

THE  
OCTAGON

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*A Journal of The American Institute of Architects*

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*A Great Building Program  
United States Housing Act of 1937  
Summary of the Housing Act  
Federal Home Building Service Plan  
Publications Relating to Housing  
School Medal Awards*

*Volume 9*

*AUGUST  
1937*

*Number 8*

# THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE OCTAGON, WASHINGTON, D. C.

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# THE OCTAGON

*A Journal of the American Institute of Architects*

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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

## The Beginning of a Great Building Program

BY WALTER R. MCCORNACK, CHAIRMAN

COMMITTEE ON HOUSING, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

THE Wagner-Steagall housing bill has been passed by Congress and signed by the President.

The significance of the enactment of this new housing legislation is not in its provisions, but in the nation-wide recognition of the fact that housing is one of the major problems before the country today.

This recognition has come about in a relatively short period of time.

The opposition to the bill in Congress was not particularly outspoken except with respect to some of the detail provisions. Many of those who spoke and voted against the bill prefaced their remarks with statements recognizing the need for such legislation, all of which indicates that once the national Housing Authority is set up and in operation it is expected that many constructive suggestions will be offered to improve and strengthen the program and to render it applicable to the various sections of the country.

Three major changes in the original bill submitted by Senator Wagner were made. These changes came about through the experiences gained during the Government's recent housing programs—which were primarily experimental and of an emergency nature.

These changes were:

**NOTE:** The printing of this number of THE OCTAGON was delayed to permit the inclusion of the new Housing Act. It is recommended that this number of THE OCTAGON be filed as a permanent reference document.

*First—Opposition to Creation of Another Government Board.*

Much opposition developed to the creation of a separate board, which would have consisted of five members appointed by the President.

The Senate amended this section to provide for three members to be appointed by the President, but permitted the creation of a separate board.

The House amended this section to place the Housing Authority in the Department of the Interior with one member—an Administrator. The bill was passed in this form.

*Second—Increasing Local Participation.*

The original bill would have made it possible under certain conditions for localities to secure 100 per cent Government financing.

The bill was changed to require local authorities to provide 10 per cent of the cost. Facts which have been developed indicate that the slum areas of our cities are a serious financial burden on local taxing units, and that the elimination of these areas would greatly reduce the cost of government in localities where there are slums. It would, therefore, appear just to assess part of the cost locally. As a matter of fact the local communities should eventually bear more of the cost than set up in the bill. No doubt this will come about as the program develops nationally and cities find themselves better able to do so.

During the years of the depression the various

cities looked to the national government for aid and formed one more bloc appealing for help from the national Treasury. Our great cities were developed through local initiative and courage. When we return to that method they will be rebuilt in a saner and more economical way.

### *Third—Limitation on Cost.*

This was one of the most important changes made in the bill. Whatever motives may have brought about the change it was a wise one. We may as well face the fact that on the basis of the cost of government housing, whether P. W. A. or Resettlement, it would be impossible to carry on a housing program of any importance. The original bill placed no limit on the cost of the dwelling units.

It has been said that building material interests and union labor have blocked every effort to produce general low-cost housing in America.

The real objective of a low-cost housing program is to produce safe and sanitary dwelling units for families now living in insanitary and socially degrading homes. It is *not* primarily to provide business for manufacturers of building materials and equipment, or to bail out landowners who now desire to escape the consequences of greedy speculation, or to assure a new era for the speculative builder, or to create a lot of work for union labor.

Under the recent housing program many who composed these groups seemed to consider that program as established for their special benefit. The result was that the Government built housing for which, even with a 45 per cent grant, it was forced to arbitrarily fix a rent which bore no sane relation to capital cost. It was also necessary to select tenants with incomes above what tenants for low-rent housing should pay—leaving the evicted slum dwellers to shift for themselves and, in many cases, to live in worse dwellings than they had previously occupied.

The Government's program was worth its cost, but it did not produce the kind of housing which is essential if we are to successfully clear our cities of slums.

The low-cost housing built by the Government so far is better than that in which many hundreds of thousands of taxpayers can afford to live. Through taxation they were forced to pay for

housing accommodations more elaborate and more costly than necessary to serve the fundamental purposes intended.

In this new act Congress did the slum dwellers of America a great service by limiting the cost of dwelling units to be constructed and, in addition, it threw down the gauntlet to the building industry in no uncertain terms.

A nation which has grown to be the most powerful on earth, with unequalled natural resources, great cities, transcontinental transportation systems, electricity in all its varied forms, radio, the low-priced automobile, sound motion pictures, the electric eye and many other things in our great industrial system, cannot continue to construct homes by methods a century old and expect the small taxpayers to saddle the load. They cannot and will not do so. In spite of the many arguments that the machine age is ruining our social and economic system we shall no doubt be compelled to simplify and cheapen our methods of home building. It is a well-known fact that many of our leading automobile manufacturers in the low-cost car field have cut the costs of their cars in half and improved the quality. In the so-called low-cost housing field the opposite has been the case.

Our much discussed American standard of living which many are seeking to impose on housing is not the standard at all. The standard is actually what the mass of the people have, and that is far below what we regard as necessary for a low-cost housing program. In their youth thousands of our leaders today in all walks of life did not enjoy standards of living now regarded as essential. They did have clean and decent environments with plenty of fresh air and recreation—and that is what our present objective should be. A little less social hysteria and a little more common sense will find a way.

The new Housing Act sets the limit of cost at \$5,000 for a four-room dwelling unit. To really do a good housing job and reach the great masses who now live in degradation, we must ultimately cut the cost to half of that or \$2,500 for a four-room unit. This is a challenge to the building industry. It should be accepted.

Space will not permit nor is the time ripe for an attempt to evaluate the many other provisions of the new housing legislation.

Immediate action by the entire building industry is now in order. When obstacles are encountered they can be met. If amendments to the law are necessary let them be proposed and enacted in due course.

The architects are often heard to complain about interference in their field. On the theory that a strong offense is a strong defense, let the profession immediately take steps to enter the housing field as leaders.

The architect is the unbiased arbiter between the building public and the building industry.

The report of the Housing Committee adopted by the Convention of The Institute, in Boston, in June of this year, recommended that each chapter

organize a Housing Committee to act locally in cooperation with The Institute's Housing Committee.

The Committee is formulating a program for the coming year and hopes that each chapter will organize its own Committee as soon as possible whether a need for it appears to exist or not. The time will come when every chapter can help in this great work.

The United States has a Housing Law.

The United States has a Housing Authority.

The architects have the greatest opportunity in the history of the profession, and all the man power and intellect of the profession should be mobilized for action now.

## United States Housing Act of 1937

APPROVED, SEPTEMBER 1, 1937.

