FRANKLIN D. ROOSEVELT planned it very carefully. One day in 1942 he cast a critical eye at the East Terrace of the White House and decided alterations were needed. Thoughtfully he put his plans on paper, and a blueprint was drawn.

Now you might assume that when the President's wishes were known, plasterers, painters and carpenters would suddenly swarm over the White House. But not at all. Mr. Roosevelt, then wielding the greatest power of any Chief Executive in history, first consulted the National Commission of Fine Arts.

Power rested with seven little-known men whose shadowy influence affects not only the White House but every public building and monument erected in the great city of Washington. The seven pored over Mr. Roosevelt's plans. The verdict? "Sorry, Mr. President, but as your plans now stand we cannot approve them."

"What's the trouble?" asked Mr. Roosevelt.

"Those columns you'd like for the Terrace entrance would be out of place." The seven men who vetoed a President's blueprint are an organization possessed of a curious power. They can change a President's mind; they have the ear of Congress; every government department with the exception of Labor and Justice has said yes to them; they have the ear of Congress; every government department with the exception of Labor and Justice has called for their services; and each year their opinions affect the spending of millions of dollars of your money.

Yet to the public they remain unknown. Nor do they have an employer, except in the case of a President. Power rested with seven little-known men whose shadowy influence affects not only the White House but every public building and monument erected in the great city of Washington. The seven pored over Mr. Roosevelt's plans. The verdict? "Sorry, Mr. President, but as your plans now stand we cannot approve them."

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Relief from the oppressive rent controls now in effect by action of the next Congress was predicted last week by Sen. Albert W. Hawkes (R., N. J.). He told trustees of the National Home and Property Owners Foundation from all parts of the country at their meeting in Washington that prompt adjustments in rent levels were needed "in keeping with other adjustments that have been made in our American economy since the close of the war."

Government officials, as well as members of Congress, Mr. Hawkes said, had placed "shelter in a different category than food and clothing" in price fixing. "I have searched my mind to find why the American people should be willing to freeze rents at abnormally low rates . . . at the same time government has permitted increases in wages and all the costs of materials which the home owner and landlord must purchase in order to keep his property in rentable condition. I have been able to find no justification for such a course, and it is for that reason that I believe the American people will wish to see justice done."

The trustees adopted a resolution calling upon President Truman to "remove Wilson Wyatt from his position as housing expeditor immediately," declaring that the veterans' housing program "has failed completely" and that his activities have discouraged and impeded the home building industry. Their resolution declared that "only by removing immediately all the controls that have completely choked off the flow of building materials and have discouraged the enterprise of business men can we again provide our people with the finest housing accommodations in the world."

The resolution asked the President also to "direct all federal agencies that are connected with housing to revoke all controls that are acting as a drag on the building industry" and to "remove from the federal service all persons who are discrediting or impeding private construction for the purpose of making public housing acceptable to the people."

Other resolutions passed demanded the elimination of rent control and other wartime restrictions, the weeding out and discharge of federal employees who are Communists or Communist sympathizers, the elimination of the FHA from the control of any other federal agency concerned with housing, a constitutional limitation upon the size of the national debt, and a restriction keeping governmental peacetime spending within the income provided from current taxation.

Presidents of 110 real estate boards from 39 states, after the last issue of Headlines went to press, adopted in their Washington meeting a resolution calling for the abolition of all wartime controls including rent control, by the federal government not later than March 31, 1947.

The resolution incorporated demands of two others passed a day earlier—an immediate increase of a minimum of 15 per cent in residential rents and immediate elimination of all price ceilings and rent controls on new residential construction. It proposed also a method of decontrol which would cushion for the tenants the shock which results when any control is removed and would protect them from unreasonable action by a few unscrupulous property owners.

The resolution adopted by the board presidents follows:

"Resolved, That it be our first task to get rid of all wartime controls, including rent control, by the federal government not later than March 31, 1947, the method of decontrol of residential rents to be:

"That as a matter of fundamental justice and emergency relief, we demand an immediate increase of a minimum of 15 per cent in residential rents; and that all existing housing units whose owners will give or offer to give occupants a firm lease under local law of at least 12 months from March 31, 1947, with an average monthly rental not more than 15 per cent higher than the rent as of September 1, 1946, such housing units shall forthwith be decontrolled and stricken from federal registration and jurisdiction; and that we urge immediate elimination of all price ceilings and rent controls on new residential construction."

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Harold D. Davenport

Harold Dalziel Davenport, AIA, of Detroit, died on Sept. 17, at the age of 53. He was born in Grand Rapids, where he attended school. Later he entered Michigan State College and finished at the University of Michigan. He traveled and studied in England, France, Italy and Germany on a scholarship from the University of Illinois.

His early experience was gained in the offices of Lee Clark of Grand Rapids, Louis Boynton of Ann Arbor, and Horace H. Lane of Detroit.

He entered the Lane office in 1917 and became a partner together with A. A. Peterson in the firm of Lane, Davenport & Peterson in 1922. In 1933 the present firm of Lane, Davenport and Meyer was formed including Earl G. Meyer, AIA. The firm's offices are at 806 Farwell Building, Detroit, the family home at 163 Grove Ave., Highland Park.

Harold Davenport was registered as an architect in Michigan, by examination, in 1925. Active in civic affairs, he had served as president of the Uptown Lions Club, in Detroit. He was a member of Zion Lodge, F. & A. M., Moslem Temple Shrine, and Leader Dog League for the Blind. Of the last named he had been president and most active in lecturing with illustrations by his colored movies. He was also a member of The American Institute of Architects (Detroit Chapter), Michigan Society of Architects, Detroit Boat Club, Sons of American Revolution, Pine Lake Country Club, Houghton Study Club (past-president), and the University Club of Ann Arbor.

His firm had done hundreds of schools, churches and other buildings throughout Michigan, including an addition to the Michigan Union at Ann Arbor and dormitories there.

Early this year he had been in Florida for his health.

His wife, Katherine, survives.
Detroit Chapter Hears of Ultraviolet

Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects held the first of its 1946-47 series of meetings on Sept. 18 at the Rackham Building.

President Ditchy presided and conducted a brief business session before the feature of the evening. He announced that two nominating committees had been named to prepare slates of officers for the Chapter's annual meeting in October. The committee named by the president consists of Henry F. Stanton, chairman; Frederic A. Fairbrother and William E. Kapp. The Board's committee consists of Andrew R. Morison, chairman; Joseph A. Leinweber and C. William Palmer.

The president also mentioned the roster of architects being prepared by The Institute, and informed members that the Chapter's Executive Committee had approved of it and recommended compliance. In case members have mislaid the forms additional copies may be obtained by writing The Octagon in Washington.

Gordon A. Shell showed colored slides of photographs he took at the Michigan Society of Architects' Summer Meeting at Grand Hotel, Mackinac Island, August 2 and 3. They were enthusiastically received as showing considerable thought from the standpoint of colors and composition.

The main program was an illustrated talk by Mr. A. Paulus, District Engineer, Lamp Division, Westinghouse Electric Corporation. He spoke on "Air Sanitization by Ultraviolet," and illustrated his lecture with exhibits, slides and a motion picture, "The Bugaboo of Bugville." In a most interesting way he covered the theory of bacteria-killing by means of ultraviolet and discussed in detail some of the many applications, with particular emphasis on air sanitization for the prevention of cross infection in offices, schools, etc. This included coverage of air conditioning systems and room irradiation from fixtures.

