

THE  
OCTAGON

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*A Journal of The American Institute of Architects*

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*Volume 10*

*MAY*  
*1938*

*Number 5*

POST CONVENTION NUMBER—REPORTS AND RESOLUTIONS

## ELECTIONS AND AWARDS OF HONOR

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### OFFICERS, 1938-1939

PRESIDENT—Charles D. Maginnis . . . . . Boston, Massachusetts  
VICE-PRESIDENT—Frederick H. Meyer . . . . . San Francisco, California  
SECRETARY—Charles T. Ingham . . . . . Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania  
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MIDDLE ATLANTIC DISTRICT—Edmund Randolph Purves . . . . . Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
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*(Does not include the names of seven Regional Directors whose terms did not expire.)*

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STATE ASSOCIATION REPRESENTATIVE—Leigh Hunt . . . . . Milwaukee, Wisconsin

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### FELLOWS

Elected by The Jury of Fellows and announced at the Convention

<i>Name</i>	<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Chapter</i>
Nathaniel Cortlandt Curtis . . . . .	Louisiana	Gordon Bernie Kaufmann . . . . .	Southern Calif.
Ernest Hjalmar Fougner . . . . .	New Jersey	Arthur Samuel Keene . . . . .	Kansas City
Max H. Furbringer . . . . .	Tennessee	Eugene Schreiber Klein . . . . .	St. Louis
Frederick W. Garber . . . . .	Cincinnati	Richard Koch . . . . .	Louisiana
Edmund Beaman Gilchrist . . . . .	Philadelphia	James Cameron Mackenzie . . . . .	New York
John Leonard Hamilton . . . . .	Chicago	R. E. Lee Taylor . . . . .	Baltimore
Henry Ford Hoit . . . . .	Kansas City	Harry Wilcox Wachter . . . . .	Toledo
Wm. Jarrett Hallowell Hough . . . . .	Philadelphia	Hobart Alexander Walker . . . . .	New Jersey
	Robert Taylor Jones . . . . .		Minnesota

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### AWARDS OF HONOR

Awarded by The Board of Directors and announced at the Convention

GOLD MEDAL OF THE INSTITUTE—Paul Philippe Cret . . . . . Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
FINE ARTS MEDAL—Carl Milles . . . . . Bloomfield Hills, Michigan  
CRAFTSMANSHIP MEDAL—Joseph H. Dulles Allen . . . . . Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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### HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS

Rufus Cutler Dawes—Honorary Member . . . . . Chicago, Illinois  
Francis Lorne—Honorary Corresponding Member . . . London, England

# 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.

## Opening of the Seventieth Convention

ADDRESS OF PRESIDENT CHARLES D. MAGINNIS

THE Institute of Architects has no embarrassing domestic loyalties, and it now submits itself, far from its theoretical habitat, to the hospitality of New Orleans, uneasily aware of its extraordinary capacity for distraction from certain serious affairs which must occupy us here. Fortunately not all of this seduction is invalid to the normal edification of our profession, and you will experience eagerly, I am sure, the artistic romance of the French quarter which gives this community so piquant an individuality. For the American architect is still incorrigibly a sentimentalist.

We are met as always to take account of matters more or less profoundly affecting the social beneficence of the profession and our own fortunes. Some of these concerns are familiar enough to have been already elevated to the dignity of problems. As such they continue to follow us about to disturb our happy gatherings. Others more novel have developed from the challenge which is being presented nowadays to venerable institutions to readjust themselves to the shifting and feverish processes of society. So far as our generation may be said to be of our own making, it is hoped that to these latter our competency may be more adequate.

It is to be remarked that the world of our youth, to the understanding of which our minds were so very painfully adjusted, is in the act of tumbling about our heads and we are largely engaged in testing the validity of the fragments in the expectation of constructing a better one. Inevitably the process is attended by violent conflict of opinion. In the political order, for instance, we had been

deeply grounded in the faith that, with all its familiar inefficiencies, the democratic type of society offered the highest exercise and the most lasting satisfaction for the human spirit. We now confront a mounting philosophy based upon its complete denial. More profoundly still we had believed in the cogency of the Divine principle in civilization. A strange new world rejects it as an anemic and disturbing anachronism. These unpromising implications of the new order induce a certain doubt as to the foundations of that confident structure which is in the planning. We are not directly concerned here, of course, with these heavy and momentous issues, deeply as they touch both our interest and our responsibility as citizens. They do serve to recommend, however, a more cautious scrutiny of the merits of other modern phenomena.

It is singular how little the customary tranquility of Institute conventions has been disturbed by the presence of conflicting architectural philosophies. No smallest hint of passion has yet been evoked by the mounting threat against traditional respectabilities and its devastating implication of wasted careers. An adverse judgment upon our life's accomplishment is not too easily suffered, but the idea that we have not been even intelligently aware of what we were about brings to some of us such a sense of frustration that we approach architectural gatherings nowadays with increasing diffidence and apprehension.

The Institute, in its enforced preoccupation with by-laws and professional fees, has hitherto made only an oblique and cloistered recognition of the modern movement, now developing revolutionary propor-

tions, in the persuasion that it was an interest which still belonged in the academic atmosphere of the Committee on Education—a quite unnecessary prudence, for the student some time ago ceased to entertain any doubt as to the merits of the new philosophy, whatever the professors may have thought about it. It was not perceived that the subject has its pragmatism and highly embarrassing interest for the practitioners in the field who, in the face of its disturbing provocations, are left to decide for themselves what terms it should exact from reality.

In a lifetime we have witnessed many changes in architectural fashion. So long as we were subject to the gracious influence of history our eclectic habit had its pleasant exercise, and we were readily enough diverted from one ingratiation to another. We were satisfied to wait for the challenging principle which offered release from an architecture of reminiscence. When it was finally found to have been latent in the versatility of the new materials the road was opened to the new Freedom.

It is thrilling to think that our generation is actually participating in one of those periods of transition we were accustomed to read about in student days. Our curiosity about those critical moments of history got little enough satisfaction from the cold narratives of Fergusson, which always left the impression that a traditional architectural system, finding itself in a predicament, meekly acknowledged its invalidity and gave up the ghost. Of course we know better. In the pride of his nervous anatomies, the Gothickist of the 12th Century must have developed a fine contempt for the Romanesque ponderosities and have expressed it, too, in a considerable literature which is unhappily lost to us. One senses the stubbornness of that phlegmatic resistance and doubts not at all there was disagreeable talk about archaeology, for even then it must have been a blistering word. But when, in the inexorable law of life, the mediaeval pride was humbled in its turn, and the world took to ways of larger promise, the change was neither wholly gain nor wholly loss. Out of such events some excellence usually survived, some gift to add to the sum of human achievement, often enough a living principle which may serve the world again. And so, in this attitude of reserve, we may welcome the stimulation of the new movement with all the challenge of its bitter ration-

ality. That there is refreshment in it we have already noted in the clarity, vitality and independence it has brought to all design, even as we remark that, unlike Europe, we have not as yet yielded to its complete implications. Whether it holds the gift of completely alienating the past still remains to be proven. We have not yet seen the convincing evidence and it is always to be remembered that an artistic philosophy must propitiate the eye no less than the reason. This may take a little time. The human spirit has a way of finding its own satisfactions and logic does not figure too largely in the matter. It may well be that the modern thesis is overbold. For instance, it comes to one that, of the new materials with which its philosophy is identified, it is perhaps the single weakness of steel that, with all its thrilling capacities, it cannot make for interesting ruins. It is a point not to be overlooked, for even ruins have their eloquent and venerable importance. Always it has been architecture which has given us testimony of the ages. Some one has said—"Show me the buildings of a people, and I will tell you its history." If we are content to render our own civilization in an architecture dependent upon steel, a reasonably remote posterity can have no visual knowledge of us, which might be a pity. In this there may be hint that the historic principle of structure is not quite discredited and that walls will still be built against which our posterity may bark its shins. For it is worthy of remark that it is the walls and not the space which have so intelligently survived. Perhaps it may not be too hazardous a prediction that the great and significant buildings of the generations will be built in the future, as they have been always built, in terms of articulated and enduring masonry.

I AM reminded here of a discredited artistic philosopher of another day who placed a high estimate on the principle of moderation. It is a sound principle which, in its large application, might well qualify the fierceness of the contempt in which we hold his teaching. Indeed, the temper of it might even become the deliberations of an architectural convention. We are to deal here with matters about which occasionally we shall not be in agreement. Animated by the single thought of the good of our profession, we shall inevitably differ as to the means



by which it is to be achieved. What seems in the short view the profitable course frequently works to final disadvantage. Impatience with the slow motions of conservatism leads to experiments with rash and sometimes dangerous policies. Within its ranks there are frank critics of The Institute itself. So that the criticism be valid and constructive, it is well it should be so. I am confident that in your deliberations you will weigh thoughtfully the merits of any plan of action which involves the departure of The Institute from the traditional courses which it has followed under the great leadership of the past, even as you take account of the opportunity, if it offer, for a still larger usefulness.

In the hard and anxious days which have all but prostrated the profession, it is not strange if we encounter fault-finding. If The Institute has no panaceas with which to heal the maladies of the profession then we hear that The Institute is ineffective. That so few have left its ranks in such an hour as this, on the other hand, is an astonishing indication of loyalty and faith.

It is protested here and there that it is too selective and affects the airs of an Academy. There is a certain cruelty in that indictment. The Institute has never closed its doors to an architect who was ready to meet a tolerant standard of capacity and willing to conform to a code of practice designed to protect him in his relation to the public and his fellows. To that extent only has The Institute of Architects been exclusive ever.

But it is not realistically representative. Here the criticism is on firmer ground. It is true that numerically we make no convincing claim to nationally representative character. But our title has rested, and securely rested, upon other foundations and few there are, I believe, who have questioned the national scope of our authority.

The Institute always has been eager for an enlarged membership and has constantly stimulated the activity of the chapters through whose direct agency alone that can be normally accomplished. Along the traditional avenues of increase a general drive is at this moment in process under the direction of the new Membership Committee. This effort, if energetically prosecuted, should fairly establish the number of those who conspicuously value our membership and, reasonably perhaps, the full stature of which the nature of The Institute is

independently capable. Let us recall here, for stimulating example, that under the Presidency of Mr. H. H. Kendall, and largely owing to his personal efforts, almost a thousand new members were admitted.

As the state organizations find their *raison d'être* in the facility with which they can address the immediate problems of their localities (a principle which involves no conflict of interest), hope had been entertained that a happy relationship with The Institute might be established which would respect their separate integrities. There are those who feel that the promise of this type of affiliation may not be realized and it is now indicated that other measures will be proposed in the persuasion that the principle may safely be carried further. Confident of the sincerity with which that idea is entertained, the Convention may be trusted to give it a fair and thoughtful examination.

