

# JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Volume 1

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Number 2

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# THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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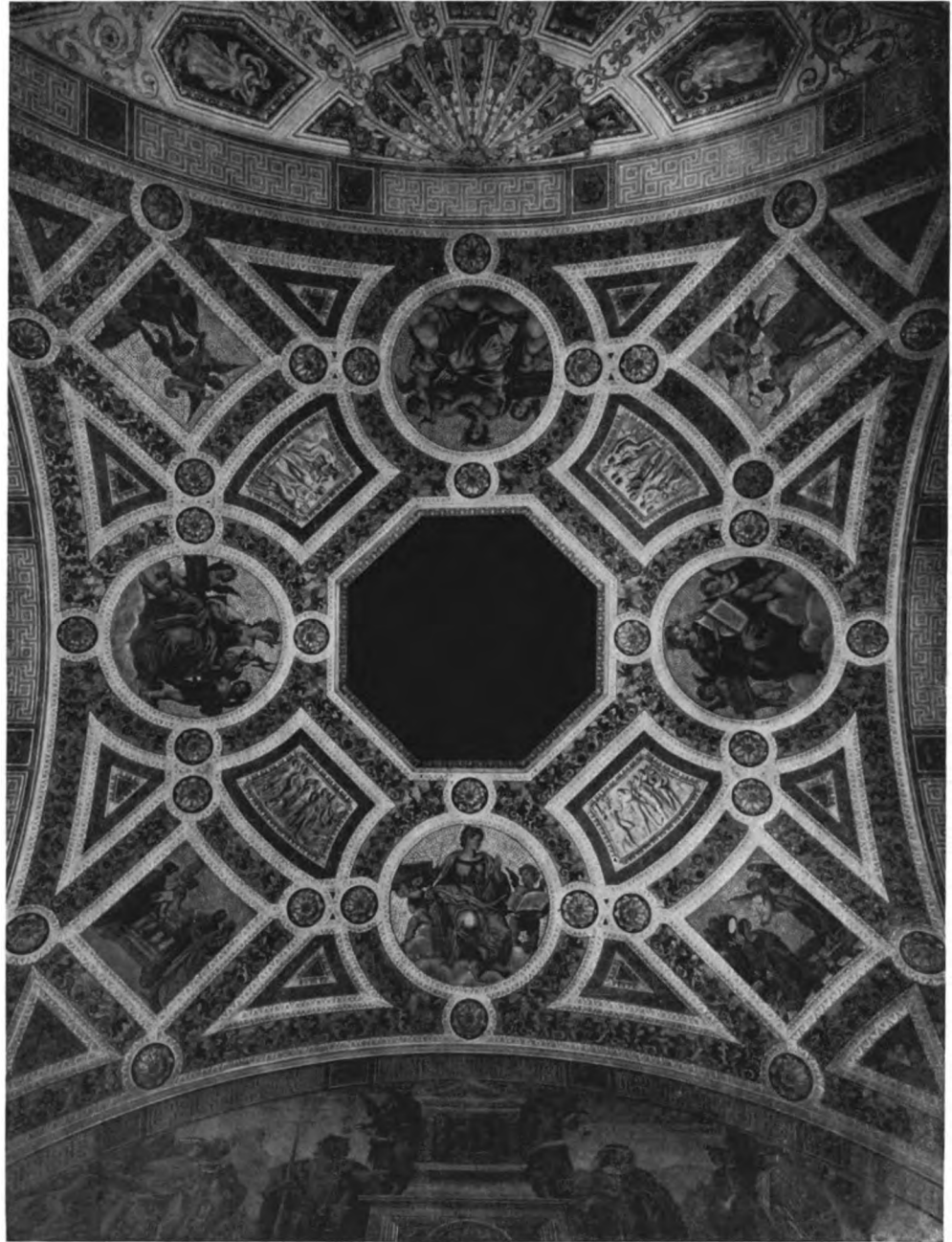
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CEILING OF ENTRANCE HALL.—Morgan Library, New York  
McKim, Mead and White, Architects; Henry Siddons-Mowbray, Mural Painter

# JOURNAL OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Vol. I

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## PUBLIC SERVICE

**W**HY should individuals band themselves together into societies? Is personal benefit the object? The basis of such association should be public service, not individual gain, otherwise it were much better not to organize.

The American Institute of Architects was founded with public service as its aspiration, and it has steadily and persistently kept the public good in view.

It will not be amiss to recall some of the principal efforts and accomplishments of the Institute, in carrying out the object of its organization.

The character and design of the buildings erected by the Government, twenty-five years ago, had become a matter of ridicule to the cultured world, when the Institute secured the passage of the Tarsney Act, in 1893, by which the Government obtained the services of the most talented architects to design its buildings.

This law has been in effect twenty years, and its results in elevating the public taste and culture have been marvelous; national, state and city buildings, following good models, have become a source of pride, equaling the best art of other nations. This service has been the means of widespread good to the public.

The present Congress, ignoring the people and not appreciating the good accomplished, repealed this law, in a rider on a great appropriation bill, thus preventing discussion on the merits of the law. The Institute, as a public service, must now begin a new campaign to secure the enactment of a similar or a better law.

The past ten years, because of the growth of the Institute, show many efforts and notable accomplishments.

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Competitions for buildings, without definite rules for their conduct, had for years been a scandal hurtful to public morals and had, as a result, been filling the country with crude, ugly buildings, damaging to public taste and culture. Members of the Institute, with the public good in view, have agreed not to enter a competition unless a code is followed that will secure the best architect and assure the public the most practicable and artistic buildings.

Monuments are the records by which future generations judge of a nation's refinement and culture. The structures erected by the Government from twenty to forty years ago were a false record of the culture of our times, as the best talent in the country was ignored. To perform a public service and prevent a future slur on our generation, the Institute began a campaign, in 1900, which secured, by Executive Order, a Fine Arts Council in 1908, and a Fine Arts Commission, by Act of Congress, in 1910.

The great plan presented by Washington and L'Enfant having been pigeon-holed, the capital city was growing in a haphazard, thoughtless, unsightly way, controlled by the whim of first one and then another individual. In 1899 the Institute began a campaign to return to the plan left us by George Washington, and to secure an authoritative scheme for its future growth. This was a public service for the nation, as it secured the appointment of the Park Commission, whose report, in 1902, has aroused about one hundred cities and towns to enthusiastically commence the study of plans for their development. This movement has become a nation-wide service.

Securing the plan for the capital city did not end the work of the Institute. The Park Commission Plan was not enacted into law. It was simply a moral force exerting its power through its beauty and fitness.

Many efforts have been made to deviate from this plan in the improvement of parks and in the selection of building-sites. The Institute has zealously and successfully opposed the narrowing of the open space in the Mall to six hundred feet, where the Park Commission Plan called for nine hundred feet, and it prevented the location of the Agricultural Building within this open area. The Institute, by arousing the public, saved the White House from crude additions and inexcusable remodeling, which would have destroyed both its historic

## PUBLIC SERVICE

interest and beauty. This action culminated in a masterly restoration, by McKim, Mead and White, bringing it back to its former beauty and interest.

The Institute zealously opposed the location of the Grant Memorial on the plaza, to enhance the railway station, or as a marring element in the White Lot, and secured its location at the east end of the Mall, where it was a part of the great plan, and where it places the Grant Memorial on one of the three most important sites in the city.

The campaign for the location of the Lincoln Memorial, where it will be in accord with the general plan, and on the only site suitable for a tribute to Lincoln, has been continuous for ten years.

The Institute has succeeded in preventing its location as an addendum to the Union Station, and as an isolated ornament on Sixteenth Street hill, but it has not secured its location on the Mall in accordance with the Park Commission Plan.

The opposition is now making a strong effort, with many powerful adherents, to change the form of memorial from a monumental structure to a roadway—an ordinary country roadway.

The Institute is zealously keeping up its campaign against the roadway and to secure the Lincoln Memorial on the Mall, as a public service to the Nation.

# BRIEF REPORT OF THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

HELD IN WASHINGTON, D. C., DECEMBER 10-12, 1912.

(Complete proceedings will appear in another issue)

## FIRST SESSION

**P**RESIDENT WALTER COOK called the meeting to order, and introduced Col. W. V. Judson, Engineer Commissioner, District of Columbia, who presented the address of welcome.

*Address of Colonel Judson.*—Colonel Judson said that, after four years in Washington, he took this opportunity to seek the assistance of the Institute in a matter which ought to be vastly interesting. He called attention to the importance of proceeding quickly to acquire the lands needed for the execution of the Park Commission Plan, as they are rapidly increasing in value, and many sections are being ruined for park purposes by grading operations. He hoped that the Institute would lend its aid at the present time and continue its former hearty support. In acquiring this land, he mentioned the importance of expert advice, and stated that they were following the lines recommended by the Park Commission in these acquisitions, and acting upon the advice of the Fine Arts Commission.

*Address of the President, Mr. Cook.*—President Walter Cook called attention to the fact of the constantly increasing interest of its members in the aims and aspirations of the Institute, and said that the increasing unity in their views as to the best means of obtaining their ends was most gratifying. He stated that a great deal had been accomplished in furthering the education of the public to the correct understanding of what the Institute seeks in the way of public service and public benefit. He also called attention to the competition code and the successful outcome of the competition of the state capitol of Missouri, beginning, as it did, with certain conditions not for the best interests of the state. The Capitol Commission invited a delegation of the Institute, which had called its attention to these conditions, to visit them. This conference was successful and satisfactory, and a program was



## BRIEF REPORT OF THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

drawn up which was eminently judicious and bids fair to secure the best results to the state of Missouri. He called attention to the mistake made in repealing the Tarsney Act, by which the government had secured, during the past twenty years, some of its best buildings, and which had been the means of educating the public taste in state and municipal buildings. He emphasized the public need of securing the re-enactment of a law similar to or an improvement upon the Tarsney Act by Congress. He stated that within the past few months he had had the good fortune to talk with fellow architects of acknowledged eminence from abroad, and their verdict was one of enthusiastic praise for our achievements in this country, and they made comparisons between what we are really doing here and what is being done in other countries, which were most flattering to us.

Mr. Cook then announced the names of the committees to consider the various branches of the work that were to come before the convention, as follows: On Credentials, on President's address, on Report of the Board of Directors, on Reports of Chapters, on Reports of Standing Committees, on Reports of Special Committees, on Resolutions, and on Nominations.

*Report of the Directors.*—Report of the Board of Directors was then read, showing 308 Fellows, 682 Members, 60 Honorary members, and 82 Corresponding members. The following Members had died during the past year: Honorary members: Francis Davis Millet, Lawrence Alma Tadema, Paul Wallot; Honorary corresponding member, H. J. Pillet; Fellows, John M. Allen, Edwin A. Kent, Edmund A. Wheelwright; Members, John M. Darrack, Frederick L. Olds.

The board then gave a list of those to be recommended for Fellows:

Austin, William D.	Delano, Wm. Adams	Rich, Charles A.
Benes, W. Dominick	Holden, L. C.	Sellers, Horace Wells
Carrel, Henry Clay	Peter, Walter G.	Wallis, Frank E.
Chambers, Walter B.	Rice, Arthur Wallace	Woltersdorf, Arthur F.
Day, Clinton		

Attention was called to the fact that three new chapters in the South were being organized, one each from North Carolina, South Carolina and Texas; and that the states of Alabama and Florida had the question of chapter organization under consideration. It was recommended that steps be taken so that members living at a

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distance from the chapter center might join the chapter at large, so as to facilitate the organization of new chapters. The attention of the Institute was called to the present status of the Lincoln Memorial, having passed the Fine Arts Commission and the Congressional Commission, and having been formally submitted to the Senate. The location recommended was according to the Park Commission Plan, and carried with it the approval of the design submitted by Mr. Henry Bacon. The importance of this measure receiving the approval of Congress was brought before the Institute, as there is a strong body in the House of Representatives making an effort to transfer the appropriation of \$2,000,000 to secure a roadway to Gettysburg.

Attention was called to the minor repairs which had taken place in the Octagon, and to the plans made for the development of the property, which have been published in the first issue of the Journal. Considerable space was given to the description of the new journal, stating its scope and character, and what was to be expected from it in giving correct information to both the profession and the public. The success of the competition code, and the improved character of competitions which has resulted from the enforcement of this code, were considered of great importance to the profession and of great benefit to the public.

The Judiciary Committee gave a statement concerning the cases which had been brought before it for violation of the code governing the conduct of competitions, and attributed most of the breaches to the newness of the code and the unfamiliarity of many of the members with its conditions. A strong plea was made in the board report for a new law to take the place of the Tarsney Act, which has been repealed.

*Treasurer's Report.*—The Treasurer's Report showed the finances of the Institute to be in a sound condition, there being a balance in the current fund September 1, 1912, of \$1,271.76, and in the reserve fund of \$6,881.54.

*Chapter Reports.*—The Secretary presented a synopsis of chapter reports covering the work done by the chapters of the Institute.

### STANDING COMMITTEES

The Standing Committees then presented their reports.

*The Committee on Contracts and Specifications.* Mr. Atterbury,

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*Chairman.*—This committee considered the sale of the standard documents as being satisfactory, some 10,000 sets having been sold, in addition to others printed with modifications by several chapters. The committee considered it was too soon to make an intelligent report as to criticism of the forms and conditions, the suggestions received having all been of such a minor character as to make discussion in this report unnecessary. The committee had under consideration a contract between owner and architect combined with the schedule of services and what might correspond to the general conditions of the building contract. It was proposed that this form of contract should be used in connection with the code of competitions instead of the schedule of rates.

*The Committee on Allied Arts, T. R. Kimball, Chairman.*—It called attention to having requested sculptors and painters to collaborate with the committee, and found it satisfactory. It believes that the trouble in harmonizing the various art interests is due to a lack of education and sympathetic collaboration.

It suggested that the Institute foster in every legitimate way the sympathetic co-education of the allied arts throughout our own country, and that it support it in the Academy at Rome, and ask that the trustees will encourage such collaborative education in that institution. It recommends that the American Institute of Architects offer an annual prize to be given for the best accomplishment in the collaborative work of the Academy at Rome, to be awarded each year.

