

THE  
OCTAGON

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*A Journal of The American Institute of Architects*

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# THE OCTAGON

*A Journal of The American Institute of Architects*

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THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

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## The President's Message

MY last three messages have been devoted to architectural matters in connection with the National Defense Program. In each of them the status of the architect's interest in that program was indicated as it was then known to me. This message brings the record up to date.

The record of contracts awarded for cantonments and bases indicates that private practitioners in the design professions have been engaged in a substantial number of cases and apparently, that the Army has more often employed such services than the Navy. The latter may not be a correct deduction, for the names of all architects, engineers, and landscape architects that have been employed are not published. The form of cost-plus-fixed fee contract, set up to facilitate such employment, has been the basis of all professional contracts with those departments, according to my information.

More engineers than architects have been engaged but this was expected, for if the defense program is considered as a whole, it is at once apparent that far more engineering problems than architectural ones are involved. Furthermore, the Army and the Navy officers are generally trained in engineering and therefore are inclined to turn to engineers for aid even where architects are as well qualified to perform the services.

From the beginning these departments have insisted that a huge building program such as theirs, that requires a large number of buildings to be completed over night as it were and an immense quantity of materials to be delivered at various points almost simultaneously, must be directed by a central agency, which must standardize the site plans and the indi-

vidual buildings if they are to be completed within the designated periods and the defined costs. In conformity with this idea the individual buildings and their location with respect to one another have been standardized by the departments, each for itself. The structures for the most part are canvas tents with wood floors, or of wood, similar to those developed for the last war which the departments do not see any need of changing for the present program, and those who served in the Army and the Navy in former wars will find the new barracks, mess halls, and recreation buildings entirely familiar.

The departments, generally, are having the cantonments, bases and fields constructed under their own direction by W.P.A. labor or by contractors. A statement just issued by W.P.A. states it has contributed more than \$80,000,000 to the defense program under this procedure, about one-half of which is for building construction, according to public records.

Whether the construction is done by W.P.A. or by contractors, standardized site and building plans are being used, and consequently the departments consider that private professional services are not required other than in the planning of the roads and utilities. The standardized plans heretofore furnished are diagrammatic in many instances and cannot be built from until they are brought up to working scales and details. The drafting for this purpose is done and the buildings are adapted to the site in job field offices, set up by the contractor, the private engineer or architect, or the local departmental officer deputized to have charge of the project, as the case may be.

This is what the long rows of architectural draftsmen were so busily doing for the contractor for one of the bases in the recent picture so widely publicized.

I believe that the architects who have written me complaining that architects and engineers are required to be employed by the contractors instead of independently will find that the contractors' architectural services are limited to making the enlargements, details, and adaptations described above, though in some instances contractors, accustomed as they are to building from plans and specifications made by architects, have found it advantageous to employ them to direct the field services.

Since the beginning of the defense program the design professions have been constantly stressing to the Quartermaster General's Office of the Army and to the Bureau of Yards and Docks of the Navy that design services, architectural, engineering and landscape, are required on practically all of their building projects in varying degrees, and have unremittingly urged them to employ those in private practice to perform such services.

It is hard to convince the departments that the architectural skill and building knowledge of architects in private practice will simplify and speed their building plans. Making plans and specifications which contractors can readily understand and build from, and which they can give to their subcontractors with confidence, is a service architects can perform better than any other profession with respect to buildings.

This report should not discourage our profession. In spite of the fact that the total number of cantonments, bases, and fields is small and that architects in private practice have not always been engaged to design them, the design professions as a whole have made substantial progress during this defense program in securing recognition from these two powerful governmental departments. Both of them stated they would not enlarge their drafting bureaus and it is significant that they have not done so. They have recognized the private practitioner to a greater extent than before, and the conferences with them have been cordial and understanding without exception, and the ways are open for many future ones which we intend to press.

One of the late appropriations was \$338,000,000 for the Army and the Navy, much of it to be used

to provide quarters and facilities for the new recruits. The War Department has just announced the establishment of nineteen replacement centers in twelve states, sixteen new reception centers, and facilities for reception centers of six forts. Construction plans for these centers have not been announced, but undoubtedly their construction, which is expected to be completed by March 15, 1941, will be carried on in the same manner as the construction of the cantonments and bases.

Another appropriation was \$128,000,000 for housing the National Guard.

The location of several new air corps stations has been announced during the month, each to have a construction program of approximately \$1,000,000.

The Civil Aeronautics Authority has an appropriation of \$40,000,000 for airport development in connection with the defense program. A Department of Commerce statement on October 24 states that an Airport Approval Board, consisting of the Secretaries of War, Navy, and Commerce, has been charged with the responsibility for location of sites to be constructed or improved under the appropriation. Major Lucius D. Clay, Corps of Engineers, U. S. Army is secretary of the board.