WE turn from the consideration of its mechanism to the more pressing activities of The Institute. You will have occasion to deal once again with the difficulties which attend the relation between the profession and the Federal Government;—difficulties so perplexing that they have continued to vex the mind of The Institute since its beginnings, save for a brief period under the dispensation of the Tarsney Act. In recent years, the Committee on Public Works, whose exclusive business it has been to deal with this interest, has sought to accomplish, in the absence of legislative direction, a working settlement of this relation, first under the chairmanship of Louis LaBeaume when a splendid effort to accomplish a recognition of the claims of the private architect brought reluctant and temporary concessions and since, under Francis Sullivan, when a diplomatic policy after long and anxious negotiation resulted in the tentative arrangement which was submitted to the Boston Convention. The Institute is now advised by the Treasury Department that, by reason of the shrinkage in its building program, there is no longer need to consider the merit of this agreement. In this *impasse* the committee was directed by The Board to initiate legislation at a propitious moment in Congress. This has been accomplished. Already, however, a spirit of impatience with the formal processes of The Institute had developed in certain quarters, in the per-

suation that Government might be more effectively influenced by local and direct action, and finally leading to an independent approach which was the more to be regretted as there was identified with it the effort to gain acceptance for a principle which had not yet received The Institute sanction. It will fall to this body to decide whether or not it is the considered judgment of the profession that competition be advocated as the exclusive principle in the selection of architects for public work.

So that such a decision might not be the snap judgment of a convention but a clear and unmistakable expression of Institute sentiment, I assumed the responsibility of stimulating conviction on the matter by lending encouragement to a preliminary exchange of chapter opinion. It is a critical issue whose discussion will develop all its significant implications. Your judgment, I am confident, will be governed solely by a consideration of the permanent good of the profession. Once that decision is rendered, however, the obligation must rest on each member of The Institute that it be loyally sustained.

The disabilities under which we continue to suffer in our relation to the general public have always been an irksome concern with us. We do not complain of an inadequate intellectual acknowledgment of architecture as an asset of the national culture. But we have reason to be troubled that the ways are still only vaguely perceived in which the architect is necessary to architecture. Compared with the practitioners of other great professions, the outlines of the architect are dramatically indistinguishable. When his identity is occasionally established, there is further mystery as to his processes. He obviously emerges into a valid and effective figure only when armed with blue prints and specifications. Only then does he take on that air of realism which suggests that he might be capable of presenting his client with a bill. Then only does the client recognize his own responsible dignity. Until that moment the motions of the architect are apt to have been regarded merely as an entertaining but essentially speculative element in the general adventure. It is an ancient grievance but we might profitably dwell on it again now that depressing times give it a special aggravation. Intermittent efforts of the profession to assert itself have not been wholly

unavailing, but impressive results can be expected only through a sustained and nation-wide campaign of public education. In this belief, a reconstituted Publicity Committee, under very competent direction, has mapped a thoughtful and comprehensive program upon which an excellent beginning only has been possible. In the familiar perversity of things, just when the time was propitious, the treasury proved inadequate. In the face of this, the most realistic of disadvantages, we can progress only slowly with this purpose, but we can still make headway, leaving its full possibilities to be explored when the sun begins to shine again. We need not be reminded of the elaborate and expensive, not to say diabolical, instrumentalities which are utilized nowadays to engage the public consciousness, nor of the difficulty of insinuating our own gentle and particular message without paying at least the costs of transmission.

I COME now to the consideration of the most momentous interest of this Convention. A notable acknowledgment has been given by the Federal Government of the critical dependence of our economic structure upon the building industry which is now enlisted in a stupendous enterprise to stimulate the national business and to provide better housing for the people. In this great social purpose there is definite challenge to the enlightened and enthusiastic cooperation and indeed to the leadership of the architectural profession. The Institute has already pledged the support of its best faculties to the President and the Housing Administrator, and this assurance has been met with most cordial and significant appreciation. Our Housing Committee under conscientious and highly competent direction has already completed a far-flung organization of sub-committees whose interests will represent all the elements involved in realizing the promise of this great legislation. The varied phases of the subject will be dealt with by its chairman and the specialists who will address you. Many of you are already its proficient students so that I shall not enter on its discussion here. I am immediately interested that our effective adjustment to this housing plan be perceived as a concern of the first magnitude if we are to profit by the fullness of our opportunity.

Essentially a local process, it must largely rest as a direct responsibility upon the chapters of The Institute, which will be advised here as to the ways in which our influence may best be enlisted. That they will not be found wanting there is abundant evidence.

If our cooperation in this great national purpose is to be completely worthy of us, it must have elements of patriotism. As always there will be men who in various ways will give their talents to the general good. To most of us in a day like this, however, such a sacrifice is neither possible nor necessary and under the Housing Authority adequate compensation is provided in the law. We are presented a dramatic opportunity to vindicate the high claims we are accustomed to make for our profession. The idea should be dissipated that the architect is so committed to opulent forms of enterprise as to be indifferent to the task of shaping the humbler homes of America. To that task he will have to bring his most realistic faculties if he is successfully to encounter the agencies which have too exclusively occupied it. His contribution will be critically scrutinized. His approach, therefore, need be to the last degree scientific, which means that his study should be addressed instantly to those austere social economies which are of the heart of the beneficent program. Here he will perceive his dependence upon many vital factors of which he has hitherto been unaware, and the advantage which comes of working elbow to elbow with men of different talents whose zeal is no less than his own for the success of this program.

Our Housing Committee advocates the closest cooperation between the architects and the various elements of the building industry. The association with The Producers' Council already provides most valuable opportunity for effective relation with the manufacturers. For other type of benefit there must be enlisted the amenities of landscape architecture

now so woefully alienated from many of the executed projects. It is hoped the profession will finally place even upon this austere enterprise that stamp of graciousness which is its peculiar gift. We are familiar enough with the vast territories of ugliness already occupied by those domesticities which have lain so long outside our professional concern. It would be lamentable, indeed, if this enormous program should eventuate only in a multitude of new areas of infliction upon the American scene. The architect and the architect alone can prevent it.

YOU are already advised that the International Congress of Architects, having accepted with great cordiality the joint invitation of The Institute and the Federal Government, has arranged to meet next year in Washington. So spacious a hospitality obviously would have been impossible were it not for the action of the United States Congress in setting aside, with the favor of the Department of State, an appropriation for the entertainment of our foreign guests. We feel encouraged to hope that a reasonable professional curiosity about America and the immediate magnetism of the New York Fair may draw on that occasion a large delegation of architects to our shores. To these representatives of the various national groups it will be a high privilege and satisfaction to The Institute to extend a most hearty and enthusiastic welcome in behalf of all the architects of this country. We may count upon an eager and friendly visitation, but our architecture is now not unready to submit itself to a critical scrutiny. Much of our national accomplishment, of course, will be eloquent enough of a European derivation. This will have its own interest and its own significance. For our equanimity, however, we are happy in believing there will be ample evidence besides with which to challenge the acknowledgment that American architecture is already far on its way to that position of independence and authority which was always implicit in the American genius.

## Presentation of the Gold Medal to Paul Philippe Cret

THE Delgado Museum of Art, in New Orleans' beautiful City Park, was the scene of a brilliant and inspiring ceremony at which the Gold Medal of The American Institute of Architects was presented to Paul Philippe Cret, on the evening of Wednesday, April 20.

The quiet classic dignity of the great hall, with its balconies and grand staircase was enlivened by the presence of a large company of distinguished architects, prominent citizens of Louisiana, honored

guests and ladies.

President Maginnis, from his position at the head of the first flight of the grand staircase overlooking the main floor of the great hall, opened the ceremony with the following words:

"With a view to creating the spiritual setting of a ceremony designed to do honor to Paul Philippe Cret, I invited a distinguished architect of kindred philosophy to address you. I take great pleasure in introducing Mr. Ralph Walker of New York."

### AN APPRECIATION

BY RALPH WALKER

MR. President, ladies and gentlemen, and my dear friend Paul Cret.

When our President, Charles Maginnis, asked me to say these words, I was greatly honored and pleased for I admire, respect and know Paul Cret, and there is nothing, as I told him, which delights me more than having the opportunity of using him as a text.

These thoughts of mine are in no way an attempt to construct a philosophy of modernity, but merely to restate a few well-worn ideas which still have value and which need restating, because they are in contrast to so much of present day action.

They are in praise of individualism, the monumental and the creation of beauty in architecture—thoughts which are associated and which you might well expect on an evening devoted to honoring Paul Cret.

In considering his work we again realize that greatness in architecture, like greatness in all the arts, comes only from the stimulation and the encouragement of individual creation, and that there never has been a formula or a theory which, by itself, produced a great work of architecture, and while we hear a great deal about the advantages of collaboration we must admit that no group effort has ever done other than achieve a compromise. Architectural beauty must continue to be based upon seeds of reason and emotion, coming to fruition within the envelopment of a personality.

We, here present, should have no quarrel with those ideas even though there is a hard new world

in which there seems to grow an increasing incompatibility between what stands for reason and a desire for beauty. The old liberal idea of reason is being replaced by a purely mechanical rationalism, a straight-line-shortest-distance-between-two-points kind of reasoning, which looks neither to the right nor to the left. It regards with little tolerance the architect who considers his real job to be the creation of beauty as well as the solution of human need.

Rather, this "brave new world" prefers a few well-thumbed theories of possible cures to social unrest, or it models its thoughts on an ideology to well-defined limitations of machine technology and production, and its sole purpose is the rapid increase of material satisfactions.

Again, there can be no real quarrel, especially if there is an appreciation of the fact that life itself is not one-sided; that concurrent with the material progress it is vitally necessary to find many ways in the creation of architecture—ways through which spiritual needs will find tradition not a halter but a free rein to imagination, ways toward an approach to a classic ideal which is not a mere matter of detail but is of importance in expressing the proportions of man in relation to his community self.

All this is far beyond the understanding and the desires of the generation composing that world—a generation believed by some of our new teachers to be so bitter at lost opportunities that it has cast aside forever the artistic individualism of its fathers. Indeed it is so bitter that it has no desire for play—ornamental or otherwise. These prophets of nega-



tion limit this new generation, denying them any opportunity of greatness in art or architecture, claiming that the problems of social unrest and the new material ways of life are more important than beauty and culture. Therefore, of course, no one should waste their time on such wholly unnecessary efforts as artistic problems.

Few will deny, however, that these artistic problems are necessary or that they are vital to our spiritual well-being, or that in teaching youth to seek broader powers these words of Paul Cret (which so well express his attitude toward his own work) are much the more healthy: "We must approach our problems with an open mind, give to each of their elements the critical examination which may bring solutions slightly better than those achieved around us and thus contribute to the healthy evolution of art. Above all, we must no more be hypnotized by the desire to be original than by the complex to be archaeologically correct. If, in the conception of a work, the study of its expression in form and decoration is your own and not a dull copy, you need not be concerned with being modern, you cannot be anything else."

**BEAUTY** is achieved not by what we believe but by what we desire. As we look about this new world we find science and engineering continually seeking for further knowledge, but we also find that whether a society boasts communism, fascism, imperialism, or democracy, a monumental type of beauty is also being sought as a symbol of ideals—a monumental architecture which is suited to this purpose actually—a modern classic which eliminates the absurdities of translating the old into the new.