*The Committee on Government Architecture, M. B. Medary, Chairman.*—This committee stated that few realize the efforts and accomplishments of the Institute in urging good architecture for the Government, municipal, and state authorities throughout the country. It regretted very much the possible effect upon the country of the repeal of the Tarsney Act by Congress. This repeal will lead to the administration of appropriations for public constructions by the various executive departments of the Government, a method which has produced poor results, unless new legislation is enacted fixing the procedure for all executive departments. The repeal of this law will leave the Government very much in the position it was twenty years ago, before the Tarsney Act was passed, the work being done by subordinates with little training or knowledge.

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It called attention to the McKaig bill, which was presented before the Tarsney Act was passed, and quoted from the report on the McKaig bill and the various recommendations for its passage.

The committee in its report gave a history of the repeal of the Tarsney Act, and also called attention to the necessity of securing a law similar to, or better than, the Tarsney Act.

*Report of the Committee on Education, R. A. Cram, Chairman.*—This committee reported progress at the educational conferences of last year. It was agreed that the Education Committee should use its best efforts toward inducing the several chapters to form standing committees on education where these did not exist, and to offer its services to such committees in order that there might be more consistent and energetic activity in this direction. The way in which the work of the sub-committees has been coördinated through the general committee has been most gratifying. It enumerated instances where the chapters had assisted in formulating plans for education in different portions of the country.

Mention was made of the extension work for draftsmen undertaken last year by Columbia University and Pennsylvania University as continuing with good results. In both cases, however, the students showed an invincible propensity toward a bread-and-butter course.

The committee has given consideration to the plan formulated by the Architectural League of America, which the league has been endeavoring to develop along lines originally suggested by the committee.

The committee called attention to the fact that, while there is such a widespread architectural education, there is no education of the craftsmen, and the result may be extremely injurious to architects.

The committee then urged some method of training craftsmen so that their artistic sense and capacity may be developed. It found that all really artistic craftsmen in this country were foreigners, practically none having been trained in the United States. This was found to be the case in architectural modeling, in metal work, wood-carving, and in stained-glass work.

*The Committee on Competitions, F. M. Day, Chairman.*—This committee gave a lengthy report. It called attention to the various competitions that had been held in this country during the past year, giving the good points in those that were successful, and also quite a

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review of the action of sub-committees, the power of these sub-committees, and their importance in judging things properly. It gave a thorough review of the auditorium competition in Portland, Oregon, calling attention to the fact that the committee on practice found that the competition was honestly and conscientiously judged, and that there was no *prima facie* evidence of misconduct on the part of the jury.

This committee called attention to the widespread efforts to improve competition practice and the success which had been attained by this committee from coast to coast during the past year.

The following resolution was approved:

*“Resolved, First, that the Forty-sixth Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, reaffirms the principles heretofore adopted by the Institute, in its efforts to abate the evils of competitions, as expressed in the ‘Circular of Advice,’ and approves the course of the Board of Directors in enforcing these principles; and the board is hereby authorized, in the future, as in the past, to adopt such amendments to the Circular of Advice as they may deem advisable.”*

*The Committee on Nominations, A. B. Pond, Chairman.*—The secretary called attention to the fact that the only nominations made by the chapters this year were those for Directors, B. L. Fenner, of New York, and W. L. B. Wilcox, of Seattle.

Mr. A. B. Pond, Chairman of the Committee on Nominations, presented the following nominations:

President, Walter Cook, New York

First Vice-President, R. Clipston Sturgis, Boston.

Second Vice-President, F. C. Baldwin, Washington.

Secretary-Treasurer, Glenn Brown, Washington.

Directors for the term of three years: B. L. Fenner, New York; C. Grant LaFarge, New York; Chas. D. Maginnis, Boston; H. Van Buren Magonigle, New York; W. L. B. Wilcox, Seattle; J. Lawrence Mauran, St. Louis; J. R. Marshall, Washington.

### SECOND SESSION

*Address of F. B. Wentworth.*—Mr. Franklin B. Wentworth, of the National Fire Protection Association, delivered a lecture on coöperation between the architects and the National Fire Protection Association.

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He called attention to the fact that the average annual per capita loss in European countries was thirty-three cents, while the average annual per capita fire loss in the United States was three dollars. Then he enumerated by sections the trifling loss from fire in various European countries, and called attention to the startling difference in our country. He thought that the apparently unlimited resources of this country in our early history was partly the cause of this carelessness, and that such carelessness extended to the destruction of our forests, by allowing the ravages of forest fires; whereas, in the older countries they were carefully protected. Their association commenced the study of this problem some twenty years ago, and, while the decrease in fire loss has been slow, they have been attempting to educate the minds of the people as to the necessity of preserving and conserving their resources, and erecting buildings so that they will not be destroyed by fire. Then he enumerated various safety-devices and methods of construction, which have been found most useful in protecting buildings from fire, and urged the architects to coöperate with them in this work. The application of these devices in New England has already begun to reduce the disgraceful fire waste.

Papers were read on the relation of sculpture to the other fine arts.

*Address of Mr. Lorado Taft.*—Mr. Taft gave a very carefully prepared paper on the recent tendencies of sculpture abroad, illustrating his paper by many lantern-slides, showing the vagaries and utter lack of architectural fitness in most of the modern sculpture, which is now being done abroad, making us feel proud of the record in America. That this sculpture, as illustrated, may have an influence upon, and be followed by, some of our young men in this field is to be feared.

*Address of Mr. Proctor.*—Mr. A. Phimister Proctor talked on the subject of the relation of animal sculpture to buildings. He gave examples of how the early Assyrians and Greeks treated animals in the sculpture of their locality, showing how effectively they applied this more or less conventional wall-surface treatment in low relief, and how they placed individual pieces of sculpture so as to be most effective. He then showed photographs of the various American animals, like the elk, the antelope, the mountain lion, the buffalo, and bears, showing that they are most excellent models from which normal and effective sculpture may be produced.

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*Address of Mr. Herbert Adams.*—Mr. Herbert Adams took up the question of the relation of sculpture to buildings and parks, treating the subject very carefully, showing that such work should be harmonious in connection with buildings, and serve as picturesque additions in the parks, as well as being objects of interest within themselves.

### THIRD SESSION

The reports of special committees were made at this session.

*The Committee on the Relations of Chapters to the American Institute of Architects, I. K. Pond, Chairman.*—This committee called attention to the fact that the Institute is not a federation, but a unit in which, for the welfare of Chapters as well as that of the Institute, the Institute spirit flows. The committee believes that active, forceful and untiring chapter effort is necessary for the well-being of the Institute. It believes that, in states where more than one chapter exists, state associations are desirable.

The committee believes that chapter affiliations arise through the strength and inspiration which comes in personal contact; realizes that in many states with extended borders this contact is impossible; and for this reason it recommends the expedient of allowing those within the territory of a chapter, yet far removed from chapter headquarters, to seek companionship in a nearer and more readily accessible chapter.

It also recommends, in widespread territory, the desirability of reducing to a minimum the dues of chapter members far removed and unable, for that reason, to participate directly in chapter activities.

The possibility of administering to the Institute through the medium of a chapter is so great, and individual participation in chapter activities so much to be desired, both for the individual and for the chapter, that it recommends that the present method of taking in members through the chapter be adhered to.

The committee holds that the chapter is the logical recruiting ground for Institute members.

The committee recommended to the Board of Directors that the territory of chapters as established two years ago by the then President of the Institute and Secretary, acting under authority of the board,

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be adhered to, with the exception of the territory of the Boston and Worcester Chapters.

It also called attention to the possibility of lessening the dues for members remote from the chapter activities, and also stated that the various chapters should be asked to revise their chapter nomenclature along the lines set down in this report.

*International Congress.*—Mr. Cook made a verbal report on the International Congress of Architects to be held in St. Petersburg, 1914.

*The Committee on Town Planning, A. W. Brunner, Chairman.*—This committee mentioned that the interest in city planning continues, many of the cities of the United States and Canada having turned their attention to the subject. Various associations and civic bodies are also active. It is encouraging to know that in numerous cases the local city government recognized the value of expert advice.

The committee calls attention to the interest in town planning in England, and a possible modification of the English Town Planning Act, to serve as a basis for a suitable law for American cities. After consideration, this does not seem feasible. "The English Town Planning Law provides for a board composed of a central body and having absolute power to criticize and control the plans of English cities, which must be presented to the committee for its approval. This does not appear to be possible in our country. The laws in each state are different, and each Town Planning Act would necessarily have to be drawn to conform to the state law. Lately a very strong movement in favor of what is called the "home rule" for cities has manifested itself, so that a general state law governing the powers of a city to make its own plans would, we think, be very unpopular. The conditions, not only in different states, but in different cities, vary so greatly that we believe it would not be well to attempt to frame a general law. The regulations that obtain in France and Germany seem entirely inapplicable to our form of government, and apparently it is advisable for our cities to make their own rules and regulations."

It is extremely difficult to obtain documents and pictures that relate to city planning. There is a constant demand for such data, and it was suggested that the Institute get slides bearing upon this matter, foreign and domestic; and it is most desirable that some central library should collect plans of important cities, properly drawn to scale, as



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there is much detailed information that is constantly required. Undoubtedly the possession of this library would be of great value to the members, and it seems to the committee that the A.I.A. should take immediate steps to collect maps and documents which would form a nucleus of such a library. It is believed that the cost of this might be met by private subscription. The value of it can hardly be over-estimated. The cost of additional lantern-slides is easily within the Institute's means, and they would be of very great service to members who wish to deliver lectures on city planning. The foundation of a real reference library on city planning is strongly urged.

*Report of the Committee on Legislation, L. C. Holden, Chairman.*—The work of this committee was not extended beyond the occasional dissemination of information to chapter members, and as to the form and provision of existing laws governing the registration of architects in the several states. Much thought has been given by the architects of New York State to the registration of architects, and they have considered, in their effort to secure such a law for the state, what will be of the greatest advantage to the public, and secure the best buildings, and protect the public from incompetent practitioners.

*Committee on Schedule of Charges, Robert Maynicke, Chairman.*—The committee on Schedule of Charges submitted in its report suggestions as to changes in the present schedule which it thought desirable.

*Committee on Public Information, D. K. Boyd, Chairman.*—The report gave a very thorough account of the activities of the committee in its effort to give the public correct information on everything relating to architectural matters, both in practice and ethics, and also gave an account of the success obtained by the committee as a whole and by the various sub-committees which have been organized in most of the chapters.

*National Association of Master Steam and Hot-Water Fitters, D. E. Waid, Chairman.*—Mr. D. E. Waid, who represented the Institute at a meeting of a committee of the National Association of Master Steam and Hot-Water Fitters presented a report of the evils resulting in the practice of including plumbing and steam-fitting in general contracts, and as to the injustice of the following methods: "First, they request that architects, after writing specifications for mechanical equipment of buildings, including steam or hot-water heating and

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plumbing work, shall let such work direct to the persons engaged in the respective trades, and not include them in general contracts. Second, their belief that it is unfair for responsible persons who are invited or may apply for an opportunity to bid in their lines of trade to be required to pay for plans and specifications. There is no objection to making deposits on plans while estimating. Third, the consequential damages and hardships suffered by plumbing and heating contractors when required to make good damages to a building resulting from defective apparatus or material, and their request that an effort be made to have manufacturers share the responsibility for loss occasioned through defective material."

*The Committee on Membership, J. H. Rankin, Chairman.*—Mr. Rankin gave a report from his Committee on Membership, naming the members in the various chapters of the Institute which had subcommittees, and also detailing the methods used for increasing membership, as outlined by the committee last year, and gave the increase in the membership. It renews the recommendation of last year that a pamphlet be prepared by the board briefly describing the organization, etc.

*Committee on Greek Cruise, A. W. Rice, Chairman.*—Mr. Rice gave a short account of the cruise made by the members of the American Institute of Architects in the Ægean Sea, and described the great pleasure and profit of this excursion.

### FOURTH SESSION

*Credentials Committee, A. W. Rice, Chairman.*—The Committee on Credentials presented their report, naming delegates and showing 116 delegates present; necessary for a majority, 59.

*Committee on President's Address, T. M. Kellogg, Chairman.*—"Your committee believes that the President stands on firm ground when he asserts that, during the past year, marked progress has been made in educating the public to the correct understanding of what we seek; but, in this connection, your committee can not forbear laying still further emphasis on the fundamental truth that a genuine solidarity of opinion in the profession itself as to professional ideals is an indispensable prerequisite to a proper recognition of its status in the eyes of the

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public. The architects must themselves analyze and decide questions of ethics between one another, and between themselves and the public, with careful forethought, and with an eye single to the highest interests of the profession and of the entire community. The first step toward the education of the community by the architects must be the education of the architects themselves." It approves the President's statement in reference to the Tarsney Act, and it states that, "viewed largely, man and his governments and institutions are but passing short; and, if the tides of a democracy are sometimes destructive, we do well to remind ourselves that only in a society capable of change is there possibility of progress. A generation of new lawmakers—like a generation of new children—has newly to be educated. The Institute's work is cut out for it. It hardly requires that we recommend a resolution instructing the President and Board of Directors to take action in the premises, as we feel confident that they will take this action."

*Report of the Committee on the Report of the Board of Directors, C. Grant LaFarge, Chairman.*—The report called attention to the various headings in the board report, to the importance of establishing new chapters, and the importance of carrying on the fight to get the Lincoln Memorial established on the Mall. It requests the members to pay special attention to the suggested improvements of the Octagon, and to study the plans in the new Journal.

*Report of the Committee on Chapter Reports, A. L. Bockway, Chairman.*—This Report shows that there are 869 Institute members in chapters, and 1,154 non-Institute members, and calls special attention to the chapters increasing Institute membership, and taking an active part in all work of the Institute.

*Report of the Committee on the Reports of Standing Committees, J. H. Rankin, Chairman.*—This report simply reviews the various suggestions made by the standing committees, recommending that their suggestions be carried out.

*Report of the Committee on Special Committees, Geo. Worthington, Chairman.*—This Committee took up each special committee report in detail, and suggested that the recommendations of these committees be carried out.

*Committee on Resolutions, H. W. Sellers, Chairman.*—The Committee presented the following resolution:

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Resolved, That the Proceedings be a record of the business transacted in the Convention, and that the papers read at the Convention be published separately in the Journal.

