ACTUALLY PLANNING POST WAR WORK?

By ARNOLD A. WEITZMAN, A.I.A.

"They have healed also the hurt of my people slightly saying, peace, peace; when there is no peace."
Jer. VI-14

In the columns of all architectural and engineering magazines discussions are carried on about post war work, in one form or another. Some architectural firms actually have some such work on the boards, either by order of some client or on their own initiative and cost. All of this work is, according to my knowledge, insignificantly small, if measured on a national scale and besides, these so-called "programs" are general and undefined. We still do not know who will actually do what, where and how much of it. What instrument and method of financing a national program? And a national program it must be; or it is not even worth talking about. It is a very elementary fact that unless these factors have been definitely established; we are all talking generalities and grouping in the dark. We are not planning, because the proper steps have not been taken by national agencies, which must be done before we can do actual and fruitful work in preparing a "painless" transition from war economy to permanent peace prosperity for the nation. Until such time we are only toying with a cherished ideal of planning; planning everything we can think of as architects or engineers.

Planning of course is our very nature, and there is no doubt that co-ordinating and planning post war work on a national scale and immediately is very necessary for the well being of this nation. It is the only sure and sound method by which to avoid economic disaster after the war is over. The architect must, out of patriotic and humane impulses, lend strong and vehement emphasis to his advice for DEFINITE national planning immediately, because he is the one who can logically prepare and put such a program into operation. Certainly now, more than ever, it must be made known that the architect is not an abstract dreamer, contrary to the idea which the general public has, in utter error, formed about him. If the architect of yore liked the halo of a poetical picturesque artist attached to him, the architect of today repudiates and resents such an idea about him. He wants his public to know him the way he really is; and he is not a mere dreamer, but a scientific, creative realist with esthetic taste, a master builder. The architect is zealous in his profession and is always eager to reflect these attributes on the community in which he lives.

This truth about the architect must now diligently be carried to the public. The architect must now introduce himself, because there is at present a tremendous job to be accomplished all over the world which he alone can do, by his training and by his method of scientific planning; NOT SCHEMING. There is, however, certain and great danger lest the public continues to confuse planning with scheming, and by his passive attitude the architect helps misconception about the real nature of his work to continue.

Scheming is done by individuals and groups of selfish interest, who take advantage of opportunities, no matter how calamitous, for furthering their own gains. The public may co-incidently and temporarily derive benefits from such schemes; but the main objective of such enterprise is "self-service"; whereas planning, as the enlightened architects now recommend is that the interest of the community shall be of prime importance. Justified profits will surely result to investors from constructive enterprises; not from gambling. Such selfish interest that stems from public interest would be of the ENLIGHTENED kind, and stimulating permanent and severe economic growth. "The Octagon" of May, 1943, appeals very timely for such an attitude when it writes: "The enlightened selfish interest of groups shall be coordinated and ACTION TAKEN must be based on the principle, that the well being of the people as a nation will be reflected in advantage to the various groups." The same article sounds the emphatic warning that "the time to set about planning for post war reconstruction is NOW!"

Events are moving swiftly and we have nothing, actually, planned to meet this acute situation which we are certain to face at home. There is so much talk about Johnny's coming home but, excepting a promise that Johnny will have a few months salary after peace or general armistice...
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WEEKLY BULLETIN
WHAT’S AHEAD FOR ARCHITECTS IN ’44? ’45? ’46?

No one can predict just when the war will end. It’s safe to say, though, that the architect who has looked ahead, planned for the war’s ending, will be better to confront post-war problems.

For this reason we urge architects to acquaint themselves now, with the many advantages gas has for both domestic and industrial applications. Prospective customers will want to know more about gas, the modern fuel.

The Michigan Consolidated Gas Company will be glad to supply you with facts and figures on gas, to talk with you about the role gas is prepared to play in the post-war world.
FEDERAL GOVERNMENT NEEDS DRAFTSMEN FOR WAR WORK

Over a hundred draftsmen are being sought by the U.S. Civil Service Commission for work in Federal agencies that is necessary to the prosecution of the war. Entrance salaries range from $1,752 to $3,163 a year, including pay for the 8 hours of overtime incorporated in the Federal workweek.

Draftsmen of all types are needed, particularly ship, electrical, and mechanical draftsmen, as well as topographic draftsmen. Agencies needing these types of personnel in the greatest numbers are the several bureaus of the Navy Department, the Coast and Geodetic Survey of the Department of Commerce, the Geological Survey of the Department of the Interior. The Treasury Department and the War Production Board utilize statistical draftsmen.

Qualified engineering draftsmen in any field are urged to apply. However, persons without previous experience in the fields where needs exist may be appointed and trained in the subject. Women are especially desired. Applicants having training or experience primarily in commercial art, interior decorating, etc., which included any drafting training, should have the experience considered.

For positions paying $1,752 a year, requirements are at a minimum. Persons may qualify with 6 months of practical elementary full-time paid drafting experience, or with completion of one of the following types of study: at least 3 semesters of training in drafting in high school; or a thorough course of drafting requiring actual classroom work in a school specializing in drafting; or a U.S.-approved ESMT course in engineering drafting; or a course in drafting in a college or university.

Persons enrolled in drafting courses are urged to apply, since they may be appointed prior and subject to the completion of these courses.

For the higher-paying positions in all fields, additional experience or study in drafting appropriate to the grade of the position is necessary.

Persons now using their highest skills in war work should not apply. Federal appointments are made in accordance with War Manpower Commission policies and employment stabilization plans.

Interested persons may secure Announcement 283 and application forms from first and second-class post offices; from Civil Service regional offices and in regional headquarters' cities; or from the U.S. Civil Service Commission, Washington, D.C.

LONDON'S POST-WAR HOUSING

With more than a million homes destroyed by bombs, Britain is preparing a ten-year project for construction of 4,000,000 new houses. The London County Council recently unveiled a model of its plan for slum clearance, new houses, and schools for workers' families. The Royal Institute of British Architects and the Town & Country Planning Assn. have proposed separate schemes. Undecided is the proportion of housing to be built by private and public interests, while charges are heard that projects are above income levels of the neediest groups. Additional evidence has been presented that home types are such that construction material will be entrenched in postwar housing. At least one proposal made would nationalize housing sites.

A class in structural steel is now being offered at the Lawrence Institute of Technology, Friday evenings, from 7:20 to 9 p.m., Room 407.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, AND MARCH 3, 1933

Of Weekly Bulletin, Michigan Society of Architects, published weekly, at Detroit, Michigan, for October 1, 1933.

Before me, a notary public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Talmage C. Hughes, who, having been duly sworn, did deponent affirm and say that he is publisher of the Weekly Bulletin, Michigan Society of Architects, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, (and if a daily, the circulation, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, and as amended by the Act of March 3, 1933 embodied in section 597, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business managers are:
   Talmage C. Hughes, Publisher, 120 Madison Ave., Detroit, Mich.
   Editor, Talmage C. Hughes, 120 Madison Ave., Detroit, Mich.
   Managing Editor, none.

2. That the owner is (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)
   Michigan Society of Architects, 120 Madison Ave., Detroit, Mich.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 percent or none of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are (If none, so state.)
   None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the names and addresses of the persons or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements eminently, and to the best of my knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon said books of said owners, or as trustees, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner, and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, firm, company, or corporation has any direct or indirect interest in the stock, bonds, or other securities than as stated by him.

5. That the average circulation of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the twelve months preceding the date shown above is: (This information is required from daily publications only.)
   Talmage C. Hughes, Publisher.

6. (Seal) Mildred E. Lorenz
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   (My commission expires March 14, 1944)

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LONDON LETTER

Your kind letter received, and I am most appreciative of your efforts on my behalf, and the attitude of everyone connected regarding my reinstatement into the A.I.A. It is indeed a great privilege to have friends.

Life in London continues pleasantly. Work is still plentiful, and the general war news most encouraging. We still have occasional bombing moments, but they are not serious. I think it is a good idea once in a while to hear the wailing of the sirens. It keeps one on his toes, and prevents a general relaxation of safety precautions.