Col. Donald H. Connolly, Administrator of Civil Aeronautics, announced "that in order to expedite the construction program, the C.A.A. Airport Section under Major A. B. McMullen has been detached from the Federal Airways Service and will operate as an independent unit directly with the Administrator and with Major Clay."

He further stated "that provisions of the appropriation act limit the expenditure of the \$40,000,000 airport fund to not more than 250 sites deemed most important to national defense by the priority board."

Col. Connolly also said "that information about individual projects may be obtained by correspondence with the secretary of the approval board, in care of the Administrator of Civil Aeronautics."

How the Civil Aeronautics Authority intends to handle the work now authorized has not been announced.

The defense building work spoken of above comprises almost entirely that within the boundaries of cantonments, bases and fields. Outside of those boundaries lies the defense housing work. The appropriations for that work comprise \$100,000,000,



allocated to the Army and Navy principally for housing married personnel; \$150,000,000 (by an act which was in Congress at the time of my August message), allocated to the President, to be used principally for housing civilian workers and their families; \$40,000,000 made available by the Federal Housing Administration; \$30,000,000 by the United States Housing Authority, and lesser sums from other sources. These total \$320,000,000, which, added to the amounts allocated to housing by the Army and the Navy from their other appropriations, some of which are mentioned above, gives a total of more than \$700,000,000 for housing of all sorts.

I have previously set out the allocation, by states, of the housing units to be built under the \$100,000,000 appropriation. Out of that appropriation, the Coordinator of Defense Housing, Charles F. Palmer, stated, on September 28, that President Roosevelt had approved the "requests by the War Department, the Navy Department and the Maritime Commission for allocations totaling \$95,340,000 involving 110 defense housing projects for the families of 27,240 enlisted men and defense workers."

He explained the purposes of the fund as follows:

"These funds will be used to meet defense housing needs which cannot be handled properly by private enterprise because of their temporary and low rental character. Locations are being withheld while sites are secured and final plans developed."

The next step was announced on October 7th, when Federal Works Administrator John M. Carmody stated that the Army had allocated \$45,762,500 of its allotment from the \$100,000,000 appropriation for defense housing projects to the Federal Works Administration, and that he had assigned the planning and construction of the projects to the Public Buildings Administration (the old Procurement Division of the Treasury Department).

His announcement further stated:

"The allocation, which will provide a minimum of 13,000 dwelling units, was made after the Secretary of War had requested the Federal Works Agency to carry out the program under the Army's share of the \$100,000,000 provided for defense housing in the second supplemental national defense appropriation act.

"A total of 70 projects has been designated to date. Projects will be constructed under the direction of Public Buildings Commissioner W. E. Rey-

nolds, and the first 70 will be located in 28 states, Hawaii and Puerto Rico. Construction contracts will be negotiated under the cost-plus-limited-fixed-fee provisions set up in the Act (Public 781).

"Eight projects, consisting of 1,950 dwelling units, will be for occupancy by civilian defense workers, and the balance for married Army personnel.

"Rentals for dwellings on Army posts will be fixed by the Army. Rentals for dwelling units off Army posts will be fixed by the Army and the Federal Works Agency.

"Sites for 19 of the projects are already owned by the Army. The remaining sites are to be acquired by the Public Buildings Administration. In anticipation of the program, field representatives of the Public Buildings Administration have been making preliminary site explorations in localities where sites are to be purchased.

"Congress established a maximum average cost per dwelling unit of \$3,500, including land, utilities and services. The projects included in this program are based on this average, but the Federal Works Agency intends to provide appropriate housing at the lowest feasible cost, with the expectation of bringing this average cost well under the statutory maximum.

"Our success in effecting low costs, and the order in which projects will be undertaken will depend on reasonable land and material prices.

"It will be extremely unfortunate if land-owners or material suppliers should take advantage of the shortage of housing to hold up the defense program.

"The average unit will consist of living-room, combination dining-room and kitchenette, two bedrooms, and bath. Equipment will include refrigeration and cooking facilities."

The location and occupancy of the seventy projects and the number of housing units in each, are set out in Mr. Carmody's statement.

The allocations of the \$150,000,000 defense housing appropriation have not been announced. Where the housing is to go is determined by the President, and it is to be provided under the direction of the Federal Works Administrator, who is given authority to utilize any federal agency or local authority, or private architects and engineers, to perform the planning and other services. In Washington it is generally expected that Mr. Carmody will direct

the Public Buildings Administration to provide all, or at least the major portion, of this housing.