[PUBLIC—No. 412—75TH CONGRESS]  
[CHAPTER 896—1ST SESSION]  
[S. 1685]

### AN ACT

To provide financial assistance to the States and political subdivisions thereof for the elimination of unsafe and insanitary housing conditions, for the eradication of slums, for the provision of decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings for families of low income, and for the reduction of unemployment and the stimulation of business activity, to create a United States Housing Authority, and for other purposes.

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### Declaration of Policy.

SECTION 1. It is hereby declared to be the policy of the United States to promote the general welfare of the Nation by employing its funds and credit, as provided in this Act, to assist the several States and their political subdivisions to alleviate present and recurring unemployment and to remedy the unsafe and insanitary housing conditions and the acute shortage of decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings for families of low income, in rural or urban com-

munities, that are injurious to the health, safety, and morals of the citizens of the Nation.

#### Definitions.

SEC. 2. When used in this Act—

(1) The term "low-rent housing" means decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings within the financial reach of families of low income, and developed and administered to promote serviceability, efficiency, economy, and stability, and embraces all necessary appurtenances thereto. The dwellings in low-rent housing as defined in this Act shall be available solely for families whose net income at the time of admission does not exceed five times the rental (including the value or cost to them of heat, light, water, and cooking fuel) of the dwellings to be furnished such families, except that in the case of families with three or more minor dependents, such ratio shall not exceed six to one.

(2) The term "families of low income" means families who are in the lowest income group and who cannot afford to pay enough to cause private enterprise in their locality or metropolitan area to build an adequate supply of decent, safe, and sanitary dwellings for their use.

(3) The term "slum" means any area where dwellings predominate which, by reason of dilapida-

tion, overcrowding, faulty arrangement or design, lack of ventilation, light or sanitation facilities, or any combination of these factors, are detrimental to safety, health, or morals.

(4) The term "slum clearance" means the demolition and removal of buildings from any slum area.

(5) The term "development" means any or all undertakings necessary for planning, financing (including payment of carrying charges), land acquisition, demolition, construction, or equipment, in connection with a low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project, but not beyond the point of physical completion. Construction activity in connection with a low-rent-housing project may be confined to the reconstruction, remodeling, or repair of existing buildings.

(6) The term "administration" means any or all undertakings necessary for management, operation, maintenance, or financing, in connection with a low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project, subsequent to physical completion.

(7) The term "Federal project" means any project owned or administered by the Authority.

(8) The term "acquisition cost" means the amount prudently required to be expended by a public housing agency in acquiring a low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project.

(9) The term "non-dwelling facilities" shall include site development, improvements and facilities located outside building walls (including streets, sidewalks, and sanitary, utility, and other facilities).

(10) The term "going Federal rate of interest" means, at any time, the annual rate of interest specified in the then most recently issued bonds of the Federal Government having a maturity of ten years or more.

(11) The term "public housing agency" means any State, county, municipality, or other governmental entity or public body (excluding the Authority), which is authorized to engage in the development or administration of low-rent housing or slum clearance.

(12) The term "State" includes the States of the Union, the District of Columbia, and the Territories, dependencies, and possessions of the United States.

(13) The term "Authority" means the United States Housing Authority created by section 3 of this Act.

#### United States Housing Authority.

SEC. 3. (a) There is hereby created in the Department of the Interior and under the general supervision of the Secretary thereof a body corporate of perpetual duration to be known as the United States Housing Authority, which shall be an agency and instrumentality of the United States.

(b) The powers of the Authority shall be vested in and exercised by an Administrator, who shall be appointed by the President, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Administrator shall serve for a term of five years and shall be removable by the President upon notice and hearing for neglect of duty or malfeasance but for no other cause.

(c) The Administrator shall receive a salary of \$10,000 a year, shall be eligible for reappointment, and shall not engage in any other business, vocation, or employment. Neither the Administrator nor any officer or employee of the Authority shall participate in any matter affecting his personal interests or the interest of any corporation, partnership, or association in which he is directly or indirectly interested.

SEC. 4. (a) The Administrator is authorized, subject to the civil-service laws and the Classification Act of 1923, as amended, to appoint and fix the compensation of such employees as may be necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the Authority under this Act; except that without regard to the civil-service laws he may appoint such officers, attorneys and experts, and such employees whose compensation is in excess of \$1,980 per annum, as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act.

(b) Appointment to positions made under the provisions of this Act the annual salary of which is in excess of \$7,500 per annum shall be subject to confirmation by the Senate.

(c) The Administrator may accept and utilize such voluntary and uncompensated services and with the consent of the agency concerned may utilize such officers, employees, equipment, and information of any agency of the Federal, State, or local governments as he finds helpful in the per-

formance of the duties of the Authority. In connection with the utilization of such services, the Authority may make reasonable payments for necessary traveling and other expenses.

(d) The President may at any time in his discretion transfer to the Authority any right, interest, or title held by any department or agency of the Federal Government in any housing or slum-clearance projects (constructed or in process of construction on the date of enactment of this Act), any assets, contracts, records, libraries, research materials, and other property held in connection with any such housing or slum-clearance projects or activities, any unexpended balance of funds allocated to such department or agency for the development, administration, or assistance of any housing or slum-clearance projects or activities, and any employees who have been engaged in work connected with housing or slum clearance. The Authority may continue any or all activities undertaken in connection with projects so transferred, subject to the provisions of this Act.

SEC. 5. (a) The principal office of the Authority shall be in the District of Columbia, but it may establish branch offices or agencies in any State, and may exercise any of its powers at any place within the United States. The Authority may, by one or more of its officers or employees or by such agents or agencies as it may designate, conduct hearings or negotiations at any place.

(b) The Authority shall sue and be sued in its own name, and shall be represented in all litigated matters by the Attorney General or such attorney or attorneys as he may designate.

(c) The Authority shall have an official seal, which shall be judicially noticed.

(d) The Authority shall be granted the free use of the mails in the same manner as the executive departments of the Government.

(e) The Authority, including but not limited to its franchise, capital, reserves, surplus, loans, income, assets, and property of any kind, shall be exempt from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority. Obligations, including interest thereon, issued by public housing agencies in connection with low-rent-housing or slum-clearance projects, and the income derived by such agencies from such projects, shall be exempt

from all taxation now or hereafter imposed by the United States.

SEC. 6. (a) The Authority may make such expenditures, subject to audit under the general law, for the acquisition and maintenance of adequate administrative agencies, offices, vehicles, furnishings, equipment, supplies, books, periodicals, printing and binding, for attendance at meetings, for any necessary traveling expenses within the United States, its Territories, dependencies, or possessions, and for such other expenses as may from time to time be found necessary for the proper administration of this Act. Such financial transactions of the Authority as the making of loans, annual contributions, and capital grants, and the acquisition, sale, exchange, lease, or other disposition of real and personal property, and vouchers approved by the Administrator in connection with such financial transactions, shall be final and conclusive upon all officers of the Government; except that all such financial transactions of the Authority shall be audited by the General Accounting Office at such times and in such manner as the Comptroller General of the United States may by regulation prescribe.