My activities in the Home Guard and the Guard are growing. As you know a certain group of Americans here formed a Home Guard unit about 3 years ago, long before America entered the war. We were considered at that time renegades, and stood a chance of losing our citizenship, but we carried on in the most serious way and owing to our earnestness and really strenous training manoeuvres, we were soon dubbed "gangsters". There are about 70 of us in the Detroit Chapter, and my friends.

We are known as the 1st American Squadron, Home Guard, His Majesty's Forces, and have been so proficient in our parade drilling that our only rivals are the Guards. Although it is hard work, it is fun, and we are all grateful for the fact that we are able to do our bit.

Each day London seems to gain in American population. The Government treats the American right, in the restaurants and theatres, and it is even rumoured, the best beds here are occupied by our forces. Jeeps go screening around corners in a frightening manner. I presume it is a great treat for the boys to get a chance to drive on the wrong side of the road, which is something I have always wanted to do myself.

Building after the war in this country is going to be definitely controlled. Housing will have first priority, I am sure, Industrial developments will come next. In order to compete in the world markets after this fracas is over, England will have to modernize her factories and workshops. This war has made manufacturers here "mass-production" minded, so I feel there is going to be a great opportunity in these parts for a bright young Architect, with American ideas and ideals.

I recently have been requested to talk to different Committees and Building Societies about the difference in the methods used in our country and here, and I have found my audiences most receptive and kind. This is just one more angle to the "good-will and better understanding" programme.

Dr. Edgar Kahn, Albert's brilliant son, visited me last week. He is a Major in our army Medical Corps, and seems very happy and enthusiastic in his work. In order to compete in world markets after this fracas is over, England will have to modernize her factories and workshops. This war has made manufacturers here "mass-production" minded, so I feel there is going to be a great opportunity in these parts for a bright young Architect, with American ideas and ideals.

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Mrs. Crane joins me in sending you our kindest regards, and also please convey my good wishes to the Members of the Detroit Chapter, and my friends.

Yours sincerely, C. Howard

NEW ADDRESS

Paul R. Sewell, A.I.A., announces the removal of his offices to 828 Michigan Building, Detroit, effective October 1. His former address was 2631 Woodward avenue, former telephone number: Cadillac 4789. Owing to restrictions on new telephone installations, it is not known at present what his telephone number in the new location will be.

Bretton V. Gamier, A.I.A., of Detroit, has been named director of the Michigan Society of Architects at large, to succeed Lyle S. Cole, whose duties on war work has prevented his serving in that capacity.

OCTOBER 5, 1943

WEITZMAN (Continued from Page I)

is declared, we fail to hear of any concrete plan how millions of them will obtain steady employment in order to build on it their future life! We also hear that Johnny will get his job back. How? At the expense of John, his father, and Bill, his uncle? Is this a solution to a problem that, if overlooked, it may rob us of all the advantages that we hoped to gain by winning this war at such enormous sacrifices? Certainly not! Our present economic structure would prove itself bankrupt and naughty, and it would totter to the ground if we would have to deprive the millions of men who stayed home of their bread in order to give it to the demobilized soldiers. Yet such a fruitless and pernicious procedure will have to be followed if definite planning on an organized national scale is not diligently started immediately. In such a planning the architect, the engineer, and the economist, supported by an informed public, must lead; not enlightened selfish scheming interests!

We are happy in our firm conviction that our national will and our economic system, both are sound. Tremendous opportunities are there for development and building, more than enough to keep this nation economically sound and to maintain a stable prosperity, if the right man is given the right job. The American people of this time should understand to keep the schemers out and call on the architect and the engineer for actual planning.

MacCORNACK TO SPEAK IN TOLEDO

Walter R. MacCornack, vice-president of the American Institute of Architects, and dean of the School of Architecture at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, will speak at Toledo University at 8 p.m. on October 5, under the auspices of Toledo Technical Council, of which Toledo Chapter of the A.I.A. is an affiliate.

Dean McCormack, a fellow of the Institute, is chairman of its Committee on Post-War Reconstruction, and has done a splendid job of organizing the chapters in this important work. Detroit Chapter has been inspired by his leadership to the extent that its members have found a common interest which, as never before, has brought them into closer relationship.

The Art Department of Detroit Public Schools announces its Eighth Annual Exhibition of Painting, Sculpture, Crafts at the Scarab Club, from Thursday, October 7, through Friday, October 29. Galleries will be open daily from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., also Monday, Wednesday and Friday evenings from 7 to 9. Miss Mabel Arbuckle is Director of Art Education in the Detroit Public Schools.
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All Architects Invited to Attend

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CHAPTER ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF OFFICERS
Report and Discussion on Architects' Civic Design Group

IMPORTANT SPEAKER — TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER

Program Starts at 7:30 — Come After Dinner If You Like

No Other Notices Will Be Issued — No Reservations Necessary

Mr. William Edward Kapp, president of Detroit Chapter, The American Institute of Architects, has appointed Owen A. Luckenbach (chairman), Aloys Frank Herman and Andrew R. Morison as a nominating Committee to prepare a slate of candidates for officers and directors to serve the Chapter during the coming year. The Chapter Executive Committee has elected Arthur K. Hyde (chairman), George F. Diehl and Alvin E. Harley as another committee to prepare a similar slate. These committees will report at this Annual Meeting. Additional nominations may be made from the floor, and voting by secret ballot will follow.

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"AERIAL GUNNER"
Sat., 11 P.M.—Leo Carillo in "Follow The Band"
MUNDAY THRU THURSDAY OCTOBER 17 THRU 21
Mickey Rooney - Frank Morgan
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Noah Berry, Jr. and Anne Gwynne
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MICHIGAN ARCHITECTS IN SERVICE

William E. Kapp, President, Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., and John C. Thornton, President, Michigan Society of Architects, suggest that Michigan architects who remain on the home front write letters to our buddies in the services of our armed forces so that they may be received by Christmas, that means by October 15.

Herewith is a list of such men, as far as we are able to obtain. We can’t guarantee addresses as they move frequently.

* Indicates address unknown.
c/o Indicates home address.

Emil Becksy, CM ½ USNR
Navy 8140
Fleet Post Office
San Francisco, Calif.
Lt. Stanley Bragg
A.P.O. No. 829
c/o Postmaster
New Orleans, La.
*Paul E. Flanagan
*Barry L. Frost
Capt. Cornelius L.T. Gabler
U.S.M.R.C., 12th ROC-AVC
Marine Barracks
Quantico, Va.
Ralph W. Hammett, U.S. Navy
c/o 1425 Postfac Rd., Ann Arbor, Mich.
Don Hunter (in Pacific)
Mrs. Don Hunter
5121 S. Woodlawn
Chicago, Illinois
Maj. Hugh T. Kayes
Erie Proving Grounds
U. S. Army
Port Clinton, Ohio
Capt. Edgar R. Kimball
U. S. Engrs.
Detroit—RA. 2721
Robert Knox
B.O.O.N.A.D.
Hingham, Mass.
Maj. Norman Krecke
Hingham, Mass.
Res. 527 Lakewood, LE. 4413
C/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.
Lt. Commander C. Wm. Palmer
P.O. Box N.N., Chicago, Ill.
Leo I. Parry
c/o 861 Taylor Ave., Detroit
J. Russell Radford
c/o 13190 Appoline, Detroit
Sgt. W. R. Relston, 36526759
842 Engr. Aviation Battalion
A.P.O. No. 3582, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.
R. P. Rasanen
U. S. Navy
Chapel Island, U. S. Y.
Lt. Carl Rudine, USNR
U.S.S. Fisherty (DE 135)
c/o Fleet Post Office
New York, N. Y.
Henry W. Ruifrok
U.S. Navy Engineers,
c/o 411 N. Franklin St.,
Saginaw, Mich.
Capt. Cyril Edward Schley
Area Engr., U. S. Engrs.
Assigned to Timkin Forging
Plant Project
Malvindale, Mich.
Capt. Verne H. Sidnam
U.S. Engineers
A.P.O. Box 722
c/o Postmaster
Seattle, Washington
Lt. James A. Sponce, USNR
Naval Training School
Dearborn, Mich.
1st Lt. Gordon H. Stow, QMC
Chief Salvage & Reclamation
Branch
Supply Division
Fort Custer, Mich.
Lt. Thomas S. Tanner
U. S. Naval Const. Tr. Center
78th Bn.—Camp Peary
Williamsburg, Va.
G. Harold Thompson
c/o Box 14
Mullet Lake, Mich.
Walter E. Thulin
U. S. Navy
515 McKinstry St., Detroit
William L. Weigle
c/o 5025 Seyburn Ave., Detroit
Sgt. W. R. Relston, 36526759
842 Engr. Aviation Battalion
A.P.O. No. 3582, c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.
Maj. Hugh T. Kayes
Erie Proving Grounds
U. S. Army
Port Clinton, Ohio
Capt. Leslie G. Larkin
U. S. Engineers
Union Guardian Bldg., Detroit
Res. 5338 Ivanhoe, TY. 45842
*Geo. Y. Masson
Col. William H. McCarty
c/o 331 Charleston, S.E.
Grand Rapids, Mich.
Capt. Miller E. McConnell
A.P.O. No. 952
c/o Postmaster
San Francisco, Calif.
Lt. (jg) Arthur H. Measing
U. S. Navy Armed Guard Center
52nd St. and 1st Ave.
South Brooklyn, N.Y.
Harry Newman
c/o 2069 Gladstone Ave.,
Detroit, Mich.
"Don’t make any mistake about it; planning now for when the war ends is not a sweet little racket to get jobs for architects. Hell, no! But it’s one means—an important one—among several others (all of them will probably have to be used) which must be made ready in order to maintain full employment in our country. Full employment we must have. Need I say why?—" William Lescaze

