

THE
OCTAGON

A Journal of The American Institute of Architects



MARCH
1933

Volume 5

Number 3

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

OFFICERS

President.....	ERNEST JOHN RUSSELL, Chemical Building, St. Louis, Mo.
First Vice-President.....	CHARLES D. MAGINNIS, Statler Bldg., Boston, Mass.
Second Vice-President.....	HORACE W. PEASLEE, 1228 Connecticut Avenue, Washington, D. C.
Secretary.....	FRANK C. BALDWIN, The Octagon, Washington, D. C.
Treasurer.....	EDWIN BERGSTROM, Citizens National Bank Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

For One Year (1932-33)	For Two Years (1932-34)
FRANKLIN O. ADAMS... 509 Twigg Street, Tampa, Fla. (South Atlantic Div.)	ALBERT L. BROCKWAY... Clinton Sq. Bldg., Syracuse, N. Y. (New York Div.)
M. H. FURBERG... 110 Porter Bldg., Memphis, Tenn. (Gulf States Div.)	GEORGE H. GRAY, 30 Whitney Avenue, New Haven, Conn. (New England Div.)
FREDERICK H. METRE 525 Market St., San Francisco, Calif. (Sierra Nevada Div.)	FREDERICK M. MANN, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minn. (Cen. Sta. Div.)
For Three Years (1932-35)	
HERBERT E. HEWITT, 1000 Peoria Life Bldg., Peoria, Ill. (Great Lakes Div.)	
JAMES O. BUELL, Chamber of Commerce Bldg., Newark, N. J. (Middle Atl. Div.)	
RAYMOND J. ASHTON, 312 Vermont Bldg., Salt Lake City, Utah (West Mount. Div.)	

LIST OF CHAPTERS 1933

ALABAMA—*Frederic Child Biggin, Alabama Polytechnic Institute, Auburn, Ala.; †Hugh Martin, 910 Title Guarantees Bldg., Birmingham, Ala.	MONTANA—*Chandler C. Cohagen, Box 1305, Billings, Mont.; †W. R. Flaw, Bozeman, Mont.
ALBANY—*Frank A. Ward, Telephone Bldg., Albany, N. Y.; †Clarence H. Gardiner, 585 Delmar, N. Y.	NEBRASKA—*James M. Nachtigall, 512 Paxton Bldg., Omaha, Neb.; †N. E. Brigham, 607 Keeline Bldg., Omaha, Neb.
ARKANSAS—*George H. Wittenberg, Home Insurance Bldg., Little Rock, Ark.; †Lawson L. Delony, 2407 Louisiana St., Little Rock, Ark.	NEW JERSEY—*Seymour Williams, Woodruff Bldg., Rahway, N. J.; †Clement W. Fairweather, Metuchen, N. J.
BALTIMORE—*William G. Nolting, Keyser Building, Baltimore, Md.; †Charles D. Loomis, 12 East Pleasant Street, Baltimore, Md.	NEW YORK—*Charles H. Higgins, 101 Park Avenue, New York, N. Y.; †Eric Ksbbon, 522 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.
BOSTON—*Ralph W. Gray, 73 Newbury St., Boston, Mass.; †Millard B. Gulick, 73 Newbury St., Boston, Mass.	NORTH CAROLINA—*Harry Barton, Jefferson Standard Bldg., Greensboro N. C.; †Walter W. Hook, Commercial Bank Bldg., Charlotte, N. C.
BROOKLYN—*William A. Sanders, 527 Fifth Avenue, New York, N. Y.; †George Francis Kiess, 4 Irving Place, New York, N. Y.	NORTH TEXAS—*Frank O. Witchell, First National Bank Building, Dallas, Texas; †M. C. Kleuser, 609 Construction Bldg., Dallas, Texas.
BUFFALO—*Harry F. Hudson, Dun Building, Buffalo, N. Y.; †Benning C. Buell, 547 Franklin St., Buffalo, N. Y.	NORTHERN CALIFORNIA—*John J. Donovan, 950 Parker Street, Berkeley, Calif.; †James H. Mitchell, 369 Pine St., San Francisco, Calif.
CENTRAL ILLINOIS—*L. H. Provine, 505 Michigan Ave., Urbana, Ill.; †E. L. Stouffer, 256 Administration Bldg., University of Illinois, Urbana, Ill.	NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA—*Walter Monahan, Palace Hardware Building, Erie, Pa.; †J. Howard Hicks, Palace Hardware Building, Erie, Pa.
CENTRAL NEW YORK—*Walter H. Cassebeer, 84 Exchange St., Rochester, N. Y.; †Leonard A. Waasdorp, 311 Alexander St., Rochester, N. Y.	OKLAHOMA—*Leon B. Senter, 306 Philtower Bldg., Tulsa, Okla.; †Asbury Endscoth, 625 Wright Building, Tulsa, Okla.
CHICAGO—*Clarence W. Farris, Administration Bldg., Burnham Park, Chicago, Ill.; †Carl E. Heimbrodt, 20 No. Wacker Drive, Chicago, Ill.	OREGON—*Harold W. Doty, 607 East 46th Street, Portland, Oregon; †W. H. Crowell, 1041 Pacific Building, Portland, Oregon.
CINCINNATI—*John H. Deeken, 15 East 8th St., Cincinnati, O.; †Alan K. Laing, University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, O.	PHILADELPHIA—*Ralph B. Bencker, 1601 Chestnut St., Philadelphia, Pa.; †Edmund R. Purves, Architects' Bldg., Philadelphia, Pa.
CLEVELAND—*Abram Garfield, National City Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio; †G. Evans Mitchell, Bulkeley Bldg., Cleveland, Ohio.	PITTSBURGH—*Press C. Dowler, Century Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.; †Charles Stots, Bessemer Bldg., Pittsburgh, Pa.
COLORADO—*George H. Williamson, Majestic Building, Denver, Colo.; †Roland L. Linder, Insurance Building, Denver, Colo.	RHODE ISLAND—*Albert Harkness, 1428 Industrial Trust Bldg., Providence, R. I.; †Norman Isham, Wickford, R. I.
COLUMBUS—*Charles L. Inacho, 1200 Brunson Bldg., Columbus, Ohio; †Ralph Chas. Kempton, Atlas Building, 8 E. Long St., Columbus, Ohio.	SAN DIEGO—*Louis J. Gill, Suite 32, Sefton Bldg., San Diego, Calif.; †Charles H. Mills, 1400 San Diego Trust & Savings Bldg., San Diego, Calif.
CONNECTICUT—*Harold H. Davis, 29 Whitney Ave., New Haven, Conn.; †Lorenzo Hamilton, 22 Church St., Meriden, Conn.	SANTA BARBARA—*Harold E. Burkett, 455 E. Main St., Ventura, Calif.; †Henry W. Howell, 157 Cheltenham Drive, Santa Barbara, Calif.
DAYTON—*Freeman A. Pretzinger, 1155 Reibold Bldg., Dayton, Ohio; †Geo. T. Neuffer, 437 Ludlow Arcade, Dayton, Ohio.	SCRANTON-WILKES-BARRE—*Geo. M. D. Lewis, 809 Scranton Electric Bldg., Scranton, Pa.; †Searle Von Storch, Union National Bank Bldg., Scranton, Pa.
DELAWARE—*G. Morris Whiteside, II, 2160 duPont Bldg., Wilmington, Del.; †Roseco Cook Tindall, 914 Orange Street, Wilmington, Del.	SHREVEPORT—*Samuel G. Wiener, Shreveport, La.; †Edward F. Neld, Shreveport, La.
DETROIT—*Bronson V. Gamber, 3500 Union Guardian Bldg., Detroit, Mich.; †Arthur K. Hyde, 318 Woodward Blvd. Bldg., Detroit, Mich.	SOUTH CAROLINA—*Albert Simons, 42 Broad St., Charleston, S. C.; †Samuel Lapham, 42 Broad St., Charleston, S. C.
EASTERN OHIO—*Walter J. Canfield, 33 North Hazel St., Youngstown, O.; †Clarence A. Kinsinger, 2540 Market St., Youngstown, O.	SOUTH GEORGIA—*Cletus Bergen, 1013 Liberty Bldg., Savannah, Ga.; †Percy Sugden, 125 East 49th St., Savannah, Ga.
FLORIDA CENTRAL—*Nat G. Walker, 1127 First St., Fort Myers, Fla.; †Frank A. Winn, Jr., Stovall Office Bldg., Tampa, Fla.	SOUTH TEXAS—*Maurice J. Sullivan, 4301 Main St., Houston, Texas; †J. Russ Baty, 506 Bankers Mortgage Bldg., Houston, Texas.
FLORIDA NORTH—*Mellen C. Greeley, Fifth floor, Exchange Bldg., 218 West Adams St., Jacksonville, Fla.; †Jefferson D. Powell, Professional Building, Jacksonville, Fla.	SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA—*Gordon B. Kaufmann, 610 Union Bank Bldg., Los Angeles, Cal.; †Palmer Sabin, 170 East Calif. St., Pasadena, Cal.
FLORIDA SOUTH—*Russell T. Panooset, 1139 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach, Fla.; †Robert L. Wood, 2620 Biscayne Blvd. Miami, Fla.	SOUTHERN PENNSYLVANIA—*M. E. Green, Third and Forster Sts., Harrisburg, Pa.; †John G. Todd, 253 Cumberland St., Harrisburg, Pa.
GEORGIA—*Harold Bush-Brown, 67 Peachtree Pl., N. W., Atlanta, Ga.; †M. A. Tucker, Rhodes-Haverty Bldg., Atlanta, Ga.	ST. LOUIS—*W. Oscar Mullgard, 1620 Chemical Bldg., St. Louis, Mo.; †Fred R. Hammond, 7020 Waterman Ave., St. Louis, Mo.
GRAND RAPIDS—*Harry L. Mead, 902 Michigan Trust Bldg., Grand Rapids, Mich.; †Roger Allen, 610 Lafayette Ave., S. E., Grand Rapids, Mich.	ST. PAUL—*Edwin H. Lundie, 324 Endicott Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.; †G. A. Anderson, 1212 Builders Exchange Bldg., St. Paul, Minn.
HAWAII—*Robert Wood, 517 Hawaiian Trust Bldg., Honolulu, T. H.; †Herbert Cayton, 324 S. M. Damon Bldg., Honolulu, T. H.	TENNESSEE—*J. Fraser Smith, 400 Goodwyn Institute, Memphis, Tenn.; †B. J. Regan, 736 Bank of Commerce Bldg., Memphis, Tenn.
INDIANA—*Warren D. Miller, 619 Ohio Street, Terre Haute, Ind.; †Geo. C. Wright, Architects & Bldrs. Bldg., Indianapolis, Ind.	TOLEDO—*Charles A. Langdon, Security Bank Bldg., Toledo, Ohio; †Earl B. Hoke, 1115 Madison Avenue, Toledo, Ohio.
IOWA—*James A. Doughter, 310 Old Colony Bldg., Des Moines, Iowa; †Edwin H. Wetherell, 506 Shops Bldg., Des Moines, Iowa.	UTAH—*Lorenzo Young, 1458 Princeton Ave., Salt Lake City, Utah; †Claude Ashworth, 8-9 Farrer Bldg., Provo, Utah.
KANSAS CITY—*Arthur S. Keene, 1005 Land Bank Bldg., Kansas City, Mo.; †Roy E. Crans, 1412 Knox, Northern Kansas City, Mo.	VIRGINIA—*Philip N. Stern, 21 Law Building, Fredericksburg, Va.; †Fendleton S. Clark, 610 Kruse Bldg., Lynchburg, Va.
KANSAS—*Chester M. Routledge, 204 Exchange National Bank Bldg., Hutchinson, Kansas; †George M. Beal, 305 Marvin Hall, Lawrence, Kansas.	WASHINGTON, D. C.—*Francis P. Sullivan, 726 Jackson Pl., N. W., Washington, D. C.; †Donald S. Johnson, Colorado Bldg., Washington, D. C.
KENTUCKY—*G. M. Grimes, 1708 Heyburn Building, Louisville, Ky.; †Carl J. Epping, 806 East Broadway, Louisville, Ky.	WASHINGTON STATE—*J. Lister Holmes, 504 Republic Building, Seattle, Wash.; †Lance E. Gowen, 307 Medical Arts Bldg., Seattle, Wash.
LOUISIANA—*Walter Cook Keenan, 4239 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, La.; †Andrew M. Lockett, Jr., Baiter Bldg., New Orleans, La.	WEST TEXAS—*Raymond Phelps, Gunter Bldg., San Antonio, Texas; †Richard Vander Straten, Travis Bldg., San Antonio, Texas.
MADISON—*Frank Riley, 24 E. Millin Street, Madison, Wis.; †James R. Law, First Central Building, Madison, Wis.	WEST VIRGINIA—*C. C. Wood, Lowndes Bldg., Clarkburg, W. Va.; †C. E. Silling, 14 Hubbard Court, Charleston, W. Va.
MINNESOTA—*A. B. Dunham, 512 Essex Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.; †Albert O. Larson, 308 Baker Bldg., Minneapolis, Minn.	WISCONSIN—*Roger C. Kirchoff, 710 N. Plankinton Avenue, Milwaukee, Wis.; †Alexander C. Guth, 1249 N. Franklin Place, Milwaukee, Wis.
MISSISSIPPI—*Emmett J. Hull, Merchants Bank Bldg., Jackson, Miss.; †A. Hays Town, 1219-25 Standard Life Bldg., Jackson, Miss.	