(b) The provisions of section 3709 of the Revised Statutes (U. S. C., 1934 ed., title 41, sec. 5) shall apply to all contracts of the Authority for services and to all of its purchases of supplies except when the aggregate amount involved is less than \$300.

(c) The use of funds made available for the purposes of this Act shall be subject to the provisions of section 2 of title 3 of the Treasury and Post Office Appropriation Act for the fiscal year 1934 (47 Stat. 1489), and to make such provisions effective every contract or agreement of any kind pursuant to this Act shall contain a provision identical to the one prescribed in section 3 of title 3 of such Act.

(d) No annual contribution, grant, or loan, and no contract for any annual contribution, grant, or loan, under this Act, shall be undertaken by the Authority except with the approval of the President.

SEC. 7. (a) The Authority may publish and disseminate information pertinent to the various aspects of housing.

(b) In January of each year the Authority shall make an annual report to Congress of its operations and expenses, including loans, contributions,

and grants made or contracted for, low-rent-housing and slum-clearance projects, undertaken, and the assets and liabilities of the Authority. Such report shall include operating statements of all projects under the jurisdiction of or receiving the assistance of the Authority, including summaries of the incomes of occupants, sizes of families, rentals, and other related information.

SEC. 8. The Authority may from time to time make, amend, and rescind such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

#### Loans for Low-rent-housing and Slum-clearance Projects.

SEC. 9. The Authority may make loans to public-housing agencies to assist the development, acquisition, or administration of low-rent-housing or slum-clearance projects by such agencies. Where capital grants are made pursuant to section 11 the total amount of such loans outstanding on any one project and in which the Authority participates shall not exceed the development or acquisition cost of such project less all such capital grants, but in no event shall said loans exceed 90 per centum of such cost. In the case of annual contributions, in assistance of low rentals as provided in section 10 the total of such loans outstanding on any one project and in which the Authority participates shall not exceed 90 per centum of the development or acquisition cost of such project. Such loans shall bear interest at such rate not less than the going Federal rate at the time the loan is made, plus one-half of one per centum, shall be secured in such manner, and shall be repaid within such period not exceeding sixty years, as may be deemed advisable by the Authority.

#### Annual Contributions in Assistance of Low Rentals.

SEC. 10. (a) The Authority may make annual contributions to public housing agencies to assist in achieving and maintaining the low-rent character of their housing projects. The annual contributions for any such project shall be fixed in uniform amounts, and shall be paid in such amounts over a fixed period of years. No part of such annual contributions by the Authority shall be made available for any project unless and until the State, city, county, or other political subdivision in which such

project is situated shall contribute, in the form of cash or tax remissions, general or special, or tax exemptions, at least 20 per centum of the annual contributions herein provided. The Authority shall embody the provisions for such annual contributions in a contract guaranteeing their payment over such fixed period: *Provided*, That no annual contributions shall be made, and the Authority shall enter into no contract guaranteeing any annual contribution in connection with the development of any low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project involving the construction of new dwellings, unless the project includes the elimination by demolition, condemnation, and effective closing, or the compulsory repair or improvement of unsafe or insanitary dwellings situated in the locality or metropolitan area, substantially equal in number to the number of newly constructed dwellings provided by the project; except that such elimination may, in the discretion of the Authority, be deferred in any locality or metropolitan area where the shortage of decent, safe, or sanitary housing available to families of low income is so acute as to force dangerous overcrowding of such families.

(b) Annual contributions shall be strictly limited to the amounts and periods necessary, in the determination of the Authority, to assure the low-rent character of the housing projects involved. Toward this end the Authority may prescribe regulations fixing the maximum contributions available under different circumstances, giving consideration to cost, location, size, rent-paying ability of prospective tenants, or other factors bearing upon the amounts and periods of assistance needed to achieve and maintain low rentals. Such regulations may provide for rates of contribution based upon development, acquisition or administration cost, number of dwelling units, number of persons housed, or other appropriate factors: *Provided*, That the fixed contribution payable annually under any contract shall in no case exceed a sum equal to the annual yield, at the going Federal rate of interest at the time such contract is made plus 1 per centum, upon the development or acquisition cost of the low-rent housing or slum-clearance project involved: *And provided further*, That all such annual contributions shall be used first to apply toward any payment of interest or principal on any loan due to the Authority from the public housing agency.



(c) In case any contract for annual contributions is made for a period exceeding twenty years, the Authority shall reserve the right to reexamine the status of the low-rent-housing project involved at the end of ten years and every five years thereafter; and, at the time of any such reexamination, the Authority may make such modification (subject to all the provisions of this section) in the fixed and uniform amounts of subsequent annual contributions payable under such contract as is warranted by changed conditions and as is consistent with maintaining the low-rent character of the housing project involved. In no case shall any contract for annual contributions be made for a period exceeding sixty years.

(d) All payments of annual contributions pursuant to this section shall be made out of any funds available to the Authority when such payments are due, except that its capital and its funds obtained through the issuance of obligations pursuant to section 20 (including repayments or other realizations of the principal of loans made out of such capital and funds) shall not be available for the payment of such annual contributions.

(e) The Authority is authorized, on and after the date of the enactment of this Act, to enter into contracts which provide for annual contributions aggregating not more than \$5,000,000 per annum, on or after July 1, 1938, to enter into additional such contracts which provide for annual contributions aggregating not more than \$7,500,000 per annum, and on or after July 1, 1939, to enter into additional such contracts which provide for annual contributions aggregating not more than \$7,500,000 per annum. Without further authorization from Congress, no new contracts for annual contributions beyond those herein authorized shall be entered into by the Authority. The faith of the United States is solemnly pledged to the payment of all annual contributions contracted for pursuant to this section, and there is hereby authorized to be appropriated in each fiscal year, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the amounts necessary to provide for such payments.

#### Capital Grants in Assistance of Low Rentals.

SEC. 11. (a) As an alternative method of assistance to that provided in section 10, when any public housing agency so requests and demonstrates to

the satisfaction of the Authority that such alternative method is better suited to the purpose of achieving and maintaining low rentals and to the other purposes of this Act, capital grants may be made to such agency for such purposes. The capital grants thus made for any low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project shall be paid in connection with its development or acquisition, and shall be strictly limited to the amounts necessary, in the determination of the Authority, to assure its low-rent character: *Provided, however,* That no capital grant shall be made for the development of any low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project involving the construction of new dwellings, unless the project includes the elimination by demolition, condemnation, and effective closing, or the compulsory repair or improvement of unsafe or insanitary dwellings situated in the locality or metropolitan area, substantially equal in number to the number of newly constructed dwelling units provided by the project; except that such elimination may, in the discretion of the Authority, be deferred in any locality or metropolitan area where the shortage of decent, safe, or sanitary housing available to families of low income is so acute as to force dangerous overcrowding of such families.