Possibly because of this and because the new style is not capable of producing monuments, it is the fashion in modern architectural thinking to disparage the building of the monumental. It seems as important to the political and economic life of a people as employment, or as the just modern social concept that all the people of a community shall be adequately and decently housed.

These symbols are evidently more important than bread. Long after a people and their means of sustenance is gone, stone rests upon stone and tells a story more enduring than last year's harvest or today's sowing. We architects preserve history.

All present day people proclaim the spiritual need they have of considering themselves great. They accept housing as a necessity but they realize that monumental beauty and order expressed in architecture is a positive assertion of their collection consciousness, their will to do and their demand that they persist.

Regardless of the apparent present trend to social regimentation, we may say that without the desire or the ability to create a monumental architecture, people remain "builders by instinct only"—and strangely enough produce merely a civilization of habit and not of intelligence.

History is filled with building of the ants and the bees.

The necessity and order which motivates the design of a factory or a warehouse is not the same commodity which creates beauty in home life, and certainly they are not the qualities desired where the spiritual aims of a people demand expression.

Do you think there was no relationship between the monumental architecture, the literature and the greatness and the influence of the Athenians?

It is quite evident that the word function has been given a too narrow meaning in the last few years. It is one of the functions of architecture to inspire greatness.

Many claim that the need for the monument is dead. But we know our American democracy needs beauty and distinction in public buildings, in all buildings—beauty toward which the citizen may look for a symbol of public obligation based on a sense of proportion in private life. We in America once had this in our early history and we have also had a great deal of ugliness, and while there is no reason to look backward, we are again attempting a way and must find it regardless of mechanical blight. The monumental is conceived in the spirit of a time and does not necessarily mean conservatism, or that the past is our only master. In a world which has rediscovered concrete, invented extruded steel and improved glass, the monumental is too often confused with the bones of the Greek Doric. There is, however, just as much new free opportunity in the design of stone and marble as there is in steel and glass, and while one group is more recent than the other both are in constant need of new thoughts.



QUIETLY, without much acclaim until this evening, but with much success, Paul Cret has helped to give a new direction in beauty to modern American public works.

Originality really means individuality. But originality is always based on some tradition. Most of us, moreover, much as we dislike to admit it, work under traditions of a kind which make mental slaves of us all. Much of the modern has its backgrounds of the orient, or of cubism, or of surrealism—styles and traditions as definite, if not as old, as those of the Renaissance.

Now and then an artist like Paul Cret takes the traditions of a people and makes of them a living form and sets the world re-creating new traditions. Again, an intellectual group takes a few thoughts and gives them a fresh twist, and a new philosophy is born, which is absorbed into the general tradition of a people.

Both breed further creators and both are the bases of further plagiarism, of work which is eclectic, whether the form copied is a Greek Doric or a lally column. The copyist aimlessly and stupidly will copy any past whether it is two thousand years ago or but yesterday.

Our civilization thanks no artist, no matter how minor, for a loss of individuality. Every artist has the opportunity of creation, and his creed should be—"I create to please myself first." The world is continually on the alert for the outstanding individual.

After viewing a successful work, we ourselves, and our fellow men also, later discover "deep intentions" where only a joy of creation, a joy of design, a joy of pleasing one's self made the work. We fumble a great deal to produce philosophy.

These are the "deep intentions" which are to be found in the work of Paul Cret. This is his character. Perhaps he may recognize both himself and his thoughts.

An old pupil of Paul Cret's tells this story: When Cret first came to teach at Penn, his English was meager and his pronunciation was something to wonder at, but always a favorite phrase of encouragement on a good beginning of a problem was—"If you are very careful, it will devil up."

Paul Cret, by training, by desire, by creative instinct is a classicist. By circumstances as well as

ability most of his work has been monumental in character, and while he has not brought into it radical invention, he has helped to give a new life to the architectural traditions of the culture of the western world.

Within him there is no incompatibility between his rationalizations and his desire to create beauty. He has no inhibitions against trying to create beauty, and he is willing to leave the question of the immortality of his work to the future. He believes himself modern and as having a definite place in today's life.

He, above all, is a realist, and to him the basis of any design is thought, as pure and direct as his emotional self will permit, and as balanced as a constantly growing sound judgment follows his added years. That does not mean he cannot make a mistake. He does not believe that reasoning as to necessity and materials should result only in a narrow set of limitations. The end he seeks, and the ends he has inspired others to seek, is architecture based on reason, which results in beauty and which, above all, attains distinction.

HE believes, as did his own teacher, that distinction in architecture is the most desirable quality to strive for, and he knows that the artist working in the full of his powers exercises a strict restraint upon his own work, but that the result is successful only in so far as that restraint is self-imposed and not that of an external theory. We know, without enumerating his many works, that in them, having sought for distinction, he has attained it in an unusual magnitude.

He is not a copyist. His work, from the Pan American Union on, is remarkable for three things—good planning, individuality and good proportions. There are no loose ends. The character of each building is complete to itself. They may be reminiscent but they are dominantly the work of Paul Cret.

He does not believe that architecture to be a work of art must be aggressive, that it must make no compromise with nature, that it must affront, or rebel against the slowly acquired refinement, elegance, and all those qualities of sensitive culture which man, after forty centuries, seems at present so willing to cast into discard.

These deep intentions are so well illustrated in the beauty of the Folger Library. Both in the rare

distinction which places it so far in advance of all modern building in Washington, and in the exquisite design relationship to sculpture and to nature, even though that nature is formalized and is only primarily that of a flat city lot.

To Paul Cret, the teacher, the profession owes a great deal. His influence has helped many to find an ideal, and from his many pupils to him there comes a great respect, a warm affection and an acknowledgment of spiritual leadership.

To quote him: "The satisfaction of physical needs is not the only spring of human ingenuity and man has never been content with merely devising a shelter. What he seems to seek in all his artistry is to give concrete form to his dreams—dreams that vary greatly from race to race and from generation to generation. To reflect ideas, beliefs, aesthetic creeds, goes much beyond construction logic or functionalism. The true func-

tionalist would have stopped at the beehive, so admirably adapted to its purpose, and not bothered with unprofitable experiments in form and decoration. Instead of this, man went into plastic research and applied himself to creating forms for the sake of giving an outlet to his creative impulse and for the pleasure there is in the pursuit of something called 'beauty.'"

To the question once asked him—"What in your mind is the biggest problem facing the architectural profession?"—Paul Cret answered, "To do good work."

We honor Paul Cret the artist, and in doing so we once more proclaim the greater need for beauty.

At the conclusion of Mr. Walker's address Dean William Emerson, of Boston, escorted Mr. Cret to the position of honor, and thereupon read the formal citation.

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## THE CITATION

BY WILLIAM EMERSON

"To Paul Philippe Cret—Architect—Teacher—Scholar. Increasingly honored by a professional recognition that distinguishes him even among his peers.

"He has brought to the land of his adoption the sound sense, the clear logic, the discriminating taste that belong to the classic tradition of an older civilization. Thus armed he has met and mastered with

outstanding skill those problems that are inherent in new materials in a new world.

"As his designs are acclaimed for their beauty, their order, and character, so is he loved for his modesty and humor. Once again, as in the days of Washington, our architectural heritage is enriched by the presence among us of a distinguished Frenchman."

President Maginnis then presented the Gold Medal to Mr. Cret with these words:

"Paul Philippe Cret—in accordance with the unanimous will of The Board of Directors, it is the high privilege of my office to bestow upon you the Gold Medal of The American Institute of

Architects. "In doing so, may I say how favored I feel that so agreeable an incident should have come within my presidency."

*(Prolonged applause.)*

Mr. Cret, in the thought that his voice might not carry throughout the hall, requested Dean Emerson to read for him his words of acknowledgment.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENT

"SOME 20 years ago, I had the unusual experience of reading my own obituary. I was in the Army when the news arrived of what seemed to me an untimely end. A good friend of mine, who sent the newspaper clipping, added the terse comment

. . . "You will have a hard time living up to it!"

"This caution is uppermost in my mind today after listening to an appreciation of my professional career, dictated, I fear, rather by friendship than by cool appraisal. A distinction, such as the one con-

ferred by The American Institute of Architects, places the recipient in an embarrassing position. Should he say that he did not hope or deserve to receive so great an honor, he is at once suspected of false modesty, an attitude far worse than naïve complacency; nevertheless, it may be the plain truth.

"When I was informed of the action of our Board of Directors, I looked back over my professional life without discovering anything which set it apart from that of most of my fellow practitioners. After years of preparatory work, when the time came to begin active practice, I had merely to follow the trail my predecessors had opened for me. From them, I learned the aims and standards which make of Architecture a profession. In approaching a problem, their previous solutions were available, as well as their countless experiences with forms, materials and construction. Thus, the realization of all I had received made the amount I had given dwindle to very little indeed.

"In the art of Architecture, collective effort counts more than individual industry in giving form to the ideals of a period. Even when a strong personality seems to dominate the whole scene, a little research will show how often existing trends were used, and principles discovered, fecund in themselves but inadequately formulated by their authors. There are, too, contributions which in time become anonymous and are apt to be ascribed to the one name which survives. To be one of the artisans

who create the architecture of our time is satisfaction enough, even if the part contributed should go unrecognized.

"Yet it has been your pleasure to select for recognition one of the rank and file, and it ill-becomes him to question that choice. He is deeply grateful for the encouragement he has received from the profession in the past, and for the signal honor conferred today. Credit and acknowledgment must be given here to devoted partners and to the collaborators, draftsmen and engineers who constitute that familial group known as an Architect's Office, where mutual esteem and affection have not yet been replaced by bargaining.

"He also wishes to thank those members of the profession in his own city and in many other places where his good fortune has permitted him to practice. They were ever ready to help him by their counsel and experience, placing before any selfish consideration a devotion to what they felt was the best interest of their art."

President Maginnis then said: "It is interesting to know that the award of the Gold Medal of The American Institute of Architects has kindled the French sentiment of New Orleans, and this feeling will be voiced by a distinguished citizen of this community whom I will now introduce to you. I take great pleasure in presenting Judge Pierre Crabites."

## CONCLUSION

By JUDGE PIERRE CRABITES

Mr. Chairman, the people of Louisiana are extremely grateful to your Institute for having postponed until this year the conferring of this honor upon so distinguished a son of France.

Architecture is the quintessence of the quickness of things and you felt that a man of French background should receive this honor in a French city. We are grateful to you for that mark of discernment, and, if I may express myself, that mark of choosing the proper place for the proper thing.

New Orleans has an architectural history. New Orleans means something in the field of architecture,

and it means a lot to us to feel that we have achieved this recognition.

We are proud of our French blood. We are proud of our French tradition. We are proud of our great French future and we are proud for the man of our blood who has been deemed by an American institution worthy of this great honor.

We congratulate you. We thank you.

President Maginnis then escorted Mr. Cret to the great hall where he and Mrs. Cret received the congratulations of the distinguished company who had gathered to witness the ceremony.

# Report of The Board of Directors

(TO THE SEVENTIETH CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS,  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, APRIL 19, 20, 21, 22, 1938.)