*Presidents.

†Secretaries.

THE OCTAGON

A Journal of The American Institute of Architects

Government Competition With Private Architects

THE REPORT OF THE SHANNON COMMITTEE

A SPECIAL committee to investigate Government competition with private enterprise was appointed by the House of Representatives, in May, 1932.

The scope of the inquiry was very broad, being defined in the House resolution as follows: For the purpose of investigating Government competition with private enterprise and all other questions in relation thereto that would aid Congress in any necessary remedial legislation.

The Chairman of the Committee was Hon. Joseph B. Shannon, of Missouri, and the other members were Representatives Cox, of Georgia; Pettengill, of Indiana; Stafford, of Wisconsin; and Rich, of Pennsylvania.

The report of the Committee has been made to the House of Representatives and has been published. It is known as House Report No. 1985—72d Congress, 2d Session. Copies are obtainable from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., at 15 cents each.

A study of this report is commended to every member of the Institute who is concerned (1) with the future of the architectural profession, and (2) with the survival of the principles of democracy on which our form of Government is based.

The findings of the Committee with respect to Government competition with the architectural and engineering professions are a complete and decisive justification of the position taken by the Institute at the San Antonio Convention in 1931.

The consummation of the Institute policy with respect to Federal employment of private architects, as adopted at that Convention, was entrusted to the Committee on Public Works of the Institute, of which Louis LaBeaume, of St. Louis, was made Chairman. He has continued in that Chairmanship ever since, and has rendered a notable service to the architectural profession. His testimony before the Shannon Committee, offered at the hearings held in Kansas City on July 18, and in St. Louis on July 27, was an able presentation of the case of the architectural profession against Federal encroachments upon architectural practice.

Space does not permit the quotation of all of the relevant portions of the Report, but several sections of great significance to architects and engineers are as follows:

From the Report—page 21:

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Committee, after analysis and consideration of the oral testimony and formal exhibits supplemented by the data from questionnaires on important topics sent out by the committee itself, has reached certain conclusions relative to complaints presented to it. They are as follows:

1. *Architects and engineers.*—The committee recommends that all architectural supervision, including the activities of the Supervising Architect's Office, of the Treasury, the Veterans' Administration, the War, Navy, and other departments, should be centralized and stress placed upon general administration, rather than upon the drawing of plans and local supervision. We recommend that in the drawing of plans and in arranging for supervision of construction in different sections of the country, that provision be made for the employment of resident architects of ability.