The cost of the individual units is not fixed at the same amount in the two appropriation acts. \$3,000 is fixed in the \$150,000,000 appropriation as the maximum average cost of a housing unit in the continental U. S., exclusive of land, utilities, services, and administration expenses. In the \$100,000,000 appropriation, \$3,500 is fixed as the average cost of the units, inclusive of land, utilities, and services, but exclusive of administration expenses. This is a difference of about \$900 in the cost of the shelters, probably an indication that increased costs of materials and labor are anticipated.

If all of the above housing is allocated to the single agency, then at least \$200,000,000 worth of defense housing will be placed under the jurisdiction of the Public Buildings Administration. In addition, the Navy has assigned to it the planning of its 4400 units at San Diego, California, for the construction of a portion of which the contract has already been awarded. Thus more than 60,000 defense housing units may be planned by this agency of the Federal Works Administration.

How much of this planning work, if any, will be permitted to go to architects, engineers, and landscape architects, in private practice, I can not state, for the representatives of the three design professions have not been able to obtain a statement from the Public Buildings Commissioner of the amount of work he will assign to private practitioners. My prediction in the August message that this agency will attempt to do the work in its planning bureau in Washington is the best information I can give you, and you who have attempted to obtain engagements to perform professional services for that agency heretofore can make your own guess. A large division of the bureau has been working on defense housing design for several weeks. The Commissioner, Mr. W. E. Reynolds, is an engineer, and the only hope that he seemed to offer our committee was that he might engage some engineers to lay out the utility services for the projects, because he had no engineers in his drafting bureau to do that work.

Other federal agencies, particularly the Army, are decentralizing their defense activities.

The Public Buildings Administration is entering a new field of activities when it takes over the planning and construction of low-cost housing units and

the responsibility for their maintenance and operation. It is reaching into fields in which it has had no experience. Constantly deprecating the employment of architects in private practice for designing federal public buildings because it considers that profession is not familiar with the intricacies of post office and court activities, the tables are now reversed and a bureau experienced in the design and construction of costly federal buildings and with no experience whatever in low-cost housing, will attempt to produce 60,000 or more housing units costing less than \$3,000.00 each, within an incredibly short period. The attempt will be watched with great interest by many of the other federal agencies as well as by the design professions.

Further, I now learn that Rear Admiral Ben Moreell, head of the Navy Bureau of Yards and Docks, has just declared that private architects, engineers and landscape architects will not be employed on the housing which the Navy will produce from its share of the \$100,000,000 appropriation. This conclusion if carried out, plus a determination by Public Buildings Administration to do all its housing design work in its Washington bureau, will practically shut out the design professions from participating in the defense housing program.

It will be most unfortunate for the defense program and the public interest if these departments and agencies preclude the design professions from contributing their essential services and particularly their prolonged experience in the low-cost housing field to the defense activities. It is particularly unfortunate that the recent experiences of the more than 400 architectural firms gained from work in the low-cost housing field during the last four or five years, under governmental supervision, is not to be made use of.

However, it may come about that some members of the profession will be permitted to take part in the defense housing program as consultants, inspectors, or in other minor capacities, even if not engaged for normal architectural services. Your questionnaires are on file with the Navy for use if there is a change in its policy. The Public Buildings Administration is not eager to use the questionnaires which the Army and the Navy find so constantly useful, and prefers independent applications. Therefore I must advise you to apply directly to the Public Buildings Administration, 7th and D Streets, S. W.,

Washington, D. C. in writing, for consideration in whatever capacity you wish to offer your services. I suggest you file these applications without delay if you wish your name to be on file.

Though it seems now that the design professions may be permitted little opportunity to serve on the two to three hundred housing projects to be provided by the Public Buildings Administration or on the fifty or more projects to be constructed by the Navy, that does not mean that the professions have not made some progress in those quarters. The Public Buildings Administration more than once has stated that it could not engage architects in private practice to design public buildings because of a departmental order prohibiting such employment, issued by a former head of the Procurement Division. To clear this point, the design professions offered the following amendment to the \$150,000,000 bill when it was before Congress:

"In carrying out the provisions of this Act the Administrator shall give preference to the employment of competent architects, engineers, and landscape architects in private practice on a cost-plus-fixed-fee basis to furnish design services and to supervise the construction work, giving further preference to those resident in or readily accessible to the project, and distributing the professional contracts as widely as possible."

The Congress did not accept the amendment in that form, but did incorporate in the Act the following provision:

"Nothing in this Act shall be construed to prevent the Administrator from employing or utilizing the professional services of private persons, firms, or corporations."