Your Board would like to call attention to an injustice that is being done by members making reservations and not attending or cancelling. It is necessary to notify the management at ESD by 9 a.m. the day before the meeting. In order to do this the Chapter goes to the expense of sending double government cards to 518 members, for reservations. On this occasion we had 83 reservations, ESD had set-ups for 95. With reservations that came in late there were 91. However, only 73 members "showed." This meant that, in addition to the cost of the cards and subsidizing 78 of each member's dinner, the Chapter had to pay for ten dinners not served, a total of $80. This is not fair. When we guarantee the matter seriously. The "no-shows" have a 10 per cent leeway. The trouble seems to be that members just don't take the matter seriously. The "no-shows" have been entirely too many and the Board may consider billing those who make reservations and do not show, though we would hate to do this, for it would tend to discourage attendance.

William F. Goodrich

William Frederick Goodrich, AIA, Detroit architect, died on Sept. 21 at the age of 60. Born in Bay City, Mich., Aug. 6, 1886, he received his early education there in the public schools, and was apprenticed in the architectural offices of Clark & Munger, and Clarence Cowles. His family moved to Detroit and he became employed by Albert Kahn; Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, and Gustave A. Mueller.

While at Albert Kahn's it was his good fortune to come under the paternal notice of "Pop" Wilby, who advised him as to his future studies in architecture. This resulted in his training in modeling and sculpture under Alfred Nygard, and drawing and painting under John Wicker.

Upon entering his own practice in 1911, also through the Kahn office came a recommendation from Jesse Hirshman for William Goodrich to design the interiors of the cruise ship North American for the Great Lakes Engineering Works at Ecorse. Here he made full use of his art training on both the architectural detail and in painting 60 of its mural panels.

William Goodrich did much for his country. In 1917 he gave up his architectural practice and was commissioned First Lieutenant in the 30th U. S. Engineers and he became assistant to Major George Oakley Totten, a noted architect of Washington, D.C. He was past national vice-commander, Chemical Warfare Veterans Association, and past commander of General William Mitchell Post No. 349, American Legion. He returned to his practice of architecture after the war, but World War II again found him serving his country as civilian employee of the Selfridge Field (Mich.) Post Engineers' Office.

For eight years he was first lieutenant in the United States Engineers Reserve. His offices were at 523 Hammond Building, Detroit, his home at 1841 Garfield Road, Mount Clemens. He was a member of The American Institute of Architects (Detroit Chapter) and the Michigan Society of Architects.

Producers' Council, Michigan Chapter, Fall Program

Dear Producer:

The war is over, we hope and all Producers' are gradually returning to their pre-war activities in the building industry. Our president, Joe Busse, is anxious to have the Producers' Council, Michigan Chapter, get back its pre-war vitality and he hopes that the following Fall program will be a good start in that direction:

MONDAY, OCT. 14, 1946—Luncheon 12 o'clock noon, Wardell-Sheraton Hotel. Program sponsored by the Libbey-Owens-Ford Glass Co. A technicolor motion picture of the manufacture of all types of glass will be shown.

MONDAY, NOV. 11, 1946—Luncheon 12 o'clock noon, Wardell-Sheraton Hotel. Program sponsored by Detroit Steel Products. Mr. W. C. Randall will give an illustrated talk which will demonstrate the natural trend toward Modular Coordination and some of its economic advantages.

FRIDAY, DEC. 20, 1946—From 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Wardell-Sheraton Hotel. Election of Officers, a buffet luncheon and a cocktail party to celebrate the coming of Christmas. P. R. MARSHALL, Chairman, Program Committee, 610 New Center Bldg., Detroit 2, Mich.: Phone TR. 1-8100.
FINE ARTS
Continued from Page 1

on designs exceeding $18,000,000. And they saw to it that every taxpayer's dollar added in some way to a more attractive Washington.

In 1917, Congress was startled to learn that it annually appropriated more than $500,000 for schools, fire—engine houses and police stations in the District of Columbia. These buildings, mushrooming around Washington could easily detract from the appearance of the city. Therefore, the Commission was asked to pass on all plans for municipal buildings.

When a number of schoolhouses were planned in archaic Elizabethan style, members of the Commission shook their heads sadly. No, they reported, "the erection throughout the District of buildings designed after an unusual, inharmonious and incongruous style of architecture" would be in poor taste. The blueprints were changed from Elizabethan to Colonial.

When the good citizens of Pennsylvania wished to donate a fountain to Pennsylvania Avenue, it wasn't as easy as it sounded. The design for the fountain, its location and care of surrounding grounds were first considered. Only then was approval given. And when Congress authorized a fish market on the waterfront and submitted plans to the Commission, the seven put their collective feet down. Definitely no! The building planned was entirely out of harmony with the rest of Washington's architecture. A new blueprint was drawn before the building was erected.

In 1930, the Commission had additional duties assigned them. The reason was the Shipstead-Luce Act, whereby any plans for private buildings facing even in part upon the grounds of the Capitol, White House or vicinity had to be submitted to the Commission.

This bill is unique in American law in that it allows the Commission control over the height of private buildings. Its purpose was—and is—to prevent any construction detrimental to the Capital's dignity. Advertising signs on buildings or vacant lots were limited to 25 square feet. No roof billboards were permitted. Glaring red signs were outlawed.

When the news was made public, a storm broke around the Commission. Signmakers protested bitterly. Business firms were up in arms as they saw their dreams of skyscrapers go glimmering. Angry voices were raised. Court proceedings were threatened.

The Commission remained polite but firm. No skyscrapers. No blatant billboards. Gradually the clamor died down, particularly when the Commission gently pointed out one historical fact: that these very same restrictions were urged long ago by a farsighted man who was not only interested in building a Capitol but concerned with its artistic appeal as well. That man was George Washington.

Realizing that the White House is visited by a vast throng of distinguished visitors, the Commission keeps close watch over all activities there. When an oil painting was authorized for $2,500, the Commission reported on the two submitted. "Both portraits fall so far below the standard of the best portraits in the White House that the Commission is unable to recommend the purchase. They are not satisfactory as likenesses, and they do not reach a satisfactory standard of painting."

This refusal to tolerate shoddy work is in the best tradition of the Commission. Long ago their creed was stated in the words of Daniel Burnham. "Make no little plans," he said. "Aim high in hope and work, remembering that a noble, logical development once recorded will never die. Let your watchword be order and your beacon beauty."

With this code in mind, the critical eyes of Washington's guardians have passed judgment on millions of dollars in designs, and caused a soaring improvement in the artistic character of the District of Columbia. But members of the Commission are not dreamy-eyed aesthetes. They realize a city is to be lived in as well as admired. To that end Washington has not only sublime statues and monuments, but also attractive schools, libraries, hospitals, colleges, bridges, flagpoles, plaques on memorials, statuary, murals, police stations, incinerators, street lights, gasoline stations and swimming pools.

The late Senator Elihu Root, inspecting Washington in 1935, reported that the Commission had "saved the government and the community from God knows how many atrocities."

They have accomplished this, amazingly enough, with no greater authority than that of unfailing good taste. For the Commission does not have the power of absolute veto, and strong opposition could, theoretically, upset their decisions. Yet seldom has their judgment been overruled. A "no" from the Commission means halt, reconsider, and revise your plans.