Resolved, That it be recommended that the Fourth Rule of the Committee on Practice, as adopted at the thirty-ninth Convention of the Institute, be repealed, and the following adopted in its stead:

“Upon finding that a *prima facie* case appears to exist against a member, the Committee on Practice shall also collect the evidence in support of its charge, and, in collecting the evidence, the committee shall have the assistance of the counsel of the Institute, and through one or more of its members it shall be present at the hearing before the Judiciary Committee, and see that the evidence against the particular member is fairly and adequately presented.

“It shall be the duty of the Judiciary Committee to admit to its hearings a member or members of the Committee on Practice, in order that the evidence in support of the charge in each particular case may be fully and adequately presented.

“It shall be the duty of the counsel for the Institute to aid and advise the Committee on Practice in the preparation of each case, and in its subsequent presentation before the Judiciary Committee.”

Resolved, That all committee reports exceeding in length fifteen hundred words shall be printed and read in convention in synopsis.

Resolved, That the various chapters secure from their states legislative acts to appoint commissions to consider and revise building codes.

Resolved, That a committee of the Institute be appointed to confer with the Committee on Public Information and manufacturers and agents, with the object of bringing about, first, a reduction of the amount of advertising matter; second, the standardization of such advertising matter to card form of uniform size, convenient for filing, said cards to be printed on one side only, and to contain a concise statement describing the manufacturers' product, and any subsequent changes to same, if any, with a list of catalogues available upon request for other similar matters, which may be of real value in the architect's office, and that complete catalogues be sent to the architects only upon their request.

Resolved, That a committee on Public Information shall publish a bulletin from recent reports of the Committee on Education, a

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synopsis of the proceedings at the conferences of the committee, and other significant and suggestive information which it may have in its hands.

Resolved, That this Convention approves the recommendation of the Board of Directors that the various chapters should provide for non-resident membership within or without the chapter territory, with nominal dues, and that such non-resident membership requires *bona fide* residence sufficiently removed from the chapter headquarters to make active membership impracticable.

Resolved, That this Convention approves the recommendation of the Committee on Allied Arts that the Institute should establish an annual prize for collaborative work in Rome, and commends it to the favorable consideration of the Board of Directors of the Institute, with the suggestion that the officers of the Academy be conferred with in formulating a definite plan.

Resolved, first, That Article XIV should be changed, the first sentence to read, "An architect should not take part in a competition as a competitor or juror unless the competition is to be conducted according to proper practice and usage of the profession, as evidenced by its having received the approval of the Institute, nor should he continue to act as a professional adviser after it has been determined that the program cannot be so drawn as to receive such approval.

Resolved, second, When an architect has been authorized to submit sketches for a given project, no other architect should submit sketches for it until the owner has taken definite action on the first sketches, since, so far as the second architect is concerned, a competition is thus established."

Resolved, third, That the Canon of Ethics be amended to conform to this change.

These three resolutions were defeated.

Resolved, fourth, That the American Institute of Architects requires its chapters so to arrange their affairs that the Institute's Canons of Ethics shall be binding upon all their members, and that the Board of Directors is hereby empowered and instructed to enforce this order.

Resolved, fifth, That the Board of Directors be and they are hereby instructed to print in the Annuary, under the heading of each chapter, an exact statement of the limits of its territory.

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Resolved, That the Directors consider the advisability of chapters making annual nominations for Fellowship, instead of following the present method.

Resolved, That the Committee on Government Architecture prepare a program of legislation and publicity on Government architecture, consequent upon the repeal of the "Tarsney Act" and, subject to approval of the Board of Directors, circulate information through the Committee on Public Information.

Resolved, That the Convention re-affirm the principles of the Institute, as expressed in the Circular of Advice, and the board is authorized, as in the past, to adopt such amendments as it may deem advisable.

Resolved, "That the American Institute of Architects in Convention assembled repudiates the statement of the Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations (in reference to charging the Government more than individuals) as being absolutely without foundation of fact, and requests that the Board of Directors take immediate steps to correct the false impression created."

Resolved, That, in order to complete the record of this Convention, the report of the Committee on Reports of Chapters be accepted.

*Report of the Committee on Elections.* The following officers were elected:

President.—Walter Cook, New York.

First Vice-President.—R. Clipston Sturgis, Boston.

Second Vice-President.—F. C. Baldwin, Washington.

Secretary-Treasurer—Glenn Brown, Washington.

Board of Directors.—B. L. Fenner, New York; C. Grant LaFarge, New York; H. Van Buren Magonigle, New York.

### FIFTH SESSION

*Addresses by Messrs. Blasfield and Walker.*—Mr. E. H. Blasfield and Mr. C. H. Walker delivered papers in relation to mural decoration, entering very thoroughly into the relations between the architect and the painter, and showing many of the principles which should govern the painter, so that his decorations would be parts of, and in harmony with, the architectural treatment of the building.

## BRIEF REPORT OF THE FORTY-SIXTH ANNUAL CONVENTION

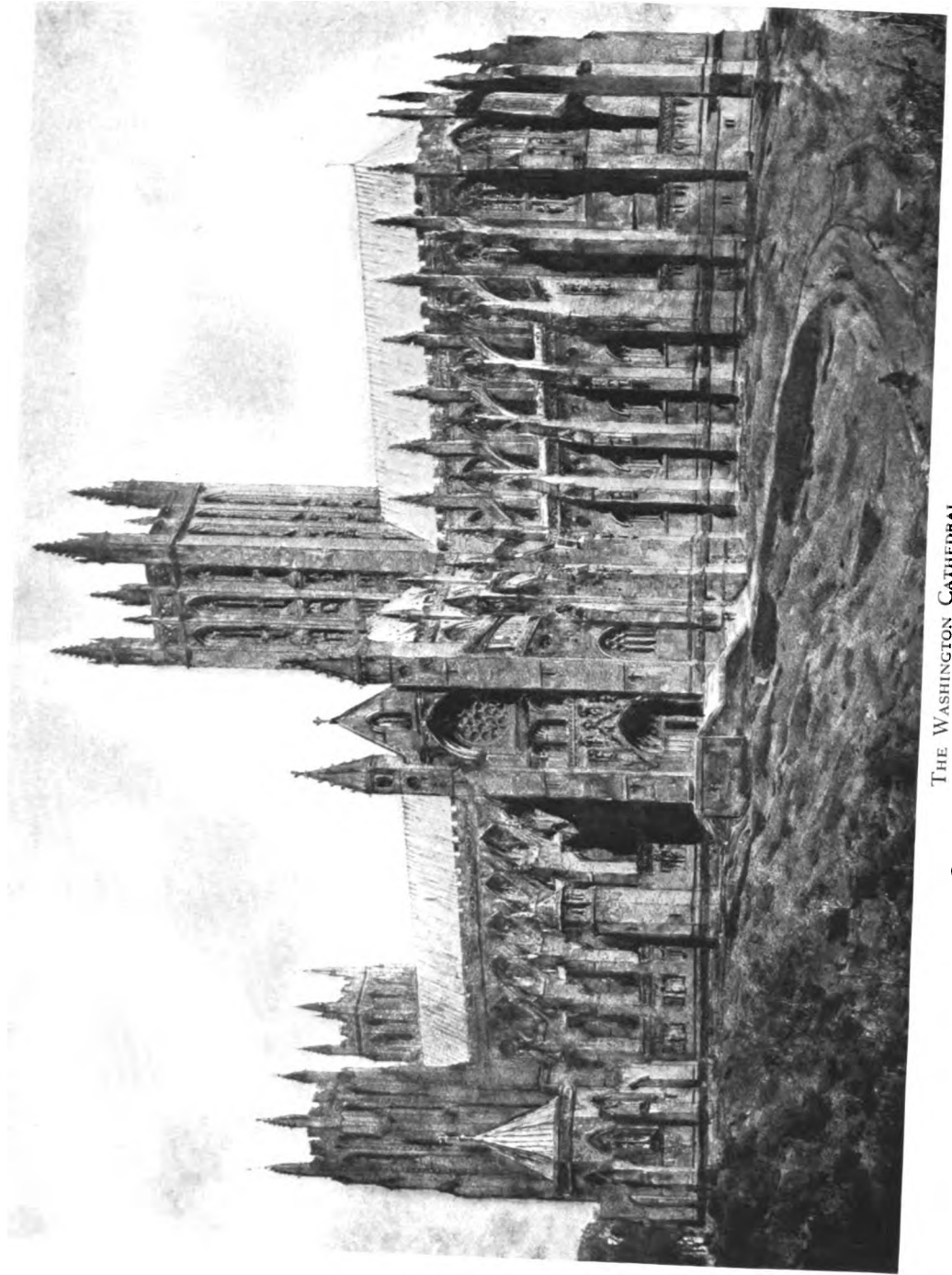
### SIXTH SESSION

Discussion on Committee Reports; adoption of seal designed by H. Van B. Magonigle; and approval of removal of old stable.

*Mr. Shurtleff's Address.*—Mr. Arthur Shurtleff delivered a talk on the relation of landscape to buildings, giving many of the principles which are necessary to make small parks within the city limits most attractive.

### SEVENTH SESSION

The convention ended with a banquet, on which occasion Mr. Thomas Nelson Page, Mr. Charles L. Hutchinson, Mr. Jesse B. Carter, and Mr. Harold Caparn made addresses on the relation of the fine arts to each other.



THE WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL  
G. F. Bodley, R.A., and Henry Vaughn, Architects

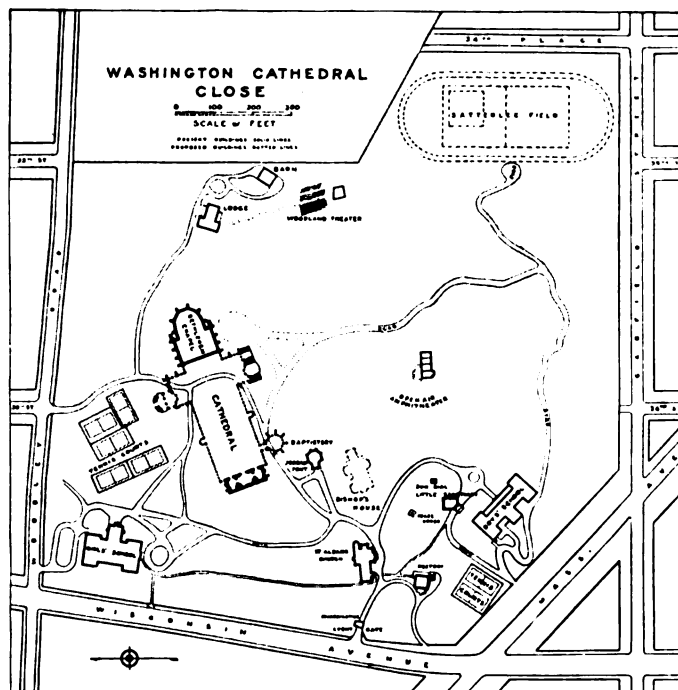


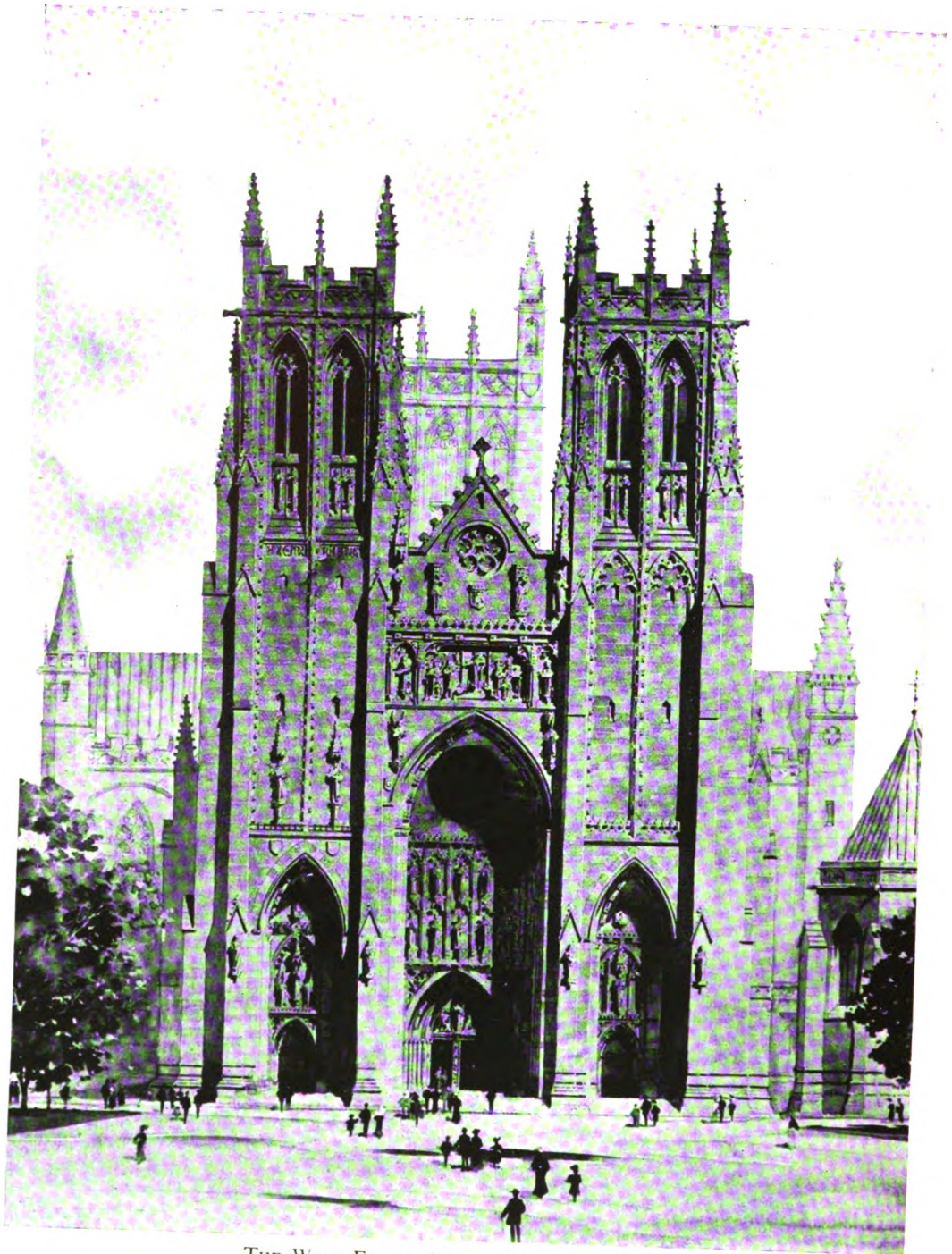
## THE WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL

**T**HE trustees of the Washington Cathedral purchased the tract of ground at the intersection of Wisconsin and Massachusetts Avenues, a beautifully wooded tract, with a frontage on the principal artery of the city. It is one of the high points on the hills which surround the National Capital.