(b) Pursuant to subsection (a) of this section, the Authority may make a capital grant for any low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project, which shall in no case exceed 25 per centum of its development or acquisition cost.

(c) All payments of capital grants by the Authority pursuant to subsection (b) of this section shall be made out of any funds available to the Authority, except that its capital and its funds obtained through the issuance of obligations pursuant to section 20 (including repayments or other realizations of the principal of loans made out of such capital and funds) shall not be available for the payment of such capital grants.

(d) The Authority is authorized, on or after the date of the enactment of this Act to make capital grants (pursuant to subsection (b) of this section) aggregating not more than \$10,000,000, on or after July 1, 1938, to make additional capital grants aggregating not more than \$10,000,000, and on or after July 1, 1939, to make additional capital grants aggregating not more than \$10,000,000. Without further authorization from Congress, no

capital grants beyond those herein authorized shall be made by the Authority.

(e) To supplement any capital grant made by the Authority in connection with the development of any low-rent housing or slum-clearance project, the President may allocate to the Authority, from any funds available for the relief of unemployment, an additional capital grant to be expended for payment of labor used in such development: *Provided*, That such additional capital grant shall not exceed 15 per centum of the development cost of the low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project involved.

(f) No capital grant pursuant to this section shall be made for any low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project unless the public housing agency receiving such capital grant shall also receive, from the State, political subdivision thereof, or otherwise, a contribution for such project (in the form of cash, land, or the value, capitalized at the going Federal rate of interest, of community facilities or services for which a charge is usually made, or tax remissions or tax exemptions) in an amount not less than 20 per centum of its development or acquisition cost.

#### Disposal of Federal Projects.

SEC. 12. (a) It is hereby declared to be the purpose of Congress to provide for the orderly disposal of any low-rent-housing projects hereafter transferred to or acquired by the Authority through the sale or leasing of such projects as hereinafter provided; and, in order to continue the relief of Nation-wide unemployment and in order to avoid waste pending such sale or lease, to provide for the completion and temporary administration of such projects by the Authority.

(b) As soon as practicable the Authority shall sell its Federal projects or divest itself of their management through leases.

(c) The Authority may sell a Federal project only to a public housing agency. Any such sale shall be for a consideration, in whatever form may be satisfactory to the Authority, equal at least to the amount which the Authority determines to be the fair value of the project for housing purposes of a low-rent character (making such adjustment as the Authority deems advisable for any annual contributions which may hereafter be given hereunder in aid of the project), less such allowance for depreciation as the Authority shall fix. Such project

shall then become eligible for loans pursuant to section 9, and either annual contributions pursuant to section 10 or a capital grant pursuant to section 11. Any obligation of the purchaser accepted by the Authority as part of the consideration for the sale of such project shall be deemed a loan pursuant to section 9.

(d) The Authority may lease any Federal low-rent-housing project, in whole or in part, to a public housing agency. The lessee of any project, pursuant to this paragraph, shall assume and pay all management, operation, and maintenance costs, together with payments, if any, in lieu of taxes, and shall pay to the Authority such annual sums as the Authority shall determine are consistent with maintaining the low-rent character of such project. The provisions of section 321 of the Act of June 30, 1932 (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 40, sec. 303 b), shall not apply to any lease pursuant to this Act.

(e) In the administration of any Federal low-rent-housing project pending sale or lease, the Authority shall fix the rentals at the amounts necessary to pay all management, operation, and maintenance costs, together with payments, if any, in lieu of taxes, plus such additional amounts as the Authority shall determine are consistent with maintaining the low-rent character of such project.

#### General Powers of the Authority.

SEC. 13. (a) The Authority may foreclose on any property or commence any action to protect or enforce any right conferred upon it by any law, contract, or other agreement. The Authority may bid for and purchase at any foreclosure by any party or at any other sale, or otherwise acquire, and may administer, any low-rent-housing project which it previously owned or in connection with which it has made a loan pursuant to section 9, annual contributions pursuant to section 10, or capital grants pursuant to section 11.

(b) The acquisition by the Authority of any real property pursuant to this Act shall not deprive any State or political subdivision thereof of its civil and criminal jurisdiction in and over such property, or impair the civil rights under the State or local law of the inhabitants on such property; and, insofar as any such jurisdiction may have been taken away or any such rights impaired by reason of the

acquisition of any property transferred to the Authority pursuant to section 4 (d), such jurisdiction and such rights are hereby fully restored.

(c) The Authority may enter into agreements to pay annual sums in lieu of taxes to any State or political subdivision thereof with respect to any real property owned by the Authority. The amount so paid for any year upon any such property shall not exceed the taxes that would be paid to the State or subdivision, as the case may be, upon such property if it were not exempt from taxation thereby.

(d) The Authority may procure insurance against any loss in connection with its property and other assets (including mortgages), in such amounts, and from such insurers, as it deems desirable.

(e) The Authority may sell or exchange at public or private sale, or lease, any real property (except low-rent-housing projects, the disposition of which is governed elsewhere in this Act) or personal property, and sell or exchange any securities or obligations, upon such terms as it may fix. The Authority may borrow on the security of any real or personal property owned by it, or on the security of the revenues to be derived therefrom, and may use the proceeds of such loans for the purposes of this Act.

SEC. 14. Subject to the specific limitations or standards in this Act governing the terms of sales, rentals, leases, loans, contracts for annual contributions, contracts for capital grants, or other agreements, the Authority may, whenever it deems it necessary or desirable in the fulfillment of the purposes of this Act, consent to the modification, with respect to rate of interest, time of payment of any installment of principal or interest, security, amount of annual contribution, or any other term, of any contract or agreement of any kind to which the Authority is a party or which has been transferred to it pursuant to this Act. Any rule of law contrary to this provision shall be deemed inapplicable.

SEC. 15. In order to insure that the low-rent character of housing projects will be preserved, and that the other purposes of this Act will be achieved, it is hereby provided that—

(1) When a loan is made pursuant to section 9 for a low-rent-housing project the Authority may retain the right, in the event of a substantial breach

of the condition (which shall be embodied in the loan agreement) providing for the maintenance of the low-rent character of the housing project involved or in the event of the acquisition of such project by a third party in any manner including a bona-fide foreclosure under a mortgage or other lien held by a third party, to increase the interest payable thereafter on the balance of said loan then held by the Authority to a rate not in excess of the going Federal rate (at the time of such breach or acquisition) plus 2 per centum per annum or to declare the unpaid principal on said loan due forthwith.