The same principle should be followed by the Supervising Architect's Office, and other departments of the Government, in employing engineering assistance. Wherever practicable local engineers should be retained.

The committee also recommends that the Supervising Architect's Office have blue-print work for construction purpose done locally instead of having work of this kind forwarded to Washington to be performed.

From the Report—Page 31:

ARCHITECTS

Representatives of the American Institute of Architects and allied organizations, including the building industry of the country, plead for a greater degree of consideration on the part of the Government in the designing and construction of public buildings. Referring to the number of bureaus in Washington responsible for the design and erection of public buildings, they state they have no thought of impugning the personnel of those bureaus. They do feel, however, that this policy is an infringement on the individuality of our citizens, and an encroachment on private initiative. As in the production of commodities, on trade, the Government thus places itself in direct competition with the taxpayers who are supplying the money to provide these buildings.

They contend that local atmosphere is a necessary element in the creation of a structure designed to be expressive of the community which it serves. This element can only be woven into the plans and design by men who have a thorough knowledge of the surroundings. Architecture originating from a central bureau inevitably reflects its bureaucratic origin and tends to become stale and more or less standardized, whereas

buildings designed in the localities they are to serve reflect local needs and local pride. Nor does the present policy secure the advantages which would result from a thorough knowledge of local materials, labor, soil, climatic conditions, and local interest.

The American Institute of Architects sets forth the advantages of such a policy in the following words:

(1) The country will benefit by utilizing the services of the ablest architects and engineers in the Nation. Their employment will result in a more living and vital architecture, appropriate to the localities in which our Federal buildings are to be erected;

(2) The employment of architects and engineers outside of the Treasury Department and resident in different localities will bring to the service of the Government the abilities of men familiar not only with local conditions and customs, climatic factors, methods of construction, the appropriate and economical use of local materials, but also of men highly trained in design and capable of bringing a fresh point of view to the problems intrusted to them. Such employment will result not only in buildings of better design, but also in buildings of more economical and reasonable construction;

(3) The growth of bureaucracy is an infringement of our republican ideal of encouraging private initiative, and, as it encroaches upon the professions of architecture and engineering, should be checked;

(4) In times of emergency, speed as well as efficiency will result from the prompt allocation of various projects to architects and engineers resident in the States or general sections of the country in which public buildings are to be built.

The profession recognizes the necessity of maintaining the office of Supervising Architect in Washington for general administrative purpose and for maintenance, additions, and repairs to Federal buildings.

The committee believes that a more general use of private architectural talent should be employed for local plans and supervision. It also thinks that the present Federal construction program would be expedited if such a policy was in force.

Members are also referred to a topical review of the testimony taken by the Shannon Committee, beginning on page 79 of the Report under the head of "Architecture and Engineering." That reference is too extensive for inclusion here.

This statement would not be complete if it did not express the opinion of the Secretary, and of other Officers, to the effect that the sustained and effective work of the Chairman of the Committee on Public Works, and of the Committee members, supported by the Chapters of the Institute, is responsible for two outstanding accomplishments: (1) the presentation of the position of the architectural profession to the Shannon Committee, with the resulting findings here reported; and (2) the increasing employment of private architects by the Treasury Department, operating under temporary legislation, known as the Keyes-Elliott Act.

FRANK C. BALDWIN,
Secretary.

The Small House Problem

By ROBERT D. KOHN, F.A.I.A.

TO carry out the "sense of the meeting" on the Small House Bureau endorsement voted at the last Convention, the Board of Directors of the Institute appointed a Committee representing in its personnel two of the points of view most strongly urged on that occasion. To be more exact, the Committee was asked to recommend to the Board of Directors how the "sense of the meeting" was to be put into effect. The Institute is faced with so many serious problems that each of us has to stand by and do what he can to help, so (although I thought ex-Presidents were exempt) here I find myself Chairman of that Committee. My associates are Messrs. C. V. R. Bogert, Seymour Williams and Clement W. Fairweather of New Jersey and Messrs. Frederick L. Ackerman and Dwight James Baum of New York.

At its recent meeting the Executive Committee urged me to make a statement to the members of the Institute which would indicate that serious consideration was being given to the difficult situation evidenced by the debate at the Convention and the action taken thereon. I hope it may be clear that whatever I say here, as a result of this request, solely gives my own personal opinion on what ought to be done. The Committee itself is at work but not far enough

advanced to make a report at the present time. What I quote is substantially a report of what was said to the Executive Committee in asking for an enlarged scope of action for the Committee on Small Houses:

"It is the improvement of small house design which, the Institute should take in hand. The Institute as a whole has not actually applied itself to this job. The improvement of small house design has only been considered a collateral issue in connection with an argument between those who favor the sale of stock plans by the Small House Bureau and those who disapprove of these methods. The real problem before the profession is a very much larger one than that. While very excellent small house designs have been produced by certain architects, on the whole the standard of design of small houses both as to plan and exterior, is not what it might be. They tell me that probably 75% of the small houses built in the course of a year are built without the services of an architect. I think we can agree that we ought to do something in order that a larger proportion of these houses come into the hands of competent architects qualified to make them both good looking and effective. Once this is recognized, then the relations of the Institute to the question of the continuation

of the sale of stock plans, or whether there may be sales only when an architect's service goes with the plans, takes its proper place as a part of a much larger question, namely how are we going to get qualified architectural services to a greater extent into this field of small home building?

"Now I think we ought to take it for granted that the Small House Service Bureau is an organization not necessarily tied to any particular method of propaganda. It was endorsed by the Institute as a medium through which small house design was to be improved. As a group of professional men we ought to keep on trying to find a way to do that. If we can find a way, the Institute has it in its power to use the Small House Service Bureau as a means towards carrying it out. At any rate, here we have an organization with a valuable asset, the interest of hundreds of the architects throughout the country and doubtless that interest can be enlisted in an enlarged field of action.

"My plan would be to begin by acting as if a Small House Service Bureau had not yet been created and we were trying to discover what kind of a coordinating agency we need in order that the architects of the country jointly can advance the quality of small house design and at the same time increase the employment of architects in this and similar previously neglected categories of professional work. It seems to me that we ought to be able to get the interest of every Chapter in the country on this basis. Each Chapter might be asked to organize a committee to study the possibilities in its own district and cooperate with the Institute's Committee to develop a procedure by which these general purposes would

be advanced. Regional designs might be prepared by each group; publicity secured for such designs but particularly for excellent buildings already carried out; a center provided for information to prospective home-builders; publicity given to the benefit secured at low cost by the employment of architects; consultation service offered in this and other fields at fixed fees and divers other measures carried on which would be educational for the public and for the architect as well. These would be measures which could not be carried out by individual effort; only by group action. It is from this larger angle that I think our problem should be attacked. I believe that if the Committee starts such a program, a Small House Service Bureau will be found to be a necessity. The existing Bureaus would be helpful in carrying on the work and their present procedure could be modified or completely changed as the requirements of this program might dictate.

"Since any such general scheme will require considerable thought, many conferences and much correspondence, it would seem to me reasonable to ask the members of the Institute to be patient and to help us explore its possibilities. At any rate, this is the point of view which I ask the Board to permit me to put up to the Committee and, if it approves, to the Institute throughout the country."

The Executive Committee told the Chairman of the Special Committee that his Committee was authorized to extend its field of action so as to study the subject as outlined. I repeat that these suggestions, as reported above, were presented only on my own responsibility.

More About Museum Trophies

By LOUIS LA BEAUME, F.A.I.A.

THE reading of Mr. Leicester B. Holland's remarks in the November OCTAGON, apropos of colonial interiors as Museum trophies, has prompted a train of reflection which I trust will not be construed as perverse. Men of good will frequently misunderstand one another.