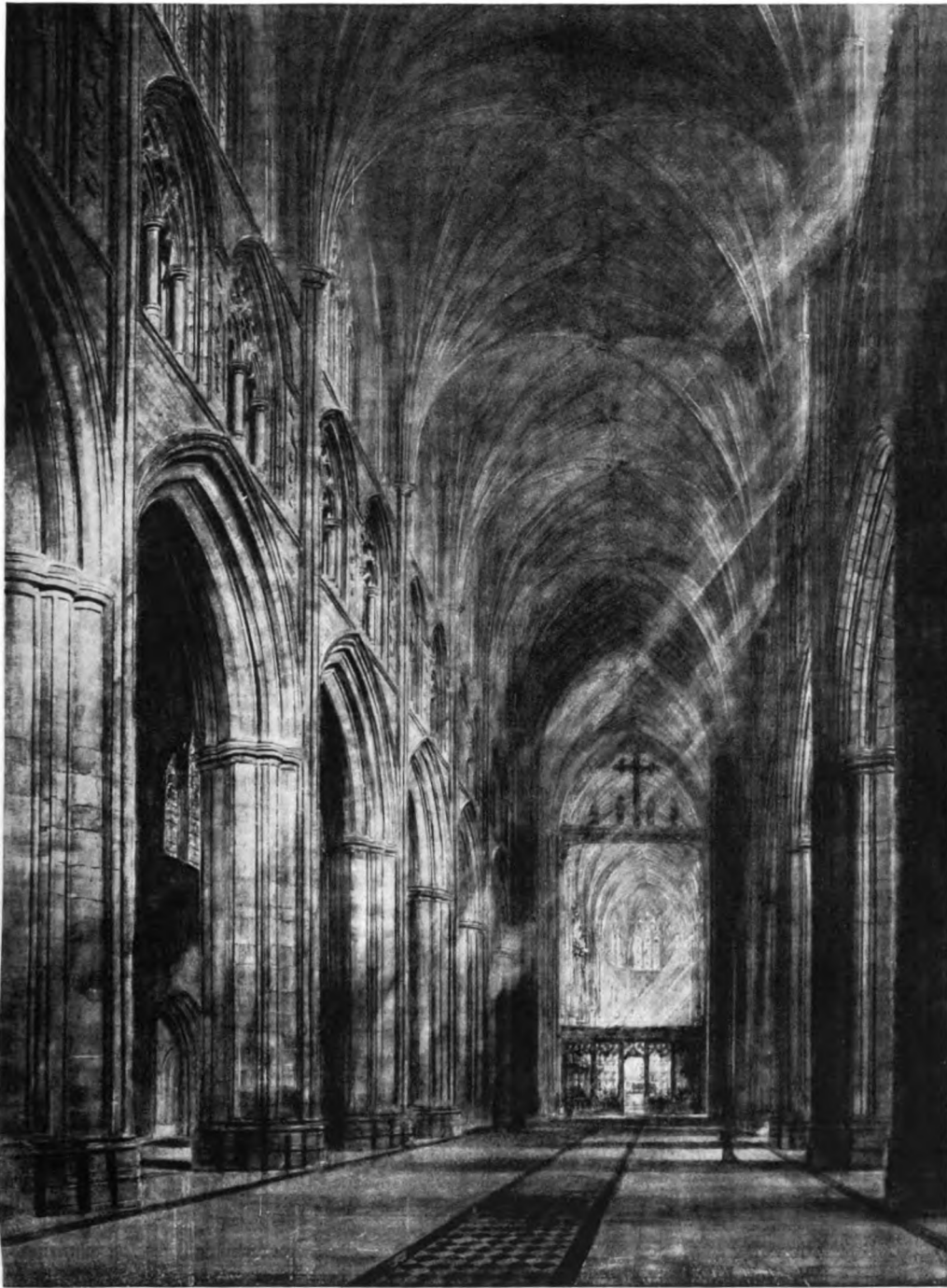
This site will make the new Cathedral one of the principal objects of interest, as it will be seen from the river, Potomac Park, and many parts of the city, and from all the surrounding hills. For this reason, its proportions, color, and silhouette are important elements in the landscape, almost more important than its details.

The history of this movement is interesting. Although the future Cathedral was to dominate the Close, donations for specific purposes were made before the real fund for the Cathedral was begun. Instead of having a comprehensive plan for the Close with the various buildings leading up to the Cathedral, we have the Phoebe Hearst School for girls, in a French Renaissance design, by Robert Gibson, and the Harriet Lane Johnston Choir School for boys, in Collegiate Gothic, by York and Sawyer. While the sympathy of Robert Gibson was for Gothic, and the sympathy of York and Sawyer was for Classical, the trustees fixed the style in which the buildings were to be





THE WEST FRONT—WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL  
C. F. Bodley and Henry Vaughn, Architects



**THE NAVE—WASHINGTON CATHEDRAL**  
**C. F. Bodley and Henry Vaughn, Architects**

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designed. Some time after these buildings were erected, it was determined to hold a world-wide competition for the Cathedral proper.

After several consultations between the Bishop of Washington and the Secretary of the American Institute of Architects, the idea of a competition was dropped. The Cathedral Chapter requested Messrs. D. H. Burnham and Charles F. McKim, of the Park Commission appointed by Congress, and Mr. Bernard Green, Sir C. Purdon Clarke, and Professor Moore of Harvard University, to act as an Advisory Board, regarding the site of the Cathedral and the method of procedure in the choice of architects. At the end of four months, this board unanimously advised: (1) That the Cathedral should be built on the highest part of the Close, from which the ground slopes on every side; (2) that there should be no competition whatever, and that the man, not the plan, should be chosen. Regarding the style of architecture there were differences of opinion; but that was not an open question, as the chapter had already unanimously decided that the style should be Gothic.

It was then decided, also, after accepting this report, that different architects in America and England should be invited, not to send in plans for the future Cathedral, but drawings of Gothic work, which had been designed and completed by them.

During the summer of 1906, while members of a Cathedral Committee appointed by the chapter were extending this invitation to, and corresponding with, different American architects, the Bishop of the Diocese went to England, and had the opportunity of conference with Bishops of the English Church, and with architects and others skilled in Gothic construction.

In October, 1906, the chapter selected Mr. Henry Vaughn, of Boston, and Dr. G. F. Bodley, R.A., of London, to prepare and present designs for the Washington Cathedral. In December Messrs. Vaughn and Bodley came to Washington to study the site and to confer with the chapter. Six months later they submitted the designs and, after careful consideration, their plans were adopted.

A short time after the preliminary studies were completed, Mr. Bodley died, and the execution of the work was placed in the hands of Henry Vaughn. Parts of the foundation have been laid, and one of the principal chapels completed.

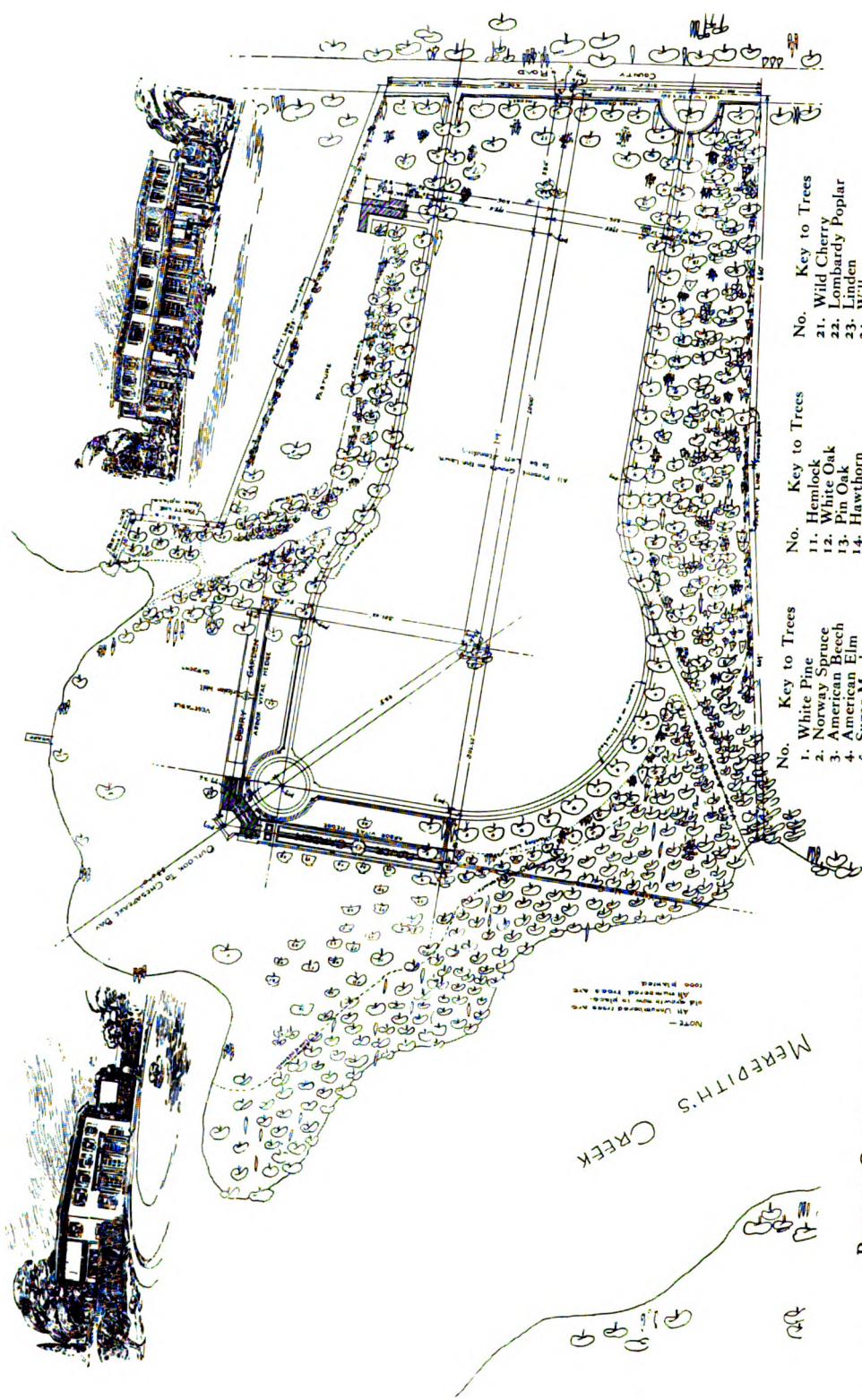
## LAYING OUT A SMALL ESTATE

THE working plat for laying out the grounds here presented is an example of the method adopted to secure harmony between the house and its surroundings.

In the study of the grounds, the location and form of the buildings were determined by the broad outlook to Chesapeake Bay, and the beautiful view up Meredith Creek. Along Meredith Creek was a natural forest with a great variety of beautiful trees, while the property adjoining the tract under consideration was bare, with unsightly barns and out-buildings near the party lines. It was determined to continue the forest by planting along one side of the adjoining property and planting evergreens on the other party line. The roadway was laid out so that a glimpse of the house would be caught at the entrance, and the contour of the land suggested the curve sweeping around to the house. The public side of the house was kept free from trees, with the exception of the grouped clump in the center of the great circle; the open lawn was screened by a fringe of trees along the public highway. In the treatment of the grounds, a graduation from the forest through the semi-formal drives to the formal hedges was attempted. For this reason an avenue of trees along the driveway was avoided, but a row of elms was planted on one side of the road, near enough to overhang the drive with their drooping branches. The public grounds are separated from the private grounds by arborvitæ hedges, which border the rose-garden on the one side and the berry-garden on the other.

There were very beautiful vistas from the bend in the roadway, through the forest to Meredith's Creek, and from the sitting-room wing over the flower-garden, through the woods up Meredith's Creek, which were not only preserved but emphasized. As the outlook over the broad, calm bay was one of the principal assets of the tract, this was made the important element in the design of the house and its grounds.

A careful selection was made of trees and shrubs in relation to their foliage; evergreens being freely used where it was desirable to cut out objectionable objects which obtruded themselves into view. Every tree was located on the plan, and designated by a number in accord with the following key:



- NOTE -  
 All numbered trees are  
 1000 planted.
- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>No. Key to Trees</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. White Pine</li> <li>2. Norway Spruce</li> <li>3. American Beech</li> <li>4. American Elm</li> <li>5. Sugar Maple</li> <li>6. Red Oak</li> <li>7. Tulip Tree</li> <li>8. Horse-Chestnut</li> <li>9. Bald Cypress</li> <li>10. European Larch</li> </ol> | <p><b>No. Key to Trees</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>11. Hemlock</li> <li>12. White Oak</li> <li>13. Pin Oak</li> <li>14. Hawthorn</li> <li>15. Holly</li> <li>16. Russian Mulberry</li> <li>17. Birch</li> <li>18. Willow Oak</li> <li>19. Norway Maple</li> <li>20. Cedar</li> </ol> | <p><b>No. Key to Trees</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>21. Wild Cherry</li> <li>22. Lombardy Poplar</li> <li>23. Linden</li> <li>24. Willow</li> <li>25. Black Gum</li> <li>26. Silver Fir</li> <li>27. Colorado Blue Spruce</li> <li>28. Yellow-wood</li> <li>29. Japanese Varnish Tree</li> <li>30. American Aspen</li> </ol> |
|---|---|--|

**PLAN OF GROUNDS AND PLANTING**  
 Residence of Miss Ella H. Henderson, Meredith's Cove, Md.  
 Glenn Brown and Bedford Brown, Architects

## SOME OF THE CONDITIONS OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

BY WALTER COOK\*

President American Institute of Architects

THE Institute of Arts and Letters, which might perhaps be more properly called the Institute of Arts including that of Letters, is composed, it is true, of various kinds of artists; but all its members are supposed to be artists, in the broad and true sense of the word. Whether a man is working as a poet or a novelist or a historian, as a painter, a musician, a sculptor or an architect, his claim to be a member of this body rests upon the fact that he has been adjudged to be an artist. But the conditions under which we exercise our various arts differ very widely. The writer sits down and composes his poem or his essay or his novel pretty much as he pleases and sees fit, and prays heaven for an enlightened publisher and an appreciative public; and the same is true, in a way, of the musician. The painter and sculptor have set before them problems of which at least the initial statement is of great simplicity; they are asked in each case to produce a beautiful object; and, if they succeed in doing so, their mission is fulfilled. But with us architects, while we too strive toward the same goal, the conditions are in many ways so different that it seems interesting to consider some of them today.