**(1) Introduction.**

IN making this report to the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects, The Board of Directors has endeavored to present a reasonably comprehensive review of the activities of The Institute since the last Convention and to indicate by its recommendations lines of future endeavor which The Board believes best to promote the objects of The Institute.

For the purpose of making available to the membership the results of the work of Institute committees, separate documents have been issued in which the reports or synopses of the reports are printed.

It is hoped that the delegates will give careful consideration to those reports, and to The Board's recommendations with reference to them, in order that the decisions which are made will express the best judgment of those who here represent and act for the members of The Institute.

**(2) Awards of Honor.**

The Board announces the award of the Gold Medal of The Institute to Paul Philippe Cret, of Philadelphia. The Medal will be presented at a ceremony at the Delgado Museum of Art on the evening of Wednesday, April 20.

The Board announces the award of the Fine Arts Medal to Carl Milles, of Bloomfield Hills, Michigan; and the award of the Craftsmanship Medal to Joseph H. Dulles Allen, of Philadelphia. These medals will be presented at the dinner on the evening of Friday, April 22.

Honorary Membership has been conferred on Rufus Cutler Dawes, of Chicago; and Honorary Corresponding Membership on Francis Lorne, of London, England.

**(3) The Committees.**

The Administrative and Board committees of The Institute make their annual reports to The Board of Directors covering the year of work that follows the preceding Convention.

They have been considered in detail by The Board

of Directors at its annual meeting in New Orleans, April 13 to 16, inclusive, and actions taken or comments made with respect to many of the reports are separately presented in this report.

In this connection mention is made of those long-established committees whose work has to do with the internal operating affairs of The Institute, and references to which are not included in the "Synopses of Committee Reports". They are the Investment, Professional Practices, Judiciary, Architectural Competitions, and By-laws committees; The Board of Examiners and The Jury of Fellows.

The splendid work of the Committee on Convention Program is evidenced in the arrangement for this Convention.

In recognition of the loyal and effective services rendered by the committees, The Board herein places before the Convention the titles of all Administrative and Board Committees and the names of their chairmen. It is not feasible to include the complete personnel of these committees, which have been published heretofore in THE OCTAGON.

The titles of the Committees and the names of their Chairmen are as follows:

**ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES**

Committees	Chairmen
The Board of Examiners.....	Edward W. Donn, Jr.
The Jury of Fellows.....	C. Herrick Hammond
The Committee on Professional Practices .....	John P. B. Sinkler
The Judiciary Committee .....	William G. Nolting
The Committee on Architectural Competitions .....	Eric Gugler
The Investment Committee.....	Edwin Bergstrom

**BOARD COMMITTEES**

Committees	Chairmen
Allied Arts.....	Ely Jacques Kahn
Public Works .....	Francis P. Sullivan
Building .....	D. Everett Waid
Education .....	William Emerson
Public Information.....	William Orr Ludlow
Structural Service.....	N. Max Dunning
Preservation of Historic Buildings.....	Leicester B. Holland
Registration Laws.....	C. Julian Oberwarth



## BOARD COMMITTEES—Continued.

Civic Design.....	Eliel Saarinen
National Capital.....	Francis P. Sullivan
Foreign Relations.....	Julian Clarence Levi
By-laws.....	Edwin Bergstrom
Membership.....	Alfred Shaw
State Organization.....	John R. Fugard
Construction Industry Relations.....	William Stanley Parker
Housing.....	Walter R. McCornack
History of The Institute.....	Hobart B. Upjohn
International Congress of Archi- tects.....	Richmond H. Shreve
Equalization of Delegates'	
Expenses.....	William H. Crowell
City Planning.....	Ralph T. Walker
Prequalification of Architects for Public Works.....	Merrill C. Lee
Cooperation with National Asso- ciation of Real Estate Boards.....	John R. Fugard
Institute Collection of Selected Drawings.....	Albert Harkness
Standard Floor Area Measure- ments.....	B. Leo Steif
Study and Report on THE OCTAGON.....	John R. Fugard

## (4) Architectural Education.

The Board records its appreciation of the work of the Committee on Education.

It notes that the Carnegie Corporation now finds it expedient, in accord with a long-established policy in such matters, to diminish its annual contributions for the maintenance of the courses in the appreciation of the fine arts which have been in effect for the past twelve years. The Board has authorized the Committee on Education to develop means of financing, in whole or in part, the continuation of these art courses and to report a plan to The Board for its consideration and action.

The report of this Committee will be presented to the Convention by its Chairman, William Emerson, at the session on Tuesday evening, April 19.

## (5) Housing.

The report of this Committee will be presented to the Convention by its Chairman, Walter R. McCornack, at the morning session, Wednesday, April 20.

The Board has considered this report and approves it, and offers the following resolution for adoption by the Convention:

*Whereas*, public and private housing has become a question of first importance nationally and promises to be a means of bringing about a major recovery in the build-

ing industry and comprises efforts by both government and private capital and involves many problems closely related to the architectural profession, to government and to the other related elements in this field; therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention heartily approves and concurs in the program of The Board carried on through the Housing Committee, to maintain close collaboration of the architectural profession with other agencies in the field of public and private housing, and directs The Board to continue the vigorous study of the problem on all fronts, for report to the Seventy-first Convention.

## (6) Membership.

The Committee on Membership through its questionnaire to all chapters has investigated the methods now used to increase membership, and the resistance encountered. It asked the chapters for suggestions for the guidance of the Committee.

It was found that methods used are usual and sound but neither startling nor compelling. A formidable list of reasons for resistance to membership indicated specifically an economic consideration which must be recognized as an offset, in part at least, to professional prestige which accompanies membership.

Definite expressions of opinion were received on the advantages of membership, which give emphasis to "prestige" and "fellowship."

Further constructive suggestions indicated an active desire for unity in group publicity national in scale, and for a unified attack on governmental architectural bureaus.

The recommendations of the Committee to The Board include a program for the creation of a truly national unified organization, the inauguration of national publicity as to Institute objectives, and a comprehensive offensive against public architectural bureaus. These recommendations are further reported upon by committees specifically appointed to study them.

The Chairman of this Committee, Alfred Shaw, will present his report in detail to the Convention.

## (7) State Organization.

The Sixty-ninth Convention, in a move to make broader and more effective the relations of The Institute and state associations authorized the appointment of an enlarged Committee on State Organization to include within its membership representatives from each of the existing state organizations or societies.

The Committee thus constituted circularized all chapters and state associations for opinions and com-



ments on the existing form of organization and affiliation. Regional conferences were held in the Eastern, Middle West and Pacific Coast sections of the nation.

Criticisms and suggestions from many sources were considered by the Committee and have been outlined in the Committee's report to The Board. The report has been printed in full and its subject matter will be presented to the Convention by the Chairman of the Committee, John R. Fugard.

The comprehensive and far-reaching report of the Committee was carefully reviewed and discussed by The Board. Study and discussion of the report showed clearly the growing sentiment in favor of a more complete unification of the architectural profession.

The Board therefore unanimously approved the report and has requested the Chairman of the Committee to present for the consideration of the Convention the following resolution which provides the first step toward a unified profession, and earnestly urges its adoption:

*Resolved*, That this Seventieth Convention directs The Board to prepare changes in the by-laws and charter of The Institute necessary to create a new office of director, and to present them to the Seventy-first Convention for adoption. The holder of the new directorship is to be entitled "State Association Director," whose status shall be similar to that of Regional Director, whose term of office shall be two years, who shall represent the state associations on The Board, who shall be nominated by such associations and elected by the Convention of The Institute.

The Board has adopted unanimously resolutions to put into effect the suggested nomination and service of a corporate member to represent all state associations, who shall sit with The Board and take part in its deliberations until the adjournment of the Seventy-first Convention, dependent upon the adoption of the above resolution.

#### (8) Public Works.

The report of the Committee on Public Works will be presented to the Convention by the Chairman, Francis P. Sullivan, at the morning session, Thursday, April 21.

The Board has considered this report and approved it, with its accompanying resolution which will be submitted with the report.

The Board has carefully considered and approved

the Committee's action in actively assisting in the preparation and presentation to Congress of a bill which includes on an equal basis both the selection by competition and the direct selection of architects for Federal public buildings.

The Board is cognizant of current discussions with respect to the advantages and disadvantages of architectural competitions as means for the selection of architects for public work. Full opportunity for the discussion of this issue and action on it by the Convention will be given in connection with the report of the Committee on Public Works.

#### (9) Prequalification of Architects for Public Works.

A resolution adopted at the Sixty-ninth Convention requested The Board of Directors to investigate the possibility of a method for selecting architects for work under the jurisdiction of the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department by means of competitions among prequalified architects similar to the competitions now conducted by the Section of Painting and Sculpture of the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department.

The investigation developed no enlightening factors that would improve the method established in the present Institute documents relating to competitions.

#### (10) Civic Design.

The Chairman of the Committee having this subject in charge reports progress in the preparation of an outline of the problems of civic design. That outline promises to become more comprehensive than was originally intended, and it may not be ready for submission for some months to come.

#### (11) City Planning.

This Committee has submitted a progress report which points out that many architects and some of the chapters of The Institute do not maintain the interest in city planning which they should. It is obvious to the Committee that the general attitude of the profession should be definitely progressive and creative, rather than negative and critical.

The Board commends the suggestion contained in the report that the planning committees of the chapters find appropriate ways of giving approval to city planning work done by public-spirited citizens in their communities. The building up of local interest in and appreciation of the efforts of the layman is

important work for chapter committees, to supplement their own active participation in city planning developments.

**(12) Preservation of Historic Buildings.**

The report of the Committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings reviews the results to date of the work of the Historic American Buildings Survey, noting that the work, although curtailed, is still progressing in nine states with the immediate prospect of being resumed in two other localities. The extent of the work done to date is detailed in the synopsis of the Committee report.

It is interesting to note that while this work was inaugurated primarily as a relief measure a total of about 2,400 photographs and 3,700 drawings have been sent out, indicating a general and continuing service to the country.

The report cites instances of ill-advised restorations undertaken with relief funds and without competent advice, research and supervision.

The Committee offers the following resolution, which The Board recommends for adoption:

*Whereas*, the popular interest in the architecture of Colonial America, coupled with a natural hero-worship of the prominent figures of our past history, sometimes induces the reconstruction of early American buildings without sufficient insistence on historical certainty; and

*Whereas*, such reconstruction may not only deceive the public, but render impossible careful examination of the remains and later correct rebuilding; and

*Whereas*, the use of Federal funds for relief purposes facilitates hasty or ill-advised undertakings of this nature; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That The American Institute of Architects believes it the part of wisdom to devote relief funds to the preservation, repair, and restoration of existing historic buildings rather than to the reconstruction of such as have in large part or wholly disappeared; and

Believes further that no relief funds should be allocated to any project of reconstruction or restoration until such project be submitted for scholarly and scrupulous examination to the Advisory Board on Historic Sites and Buildings of the Department of the Interior, to the Branch of Sites and Buildings of the National Park Service, or to the National or local Committees on Preservation of Historic Buildings of The American Institute of Architects.