I should like to say, at the outset, even at the risk of being called a sentimentalist, that I believe in the preservation of historic monuments, and respect our heritage from the past, both spiritual and material. And when the material and spiritual are combined, as in a great work of architecture, I am more than ever zealous in the cause of preservation. The world moves, however, in spite of the desires of some to hold it static, and historic monuments are continually being destroyed to make way for others which become historic in their turn, and are in turn destroyed.

One may fully sympathize with the spirit of the resolution quoted by Mr. Holland, namely, "That the American Institute of Architects urges that Museums abstain from the devastating practice of purchasing or installing interiors or other portions of early buildings, except those whose demolition is inevitable," without wholly agreeing with its implications. I believe that instances of wanton destruction, or spoliation by Museums, are rare in history. On the contrary, it is to the Museum that we are apt to look for the preservation of the great art of the past. The Museum is the hospice, the refuge, of the vagrant fragment, the unloved, unappreciated, neglected paintings, statues, vases, tapestries, etc., many of which, but for the warmth of its hospitality, would long ago have disappeared forever.

Instead, therefore, of being a devastating force,

the Museums of the world are the greatest conservators of the art of the past. It is well to remember that no great work of art was ever created, *per se* to be embalmed in a Museum. Museums contain practically no objects of any kind, in any field of art, which have not been wrenched from their original setting. If art were generally appreciated by the nations of the world, and works of art were conserved and safeguarded, appreciated, loved and studied in their respective places of origin, there would be no need for Museums. But such, alas, is not the state of man's development, and the usefulness of the Museum has become widely recognized both as a refuge for works of art which might otherwise be neglected or lost altogether, and also as a place where the art of distant times and alien peoples can be studied in order to better appreciate our own contemporary culture and understand the achievements of the past.

If American Museums contained only examples of American art, if German and French Museums were likewise narrowed in their scope, civilization would be the poorer; unless indeed everybody travelled, or the exhibits themselves rotated. May we not then admit that though the Museum may be an evil, it can be regarded as a necessary evil from the cultural point of view, in the present state of civilization? Let us agree, if we must, that art dealers are as a class, merely scavengers who scour the world for objets d'art to be sold at a profit to private or public collectors. Their activities are sometimes deplored by nations, states and municipalities proud of their possessions; and certain enlightened European governments have classified their historic monuments, and other great works of art, in an attempt to prevent their exportation or sale.

Mere selfishness, economic pressure, or sometimes dire necessity, may motivate the possessor of a work of art, a building, a part of a building, a picture or a statue, to part with it. Certainly the happiest result in such a contingency, from the social point of view, would be the acquisition of such objects by a public Museum. Thus they would be securely preserved and exhibited to give pleasure and add to the sum of knowledge of the greatest number of people. It may be too much to say that culture and international respect have followed pillage; but history affords many instances to support this point of view.

Museums have, in recent years, extended the field of their interest to include not only painting and sculpture, but many elements in the field of the decorative arts which we, as architects, have long appreciated, but of which the public has hitherto seemed too oblivious. We have proclaimed from the housetops that we regard architecture as a fine art, and we have preached that the elements of design

and beauty may be equally appreciated in a finely conceived and executed piece of furniture, or other article of household use. If architecture is really a fine art, then interior architecture is likewise worthy of admiration and study for the lessons it may bring us in the arts of design, as well as for the light it may throw on the ideals of the society which created it.

I realize that there has been considerable controversy as to the place of the so-called period room in the Museum. Professor Mather, whom Mr. Holland quotes, has expounded the idea that we should have more and better Museums, and I have interpreted Professor Mather's thesis to mean that he would prefer to see our Museums more highly specialized. This is a perfectly valid idea, but most communities are not able to develop it practically. One may well conceive a Museum devoted entirely to paintings, or even to a single epoch in the art of painting; another to sculpture, or even to a single epoch in the field of sculpture; another to metal work; another to prints, and another devoted to all the decorative arts, including and really beginning with period interiors. In fact, some such specialized Museums already exist. Most of our Museums, however, feel it their function to cover a wide field and to combine an adequate representation of all forms of art under one roof. This practice may be defended on other grounds than those of mere expediency, for such a theory implies that comparisons of different epochs and different schools may then be more conveniently made by the student.

Now, as for the incorporation of colonial interiors, or interiors of fine quality from great European buildings, English, French, Swedish or Spanish, or fragments of Roman, Mediaeval or Gothic art, portals, or frontals, or altar pieces, or whatnot, it would seem to me that we, as architects, should be the first to extol, and the last to condemn such a practice. I do not know of a case on record where a Museum has deliberately attempted to despoil a community of a prized possession, or has acquired an object of any kind in the face of any serious effort to retain it in its original setting. Let us not then, in our commendable zeal to preserve the monuments of the past in statu quo, confuse the clarity of our thinking.

The passages from Professor Mather's article, quoted by Mr. Holland, cannot, it seems to me, be approved by architects. Taken in conjunction with their context, that is, the entire article referred to, and with Professor Mather's theory of specialized Museums, to which I have already alluded, his general idea can be understood. But no one can read Professor Mather's quotation without coming to the conclusion that the writer has less respect for the art of architecture than we have. The quotation im-

plies that period rooms in themselves may not be worthy of serious "contemplation, concentration or thought". Here we, as architects, must emphatically disagree. The quotation further implies that period interiors can be created by persons without taste and too busy for reflection of any sort. Unfortunately, they can, and such exhibits would not be worth talking about. But fortunately this is not the sort of thing Museums have in mind. Fine period rooms, finely furnished, may appeal to the highest esthetic sense of which man is capable, and that they do relate the arts to life, and reveal both the usefulness of beauty and the fact that the main purpose of its creation is to excite pleasure, is certainly no reason for turning one's nose up at them.

Now as to colonial interiors—nobody wants them

simply because they are colonial; many of them are not worthy of preservation either in situ or anywhere else. Some, however, are respectable and a few are almost fine. In the meagerness of our heritage, we have perhaps exalted them rather beyond their real worth. But, carefully chosen, and properly installed, they do have a story to tell, and when good ones can be preserved for posterity through the agency of the Museums, the Museums should be applauded rather than derided by the Institute's Committee on the Preservation of Historic Buildings.

There is nothing intrinsically "shoddy" or "uncultural" in such preservation. "The sentimentalities of casual wanderers weary of looking at great works of art" are more frequently "titillated" outside the walls of Museums than within them.

Safety In Building Construction

By SAMUEL R. BISHOP, *Chairman Committee on Health and Safety*

AFTER four years of committee work devoted to the problem of safety in building construction, I have come to believe that if we are to materially reduce accidents, it will be accomplished only by the giving of more thought and attention to the education of the workmen; for safety codes, laws and regulations alone will not do it.

Laws alone do not prevent crime; traffic laws of themselves do not prevent collisions; and safety codes simply printed and bound do not prevent accidents.

There is always someone scheming to rob a bank; some reckless driver awaiting his chance to beat a red light; and a careless painter every ready to back off a scaffold plank; yet we must have laws and regulations, someone to make them, and someone to enforce them, otherwise the human sacrifice would be appalling and life not worth living.

It cannot be denied that we do hear of miraculous automobile escapes; of hot rivets grazing a man's cheek or losing his hat brim by a falling crowbar; but it takes more than a miracle to save a man who will thoughtlessly look down a hod hoist shaft with the car descending, or jump onto a pile of form boards without thinking of protruding nails. Protect him as well as you may by barriers, guard rails, and warning signs, he seems always ready to take a chance.

The better protected he is the more thoughtless he is apt to be, for it is the psychological effect of perfect security that makes one reckless.

The Architect considers he has done what is expected of him when he inserts safety requirements in his specifications. The contractor installs such safety devices, erects such barriers, guard rails, toe boards, etc., as the law requires, or as his conscience dictates is necessary for the reasonable safety of his work-

men; he pays his compensation insurance costs and the responsibility is passed on to his sub-contractors and men.