It is hardly worth while, however, to dwell in any detail on what we may call the material difficulties of our art, the ever-present necessity of uniting the *utile* and the *dulce*. Everyone knows that we are called upon to produce something which shall, in the highest degree, fulfil many and complicated material requirements, and at the same time satisfy the highest esthetic ones. Perhaps this may not be an unmitigated misfortune, and that it is only another example of Theophile Gautier's oft-quoted sentiment:

“Oui, l'oeuvre sort plus belle  
D'une forme au travail  
Rebelle,  
Vers, marbre, onyx, email.”

Certain it is that some of the materials we have to contend with—some of our clients for example—are at least as hard as marble or onyx,

\*Read before the Institute of Arts and Letters

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and as complicated as the most elaborate verse that has been evolved since the prosody of the Greek chorus.

But even if the poet's verse be accepted as a literal truth, we may be pardoned for hoping devoutly that nobody will ever make any further inventions destined to make the lot of man in general happier, and that of the architect more miserable. For each of these is one more stumbling-block in the path that leads to beauty.

Of course, every architect begins his study with the plan of his building. Now, it is difficult to explain to the man on the street exactly what an architect means when he talks of a beautiful plan; for to him the plan seems nothing more than a diagram, which shows how certain requirements are to be met and how certain conveniences are to be obtained. But this is not the architect's conception of it, or only very partially so; for in it he sees at every point the possibility of beautiful effects and artistic compositions, and, knowing and realizing these, his plan becomes in itself a thing of beauty, which only the specially trained eye can recognize and appreciate. So that in this part of his artistic work he is speaking a language which is quite unintelligible to the world at large, and can be entirely understood only by a chosen few. How many of you who are here today, and to whom the beauty of the great buildings of the world is a familiar word, have even heard of the wonderful plan of the Baths of Caracalla in antiquity—a plan which has been said to contain all the elements of all the plans made before or since—or in modern times that of the Opera House in Paris? For the architect, there is no part of any important plan where he is not continually asking himself: "How will this look when the walls are built upon its lines; and how can this or that motive be treated, inside and outside?" And these possibilities he learns to recognize instinctively from the aspect of the plan—call it diagram if you will—which becomes to him as distinctively beautiful, or unbeautiful, in itself, as if it were a picture of the Virgin, a statue of Apollo, or an ode of Keats.

And then, when he comes to the study of his exterior, already more or less distinct in his mind before a line has been drawn, he remembers rapturously that "Beauty is truth; truth, beauty." And then, in the twinkling of an eye, he is assailed by doubt, and begins to question the poet's words, except in the broadest sense. For in architecture, as in life in general, there are a large number of unpleasant truths; and, if



## SOME OF THE CONDITIONS OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

we are to be compelled to proclaim them from the housetops, we shall have to revise all our preconceived notions of beauty. If, for instance, we are compelled by truth in regard to the water-pressure of our cities to place a large tank upon the roof of a building, we cannot be blamed if we use all the means in our power to conceal the fact; or, if we are unable to do so, to erect such a monumental tower to contain it that no one suspects the painful reality. Now, we can only carry this principle to a certain point. We try to suggest in the exterior of our building whatever we think significant or interesting in the interior. But there may easily be an excess of outspokenness in our architecture, as we often find to be the case with our friends. Even sincerity may become a vice; and one has only to look at some examples of the present worship of the so-called practical and utilitarian, to be convinced of it. After all, if we are really architects, we are like the other artists in that we strive to create the beautiful, and to tell all pleasant truths in our work. Architecture should, at its best, be in all ways an expressive art; and that is sometimes the hardest part of it. If we are building a house for someone, we ought, paradoxical though it may seem, to try to express in some way or other the tastes and the personality of our client. After all, a house is really a kind of frame for the picture made up of the people that live in it; and all the painters will agree that the most beautiful frame is not suited to every picture. Really, we ought to study our man quite as carefully as the physician does his patient, the father-confessor his penitent, or as the portrait painter, who seeks to read the character of the face he is depicting. It is a matter of almost secondary importance to know whether he prefers brick or stone, Tudor rooms or those of Louis XIV; these points we can easily inform ourselves about. The burning questions are whether he is a devotee of Beethoven or of De Bussy, whether he reads Shakespeare or Alexandre Dumas, and what his convictions are on the question of the trusts. If we could really get an insight into real character, we might perhaps be able to build a house which should reflect not only the individuality of the architect, but that of the people who are to live in it.

And, of course, this imperative desire for a particular expression apart from our own, a particular appropriateness, we feel as much in our other work as in the dwelling-house; and the problem is perhaps even more difficult. For here we are seeking for some ideal to express,

—whether the case be that of a church or a museum, a courthouse, or a bank; and it is not always easy to formulate the ideal in our own minds. Some time ago a certain foreigner, who was here on a visit, criticized with some severity what he saw in New York, and particularly the new Pennsylvania Station, taking the ground that, as a Railway Station was a place of much hurry and bustle, its architectural expression should above all be that of unrest—*quot homines, tot sententiæ*. Every important building which has been erected for a specific purpose tends, if it is an artistic success, to establish a type for those which succeed it. And it is only once in a while that some new and original wonder appears, the old monarch is dethroned, and a new régime begins. And, as the ideals are so varied and the individualities so different, we are forced to speak or to try to speak various languages. We must, if a literary parallel may be used, turn from a Sapphic Ode to a History of Banking in the Nineteenth Century, from Pelleas and Melisande to a life of Gladstone.

The art of any period, we are told, always reflects the life of the period itself, and always should do so. How far this is a universal truth may perhaps be questioned. Oscar Wilde, in his most amusing effusion, called "The Decay of Lying," in which there is contained a good deal of truth as well as of amusement, causes his essayist to say "Life imitates Art far more than Art imitates Life. We have all seen, in our own day, in England, how a certain curious and fascinating type of beauty, invented and emphasized by two imaginative painters, has so influenced Life, that, whenever one goes to a private view or an artistic salon, one sees, here the mystic eyes of Rossetti's dream, the long, ivory throat, the strange square-cut jaw, the loosened shadowy hair that he so ardently loved; there the sweet maidenhood of 'The Golden Stair,' the blossom-like mouth and weary loveliness of the 'Laus Amoris,' the passion-pale face of Andromeda, the thin hands and lithe beauty of the 'Vivien' in 'Merlin's Dream.' And it has always been so. A great artist invents a type, and Life tries to copy it, to reproduce it in a popular form, like an enterprising publisher. Neither Holbein nor Van Dyck found in England what they have given us. They brought their types with them, and Life, with her keen imitative faculty, set herself to supply the master with models."

Whatever we may think, in our more analytical moments, of this

## SOME OF THE CONDITIONS OF ARCHITECTURAL DESIGN

theory, it is certainly an inspiring idea that the artists are not merely picturing the life of our epoch, but are actually, in a measure, creating it; and, if we could only be convinced of its truth, a particularly inspiring one to the architect. For his creations, his pictures, are not shut up in galleries where only the art lovers, those who are least in need of esthetic teaching, go to see them; but are set forth in full view of every passer-by in the street, who has to look at them whether he will or not; and is, let us hope so at least, more or less affected by them for good or evil. But, unfortunately for us, Mr. Wilde in a later page modifies his dictum, and says: "The more abstract, the more ideal an art is, the more it reveals to us the temper of its age. If we wish to understand a nation by means of its art, let us look at its architecture or its music." So, it appears that we must, after all, be content to interpret, to reflect as it were, one age and one country, in company with the musicians; that we cannot help doing so, in the first place; and that, if we try to do otherwise, we are working in defiance of natural laws, and that our efforts are predestined to failure.

"Whoever demands of an architect a style not in keeping with the spirit of his time," said Mr. Hastings, in his paper read before you last year, "is responsible for retarding the normal progress of the art. We must have a language if we would talk. If there be no common language for a people, there can be no communication of ideas either architectural or literary. I believe that we shall one day rejoice in the dawn of a modern Renaissance; and, as has always been the case, we shall be guided by the fundamental principles of the Classic."

This is the particular reflection which one of our distinguished men sees in the mirror which he holds up to nature. But there are a good many different kinds of mirrors, and the reflections seen in them differ accordingly. I have in mind another one of my professional brethren, who holds that the Renaissance—that which began in the fifteenth century—was in no sense a natural development, but should properly be thought of as a hideous calamity, a sort of universal earthquake which shook the mind of the world and left it in ruins; that only in the present age are we beginning to recover from this dreadful day of wrath, and that we must do our utmost to forget and ignore it, to treat it as a hideous nightmare. We should, he says, imagine what the world would have done if it had proceeded on its way peacefully and nor-

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mally; for, Heaven be praised, we are finally awakening to the truth; and an art which takes up the old story, the only true story, not archeologically, but with the earnest endeavor to continue and to develop according to our present conditions the great ideas of the past, shattered though they were by insane delusions, is really reflecting, in the truest sense, the best life of our time.

And there are yet others among us who declare that, when they hold up their mirrors, they see nothing which reminds them in any way of the past; and that, if we really had any grandfathers, the best thing we can do is to forget all about them. This is an age of originality, they say, and only of originality, and so they evolve an architecture which we look upon with unmixed wonder, uncertain in our minds as to whether it pictures the civilization of the twenty-fifth century before Christ or the twenty-fifth after.

Now, if we look at other phases of life as we see it today, do we not see various states of mind corresponding in a measure with these divergent ideas of the architects? In literature, the realistic novel, the one written for that important individual, the "tired business man," and the psychological romance glare at each other defiantly; the French successors of the English Pre-Raphaelites, Maeterlinck and Stephane Mallarme, sound quite another note from Mr. H. G. Wells, let us say. In religion, one can never be certain whether one is talking to a Staunch Churchman or to an Esoteric Buddhist. And in the field of politics, even if we assume that we are all Socialists, we have to begin as Pontius Pilate did, and ask "What is Socialism," with small chance of agreeing upon an answer.

So it may well be that a certain, let us call it, incoherence in the architecture of today, when viewed as a whole, is in reality the most genuine expression of our life and our time. No one of us can be condemned as false to the truth of his art, because his expression of it is quite different to that of his neighbor.

The individuality of the designer, if he be fortunate enough to possess any, he cannot well get away from, even if he try to do so; and this individuality leads him to a preference for certain forms, for a certain style. But, as has already been said, the architect must speak various languages; one of them will always remain his mother-tongue, and the others will be spoken with some little accent, some reminiscence of the

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land native to his particular expression. *Tamen usque recurret*. And it sometimes happens that the adoption, even unwillingly, of a style which the conditions impose on him, influenced as it is by his personal predilections, results in something which possesses a special charm of its own, and may even be the beginning of something new. Just as the French architects of the sixteenth century, starting with the, to them, novel ideas of the Italians, and being still saturated with their own medieval style, evolved one of the most charming and picturesque mixtures that we know—a style of its own, one possessing a true originality, as all of us who have seen the castles of Touraine will acknowledge.

I have kept for the end of this perhaps rather desultory paper that condition of architectural design which differs most from those of the other arts, and which would seem to show that, of all the artists, imagination is most necessary to the architect. Alone among all, the architect never sees what he has created until it is too late to change it. We make our drawings, we study everything about them from every point of view we can think of. We wonder, we question, we criticize, we change; we have models made of certain details, of certain motives, even sometimes of the whole exterior of our building. Unfortunately we are unable to make a real man of the same relative size, who from his Lilliputian point of view can give us a true artistic appreciation. But the thing itself, the real thing we create, remains the creature of our imagination, and we never see it as we have conceived it until the fatal words have been spoken—"No change is possible." We never see for the first time what we have made without a certain feeling of surprise; of elation when our expectations are realized, of sadness when we note how this motive is too important or that too little so; how the attic is too heavy, or the whole composition looks forced.

Now consider, one by one, the conditions existing in the other arts.

When a book is written, the author continually rewrites and improves and corrects. He labors over certain parts of it again and again until he is satisfied. And when the book is finished he lays it aside and comes back to it, fresh almost as another person, and perhaps recomposes parts of it entirely. And it is not without having seen and considered it as a whole, without having studied each part and its relation to the other parts, that he finally sends it forth to the world.

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The painter proceeds in the same way; he finishes, as he supposes, his picture, and then wipes out and repaints sometimes a part, sometimes the whole. And, when what seems to be the final result is reached, he still returns and adds an effect here, an accent there, even though it be on varnishing day. The sculptor is equally fortunate; he too sees and criticizes; he too changes and modifies at will. And the musician is the most fortunate of all. He composes his symphony or his opera, hears all the rehearsals, and has abundant opportunities to judge of his own work as if he were an outsider. And then a year or two later he writes entirely anew a movement or an act which dissatisfies him, or composes a new overture to his opera.

“Ah! You who are without pity for the mistakes of the architect, have you ever thought of this,” says M. Garnier in his book on the Paris Opera House—a book in which he frankly points out and discusses his own mistakes and his own successes—“that, alone perhaps among the artists and the producers, they have to succeed the very first time? Everything in this world is done only through tryings-on; your boots and your clothes are tried on before they are sent home to you; the cook tastes his sauces before he serves them at your table; only the architects have to work without feeling their way, and, without any hesitations, they must hit the bull’s-eye with their first shot! For my part, I have shot sometimes wide of the mark! Never mind! In spite of it, I look back on my records as a marksman, and do not blush too deeply on account of my misses!”