(2) When a loan is made pursuant to section 9 for a slum-clearance project the Authority shall retain the right, in the event of the leasing or acquisition of such project by a third party in any manner including a bona-fide foreclosure under a mortgage or other lien held by a third party, to increase the interest payable thereafter on the balance of said loan then held by the Authority to a rate not in excess of the going Federal rate (at the time of such leasing or acquisition) plus 2 per centum per annum or to declare the unpaid principal on said loan due forthwith.

(3) When a contract for annual contributions is made pursuant to section 10, the Authority shall retain the right, in the event of a substantial breach of the condition (which shall be embodied in such contract) providing for the maintenance of the low-rent character of the housing project involved, to reduce or terminate the annual contributions payable under such contract. In the event of the acquisition of such project by a third party in any manner including a bona-fide foreclosure under a mortgage or other lien held by a third party, such annual contributions shall terminate.

(4) The Authority may also insert in any contract for loans, annual contributions, capital grants, sale, lease, mortgage, or any other agreement or instrument made pursuant to this Act, such other covenants, conditions, or provisions as it may deem necessary in order to insure the low-rent character of the housing project involved: *Provided*, That any such contract for a substantial loan may contain a condition requiring the maintenance of an open space or playground in connection with the housing project involved if deemed necessary by the Authority for the safety or health of children.

(5) No contract for any loan, annual contribution, or capital grant made pursuant to this Act shall be entered into by the Authority with respect to any project hereafter initiated costing more than \$4,000 per family-dwelling-unit or more than \$1,000 per room (excluding land, demolition, and non-dwelling facilities); except that in any city the population of which exceeds 500,000 any such contract may be entered into with respect to a project hereafter initiated costing not to exceed \$5,000 per family-dwelling-unit or not to exceed \$1,250 per room (excluding land, demolition, and non-dwelling facilities), if in the opinion of the Authority such higher family-dwelling-unit cost or cost per room is justified by reason of higher costs of labor and materials and other construction costs. With respect to housing projects on which construction is hereafter initiated, the Authority shall make loans, grants, and annual contributions only for such low-rent-housing projects as it finds are to be undertaken in such a manner (a) that such projects will not be of elaborate or expensive design or materials, and economy will be promoted both in construction and administration, and (b) that the average construction cost of the dwelling units (excluding land, demolition, and non-dwelling facilities) in any such project is not greater than the average construction cost of dwelling units currently produced by private enterprise, in the locality or metropolitan area concerned, under the legal building requirements applicable to the proposed site, and under labor standards not lower than those prescribed in this Act.

SEC. 16. In order to protect labor standards—

(1) The provisions of the Act of August 30, 1935, entitled "An act to amend the Act approved March 3, 1931, relating to the rate of wages for laborers and mechanics employed by contractors and subcontractors on public buildings" (49 Stat. 1011), and of the Act of August 24, 1935, entitled "An Act requiring contracts for the construction, alteration, and repair of any public building or public work of the United States to be accompanied by a performance bond protecting the United States and by an additional bond for the protection of persons furnishing material and labor for the construction, alteration, or repair of said public buildings or public work" (U. S. C., 1934 edition, Supp. II, title 40, secs. 270a to 270d, inclusive), shall apply to contracts in connection with the de-

velopment or administration of Federal projects and the furnishing of materials and labor for such projects: *Provided*, That suits shall be brought in the name of the Authority and that the Authority shall itself perform the duties prescribed by section 3 (a) of the Act of August 30, 1935, and section 3 of the Act of August 24, 1935.

(2) Any contract for loans, annual contributions, capital grants, sale, or lease pursuant to this Act shall contain a provision requiring that the wages or fees prevailing in the locality, as determined or adopted (subsequent to a determination under applicable State or local law) by the Authority, shall be paid to all architects, technical engineers, draftsmen, technicians, laborers, and mechanics employed in the development or administration of the low-rent housing or slum-clearance project involved; and the Authority may require certification as to compliance with the provisions of this paragraph prior to making any payment under such contract.

(3) The Act entitled "An Act limiting the hours of daily services of laborers and mechanics employed upon work done for the United States, or for any Territory, or for the District of Columbia, and for other purposes", as amended (37 Stat. 137), shall apply to contracts of the Authority for work in connection with the development and administration of Federal projects.

(4) The benefits of the Act entitled "An Act to provide compensation for employees of United States suffering injuries while in the performance of their duties, and for other purposes" (39 Stat. 742), shall extend to officers and employees of the Authority.

(5) The provisions of sections 1 and 2 of the Act of June 13, 1934 (U. S. C., 1934 edition, title 40, secs. 276b and 276c), shall apply to any low-rent-housing or slum-clearance project financed in whole or in part with funds made available pursuant to this Act.

(6) Any contractor engaged on any project financed in whole or in part with funds made available pursuant to this Act shall report monthly to the Secretary of Labor, and shall cause all subcontractors to report in like manner (within five days after the close of each calendar month, on forms to be furnished by the United States Department of Labor), as to the number of persons on

their respective pay rolls on the particular project, the aggregate amount of such pay rolls, the total man-hours worked, and itemized expenditures for materials. Any such contractor shall furnish to the Department of Labor the names and addresses of all subcontractors on the work at the earliest date practicable.

#### Financial Provisions.

SEC. 17. The Authority shall have a capital stock of \$1,000,000, which shall be subscribed by the United States and paid by the Secretary of the Treasury out of any available funds. Receipt for such payment shall be issued to the Secretary of the Treasury by the Authority and shall evidence the stock ownership of the United States of America.

SEC. 18. There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the sum of \$26,000,000 for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1938, of which \$1,000,000 shall be available to pay the subscription to the capital stock of the Authority. Such sum, and all receipts and assets of the Authority, shall be available for the purposes of this Act until expended.

SEC. 19. Any funds available under any Act of Congress for allocation for housing or slum clearance may, in the discretion of the President, be allocated to the Authority for the purposes of this act.

SEC. 20. (a) The Authority is authorized to issue obligations, in the form of notes, bonds, or otherwise, which it may sell to obtain funds for the purposes of this Act. The Authority may issue such obligations in an amount not to exceed \$100,000,000 on or after the date of enactment of this Act, an additional amount not to exceed \$200,000,000 on or after July 1, 1938, and an additional amount not to exceed \$200,000,000 on or after July 1, 1939. Such obligations shall be in such forms and denominations, mature within such periods not exceeding sixty years from date of issue, bear such rates of interest not exceeding 4 per centum per annum, be subject to such terms and conditions, and be issued in such manner and sold at such prices as may be prescribed by the Authority, with the approval of the Secretary of the Treasury.