While this did not have the force of the amendment we offered, nevertheless it is a direct permission in this Act for the Federal Works Administrator, or any agency designated by him, to employ architects, engineers, and landscape architects in

private practice. We do not intend to lose the ground thus gained.

The emergency housing discussed above is understood to be only a portion of the total housing that must be built in connection with the complete defense program. If this is true, then without doubt, further appropriations for housing will be made by Congress. Whenever such appropriations are before Congress, the design professions will strenuously attempt to have their participation in the housing program materially increased.

The Defense Housing Coordinator, Charles F. Palmer, has declared that the Government hopes private capital will provide forty per cent of the defense housing work. Housing provided by private capital should be the immediate concern of our profession, and the various groups should ascertain in what cities housing is to be required and then attempt to work out propositions for providing it with private capital. Housing that can be so provided will be encouraged by the Government, and undoubtedly will be on the priority list.

I call to your attention that priority for Government contracts may soon be enforced, and those of you who have made or are about to make contracts for materials should take account of this probability.

Some of those who wrote letters in reply to the appeal of The Institute for financial aid in promoting the interests of the profession in Washington seemed to have in mind that their professional societies could materially aid them in securing individual work. I believe a few minutes reflection by the writers of those letters will convince them how impossible it would be for The Institute or any of the other collaborating societies to urge the employment of any particular architect or engineer, and that none of those societies could be concerned with the selection of any particular practitioner.

EDWIN BERGSTROM.



## Notice of Convention of 1941

THE 1941 convention will be held in the Yosemite Valley, California, in May, during the week 18 to 24. This particular week was determined by conditions in the Valley.

The idea of going to California for the 1941 convention was first put up to the members in the 1940 March issue of THE OCTAGON and seemed almost universally acceptable. So much so, that last May The Board announced the plan to the convention at Louisville and the convention approved it.

Since then arrangements with the railroads and the Yosemite management have progressed sufficiently to make the announcements that follow.

This notice is addressed to the members of The Institute, but all members of the profession and those allied with it are invited to join the convention tours and the convention.

The general program for the convention and the convention tours were outlined in the March OCTAGON and will be carried out. Condensed, the program is as follows:

Special, personally-conducted convention trains will be run from Chicago to the Yosemite and then to Los Angeles, with side trips en route to Taos and Santa Fe in New Mexico, to Grand Canyon in Arizona, and to Boulder Dam. Four days at Yosemite will be followed by three days at Los Angeles, then by regular train to San Francisco, stopping at Santa Barbara and Del Monte and Carmel en route. The validation point for return tickets will be San Francisco and return trips from there will be via Salt Lake and Denver, via Portland and Seattle, via Los Angeles and El Paso or via the Santa Fe, as the delegate has selected.

Members of the Utah, Montana, and the Colorado Chapters will join the trains at La Junta, and continue with the party therefrom. Members of the Arizona Chapter will meet the trains at Grand Canyon and continue thereon.

Members of the California chapters and of the Oregon, Washington State and Spokane Chapters will meet the party in the Yosemite. The members of the Southern California Chapter will be the hosts in Los Angeles. The San Diego Chapter will be host in San Diego, which will be an optional side-trip from Los Angeles. The Santa Barbara

Chapter will be host at Santa Barbara, and the Northern California Chapter at San Francisco. One full day of conducted sightseeing, with local members as guides, is planned in both Los Angeles and San Francisco. The final dinner will be in Los Angeles.

The State Association of California Architects, a state association member of The Institute, will collaborate with the California chapters as hosts of the convention.

Some members will desire to drive to California. Those who do so will find the cross-country drive easy and delightful. They should plan to arrive at Grand Canyon the same morning as the convention trains. Taos, Santa Fe and Albuquerque can be visited en route, before the convention trains arrive at those points.

After spending the day at Grand Canyon, automobilists should drive directly to Yosemite, reaching there when the trains do. The latter meanwhile have stopped a day at Boulder Canyon.

Not more than three hundred miles a day, average, should be driven to make comfortable traveling. Ample and satisfactory accommodations and meals will be found en route and it will not be necessary to picnic or camp. Unless detours are encountered, paved roads will be found the entire way.

The automobilists' costs probably will average \$7.50 to \$10.00 per day per adult person, depending on the accommodations selected, exclusive of the car expenses.

The Board has realized the necessity of keeping the expenses of the convention trip to a minimum, especially to encourage as many members as possible to take their families with them. The Santa Fe Railway Co. has been most helpful in providing accommodations, on the convention trains, that will fit any purse, permitting the delegates to choose between the lowest possible cross-continental transportation charges in the modern reclining chair cars or the standard berth or room accommodations. In the Yosemite, the delegates may live in tents, cabins or hotels. By special permission, the trains will be made up of the various types of accommo-



dations, but the passengers in each type will have the run of the train.