A great many Acts of Congress have been adopted in 36 years, requiring that the Commission of Fine Arts be consulted. In providing for World War I memorials in 1923, Congress gave the Commission actual veto power over designs. Similarly, with World War II memorials on the way and this time 35 fighting fronts to be considered—the Commission will have the same, but greater, responsibility. The Commission has also been consulted on Army and Navy medals, and by the Director of the Mint since 1921 on designs for U. S. coins.

Plans for post-war Washington are in the making, and because the pulse of the nation beats in Washington, the city is more than a show place or resort. It is the pride of every American. In the history of the Commission you may read a record of accomplishment—a record which stands eloquently for selfless service by outstanding artists of our time.
STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACTS OF CONGRESS OF AUG. 24, 1912, AND MAR. 3, 1933

Weekly Bulletin, Michigan Society of Architects, published semi-weekly, and weekly publications only.

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, Editor, Managing Editor, and business managers are:

Publisher, Weekly Bulletin, Michigan Society of Architects.

Editor, Talmage C. Hughes, 120 Madison Avenue, Detroit 26, Mich.

Managing Editor, Nane.

Business Manager, William W. Schumacher, 120 Madison Avenue, Detroit 26, Mich.

2. That the owner is: If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately following the name and addresses of all stockholders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the name and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, a partnership, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.


3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company or the names and addresses of the individual bondholders, mortgagees, and security holders must be given. If none, so state.

M. L. ENOS.

(Seal.) (My commission expires Nov. 22, 1947.)

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owner, 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 name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting. It is given, also, that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustees, hold stock and securities in any capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the 12 months preceding the date shown above is 936. This information is required from daily, tri-weekly, semi-weekly, and weekly publications only.

TALMAGE C. HUGHES, Editor and Publisher.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 20th day of September, 1946.

M. L. ENOS.

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Membership Roster—Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects

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Volume 20

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OCTOBER 8, 1946
Not Wren's

RICHMOND, Va. . . In 1716, Hugh Jones, professor of mathematics at William and Mary college, attributed the central building to Sir Christopher Wren, and today it's known as the Wren building in the Rockefeller-restored city of Williamsburg.

But Prof. Jones was mistaken, according to Architect Waterman, expert in historic buildings, who was associated with the firm of Perry-Shaw & Hepburn, on the restoration work.

Author of a new book, "The Mansions of Virginia," Waterman observed: "The Wren building was planned as a quadrangle, a plan Wren never used and for which he had the greatest contempt. In one case when called upon to design a building around a court, he said, 'If they insist on it, let's make it three-sided, like a milk maid's stool.'"

Prof. Jones, Waterman asserted, was the sole source of the Wren tradition and ascribed the wrong building to the royal architect. Waterman believes the colonial governor's palace was the work of Wren, because of its architectural similarity to other Wren buildings.

Michigan Architects on National Committees

The Board of Directors of The American Institute of Architects has announced the personnel of its committees for the year 1946-47. Members of the Detroit Chapter and the committees on which they hold membership are as follows:

Clair W. Ditchy, FAIA: Jury of Fellows, and Committee on By-Laws (chairman).

Eero Saarinen: Architectural Competitions, and Committee on Allied Arts (chairman).

Branson V. Gamber, FAIA, Committee on Unification (chairman).

Talmage C. Hughes, FAIA, Committee on Public Information (chairman).

Alvin E. Harley, Committee on Industrial Relations (chairman).

Elle Saarinen, FAIA, Committee on United Nations Center.

Wells I. Bennett, Committee on Education.

Henry F. Stanton, FAIA, Committee on Professional Practice.

George M. McConkey and John C. Thornton, Committee on Cooperation with Technical Committees.

Bery Architect of Month

George J. Bery, AIA, of 24050 Roanoke Road, Ferndale, has been selected as "Architect of the Month" at the Ernst Kern Company's Civic Center for House Planners, it is announced by Clair W. Ditchy, FAIA, president of the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects.

Edwin J. Brunner, Secretary-Manager of the Detroit Chapter, is coordinator of the project.

Bery was graduated from the University of Michigan in 1938. He became registered as an architect by examination in 1940, and worked in the offices of various Detroit architectural firms. He is the sixth in the series chosen for the "Architect of the Month" display at the Kern Department store. A perspective and floor plans of his "House of the Month" will be on display at the store throughout October.

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Detroit 1
What does Modular Coordination mean to you?

Well—if you have ever made the effort of fitting stock materials, then you are acutely conscious of the need for coordinated dimensions. If you have not, then you may not realize that there is not very much harmony in prevailing standards.

There exists such problems as adjusting positions of walls, "humoring" joints, etc. But what can the architect do when sizes of building products are unrelated? Some items like windows can be specially designed at premium cost—or there must be cutting and fitting in the field. Up to now, only two things could result from the architect's efforts to get things to fit—excessive waste of a draftsman's time or waste of material on the job.

Now what about the problem from the viewpoint of the producer of the new products? He would like to provide the architect with materials which would fit into the layout easily and without juggling. But there are so many producers and so many architects that a meeting of the minds has seemed a Herculean—if not impossible task.

The coordination of countless combinations of materials requires a basis that is universally and uniformly applicable. This basis must guide manufacturers in determining the sizes for their products and must provide architects with a direct relationship between these sizes and building dimensions.

To make possible a cooperative industry approach to these problems, the American Standards Association, Project A62, was born and given the assignment of dimensional coordination. As a result of the committee's diligent work, coordinated sizes for masonry units of clay and concrete, solid section metal windows and double-hung wood windows have been determined and the producing industries have announced that these modular products are or soon will be available. In short, the project has developed coordination to the point where you can use it now with great advantage. To assist you in planning postwar building, let us examine some of the underlying and basic principles.

Mr. Lorimer was born in Scotland and received his engineering and architectural training in Scottish schools and at the University of Glasgow. After he came to this country, he worked on several projects and finally in 1940 he was named Chief of the Bureau of Architecture of the New York City Department of Public Works. In this post, he heads the design program for millions of dollars worth of public buildings and hospitals in which modular coordination is being utilized. Not only his accent but his approach to the problem are frankly Scotch. He is enthusiastic about the economies—more buildings for less money.

See LORIMER—Page 3
Ferro-Therm Insulation

Returns from War Service

Michiganders thinking of building new houses or improving the comforts of old ones will be interested to know that Ferro-Therm Steel insulation is now available again. After doing an outstanding job during the war in many Army, Navy, and Aircraft company stratosphere and static Cold Rooms, ranging in temperatures from 183 degrees above zero to 125 degrees below zero.

H. Rogolje, of the Reflective Insulation Company, located at 2832 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit, dealers and applicants for southeastern Michigan, outlines the following advantages of this modern reflective insulation.

Ferro-Therm is an especially manufacured sheet of No. 38 gauge U.S.S. Steel with a lead and tin alloy coating. It reflects 90 to 95 percent of all radiated heat. Radiation is by far the greatest heat-carrying medium, and Ferro-Therm reflects 90 to 95 percent of all radiated heat, this makes it the outstanding summer and winter insulation. The heat literally "bounces off." Ferro-Therm will not absorb moisture. It will not, therefore, lose efficiency by moisture absorption, such being the case in many mass types of insulation. The reflection of radiated heat by Ferro-Therm sheets actually keeps the air space on either side of the sheets dry and warm by convective currents; and, being non-absorbent, it eliminates dry rot. This serves to keep the plaster on the walls and on the ceilings in good condition. It affords the fire protection of steel. It is vermin and rodent proof. It is odorless and will not absorb or hold odors. Its users can be assured of permanent efficient insulation for the life of the building. Ferro-Therm is FHA approved and specified on many large housing projects.