(b) Such obligations shall be exempt, both as to principal and interest, from all taxation (except

surtaxes, estate, inheritance, and gift taxes) now or hereafter imposed by the United States or by any State, county, municipality, or local taxing authority.

(c) Such obligations shall be fully and unconditionally guaranteed upon their face by the United States as to the payment of both interest and principal, and, in the event that the Authority shall be unable to make any such payment upon demand when due, payments shall be made to the holder by the Secretary of the Treasury with money hereby authorized to be appropriated for such purpose out of any money in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated. To the extent of such payment the Secretary of the Treasury shall succeed to all the rights of the holder.

(d) Such obligations shall be lawful investments and may be accepted as security for all fiduciary, trust, and public funds the investment or deposit of which shall be under the authority or control of the United States or any officer or agency thereof. The Secretary of the Treasury is likewise authorized to purchase any such obligations, and for such purchases he may use as a public-debt transaction the proceeds from the sale of any securities hereafter issued under the Second Liberty Bond Act, as amended, and the purposes for which securities may be issued under such Act, as amended, are extended to include any such purchases. The Secretary of the Treasury may at any time sell any of the obligations acquired by him pursuant to this section, and all redemptions, purchases, and sales by him of such obligations shall be treated as public-debt transactions of the United States.

(e) Such obligations may be marketed for the Authority at its request by the Secretary of the Treasury, utilizing all the facilities of the Treasury Department now authorized by law for the marketing of obligations of the United States.

SEC. 21. (a) Any money of the Authority not otherwise employed may be deposited, subject to check, with the Treasurer of the United States or in any Federal Reserve bank, or may be invested in obligations of the United States or used in the purchase or retirement or redemption of any obligations issued by the Authority.

(b) The Federal Reserve banks are authorized and directed to act as depositories, custodians, and fiscal agents for the Authority in the general exercise

of its powers, and the Authority may reimburse any such bank for its services in such manner as may be agreed upon.

(c) The Authority may be employed as a financial agent of the Government. When designated by the Secretary of the Treasury, and subject to such regulations as he may prescribe, the Authority shall be a depository of public money, except receipts from customs.

(d) Not more than 10 per centum of the funds provided for in this Act, either in the form of a loan, grant, or annual contribution, shall be expended within any one State.

#### Penalties.

SEC. 22. All general penal statutes relating to the larceny, embezzlement, or conversion or to the improper handling, retention, use, or disposal of public moneys or property of the United States shall apply to the moneys and property of the Authority and to moneys and properties of the United States entrusted to the Authority.

SEC. 23. Any person who, with intent to defraud the Authority or to deceive any director, officer, or employee thereof or any officer or employee of the United States, makes any false entry in any book of the Authority or make any false report or statement to or for the Authority shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.

SEC. 24. Any person who shall receive any compensation, rebate, or reward, or shall enter into any conspiracy, collusion, or agreement, express or implied, with intent to defraud the Authority or with intent unlawfully to defeat its purposes, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

SEC. 25. Any person who induces or influences the Authority to purchase or acquire any property or to enter into any contract and willfully fails to disclose any interest, legal or equitable, which he has in such property or in the property to which such contract relates, or any special benefit which

he expects to receive as a result of such contract, shall, upon conviction thereof, be fined not more than \$1,000 or imprisoned for not more than 1 year, or both.

SEC. 26. No individual, association, partnership, or corporation shall use the words "United States Housing Authority," or any combination of these four words, as the name, or part thereof, under which he or it shall do business. Any such use shall constitute a misdemeanor and shall be punishable by a fine not exceeding \$1,000.

SEC. 27. Wherever the application of the provisions of this Act conflicts with the application of the provisions of Public Numbered 837, approved June 29, 1936 (49 Stat. 2025), Public Numbered 845, approved June 29, 1936 (49 Stat. 2035), or any other Act of the United States dealing with housing or slum clearance, or any Executive order, regulation, or other order thereunder, the provisions of this Act shall prevail.

SEC. 28. The President is hereby authorized to make available to The Alley Dwelling Authority, from any funds appropriated or otherwise provided to carry out the purposes of this Act, such sums as he deems necessary to carry out the purposes of the District of Columbia Alley Dwelling Act, approved June 12, 1934 (Public Numbered 307, Seventy-third Congress). Such sums shall be deposited in the Conversion of Inhabited Alleys Fund and thereafter shall remain immediately available for the purposes of the District of Columbia Alley Dwelling Act.

SEC. 29. Notwithstanding any other evidences of the intention of Congress, it is hereby declared to be the controlling intent of Congress that if any provision of this Act, or the application thereof to any person or circumstance, is held invalid, the remainder of this Act, or the application of such provision to persons or circumstances other than those as to which it is held invalid, shall not be affected thereby.

SEC. 30. This Act may be cited as the "United States Housing Act of 1937."

Approved, September 1, 1937.

## Summary of Housing Act of 1937

*By the Housing Legislation Information Office, Washington, D. C.*

- (1) **PURPOSE:** A long-term, permanent program of Federal aid to state and local governments and their agencies for the provision of decent housing for families of lowest income and for slum clearance.
- (2) **CREATES** a permanent United States Housing Authority within the Department of the Interior. The powers of the Authority are vested in an Administrator, appointed for five years by the President with the consent of the Senate. The President may transfer existing housing projects to the Authority.
- (3) **OCCUPANCY** of all projects is strictly limited to lowest income families which are not being adequately housed by private building and whose income is less than five times the rent (including utilities), or six times the rent for families with three or more children.
- (4) **LOANS** may be made to local public housing agencies for the financing of low-rent housing projects constructed by them. These loans are limited to 90 per cent of the cost of projects when annual contributions or capital grants are made. All loans bear interest at not less than the cost of money to the Federal Government plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  of one per cent, and must be repaid in not more than 60 years.
- (5) **BONDS** guaranteed by the United States may be issued by the Authority to raise funds for these loans in the following amounts: On and after July 1, 1937, \$100,000,000; on and after July 1, 1938, \$200,000,000; and on and after July 1, 1939, \$200,000,000. These bond issues together with interest will be repaid from the proceeds of loans on projects.
- (6) **ANNUAL CONTRIBUTIONS** may be made to local public housing authorities on projects developed by them. Annual grants are limited to amounts necessary to achieve low rents, but in no case may exceed the yield at Federal going rate of interest plus one per cent on the cost of projects. Annual grants will be contracted for in advance to run for not more than sixty years; if made for twenty years or more the amount is subject to revision after ten years, and every five years thereafter. During the next three years contracts may be entered into providing for contributions up to a total of \$20,000,000 per year, without further authorization from Congress.
- (7) **CAPITAL GRANTS** may be made to local Public Housing Authorities as an alternative to annual grants. Capital grants are limited to 25 per cent of the cost of the project payable from the funds of the Authority, plus an additional 15 per cent which the President may allocate from relief funds for the payment of labor. Capital grants from the funds of the Authority are limited to a total of \$30,000,000 without further authorization from Congress.
- (8) **LOCAL CONTRIBUTIONS** are required in connection with all projects on which the Authority makes annual contributions or capital grants. In the case of annual contributions a local government must contribute at least 20 per cent of the annual contribution either in cash or tax remissions or exemptions. In the case of capital grants a local government must contribute at least 20 per cent of the project cost either in cash, land, or the capitalized value of community facilities, services, or tax remissions or exemptions.
- (9) **SLUM CLEARANCE** is required whenever annual contributions or capital grants are made. Provision satisfactory to the Authority must be made for the elimination of slum dwellings equal in number to those in the new project, but this elimination may be deferred in the case of a low-rent housing shortage so acute as to force dangerous overcrowding.
- (10) **COST OF DWELLINGS** (exclusive of land and non-dwelling facilities) is limited