OCTOBER 12, 1943

SIXTH AND FINAL GOLF OUTING

Architects’, Traders’ and Builders’
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 1943
BIRMINGHAM GOLF CLUB

The Club Is Located Near 14-Mi. and Southfield Rds.
Tee Off—1:30 to 3:00 P.M. Dinner—7:45 P.M.
Golf Only $2.00 Dinner $2.50
Golf Dinner and Prices $4.50

Past Presidents’ Day and Last Call of the Season, fellows. We are again paying honor to that grand companion of ours,—Jess Stoddard. This is his day and he wants you all to share it with him. Get a hold of a past Pres. and bring him along with you. Let’s make this something to shout about.

RESERVATIONS NOW, PLEASE.

Wm. Seeley, Golf Chairman

POST-WAR EMPLOYMENT

An appeal for industrial research technicians to turn their attention to methods of lowering the cost of building postwar homes as a means of providing greater employment and placing new dwellings within the reach of many thousands of additional families was made here today by Russell G. Creviston, general chairman of the Post war Committee of the Producers’ Council, in an address before the Industrial Research Institute at the Edgewater Beach Hotel, Chicago.

"To fulfill its responsibility as a leading source of employment and a major contributor to a high national income in the postwar era, the construction industry must build new homes by the millions," Creviston said, adding that lower building costs are the major factor controlling the volume which the industry can reach.

"The well-built home of today is so fine and its equipment so serviceable and useful that further perfection is not our primary need at this time," he said. "Our greatest need for the postwar years is to get into wider use the superior building products and equipment which research technicians already have developed."

Estimates that ten million new homes can be built during the first postwar decade are not unreasonable, Creviston stated. "But to reach that goal," he added, "we shall have to rely on our research staffs more than ever before in lowering construction costs, thus putting new homes within the reach of more and more low income families."

In discussing improvements in home construction, Creviston stated that a dream house would be available after the war to millions of prospective home owners and to those additional millions who now live in obsolete structures with substandard equipment.

"However, the postwar dream house will not be the miracle home that some popular writers have pictured, totally different from the prewar house" he said. "The home of tomorrow will not be characterized by radical changes. Rather, it will contain all of the hundreds of new developments which were ready for the public when the outbreak of war stopped civilian building, together with many additional improvements which our research technicians have perfected to meet the demands of war construction."

"Few people realize the great strides made in developing new materials and time-saving equipment which already were being introduced into home building at the outbreak of the war."

"To obtain the splendid new home to which it has looked forward, no family need wait for other scientific developments which will take years to test and perfect. Once the war is over, the public will find the construction industry ready to build houses much superior to those being erected when the war broke out."

"The dream house of tomorrow can be gotten under way as soon as the progress of the war makes it possible for manufacturers of building materials and equipment to convert to peacetime production:"

RESERVATIONS NOW, PLEASE.
ARCHITECTS CIVIC DESIGN GROUP

To the Architectural Profession in the Detroit Area:

On September 29, 1943, there was a meeting of the members of the Architects Civic Design Group, who are actively engaged in working on projects. This meeting was held at Cranbrook Academy for the purpose of group discussion with Mr. Saarinen, who is serving as consultant.

The Executive Committee is gratified by the large attendance at this meeting and because of the interest and enthusiasm shown by the members. It is believed that definite progress was made, and that considerable momentum was given to the work. It is hoped that additional meetings which are to be planned, will be even more helpful.

In this program is presented a long sought opportunity for the architectural profession to be of service to the community, and to make a civic contribution of real value in planning for Detroit and the metropolitan area. There is also the opportunity for the profession to learn more about town-planning, and thereby take its rightful position of leadership in what will become a work of paramount importance in the future. Further, it will provide the greatest measure of favorable publicity for the profession, if the work is well done.

The privilege of taking advantage of this unusual opportunity is available to every architect who is willing and ready to contribute his time and talents to this service. It is the opinion of the Executive Committee that the number of area projects should be expanded, and that several architects should submit solutions for each one on the list. In that way several different answers will be obtained for each problem, and the value of the group contribution will be materially increased.

This program of the Architects Civic Design Group has attracted attention all over the country, and much interest has been aroused locally. The idea is spreading to other communities and the profession is in the spotlight. This important work is well under way, and it has gone too far to allow any other considerations to impede its progress, or to lessen the enthusiasm of the members.

New members are needed; additional talent and work is required. The Executive Committee calls for volunteers—the opportunity is here—we feel confident that you will respond. May I ask that all architects interested in participating communicate with the secretary, Buford L. Pickens, c/o Wayne University, Detroit 1, (TO. 7-4725) so that they may receive additional information pertaining to an area assignment and notices of subsequent meetings.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

George L. W. Schulz, Amedeo Leone, Eberle M. Smith.

The third meeting of the GROUP was held in the architectural drafting room of the Cranbrook Academy of Art on September 29, 1943. Thirty-eight members were present. The discussion centered on presentations made by members of sketches and analyses of their respective projects. These represented the work of the following architect members:


Mr. Eliel Saarinen, the general consultant for the GROUP and Mr. Richard B. Fernbach, representing the Detroit City Planner participated in the discussion of each project following its presentation by the author.

The principal result of this discussion was a suggestion made by Mr. Saarinen and concurred in by the members, to broaden the scope of each project by encompassing a larger, and in some cases a better defined, geographic area and by assuming a more comprehensive program of elements to be included in the area. Mr. Saarinen also suggested that each member study more thoroughly the relation of the needs of each area with those of the city as a whole. The members decided to make an effort to interrelate the studies undertaken by the GROUP with the broad studies of the Detroit "Sphere of Influence" being made by J. Davidson Stephen at Cranbrook under Mr. Saarinen’s direction. The Executive Committee of the GROUP was instructed to study this decision further and to notify the members of the procedure recommended for its execution as well as the date and agenda of the next meeting.

Buford L. Pickens, who conducted the meeting in the absence of the Chairman, Branson V. Gamber, announced that Aloys Frank Herman had resigned his membership in the Executive Committee. Malcolm R. Stirton has been appointed by the Chapter President to fill the vacancy.