Referring to an address recently delivered by an official of the New York State Department of Labor, I read "This divided responsibility is a menace to discipline, safe practice and makes the problem of protecting employees more complex. In the building industry there is every need for teaching employees a proper method of performing their work. In all of the crafts, handling of tools and material is hazardous, particularly on structures where speed is demanded and one is required to be agile and dexterous. And while the employer should be responsible for teaching the workmen as well as providing safe conditions of employment, it is also necessary to secure the full measure of cooperation from the employee who, when all is said and done, receives the greatest benefit from safety provisions and it is his duty to both himself and society to assume his just responsibility."

It may not be surprising to know that it is the opinion of some leaders in the industry (and confirmed by reports) that the proportion of accidents attributable to the thoughtlessness and unnecessary risk taken by employees is placed as high as ninety per cent of the total. These being the accidents which can be avoided by more care on the part of the workmen, or by their giving more thought to their own personal safety. It is the control, and elimination so far as possible, of these accidents that is our chief concern.

I believe it is a recognized fact that the majority of accidents occur in the ranks of unskilled labor; and this can readily be appreciated when we realize,

that workmen in this group are always on the move, work longer hours and are exposed to greater hazards; and also considering the fact that unless safety signs are printed in other languages than English, many who are foreigners may not be able to read them, and that their untrained mind will not save them from walking in unprotected areas or exposing themselves to unnecessary danger. To this phase of the situation those most interested, particularly the insurance companies, have been giving a great deal of attention.

The Travelers Insurance Company has issued a little booklet, in vest pocket size, entitled "Safety Rules", which is a set of safety rules and recommendations for the guidance of workmen and is so easily procurable from any of their safety inspectors that no workman need be without a copy. Furthermore, I suggest to the architects that a specification clause require that contractors keep a sufficient number on hand to supply each workman with a copy. I am not sure that this is printed in any language other than

the English, if not it should be, particularly in Polish and Italian.

A circular called "Bulletin No. 4" has also been published by the Committee on Accident Prevention of the Building Trades Employers Association, which has been issued with special reference to unwarranted chances taken by workmen and liberally illustrated; copies of which can be obtained from the Chairman of the Committee at 2 Park Avenue, New York City, or from any Contractor or Sub-Contractor who is a member of the B.T.E.A.

Also, while the American Standards Association's Safety Code Committee is engaged in the preparation of a manual of safe practices, methods and devices, which is being sponsored by the American Institute of Architects and the National Safety Council, yet a great deal depends on the combined personal interest of all architects and contractors in the education of the workmen themselves, and bringing to their attention by every means possible, the necessity for greater care and more regard for their own personal welfare.

A Review of the Engineering Pamphlet

By CHARLES BUTLER, F.A.I.A.

THE Engineering Foundation has recently published a pamphlet, "Engineering: A Career—A Culture", a "Message to Young Men, to Parents, to Teachers".

Without being accused of exaggeration, it may safely be said that the members of the Education Research Committee, headed by Harvey N. Davis of Stevens Institute, have produced a most fascinating description of the training and life of the engineer.

Divided into five chapters, treating respectively of Civil, Mining and Metallurgical, Mechanical, Electrical and Chemical Engineering, the pamphlet sets forth the opportunities of the practitioner in each, for enjoyable and responsible work, for travel and adventure and for material success. These are described in detail with a charm of description worthy of a skilled novelist. At the same time the reader is never allowed to forget the necessity of hard work, a solid background of mathematical studies and the need for accuracy in planning and performance.

Above all must he realize "that in engineering both the method and the answer must be right, and that truth alone prevails".

Of such an inspiring pamphlet it seems hardly right to suggest any criticism, yet one cannot help wondering whether the claim that "engineering is advancing human culture and raising the standards of public and private morality" is entirely justified. Is it not rather a pious hope?

If Engineering is a Culture, should not the education of the engineer include more training of a cultural nature than is indicated in the curricula of the average engineering school?

Many schools in the other professions demand today that the student before admission shall have had a Bachelor of Arts degree or at least two years' training in a liberal arts college, yet no suggestion in regard to such preparatory training is offered by the Committee.

The criticism is frequently made of the engineer that while he is well trained professionally, he is lacking in imagination, and it would seem that he might well be encouraged to secure more training of a cultural nature before entering the professional school, rather than to rely on receiving such cultural training "as time may permit" after he enters.

Nevertheless, we, as architects, must admit that this pamphlet sets forth the characteristics required of the engineer and the methods of his training in clear and convincing terms. Perhaps the only danger to the profession lies in the fact that most young men who read it will be so fascinated by the description that they will at once feel the urge to study some branch of engineering.

It is certain that every member of our profession will find the pamphlet worth reading. Copies may be obtained from The Engineering Foundation, 29 West 39th Street, New York City.

The Budget Fetish and Public Works

(QUOTED FROM "PENCIL POINTS")

DOUBT is being expressed by leading economists, ever more often and emphatically, as to the necessity or advisability of laying so much stress on balancing the current Federal Budget. Virgil Jordan, Economist of *The Business Week*, pointed out not long ago that:

"Those who so ardently urge a balancing of budgets and curtailments of public expenditures during depressions are gluttons for punishment, for they, in the last analysis, must pay the price either in increased taxes or diminished income. They may imagine that they can pass it on or spread it out through consumptive taxes, but they are mistaken, for sales taxes levied to help pay interest to public bondholders ultimately come out of capital and profits in the form of lower business volume. So long as so large a part of the public liabilities are fixed and sacred as debts and armaments are, deflation of public expenditures is bound to be one-sided and to let the wind chiefly out of business and its customers. The process is apparently endless also; for every time the purchasing power of public employees is reduced, the tax-paying power of business concerns and real-estate owners is curtailed and further economy becomes necessary. In fact, except for debt charges, there can be no reduction of public expenditure which does not curtail private expenditure and therefore tax-paying capacity in an ever-widening circle."

To us, this seems like clear common sense.

Such organizations as the National Economy League and the National Committee for Economy in Government formed by the National Association of Manufacturers are vigorously prosecuting a campaign to reduce government expenditures. So far as their programs are aimed at the elimination of graft and waste, we are with them, but when they advocate cutting down on legitimate government expenditures in the public service and urging reductions of the public works program, rather than an increase, almost vital in a depression, they seem to us very short-sighted. Their proposal is like advising amputation of an arm as a cure for a broken leg. Buying power of a large portion of our economic organism is seriously crippled. The remedy is emphatically not to cut it off in another place.

There is more government and bank currency extant in this country now than at the height of the boom in 1928-29. The difficulty is that it is not moving. People are not spending it. Business is not spending it. They may not have it or they may be

afraid to spend it lest they have none tomorrow. The fact remains that, for whatever reason, it is not circulating. In the face of a condition like that should we not be thankful that the spending power of the government is still there, that we can as a whole people still keep a large volume of money at work paying wages and buying goods and services?

Individuals cannot be blamed for hesitating to spend now. Business seemingly cannot be either persuaded or coerced into spending. The long extended effort of the Federal Reserve System to force money out of the banks and into circulation—in other words the attempted inflation of credit—has been ineffective. What means is there then left, other than government spending, to bring about the accelerated consumption necessary to make the wheels go around again?

It is pretty generally accepted that production is so well organized that it can easily take care of more than our needs—the emphasis now turns to consumption. If we cannot or will not consume effectively as individuals or as businesses, should we not be willing and even eager to consume collectively as a nation?

We are not advocating a permanent and perpetual increase in the rate of government spending, to be carried on year after year in depressions and booms alike. It seems sound, however, to use the spending power of the government as a balancing force, to be applied vigorously in depression times and held back in times of prosperity.

Looking at the Federal budgeting system from a little longer point of view it is interesting to note that it has been operating since 1921 and that during the period 1921-1930 government revenues exceeded expenditures by over three billion dollars. Not only that but the government debt was decreased during that time by almost eight billions. Even if the deficits of the past three years up to June, 1933, should reach as much as five billions we should still as a nation be almost six billions ahead of our position in 1921—and no one questioned our credit then. Neither should anyone question it now, whether the budget be balanced today or not. We have the natural resources, the manufacturing equipment, and the man power to balance it tomorrow. For today our problem is to organize and stimulate consumption. The government, by means of a large and immediate increase in public works expenditures, is the only agency that can lead the way with any hope of adequate results.