The Yosemite Valley is a chasm in the Sierra Nevada range of mountains, opening northward from the great central San Joaquin valley of California. It is a part of the Yosemite National Park and under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. The accommodations are operated by a private concern under three concessions from the Government, offering three types of accommodations, as follows:

1. The Ahwahnee Hotel, in which sixty or more rooms will be available and all events of the convention will take place except the convention sessions. The accommodations are of the highest possible type.

2. The Yosemite Lodge, about a mile from the Ahwahnee Hotel. The accommodations comprise thirty-five less expensive rooms.

3. Camp Curry, also about a mile from the Ahwahnee Hotel. The accommodations are one hundred tents and cabins, each for 2, 3 or 4 persons and with or without housekeeping facilities. The members will find Camp Curry eminently satisfactory.

The convention sessions will be held in the Camp Curry dance pavilion. The building has no architectural pretensions. Transportation will be furnished between the convention pavilion, Yosemite Lodge and the Ahwahnee Hotel.

The life in the Valley is out-of-doors. Hiking, horseback riding, tennis and swimming are popular and a side trip to Wawona and the big trees on top of the mountains will be taken. Everything is informal and ordinary dress for warm days and cool evenings will be required.

The Yosemite is an all-year resort. We wanted to hold this convention during the third week in June, the better to accommodate the school schedule, but that was impossible because all the public crowds the Valley after May. Under the Governmental rules the public must be provided for first. For the time selected the Valley will be almost completely ours, at the finest season of the

year, when the foliage and water are at their best. We venture to predict that the hardest experience you will be put to on the trip will be to leave the Yosemite at the end of the convention.

Guided by the experience of those who have been in charge of movements of passengers to and from California in connection with other conventions, it has been deemed easiest and best to use an all-inclusive-cost convention ticket for those who travel on the convention trains. Each ticket will include:

- (a) Round trip railroad fares to San Francisco and return
- (b) Pullman accommodations to Los Angeles
- (c) All meals, American Plan, after boarding the train in Chicago until arrival at Los Angeles
- (d) Rooms and meals, American Plan, in the Yosemite
- (e) Transportation and meals for all side trips outlined in the Convention Plan
- (f) Ticket for the annual dinner in Los Angeles
- (g) Tips for porters, redcaps, waiters, drivers and others after boarding train in Chicago to hotel in Los Angeles.

Each delegate when he purchases his ticket will specify the Pullman accommodations he desires to Los Angeles, the return route he desires to use, and the type of accommodations in the Yosemite.

Delegates will add to the cost of the all-inclusive cost convention ticket the price of all accommodations and meals in Los Angeles and thereafter, and the cost of all Pullman accommodations from Los Angeles to their homes.

Chapter-conducted tours and chapter teas in Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Barbara and San Francisco will be free to the delegates.

The November number of THE OCTAGON will carry tables showing the costs of all-inclusive convention tickets. Each member can then determine what the cost will be for himself and his family. Preliminary information as to these costs was set out in the March OCTAGON.

## Semi-Annual Meeting of The Board

THE semi-annual meeting of The Board has been called for December 9, 10 and 11 in Washington. Thereat the directors will report on the general status of the architectural practice in their districts and the extent of the architect's participation in the national defense program.

The 1941 budget will be adopted and appropriations for that year made.

The progress reports of the chairmen of The Institute committees will be considered.

Major matters concerning the 1941 convention will be determined.

The item of greatest present interest to the profession is its participation in the national defense program. The Board will consider all phases of that problem as it has developed since the last convention and will endeavor to fix a program with its collaborators, the American Society of Civil Engineers and the American Society of Landscape Architects, to continue an aggressive and unceasing campaign for an adequate participation of private architects, engineers and landscape architects in all public buildings programs, under the defense program and otherwise.

## Notice To Committee Chairmen

THE semi-annual meeting of The Board will open on December 9, 1940, at Washington.

In order that The Board may consider matters of interest to the committees, each committee chairman should submit a progress report to The Board not later than December 1. The report should be as concise as possible, stating in a few words the matters which the committee has under study and the amount of money that the committee deems it

should have in 1941 to make its work effective, broken down to the purposes for which the money is to be used and the amount desired for each purpose. Attached to the report should be the letters and communications from the chairman to his committee members, unless copies of all thereof have been filed with The Secretary. The progress reports should not be discursive or long, and should be signed by the chairman only.