Sixth Golf Outing, Birmingham Golf Club, Tues., Oct. 15, 1946

This will be "OLD TIMERS" DAY. Every one of you, please contact at least one old timer of the industry and urge him to attend and see to it that he gets there. Don't forget—architects, contractors, suppliers.

Putting Contest for Old Timers. Special entertainment at the dinner. Golf and prizes, $2.50; dinner $3.15. For reservations call E. J. Brunner at Randolph 5500.

Dean Heads Naval Unit

FRANK E. DEAN, AIA, Albion Architect, who served as a commander in the Navy, has been named commanding officer of the 200-man unit of the Navy's ready reserve to be organized at Battle Creek within the next few weeks. Dean expects a few Albian men to be affiliated with the unit. It will be activated within a short time.

New Book by Saarinen

Eliel Saarinen, FAIA, is writing a new book, "The Search for Form," which will be published by Reinhold Publishing Corporation. Mr. Saarinen is also the author of "The City—Its Growth, Its Decay, Its Future." Chief among his views on city planning is that cities should be decentralized and split into small separate units, which concept is advocated also by scientists as the only possible defense against atomic bombs.

Bulletin—

In recent issues of the Bulletin you printed a couple of articles by Ed Brunner entitled "Let Us Not Dally With Danger." I wouldn't for a moment question the seriousness of Ed's message. But when I saw the word "daily" in print for the first time in years and when I noticed the alliteration Ed achieved by using it in combination with the word "danger" my thought processes really went on a rampage.

Dally is a wonderful word. In fact it is a dilly. And because it is a dilly it leads one into all sorts of lyric possibilities like "Leave us not daily with Dilly." A good song title if I ever saw one! Or, "Leave Dilly dally with us, dearie." Or, "Shall we dilly-dally with Dilly or simply dally?" And you can carry on from there yourself.

I wonder if Roger Allen has had any thoughts on this subject? Yours for better and better alliterated articles.

Sincerely,

Anonymous.

Taylor Elected

Lee E. Taylor, senior engineer of the lighting division of the Detroit Edison Company, has been elected a vice-president of the Illuminating Engineering Society.

INdiana State Board of Registration for Architects has named W. Martin Pohlmeier, of Fort Wayne, to succeed his brother Fred W. Pohlmeier who withdrew from the Board because of ill health.

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On Institute Membership

The following letter was received from Mr. Hiram J. Kaufman, AIA, in response to a letter from the executive secretary of the Detroit Chapter, AIA, requesting that he reconsider his resignation.

Many of us were optimistic that the new AIA might be an improvement over the old organization, but apparently it has gone back to the same old tactics of control by a few and reactionary politics instead of a democratic group with progressive policies, as shown by their raising the dues, with the expectation of much higher dues next year, without a vote of the membership, the political support of certain bills in Congress, support of the so-called "Free Enterprise" racket, which does not mean the free enterprise of all but of the few at the exploitation of many, the recent attempt to limit the design of large public hospitals to a few architects as endorsed by the AIA, which is political and not architectural.

The architects should be big enough to stand on their own merit or fall instead of being in tow of the Producers' Council, which is probably related to the National Association of Manufacturers which was so active in breaking down OPA instead of improving it, and the inflation following it which is such a calamity for masses of people. No doubt political pressure requires a lot of money and I would not object if I were convinced that it would be used to benefit those who need it most rather than those who need it little or not at all.

Employed architects should not forget that under NRA the AIA endorsed the rate of pay for senior architectural draftsmen at 50c per hour and a 40-hour week, without reducing their own commissions, as an economic step backward rather than forward, and this was only half the rate in most offices during the lowest part of the depression.

All organizers stress "Unification" but "Unification" and "Regimentation" are spelled similarly and often mean the same thing.

The foregoing is a plain and direct statement of fact and not a sales talk to influence others or to interfere with their line of thought, but there are many who will agree and the membership will be reduced as the dues are raised and as money is used politically. Perhaps things may be better after the next test of political power is demonstrated and those who control will start to build up rather than to tear down.
Ingersoll Village Opened

Ingersoll Village, the World's Fair of postwar housing designed around the sen-sational new Ingersoll Utility Unit, was opened to the press during the last week and newspaper men were given an opportunity to view the twelve demonstration houses which are believed to bridge the gap between yesterday's experiments and tomorrow's realities in home building.

The houses were designed, built and paid for at the expense of Ingersoll Steel Division, Borg-Warner Corp., and were under construction and test for months, while Ingersoll engineers satisfied themselves that the new heart of the home measured up to its drawing board concept and to the intricate mass production pattern of manufacturing.

The Ingersoll Utility Units consolidate and integrate all essential utilities and appliances needed in the mechanics of living. The core is 77 inches high accessible wall between the various parts of the house. The core is 77 inches high and 90 inches long.

The houses shown at Kalamazoo this week were designed by famous architects to demonstrate the extreme flexibility of the unit in a variety of conventional and contemporary designs—some of them extremely well known, others tending toward the modern. They are beautifully furnished and either lived in or ready to live in.

The Ingersoll Utility Unit rests on the main living floor in all the houses at Ingersoll Village. It is characteristic of the Utility Unit that it dispenses with the necessity for both basements and chimneys but does not prevent the homeowner from having them if sentiment governs his housing desires.

Here only one house has a basement and it is equipped elaborately as a family hobby and rumpus room but still the hot air furnace is on the ground floor and heat is forced down through a duct. The other houses are on concrete slabs built to floor level except for the slight depression where the utilities are brought up from the ground to be attached to the central core. The flooring frequently is asphalt tile, in some cases laid directly on the slab, in others raised above it by an air space. All the slabs are insulated from the foundation walls.

Here is a report on the houses and the architects' ideas:

J. Fletcher Lankton's No. 1 basic design: A handsome efficient little one-storey rectangular structure divided into two main areas by the Ingersoll utility unit and storage walls. Car port with ample storage or hobby room space. House expandable in fine balance with design for three bedrooms which can be added one or two at a time. This is more and more accepted as the All-American choice for the new G.I. family to start life or the retiring couple to live in comfort, convenience and economy.

J. Fletcher Lankton's No. 2 two-story modified Cape Cod: An old favorite conventional exterior with three small dormers in front, broad dormer in rear, and two ground-floor wings, bedroom-study at left, garage at right: upstairs two bedrooms and divided bath. House occupied by a family since January 1. Its designer leads in sensing buyers' moods toward advancements. He has incorporated many new ideas in this interior.

J. Fletcher Lankton's No. 3 modified Cape Cod: Identical with No. 2 except that it has a basement heated from Utility Unit on the ground floor and used for play. House occupied by family with three children.

Alden B. Dow's Midland contemporary basic: Single story, two bedrooms. Exterior presents unique modern touch because Dow has sloped his main windows outward from foundation to the wide eaves. Interior effect is spaciousness and broad vistas. Flexible cabinet-wall interior and many built-ins.

Alden B. Dow's expanded: Same design theme with addition of third bedroom and garage at one end, porch at other.