The Structural Service Department

F. LEO SMITH, TECHNICAL SECRETARY

Devoted to the advancement of knowledge of materials, methods of construction, and equipment for buildings, and to a better understanding of the art and science of architecture.

Facing the Leak

The most embarrassing moment in an architect's life is when he faces a leak in the presence of his client. "The best laid plans of mice and men aft gang alee" said Robert Burns, and the truth of this statement is most forcibly brought to an architect's attention when he is asked to explain that spreading area of moisture which has appeared to damage his work.

Many opinions have been expressed as to the probable causes and best methods of preventing the penetration of moisture through masonry walls. Although this is a problem of major importance, until recently there has been but little scientific study of the subject and disinterested, authoritative data has not been available. Architects and engineers have been compelled to rely upon their own experiences to a great extent, all too frequently with unsatisfactory results.

It has been noted that masonry walls in most of the older buildings in this country do not leak. Comparatively soft brick were used for back-up, and lime and natural cements were the only materials available for mortars. The fact that these early examples of masonry walls are water tight does not necessarily indicate that the same materials and methods should be employed today to obtain equally effective results. These walls are usually quite heavy; for example, walls in the third story of The Octagon Building are twenty-four inches in thickness.

While the strength of a wall is unquestionably of vital importance, the element of adequate protection against the weather should be most carefully considered. In a recent supplement to the Journal of the Royal Institute of British Architects it was pointed out that "A governing factor in deciding the thickness of traditional external walling material is the minimum which will keep out the wet." The possibility of moisture penetration is frequently overlooked, largely due to the general tendency to emphasize structural and architectural details.

A study of water penetration into brick masonry has been made at the Bureau of Standards. These investigations indicate that when the interior surfaces of exterior walls become wet during a rain it is likely that water has entered through open spaces between brick and mortar rather than directly through these solid materials. Such openings may be produced either through poor workmanship or by shrinkage of the mortar. The probability of mois-

ture penetration through solid eight-inch brick walls is remote under normal climatic conditions providing proper precautions have been taken to insure that there are no cracks or holes in the wall.

The American Society for Testing Materials has recognized the fact that the absorption of individual brick has little or no bearing on durability and resistance to moisture penetration in the wall, by omitting all reference to absorption requirements from the tentative standard specifications for building brick. The conception that porous masonry units are responsible for leakage is erroneous. A certain degree of porosity is desirable as units which take up moisture rapidly also tend to dry out rapidly.

Good workmanship is necessary for watertightness in masonry construction. The density of the materials themselves is not so important as the manner in which they are laid in the wall. The proper placing of the masonry units and a thorough filling of all bed and head joints with sufficient mortar is essential. Bed joints are ordinarily fairly well filled, the head joint being most frequently neglected. A perfect bond between the brick and the mortar must be obtained since the joints are the most vulnerable portion of the wall.

A selected list of sources of information on watertight brick masonry has been prepared by the Structural Service Department and will be sent to Institute members on request.

Colors and Finishes for Cast Stone

Specifications for the color and finish of cast stone are subject to widely different interpretations by the various producers of this material, which frequently leads to misunderstanding and unsatisfactory results. Appearance is an intangible quality which is not readily reduced to a generally understandable written description. Strength, density and similar properties are easily measurable by test and can be definitely specified, while color and finish are difficult to describe.

Following an investigation among private architectural offices and various federal, state, and municipal construction departments, the Cast Stone Institute undertook to devise a method whereby cast stone could be specified in open competition with some assurance of delivery of a thoroughly satisfactory product. In many cases it was found that specifications were not clear and specific regarding quality, finish and appearance. Producers placed different interpretations upon the specification with the re-

sult that cast stone below average in quality and appearance had to be accepted as complying technically with the specification.

The factors which affect the appearance of cast stone are color of aggregate, size and grading of aggregate, proportions of mix, methods of moulding, and the character and extent of surface treatment. Uniform results can be obtained by the establishment of definite visual standards to which the producers can conform and to which the architect may refer in his specifications. Judgment of the finished product can then be made without reference to the methods of obtaining desired results.

During the past year the cast stone industry sponsored a movement for the establishment of standards for color and finish of this product. The Division of Trade Standards of the Department of Commerce, the Cast Stone Institute, and the Portland Cement Association cooperated in putting this plan into operation. A conference of manufacturers was held in Washington, D. C., under the auspices of the Division of Trade Standards, for the purpose of determining upon the form of standard to be proposed and to inspect and select standard samples. The Technical Secretary of the Structural Service Department represented The American Institute of Architects on the committee which was appointed to select samples which might be appropriate for use as standards. Governmental specifying and purchasing agencies as well as private architects also assisted in the selection.

The proposed commercial standard which has been submitted for consideration, covers those colors (buff and gray) and finishes (bush-hammered, rubbed, brushed, and etched) which have been found to constitute a large proportion of the production of the cast stone industry. As the demand arises this standard will be extended to include other colors and finishes.

Original standard color and finish samples have been retained at the Bureau of Standards. Reference samples, certified as constituting satisfactory duplicates of the control samples for use by producers and others, will be made available.

Painting of Copper

Copper is generally considered sufficiently resistive to ordinary weathering conditions that painting is unnecessary for protection. Roof surfaces, flashing, gutters and downspouts of copper are not usually affected by the elements to the extent that they are no longer suitable for their intended purpose.

Clean copper, upon exposure to the atmosphere for any length of time, gradually acquires a patina, varying from brown to green. This change is primarily due to the chemical action of small quantities of salts which occur in solution in rain, resulting in the formation of basic salts of copper on the

exposed surfaces, which in time are converted into basic copper carbonate by the carbonic acid in the air. Natural patina is a valuable protective and affords an added resistance to weathering.

The difficulty of obtaining a satisfactory bond between paint and copper is one of the problems which must be met in the application of protective coatings. When painting metal of any kind it is always necessary to cleanse the surface from all traces of grease, flux, dirt and other foreign matter. Paint applied directly to untreated copper exposed to the weather will not stand for any length of time. The expansion and contraction of copper under temperature variations is another factor which must be taken into consideration and protective coatings must be sufficiently elastic to allow for temperature changes in the metal.

William Stanley Parker, A.I.A., of Sturgis Associates, Inc., Boston, Massachusetts, recently advised the Structural Service Department of an interesting experience with copper valleys and flashings on a church in Boston. This church had a slate roof of considerable area with long, steep pitched surfaces, thus involving a large flow of water.

Every year a substantial expenditure was required for repairs and replacement of old copper open valleys and flashings. Samples of the copper removed showed it was worn away to a paper thickness and at points of concentrated flow of water at the edges of the slate was worn completely through. How much of this damage was due to erosion and how much to corrosion could not be determined, but it is probable that both were active causes of the destruction of the metal. Evidence seemed to indicate that the results represented about fifteen years' exposure.

During the summer of 1929 all new copper being put in the valleys was painted, as an experiment. A black asphaltic paint was selected because of its adhesive properties. The color contrast between the copper and the paint facilitates inspection as exposure of the copper surface through wear can be plainly observed. As long as the paint remains intact, erosion or corrosion of the metal surface cannot occur. Additional coats of paint can be applied from time to time at a negligible expense whenever the original paint shows signs of being worn off.

After a three years' test the roofer reported that the original paint was still intact. In the fall of 1932 there were some indications of wear, and it may be desirable to repaint during the summer of 1933.

The result of this experiment seems to indicate that a suitable paint will adhere to copper and materially prolong its life under severe conditions so far as water flow is concerned. Mr. Parker would be interested to learn of similar experiences and whether this practice has been tried by others.

With the Chapters

EXTRACTS FROM CHAPTER MINUTES AND REPORTS

Baltimore Chapter.