**(13) XV International Congress of Architects.**

Upon invitation of The Institute and of the Government of the United States there will take place in Washington in September, 1939, the XV International Congress of Architects. The Secretary of

State is cooperating, and has appointed official delegates of the United States, and an organizing committee having authority and support from the Federal Government has been established.

It is proposed that the 1939 Convention of The Institute also be held in Washington at the time of the Congress—and that the co-terminous sessions adjourn to be received officially at the New York World's Fair, in 1939.

For the purpose of directing this program The Institute is working through a committee comprising The President of The Institute as its Chairman, and Messrs. Bergstrom and Shreve of The Board of Directors of The Institute as members, with Messrs. Corbett, Voorhees, Zantzing, and Totten of the American Section of the Permanent Committee of the International Congress of Architects.

Mr. Richard Southgate, of the Department of State, and Mr. Louis A. Simon, Supervising Architect, Treasury Department are also members of the organizing committee, and Mr. Simon will be a member of the American delegation.

As hosts to our foreign guests, fellow-professionals, The Institute has accepted the obligation of the entertainment of the visiting members of the Congress in Washington. The Federal Government will, it is hoped, share some part of the cost incidental to this cultural assembly, but part of the required fund must derive from The Institute. The Board therefore bespeaks from the membership generous support of the plan to this effect which will be submitted for their consideration at this Convention.

**(14) Foreign Relations.**

The activities of this Committee since the last Convention have been varied and important. They related to the Paris International Exposition of 1937, entertainment of visiting foreign architects, American architectural exhibitions for foreign countries, and the International Congress of Technical Training.

The report of the Committee was received by The Board with appreciation and approval.

**(15) Construction Industry Relations.**

The report of this Committee reviews its work for the year, giving emphasis to the following items:

New fire insurance policy; the short form of contract; draftsmen's organizations; building safety code; general intra-industry conditions; and bidding procedure in private contracts.

The survey which the Committee is conducting on bidding procedure is not yet complete, and a final report will be made to The Board at the fall meeting.

One of the subjects that is receiving the close attention of this Committee is the relation of draftsmen as employees and architects as employers. The profession has definite responsibilities regarding the terms of such employment. Members and chapters are requested to communicate with the Committee regarding conditions of employment in their respective territories.

#### (16) Structural Service.

The Structural Service Committee and the Structural Service Department continue to do splendid work for the architectural profession and the building industry.

The activities of the Department are reported to the membership in the pages of *THE OCTAGON*. They reflect the desire of The Institute to make as effective as funds permit the participation of the architect in the technical and structural activities of the building industry.

Another major duty of the Structural Service Department is to cooperate with and render service to The Producers' Council, in accord with the agreement of affiliation between The Institute and The Council.

The Board asks a full measure of support of this program by members and chapters, because it constitutes an essential service to the profession and the building industry.

#### (17) The Producers' Council.

The Board notes with pleasure the continuing growth of The Council and its encouraging outlook for the future.

Its following activities are noteworthy: The growing use of the Structural Service Department and the increased contribution for this work; the publication of three important manuals; a research bulletin survey; the cooperation with the Construction League for a program of industry forums; and the project clearing house reports.

#### (18) Registration Laws.

The Board records its appreciation of the work of the Committee on Registration Laws during the past

year, which included editing and publishing, under the auspices of The Institute, the two important documents entitled "Requirements for State Registration of non-Resident Architects," and "Recommended Provisions for Registration Laws for Architects."

A program of proposed activities of the Committee is quoted in the synopsis of the Committee's report.

#### (19) Public Information.

The report of the Committee on Public Information with a supplementary report by the Publicist shows increased activities along well-defined lines. The publication of "The Value of The Architect" and the stimulation of local publicity have been particularly successful.

The Board commends the work and accomplishments of the Committee and the Publicist and urges the continued cooperation of the chapters in their work.

#### (20) National Capital.

Largely through the early pioneer work of William M. Ellicott, A. I. A., and the efforts of the Committee on the National Capital, the States of Maryland and Virginia, and the District of Columbia have begun to realize the necessity of the proper development of the region known as the Baltimore-Washington-Annapolis area.

The Maryland Planning Commission has submitted a report on the regional planning of this area which recommends federal and state legislation, giving necessary powers to carry out a proper planning program and the establishment of a cooperating committee to control developments.

On the recommendation of the Director of the Middle Atlantic District, William G. Nolting, The Board has adopted resolutions of endorsement and support of this movement—in cooperation with the Maryland Planning Commission.

On the recommendation of the Committee on the National Capital, The Board has adopted a resolution to the effect that in the further consideration of the site and design of the proposed Jefferson Memorial in Washington, D. C., it be made mandatory that no site be selected without the approval of the Park and Planning Commission; and that no

design be executed without the approval of the nation Commission of Fine Arts.

(21) Chapter Visits of Regional Directors.

It is gratifying to record that the 1938 budget of The Institute carries an appropriation which enables the Directors of the ten regional districts to visit their chapters at some period during the year.

Long experience has demonstrated that these visits are of great value to the chapters, and of even greater value to The Institute as a whole. They establish a personal contact between The Board and the membership and the profession at large. They serve better than any other method to bring to The Board the views and the desires of the membership at large.

Many such visits have been made prior to this Convention, and many others will be made before the end of the year. Every chapter should arrange at least one meeting each year at which its Regional Director can be present.

(22) Finances.

The financial position of The Institute improved during the year 1937. The income received, while no larger than in 1936, permitted greater activity in committee work, notably public information, housing, state organization, membership and structural service.

Art courses in summer schools were continued under the Carnegie Fund gift. Lectures under the Waid Education Fund, and scholarships awarded under the older scholarship funds and the newer Edward Langley Scholarships were well begun.

The Board is gratified that the income from the Scholarship and Endowment Funds permitted these activities to go forward unimpaired.

The financial condition during the first quarter of the year 1938 seems to promise about the same income as was received last year. Increased demands for service and accomplishment from members and chapters should be met, and The Board is confident the members will make this possible.

(23) Equalization of Delegates' Expenses.

Since the discontinuance of the tax and refund system in 1932, under which delegates' expenses

were equalized, and attendance at conventions of delegates from far distant chapters thereby encouraged, there has been a strong sentiment in many of the chapters that some similar plan should be adopted.

The special committee charged with this matter made a carefully prepared report to The Board with accompanying analyses of transportation charges for delegates from all chapters, to such typical convention cities as Washington and New Orleans.

The Board received the report and its recommendations with sympathetic understanding, and approval. It directed that they be referred to the meeting of The Board which follows this Convention for the purpose of further action.

(24) Disciplinary Procedure.

In an unauthorized competition held early in the past year, The Board has found that two members of The Institute were involved. One of these members admitted the fact and has been adjudged guilty of unprofessional conduct. The other member, an officer of a family corporation, but not its president, claimed immunity from charges of unprofessional conduct because the competition drawings were submitted in the corporate name, and counsel has advised that, under the circumstances, the member can not be disciplined.

In order to preclude this corporate immunity hereafter, The Board offers the following resolution for adoption by the Convention:

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention direct The Board to prepare amendments of the by-laws necessary to preclude a member becoming immune to disciplinary action on account of his connection with a corporation, association, trust, governmental or other bureau or department, or other legal entity, as an owner, agent, representative, executive officer, employe, or otherwise thereof, and to present such amendments to the Seventy-first convention for adoption.

(25) The Arizona Chapter.

On behalf of The Institute The Board extends a cordial welcome to the Arizona Chapter. A charter was issued to the architects of this land of Indians and sunshine on June 30, 1937. Arizona makes the seventieth chapter of The American Institute of Architects.



## (26) Membership Statistics.

	Total on January 1, 1937	Number Deceased	Number Resigned	Number terminated for default or cause	Number Re-admitted	Number Admitted	Number Members advanced to Fellowship	Total on January 1, 1938
<b>CORPORATE MEMBERSHIPS</b>								
Fellows.....	297	13	1	1	.....	.....	23	305
Members.....	2563	34	8	115	11	137	(-) 23	2531
Totals.....	2860	47	9	116	11	137	.....	2836†
<b>STATE ASSOCIATION MEMBERS.....</b>								
Totals.....	4	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	4
Totals.....	2864	47	9	116	11	137	.....	2840
<b>INSTITUTE HONORARY MEMBERSHIPS</b>								
Honorary Members.....	83	2	.....	.....	.....	1	.....	82
Honorary Corresponding Members.....	53	4	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	51
Totals.....	136	6	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	133
*JUNIORS.....	55	.....	.....	17	.....	.....	.....	38
*Associates of Chapters.....	600	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	558
Non-Institute Members of State Association Members.....	1820	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	1318
<b>GRAND TOTALS.....</b>	<b>5475</b>	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	<b>4887</b>

\* This class abolished May 9, 1936. † Includes 124 Members in suspension for default.

*End of Board's Report*

## Excerpts from The Treasurer's Report

EDWIN BERGSTROM, TREASURER

THE Treasurer submits his report of the financial operations of The Institute during 1937, and of its financial condition at the close of that year. The audit of his books and records made by Price, Waterhouse & Company is on file at The Octagon.

The report is in its customary form, setting forth the financial condition in a Balance Sheet (\*TABLE I) with its supporting schedules, and the financial operations in a statement of the General Fund (TABLES 2 AND 3), showing the money received and spent for all purposes. At the end of the report is a statement (\*TABLE 4) showing the amounts donated to the Special Funds during the year, the amounts transferred to them under the terms of the By-laws, the amounts earned by the investment of their capital, the cost of administering them, the amounts expended to carry out their purposes, and the amounts of their accumulated capital and income, by individual funds and as a whole.

\* Not included herein.

Throughout all the statements is carried the distinction between the funds that can be used for administering and operating The Institute and maintaining its property, and those that cannot be so used because of restrictions placed upon them by their donors or the By-laws. The latter are called the Special Funds, and they comprise the Reserve Funds, set up to protect the solvency of The Institute; the Endowment Funds, set up for its educational, scholarship and property maintenance purposes; and the Temporary Funds, donated for current purposes or for special purposes, such as the New Administration Building.

Through the General Fund passes all money received by The Institute, (except donations to the Endowment funds), and all money paid out by it. The General Fund therefore affords a complete picture of the financial operations, segregating the amounts received and spent for the administration, operation, and maintenance of The Institute and its property, and the amounts received and expended for the pre-



scribed purposes. In considering this report, it should be kept clearly in mind that the former income, shown in TABLE 2, can be expended by The Board as it deems best for the interest of The Institute, whereas, the latter income, shown in TABLE 3, can be expended by The Board only as directed by the creators of the funds from which the income is derived, or in accord with the By-laws.

The former income is derived almost entirely from the dues paid by members and the sale of the contract documents. As these increase or diminish, the activities of The Institute expand or contract and the services of The Octagon become more satisfying, or less.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### General Fund—Income and Outgo for Operations.