Harwell Hamilton Harris' California ranch style: Single story with three bedrooms, two patios and garage. Incorporates radiant-heating experimental devices and will be kept as a laboratory this winter.

A house of architectural innovations.

George Fred Keck's solar house: Single-story with two bedrooms. This is Keck's ultimate in engineering for combination solar and radiant heating embodying new controls for sudden overheating. Handsome L-shaped structure including garage. Ingersoll retaining this house for experiments.

Edward D. Stone's two-bedroom modified Southern: Main living space on second floor, a sharp departure which produces interesting possibilities. First-floor is family hobby space and garage, including unique open fireplace for indoor picnics, also gracious reception hall for stairs to second story. Extremely livable for 'teen age or younger family with strenuous activities.

Hugh Stubbins Jr.'s basic: Efficient one-story home given distinction by architectural ingenuity. Designer carries outdoor pattern into the house such as a stone wall repeated from both sides the front entrance, flagstone paving carried into the dining area with only huge windows intervening and redwood paneling continued from an external wall to an internal partition. It has many subtle advantages and grows more attractive with familiarity.

Hugh Stubbins Jr.'s expanded: A 65 per cent cubic expansion provides a unique across-the-house play and hobby room with two bedrooms and a bathroom back of it. The master bedroom, open in the basic, is enclosed and enlarged in the expanded and so is the living room. Pergola and detached garage. The house achieves aesthetic interest and, in spite of great window areas, provides seclusion.

Royal Barry Wills' Cape Cod colonial: Two story with master bedroom on each floor. Identical Ingersoll Utility Unit bathrooms on first and second floors. This house is typical of what Wills has made known as the New England colonial atmosphere, even to the appendage at the front which once served for cord-wood storage. Attractive breezeway and detached garage complete a design found most agreeable by sentimentalists. Antique furnishings.

L. Morgan Yost's prairie type modern: An intriguing, ingenious arrangement of maximum usefulness with an axial hall embracing a duality of function over its entire course from front entrance to the two bedrooms and bath at the rear. An interesting clerestory window lights the kitchen and the hallway where the Ingersoll Utility Unit's laundry is concealed. This is the only house that gives external expression to the Ingersoll Utility Unit in the form of a flat deck directly over the utility core protecting its ventilation and enhancing the interplay of roof planes. Ingersoll is keeping it for further winter tests.
Pioneers Honored

Fourteen pioneers who contributed to the advancement of dimensional coordination of building materials and equipment were honored on Sept. 26 at a luncheon held in connection with the annual meeting of the Producers' Council being held at the Hotel Pennsylvania, in New York.

Citations were presented to the honored individuals by L. C. Hart, President of The Council, and James R. Edmunds, Jr., President of the American Institute of Architects, as representatives of the two organizations which have sponsored the dimensional coordination project, and by Dr. F. G. Agnew, vice president and secretary of the American Standards Association.

The pioneers receiving citations were M. W. Adams, executive secretary and general manager of the Modular Service Association; Theodore Irving Coe, Technical Secretary of the American Institute of Architects; E. W. Dienhart, Executive Secretary of the National Concrete Masonry Association; Max H. Foley, Architect; James W. Pollin, Managing Director of the Producers' Council; Frederick G. Frost, Sr., Architect; Frederick Heath, Jr., Consultant, National Housing Agency; A. Gordon Lorimer, Chief Architect, Department of Public Works of New York City; Harry Flummer, Director of Engineering and Research, Structural Clay Products Institute; W. C. Randall, Chief Engineer, Detroit Steel Products Company; W. M. Steinbauer, former Secretary-Manager of the National Door Manufacturers' Association; and Henry Wright, Managing Editor of the Architectural Forum.

In addition, a posthumous citation was presented to the family of Albert Farwell Remis, former industrialist and pioneer exponent of standardization.

Tyler S. Rogers, Vicer President of the Council and Chairman of its Technical Committee, presided at the luncheon and paid tribute to the pioneers and their work.

"It is due to the farsighted efforts of these pioneers that such outstanding progress has been made in coordinating the dimensions of materials," he said. "Their work will result in a gradual but important reduction in the cost of building and at the same time improve the quality of construction. Building costs will be reduced because materials will be dimensioned to fit together with a minimum of waste of materials and effort, because manufacturers will be able to produce fewer sizes and thus will realize greater benefits from mass production, and because manufacturers and distributors will have fewer sizes of materials to carry in stock.

"The quality of construction will improve because materials will be designed to fit together more harmoniously and because difficult problems of designing will be simplified for the architect.

"It is most fortunate that the fruits of dimensional coordination should just be starting to become available at a time when building costs have increased due to causes beyond the control of the building industry. The savings which will result from the efforts of these men over the years will help to solve one of the most difficult problems faced by the construction industry, and the benefits will be shared by thousands of future owners of new construction and by the public at large."
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*The kitchen of Lambard’s Restaurant, 13223 West McNichols. Another fine Detroit restaurant with an all-Gas kitchen. Note battery of gas-fired deep fat fryers at right.*
DETOUR CHAPTR, A.I.A., ANNUAL MEETING
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 21

Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects will hold its 59th Annual Meeting and election of officers at the Rackham Memorial Building on the evening of Thursday, October 24, 1946. Established in 1887, the Detroit Chapter has had a long and distinguished career. Today it is second in size only to the New York Chapter.

We wish to pay tribute to those officers and directors who, after serving their allotted time, will retire from office at this Annual Meeting. President Clair W. Ditchy, Secretary Owen A. Luckenbach and Treasurer Julian R. Cowin have each served two terms and will be succeeded by others. Eberle M. Smith has completed a three-year term as a member of the Executive Committee. That they have served well is undoubtedly known to members, but the full extent of their services is not too well known. It, therefore, would be a fitting tribute for every member to attend this meeting.

Herewith are some of the reports of officers and committees covering a portion of the work done during the past year:

Report of the Secretary, Owen A. Luckenbach

As with everyone, the past Chapter year has been very busy, but withal a successful one. Membership in the Chapter has reached an all-time high, with eight Fellows, two Emeritus, one Fellow and Emeritus and 407 Corporate members for a total of 418 Corporate members. With 76 Associates, 19 Student Associates, one Honorary and one Chapter—Only member we now have a grand total of 515 members. This is the largest membership the Chapter has ever had and are we now the second largest Chapter in the country. During the past year George D. Mason and Wirt C. Rowland were made Members Emeritus and Talmage Hughes was made a Fellow. Ernest Wilby was made an Honorary Fellow of the Royal Architectural Institute of Canada, an affiliate of the R.I.B.A.