At the February meeting of the Baltimore Chapter, President Nolting brought to the Chapter's attention the present contractual relations of architects with city authorities in regard to school buildings and other public works.

A resolution was adopted wherein each member who had done work for the city was requested to turn over to the Executive Committee such cost data on architectural service as the Committee might desire, and give their full aid and advice in helping to formulate a policy for remedying present unfair conditions.

Boston Chapter.

At the January meeting President R. W. Gray introduced the subject of the evening which was the problem faced by the schools of architecture in graduating students, with the profession in its present condition and with the outlook what it is.

The President called on Mr. Cram, who is one of those who had shown an interest in the subject in advance.

Mr. Cram said that his confidence and interest in the schools is very great. He receives a great number of applications from graduates of schools, and he has been unable to give them any work or any encouragement for the future. He feels that the overproduction of academically trained students who have had no practical experience is very great and very serious. As former head of a school of architecture, Mr. Cram has been impressed by the essential unfitness of about half the students. He has attempted to dissuade many of them from entering a profession in which they had little chance of success. He felt that a much more rigorous process of selection should be instituted.

Mr. Emerson, of Technology, said that the establishment of a "measuring stick," a means of determining beforehand the possibilities of a young student, is a difficult problem. It is one on which all the schools have put considerable study. With this in mind, the schools have tightened up on their entrance requirements. For many years the heads of schools have met every applicant for admission with the questions, "Why do you want to enter? Do you realize how little the financial return will be?" With a beginner, if these questions are answered with determination, there is little further opportunity for elimination.

He believed there is too great a number of architectural schools, especially in remote places, far from centers of culture. At the same time, such schools

often become centers from which spring an increasing interest in the arts and in the valuation of beauty. Mr. Emerson wanted to know, if possible, what further tests of ability could be applied at the early stages of a student's career.

Mr. Richmond, President of the Architectural Club, read an editorial from the *Boston Herald* which had for its subject the question of overproduction of lawyers. He applied this to architects also, giving the following statistics: In three schools there were 168 students in 1910, 415 students in 1932, and 292 students in 1933. The conditions at the Club reflect those of the profession. The Club's first class is much smaller this year, as it is recruited from office boys, and now there are far fewer employed.

Dean Edgell, of Harvard, admitted that the schools are in the same position as the profession; the policy is invariable, at the Harvard School of Architecture, to put the unfavorable situation as squarely before the prospective student as possible.

There are many schools, but many of them aim to produce draughtsmen. The schools at Harvard and Tech aim to produce architects primarily,—not draughtsmen. He felt that the most important question was to make the profession necessary to the life of the people, to such a degree that all the building in the country would be designed and supervised by architects, whereas a great amount of building—today the greater part of the building—is done without the supervision of any architect. If this question could be solved, there would prove to be no overproduction of architectural students.

Professor Killam, of Harvard, said that, from many years of observation of graduates, he believed that no one could judge a man's ability by what he shows in a few years of work in school.

Mr. Parker spoke of the Emergency Planning and Relief Bureau, which is trying to steer away from the profession all the least qualified men who apply for employment.

Mr. John Nolen mentioned the wider use of the architect's service that should exist. He spoke of the broader outlook on related activities which architects should have. He felt that they should work for the benefit of leisure and the amenities of living.

Brooklyn Chapter.

The Brooklyn Chapter at its February meeting passed a resolution opposing the adoption by the City of the proposed new Building Code as prepared by the Merchants Association on the ground that it contained so many provisions increasing costs and restrictions to properties in Brooklyn and other

boroughs excepting only Manhattan, and recommended that the present Code be revised step by step to incorporate such portions of the proposed Code as will bring the law more nearly in accord with present requirements.

Mr. F. F. Laurence of the Architectural Forum told of some very interesting examples of reconstruction or renovation and of advertising campaign of "Time" and "Fortune" of the value of architects services.

G. Piers Brookfield, member of the Chapter, showed three excellent and interesting reels of a four-month trip in the by-ways of England, France, Germany and Holland.

Buffalo Chapter.

At the annual meeting of the Buffalo Chapter, Harry F. Hudson and Benning C. Buell were re-elected President and Secretary, respectively.

The President in his report commented on Government work, the support given the Council of Registered Architects, and local items of accomplishment by the Chapter.

The report of the Treasurer showed that the Chapter was able to meet all its financial obligations and was still "in the black."

Chicago Chapter.

Prior to the February meeting of the Chicago Chapter, dinner was served to eighty-five guests and members.

Before the business session convened, President Farrier introduced Mr. Hugh Mellville, representing the Producers' Council Club of Chicago. Mr. Mellville extended an invitation to the members of the Chapter to attend a luncheon meeting of the Council Club on February 24th, the speaker at this luncheon meeting to be Mr. Charles A. MacCaleb, Managing Editor of *Buildings and Building Management*, whose subject would be "The Modernization of office and Apartment Buildings."

After the business meeting, C. Grant LaFarge gave a talk on "Modernism in Architecture," which was illustrated by the use of slides.

Items of Interest

Director Hewitt Visits His Chapters.

Herbert E. Hewitt, Director of the Great Lakes Division, has visited the Dayton, Cincinnati, Louisville, and Indiana Chapters. (His visits to the Grand Rapids and Detroit Chapters were briefly mentioned in the February issue of *THE OCTAGON*).

It is hoped that visits of the Directors to their Chapters will continue the effective cooperation existing between the Institute and its membership and foster a better understanding and mutual appreciation of the problems confronting the profession—which in turn are the problems of the Institute and its individual members.

"The Ruling Pen"—Publication of Long Island Society of Architects.

With James F. Bly as Editor, the Long Island Society of Architects has founded a society publication known as "The Ruling Pen."

This publication covers not only announcement of meetings but a resume of what is accomplished at each meeting of the Society, as well as other items of interest to architects and members of the building industry.

The Editor states: "*The Ruling Pen* will be sent to all architects, building officials, real estate boards, chamber of commerce, public libraries, civic and professional organizations on Long Island. Advertisers having a message for this group should find it an effective medium, available to them at a very modest

cost. While it is a publication of and for Long Island architects, we shall also endeavor to make it of value to all who receive it."

Recognition of Architecture by Dayton Press.

Sixteen columns to the *New Era* in Housing was the space given by the *Dayton Journal* on February 5 and 12 to a discussion of future home building by Louis Lott, Institute Member of the Dayton Chapter.

This contribution by Mr. Lott, in the *Dayton Journal*, consisted not only of a discussion of future home building as seen by the author but also contained many attractive illustrations of various styles of homes in many different settings. These illustrations greatly added to the publicity value of the article.

The discussion and illustrations which appeared in the *Dayton Journal* February 5 and 12 have been passed on to the *Publicist* of the Institute not only for his information but in order that he may recommend similar action by other Chapters.

Publicity such as that given by the *Dayton Journal* through the efforts of Mr. Lott is of great value to the profession. It would have been impossible to get such recognition a few years ago.

It has been said that the building of homes affords the brightest outlook for architectural service in the near future. Therefore, the Chapters should avail

themselves of any opportunity they may have to work with the local newspapers in furnishing interesting material—articles and illustrations—so that there may be not only a revival of building but a desire on the part of the public generally to build and own homes of better design.

Competition For Scholarships—Massachusetts Institute of Technology

Two scholarships of five hundred dollars (\$500) each are offered in the academic year 1933-34 for special students in the fourth or the fifth year of the course in Architecture at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. They will be awarded as the result of a competition in design under the direction of the Committee on Design of the Department of Architecture.

The competition is open to citizens of the United States of good character, who are between twenty-one and twenty-eight years of age, and who have had at least three years of experience.

The competition will be held from May 13 to May 22.

Competitors are allowed to prepare their drawings wherever conditions conform to the requirements of the Committee, but these drawings must be sent to Boston for judgment.

Application should be received on or before April 17, addressed to Professor William Emerson, 491 Boylston Street, Boston.

