President Allen Appoints Convention Committees

Roger Allen, President of the Michigan Society of Architects has appointed members to act on the Exhibition Committee for the MSA Convention to be held in Grand Rapids, Michigan, on March 7th and 8th, 1947.

It will be the responsibility of each member to see that his locality is represented. This exhibit will be held in connection with the Home Show to be held in the Civic Auditorium during the week beginning March 3rd.

Exhibits wanted are mounted photographs and renderings of proposed or current work. Framed mounted material is not wanted. Also, a great deal of material from one locality will not be necessary, since the exhibit must cover the work of the entire State. A varied exhibition is desired, and residences and apartment buildings are encouraged owing to the present housing interest.

Mr. Ernest King, Exhibition Chairman, has assured us of a well-planned and colorful display of the material.

Please send or bring in your exhibit to Ernest King, 1126 Grand Rapids Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Grand Rapids 2, Michigan.

The following members will serve on the Exhibition Committee:

- **Ernest King**, 1126 Grand Rapids Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Grand Rapids 2, Michigan
- **Warren Rindge**, 740 Michigan Trust Bldg., Grand Rapids 2, Michigan
- **James K. Haveman**, 735 Michigan Trust Bldg., Grand Rapids 2, Michigan
- **Randall Wagner**, 1510 American National Bank Bldg., Kalamazoo, Michigan
- **Carl Kressbach**, 1704 National Bank Bldg., Jackson, Michigan
- **Phillip C. Haughey**, 412 Post Bldg., Battle Creek, Michigan
- **Bernard DeVries**, 613 Hackley Union Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Muskegon, Michigan

Elmer Manson
2200 Olds Tower Bldg., Lansing 8, Michigan

James A. Spence
118 N. Washington Ave., Saginaw, Michigan

Earl W. Pellerin
16555 LaSalle Blvd., Detroit, Michigan

L. L. Woodworth
104 W. Huron St., Ann Arbor, Michigan

Prof. Jean Hebrard
College of Architecture, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

CONVENTION COMMITTEES

General Chairman:
Carl J. Rudine,
643 Alger St., Grand Rapids, Michigan

Transportation:
Frank H. Wright,
120 Madison Ave., Detroit, Michigan

Entertainment:
Chris Steketee,
622 Murray Bldg., Grand Rapids, Mich.

Exhibit:
Ernest King, Chairman
1126 Grand Rapids Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Grand Rapids, Michigan

Warren Rindge,
740 Michigan Trust Bldg., Grand Rapids

James K. Haveman, 735 Michigan Trust Bldg., Grand Rapids, Michigan

Randall Wagner,
1510 Amer. Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Kalamazoo

Carl Kressbach, 1704 Nat'l. Bank Bldg., Jackson, Michigan

Phillip C. Haughey, 412 Post Bldg., Battle Creek, Michigan

Bernard J. DeVries, 613 Hackley Union Bldg., Muskegon, Michigan

L. L. Woodworth, 104 W. Huron St., Ann Arbor, Michigan

Prof. Jean Hebrard, College of Architecture, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

Elmer Manson, 2200 Olds Tower Bldg., Lansing 8, Michigan

See COMMITTEES—Page 4
President Truman, Secretary Schwellenbach Praise A.G.C. and A.F.L. for Labor Plan

President Truman has sent the following letter to Mr. Herbert E. Foreman, managing director and Mr. James D. Marshall, assistant managing director of the Associated General Contractors of America, and to Mr. Richard A. Gray, president, and Mr. Herbert Rivers, secretary-treasurer of the Building and Construction Trades Department, American Federation of Labor:

Gentlemen:

I congratulate the International Unions affiliated with the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL and the Associated General Contractors of America on the plan that you have just concluded providing for a National Joint Conference Committee. I am also delighted to know that the specialty contractors have their own machinery or equipment to meet applicable procedures, or may have access to the flexible machinery provided in your plan.

No industry was more important to the war effort, and no industry has a greater contribution to make to the maintenance of a high level of employment. The year ahead presents a great challenge to your industry, calling for united and determined effort, if we are to achieve the great needs of the country for building and construction. Your industry with approximately 2 million employees has just taken a far reaching and constructive step.

I recall that the government procurement agencies and the international unions comprising the Building and Construction Trades Department, AFL entered into agreements in July 1941 and May 1942 which provided for stabilization of wages and conditions at a time when we were at the critical tooling up stage of the war effort. The machinery established by those agreements, subsequently modified to include the contractors, served us well during the war. The combined efforts of labor, management, and government yielded an outstanding record of uninterrupted production.

Now that most of the war-time controls have been removed, it is appropriate that in the American tradition labor and management assume their full responsibility. You have negotiated the present plan without government participation. The public and the Government look to you to make it work.

The agencies of government stand ready to be of all possible assistance to you in this new venture. The Secretary of Labor informs me that the Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor will cooperate with the Joint Conference Committee in every possible way on any dispute that may arise. The statistical services of the government agencies, and in particular those of the Bureau of Labor Statistics, stand ready to be of assistance to you. The splendid record of cooperation with the Davis-Bacon Division of the Department of Labor will no doubt be continued.