The income for administering and operating The Institute, and for maintaining its property, shown in TABLE 2, is epitomized in TABLES A and B; and the expenditures for the same purposes are epitomized in TABLE C, that follow:

TABLE A

GENERAL FUND for General Purposes	From January 1 to Dec. 31, 1937	From January 1 to Dec. 31, 1936	From January 1 to Dec. 31, 1935	From January 1 to Dec. 31, 1934
Income.....	\$78,714.80 <sup>1</sup>	\$87,435.05	\$86,827.07	\$80,678.07
Expenditures.....	78,787.47	77,314.97	55,593.42	51,474.37
Gross Gain or Loss.	(G)1,927.33	(G)10,120.08	(G)1,233.65	(L)796.30

<sup>1</sup> Includes no dues for prior years.

TABLE B  
Income from Sale of

Year	Income From Members	Documents	Structural Service	Income From other Sources	Total Income
1931.....	\$64,329.44	\$15,607.02	\$3,999.96	\$1,287.30	\$85,223.72
1934.....	23,118.99 <sup>2</sup>	15,292.90	525.00	11,741.18 <sup>3</sup>	50,678.07
1935.....	37,152.10 <sup>4</sup>	20,249.15	300.00	5,995.79 <sup>5</sup>	56,827.07
1936.....	49,792.89	26,551.57 <sup>6</sup>	300.00	8,790.59 <sup>7</sup>	87,435.05
1937.....	44,756.31 <sup>1</sup>	26,111.03 <sup>8</sup>	600.00	8,247.40 <sup>9</sup>	78,714.80

<sup>1</sup> Current dues only—previous years include current dues and dues for prior years.

<sup>2</sup> Includes one dollar per annual dues normally placed in general reserve.

<sup>3</sup> Includes proceeds of \$4,500 loan and \$2,000 cash forwarded from 1934.

<sup>4</sup> Includes cash forwarded from 1935 but not proceeds of \$4,000 loan.

<sup>5</sup> Includes revenues from convention.

<sup>6</sup> Net—without discounts.

TABLE C

Year	Expended for Meetings	Expended for Property Maintenance <sup>1</sup>	Expended for Documents <sup>2</sup>	Expended for Structural Service	Expended for Public Information	Expended for Com- mittees
1931....	\$16,934.27	\$7,453.53	\$17,910.50	\$11,815.78	\$10,982.70	\$6,913.64
1932..	8,796.53	6,835.46	11,671.71	8,797.43	5,186.11	8,566.45
1933..	5,470.96 <sup>3</sup>	6,297.07	8,677.08	4,870.04	3,454.53	2,602.51
1934....	7,429.38	5,912.32	12,697.87	625.40	2,938.73	3,265.45
1935....	11,097.73	5,766.61	13,912.63 <sup>4</sup>	404.15	2,583.11	3,045.13 <sup>5</sup>
1936....	16,683.90	6,510.79	17,126.46 <sup>6</sup>	1,039.96	2,231.13	1,788.95 <sup>7</sup>
1937....	13,017.19	8,464.39	17,395.99 <sup>8</sup>	3,555.53	3,885.26	3,208.86 <sup>9</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Income from Property Maintenance Fund, balance from General Fund.

<sup>2</sup> Includes expense of publishing OCTAGON at about \$4,500 per year.

<sup>3</sup> No convention held.

<sup>4</sup> Exclusive of allocations from chapter gifts.

<sup>5</sup> Exclusive of discounts.

It is to be noted that the total incomes (TABLE 2, considering current dues and not prior years' dues) and total expenditures were approximately the same

last year as the year before. Also, that the current dues income in 1937 was \$44,756.31 (56.8% of the total income), and \$38,704.59 in 1936, (50.6% of the total income of that year), whereas the (gross) income from sale of documents was practically \$28,000.00 for each year. The increased revenue permitted an increase of \$1,550.00 in the Public Information appropriation, an increase of \$1,500.00 for the committees in general, and an increase of \$1,895.00 for badly needed repairs of The Octagon.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### Defaults in Dues.

Two thousand five hundred and eighteen, 88% of the 2,860 members of The Institute, paid their dues in full in 1937.

On December 31, 1937, 95 members, carried under suspension for 12 months, terminated their memberships by failing to remove their suspensions. They owed The Institute \$4,419.75. On the same date 124 members suspended their memberships, owing \$2,480.50. Since January 1 these latter members have paid \$378.00 on their accounts, and ten of them have restored their memberships.

#### Conclusion.

The Treasurer is glad to record that The Board has been able to extend The Institute's activities, and particularly to increase the public information and the housing programs that have suffered so materially from lack of funds. The Board has budgeted an increased amount for public information next year; there is urgent need to increase the force at The Octagon to take care of the greatly increased volume of work that has been imposed by the enlarging activities; some large expenditures must be made on account of the International Congress of Architects meeting in conjunction with The Institute Convention in September, 1939. All these call for funds not now in sight, yet they will be financed if the members are able to do their part and the demand for the contract documents does not lag. No one would attempt to guess the state of mind that will prevail even a few weeks ahead, but The Treasurer believes that the funds will be forthcoming, not only to take care of these pressing needs, but to permit even greater activities.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Various sections and tables, some of them relating to special funds, have been omitted. Printed copies of this report as distributed at the Convention may be had on request.

TABLE 2—THE GENERAL FUND  
For the administration and maintenance of The Institute and its property.  
OPERATING STATEMENT  
Period from January 1, 1936 to December 31, 1937

OUTGO

INCOME

	INCOME		OUTGO	
	1	2	1	2
	1937	1936	1937	1936
CASH FORWARDED.....	none	none	MEETINGS.....	\$13,017.19
MEMBERS.....	\$44,756.31	\$38,704.59	Conventions.....	6,930.64
Life Members, from Life Membership Reserve.....	723.47	608.00	Board and Executive Committee.....	6,035.32
Corporate Members.....	43,572.14	37,446.10	Regional Meetings (excluding appropriations from chapter gifts).....	51.23
Juniors.....	135.00	245.10	PROPERTY MAINTENANCE.....	5,393.38
State Association Members.....	385.70	314.00	Less paid by Property Maintenance Fund.....	.....
GENERAL ENDOWMENT FUND.....	none	none	GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.....	.....
PAYMENTS ON DEFAULTED DUES.....	.....	11,088.00	Gross General Administration.....	\$41,369.52
SALES.....	28,751.08	28,873.57	Distributed General Administration.....	20,539.27
Printing and Publishing.....	28,111.03	28,551.57	NET GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.....	20,839.25
Stationery and Services.....	600.00	300.00	RECRUITING.....	677.41
Postage.....	40.00	22.00	Less paid by Recruiting Fund.....	415.72
RENTS.....	1,865.00	1,742.80	PRINTING AND PUBLISHING.....	17,395.99
INTEREST ON NOTES AND BANK BALANCES.....	1,330.21	1,317.61	STRUCTURAL SERVICE.....	3,555.53
GIFTS TO MEET CURRENT INSTITUTE EXPENSES.....	25.00	20.00	EDUCATION PURPOSES.....	180.24
CONVENTION.....	1,008.50	5,688.48	Less paid by Special Funds.....	.....
OTHER SOURCES.....	18.76	.....	PUBLIC INFORMATION.....	3,885.36
TOTALS.....	\$78,714.80	\$87,435.05	COMMITTEES.....	3,268.88
Operating Gain or Loss.....	Gain 1,027.33	Gain 10,120.08	OCTAGON LIBRARY AND COLLECTIONS.....	500.00
	\$76,787.47	\$77,314.97	SPECIAL FUNDS.....	626.75
	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95	Less paid by Special Funds.....	1,692.00
Operating Gain or Loss, as above.....	Gain 1,027.33	Gain 10,120.08	INTEREST, NOTES REPAID.....	.....
Transferred from Table 3.....	Loss none	Gain 520.52	STATE ASSOCIATIONS.....	.....
Add additions or deductions on Furniture and Fixtures.....	Loss 537.12	Gain 1,616.35	CONSTRUCTION LEAGUE OF THE U.S.....	.....
NET OPERATING GAIN OR LOSS (to Net Worth)	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95	OTHER GENERAL PURPOSES.....	418.48
	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95	APPROPRIATIONS TO SPECIAL FUNDS.....	86.06
	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95	General Reserve Fund (Contingency Fund).....	1,874.16
	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95	APPROPRIATIONS FORWARDED FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES.....	.....
	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95	TOTALS.....	5,208.79
	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95		\$76,787.47
	Gain \$1,876.23	Gain \$12,256.95		\$77,314.97



## Synopses of Committee Reports

(THE SEVENTIETH CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS,  
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA, APRIL 19, 20, 21, 22, 1938.)

### Introduction

THE year of work for the administrative and board committees of The Institute extends from the adjournment of one convention to the adjournment of the next convention.

These committees, with several exceptions, make two reports to The Board. A preliminary report is made at the semi-annual meeting in the fall and a final report at the annual meeting which precedes the convention.

It would not be desirable, even if funds were available, to print the final reports of all committees for distribution at the convention.

A number of the committees are charged with duties which relate to the internal affairs of The Institute, and in some instances their recommendations and findings are confidential to The Board.

Other committees whose duties relate to external affairs have programs which are essential but to some extent routine in nature.

A third group of committees, through circumstances arising from within or without the profession, are engaged in work of special significance or importance.

On the basis of this broad division, The Board has experimented in recent years—for the purpose of finding the best procedure for making the work of the committees available to the profession.

Some years ago the committee reports were printed in full and distributed to the chapters before receiving the consideration of The Board. On several occasions this led to misunderstandings, and to acceptance by the profession of pronouncements which had not received the approval of either The Board or the Convention.

Under the present procedure The Board receives all committee reports and acts upon them.

It then submits to the convention in its own printed report the views of The Board upon the committee reports. This supplementary brochure, containing synopses of some of the committee reports, and several reports in separate form have been printed for distribution.

The purpose is to provide means by which the delegates may have before them the substance of the work of the committees, in such form that it can be taken back to the chapters with a record of convention action thereon.

### Reports Separately Printed.

Housing.....Walter R. McCornack, Chairman  
State Organization.....John R. Fugard, Chairman

### Reports Presented by Chairmen.

Education .....William Emerson, Chairman  
Membership.....Alfred Shaw, Chairman  
Public Works.....Francis P. Sullivan, Chairman

### List of Committees and Chairmen.

A complete list of all committees and chairmen appears in The Board's report.

### Committee on Allied Arts

ELY JACQUES KAHN, *Chairman*

### Synopsis of Report.

(a) The present situation, in which the Government is actually handling operations dealing with individual works in painting and sculpture, projects on buildings, guidance in art education, children's work, etc., has developed discussion of the virtue of governmental participation in so intangible a thing as art.

Opinions from various sections of the nation raised a doubt of the possibility of combining relief with serious art work. Limitations of time often prevent careful study, and in some instances the spirit of the design of the building has been ignored in order to permit the inclusion of works that indicate a desire to present opportunities for artists rather than a reasonable decoration harmonious with the original conception of the whole.