Princeton Prizes in Architecture

Two competitive prizes of Eight Hundred Dollars (\$800) each, in the School of Architecture, Princeton University, are announced for the year 1933-34. The purpose of these prizes is to permit men of unusual ability, who desire to complete their professional training, to profit by the opportunities offered by the School of Architecture, the Department of Art and Archaeology, and the Graduate School, of Princeton University.

The Prizes will be awarded as the result of a Competition in Design to be held from 9.00 a. m. May 20, 1933, to 9.00 a. m. May 31, 1933. The right is reserved to withhold either or both awards in case no candidates are considered to have reached the required standard. The winners will devote the following school year to the study of Advanced Architectural Design, and such other subjects as they may elect. They are exempt from tuition fees.

Candidates for these Prizes shall be unmarried male citizens, not less than twenty-one nor more than twenty-seven years of age on September 1, 1933, who have been employed as draftsmen in architects' offices for not less than three years, or who

have otherwise demonstrated their ability in Architectural Design.

Applications to enter the competition for the Prizes must be filed on or before April 22, 1933.

For application blanks and regulations governing the Competition and Award, address the Director, School of Architecture, Princeton University, Princeton, New Jersey.

Maine Architectural Society.

On page 47 of the January issue of THE OCTAGON, brief reference was made to the Architectural Society recently organized in the state of Maine of which John Calvin Stevens, F.A.I.A. is president. The following additional information is of interest.

"The Maine Architectural Society is an organization of Architects practicing their profession within the State of Maine. Any Architect is eligible for membership upon presentation of proof of his professional qualifications and upon agreement to conduct his practice in accordance with the Code of Ethics of the Society. Election to Membership is by vote.

"There are three classes of membership, namely: Members, who are Architects practicing the Profession, or who are engaged in education; Associate Members, who are Practicing Architects, or who are architectural draftsmen employed in the various offices in the State; and Affiliated Members, who are persons, not by profession Architects, who have attained distinction in any of the arts allied to Architecture.

"The Society has adopted the 'Principles of Professional Practice' of the American Institute of Architects. These principles are those of fair professional conduct and may be summarized as follows: That an Architect will in all cases keep good faith with his client; that he will accept fees from his client only, and will remain clear from alliances or obligations which might prejudice his professional judgments and acts; that he will not knowingly compete with his fellow Architects upon a basis of fee; that he will not advertise for self-laudatory purposes; that he will not falsely or maliciously injure the reputation or business prospects of a fellow Architect; that he will not endeavor to supplant another Architect after definite steps toward his employment have been taken by a client, and will not undertake a commission for which another has been previously employed until he has determined that the original relation has been fairly and properly terminated; and that he will not take part in any competition which does not contain the provisions which experience has found to be necessary if the best interests of both the Owner and the Architect are to be safeguarded."

Garden Tours 1933

By Mrs. T. H. B. McKnight

Editor of the Bulletin of the Garden Club of America

AFTER a winter, somewhat noted for its discontent, it is pleasant to feel that spring with its attendant Garden Tours is at hand.

Virginia

Virginia "Garden Week," an institution which has become almost a necessity to garden-lovers, is to be celebrated this year from April 24th to the 29th.

Through the courtesy of the owners, estates to be shown include some from the James River belt, from the Upper James, from Richmond and vicinity, from Tidewater Virginia and the Potomac region. The individual names of these stately and beautiful homes call to mind moss-covered rose-red masonry set in the midst of vast garden landscapes, century-old trees with lavish verdure.

On this tour it will be possible to see something of the restoration of Williamsburg, Virginia. Although far from being completed, there is much of interest in the buildings and from a horticultural point of view the boxwood planted in the Palace Garden is an amazing sight.

To recreate the rich inheritance of the past is an immense undertaking; progress is necessarily slow and the visitor should not judge too hastily the rather overpowering effect of the restored buildings in the very simple setting of Williamsburg which for so many years has meant "a little city, white and rambling and dormer-windowed, where one wandered dreamily through the aisles of history."

Information about Garden Week may be had by writing their headquarters, Jefferson Hotel, Richmond, Virginia.

South Carolina

In South Carolina, memories are as fragrant as the yellow jessamine in the woods, and the three "Great" gardens open to the public are not only beautiful because of their magnificent display of azaleas and camellias, but because of their historic background, their age and their traditions.

So much has been written about Middleton Place, Magnolia Gardens and the Cypress Gardens, that

no detail is needed here. Two are famed for their wide stretches of beauty, color unbelievably vivid and glorious, and, as on the James River plantations, a peace that passes one's understanding. The Cypress Garden, silent and mysterious, is well worth a visit.

Pennsylvania

Although in no way connected with any tour, the horticulturally-minded might be interested in the Orchid Show to be held, under the auspices of the American Orchid Society, at Mr. Pierre duPont's estate, Longwood, Kennett Square, Pennsylvania, from May 5th to the 7th. This provides a fortunate setting. The gorgeous exotics will be shown against a background of natural green rather than the stereotyped setting of an indoor show. The famous fountains will play at certain times and the show promises to be the best the Society has ever staged.

Mississippi

The Natchez Garden Club is sponsoring a week of unique entertainment for those who care to see its ante-bellum houses. At this time, during the week of April 3rd through April 9th, twenty-two lovely old mansions will be open to the public for the second time since their erection over one hundred years ago. Last year was the first time that we were able to induce the owners of these houses to allow the public to see them and their priceless interiors of inherited treasures.

Delaware

The famous gardens of Newcastle and seventeen historic building of interest in that city will be open Saturday, May 20th, from 12:30 to 6:00 P. M. Hostesses in costume will welcome the guests.

There will be an exhibit of silver, china, and other colonial treasures.

Newcastle, laid out in 1655, has many points of interest to architects in addition to its beautiful gardens and the buildings which will be open to the public on May 20th.

Published Monthly by

The American Institute of Architects

Executive and Publication Offices, The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue N. W., Washington, D. C.

TWENTY-FIVE CENTS THE COPY. \$1 PER YEAR. (FOREIGN \$2)

Checks or Money Orders should be made payable to The American Institute of Architects
All communications for publication should be sent to The Secretary, The A. I. A.

Copyright, 1929, by The American Institute of Architects

Entered as second-class matter, February 9, 1929, at the Post Office at Washington, D. C.

BOOKS AND DOCUMENTS

STANDARD CONTRACT DOCUMENTS

Agreement and General Conditions in cover.....	\$0.50
General Conditions without Agreement.....	.35
Agreement without General Conditions.....	.15
Bond of Suretyship.....	.10
Form of Sub-Contract.....	.10
Letter of Acceptance of Subcontractor's Proposal10
Cover (heavy paper with valuable notes).....	.02
Complete set in cover.....	.75

MISCELLANEOUS DOCUMENTS

Agenda for Architects.....	\$.40
Review of the Standard Documents.....	1.00
Standard Filing System.....	.50
Alphabetical Index to Standard Filing System.....	.50
Standard Filing System and Alphabetical Index (combined)	1.00

BOOKS

HANDBOOK OF ARCHITECTURAL PRACTICE.....	\$5.00
THE AUTOGRAPHY OF AN IDEA— <i>Louis H. Sullivan</i>	3.00
A SYSTEM OF ARCHITECTURAL ORNAMENT— <i>Louis H. Sullivan</i>	15.00
CHARLESTON, S. C. (Vol. I—Octagon Library of Early American Architecture).....	20.00
BERTRAM GROSVENOR GOODHUE—ARCHITECT AND MASTER OF MANY ARTS.....	30.00

These books and documents are published and endorsed by The American Institute of Architects. They are highly commended to the membership.

A discount of twenty-five per cent is given to members of the Institute, on the Handbook, and on the Standard Contract Documents in lots of 100 or more, when ordered direct from THE OCTAGON.

Transportation prepaid on order amounting to \$1.00 or more net. Orders, communications and remittances (checks, money-orders, cash or stamps) should be sent to The American Institute of Architects, The Octagon, 1741 N. Y. Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C.