At a meeting held on September 22nd, the Board of Directors of the Detroit Chapter unanimously passed the following resolution:

"Whereas the Chapter members present in a joint membership meeting with the Detroit Division of the M.S.A. and the Architects Civic Design Committee have by unanimous vote expressed their approval of the work as proposed in the prospectus of the Architects Civic Design Group of both Post-War Committees, this Board heartily endorses and ratifies the program as proposed in the said prospectus, encourages participation by all members of the Chapter, and hereby authorizes the appropriation of $150.00 to defray expenses of the Architects Civic Design Group. This appropriation shall be made available on statements approved by this Board. Since the activity of the Architects Civic Design Group is a joint matter with the Detroit Division of the M.S.A., it is believed the latter organization will wish to appropriate a like amount."

In commenting personally on this decision of the Board, which confirms officially the Chapter’s sponsorship of the GROUP’s program, the Chapter president, William E. Kapp, had this to add;

"Because of the members expressing the Board’s approval, it now behooves all of us—the officers, the Board and the Subcommittee—to do all we can to enlist the full support of all members of the Chapter in this activity; support not only in principle, but wherever possible in participation. The number of members actually engaged in the effort is small compared to our total membership, and we must find ways and means to increase the interest of non-participating members and, hence, the scope of the work."

The Board of Directors of the Michigan Society of Architects, meeting at Saginaw on September 29th, accepted a report of the GROUP’S activities submitted personally by Branson V. Gamber, and passed a resolution to sponsor its program. It also appropriated an initial sum of $150 to defray part of the general expenses of the GROUP. The Board expressed its desire to assist any other divisions which might undertake such projects.

A. BROAD OBJECTIVE

To study and prepare in the name of the architectural profession of Detroit and present to the public general suggestions for the physical redevelopment of Detroit.

B. VALUE AND JUSTIFICATION

1. Publicize the profession of architecture, the architectural organizations and the value of architects in planning.

2. Instigate public discussion and appreciation of well planned redevelopment projects on a large scale and of possible developments in the Master Plan for Detroit.

3. Stimulate the Detroit City Planner's Office with ideas and help it by experimenting with schemes which it could not propose officially because of being a public agency.

4. Educate members in city planning and prepare them for the large scale planning architects may be required increasingly to do in the future.
C. UTILIZATION OF RESULTS
1. Public exhibitions
2. Newspaper reproductions
3. Reproductions in local and national periodicals
4. Illustrative material for lectures and public meetings
5. Special publications undertaken by the committee

D. WORKING PROCEDURES
1. Organization
   An executive committee appointed and led by the Chairman of the Committee will conduct, subject to the approval of the membership of the Committee, all executive functions, such as:
   (a) Contacting the Detroit City Planner's Office and other consultants, as regards work of group as a whole.
   (b) Arranging meetings.
   (c) Preparing lists of problems from which members may choose their assignments.
   (d) Assigning problems when necessary to do so.
   (e) Determining standards of work.
   (f) Arranging exhibitions and publicity.
   (g) Arranging publications.
   (h) Administering finances.
   (i) Maintaining records.
   (j) Coordination of problems as regards subject matter.
   (k) Determining sources of data.

2. Membership
   Membership in the Committee is open to any member of the Chapter or the Division who volunteers to participate in the program. Other members of the architectural or other professions may become members under the same conditions if authorized by the Executive Committee.

3. Scope of problems
   It is preferable to select broad problems dealing with specific locations. They should not be confined to individual buildings or small groups of buildings or groups of buildings ostensibly for one owner, since the object is not to provide free sketches from which working drawings may be prepared. Some problems may deal with general case studies instead of specific locations. A list of problems suggested by the Detroit City Planner's Office may be supplemented by suggestions from members. One of the problems assigned will involve the preparation of key maps and other means of coordinating the presentation of the individual problems.

4. Assignment of problems
   After a list of problems has been prepared, members may select their preferences. Where more than one member selects the same problem, they may collaborate with each other or permit the Executive Committee to determine the assignment.

5. Programs for the Problems
   The broad program will be inherent in the description of each problem. The detailed program will be prepared by the member assigned to that problem.

6. Studies and Presentations
   These may be prepared and conducted by each member in any manner and place he chooses. The extent to which the details of each problem are studied and presented will be determined by the amount of time and effort its author can contribute.

7. Form of Presentations
   Final drawings, models, charts, photographs, maps, etc., should be in a standard form predetermined by the Executive Committee. Standards should be so determined only for the purpose of unifying the presentations. They will cover such items as:
   (a) Sizes of drawings, models, etc.
   (b) Materials used for them.
   (c) Indications, symbols, terminology and titles.

8. Consultations
   The Detroit City Planner will be requested to provide data it may have that will facilitate the work of the members and to advise the Committee on its activities. A recognized authority on city planning, not connected with the City Planner's Office may be requested to act as consultant on the activities of this Committee. In addition, other authorities may be consulted for particular phases of the work.

9. Expenses
   The cost of each set of studies and presentations will be borne by the member assigned to that problem. Expenses involved in exhibitions, publicity, publications, membership meetings and all other items involving the work of the Committee as a whole will be borne jointly by the Detroit Chapter of the A.I.A. and the Michigan Society of Architects, Detroit Division.

10. Credit for work performed
    Each presentation will be credited to its author, who may share such credit with non-member associates and collaborators. Credit for the sponsorship of the Committee's work, for consultation services, financial and other assistance will be given for the presentations as a whole.

11. Ownership of studies and presentations
    All work done by members will remain the property of the respective authors, but in participating in the Committee's program, each author agrees to permit it to make such use of his work as is consistent with the intent of this prospectus.

E. GENERAL CHRONOLOGY (with tentative time schedule)

1. First meeting
   (a) The Detroit City Planner will speak on:
      1. Value of the Committee's program
      2. Suggestions for executing it
      3. Type of information and other help his office can provide
      4. Answers to questions by members.
   (b) Members will discuss and vote on proposed prospectus.
   (c) Chairman will announce composition of Executive Committee.
   (d) Members will submit ballots on problems, from which Executive Committee will prepare and announce, as far as possible, the list of assignments.
   (e) Selection of consultants will be discussed and action voted there on.
   (f) Date and agenda of next meeting will be determined.
   (g) The results of this meeting will be publicized.

2. Second meeting
   (a) Each member will deliver verbally a concise analysis of his problem and a proposed method of approach for its solution.
   (b) Each such delivery will be followed by discussion in the form of suggestions and criticisms by other members.
   (c) The Detroit City Planner and any consultants selected will participate in these discussions.
   (d) The Executive Committee will submit proposed standards of work.
   (e) Date and agenda of next meeting will be determined. (If the number of members warrants it, this and subsequent meetings may be held in more than one session.)
   (f) The results of this meeting will be publicized.

3. Third and subsequent meetings
   (a) Same as second meeting except that sketches of solutions and proposals for the form of the final presentations will be the basis of the discussion, in addition.
   (b) Members will discuss and vote on the proposed standards of work and.
   (c) Executive Committee will submit proposal for publicizing the presentations.

4. Final meeting
   (a) Completed presentations will be submitted by members.
   (b) Members will discuss and vote on proposed publicity program.
Bulletin:
It was interested to get from our A.I.A. Representative in Washington, a few days ago, the correct and official definition of an "architect," as conceived by the government officials, for it seemed to blend so appropriately with the informal definition that came to me from a lay source.

It seems that my daughter met a lady who had a vivid recollection of me and my professional accomplishments, and the conversation was something like this:

"Yes, I know your father, he is a lumberman."

To which my daughter replied "Oh, no, he is an architect."
The lady countered with "Well, that's about the same thing, isn't it?"

Good luck,
WILLIAM ORR LUDLOW

HOLIDAY MAIL SURE TO BE DELAYED UNLESS ADDRESSED WITH ZONE NUMBER

Unless the more than 2,000,000 Detroiters cooperate in the new mail addressing campaign Postal officials predict serious delay in Holiday mail.

"School students must be relied upon almost entirely to carry on the job formerly done by experienced employees now in the armed service," says Postmaster Roscoe B. Huston.

"Mail addressed with the delivery zone number will solve the problem," he says "but it is up to the mailing public to cooperate by notifying their correspondents to use the number so these youngsters can do the job."