On the other hand many localities have become conscious for the first time of the existence of their artists and the possibilities of cooperation of the allied arts; art interest has been aroused. While naturally, under the circumstances, some work has been mediocre, members of the Committee report many excellent mural decorations and works of



sculpture as having been produced in relief projects.

Due to many eminently fair competitions throughout the country, men and women with hitherto limited opportunity have won awards and executed commissions of a type usually given only to proven artists.

It is recommended that chapters of The Institute analyze results of art projects in their sections for the purpose of obtaining data for presentation to appointed officials when possible and acceptable.

(b) Before Congress during the past several years have been various bills for establishing a Department of Fine Arts in the Federal government. It is highly debatable whether such a department is desirable.

(c) There will, undoubtedly, be large opportunities for artists in the two World's Fairs—New York and San Francisco—although no definite units for housing the fine arts at the New York Fair have been announced. There have developed some problems regarding jurisdiction of labor unions with respect to art work for the Fairs, the solution of which is yet to be determined.

#### Committee on Public Information

WILLIAM ORR LUDLOW, *Chairman*

##### *Synopsis of Report.*

The Committee expressed its appreciation of the work of the Publicist, Mr. James T. Grady.

The sources of public information material are The Institute and its chapters. One of the obstacles encountered has been the difficulty of obtaining suitable material from the chapters. To overcome this the chairmen of chapter committees on public information have been appointed corresponding members of The Institute Committee. So far, this has proved to be a satisfactory procedure.

The Committee prepared and issued a leaflet entitled "The Value of the Architect," for distribution to laymen. So far, more than 10,000 copies of this leaflet have been distributed. Letters from chapters and members report that it is being widely used.

The Committee is now investigating various avenues of public information and will make its recommendations to The Board. It is also considering the desirability of preparing more extensive printed material along the lines of that used in the leaflet, which can be used for the same general purposes and in a somewhat broader field.

A series of articles related to building problems and developments have been distributed to the corresponding members of the committee for use with their local press.

It is proposed to keep the membership informed through the publication of news about the work of the Committee in the pages of THE OCTAGON.

Supplementing its report the Committee transmitted an analysis from the Publicist showing the material appearing in the public press for the first four months of the current year. Approximately 300 newspapers and periodicals printed news and information about The Institute activities with an approximate circulation of more than 160,000,000.

#### Committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings

LEICESTER B. HOLLAND, *Chairman*

##### *Synopsis of Report.*

The work of the Historic American Buildings Survey, though curtailed, has continued up to the present in the states of Massachusetts, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Maine, New Jersey, Louisiana, and California, supported by funds from the Works Progress Administration, through State Administrations employing in total about 200 men.

In addition, projects for students are being operated in New Hampshire and on Long Island, with an immediate prospect of resuming work in the District of Columbia with a corps of 26 men, and in Cleveland, Ohio, with 18.

The result of this activity, as of February 1, 1938, has been in total the photographing of 3,860 structures, with 17,480 negatives. Structures numbering 2,240, most of which are among those photographed, have been recorded in about 16,000 sheets of measured drawings.

Buildings, recorded and unrecorded, to the extent of 7,000, have been indexed. Of these, 3,000 have been examined and graded as preferences for future surveys.

The negatives and drawings are being filed at the Library of Congress, from which source prints are being supplied at a cost of 15 cents each for photographs and 10 cents per sheet for drawings.

During 1937, there were distributed in this manner 1,561 photographs and 2,123 drawings. For the first three months of 1938, there were distributed 831 photographs and 1,571 drawings. This



would indicate that the survey is not only a relief project but one of general and continuing service to the country at large.

Attention is called to the fact that the city of Philadelphia, three years ago, undertook to restore, with relief funds, the interior of the Congress Room in old Congress Hall without proper advice and supervision, with the result that the work is open to serious criticism on the score of historic inaccuracy. In the past, the local committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings of the Philadelphia Chapter voluntarily supervised the restoration of Independence Hall, the John Bartram's Home, the Washington Headquarters, and General Varnum's Headquarters at Valley Forge.

It is reported that a grant of \$200,000 has been obtained to rebuild the William Penn House at Tullytown. The original building, except for the foundations, has completely disappeared. No drawings exist and reconstruction must be based on such information as can be gathered from the letters of Penn's secretary. In this case, also, the Philadelphia Chapter has again been ignored, as has apparently the Government Advisory Board of Historic Sites and Buildings and the National Park Service which are at present equipped to advise on such matters.

While imaginary reconstructions are perhaps valuable as drawings, or in temporary materials in exposition grounds, the growing tendency to reconstruct "shrines" upon original sites without critical study to insure correctness of results is greatly to be regretted.

(The Committee submitted a resolution which received the approval of The Board and is offered in its report for adoption.)

#### Committee on Registration Laws

C. JULIAN OBERWARTH, *Chairman*

##### *Synopsis of Report.*

During the past year two important publications were completed and edited, namely:

"Requirements for State Registration of Non-Resident Architects," (Published in THE OCTAGON);

"Recommended Provisions for Registration Laws for Architects." (Approved by The Board of Directors.)

Helpful suggestions and comments have been given to a number of states who have presented to their respective legislatures revisions or amendments of

existing laws. Of the remaining nine states which have no registration laws, Maine, Missouri, Wyoming, Vermont, and Massachusetts are making active attempts to secure proper legislation.

The Committee outlines the following program of its activities for the coming year:

(a) That efforts be extended to secure the adoption in all states of the agreement to automatic granting of registration to all architects who have passed the Standard N. C. A. R. B. Examination in either Junior or Senior Class;

(b) That 100% cooperation with the office of the N. C. A. R. B. be actively sought and the benefits thereof continually stressed;

(c) That general activities of the National Council, the requirements and benefits of the National Examination, and the importance of every architect taking either the Junior or Senior Examination regardless of present status be widely publicized before the members of The Institute and the profession in general;

(d) That we lend every assistance and do everything possible to expedite the passage of registration laws in the remaining nine states whenever the profession in those states so desires;

(e) That we continually bear in mind the idea of revision of the two documents herein named, and make note of changing conditions which might necessitate changes in the original documents;

(f) That we take note of the practice by a number of well-known architects, and many of lesser importance, of lending themselves, directly or indirectly, to the business of selling plans and specifications through magazines, thus getting their work into states where they are not registered—in violation of the state laws and in violation of proper standards of practice; and that methods be studied looking toward breaking up all of such practices which are illegal.

#### Committee on Construction Industry Relations

WILLIAM STANLEY PARKER, *Chairman*

##### *Synopsis of Report.*

A condensed review of steps taken by this Committee includes—agreement with the Eastern Underwriters Association with respect to the amended form of new Fire Insurance Policy after favorable action on certain reduced premium rates; comment on the

discussion of unionization of draftsmen; mention of various intra-industry conditions; and a review of the answers to a questionnaire sent to Institute members, at the request of the Associated General Contractors of America, regarding customary procedure in bidding on private contracts.

The several hundred replies received show that (1) a large majority of architects do not open bids in the presence of bidders; (2) many notify bidders of the results of the bidding, but by mail rather than by open posting; (3) in a number of cases bidders have asked to be advised; and (4) many architects do not object to bidders being present at the opening, nor do the majority of clients object to this practice.

#### Committee on Structural Service

N. MAX DUNNING, *Chairman*

##### *Synopsis of Report.*

The service which this Committee is organized to render is receiving greater recognition, resulting in increased demands upon its facilities. Research, investigation, and experimentation, particularly in housing standards, are expanding, due to broadening of the base of operation of the Federal Housing Administration, the increase in plant and business construction under the Reconstruction Finance Corporation, and the approval of large-scale projects by the United States Housing Authority. All of this brings new opportunities and requests to the Structural Service Committee and Department.

The Committee is cooperating with the Central Housing Committee and the Bureau of Standards in carrying on a program of research in materials,

methods, and devices appropriate for low-cost housing for which \$198,000 has been appropriated by Congress.

The committee has reviewed two Research Bulletins for The Producers' Council, and has revised the A. I. A. Standard Filing System.

With reference to participation in the joint committee work of the American Standards Association, the Building Code Correlating Committee, Central Committee on Lumber Standards, and the Joint Committee on Standard Specifications for Concrete, attention is called to the generous sacrifice of time and money by the members of the committees, particularly Professors Paul Norton and Charles W. Killam, and the Technical Secretary, Theodore I. Coe.

#### Cooperation With National Association of Real Estate Boards

JOHN R. FUGARD, *Designee*

##### *Synopsis of Report.*

The Designee of The Institute, John R. Fugard, reported that a series of meetings with Mr. Paul Stark, President, and Mr. Herbert U. Nelson, Executive Director, of the National Association of Real Estate Boards, has resulted in a better understanding of mutual problems, particularly as related to housing.

The Designee has urged that invitations be issued to the President and the Executive Director to be present at this Convention and to take part in discussions relating to housing, which appears to be the topic of common interest between The Institute and the Association at the present time.

## Convention Attendance

**A**TTEendance at the Convention broke all records—except the Convention of 1925 (New York) to which all unaffiliated architects in the country were invited.

The total registration was 699, when registration closed on Wednesday evening, April 20.

At least a dozen late arrivals were unable to register and, therefore, it is correct to say that the attendance at the Convention exceeded 700.

The total number of delegates-at-large was 18.

The total number of member delegates was 200.

The total number of state delegates was 4.

The total number of delegates accredited was 222.

Sixty-two chapters of The Institute were represented by delegates.

The chapters not represented were: Arkansas, Dayton, Eastern Ohio, Hawaii, Montana, North Louisiana, Washington State, West Virginia.

The state association members represented by delegates were:

State Association of California Architects

Michigan Society of Architects

The State Association of Wisconsin Architects

Architects' Society of Ohio.

## Resolutions

ADOPTED BY THE SEVENTIETH CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Preceding this report of the resolutions which were adopted by the Convention of The Institute will be found the report of The Board of Directors, and the "Synopsis of Committee Reports," which were distributed to the delegates, in printed form, at the time of registration.

The resolutions proposed in the Report of The Board of Directors which were adopted by the Convention are included herein. While this is a duplication, in some instances, it is desirable to record all Convention resolutions in one place, as follows:

CHARLES T. INGHAM,  
*Secretary.*

### Items of New Business Procedure.

*Resolved*, By the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects that all resolutions or requests for opportunity to present items of new business concerning matters of policy, and other matters not covered in the report of The Board of Directors or in a committee report, shall be presented to the Committee on Resolutions for its action and approval prior to the close of the convention session on Thursday, April 21, provided that an exception to this general rule may be made by unanimous consent of the convention.

### Use of Relief Funds for Preservation of Historic Buildings.

*Whereas*, The popular interest in the architecture of Colonial America, coupled with a natural hero-worship of the prominent figures of our past history, sometimes induces the reconstruction of early American buildings without sufficient insistence on historical certainty; and

*Whereas*, Such reconstruction may not only deceive the public, but render impossible careful examination of the remains and later correct rebuilding; and

*Whereas*, The use of Federal funds for relief purposes facilitates hasty or ill-advised undertakings of this nature; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That The American Institute of Architects believes it the part of wisdom to devote relief funds to the preservation, repair, and restoration of existing historic buildings rather than to the reconstruction of such as have in large part or wholly disappeared; and

Believes further that no relief funds should be allocated to any project of reconstruction or restoration until such project be submitted for scholarly and scrupulous examination to the Advisory Board on Historic Sites and Buildings of the Department of the Interior, to the Branch of Sites and Buildings of the National Park Service, or to

the National or local Committees on Preservation of Historic Buildings of The American Institute of Architects.