It is with regret that we have to report the loss of our members through death. (See CHAPTER—Page 2)
Chapter—
(Continued from Page 1)
The following friends and associates were lost this year:
Frank C. Baldwin, a former member and later an Honorary member.
Harold D. Davenport.
A. W. Eslingler.
William F. Goodrich.
Richard H. Harr.
J. Campbell Morrison.
Dalton R. Wells.
The Chapter has been continuing its work and cooperation with civic authorities and professional groups. We are an active member of the Inter-Professional Council, an organization made up of Representatives of the Wayne County Medical Society, Detroit District Dental Society, Detroit Bar Association, American Institute of Architects, Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, Detroit Teachers Association and the Engineering Society of Detroit. The Council is active in promoting matters of individual and mutual interest to the profession.
We have been cooperating with and are a member of the Construction Industry Council which is attempting to create an over-all organization of all groups of the construction industry. We hope that the C.I.C. can and will devote itself to matters of actual help to the construction industry.
As always, the Chapter is interested in civic affairs, and actively supports the Architects' Civic Design group, which is studying and working on Town Planning in the hope of guiding and helping the cause of Town Planning as it relates to the Detroit Metropolitan area. Before long, graphic results of this group's efforts will be presented to the Chapter and the public.
There has been a tendency, especially in civic affairs, and actively supports the Architects' Civic Design group, which is studying and working on Town Planning in the hope of guiding and helping the cause of Town Planning as it relates to the Detroit Metropolitan area. Before long, graphic results of this group's efforts will be presented to the Chapter and the public.
One of the most important and pressing problems of the year has been that of Veterans Training and the Apprentice Program. The Committee on Education in cooperation with a similar committee of the Michigan Society of Architects has spent a great deal of time and effort on this problem. The results have been very gratifying and with the cooperation of the profession we are filling a gap that the war made on the flow of students into architecture.
The Chapter was well represented at the A.I.A. Convention with Clair Ditchy as our delegate, Talmage Hughes as Chairman on Public Information and Bronson V. Gambar as Chairman of the Committee on Unification. The Great Lakes District, of which the Detroit Chapter is a member, is unusually well represented on the Institute board with four members including Bronson V. Gambar of this Chapter.
Report of Treasurer,
Julian R. Cowin
The cash position of the Chapter treasury is extremely good as the time of the 1946 annual meeting approaches, by virtue of the fact that expenditures have not increased in proportion to the larger re-

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organize and unite in fellowship the members of the several professions represented and to combine their efforts so as to promote and encourage the development of education in the professions and the proper training of persons who desire to become members of the professions and to maintain the highest standards; to encourage cordial intercourse among the members of the professions and to correlate their common interests and activities in the interests of all the professions and the government; and to make the professions of ever increasing service to the public."

Monthly Meetings are held and each member organization has acted as host at one or more of these meetings. In addition, representatives of the several societies have been invited to the annual meetings of all of the groups, thus promoting a broader acquaintanceship with each other's activities and problems.

More than 16,000 professional men and women in the Metropolitan Detroit area are included in the membership of the member organizations.

Among the committees which are now functioning are the Legislative Committee which makes a study of Senate and House bills now before Congress or in committee, which affect professional groups, for discussion and such action as the Council may direct, and the Public Relations Committee, which considers ways and means for more fully acquainting the public with the services and problems of the professions.

Although several of the professions retain public relations counsel at the present time, a study is being made of the feasibility of engaging a public relations council to represent all of the groups.

Architectural Clinic, George B. Brigham, Director

The architectural clinic of the College of Architecture and Design has not functioned during the last year (or two years). The main reason is that we had no upper-class students who could qualify for the work. Previous to the time that our students were drawn into military service, a number of interesting projects were handled. One of the most unusual was a wood frame house designed by a student from Chile. This house has subsequently been built in San Diego, Chile. The last two projects designed were cinder block houses. One of these was for a family in YpsiIanti, and the other for a University of Michigan professor. Government restrictions prevented either of these houses from being built.

The architectural clinic was started and has functioned through a difficult building period. It is for this reason that many plans have been developed and few built. In spite of this, the clinic has had the enthusiastic approval of all for whom plans have been drawn. It is our hope that the clinic can function again in the near future. We now have a large student body and many upper classmen who are interested in the work. The $6,000 limit for the cost of the building will be a difficult restriction if we do function again, and it is to be hoped that the Michigan architectural profession will approve a higher cost limitation.

Report of Executive Secretary, Talmage C. Hughes

This office has continued to function in the publication of the Weekly Bulletin of the Michigan Society of Architects, in matters of program, public information, employment and membership. The veterans' training program has brought a large number of applicants for apprenticeship in architects' offices, but few openings. It is regrettable that architecture does not lend
The increased membership count has created a great problem in the office of Treasurer, the detail work required for a list of 400 to 500 being many-fold that required for the old group of 40 to 60. Mailing of notices, keeping individual members' accounts, banking, pursuing delinquent members and the like require much attention and spotlight the need for assigning this work to a paid agency continuing from year to year. The incoming Board should give this close consideration.

Response of members to dues statements is in general prompt, but at this date there are approximately 90 members whose 1946, and in some cases prior years, dues still unpaid. Members are reminded that they must be in good standing in both Chapter and Institute to retain their membership. The new Board and Treasurer should scrutinize the individual accounts carefully.

An account of receipts and disbursements will be presented at the Annual Meeting.

Report of the Committee on Fellowship, M. R. Stiriton, Chm.

The work of this committee can of necessity only be reported on in generalities and can only be observed in the announced bestowal of Fellowships. The attitude of the committee in this work is best expressed by quoting from the AIA Fellowship nomination form.

"A fellowship in The American Institute of Architects is so distinctive an honor that its bestowal is a grave responsibility. The distinction can not be maintained unless the fellowship is bestowed only when it is justly and manifestly due."

In general "The Institute may bestow a fellowship in their own names or in the names of members who have contributed to the advancement of the profession of architecture by their achievement in design, the science of construction, literature, educational service to The Institute or any of its component organizations or public service."

The work of this committee is to act as a collecting agency for the chapter in the matter of information regarding members proposed for nomination and to see that such information is presented to the Jury of Fellows in its proper form. This committee does not in any way act as judge of merits of members to be nominated. That is the responsibility of the Chapter Board. For instance, the record of a member proposed by the Chapter Board or others to the Chapter Board is examined by this Committee to determine whether he meets the qualification of ten consecutive years of membership in good standing in the Institute and Chapter. Supporting documents, exhibits and letters from proposers are also collected by this committee for submittal to the Jury of Fellows, which is a national committee.

The distinction of Fellowship is a high honor for the Chapter as well as for the individual. The Detroit Chapter is at present honored by the following Fellows:

Clair W. Ditchy  George D. Mason
Branson V. Gambler  Eliel Saarinen
Talmage C. Hughes  Henry F. Stanton
Emil Lorch  Ernest Wilby

These members deserve our respect and appreciation of their achievements in the advancement of architecture. Each year new names are added to this list. It should be the great ambition of every member of the Institute to so serve his profession that some day his name will be thus honored.

Clair W. Ditchy, Representative

The Inter-Professional Council of Wayne County is now in its second year. At the Annual Meeting in September, Clyde R. Paton, Consulting Engineer for the Ford Motor Company was elected President to succeed William A. Freemuth of The Detroit Bar Association.

Organizations represented by I.P.C. include The Detroit Chapter, AIA, Detroit Bar Association, Detroit District Dental Society, Detroit Teachers Association, Engineering Society of Detroit, Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, and Wayne County Medical Society.

Each member organization is represented on the Council by three representatives. The Detroit Chapter's representatives are Talmage Hughes, Owen Luckenbach and Clair W. Ditchy.

The objectives of the Council are "to or-
Chapter—
(Continued from Page 4)

itself to apprenticeship training. Most of offices have one or two trainees and the large offices even more and they are not equipped to take more. Needless to say, the few that are so engaged make but a very small impression on the vast number so interested.