## Members Elected

*Effective September 14, 1940*

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Name</i>
ALABAMA.....	Howard Asa Griffith, Jr.
ARKANSAS.....	Edwin Boykin Cromwell Julian Bunn Davidson
BUFFALO.....	Clayton Barber Frye
GEORGIA.....	Hardie Cain Bass, Jr.
KANSAS CITY.....	Edward M. Fuller
KENTUCKY.....	W. Earle Otis
ST. PAUL.....	Earle Richard Cone
TENNESSEE.....	*Richard L. Sieg

*Effective October 4, 1940*

<i>Chapter</i>	<i>Name</i>
BOSTON.....	Walter Edward Campbell
BUFFALO.....	*Karl G. Schmill
CENTRAL NEW YORK.....	Harry M. Haskell
CHICAGO.....	Spencer Burtis Cone
KANSAS CITY.....	Robert Stanton Everitt
NEW YORK.....	James Gordon Carr
NORTH LOUISIANA.....	Marshall Heisey Walker
RHODE ISLAND.....	Milton Eric Nelson
ST. LOUIS.....	Wesley William Wedemeyer
SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA.....	Ulysses Floyd Rible

\* Re-elected.

## Necrology

As reported to The Institute from September 1 to October 31, 1940.

<b>Fellows</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Honorary Corresponding Members</b>	<b>Honorary Members</b>
Howard Hoppin Frank R. Watson	Lucius Wallace Briggs	L. Cabello y Lapidra Peter Behrens	Cyrus Adler Hartley B. Alexander

## Wooden Anniversary

THE Maine Chapter has always been a love of mine, for it was in 1935 that Hubert Ripley and I, armed with an imposing parchment from Ernest John Russell, journeyed down to Portland, were met and escorted to an inner chamber of the Lafayette Hotel, where, amid the proper rites and ceremonies, blessings and benedictions,—my fingers stray to write benedictines,—the Maine Chapter sprang, fullpanoplied into existence with that much revered and fine veteran John Calvin Stevens at its helm. At that time three generations of a family were active in the same office together; a record. Alas, Mr. Stevens, the progenitor, is no longer with us, but his spirit goes marching on.

Again I find myself en route to the Pine Tree State and Portland and the seasonal opening of the Maine Chapter. Again old friends foregather at the round table in that same inner chamber, John Howard Stevens now guiding the destinies of one of our youngest chapters. It's pleasant to meet again Tubby, Thomas, Wadsworth, Boston, and young Stevens in a sea-scout uniform,—and there are new faces too.

We talk of graver things tonight than five years ago; the national defense program is before us and we are searching to find how the architect can fit into the federal plan,—eschewing possible jobs,—how he can fit into it locally, as a citizen contribution to the general scheme. Two days before the Boston Chapter, in large attendance, and with representatives from all the New England chapters, had unanimously endorsed the report of progress on this whole problem, presented by Chester L. Churchill, chairman of their committee. This trip is the beginning

of a united New England effort. We talk of bomb-proof shelters, of replanning of industrial centres, distribution of oil storage, camouflage, blackout, transportation, and a thousand subjects that the architect can take a proper interest in. And we range over many other architectural matters in that hospitable inner room. Five years touch lightly the sons of Maine.

Then President Stevens opens the doors of the Sweat Museum to our group to see the memorial exhibition of his father's work. Charming and skilful presentations in many media hang on the walls of this compact cross-shaped building, from his own fingers, dominated by a truly excellent portrait of the author. John Calvin Stevens was a man of many interests: "Si monumentum requiris: circumspice," applies to him. Bully oils of the rugged scenery he loved along the Maine coast, in all its moods; watercolor perspectives of his own work; exquisite pen and ink sketches, I think I like them best of anything—made on a bicycle trip through Europe in 1892,—happy, simple days beyond recall, poignant to remember. I salute the memory of this man: one of our strong builders, a pioneer in our profession. It is a privilege to have known him.

Coming back to Boston the next day on the smooth running aluminum bullet, the Yankee Flyer, as we shuttled through long stretches of brilliant autumnal foliage, and quiet countryside of farm and grazing cattle, and neighbors chatting over fences, I prayed that these warm sunny scenes lying here might never become a blind, brutal futile shambles to satisfy a sadist lust to power.

H. DALAND CHANDLER.

## Illustrations of Sculptures and Murals At The World's Fair

William Adams Delano of the New York Chapter was largely instrumental in having the sculptures and murals at the New York World's Fair illustrated on a series of postal cards as the only means of getting good illustrations of the sculptures and murals into the hands of the American public.

There are seventy-two cards in the series, equally divided between murals and sculptures, which can be obtained for the greatly reduced price of fifty cents per series.