Happy those of us who can say as much!

Why is it then, may be asked, that we all glory in our special art, when so many of its conditions seem fraught with difficulties? Why did Brunelleschi, beginning as a sculptor and winning no small renown in his work, forsake it and devote his whole life to the Cathedral of Florence? We, who are in the midst of the fray, can easily answer this in the light of our own experience. The joy of victory is in proportion to the perils of the combat. We have not only the exultation which every artist has in making something that is all his own; but, whenever we achieve any measure of success, we remember the stones that beset our path, and rejoice that, in spite of all, we too have set up something in the light of day, to be seen of all men, which may perhaps add something to the beauty of the world.

INSTITUTE BUSINESS  
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE  
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

The Octagon, Washington, D. C., December 9, 1912

The meeting was called to order at 10 A.M. Present: Messrs. Walter Cook, Glenn Brown, R. C. Sturgis, F. C. Baldwin, T. R. Kimball, J. G. Howard, E. A. Crane, M. B. Medary, Jr., I. K. Pond, J. M. Donaldson, and R. A. Cram.

Minutes of the Board held in New York, June 5, of the Executive Committee, August 1, and October 10, were read and approved. The Secretary then read the correspondence to be submitted to the Board.

A letter from the Louisiana Chapter was read, requesting a definite rule as to what constitutes advertising. It was moved and seconded, and unanimously carried, that the Secretary be directed to reply, stating that the Board of Directors representing the Institute disapproves of advertising by architects; that it is, however, entirely impossible for them to give a formal definition in all cases as to what is advertising and what is not; but that the circumstances of each particular case may fairly be considered, and if the local chapter, which is in position to appreciate these circumstances, charges that this is really an advertising by the architect, that the attention of the offending member be called to it, and such measures taken as they see fit.

A letter was read from Mr. John Hall Rankin, calling attention to the statement of the Committee on Appropriations in the House that the Institute required its members to charge the United States one per cent more than is required of an individual; that this statement had not been officially challenged, and requesting the Board to pass resolutions on the subject for action at the Convention. The Board referred this matter to the Committee on Resolutions.

A letter was read from Sir Aston Webb, regretting his inability to attend the dinner, and expressing his good wishes to the Institute.

The Secretary reported that the Joint Committee of the Library of Congress wanted to know if the matter of the tablet on the Octagon would be acted upon by the Board. Moved, seconded and carried, that the Secretary be instructed to advise the Joint Committee of the Library of Congress that we shall be very glad to have the tablet, the design and location of the same to be subject to the approval of the Board of Directors of the Institute.

Invitations were then read from many cities for the next Convention, and referred to the January meeting of the Board.

A letter was read from Mr. George W. Rapp, stating that he had accepted the position of Commissioner of Buildings of Cincinnati, and that he thought he was entitled to remission of dues. Moved, seconded and carried, that the dues of Mr. Rapp be remitted during the time that he occupies the position of Commissioner of Buildings of Cincinnati.

The rule formulated some years ago in reference to the nominations of officers was read by the Secretary; and, as no nominations had been made this year by the chapters, it was moved, seconded and carried, that the Chair appoint a committee of three, of which none shall be a member of the Board of Directors, to present nominations to the Institute for officers and directors for the ensuing year.

The President then brought up the request on the part of the St. Louis Chapter for the advancement to Fellowship of Mr. Klipstein. It was moved, seconded and unanimously carried, that the Secretary be directed to write the St. Louis Chapter that this nomination had been

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received at so late a date that it was found that careful action on its part was impossible; that it would be considered in the ensuing year.

The President then asked for suggestions, and announced the various Convention committees which he had tentatively selected.

### SECOND SESSION

The Board met at 2 o'clock.

Mr. Frank Miles Day, Chairman of the Committee on Competitions, by invitation, was present at this meeting. He submitted galley proofs of the proposed revision of the code, which was thoroughly gone over in detail, and such changes and additions and abbreviations as were agreed to were noted by Mr. Day on his copy of the document. Moved, seconded and carried, that the proposed revision be adopted as amended. Mr. Day stated that his Committee had been instructed to include in its report a description of the Franklin Engraving Company and the Portland Auditorium Competitions, and to give the lessons to be learned therefrom, and asked that that part of the report be carefully scrutinized, to make sure that it represented the absolute views of the Board. The correspondence bearing on the Portland Auditorium was then read.

It was resolved that the Secretary offer the following resolution: Be it resolved that the minutes of the meeting of the Executive Committee of August 1 be amended by the statement that the report of the Committee on Practice in regard to the competition for the Portland Auditorium was accepted. This was unanimously adopted. The Secretary was directed to send the following night letter: "Report of Committee on Practice declaring that no *prima facie* case of misconduct exists against any member of the jury in the competition was accepted by the Board of Directors, and no charge has been made against Mr. Freedlander."

Mr. Day then read his portion of the report regarding the Franklin Engraving Company's Competition, which was approved.

Mr. Cram called the Board's attention to a book by Mr. Henry Adams, entitled "Mont St. Michel and Chartres." Moved, seconded and carried, that the Board of Directors appoint a special committee to take the matter up with Mr. Adams, to see if he will agree that this book may be published at the request of the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Architects. Carried unanimously. Moved, seconded and carried, that Mr. Adams be named for Honorary Membership by the Board of Directors, and that Mr. Cram be requested to present that nomination in the name of the Board.

### THIRD SESSION

The Board met at 8 o'clock.

The matter of membership was taken up. The election of Mr. Wilfred D. Holtzman, Jr., Little Rock, Ark., was confirmed.

Moved, seconded and unanimously carried, that the applications of Mr. Opel and Mr. Torbitt be accepted.

Letter was read from Mr. James C. Teague, Calgary, Alberta, applying for membership, and stating that, while he resided and practised in Canada, he was and always expected to be an American citizen. The Secretary said that the Board of Examiners was at a loss how to interpret the by-law which read "any resident of the United States who is a practising architect." Moved by Mr. Sturgis and duly seconded and carried, that the particular paragraph of the By-Laws, Article 1, Sec. 1, be interpreted by the Board of Directors as meaning "citizenship,"



## INSTITUTE BUSINESS

and that the Board recommends to the Convention the revision of that paragraph and substitution of the word "citizen" for the word "resident" for purposes of clearness. Carried unanimously.

Communication from Mr. J. Pickering Putnam was read, applying for reinstatement in the Institute. Moved, seconded and carried, that he be reinstated.

Quite a number of names of applicants who were not ready for the meeting of the Board were deferred to the meeting of January.

A list of delinquents in dues was read. Moved, seconded and carried, that the Secretary shall prepare an amendment to the By-Laws, to be presented to the Board of Directors at their next meeting, providing for the automatic dropping of delinquent members after a certain length of time. Unanimously carried.

Moved, seconded and carried, that each member to whom the Secretary may decide that such a letter shall be sent shall be notified that his name will be dropped unless he makes application for a hearing before the first of January, 1913.

Mr. Pond read his report of the Committee on Chapter Relations. Moved, seconded and carried, that the action of the Board be so far rescinded that it shall now read that the territory of the Worcester Chapter shall be confined to Worcester County.

Moved, seconded and carried, that the Board study and formulate an amendment to the By-Laws relating to chapter membership to be presented at the next convention. Unanimously carried.

Moved, seconded and carried, that the Committee writing the Board's report be directed to add a paragraph stating their belief that the territory of the Chapter at large shall be extended so as to include all territory beyond a fixed distance from any organized Chapter.

Mr. Crane, Mr. Pond and Mr. Medary were appointed to write this paragraph for insertion in the Board's report.

The reports of the Committee on Government Architecture and Public Information were submitted and accepted.

Report of the Committee on Allied Arts was read and adopted.

Report of the Committee on Contracts and Specifications was considered.

Report of the Committee on Schedule of Charges was accepted.

Reports of the Committee on Membership, Electrical and Fire Protection, and the Greek Cruise, were read and adopted.

Mr. Pond read the paragraph regarding Chapter membership prepared by himself and Mr. Medary, which was accepted and incorporated in the Board report.

Mr. Medary brought up the matter of the Institute Seal.

The President said that three different designs had been submitted by different members of the Committee on Seal, and the designs which were in the room were examined.

Moved, seconded and carried, that all matters referring to publicity in regard to this Convention be referred to Mr. D. Knickerbacker Boyd, with power.

Advice was asked in regard to the subscription price of the Journal. The matter was discussed. Moved, seconded and carried, that the Journal be sent to each member of the Institute free of charge.

Moved, seconded and carried, that the Journal be sent to members of the Chapters, not members of the Institute, at one-half of the price named thereon.

The Board then adjourned.

## CHAPTER NOTES

### CENTRAL NEW YORK CHAPTER

The Annual Meeting was held in Utica on November 9.

After the reading of minutes and reports, Professor Martin spoke with reference to the work of the Committee on Public Information concerning the Tarsney Act, stating that the sub-committee had sent letters to all architects in its jurisdiction, also to Senators Root, O'Gorman, and others.

It was resolved that the Chapter become a chapter of the American Federation of Arts, and that its President be chosen as a delegate to the next Convention of the Federation. The matter of the National Conference on City Planning, and a communication from Michigan Chapter in regard to the standardization of catalogues, were referred to the Executive Committee, with power.

The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: President, A. L. Brockway; Vice-President, S. E. Hilger; Secretary, F. W. Revels; Treasurer, W. H. Whitlock; Member of Executive Committee, Otto Block.

Professor C. A. Martin, A. L. Brockway, and J. Foster Warner were elected delegates to the Convention of the Institute, with authority to select their alternates.

After a discussion of the advisability of holding several meetings during the year, the meeting adjourned.

### WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER

The first regular meeting after the summer recess was held on October 2.

Before the introduction of regular business, the Chapter was addressed by Mr. L. D. Lewis, President of the Seattle Civic Center Association, who gave in detail the history of his organization, which had been instrumental in procuring a definite Civic Center plan, largely through the coöperation of the members of this Chapter. Mr. Lewis expressed his belief that the voters of Seattle would support the movement.

The Chapter instructed the Legislative Committee to prepare and publish a report, taking cognizance of the fact that the City Council had permitted the construction of an addition to the City Hall in violation of the building ordinances. A report by the Committee on Practice recommending a special minimum rate for residential work was made a special order of business for consideration at the next meeting.

The Annual Meeting of the Chapter was held in Seattle, November 6. Mr. E. F. Lawrence, President of the Architectural League of the Pacific Coast, was the guest of the Chapter.

Following the reports of officers, committee reports showed that during the past year the Chapter had been working upon a revision of the Seattle Building Ordinances, and had urged a consideration of the desirability of a State License Law for architects; that the efforts of the Chapter had resulted in the selection of an architect for the State Capitol in accordance with Institute requirements; and that efforts to secure the services of an architect by competition in price for a specific public building had been defeated.

Mr. Lawrence addressed the Chapter, and explained the status and problems of the League of the Pacific Coast. He suggested that the League might investigate and report upon the progress of the City Plan movement in different cities, and he asked the coöperation of this Chapter.

## CHAPTER NOTES

The Chapter elected the following officers: President, W. R. B. Wilcox; Vice-Presidents, James Stephen, George F. Gove and Albert Held; Secretary, Charles H. Alden; Treasurer, Harlan Thomas; Member of the Council for three years, D. R. Huntington.

W. J. Sayward, W. M. Somervell, and John Graham were chosen as delegates to the Institute Convention.

### PITTSBURGH CHAPTER

Extracts from the Chapter reports show the following activities during the year 1912:

One meeting was devoted to a discussion of how the Chapter could best coöperate with architectural schools in the interest of the education of draftsmen; one meeting was devoted in part to the subject of the licensing of Architects; one to attending a meeting of the Engineers' Society of Western Pennsylvania, at which the Chapter took part in the discussion following a paper on "Failures of Reinforced Concrete Structures," by Edward Godfrey, C. E.; and two meetings were devoted to visiting buildings recently completed in Pittsburgh. There were other meetings of a general nature, principally devoted to the regular routine work of the Chapter.

The following papers were read: "The Desirability of Having all Contracts Sublet by the Architect," by T. E. Bilquist; "Licensing of Architects," by Richard Hooker; also a paper contributed by Edward Stotz to the discussion following Mr. Godfrey's paper read before the Engineering Society.

### INDIANA CHAPTER

The Annual Meeting was held at Indianapolis, November 9, 1912.

The Chapter took action looking to a closer relation with other Chapters and Institute Committees through the medium of circular bulletins. Committees were appointed on Housing Law, License Law and General Legislation. A Committee on Public Information was also appointed. The Committee on 1912 Catalogue and Exhibit submitted a report, but no action was taken regarding future exhibitions. A Committee on Public Information was appointed, with authority to subscribe to a press clipping bureau, and instructions to become immediately active. Messrs. Adelsperger and Foltz were elected delegates to the Institute Convention, and instructed to use their endeavors to have the Convention of 1913 held in Indianapolis.

The following officers for the ensuing year were elected: President, Rolland Adelsperger; first Vice-President, M. S. Mahurin; second Vice-President, Ernest W. Young; Secretary-Treasurer, Herbert Foltz; Member of Executive Committee, E. O. Hunter.

### BALTIMORE CHAPTER

A summary for the year 1912 shows that the Chapter was engaged in the following activities:

A resolution endorsing the Lincoln Memorial, as recommended by the Park Commission, was sent to the Senators and Representatives in Congress from Maryland, and letters on the subject were also sent to other members and to the Baltimore newspapers.

Members of the Chapter coöperated with their clients in decorating the buildings of the city in preparation for the National Democratic Convention.

By resolution, all members of the Chapter, whether Institute members or not, were bound to the observance of the Institute's rules and regulations in the matters of Competitions, Schedule of Charges, etc., and in all matters of Professional Ethics.

Standing Committees on Education and Public Information were appointed.

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## SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA CHAPTER

The Fifty-fifth Meeting of the Chapter was held November 12, 1912. Thirty members were present.