Every effort is being made to provide a reference for the mailing public to determine the numbers applying to addresses of local correspondents.

The Lynn B. Emery Company, 3150 Cass Avenue, Detroit 1, Michigan, has prepared a hand-book style of Postal Unit Guide, consisting of an alphabetical list of all streets and showing the delivery unit in which they are located. This guide, which also shows the delivery unit numbers applicable to large buildings and hotels, are being placed on all greeting card counters, stationery stores, book stores, news stands and five and ten cent stores at nominal cost.

Mr. Huston urges all mailers to obtain one of these guides now and correctly key their Christmas and other mailing lists now. It involves so little effort yet means so much in the prompt handling of mail.

Essential to the war effort we see and hear slogans "Buy Bonds," "Conserve Food," "Button Your Lip," "Stay on the Job" and many others. To these should be added "Use Delivery Unit Number."
BULLETIN TO ARCHITECTS, MASTER PLUMBERS, BUILDERS, JOB IDERS OF PLUMBING MATERIALS.

I. SPECIFICATIONS FOR TILED SHOWERS OR TUB-SHOWER COMBINATIONS BUILT ON JOB.

Construction Details

Finish Dimensions

Curb shall not be less than four (4) inches in height above floor of installation.

Curb shall not be more than eighteen (18) inches in height measured from finished bath room floor.

Curb shall not be less than four (4) inches in thickness. Overall width of installation to be a minimum of thirty (30) inches from tile wall.

Inside width of installation to be not less than twenty-six (26) inches.

Inside length to be not less than four (4) feet measured along the bottom of the installation.

Framing and Sub-Flooring

The side of entry into the installation shall be framed of a two by four (2"x4") top plate and two by four (2"x4") jack studs spaced not more than sixteen (16) inches on centers.

The top-plate shall be notched to receive the jack studs, which shall be firmly nailed to the plate. The jack studs shall be notched to fit over the floor joists and shall extend down alongside the joists to which they shall be clinch nailed.

In all cases a joist, or blocking between joists, shall be run under the front edge of the installation.

Two by four (2"x4") blocking shall be placed between studs around the back and ends of the installation, at the same height as the front top plate.

The sub-floor beneath the installation shall be smooth and structurally sound.

Water Proothing

All such installations shall be equipped with lead pans caulked into drains having seepage holes to drain the lead pan.

In all the installations equipped with overflow connections, the lead shall be flushed up inside the framing to within two (2) inches of the spill line of the installation on ends and sides, and in all cases the lead shall extend to at least the height of the top of the overflow outlet.

In all installations which require no overflow connection and none is installed, the lead pan shall be flashed up to at least the full height of the framing.

All joints in the lead pan shall be made by acceptable methods of soldering, welding, or lead burning.

Reinforcement

The inside of the lead pan shall be lined with metal lath which shall extend over the forming strip and down on the outside to the sub-flooring. The metal lath may be nailed to the top of the wood form and to the blocking or nailing cleats, but in no case shall the lead pan be pierced at bottom, ends, or sides on the job, except for the drain and overflow openings.

Inspection

Before application of the rough cement coat, and at the time of the rough plumbing inspection, the lead pan shall be filled with water to test for leakage. All lead pans shall be water tight.

Finish

The sides and ends of the installation shall be finished with glazed wall tile and the floor shall be of ceramic mosaic unglazed floor tile. The joints shall be of the best quality water proof cement with all corners made of standard curved tile. The tiled back and ends of the installation if terminated at any height less than six (6) feet above the floor shall be in a tile curb, against which the water proof wall above that point shall be joined and extended upward until the over-all height of tile and water proof surface shall be not less than six (6) feet from the floor.

Water Supply and Waste Fittings

(a) If the curb of the tub-shower is eight (8) inches or less in height (measured from the finished bottom of the tub), the installation shall be equipped with a drain having a caulked lead pan connection and with a shower head, the height of which is five and one-half (5½) feet above the finished bottom of the tub. In such installations, overflow connections or bath supply fittings are not required.

(b) If the curb of the tub-shower is over eight (8) inches in height, the installation shall be equipped with a drain having a caulked lead pan connection and an overflow connection and a bath supply fitting. All overflow connections shall measure not less than two and one-half (2½) inches from the spill line of the installation to the center of the overflow outlet. All bath supply fittings shall have their discharge openings not less than two (2) inches above the spill line of the installation.

Waste Pipe and Fixture Trap Size

The minimum size waste piping and trap permitted on installations of this character will be one and one-half (1½) inches, provided such an installation makes provision for a drain with caulked lead pan connection and seepage facilities.

II. SPECIFICATIONS FOR PREFABRICATED SHOWER STALLS WITH PRE-CAST RECEPTOR BASIS WITH INTEGRAL DRAIN

All such installations shall be equipped with lead pans caulked into drains having seepage holes to drain the lead pan. Furthermore, the lead pan shall be flashed up on the outside of the receptor basin on all sides to the full height of the receptor. All joints in the lead pan shall be made by acceptable methods of soldering, welding, or lead burning.

III. OTHER TYPES OF SUBSTITUTE BATH TUBS

In the event substitute bath tubs, other than the types mentioned above, are accepted by the Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering subsequent to the issuance of this Bulletin, it will be necessary for the distributor of such substitute bath tubs to submit specifications which have been accepted by the Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering with each installation.

IMPORTANT NOTE

Installations of the character described in this bulletin, which are used as substitutes for bath tubs, are permissible only until such time as porcelain, enameled cast iron, or enameled steel tubs are available in sufficient quantities to supply local demands.

JOS. P. WOLFF
L. GLEN SHIELDS
Commissioner
Associate Sanitary Engineer

M.S.A. BOARD MEETS IN SAGINAW

From the Saginaw News, Sept. 30, 1943, as reported by Robert B. Frantz, A.I.A.

Discussions of Michigan's post-war planning program and the conference scheduled for Oct. 15 in Lansing interested directors of the Michigan Society of Architects who met Wednesday at the Saginaw club as guests of the Saginaw valley chapter.

Robert B. Frantz of Saginaw, a vice-president of the state association, and Joseph Goodeyne of Bay City, valley chapter president, arranged for the program and dinner at the club.

Among those participating in the discussions were Wella Bennett, dean of the University of Michigan school of architecture; Branson Gamber, a member of the Detroit planning commission; R. V. Gay, director of the state planning board; A. N. Langius, director of the state buildings and construction division; Kenneth Black of Lansing, of the state planning board; Talmage Hughes of Detroit, chairman of public information committee of The American Institute of Architects and editor of the Michigan society's magazine, and John Thornton of Detroit, president of the Michigan society.
NOW! A New No-Leak Method
For Glazing Wood Sash

Excellent for Sash Manufacturers
Ideal for All Outside Glazing

Out of the Plastic Products Laboratory has come a revolutionary advance in glazing wood sash—a better method and a better material. The glass is bedded in Plastoid Elastic Bedding Cement making a rubbery bond that will allow for all contraction and expansion and absolutely prevent leaks. Then the facing is applied in the usual way, with Glaz-Wood. The method and the material produce no-leak glazing, and eliminate the other faults characteristic of the old procedure. . . Write for descriptive literature.

PROVEN BEST BY ACTUAL TEST
For complete details see Sweet’s Catalog, Vol. 18, Page 13

BETTER LIGHTING SPEEDS WAR WORK

The WPB recommends that every war plant have an adequate and well-designed lighting system, to increase production, improve workmanship, reduce accidents, reduce spoilage and increase speed of inspection.

Detroit Edison lighting advisors are prepared to cooperate with architects in planning good lighting for war industries, for the most efficient use of materials and electricity.

There is no charge for this service, which is offered for any plant to be served by The Detroit Edison Company. Call RANDOLPH 2100. Lighting Division.

THE DETROIT EDISON CO.
ARCHITECTS NOT MERE DECORATORS
LA BEAUME SAYS

A statement by Mr. Louis La Beaume, F.A.I.A., in the September 7 issue of the Weekly Bulletin has brought many comments. In former articles Mr. La Beaume had something interesting to say about "The Decay of Architectural Morale."