Orders and remittances should be addressed to Solomon Delevie, Room 318, 103 Park Avenue, New York City.

## Edward Langley Scholarships For 1941

THE American Institute of Architects from January 1 to March 1, 1941, will receive proposals of candidates for Edward Langley Scholarships for the year 1941.

Awards will be announced about June 1, 1941.

Awards may be made to residents of the United States or Canada.

These scholarships are awarded annually for advanced work in architecture, for study, travel, or research, as the holder of the scholarship elects. Awards to undergraduates are precluded, but awards may be made to architectural draftsmen who desire to do undergraduate work or take special courses in architectural schools. An award in a succeeding year to a holder of a scholarship is not precluded.

Competitive examinations will not be used as a method of selection.

The scholarships are open to all persons engaged in the profession of architecture. To facilitate making the awards, such persons are grouped as follows:

### Group 1.

- (a) Architects in active practice
- (b) Architectural draftsmen employed by architects, whether the draftsmen are engaged in drafting, writing specifications, supervising or acting as executives, and whether or not they are college graduates.

### Group 2.

- (a) Teachers in schools of architecture
- (b) Students about to graduate from such schools
- (c) Graduate students of such schools who are engaged in post-graduate work either in college or in travel.

The awards will be made and the grants determined by the Committee on Awards and Scholarships of The Institute. In making awards, all candidates from both groups will be considered as a single group by the committee, and scholarships will be awarded to those who, in the judgment of the com-

mittee, are best qualified therefor by reason of character, ability, purpose, and need, regardless of place of residence or whether they are Group 1 or Group 2 candidates. The amount of grant with each scholarship will be determined in accordance with the need and purpose of the candidate and the funds that are available. Only a very limited number of awards can be made in any year, so, to avoid unnecessary disappointment, a candidate should not be proposed unless his qualifications are outstanding and it is evident the profession will be benefited by an award to him.

### HOW TO PROPOSE CANDIDATES

*Proposers of Group 1 Candidates.* Any architect in the United States or Canada may propose any other architect or architectural draftsman residing in the same country as a candidate for an award in GROUP 1.

*Proposers of Group 2 Candidates.* The faculty or head of any architectural school in the United States or Canada whose standing is satisfactory to the committee, may propose any teacher in such school, any student about to be graduated from the school, or any graduate student engaged in post-graduate work in the school or in travel, as a candidate for an award in GROUP 2.

*Form of Proposal.* Every proposal of a candidate of either group shall be made *in duplicate* on A.I.A. Form S70, which may be obtained from The American Institute of Architects, 1741 New York Avenue, Washington, D. C.

*Filing Proposals.* All information and data required shall be filled in on the proposal form, and both the original and duplicate proposal shall be sent to The Secretary, The American Institute of Architects, at the address given herein, *so as to reach there not later than March 1, 1941.* Proposals received after that date cannot be considered.

A proposed candidate may be requested to submit examples of his work and to appear before a representative of the committee.



## The School Medal Awards in 1940

THE silver School Medals of The Institute are awarded each year to students in architectural schools whom The Institute deems qualified by their character and scholarly standing for the honor. Not more than one award is made in any school and the student must have had not less than three years of residence and work in any architectural school that is approved by The Institute and been proposed for the honor by the faculty of such school to The Secretary of The Institute.

The award is made by The Institute Committee on Awards and Scholarships.

A copy of Henry Adams' book, "Mont Saint Michel and Chartres," is presented to each awardee. Many of the schools present the medals and books are presented by the president of the chapter of The Institute in whose territory the school is located, at an appropriate ceremony at commencement time or a meeting of the chapter.

The recipients of the School Medal awards for 1940, and their schools, are as follows:

Edwin Tyson McCowan.....	Alabama Polytechnic Institute
William Carl Hutton.....	Technology Armour Institute of
Irene Artemis von Horvath.....	Carnegie Institute of Technology
Edgar Beery .....	Catholic University of America
Vincent George Kling.....	Columbia University
John Wesley Cherry.....	Georgia School of Technology
Charles Evans Hughes, 3rd.....	Harvard University
Eileen Marie Bergsten.....	Kansas State College of Agriculture and Applied Science
Ieoh Ming Pei.....	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
Donald Langland Dunklee.....	New York University
Robert Joseph Schultz.....	University of Notre Dame
Wynant D. Vanderpool, Jr.....	Princeton University
James D. Fessenden.....	Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute
Kenneth Alan Lindsay.....	Syracuse University
Roland Kuechle.....	The Ohio State University
John R. Suydam.....	The Pennsylvania State College
N. C. Curtis, Jr.....	Tulane University of Louisiana
Bessie Kniseley Marriott.....	University of California
F. J. Henn.....	University of Cincinnati
Alexander Kouzmanoff.....	University of Illinois
Joy Scammon .....	University of Kansas
Stanley E. Richardson.....	University of Michigan
Frederick G. Roth.....	University of Minnesota
John Houghton Hudson, Jr.....	Oklahoma Agricultural and Mechanical College
Charles Gordon Lee.....	University of Pennsylvania
Edward Killingsworth.....	University of Southern California
Robert James Massar.....	University of Washington
Richard Lawrence Bliss.....	Washington University
Frank V. Gandola.....	Western Reserve University
Carl Homer Riesen.....	Yale University

