elicited no response, or an unsatisfactory one, the Board has ordered the *names posted in the Octagon* and read to the Convention. In several cases of *members long in arrears and who have shown little or no disposition to make their accounts good*, the names have been dropped from the roll of membership. In framing the budget the Finance Committee has a right to count as an asset the dues of every member. If the assets cannot be realized, the inevitable result is a deficit. The necessity of obtaining working capital together with the reduction in income which was anticipated at the beginning of the year compelled the Board to reduce Committee appropriations to the minimum. It did this with the utmost regret, for it forced the Committees to conduct much of their work by correspondence, and in some cases to pay personally the expense of attending the meetings.

In the interest of economy the Board has held but two meetings, instead of three as formerly, and the Executive Committee but two meetings as against four last year. This is not a desirable condition, for it places upon the officers responsibilities which they are loath to assume, and deprives the Institute of the benefit to be obtained from the personal interchange of ideas for which meetings of the Board are designed. One meeting of the Executive Committee was held in San Francisco, but the Treasury was called upon to pay only the cost of a meeting in Washington. In the course of the trip to and from the Coast, visits were paid to the Buffalo, Michigan, Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Washington, Oregon, San Francisco, Southern California, Kansas City and St. Louis Chapters. Other members of the Board visited the Iowa and Colorado Chapters.

The Board wishes to record its belief that with a large increase in members paying dues to the Institute a reduction in annual dues might be made. If 400 new members could be added in 1916, a reduction of dues of five dollars per annum would be entirely practicable.

THE AMERICAN ARCHITECT

BY order of the last Convention, the Institute, through the Committee on Chapters, secured the passage by the Legislature of the state of New York of an amended act of incorporation by which the powers of the Institute to carry on its business throughout the United States are greatly broadened.

In August of this year a special meeting of the Institute was held after a call issued in the manner prescribed by the By-Laws, at which there were present, either in person or by proxy, more than half the entire membership. At this meeting the new charter was formally adopted, the acts of Convention previously held outside of New York State were ratified, and other formal actions recommended by Counsel were taken.

The thanks of the Institute are due to the Committee for the expeditious manner in which it obtained the needed legislation, and for the extraordinary amount of work which it performed in preparation for the special meeting.

* * *

ONE year ago the Convention discussed at some length the suggestion of the Committee that the time of Convention be changed to the spring. It was argued in favor of the change that the Committees could proceed with their organization during the summer months and have the entire autumn and winter for their work. The Convention approved of the principle and referred the question to the Board with power. Letters were then sent to all Chapters asking an expression of opinion. Answers were received from but few and these few in opposition, the reason in practically every case being that the spring is the architect's busiest season and the time when he could least readily absent himself from his office for attendance at Convention.

The Board therefore deemed it unwise to make the change this year, but it believes that the question has not been given the consideration which it deserves and it urges the delegates at this Convention to present the matter fully to their Chapters, for the Board does not wish to make so radical a departure from Institute custom unless it is reasonably assured that the change will meet with the approval of a majority of the members.

* * *

IN concluding its report the Board wishes to express its thanks to the Committees for their painstaking work and to the members generally who in a time of business depression have loyally supported the Officers and the Board in their efforts to strengthen the membership and carry forward the

work of the Institute. It has received criticisms which have been helpful because constructive as well as others which frequently, offered in all sincerity, have not been constructive and have frequently proceeded from a mistaken idea of the objects of the Institute, as stated in Article II of the Constitution, viz., "to organize and unite in fellowship the architects of the United States of America and to combine their efforts so as to promote the artistic, scientific and practiced efficiency of the profession."

Let us not lose sight of the fact that the government of the Institute rests in the Convention. It is the Convention which determines Institute policy, not as some seem to think the Board of Directors, who are but the instruments of the Convention to carry out its will. The majority opinion in Convention must fairly represent the majority opinion of the entire membership, else the whole theory of representative government fails.

There are still many architects in the United States whose professional skill and personal integrity qualify them for membership in the Institute but who are not yet identified with it although it is the only national association representing our profession. It is difficult to understand the point of view of the man who, realizing as he must, the constantly improving conditions of architectural practice, refuses to do his small part in the organization which has been primarily responsible for that improvement. A lawyer who is not a member of his Bar Association is looked upon with some suspicion. The time is coming when the same will be true of the architect, for the public is gradually but surely coming to see that the objects of our association are ethical and professional and that it is not organized for the purpose of securing commissions for its members.

Last year the Board called upon the architects of the country to devote their earnest thought to improving the type, design and arrangement of the small and medium-sized dwelling-houses in all cities and suburbs and to bring about as far as possible an improvement in existing conditions.

Some of the Chapters and every individual architect have been writing upon this important problem the solution of which is a difficult one in view of the enormous number of such buildings which are annually built without regard for their appearance. The Board learns with satisfaction of these efforts which have in such cases been undertaken in co-operation with local civic and art associations and urges upon all members of the Institute all those others who should be vitally interested that further activities along these lines be prosecuted with all the vigor possible.