The burden of his song is that the morale of the architects is all shot, and they themselves did the shooting. They were becoming an institution; then they swelled with pride, the pride that goes before a fall. The fall took the form of a Pied Piper, a sort of new tune played by the so-called modernist and functionalist; we followed them and now look at us.

"The morale of the architectural profession is pretty bad," he says. "To speak bluntly it is pitiable," and, "the efficiency boys have got his (the architect's) goat, and he longs, how he longs, to be an engineer. He wants to change muses."

Of the pre-Piper period, when architects held a place in the community of men, the architect did not see himself as a "dilettante or long-haired aesthete, but as a man of taste and sound, practical judgment." That was before we had learned to conceive a house as a mere machine for living, "before it bore a resemblance to a ship, a tank, or a body by Fisher."

Then, says Mr. La Beaume, we began to hear of Behrens & Mendelsohn, the Bauhaus group, and a very vocal French engineer, who called himself Le Corbusier "(the mean, old Pipers) and at last Frank Lloyd came out of his silence, and soon the pack was in full cry." Now, "the architect hangs his head in shame at the mention of beauty—We'd been thinking of beauty, of majesty or dignity—instead of only function. That was shattering. No wonder we were unnerved." And so came about our downfall.

Commenting on the September 7 article, Mr. Ralph O. Yeager, A.I.A., of Terre Haute, Indiana, wrote Mr. La Beaume as follows:

"I have read with interest "Architectural Profession Needs a Voice" in the September 7, Weekly Bulletin of the Michigan Society of Architects.

I don't think Architecture needs a voice so much as it needs a change of view point. I do agree, however, with those who state that the building industry needs "integration." If we blink this fact we are indeed lost. This is not to say that we cannot lead the integration, nor that esthetics need be shelved. No one will claim that the 11th, 12th, and 13th century architects were without esthetic..."
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OCTOBER 19, 1943
I am not sure just who this different man is but judging nobody in particular. "In fact, I am a different man already. announced Roger Allen today in an exclusive interview with no improvement. from what I see of him in the mirror, it's—THIS OUGHT TO BE GOOD you know what he said to me? 'Do not is very particular about how I act. He to 107 and my doctor, a man in a million, OF AN ERA OF GOOD FEELING ALLEN ANNOUNCES THE INAUGURATION is only one drawback to this drink-in-the-middle-of-the-afternoon routine; I hate to drink alone and of course, being an architect, I know almost no drinking men. (Lay that pistol down, Gay; lay that pistol down.)" "Mr. Louis LeBeaume saved me a great deal of labor by saying everything I wanted to say and saying it much better, in his recent article in the Bulletin. I am an old LeBeaume fan from Wayback, a pretty little town of non-functional design on the Pennsylvania railroad. Henceforth when anyone says to me 'Allen, what do you think on any subject whatever?' I will merely hand him Louis' article and keep on drinking medicinal whiskey. (If you think my blood pressure is bad, you ought to see the bartender's when I ask him how much dough he lost betting on Brooklyn to win the National league pennant.)" "Naturally this will leave me more free time to discuss things in general. However, I am not going to discuss my operation. The things I have had to put up with when I try to tell about my grim and harrowing experience would bring a tear to the eyes of one and all; the minute I open my mouth about MY operation whoever I am talking to bring a tear to the eyes of one and all; the minute I open my mouth about MY operation whoever I am talking to—have you print some more communications from Brother Clement Fairweather, regarding the parlous state of the profession. Parlous, bedroom and bath, I always say, not that it makes any sense. His last letter in the Bulletin cheered me up in the hospital to such an extent that two nurses came in to see what I was delirious about this time." "With this notification that I am now devoted to sitting in the chimney corner and smiling amiably on one and all (at least until I get mad again) maybe the Bulletin can get its second class mailing privilege back again. What do you hear from Esquire?"
LA BEAUME (Continued from Page 1)

ideals. But if I've been properly informed, they themselves were workmen on the edifices which they designed.

Several years ago at the Institute Regional Meeting at Cranbrook, Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, Professor Emil Lorch said "Whenever we (the Architects) have gotten into trouble we have turned to our good man Friday (the contractor) for the solution of our troubles until now, we are his creatures." I agree with this thoroughly. We claim leadership in the industry, but we are the only ones to acknowledge it. With all due respect to the Detroit Steel Products Company, and others in the past who have advertised our wares, I ask you—what other group in the whole world expects another, and sometimes competing agency to promote its welfare and interest. Yes..."We Need A Voice."

We need other things too. We need to be less remote from our end products—buildings. Clients are not interested in wash drawings, full size details or any other mediums—they are interested in economical, functional esthetics (in that order) buildings. Were we to have a direct interest (financial, also) in their production we could produce if he understands, thoroughly, the materials with which he works, and their most economical method of fabrication. And it must be acknowledged, had we known more fully the functions and limitations of materials we would not now be accused of being mere "Exterior and Interior Decorators." The day of the Ivory Tower is over. We've got to get down with the boys and get our hands dirty.

We need not expect the Institute to solve our problem. It is in the hands of each of us. There is now a golden opportunity. The whole world understands the meaning of Post-War Planning. But if we stand back until other groups have done the organization, we'll not be integrated, we'll be liquidated.

It was largely because of the views you express that I was prompted to write the piece you read in the Michigan Society Bulletin.

I didn't write the headline, although I am not pleading any alibi for that. One headline, I suppose, is as good as another, and I often recall a remark made by James T. Grady, once the Publicist for the A.I.A., at an Institute Convention in Washington. The delegates were very much disturbed about a headline which had appeared in the Washington Post which read, "Architects Lambast Secretary Mellon." They were in a panic, fearing that they had aroused the wrath of the great man, and asked Grady what they ought to do about it. Grady said, "Gentlemen, a good headline is one of the hazards of life and must be accepted as such." So I am not apologizing for the headline, nor am I apologizing for the article itself, despite the fact that you take exception to it.

Some of the phrases in your letter perplex me and fill me with a sense of chagrin at my inability to make myself clear. I don't recall that I asked anybody to fight our battles for us—certainly not the Detroit Steel Products Company. I did. I can't remember that we asked the Boy Scouts. They are hard-boiled realists. That's an important point in my story.

Another point is that just because these men are also concerned with harmonious and pleasing design, is no good reason why they should be derided as impractical. I submit that the public knows too little of the virtues of the competent architect, and hears too much about how he is a "plumber" or "electrician" who does very little but "cook" the plans. Architects build structures with their own hands, nor lay the brick, nor cut the stone, but they do know how these different elements are made, what they are capable of doing, and how they should be installed.

This knowledge is reflected in their drawings and specifications, and supplemented in their supervision. And they do not, in any sense, deserve the stigma of being called either exterior or interior decorators. They are hard-boiled realists. That's an important point in my story.

But when you say that the whole world understands the meaning of post-war planning, I think you have taken on quite a large order. I am modest enough to admit that I do not understand it, and I am rash enough to say that I have never met anyone else who does, though I have heard as much hooey about it as the next man.

This letter is already too long, but as you say, "We must carry on the discussion with courage and candor."

Mr. La Beaume further comments:

Louis La Beaume

I had two letters from New England this morning—one from Clip Sturgis and one from Charles Killam, both of whom think the matter is of sufficient importance for comment and further carry on the discussion with courage and candor.

I also have another letter from Mr. Yeager, further clarifying his position. Apparently he and I are talking about different things. It seems that what Mr. Yeager really wants is a cheaper product delivered at the site, for he says, "If you add up all the profits and overhead of the architect, general contractor, electric contractor, and plumbing contractors, you will find that it is a substantial portion of the total cost. I am convinced that in the not too distant future this will be done in one profit and overhead." Well, it may be possible some day to cut out all the intermediate profits and service charges that go to make up the cost to the ultimate consumer of anything he buys, but this would involve some drastic changes in our economic system.