## Wanted—Annuraries and Proceedings

The following request for back numbers of The Institute Annurary is called to the attention of members of The Institute, in the hope that those who have such back numbers will write directly to Dr. Holland, at the address given below.

Dr. Holland writes:

"In going over the files of publications by The Institute in the Library of Congress, I find that we lack copies of the following volumes of the 'Proceedings':

Vol. 11-12 (1877-78)	Vol. 23 (1889)
Vol. 14-20 (1880-86)	Vol. 53 (1920)

and the Annuraries for 1918, 1919 and 1920.

"As I understand that The Institute no longer has spare copies of these issues, and as it seems highly desirable that the file in the national library should be as complete as possible, I would like to ask if a note could be inserted in THE OCTAGON inquiring if any member possesses any of the missing issues which he would be willing to make over to the Library of Congress."

LEICESTER B. HOLLAND, *Chief,*

Division of Fine Arts,  
Library of Congress, Washington, D. C.

## Films For Pan American Use

THE matter below is called to the attention of members of The Institute, in the hope that they have material which is appropriate and which they are willing to permit the State Department to use for the purpose, under the conditions stated.

The Institute has received a request from the Department of State reading in part as follows:

The Department of State receives requests for American informative educational films from foreign governments, especially their departments of public instruction, agriculture, general development, labor and industry, their bureaus of public health, social hygiene, child welfare, etc., and from foreign cultural organizations, especially institutes founded in other American republics by the citizens of those countries who are particularly interested in the ideals, customs and progress of the United States.

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Some of the requests received are for industrial, institutional and instructional pictures not produced by this Government. In addition, the desire is expressed for cultural films, which present the life, customs and ideals of this country, without attempt to propagandize or advertise.

Persons attending conferences held last winter in this city on inter-American relations in the fields of music, art, education, books and libraries, in reply to questionnaires recommended as especially suitable for distribution in the other American republics, motion pictures dealing with such subjects as artists (including architects) at work, their methods of work, late developments

in construction of every type, teaching methods as applied to the arts, et cetera. The Department would welcome the assistance of The American Institute of Architects to provide films of these varieties.

The Department will transmit the prints to its foreign missions for loan to responsible officers of those governments which have solicited films of the types mentioned, or to reputable cultural organizations for showing before interested groups.

While the Department cannot assume responsibility for damage to films in transit or during display, it will exercise every possible precaution to assure their safety. Films are sent by parcel post (registered or insured) to our embassies, and consulates abroad, which hold them in custody between showings and return them by parcel post (registered or insured) at the close of their display, or at any time the owner of the film requests it.

If the Institute or its members can make prints of suitable subjects available for the purpose described above, it would be appreciated if you would transmit them to this Department with a statement of the period of time for which they may be retained. Reports on their use will be furnished after their display abroad. You will understand that the Department must necessarily reserve the right to return without display abroad any films which the Department may, after preview, believe unsuited to the purpose in mind.

Those who may be interested should send their films to The Secretary with a list of the films and a brief description of each—stating subject, type and other relevant details. Such films and information will be submitted to the State Department.

## Request for Magazines

The following letter is printed for the attention of those who may find it of interest:

As you are no doubt aware, there is, at the present time, some difficulty in obtaining a regular delivery of American magazines and periodicals in this country. I am an Associate of the Royal Institute of British Architects and it occurred to me that some of your members might care to send old copies of such publications as "Life," "Esquire," "Saturday Evening Post," etc., for distribution to the officers' and serjeants' messes and the men's canteen of my unit.

Such copies as we are at present able to purchase are much sought after.

So far as I am able to ascertain there is no embargo on the importation of standard publications.

I can assure you that such a gesture would be very much appreciated.

The Post Office Department advises that the postage rate here involved is 1½c for each 2 ounces and that the weight limit on a single package is 4 pounds 6 ounces.

The complete address is Captain H. G. Coulter, R. E., 213th Army Field Company, R. E., care of Army Post Office, Home Forces, England.