### Disciplinary Procedure—By-law Amendment Against Immunity.

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects direct The Board to prepare amendments of the by-laws necessary to preclude a member becoming immune to disciplinary action on account of his connection with a corporation, association, trust, governmental or other bureau or department, or other legal entity, as an owner, agent, representative, executive officers, employe, or otherwise thereof, and to present such amendments to the Seventy-first Convention for adoption.

### Advantages of Institute Membership.

*Resolved*, That The Board of Directors be directed to circularize the profession and forcefully state the objectives and advantages of The Institute.

### State Organization.

*Whereas*, The By-laws of The American Institute of Architects states as its object, "To organize and unite in fellowship the architects of the United States of America"; and

*Whereas*, The unification of the entire architectural profession in a single strong national organization representing numerically the architects of the country is essential; and

*Whereas*, The Institute has always been the leader in professional organization and will continue as such; and

*Whereas*, The present form of affiliation of state societies has not proven itself sufficiently attractive to the state societies; and

*Whereas*, The Institute should relinquish none of its present professional authority, but should aim to increase its prestige by so changing its form as to represent, organize and unite in fellowship all qualified architects; and in order to further the uniting of all unorganized architects into state societies; now, therefore be it

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects directs The Board to prepare changes in the by-laws and charter of The Institute necessary to create a new office of Director, and to present them to the Seventy-first Convention for adoption. The holder of the new Directorship is to be entitled "State Association Director," whose status shall be similar to that of Regional Director, whose term of office shall be two years, who shall represent the state associations on The Board, who shall be nominated by such associations and elected by the Convention of The Institute.

#### International Congress of Architects.

*Whereas*, The American Institute of Architects, in convention assembled, will act as host to the International Congress of Architects in Washington, D. C., September 24 to 30, 1939, and it is necessary to raise \$7,500 for such purposes; be it

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects hereby directs The Board of Directors to add not more than the sum of \$3.00 to each annual dues for the year 1939 only; *providing*,

(a) That the failure to pay such \$3.00 dues shall not be deemed to be a default of dues; and

(b) That the said \$3.00 shall not be charged against members admitted subsequent to this Seventieth Convention; and

(c) That the funds derived from such \$3.00 dues, or so much thereof as may be necessary, shall be used for the purpose set out in this preamble.

#### Employment of Private Architects for Public Work.

*Whereas*, A joint committee representing The American Institute of Architects and the Procurement Division of the Treasury Department, prepared a report recommending certain methods to be used in obtaining architectural services for government buildings, which report was approved by the Sixty-ninth Convention of The American Institute of Architects; and

*Whereas*, The recommendations of this report have not been put into effect by the Treasury Department; be it

*Resolved*, By the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects: That this Convention reaffirms its belief that the best results in the planning of government buildings can only be obtained by the employment of architects in private practice.

That this Convention reaffirms the long-standing policy of The American Institute of Architects recognizing the direct selection of qualified architects and the selection of architects by means of properly regulated competitions as alternate methods.

That The American Institute of Architects endorses the bill, H. R. 10247, to provide for the procurement of architectural services for the design and construction of public buildings introduced in the House of Representatives by the Hon. Paul Maloney of Louisiana.

#### Interprofessional Conference.

*Whereas*, It is believed that benefit would result from a joint study by the national organizations representing all the various professions of their common problems and particularly of the best manner of utilizing the artistic, scientific and practical knowledge of professional and technical men to the best advantage of the Government and the general public; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That The Board of Directors of The American Institute of Architects be authorized and directed to invite the leading national societies in each of the

generally recognized learned professions and arts to join in constituting an Interprofessional Conference for the study of these problems and to designate representatives to serve thereon.

#### Public Regulation of Historic Buildings and Places.

*Whereas*, Buildings and places of historic interest and places of outstanding beauty are in the nature of a public resource; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, By the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects, that The Institute recommend and urge that such buildings and places and their surroundings, whether in private or public ownership, be considered as properly subject to reasonable public regulation.

#### Preservation of New Orleans Architecture.

*Whereas*, The evidences of former culture and conditions give to the City of New Orleans an historical interest and a special charm and are particularly illustrated by the buildings of the Vieux Carre, which still remain, but which may soon fall into decay unless protected and carefully preserved, thus losing a feature of great value to the city and to the nation; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects heartily commends all actions of the City Authorities which tend to this end, and urge that continued efforts be made to preserve these historical treasures, and to stabilize and to protect them from all influences which may imperil their security.

#### Reproduction of the Columbian Fountain.

*Whereas*, At the World's Columbia Exposition in Chicago, in 1893, there was produced by Frederick MacMonnies, The Columbian Fountain, exquisite in conception and artistic in execution; and

*Whereas*, The Columbian Fountain, most prominently placed as the feature of the famous Court of Honor, served to proclaim to the world an expression of science, art and industry, as a most fitting complement to the works of the famous architects of that age; and

*Whereas*, A resolution has been offered in the Congress of the United States to reproduce in marble the Columbian Fountain in order to perpetuate for future generations the spirit of triumphant America; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, By the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects that the Congress be commended for its support of the commemoration of such a worthy subject, and be urged to give most favorable consideration to the resolution.

#### Housing Costs—Failure of Cooperation.

*Whereas*, A large portion of our population are without the benefit of such wholesome living conditions as make for good citizenship; and

*Whereas*, This condition cannot be largely remedied without the aid of public subsidy; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, By the Seventieth Convention of The Amer-



ican Institute of Architects that it applaud all efforts being made to reduce the cost of housing and so to advance the cause of good housing with a minimum of subsidy and that The Institute deprecates failure to cooperate to this end, whether the failure be on the part of administration, of industry, or of labor.

#### Housing Standards.

*Whereas*, Pressure is being brought to bear on the Federal Housing Administration to lower its standards in order to increase the volume of housing to be built and since The Institute believes this to be contrary to a sound public policy; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That The American Institute of Architects recognizes that the program of insured mortgages inaugurated by the Federal Housing Administration can be defended as sound only if it is based upon a set of reasonable minimum standards for the appraisal of the architectural and other property values involved in each case. The impartial appraisal of these values by an insuring agency, independent of the lending agency, provides a check on over-appraisal and reduction of standards that is of vital importance to the whole structure of real estate mortgages. The practices prevalent during the 1930's are sufficient proof of the above statement.

The American Institute of Architects fully realizes the tendency to lower the bars in times of emergency, and feels it is of extreme importance that this tendency be strongly resisted in the field of insured mortgages. The validity of the entire program will be imperiled if insurance is granted on the basis of sub-standard quality.

It is clear that the carefully devised property and neighborhood standards developed by the Federal Housing Administration must not be permitted to be affected by temporary demands for action during times of economic stress such as the present.

#### Fees on Housing Projects.

*Whereas*, It is desirable that fair fees be paid architects on housing projects under the program of the United States Housing Authority; and

*Whereas*, The United States Housing Authority Act makes it mandatory upon the architects to pay the prevailing fees, salaries and wages of the locality; and

*Whereas*, These fees, salaries and wages must be finally approved by the United States Housing Authority; and

*Whereas*, The fees paid architects under the P. W. A. Housing Program have not included supervision; and

*Whereas*, The United States Housing Authority Act contemplates complete decentralization of this program and the placing of the responsibility for carrying it out on the local housing authorities who need and are seeking guidance in this matter; and

*Whereas*, The American Institute of Architects believes the success of the housing projects requires that the architects be employed for full services of design and supervision; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects authorizes The Board of Directors to confer with the Housing Administrator and submit to him on behalf of the profession a recommended schedule of fees for complete services under stated basic conditions, with due regard to the size of the project and with provisions for adjustments to meet special conditions where they may vary substantially from the stated basic conditions; and be it further

*Resolved*, That The Board of Directors confer with the officials of the national organizations representing civil and mechanical engineers, landscape architects and city planners and seek an agreement with them as to the way in which the fees for these technical services may best be included in such a schedule with due regard to the interests of all the technical branches of the work and reasonable economy in the provision of their services to low rental housing projects; and be it further

*Resolved*, That the Convention records its conviction that the most economical results will be secured where full responsibility therefor is placed upon the architect and where his technical decisions are permitted to control the results.

#### Housing Program and Collaboration.

*Whereas*, Public and private housing has become a question of first importance nationally and promises to be a means of bringing about a major recovery in the building industry and comprises efforts by both government and private capital and involves many problems closely related to the architectural profession, to government and to the other related elements in this field; therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects heartily approves and concurs in the program of The Board carried on through the Housing Committee, to maintain close collaboration of the architectural profession with other agencies in the field of public and private housing, and directs The Board to continue the vigorous study of the problem on all fronts, for report to the Seventy-first Convention.

#### Appreciation of Board of Directors, Committee

##### Chairmen and Octagon Staff.

*Whereas*, The reports of The Board of Directors and of the Administrative and Board Committees have shown definite results in the various important activities with which the profession is concerned, and have permitted constructive action by the Convention that constitutes definite progress in the advancement of the interests of the profession; be it

*Resolved*, That the Convention expresses to our Officers, Directors and Committee Chairmen of The Institute its gratitude for their unselfish contributions to our common interests; and to the Executive Secretary and Members of the Staff at The Octagon its appreciation of their loyalty and efficiency which so greatly reduces the burdens

and increases the satisfactions that inhere in the duties of The Board and The Committees.

Appreciation of the Louisiana Chapter.

Whereas, The Seventieth Convention of The American Institute of Architects has been enabled to come into an efficient business program with the enjoyment of the charms of the place and the people of New Orleans; and

Whereas, This resolution is due to the thoughtful care and hospitality of the members of the Louisiana Chapter and their wives; be it

Resolved, That the Convention hereby records its appreciation of the services of the Convention Committee and the hospitality it has accorded to the delegates; its

cordial thanks to those citizens of New Orleans who have generously opened their houses for our enjoyment; and its grateful acknowledgement of the courtesies extended by the President and Directors of the Delgado Museum of Art in making available a dignified and appropriate setting for one of the important functions of the Convention.

Availability of Reports Previous to Convention Action.

The sense of the Convention was voted as follows: That in the future no action be taken on any committee report which has not been made available to the delegates at least twenty-four hours prior to its consideration by the Convention.

Convention Committees and Officials

At the close of the Convention the delegates expressed their appreciation to the following Committees and Officials, whose work contributed so largely to the success of the Convention:

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COMMITTEE REPORTS TO APPEAR IN THE JUNE OCTAGON

The "Report of the Committee on Housing" and the "Report of the Committee on State Organiza-

tion," will appear in full in the June number of THE OCTAGON.

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