Living near enough to the farm, we might get our milk direct from the cow, our tomatoes direct from the vine, our corn direct from the stalk, without any intermediate handling or transportation charges. We might do our own canning, our own spinning and weaving, etc., etc., and cut out the middle man and render efficient service to ourselves. But where is the caretaker's daughter when the caretaker is busy taking care? It's a quite a problem isn't it? The answer is too difficult for me.

It all goes to show what confusion exists, even among members of the same Church, as to what they believe in and what Heaven is really like. No wonder that the public can't understand us, if we can't even understand each other.

Louis La Beaume
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NO CASH—LAND WAS PAID FOR TEXAS' CAPITOL

By Richard E. Schmidt, F.A.I.A.

From The Monthly Bulletin, Illinois Society of Architects

Two books, recently published, have called attention to the fact that the State of Texas paid for its Capitol, built in the City of Austin, with a vast acreage of land and that one of the earliest of fenced ranches was established on a part of this land by the builders.

The State grew rapidly in production and, everything expanding, the old State House was not large enough to hold its employees. A bill was passed in 1879 favoring the construction of a new Capitol building on a portion of the State land, located adjacent to New Mexico and known as the Pan Handle. It is doubtful if any one of the legislators had seen this land, known as Capitol land, of which 3,000,000 acres were earmarked for a proposed State House, and 50,000 acres for surveying.

In 1881 the Committee, appointed by the Legislature, decided upon a competition for a "design." Governor O. M. Roberts appointed Napoleon E. LeBrun, architect of New York to assist the Board of Commissioners in the selection of a plan. Eleven had been submitted. LeBrun reported in favor of the design submitted by E. E. Myers, Architect, Detroit, Michigan, and in May 1881 his plan was adopted by the Board, with several minor changes suggested by Mr. LeBrun.

The fact that the Capitol Board selected an able and experienced architect to judge the competitive drawing and appointed the author of the plan LeBrun ranked as the best plan and design, the winner and architect, is ample evidence that the award was not on a basis of favoritism or politics.

Thereupon Myers was employed to prepare and arrange working details for the sum of $12,000.00.

Notwithstanding that the Secretary of State has had this typed from an old volume called "Reports of Capitol Building Commission, 1883-1889," it is inconceivable that Myers did not receive a greater fee, inasmuch as this sum is less than 1 per cent of the estimated cost of $1,500,000, and only about 1-3rd of 1 per cent of the actual cost, namely, $3,744,630.00. Obviously, he could not have maintained an office and entered other competitions had there not been other payments.

Myers was a well known and prominent architect in the seventies and eighties, who seemed to look entirely for public work. He had made the plans for the State Capitol of Michigan at Lansing. George Mason, the dean of architects of Detroit says that Myers' office was one of the finest and largest in the best office building in Detroit, and that he employed a goodly number of draftsmen.

In 1877 Myers entered the competition for the State Capitol of Indiana. Mason was then in Myers' office and helped in the preparation of the drawing; he says they were 1-8th scale drawings as good as working drawings, inked, colored, mounted on cloth on wooden frames, twelve or thirteen, about 40 to 70 inches. It was common knowledge in the office at the time that they cost Myers $13,000.00.

Only two proposals were filed pursuant to an advertisement inviting contractors to bid on the Texas Capitol—Mathias Schnell of Rock Island, Illinois, and A. A. Burck of Rockdale, Texas. The entire cost of the building was to be paid in land.

See SCHMIDT—Page 5
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SMIT (Continued from Page 1)

The contract was awarded to Schnell on January 1st, 1882, upon the filing of a bond in the sum of $250,000.00. A new and amended contract was signed January 18, 1882, in part, necessary because of changes in the plans suggested by Myers.

On February 11th, 1882, Mr. Schnell assigned a three-fourths interest in the contract to Abner Taylor, Amos C. Babcock, John V. Farwell and Charles B. Farwell. The Farwells being both Chicagoans, and on the 9th of May, 1882 he transferred his remaining interest to the same four men composing the firm of Taylor, Babcock & Company. The Governor and Commissioners consented to the transfer upon the advice of the heads of the departments.

Seven weeks later Taylor, Babcock & Company assigned their interests, to Mr. Abner Taylor who assumed all responsibilities and obligations of Schnell as contractor; again the consideration was 3,000,000 acres of state land in certain West Texas counties.

Why Schnell withdrew from the project could not be learned, he may have found it impossible to finance it or that building labor was not plentiful in Texas. He was an experienced builder, having erected upwards of one hundred churches and hospitals, including Peoria R. C. Cathedral and St. Anthony’s Hospital, Rock Island.

Sooner after the withdrawal of Schnell another builder appeared in the person of Gustav Wilke, a resident of Chicago. Apparently active construction began in 1883, the corner stone was laid March 1st, 1885, and the contract was substantially completed on the first day of January 1888.

It appears that the contract required that the Capitol must be built of Texas stone; some persons say that a sand or limestone was specified but that the Governor wished it to be of Texas granite and agreed to have a quarry developed at the expense of the state.

Miss Louise Wilke, Gustav Wilke’s daughter, has a photograph of a large force of prison labor with a mound or granite dome in the background and several officers and her father in the foreground.

The quarry is at Granite Mountain Falls, Llano River, Texas, 15 miles from a railroad and thence by rail forty miles to Austin.

It is related that the five or six-ton corner stone was hauled from the quarry to the building by oxen, also that the Farwell Brothers supplied the railroad cars for the slate laid rails from the quarry to Austin or to the railroad.

Few, if any, granite cutters could be found and Taylor, Babcock & Company sent to Scotland for experienced men but soon found themselves in the U. S. courts charged with importing contract labor.

Gustav Wilke undoubtedly had excellent training in building in one of the building training schools of Germany, also in building construction in Chicago, that enabled him to conduct the quarrying of the stone and the construction of the Capitol, as a contractor or as an officer or employee of Taylor, Babcock & Company.

He was not 30 years of age when he came to Austin to begin the construction of a building 566 1/2 feet long by 288 feet 10 inches and 311 feet from ground to tip of a figure on the dome, then second in size only to the National Capitol at Washington.

John V. Farwell and Charles B. Farwell of Chicago, wholesale drygoods dealers had the largest interest of Taylor, Babcock & Company. They sent John Van Osdel, a Chicago architect, to Texas to estimate the cost of building the Capitol designed by Myers. Van Osdel estimated the cost at $1,500,000; however, the eventual cost was $3,744,630, of which Farwell Brothers bore $3,224,593.45.

At the time the contract was signed, there were only a few settlers and no large ranches in the Pan Handle; 55 1/2 cents was the highest bid per acre.

Meanwhile, the Farwell Brothers must have had imagination to foresee that a large cattle ranch established on their holding would make their contract a profitable undertaking.

Pursuant thereto they interested English capital and organized the XIT Ranch under British Law. To raise capital for the establishment of the ranch and to build the State

BUTTS NAMED TO WL B

Stephen D. Butts, of O. W. Burke Co., president General Builders Association, of Detroit and president of the Detroit Building Employers Labor Relations Council has been named a member of the Wage Adjustment Board, division of the War Labor Board. He has assumed his duties in Washington along with others of the nine-man tripartite agency, with three representatives of management, the public, industry and labor.

Others besides Butts on the new board are J. S. Miller, of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, senior vice president of the Dravo Corporation, were appointed to represent respectively the general building contractors, and the general heavy construction and highway contractors. Paul N. Geary, of Washington, D. C., Assistant Manager, of the National Electrical Contractors Association, was named to represent the subcontractors.

Harry C. Bates, President of the International Union of Bricklayers, Masons, and Plasterers’ A.F.L.; Herbert Rivers, Secretary-Treasurer, A.F.L. Building Construction Trades Department, and Mr. Robert Byron, General President of the Sheet Metal Workers’ International Association, A.F.L all of Washington, D. C., were appointed to represent labor.

Alternate members were also named. Arthur D. Hill, Jr., Assistant Solicitor of Labor, was selected as alternate for Mr. Tracy, and William Haber, Assistant Director of the Program Division of the War Manpower Commission, was named alternate for Mr. Warren.