Committee on Education,
Earl W. Pellerin, Chairman

Thanks to the foresight and enthusiasm of one of our committee members, our group had two meetings early in the year toward doing all we could for the group had two meetings early in the year and dedicated our efforts for the coming of one of our committee members, our so interested.

ices, especially the younger men. Our plans were ambitious and some of the ideas must be carried out as time goes on. However, some of the programme we had the privilege of working on and cooperating with are as follows:

1. For fifteen Saturday afternoons, refresher classes in architectural design, structural steel, reinforced concrete, specifications and supervision were conducted

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at the Rackham Engineering Building with an average attendance of about forty GIs and other architectural men, many of whom were particularly interested in studying for the State Board Examinations. The classes were sponsored by the Michigan Engineering Society and organized by a representative of the Michigan State Board of Examiners under the guidance of one of the members of our committee. The type of program and method of presenting this material was highly successful.

2. Your committee selects one Architect each month for the “Kern’s Civic Center for Home Planners” exhibit. This exhibit opened in June and each “Architect of the Month” displays his idea of what the 1946 home, costing $10,000 or less, has to offer. Apparently these designs have considerable offer for they have stimulated the interest of hundreds and the enthusiasm is still growing.

3. During most of the past year considerable time and effort have been devoted to the Apprentice Training Service Program. While this work is chiefly carried on by our M.S.A. Committee, it is here mentioned since in this area at least it has become more or less a joint committee effort. The answers are all now available for these GIs and all that is needed is a few busy offices to complete the picture.

4. Each year a one-day Vocational Guidance Program is held at the Engineering Building for all high school seniors in this city interested in any kind of engineering for architecture. Two members of our committee have met with these young people on these days for a number of years now and made complete arrangements this year until the transportation strike cancelled all these plans. Next year the schedule will be carried on as usual.

We have had a good time with our committee members and especially with these younger men who aspire a place in a profession which we think always has been quite wonderful if given at least a reasonable opportunity.

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WEEKLY BULLETIN
Do You Want Airports, Landing Fields and Seaplane Bases in Mich.? 

If you do, then take a few minutes to read this item.

For over twenty odd years we have had airports in Michigan, some built by individuals, some by public-spirited citizens donating land and funds to their communities, some by communities themselves from public funds at the request of their residents, and some by the Department of Aeronautics entirely or by matching funds and facilities with communities. We have already come a long way from the early pasture fields, and there are nearly two hundred public airports and landing fields in the State today.

But what happened in February of this year can put a complete and deadly stop in the building of future airports in Michigan by the state, cities, counties, villages or townships—unless you, and you, and your families and friends, will get out and vote in November,—on the AMENDMENT TO THE STATE CONSTITUTION TO EXEMPT AIRPORTS AND AERONAUTICAL FACILITIES FROM THE PROHIBITION AGAINST THE STATE AND ITS COMMUNITIES FROM ENGAGING IN WORKS OF INTERNAL IMPROVEMENTS!

The Legislature had the same section of our Constitution, (Part X, Section 14) amended in 1945, with your favorable vote, to take care of public highways—the old terminology was "post" roads, as it was written in the horse and buggy days). They realized their oversight in not taking care of airports and landing fields at that time,—thus, in February of this year, they passed a Joint Resolution to put on the ballot for the November elections which will correct that omission, to exempt airports, just as highways, from operation of the prohibition.

People of Michigan using the airports here, as well as the great number of tourists flying to Michigan, the new student pilots, their instructors, every aircraft owner, all airlines, whether interstate or intrastate, pay fees, charges or a minimum 3 cent tax on aviation gasoline—all of which are by law put into the Aeronautics Fund, to be used solely for development of aviation in Michigan, which includes matching funds with communities in building airports. The Attorney General of Michigan has ruled that this cannot be now done because of the constitutional prohibition.

In May of this year, Congress passed the Federal Airport Bill, for matching funds with the State and its communities in establishing and constructing airports. The Department's formula for such matching was proposed as follows: The Department of Aeronautics 30 percent, the Community 20 percent and the Federal Government 50 percent of the cost of the project, including preliminary planning. The State Legislature appropriated $250,000 in 1944 and $250,000 in 1945 for planning funds on airports, and $1,000,000 in 1945 for matching with federal government and communities on construction of airports.

The expenditure of these funds is now completely stopped on construction because of the Attorney General's ruling. Consequently, Michigan will lose the federal aid to its communities in establishing airports, because by law what the State cannot do, its political subdivisions are prohibited from doing.

IT ALL DEPENDS UPON YOU, THE VOTERS OF MICHIGAN, whether you want airports, landing fields and seaplane bases in the future! If you do, then act affirmatively in November when the question is put on the ballot. It will be the first item on the ballot for Amendments to the Constitution and will read as follows:

(Proposal No. 1)
Proposed Amendment to the State Constitution Limiting State Control and Participation to Certain Internal Improvements.

No. 1. A Joint Resolution of the 1946 (1st Extra Session) Legislature proposing an amendment to Section 14 of Article 10 of the State Consti-

See AIRPORTS—Page 4
Sees Need for Apartments

The following is a summary of an address made in New York, Sept. 25, by Thomas S. Holden, president of F. W. Dodge Corp., before the annual meeting of the Producers' Council, national organization of building product manufacturers:

Upward pressure on construction costs would be eased if there were a better balance in the emergency housing program. For this reason, among others, more apartment buildings of both city and suburban types are urgently needed. The average apartment suite is apt to require smaller quantities of critical materials than does the average single-family house; it also requires less of certain materials like lumber whose price increases have been proportionately much greater than others. Speeding up of apartment buildings would spread the strain on material markets, spread employment among building trades not used for house building, and better serve the immediate needs of thousands of veterans.

Basic costs of most material and wage components of buildings, have not, according to official index numbers risen unduly in proportion to other price rises. According to the United States Bureau of Labor Statistics, wholesale prices of building materials have risen 47 percent since 1939; metals and metal products 20 percent; while the wholesale index for all commodities has risen 60 percent.

These rises are a far cry from the peak prices of the 1920 inflation period, when all commodities rose to more than double their prewar average, and when construction costs were two and a half times prewar. At the present time, basic construction costs of commercial, industrial and apartment buildings are about 40 percent over 1939 and single family houses 60 to 65 percent over prewar. Actual costs, of course, are running well above these basic costs in many cases, reflecting black market prices, overtime pay, delays and inconveniences in material procurement and delivery, and other abnormal costs inherent in the confusions of the present transition period.

Cost reduction by means of more efficient methods can make little progress either in manufacture or building so long as basic costs are being continually inflated and so long as abnormal transition costs persist. While it is likely that prices of building materials and equipment will advance somewhat further in the coming months, improved material supply and restoration of competitive market conditions will tend to eliminate abnormal cost factors, and in the long run more than equalize such further price increases as may develop.

It is the ardent desire of the contractors and homebuilders of the nation to get back as speedily as possible to normal market conditions and normal competition, to a situation in which building costs are known, relatively stable, controllable and subject to reduction by improved efficiency. Today's home-building industry is thoroughly imbued with the psychology of modern production management, very little concerned with the speculative ideas which came to dominate the postwar boom of the 1920's. There is very complete realization of the fact that the vast potential building market of this postwar era is a market for moderate-priced structures, with little opportunity in sight for luxury-type building.
**Credit Called Only Aid U. S. Gives to Housing**

"You can't build houses with dollars, and the government, probably the greatest of the obstacles facing the building industry today, has been obsessed with the idea that anything can be cured with money. Anything the government has done to help the housing situation can be resolved into an easing of credit."