A committee was appointed to confer with a committee from the Master Builders' Association upon the subject of the system of opening estimates in architects' offices.

A report by the Committee on Legislation suggested certain amendments to the State "Burnett Tenement House Act." Following discussion, a resolution expressed the sense of the meeting with reference to certain recommendations.

The repeal of the State Law of 1872 was discussed, and the Chapter adopted two resolutions; one that a substitute for the law should be framed on the lines of the "Tarsney Act," and the other that the substitute should be based upon suggestions which had been submitted by Mr. W. J. Morrison.

Mr. J. J. Backus was appointed a delegate to confer with the Legislative Committee of the San Francisco Chapter.

Messrs. John G. Austin, A. F. Rosenheim, A. C. Martin, S. T. Morton, and Robert H. Carr were elected delegates to the Institute Convention.

The Sub-committee on Public Information was authorized to subscribe to a press clipping bureau.

The Chapter adopted a resolution of condolence on the death of J. Lee Burton, a life member.

## IOWA CHAPTER

The Chapter held its tenth annual meeting at Keokuk, on November 8 and 9, 1912.

Among those who delivered addresses were Mr. I. K. Pond, former president of the Institute, Professor C. A. Cumming, and Messrs. Ray F. Weirick and Newton R. Parvin. The relations between building, architecture, and landscape design and the artistic and esthetic side of the architectural profession were discussed.

Four active and two honorary members were elected.

The Chapter devoted considerable time to the discussion, and finally adopted a set of By-Laws.

The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: President, Frank E. Wetheral; Vice-President, William Steele; Secretary-Treasurer, Eugene H. Taylor. Messrs. Eugene H. Taylor, Fred J. Heer and Parke T. Burrows were elected delegates to the Institute Convention.

## ILLINOIS CHAPTER

A regular meeting was held in Chicago on November 12, 1912, at which thirty-four members were present.

Reports and communications were received and considered. A copy of the report of the Committee on State Building Law was ordered sent to the Commission appointed by the Governor to Revise and Codify the State Building Laws.

Mr. Henry Hornbostel, of New York, gave a most interesting talk, illustrated with numerous lantern-slides, upon "Personal Impressions of Aztec Architecture of Mexico and Yucatan."

The Chapter passed a resolution of appreciation of the services of Mr. Peter B. Wight, as a member of the Illinois State Board of Examiners of Architects, and urging his reappointment to the office.

## CHAPTER NOTES

The following delegates to the Institute Convention were chosen: A. B. Pond, George Beaumont, Richard E. Schmidt, P. J. Weber, and A. G. Brown; alternates, Webster Tomlinson, Charles D. Waterbury, Horace S. Powers, John L. Hamilton, George C. Nimmons, William K. Fellows, and F. W. Worst.

### REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE NEW YORK CHAPTER, A.I.A., TO CONFER WITH THE BOARD OF FIRE UNDERWRITERS

December 11, 1912.

In the last annual report of your Committee mention was made of several matters which the Committee hoped to accomplish; one of these was that the New York Board of Fire Underwriters, in their inspection reports, which are sent to the various insurance companies, should mention the name of the architect of the building, and whether the same was supervised by him.

The Committee is pleased to report that about ten months ago the underwriters adopted this suggestion, and all surveys and reports sent out by the Board since then contain the name of the architect, and whether the building was supervised by him.

During the course of the year, the Committee thought it advisable that all members of the Chapter should receive reports of important fires; that is, where the reports contain any information that would be valuable to our profession.

It was arranged to send out, by way of experiment, certain of these reports. Up to the present time, the following reports have been sent out to all members of the Chapter: 1.—Equitable Life Insurance. 2.—623-627 Broadway. 3.—Triangle Waist Factory. 4.—25 Park Row.

There were also sent out with these reports the underwriters' suggestions, contained in drawing, showing their idea of what a fire-escape tower should be; in addition to which there was also included a pamphlet which is a reprint of an article appearing in "Insurance Engineering," in relation to the coöperation of architects and the underwriters.

This article, coming to the attention of some of the members of the Brooklyn Chapter, induced them to appoint a committee similar to your Committee, who are now coöperating with the underwriters, the same as we are.

The pamphlet, to be issued by the underwriters under the auspices of the Chapter, mentioned in the last annual report of your Committee, which is to deal with fireproofing and fire prevention in connection with fire insurance, is now well under way, and will be ready for publication at an early date.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) JULIUS FRANKE.

### MICHIGAN CHAPTER

The regular monthly meeting was held on November 12, 1912. The Committee on Legislation reported that it had been collaborating with the Detroit Building Commission in the preparation of certain amendments to the Building Code.

The Catalogue Committee reported in detail, showing great activity in the efforts to procure an adoption by manufacturers of building materials of a standard size for their catalogues.

The Chapter considered the subject of Licensing of Architects by the State, and passed a resolution of appreciation of the interest of United States Senator Francis G. Newlands in behalf of American Art.

Messrs. Smith, Kahn, Grylls, and Burrowes were appointed delegates to the Institute Convention.

## COMMUNICATIONS

As an indication of the favorable reception accorded the announcement of the Journal, and of the friendly spirit in which the Committee's request for coöperation between them and the publishers of popular and trade magazines was received, the following extracts from some of the replies are given.

They are from "The Young Idea," "Engineering News," "The World's Chronicle," "The Library Journal," "The World's Work," "Michigan Contractor and Builder," "The American City," "Pictorial Review."

### *The Young Idea.*

"In addition to our present Educational Magazine, we are planning to take over and consolidate two magazines in the field of Arts and Crafts work. From this as a basis, we hope to build up and improve an interesting publication which we feel sure will be of interest to you.

"The proposed name for the magazine is the 'Allied Arts,' and we shall be glad, also, to do what we can to inform the public at large of significant advances in the field of architectural work through this additional medium."

### *Engineering News.*

"The announcement of the intention of the American Institute of Architects to publish a Journal has been read with interest. We desire to assure you at this time that we shall be pleased to coöperate with your Journal in any way possible, and will give particular attention to the exchange of material in the way set forth in your letter and circular. We will see that you are informed of particular items in our paper which we think should be brought to your attention and are proper for discussion in your Journal. We should also like to use such material as appears in your Journal from time to time which would interest engineers. Full and complete credit is always given under such circumstances."

### *The World's Chronicle.*

"I have your esteemed favor regarding the use of some of your material in 'The World's Chronicle.' We are particularly interested in housing, both in homes and schools, and I judge can use some of this matter to good advantage."

### *The Library Journal.*

"In answer to your circular announcement, any material of interest to the library profession we shall be glad to receive. You are probably aware that our Journal reproduces library buildings and plans, with explanatory articles; and in 1912 practically each issue has included material on library architecture."

### *Michigan Contractor and Builder.*

"We have today received your circular letter of October 31. We have noted with interest the intention of the American Institute of Architects to give the public in general information pertaining not only to the architects and their profession, but also to the general betterment of the communities as well. We shall be glad to receive the Journal of the American Institute of Architects regularly.

"At the present time, there is quite a movement in this state for a license law for the archi-

## COMMUNICATIONS

fects. In case you can give us any information along this line, we shall be glad to have the same to use, in trying to show the public where such a law should be enacted, if it is for the protection of the general public."

### *The World's Work.*

"It is very kind of you to send us the marked copies of the 'Journal of the American Institute of Architects' and other matter, as indicated in your letter of the 13th. We shall be very glad to follow these subjects and, if occasion offers, to make use of them editorially in the columns of *The World's Work*."

### *The American City.*

"Please accept our thanks for your recent circular letter with announcement regarding your new monthly publication, and the assurance of your desire to coöperate with our publication. When we receive a copy of your new Journal, we shall make mention of it in our columns, and shall also be glad to have you place us on your mailing-list for any information of interest to municipal officials or civic workers which you may be sending out."

### *Pictorial Review.*

"Answering your letter announcing the new 'Journal of the American Institute of Architects' I shall be pleased to have you send it to us regularly, and we shall be very glad to coöperate with you along any possible lines. I feel that a good work can be done by a popular magazine in endeavoring to elevate the taste of the home-building public. If you send us the magazine, kindly address it to me personally."

### LETTER FROM THE MISSOURI STATE CAPITOL COMMISSION.

The Chairman of the Standing Committee on Competitions has received from the Chairman of the Missouri State Capitol Commissioners a letter reading as follows:

"We have finally concluded all arrangements in connection with architectural work upon the State Capitol. We have selected our architects and plan in strict accordance with the rules of the American Institute of Architects. We are fully satisfied with the results, and we wish to acknowledge the friendly assistance which you and your associates have rendered us in this matter.

"As a matter of history, as well as of justice to all concerned, we desire to have it known to the architects of the country that our advisory architect, Mr. L. Baylor Pendleton, has, from the beginning of his association with us, striven earnestly to have the competition held in strict accordance with the rules of your Institute. In fact, the first program issued conformed to the spirit of the rules of the Institute, but it was rejected by the Attorney-General, and the result was that we were compelled to issue a program which was not satisfactory either to us or to the Institute.

"In finally evolving a program that was acceptable to all concerned, and in which you so kindly aided us, Mr. Pendleton was in full sympathy with the rules of the Institute, and has maintained an unvarying loyalty to that organization up to the time of the final award.

"To him and to your Committee, more than to any others, we feel is due the fact that the problem has been so happily solved. We wish to give honor where honor is due.

"It is useless for us to say that the members of the State Capitol Commission Board are thorough converts to the methods and rules adopted by the American Institute of Architects for Architectural Competitions."

## NEWS ITEMS

(From the "Patriot," Harrisburg, Pa., December 2, 1912.)

### "AN ACHIEVEMENT AND AN EXAMPLE"

"The Building Committee of the Young Women's Christian Association deserves the highest commendation for the method it has pursued in the selection of an architect to make the plans and supervise the erection of the Association's new building, for which the money was raised last spring.

"In adopting the program for the selection of an architect and preparation of the plans for the building, prepared by Prof. Warren P. Laird, of the University of Pennsylvania, and approved by the Southern Pennsylvania Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, the Young Women's Christian Association Building Committee has assured a perfectly fair, free competition, in which favoritism is impossible, and has also guaranteed the selection of an architect of the first rank. This is a fine achievement, and an impressive example that might well be emulated in all cases in the erection of public and semi-public buildings. It should be especially taken to heart by the Harrisburg School Board."

### THE COMPETITION FOR THE INDIANA CENTENNIAL BUILDING

The singular project initiated by the State of Indiana for procuring plans for the erection of its Centennial Building upon a site not yet selected, and without expense to the state, has progressed so far that the Commission charged with its execution has made public its report. The report deals at length with the difficulty of finding a site, and also tells of the Commission's discovery of the American Institute of Architects and its nefarious practices.

*The Report of the Commission.*—The report says: "The surprising fact was disclosed that there exists in the United States a combination of practically all architects amounting to what is now commonly denominated a 'trust.' This combine calls itself the American Institute of Architects. Your Commission was notified that no plan could be submitted by any architect belonging to this combination unless the Commission first formulated a 'program' setting forth many details.

"In a good-faith attempt to meet this objection, the Commission procured a program to be drawn up by Bohlen & Sons, members of the American Institute of Architects. This being submitted to the authorities of the Institute was, after months of delay, rejected, not because of any defect in the program, but because Indiana had not yet by law appropriated the funds for the educational building, and for the further reason that this Commission could not guarantee that the architect, whose plan might be approved by you, would be paid his fee and receive the contract to act as supervising architect.

"In other words, this body of architects, having first put the Commission to the expense and trouble of getting up a program, then raised a question which, if it had been raised in the first place, would have rendered the program unnecessary. Your Commission was so anxious to obtain plans that it sought some way in which it could give a legal guarantee and satisfy these particular gentlemen, but no way could be found, although the Attorney-General was appealed to for an opinion. . . . Because of these rulings, members of the American Institute of Architects comprising, as already stated, substantially all the architects in the country,



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would not compete. The law required competition. Hence no plans could be procured to present to you, and your Commission so reports."

The Standing Committee on Competitions states that the following are

*The Facts in the Case.*—In May, 1912, the Commission submitted to the Institute a program for its competition, from which it appeared that the Commission acts under a law which states "It shall be the duty of the Commission to formulate plans for a celebration of the centennial of the admission of Indiana to the Union by the erection of a State Building, and its dedication in 1916, to be known as the Indiana Educational Building." "The Commission shall invite the competition of architects in the formulation of plans." It is the duty of the Commission to report to the General Assembly in 1913 recommending a site for the building, transmitting the plans submitted, recommending one of them, suggesting a cost for the building, and ways and means for its construction.

The Commission states in the program, "The law contains no appropriation to pay for plans, or designs, nor to reimburse the unsuccessful competitors, but the Centennial Commission assumes that the successful competitor shall be awarded a contract for the preparation of plans and specifications, and for the supervision of the construction of the building when erected under the conditions hereinafter specified."

As it was obvious from the above statement that the Commission had not been placed in a position to conduct a competition on an equitable and business-like basis, and that the further statement that "Said architects shall be employed to give full services upon the building, and they shall be paid in accordance with the rates named in the 'Professional Practice of Architects and Schedule of Minimum Charges of the American Institute of Architects'" was without warrant of law, the Institute deemed the announcement of the competition premature, and, in accordance with its well-settled policy, declined to approve the program. At the same time, the Commission was given the Institute's reasons for withholding its approval, and it was pointed out that as the Commission had been left without any appropriation, and without authority to enter into a contract with the winning architect, its proper course would be to seek funds and such authority from the Legislature.

After further consideration, a second program was submitted for the Institute's approval. It made provision for the first stage of a double competition, and it said there would be a second stage in strict accordance with the "Code of Ethics" (sic) of the Institute, but it did not even touch upon the real difficulties.

The Standing Committee on Competitions, being unable to give approval, an appeal was taken by the Commissioners to the Board of Directors of the Institute. The Board, convinced that the Commission was not in position to announce a competition, declined to give the program its approval.