- to \$1,000 per room and \$4,000 per unit in cities of less than 500,000, and \$1,250 per room and \$5,000 per unit in cities of over 500,000. Furthermore the average cost of dwellings in any project may not exceed the average cost of dwellings currently produced by private enterprise in the same locality, under the building requirements applicable to the proposed site and under labor standards not lower than those of the Act.
- (11) **LIMITATION OF EXPENDITURE** is made so that no State may receive more than 10 per cent of the funds provided.
- (12) **PROTECTION** of low-rent character of projects is definitely secured; and labor is assured of fair wages and standard working conditions.
- (13) **APPROPRIATION** of \$26,000,000, available until expended, is authorized for operating expenses and the payment of annual grants.
- (14) **NO PROVISION** is made for loans to limited profit housing agencies, nor is there any authorization for the further construction of demonstration projects by the central Authority.

## Federal Home Building Service Plan

*The following announcement is made at the request of the Federal Home Loan Bank Board:*

Architectural groups in all parts of the country are now in possession of the illustrated brochure entitled "Federal Home Building Service Plan," published by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board, Washington, D. C., which gives details of the operation of the new Federal Home Building Service Plan, sponsored by the Federal Home Loan Bank Board to offer technical guidance in the small home field.

The plan, described in previous issues of **THE OCTAGON**, is to be operated through the 3,900 member lending associations of the Federal Home Loan Bank System. Its success is dependent on the co-operation of local architectural groups in furnishing the essentials of a technical service—aid in designing small homes, specification of and check upon materials, and supervision of construction—for the builder of small and moderate means.

Formal announcement of the Plan was made by the Bank Board on September 26, 1936, but it had been tested in several key cities and architects had been contacted in every section of the country. It has been endorsed personally by various directors of The American Institute of Architects, and several leading members of the profession have devoted their efforts to help establish the program.

Robert D. Kohn of New York, Past President of The Institute, in a letter to Pierre Blouke, A. I. A., Architect Advisor to the Home Owners'

Loan Corporation and co-author of the brochure, commented upon the Service Plan as follows:

" . . . As to the desirability of what you are trying to put through I have not the slightest doubt. Whatever any of us may think about the great desirability of large scale housing operations and the necessity for rebuilding our communities, it is a fact that there is going to be a colossal amount of individual home building in the next few years. There is no way in which we can change overnight the American man insofar as he passionately desires a piece of ground which he can call his own and on which his house is his own. No matter how bad it is or how ugly, it is his. Of the millions of children that are born and reared in tenements a considerable percentage drift out and something in the blood makes them grab passionately even at a miserable wooden soap-box of a house set on a scrap of land.

"As economic conditions improve there is not the slightest doubt that there will be an enormous move of the old kind towards the 'own-your-own-home' business, which will be taken advantage of by the same old gang of unimaginative speculators and jerry builders. What you are planning to do seems to me to be the only practical way to mitigate the evils of this whole procedure. If the architects in various sections of the country really come along and do their share in organizing a low-cost professional service there will at least be builders who have some slight percentage of common sense in their make-up. I certainly hope that



the plan will be successful.

"At the same time if the architects fail to see the opportunity that is thus opened to them they will indeed be blind. What you are proposing seems to me to be an approach to that change in architectural practice which I have urged for a long time, and have spoken of a number of times at conventions. The French architect in the country districts gets most of his income from a

multiplicity of small fees, much like the country doctor. If we want to get taste and good building to permeate our communities we have to bring the service of architects of good taste and building knowledge within the scope of the average man's pocketbook. I am a busy man, already doing twice as much as a sane man should be doing, but if I can help you and your associates in your admirable promotion of this plan I will be glad to do so."

## Publications Relating to Housing

Last April the secretaries of all chapters received from the Secretary of the Central Housing Committee, Horace W. Peaslee, F.A.I.A., a memorandum offering to assist them in establishing as nuclei of housing libraries, collections of pamphlets, bulletins and reports issued by various government agencies concerned with housing construction and finance. In his letter, Mr. Peaslee advised that for a number of months, the Central Housing Committee had been sending to secretaries of A.I.A. chapters, copies of a publication, the *Housing Index-Digest*, a ready reference medium of general housing information, prepared primarily for the use of government agencies concerned with housing construction and finance. A limited number of copies has been made available to representatives of interested organizations and it was assumed that the publication had been brought to the attention of chapter members. The February 15th issue presented a very complete compendium of different viewpoints on slum clearance and low cost housing in the United States which should be of interest to architects.

In addition to the semi-monthly *Index-Digest*, the committee issues on a monthly basis, the *Housing Legal Digest*, reporting current opinions, decisions and legislation. The circulation of this publication has been confined to governmental legal staffs, housing authorities, law libraries and the like.

With the circular, attention was called especially to an advance edition of the Glossary of Housing Terms on which constructive comments were invited. Among other publications of general and special interest listed which might well be considered an essential part of a complete housing

library were the following:

- University Research in Housing as a Field of Serviceable Study
- Housing Research Activities in 40 Universities
- Catalog of United States Public Documents For Use in Housing Research
- Foreclosure Procedure and Moratorium Legislation
- The Problem of Slum Areas
- Administration of Tax Payments
- Loan Closing and Title Procedure
- Bibliographies: 1. Methods of Housing Finance in the United States and Abroad. 2. Co-operative and Joint-Ownership Housing in the U. S. and Abroad. 3. Limited-Dividend Housing in the United States
- British Government in Housing
- Comprehensive Housing Legislation Chart
- Activities and Organization of Federal Agencies Concerned with Housing (out of print)
- Principal Federal Agencies Concerned with Housing (A page-summary of functions and limitations) (out of print)
- Services of the Federal Government to Home Owners and Tenants (out of print)

It was regretted that it was impossible to furnish this material to all architects as individuals, but available material was offered toward chapter reference libraries. It was also suggested other valuable material issued by Federal Housing Administration, Federal Home Loan Bank Board and the Resettlement Administration could be obtained.