James D. Marshall, of Washington, D. C., Assistant Managing Director of the Associated General Contractors of America, Inc. was appointed alternate for both Mr. Butts and Mr. Miller, two of the industry members. H. R. Cole, of Washington, D. C., Executive Secretary of the Tile and Mantel Contractors Association of America, was appointed Mr. Geary’s alternate.

The labor alternates are: Michael Garrett, General Organizer, United Association of Journeymen Plumbers and Steamfitters, A.F.L; John W. Garvey, General Representative, International Hod Carriers, Building and Common Laborers’ Union, A.F.L and John McCurry, Assistant to the International President, International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, A.F.L.

House, 1,000,000 acres were set aside for the ranch, the company stocked it with imported short horn cattle, the shares became very valuable and everyone concerned in the venture did well in the deal.

The ranch was liquidated in 1911 and the Farwell Estate still owns about 300,000 acres.

Apparently Gustav Wilke was not paid in land unless a final payment may be so considered which consisted of land and building that has a frontage of sixty feet on Monroe near Franklin Street in Chicago.

Mr. J. V. Farwell, Jr., a graduate and Trustee of Yale University, bought 4,000 shares of the XIT Ranch of a dissatisfied British shareholder for $10,000.00 and later presented them to his alma mater which has realized $100,000 on these shares.

The Legislature of Texas expressed its entire satisfaction with the performance of the contract by the Farwells in a resolution signed by all of the members, commending them for executing the contract efficiently and promptly, and expressing the desire of the members to have Mr. John V. Farwell, Jr., and his wife visit Austin so that the members might have the pleasure of meeting them and thanking them in person.

The transaction is unique in the annals of capitol building. There is a simplicity and directness in the way the Legislature, the Farwells, the architect and contractors approached their task and pressed it to completion that sprang from the time and the faith that all of them had in the future greatness of Texas.

It is a record of imagination and courage.

Support the Architects’ Division of the War Chest Campaign

OCTOBER 26, 1943
SURVEY OF POST-WAR PLANNING

A $30,000,000,000 postwar construction program by the nation's cities is indicated by a recent survey of the National Association of Real Estate Boards.

The association said that in 287 cities studied there is approximately $1,500,000,000 of construction definitely planned as soon as war restrictions are lifted and materials available. For the combined population there is $516 of new building per person is planned.

Applying this average to the country as a whole, the association figured there is a deferred backlog of construction running well over $30,000,000,000.

Long-postponed public works, such as sewer systems, streets and hospitals which will take up to five years to complete, are the largest single group of projects well-assured for immediate post-war construction, the association stated.

Others high on the list are large airports.

Plans for privately-financed home building projects outbulk the ready-to-start public works programs in many of the cities in the survey and brought this comment from the association:

"Since we now have a dwelling shortage in some 88 per cent of our cities or a national shortage of about 1,000,000 housing units, private residential construction should certainly rise to first place as post-war building actually gets under way."
General Meeting of Michigan Architects
MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS
Jointly with Detroit Division M.S.A. and Detroit Chapter A.I.A.
RACKHAM MEMORIAL BUILDING
Tuesday, November 30  Dinner at 6:30 P.M.
All Architects Invited
A.I.A. Board Meets at 3:00 P.M.
M.S.A. Board Meets at 4:30 P.M.

Changes to By-Laws
At this meeting proposed changes to M.S.A. By-laws will be voted upon. They are as follows:

Article II, Section 3 now reads,
"The Board may elect honorary members from among the active members, except that not more than one such honorary member may be elected in any one calendar year."

It is proposed to strike out the words, "from among the active members."

Article XI, Section 10 now reads,
"For the purpose of making a complete financial report at the annual meeting, the fiscal year of the business of any of the aforesaid publications shall correspond with the fiscal year of the Society, beginning and closing on the first day of March of each year."

It is proposed to change, "beginning and closing on the first day of March of each year" to read, "which shall be the calendar year."

Article XIII, Section 3 refers to the Society's divisions and reads as follows,
"Membership shall be composed of active members of the Michigan Society of Architects residing, practicing or employed in the area, who have paid to the Division the annual dues for the current year."

It is proposed to add to this section the following: "Members of the Michigan Society of Architects who reside outside the state of Michigan and who wish to affiliate with any division of the Society may do so by paying the dues of the division to the treasurer of the division."

Purposes of Changes
The restriction of honorary membership to active members of the Society crept in to the by-laws through error. The Society now has honorary members who are not active members, and it is thought desirable to leave the way open for continuation of this in the future.

The fiscal year of the Society is being changed to the calendar year in accordance with action taken at the Society's last convention concerning unification, and is for the purpose of collecting dues for all state and local organizations by one source.

Reasons for providing that members outside the state may be affiliated with a division are self-evident.

DETROIT WAR CHEST
Charles N. Agree, who did such an outstanding job for the architects' division of the War Chest of Metropolitan Detroit last year has agreed to serve as chairman again this year. Talmage C. Hughes will be co-chairman and together they are asking the support of all who are willing to work as solicitors.

The going is bound to be harder this year—the need is greater, our budget is larger ($26,000), and the field has been reduced.

A meeting has been called for Saturday, October 30, at 12:30 p.m. on the fourth floor of the Detroit Leland Hotel, where luncheon will be served. Volunteers are invited to attend this organizational meeting.

We, as architects, form a group of individuals who are interested in bringing home to our fellow architects the importance of making as large contribution as is possible this year.

KAPP RE-ELECTED CHAPTER PRESIDENT
Eberle M. Smith was elected a new director of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., at its annual meeting in the Rackham Building, October 20. Joseph W. Lienweber, chapter secretary, was elected director of the Michigan Society of Architects, representing the Chapter. All other officers of the Chapter were reelected to serve for the ensuing year.

Smith, a graduate of the University of Michigan College of Architecture in 1927, has practiced in Detroit for the past eight years, until recently as Lyndon and Smith. His firm has won many national and international competitions and has been widely recognized for the progressive character of its work.

William E. Kapp presented an outline report of the executive committee indicating a most active year in all departments. He announced that chapter membership had increased by 40 per cent during the past year, now standing at 225, making it the Institute's second largest.

L. Robert Blakeslee, president of the Detroit Division of the Michigan Society of Architects, stated that since 80 per cent of the architects in the Detroit area are now Institute members, according to new by-laws of the organizations unification becomes automatic. The only remaining detail is to take steps to combine the groups.

Branson V. Camber, member of the Detroit City Plan Commission and chairman of the Architects' Civic Design Group, reported on progress of the group's city plan studies being made under the direction of Mr. Eliel Saarinen. He urged more members to participate.

Watts A. Shelly, executive secretary of the State Board of Registration for Architects, Professional Engineers and Land Surveyors, spoke on "Observations on the Practice of Architecture and Engineering." He announced that, in the interest of raising the standards of registration, henceforth examinations will cover a period of four days.

Telegram to:
American Institute of Architects and
Michigan Society of Architects,
Rackham Memorial Building, Detroit

COMPLIMENTS AND BEST WISHES FOR CONTINUED SUCCESS OF A TRULY VIGOROUS AND ALIVE BRANCH OF THE ARCHITECTURAL PROFESSION.

RAYMOND J. ASHTON, Pres.
The American Institute of Architects

NEW CASTLE HIRES SAARINEN AND SWANSON
Saarinen and Swanson, world-renowned architects and town planners, have been engaged by the New Castle, Indiana Planning Commission as consultants.

This is the result of action taken by the city council when it authorized and requested the planning commission to make a contract with Saarinen and Swanson, of Detroit, to make the master plan which will guide the development of the city in all its phases.

The survey on which the new plan will be based will include studies of disease, crime and other social problems of the community. It will take up the matter of traffic, the inadequacy of parking facilities, the dangerous presence of heavy-traffic on residential streets, the failure to provide through streets on which fast traffic can move.

Mexican architects are offering a prize for the ugliest house in the City of Mexico. Hope to create an interest in good architecture.

October 26, 1945
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