*The Allegations of the Report Denied.*—On being shown the report of the Commission, the Chairman of the Standing Committee on Competitions made the following comment on that part of it which refers to the Institute:

First.—The statement that the Institute is "a combination of practically all architects," and that it comprises "substantially all the architects in the country," is without foundation in fact. The Institute has a membership of nine hundred and ninety practicing architects. The number of architects in the United States is generally stated at five thousand. The statement that "practically all architects" are within the Institute must be an amazing one to its members, who have rightly imagined their admission a recognition of their ability and honorable conduct.

Second.—The statement that the program, upon "being submitted to the Institute, was, after months of delay, rejected" is without foundation in fact. The Commission was so anxious

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to secure the Institute's approval that it twice submitted the program, and then took an appeal. A decision was given each time, with all speed consonant with a careful consideration of the program.

Third.—The statement that the program was rejected, not because of any defect in it, is without foundation in fact. It was an absolutely fundamental defect of the program that it contained no contract with competitors or the winner.

Fourth.—The statement that, having "put the Commission to the expense and trouble of getting up a program, the Institute then raised a question which, if it had been raised in the first place, would have rendered the program unnecessary," is without foundation in fact. The Institute states in its "Circular of Advice Relative to the Conduct of Competitions" that it does not approve a program unless "the program constitute a contract between the owner and the competitors, guaranteeing that an award of the commission to design and supervise the work will be made to one of the competitors." This pamphlet was in the hands of the Commission, and of its professional advisor. In addition to this, at the time approval was first refused, the Secretary of the Commission was informed in writing that such a contract was prerequisite to approval.

Fifth.—The statement that, because no member of the American Institute of Architects took part in the competition, no plans could be procured, is without foundation in fact, as is obvious from the great number of architects not members of the Institute.

Sixth.—The statement that the Institute is a "trust" is without foundation in fact, but the many years of honorable service that the Institute has dedicated to the public and to the arts render it quite unnecessary that it should enter into the discussion of such a matter.

The Commission's sudden discovery of the Institute, after its fifty-five years of activity and usefulness, must make its members exclaim, like the natives who saw Columbus land, "At last we are discovered."

*Newspaper Comment.*—It is not to be wondered at that the publication of the report of the Commission brought forth a sudden crop of editorials in the papers of Indianapolis, denouncing the Institute, and calling on the Legislature to employ, if such a person existed, an architect who was not a member of the "trust." Some of these editorials fell into the hands of the Standing Committee before the report itself was received, and were answered. To one in which the Institute was taken to task because it had "declined to allow any of its members to become the architect for the building, unless the Commission guaranteed the fees in advance, and adopted the Institute plan of competition," the Committee replied: "It is precisely because the Commissioners were not in a position legally to employ an architect that the Institute deemed the announcement premature. The real prize of a competition is employment to design the building, and supervise its construction, and it was beyond the power of the Commissioners to agree that this employment would be given to the architect who should win the competition.

"It is probable that the award made under such a program might later be confirmed by action of the Legislature, but there are so many instances where this has not been done that it has become the fixed policy of the Institute not to approve any program of competition that is not a definite agreement to employ the successful competitor. Time after time legislative bodies have enacted legislation looking to the erection of buildings, and have provided for obtaining designs by competition without giving authority for the employment of an architect as a result of such a contest. In many notable cases this procedure has come to no result beyond the mere holding of the competition. Frequently the ideas of the law-making body have changed, and the building has not been built. It has often occurred that when appropriations

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for construction have later been made, the architect who was successful in the competition has been ignored, and another chosen. The expense to architects in some of these abortive competitions has been enormous. To take but two examples: In the competition for the Municipal Hospital at Washington, D. C., after the government had purchased a splendid tract of land, competitors spent over fifty thousand dollars on their drawings, but as no appropriation for constructing the many buildings has ever been made, the winner's victory was as empty as it was expensive. Again, in the competitions for three great departmental buildings in Washington, sixty architects spent about \$150,000, yet as no appropriation has, or appears likely to be made, the profession has borne the entire loss.

"Many other such fiascos, large and small, could readily be cited. In view of them the Institute has determined that it will not encourage by its approval a form of competition that has so often led to such economic waste. The fact that members of the Institute no longer take part in such competitions is well known. The Act under which the Commissioners are working was drawn with no intention to exclude members of the Institute from participation in any competition held under it, yet it could not have been more effectively framed had that been its intent. The Institute, of course, accepts such a limitation in good part, for its rule of conduct is in no way to assume to dictate the owner's course in conducting his competition; but the facts being as they are, there surely ought to be no complaint that the Institute will not hasten to reverse its settled policy.

"The Institute is fully in sympathy with your efforts to plan broadly for the future of Indianapolis, and it sincerely trusts that your Centennial Building will not only be a noble monument, but that it will be so designed and planned as to enhance in a dignified and orderly way the effect of other buildings to which it may be related. It is because the Institute desires, in your case as in others, that the outcome of the competition may find a splendid expression in the building itself that it did not set its stamp of approval upon a form of competition unlikely to attract competent and self-respecting architects. The Institute stands ready to assist the State of Indiana, as it has recently assisted the State of Missouri, but it cannot do so by giving approval to a procedure that has repeatedly led to failure, and has been almost invariably a source of expense to the profession and of discouragement to all who wished to see the work carried into successful execution."

*An Informing Interview.*—The most immediate and effective answer to the unwarranted statements of the report of the Commission was that contained in an interview with Mr. Herbert W. Foltz, recently Chairman of the Indiana Sub-committee on Competitions, and now Chairman of the Indiana Committee on Public Information. Mr. Foltz stated the Institute's position with great clearness, the grounds of its opposition to competitions in general, the principles that should govern their conduct, the more frequent abuses connected with them, and the efforts of the Institute to abate such abuses. He pointed out the limitations imposed by the Act creating the Commission, and the fact that its duties were to present a report, and not at present to erect a building, since the Act provides "that when the plans shall have been approved by the General Assembly, and the necessary appropriation has been made, the Commission shall purchase the necessary grounds and construct the building in such a manner, and under such conditions, as may be prescribed by the General Assembly."

Mr. Foltz proceeds: "This means simply that the Commission was expected to obtain, from as many architects as possible, as much information and as many ideas as possible without cost, and without any assurance that the architect furnishing the best design, or the most helpful suggestions, would be employed; for, be it noted, the General Assembly was itself to be

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the final jury, and reserved to itself the power to decide in what manner, and under what conditions the building, if built at all, should be erected.

"In the medical profession, the patient does not call in a half-dozen physicians to diagnose his case, and employ him whose diagnosis best suits, nor does the client with a legal case obtain briefs from a number of lawyers in competition, and select the one who submits the brief best suited to his case. If either of these methods of selection is employed in special cases, the patient or client expects to pay, and does pay, a liberal fee to each of the specialists consulted.

"Why, therefore, should a distinction be made in the case of the architect who, like the physician or the lawyer, has only his professional skill to sell—a skill generally acquired through special training and varied experience?

"In the case of the proposed competition for the Indiana Centennial Building, the objection is not that no fees are provided for the unsuccessful competitors, but only that it is impossible, under the provisions of the law, to insure an intelligent selection of the best design submitted, nor is there any assurance that employment of the architect whose design might be selected would automatically follow. This is a purely business proposition, which should appeal, from the viewpoint of the architect, to every fair-minded business man."

The influence of Mr. Foltz's interview was such that the newspapers hastened to take a more informed and reasonable view of the matter, as is shown in the following editorial from the Indianapolis "Star:"

### THE CENTENNIAL BUILDING

"Either through malice, or through carelessness, somebody has been guilty of cruel and stupid injustice toward the American Institute of Architects in charging that an 'architect's trust,' in some way responsive or beholden to that organization, has prevented the state of Indiana from getting bids on the Centennial Building it is proposed to erect in time for celebration of the state's admission to the Union in 1816. Such a notion is at ludicrous variance with the facts.

"Only seven architects in the whole state of Indiana are members of the Institute; but no architect whatever submitted plans for the building; and the reason for this reluctance, far from being discreditable or dictated by a trust, only serves to show the helpless, idiotic sort of way in which the Centennial Commission, largely through the fault of the Legislature, has gone about its work.

"No architect is going to prepare expensive drawings, and devote his days and nights to laborious adventures in the utilitarian purposes and artistic possibilities of a centennial building, unless the terms of the competition are honorable and business-like. If the successful competitor is to get the award, and have the building, that is one thing. If the commission is empowered to throw the whole business overboard, and do something different, that is another thing.

"The remarkable response made by first-class architects all over the country in the case of two honestly managed competitive awards—the City Hospital and the Fletcher Trust Building—shows what the state can expect if it will invite drawings in a decent and business-like way. The Commission should be given this power by the Legislature, and the Commission itself should crave some increment of discernment which might restrain it, for example, from proposing to clap a costly and imposing structure of this sort down at one end of the State House yard."

As the Legislature has not yet considered the report of the Commission, the case may be said to be in progress. One thing, however, is evident, that by its firm stand the Institute has protected the profession from a grave waste of time and money, and has made clear the unreasonableness of the proposed procedure.

## BOOK REVIEWS

COLONIAL ARCHITECTURE, by FRANK COUSINS. Fifty Salem Doorways. Published by Doubleday, Page & Co., 1912.

Culture and wealth, more than a hundred years ago, established several notable architectural centers in this country. No one of these centers has greater interest or merit than the one to be found in Salem, Massachusetts, the residence of the cultured, business and studious New Englander, and the birthplace and home of such leaders in science as Bowditch, such writers as Prescott and Hawthorne, and such pioneers in art as Story and Rogers.

The result of this settlement in New England has an interest and distinction of its own, which makes it as valuable to the artist as the centers to be found on the James, the seat of the Cavalier; in Charleston, dominated by French instinct for beauty; or in the notable work of Germantown, where we find the quiet, good taste of the Quaker expressed.

While our early builders and architects made free use of good publications, they were not simply copyists. They showed their individuality in design, and their good taste in adaptation, and in each part of the country where these centers occur an expression of the people and their habits may be found in the architecture.

It is from a collection of 1,300 negatives of Salem work that Mr. Cousins, acting in conjunction with the advice of capable architects, has made a selection for the illustrations of this publication on Salem. These photographs cover houses, with their exterior and interior decorations, gardens, and garden furniture, streets with their planting, and old tombs with their excellent examples of lettering.

A careful study of the larger part of Mr. Cousins' valuable collection of photographs, shows that there could be no more valuable work on Colonial Architecture for an architect to have on his shelves, for daily use in his office.

GREEK REFINEMENTS. Studies in Temperamental Architecture, by WILLIAM HENRY GOODYEAR, M.A. The Yale University Press, London, England, 1912. 216 pages. 120 illustrations. Index of authorities and index on subject matter.

Mr. Goodyear discusses very thoroughly the observations by Hoffer, Pennethorne, and Penrose, on Greek Refinements; and he treats of the skeptical objections as to purposed Horizontal Curvature, Deficiencies in Early Modern Knowledge of Greek Temple Architecture, Discovery of Egyptian Horizontal Curves in 1891-1894.

Boutmy's Theory of the Greek Refinement as Designed for Perspective Illusion; The Absence of Curvature in the Western Gable Front of the Temple of Concord at Girgenti, Messa and Pergamus; Asymmetries of the Temple of Hera at Olympia; Asymmetries of Temple G at Selinus; then a comparison of these Symmetries with those from the Medieval Churches.

The Comparison of the Margin of Mason's error in Medieval Churches with the Margin of Mason's error in Greek Temples. He follows this with the account of the intercolumniation differentiation as between fronts and flanks, in Sicilian temples.

Then he treats of the various refinements in the Parthenon.

The work is thoroughly illustrated by both photographs and diagrams.

It thoroughly and accurately explains the various deviations from the straight line found in Greek Temples, which undoubtedly adds very much to the interest and beauty of the buildings.

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## PAMPHLETS RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER, 1912.

- Presented by the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Mines, Washington, D. C.  
Ignition of Gas by Standard Incandescent Lamps, by H. H. Clark, 1912  
Comparative Fuel Values of Gasolene and Denatured Alcohol in Internal-Combustion Engines, by R. M. Strong and Lauson Stone. 1912.  
An Investigation of Explosion-Proof Motors, by H. H. Clark. 1912.
- Presented by Mr. Elmer E. Garnsey, New York, N. Y. Catalogue of Paintings of Seventeenth Century, by Elmer E. Garnsey.
- Presented by The National Board of Fire Underwriters, Chicago, Ill. List of Electrical Fittings. October, 1912.
- Presented by George W. Rapp, Cincinnati, Ohio. Building Code of the City of Cincinnati, Ohio.
- Presented by the School House Department of the City of Boston, Boston, Mass. Annual Report, from February 1, 1911, to February 1, 1912.
- Presented by Mr. Virgil D. Allen, City Inspector of Buildings, Cleveland, Ohio. Report of Tests of Partitions by Fire and Water. 1912.
- Presented by the Art Association of Indianapolis, Indianapolis, Ind. Bulletin Vol. II, No. 4, December, 1912. Catalogue of Exhibition of Paintings by Edmund H. Wuerpel. December 2 to 16, 1912.

## SOCIETY PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED DURING DECEMBER, 1912.

- The Royal Institute of British Architects, London, England. Kalendar 1912-1913. Journal, Vol. XIX, No. 20, October 19, 1912.
- The Society of Architects, London, England. Journal, Vol. VI, No. 61, November, 1912.
- The Royal Society of Arts, London, England. Journal, Vol. LXI, No. 3128, November 1, 1912 to Vol. LXI, No. 3131, November 22, 1912.
- Société Centrale des Architectes Français, Paris, France. L'Architecture, 25e Année, No. 43, 26 Octobre, 1912 to 25e Année, No. 45, 9 Novembre, 1912.
- Svenska Teknologforeningen, Stockholm, Sweden. Architektur, Haft, 11, No. 102, 6 November 1912.
- Societe degli Ingegneri e degli Architetti Italiani, Rome, Italy. Annali della Societa Anno, XXVII, No. 20, 16 Ottobre, 1912, and Anno XXVI, No. 21, 1 Novembre, 1912.
- Maatschappij tot Bevordering der Bouwkunst, Amsterdam, Holland. 32ste, Jaargang, No. 44, Zaterdag, 2, November, 1912, to 32ste, Jaargang, No. 46, Zaterdag, 16 November, 1912.