Comparatively few requests have been received for this material and the attention of the member-

ship is called to the opportunity. Many of the documents originally offered are now out of print, and the supply of others will soon become exhausted. New chapter officers might well make a point of taking over all publications sent to their predecessors and of requesting missing publications to

establish complete sets of material. Mr. Peaslee has offered to advise other agencies of all requests received so that a single inquiry will be sufficient.

Communications should be sent to Mr. Horace W. Peaslee, Secretary, Central Housing Committee, North Interior Building, Washington, D. C.

## School Medal Awards

The School Medal of The Institute was established in 1914. It is awarded each year, under the direction of the Committee on Education, for general excellence in architecture throughout the four-year course, to graduates of architectural schools recognized by The Institute.

The winners of the medals are nominated by the various faculties. The medal and a copy of Henry Adams' book *Mont St. Michel and Chartres*, are usually presented with appropriate ceremonies at commencement exercises, and a copy of the book is usually awarded to the second place student.

There is a growing custom of participation by chapters in the presentation ceremonies. In many cases the chapter president, in collaboration with the dean of the architectural department, or the president of the university, takes part as the official representative of The Institute.

The complete series of school medal awards for 1937 as announced by William Emerson, Chairman of the Committee on Education, is as follows:

Lawrence G. Cyr.....	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Robert Bush Little.....	University of Illinois
Lloyd Alling Doughty.....	Cornell University
Henry Feigin.....	Columbia University
Rebecca Biddle Wood.....	University of Pennsylvania
Sherman Moss.....	Harvard University
Robert Hennington Gann.....	University of California

John William Vaught.....	Washington University
James Kenneth Hess.....	Carnegie Institute of Technology
John A. Van Dis.....	University of Michigan
Christopher Kantianis.....	Syracuse University
Bernard J. Hein.....	University of Minnesota
Margaret Wheeler.....	University of Kansas
Douglas Pope Maier.....	Yale University
Albert H. Ramp.....	Armour Institute of Technology
Wilbur Griggs Thorpe.....	Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science
William A. Stowe.....	Ohio State University
Sidney Kay Neill.....	Georgia School of Technology
John B. Ferguson.....	Pennsylvania State College
William Alex. MacLaurin.....	University of Washington
Margaret Raiford Cooper.....	Alabama Polytechnic Institute
Henry A. Jandl.....	Princeton University
William O'Neil.....	Catholic University of America
Lee B. Kline.....	University of Southern California
John Herbert McAuliffe.....	University of Notre Dame
Richard Stein.....	New York University
Lewey T. Lands.....	University of Cincinnati
Donald Guy Radway.....	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
F. A. Nobile.....	Tulane University of New Orleans

## "L'Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Beaux-Arts

There is a book about to be published by the Grande Masse of the famous French National School of Fine Arts. The Grande Masse is an organization of the former students of the School, headed at the present time by the Grand Massier, J. P. Trouchaud, D.P.L.G. There will be articles

by Georges Huisman, Emmanuel Pontremoli, Paul Landowski, Louis Hourticq, Pierre Dufau, etc., and it will be profusely illustrated. The subscription price is 20 francs, which may be sent by check or money order to La Grande Masse, 1 rue Jacques-Callot, Paris.

## The Arizona Chapter

**T**HE formation of the Arizona Chapter of The American Institute of Architects has been officially completed, effective as of June 30, 1937.

The State of Arizona is thus transferred from the territory of the Southern California Chapter, and will henceforth be the territory of the Arizona Chapter.

The seven corporate members of The Institute, formerly members of the Southern California Chapter, who petitioned for the charter which has been granted to the Arizona Chapter are now charter members of the new chapter, and are as follows: M. H. Starkweather, Richard A. Morse, Fred W. Whittlesey, Roy Place, Thoralf M. Sundt, Royal W. Lescher, and Leslie J. Mahoney.

At the first meeting of the Chapter, held on July 2, at the Pioneer Hotel, Tucson, Arizona, the following officers were elected to serve until March, 1938:

President.....Roy Place, Tucson  
 Vice President.....Leslie J. Mahoney, Phoenix  
 Secretary.....M. H. Starkweather, Tucson  
 Treasurer.....Fred W. Whittlesey, Phoenix

Executive Committee: Roy Place, M. H. Starkweather, Thoralf M. Sundt, Richard A. Morse, Royal W. Lescher.

The Officers and Directors of The Institute have extended to the officers and members of the Arizona Chapter their heartiest congratulations.

## Members Elected from April 1, to August 31, 1937

- Alabama Chapter*.....FLYNN E. HUDSON, JR.
- Boston Chapter*.....JOHN BARNARD\*, BOWMAN GRATON, MORRIS W. MALONEY\*
- Central Illinois Chapter*.....WILLIAM ALLAMAN GANSTER
- Connecticut Chapter*.....LAWRENCE MOORE
- Florida South Chapter*.....GERARD PITT, STEFAN H. ZACHAR
- Mississippi Chapter*.....ROBERT WILLIAM NAEF
- New York Chapter*.....PHILIP DE YOUNG, FREDERICK G. FROST, JR. REGINALD EDWARD MARSH, BENJAMIN MOSCOWITZ, JACOB MOSCOWITZ
- North Carolina Chapter*.....CHARLES C. HARTMANN\*
- Oklahoma Chapter*.....JOHN D. JEFFERS, B. GAYLORD NOFTSGER, CHARLES ADRIAN POPKIN
- Philadelphia Chapter*.....J. LINERD CONARROE
- St. Louis Chapter*.....CHARLES HENRI RUSH
- Santa Barbara Chapter*.....CHESTER LEONARD CARJOLA
- Southern California Chapter*.....WILLIAM H. HARRISON
- Washington State Chapter*.....VICTOR N. J. JONES, HENRY JOHN OLSCHESKY, ALBAN AURELIUS SHAY
- Westchester Chapter*.....EDMOND NEVILLE MACCOLLIN, WILLIAM C. STOHLREIER, JOHN B. WALTHER
- Wisconsin Chapter*.....CLARENCE O. JAHN, PAUL A. MARZILLIER,\* NOEL ROSS SAFFORD

\* Reinstatements.

The first part of the report deals with the general situation of the country and the progress of the war. It is a very interesting and detailed account of the events of the year, and is written in a clear and concise style. The author has done a great deal of research, and his account is based on the best available sources. The report is a valuable contribution to the history of the war, and is well worth reading.

The second part of the report deals with the military operations of the year. It is a very detailed account of the campaigns and battles, and is written in a clear and concise style. The author has done a great deal of research, and his account is based on the best available sources. The report is a valuable contribution to the history of the war, and is well worth reading.