This opinion was expressed recently by Horace Carpenter Jr., president of the Nye Mortgage Corporation, of Buffalo, N. Y. Mr. Carpenter is a past president of the Buffalo Real Estate Board and president of the State Association of Real Estate Boards. "It takes five things to build a home," he said. "Land, material, labor, money, and enterprise to put these four together. We have lots of land, labor and enterprise. We have an endless amount of money. The loan feature of the G.I. Bill will let loose all the veterans' buying on an already-inflated market and the Wagner-Ellenberger-Taft bill would provide for more extension of credit."

“All that is lacking is the material and that is due to the OPA's refusal to make necessary price adjustments. For example, nails are not available. When a manufacturer can sell products made of wire for higher prices than nails, he's not going to use the wire for nails. Only fools and idealists are in the building industry today, bucking control, restrictions and red tape."

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Gloriously beautiful,
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On the base of Art and Science
Each day new problems solved.

When the last steel beam is lifted,
And the last great stone is placed,
And the trial, the worry, the danger,
Have been boldly, bravely faced;
When all the work is finished
And the World grows ages old,
The romance of the Architect
Will still be left untold.

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A.S.A. Committee Meets in Detroit

On October 24th, Study Committee No. 16 on Kitchen Equipment under American Standards Association Project A62 for the Coordination of Dimensions of Building Materials and Equipment, met in Detroit. John C. Thornton, AIA, is chairman. Project A62 has made considerable progress in the past few years. Studies have been completed on masonry units, steel windows, wood windows and glass block. Manufacturers are adopting the new dimensions as rapidly as possible. Other committees are now at work.

The Study Committee on Kitchen equipment met in Washington last spring for its first meeting. It is composed of representatives of the various industries, manufacturing kitchen equipment. Owing to the fact that most of the industries have recently put out new models, this study will be comparatively long-range.

The scope of the work is: “The study of and recommendations for the coordination of sizes, in accordance with the American Standard basis for the Coordination of Dimensions of Building Materials and equipment, A62.1-1945, for residential kitchen equipment, such as base and wall cabinets, ranges, refrigerators, sinks, dish washers, laundry equipment, and water heaters, none of which is a permanent part of the wall structure, but not including commercial or institutional equipment.”

The Modular Service Association has recently completed the “A62 Guide for Modular Coordination,” which every architect should possess. Study Committee for Kitchen Equipment—Personnel of Study Comm. 16

Steel Kitchen Cabinet Institute—

Chas L. Stoup, Connersville, Ind.

Wood Kitchen Cabinet Industry—

W. D. Sawler, Chicago, Ill.

National Electric Mfgs. Assn.—

W. F. Ogden, Chicago, Ill.


American Gas Assn., Association of Gas Appliances and Equipment Mfgs.—H. Vinton Potter, New York City, N.Y.

Anthracite Institute—A. J. Johnson, New York City, N.Y.


American Washer and Ironer Mfgs. Assn.—G. I. Cockerill, Cleveland, O.

Chairman—J. C. Thornton, Detroit, Mich.


Sepeshy Wins Medal

Medals and prizes for the 44th annual exhibition of water colors and prints and the 45th annual exhibition at the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts were announced recently. The Diana Water Color Medal, for “boldness, simplicity and frankness of work,” went to Zoltan Sepeshy, of the Cranbrook Academy of Art, Bloomfield Hills, Mich., for his “Sand Mountains.”

AIRPORTS—(from Page 1) tution, relative to limiting state control and participation to certain internal improvements.

Shall Section 14 of Article 10 of the State Constitution to amended to authorize the state to control, develop, improve or assist in the development, improvement and control of (1) public roads, harbors or refuge, waterways, airways, airports, landing fields and aeronautical facilities, (2) rivers, streams, lakes and water levels for purposes of drainage, public health, control of flood waters and soil erosion, (3) in reforestation, protection and improvement of lands in the State of Michigan, and (4) in the expenditure of grants to the state of land or other property. "A 'yes' vote on Constitutional Amendment Proposal No. 1 will make $14,000,000 available to Michigan for airport planning and construction," stated William B. Stout, chairman of the State Board of Aeronautics. The question will be put before Michigan voters at the November 5th elections.

These funds were made available last May when Congress passed the Federal Airport Bill. However, Michigan's share will be blocked until her constitution allows her to "match the federal dollar" as the Bill requires.

"Our Constitution was written when airports were undreamed of. Last year, the voters amended it to change 'post roads' to take care of public highways. This year we must modernize it to include airport construction," Mr. Stout declared.

The Michigan Board of Aeronautics has decided that airports be financed as follows: Federal funds 50 percent, State funds 30 percent and community funds 20 percent. The State Legislature appropriated $250,000 in 1944 and $250,000 in 1945 for airport planning funds and $1,000,000 in 1945 for airport construction. None of this can be spent.
Wyatt Plan's Failure an Opportunity
An Editorial in American Builder

"Expediter" Wyatt's "veterans' emergency housing program" was doomed to failure from its inception. Every such grandiose plan which is adopted and used for political purposes ostensibly to solve a huge economic problem is foredoomed. Only persons who were completely ignorant of conditions in the building industry could ever have believed it would succeed.

But men like Mr. Wyatt, when given government positions of importance, sometimes render unintentionally great services to private enterprise. During World War I government operation of railroads was adopted, and W. G. McAdoo became director-general of railroads with a grandiose plan. He knew as little about railroad conditions then as Wyatt knew about housing and building conditions twenty-eight years later. Consequently, he made a failure as "expediter" of the railways—excepting in expediting their expenses and deficits.

But McAdoo's failure would not alone have destroyed the movement for government ownership and operation of railroads. Government operation had opponents who persistently brought its failure and the reasons for it, both while the failure was being made and later. And the privateagements, after the railroads were returned to them, adopted a program of expansion, improvements and public relations which eliminated "car shortages," reduced costs and rates, and won a public favor that private enterprise in railroading had never before enjoyed. The contrast between government operation and private operation afforded opportunity for the advocates of private operation to kill almost all the sentiment for government ownership.

The failure the public housers are making and will continue to make is affording and will continue to afford the private home-building industry a similar opportunity. But opportunity is valueless to those who will not do what is necessary to take advantage of it.

The government bureaucrats who have been lavishly spending the taxpayers' money in lobbying for public housing have been making a loud and indignant outcry against the "real estate lobby" which has been spending a much smaller amount of its own money in opposing nationwide socialization of housing and home-building. The "real estate lobby" has rendered a patriotic service the effectiveness of which is perhaps best illustrated by the apparent death of the Wagner-Elender-Taft bill. But, whether the W-E-T bill is dead or not, the movement for such legislation will be revived in the next Congress, and will sooner or later be successful unless it is fought in every state and congressional district from now and until the election next fall, and is later fought in Washington after Congress convenes.

Meantime, the private home-building industry—every branch of it, and in every community—must in self-defense do everything it can to increase the building of good homes at reasonable cost. Defenders of private enterprise must justify their faith by works. They must fight every government or labor union policy that hinders efficiency or economy in building. But they must themselves do the most, the best and the most economical building they can under whatever unfavorable conditions and policies they cannot change.

Opposition to public housing will do good in the long run only if the private building industry does the most efficient and economical job it can of housing America.

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