I congratulate you on the courage and the faith that has fashioned so constructive a plan.

Very truly yours,

HARRY S. TRUMAN

Also in the same tone is a letter from the Secretary of Labor L. B. Schwellenbach to the managing director and assistant managing director of A.G.C., in which he terms the plan of the Associated General Contractors of America and the Building Construction Trades Department for settling disputes voluntarily submitted in the construction industry, an act of "industrial statesmanship," and offers the cooperation of the Conciliation Service of the Department of Labor.

Dear Sirs:

The International Union affiliated with the Building and Construction Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor and the Associated General Contractors of America have taken a notable step in providing for a National Joint Conference Committee. The fact that the specialty contractors have their own machinery, or are setting up comparable procedures, or may have access to the flexible machinery provided in your plan should assure in the building and construction industry as a whole an even more outstanding record of industrial peace. Your plan is an act of industrial statesmanship.

The Department of Labor has had for many years a special interest in the problems of the building and construction industry. Since 1931 under the Davis-Bacon Act, the Secretary of Labor has predetermined the wage rates to be paid on projects involving monies of the United States Government. Over the years we have enjoyed splendid cooperation from both contractors and labor organizations. I trust that in the days ahead we may be able to improve the details of these mutual problems.

The Conciliation Service of the Department will be glad to cooperate with your National Joint Conference Committee, in every possible way on any dispute that may arise. In the same way, the statistical services of the Bureau of Labor Statistics will be available to you and I trust that you may be able to make even more effective use of these data.

I congratulate you on the courage and the faith that has fashioned so constructive a plan.

Very truly yours,

L. B. SCHWELLENBACH

WEEKLY BULLETIN
HOSPITALS, too, say

Gas is best
for cooking

Nutritious food, appetizing in appearance, is a prime requisite in modern hospital care.

Gas, the finest fuel for cooking, is used in almost all of the city's hospitals, just as it is in restaurants and hotel kitchens. Gas is completely dependable, fast, and clean. It is so flexible, so easily controlled from lowest to highest heat, that the chef has at his fingertips exactly the right heat for every food.

Owners and managers prefer Gas, too, because it is economical.

MICHIGAN CONSOLIDATED GAS COMPANY
415 Clifford, Detroit

A section of the kitchen of St. Mary's Hospital, showing some of the new gas-fired equipment which prepares thousands of meals daily.
Justement Sees Need For Housing Aid

Substantial financial aid from the Federal government will be necessary if there is to be any considerable amount of slum clearance and sound urban redevelopment in this country, according to Louis Justement, chairman of the Urban Planning Committee of the American Institute of Architects.

"Under present systems of taxation, neither private enterprise nor local and state governments can carry out large-scale urban reconstruction without some form of special aid," Mr. Justement said.

"This conclusion is shared by the recently-formed Interprofessional Urban Planning Committee which agreed that it is desirable that urban communities should be self-reliant and avoid dependence on Federal aid and direction, but pointed out that practical considerations make Federal participation imperative if slum clearance and urban redevelopment are to become a reality.

"Aside from the fact that the cities do not have the resources with which to undertake these projects unaided, there is the fact that the various cities, villages, and unincorporated communities which lie within a metropolitan region should undertake urban planning and development on the basis of an overall metropolitan area plan. The availability of Federal aid would make the necessary political cooperation much less difficult.

"Federal financial assistance could be made available through a local agency organized to function for an entire metropolitan urban region without regard to political boundaries.

"It would be unrealistic to place too much reliance on financial help from the states because the rural vote will effectively oppose aid to the cities and because the states do not have the direct interest in urban redevelopment that the Federal government has owing to the importance of construction in the nation's economy.

"While maximum reliance should be placed on private enterprise in the approach to this problem, it is essential that private enterprise should realize its limitations clearly. Those who care to preserve the widest scope for individual initiative should not seek to claim for it tasks that it cannot possibly perform.

"The solution should be based on the cooperation of private enterprise, city, state, and nation, and on assigning to each the part it is most fitted to carry out. The measure of success of such a collaborative program will be the extent to which it avoids unnecessary control of individual initiative and, on the contrary, frees the individual to contribute effectively to the creation of the city of the future."
Creedon States Construction Outlook For 1947

The following is a digest of remarks of Frank R. Creedon, National Housing Expediter, before the Associated General Contractors of America last week:

By all reports, the promise for a big construction year is great. The Department of Commerce has estimated potential construction in 1947 at $22 billion. The Architectural Forum, in a survey just released, is only slightly more optimistic with a forecast of $20.2 billion.

The materials supply situation is greatly improved over that of a year ago, but it is still the No. 1 problem in expanding construction. For a number of critical items, including cast iron soil pipe, plumbing fixtures, radiation, warm air furnaces, and water heaters, despite mounting production, serious delays continued to prevail in the latter part of 1946 in many parts of the country in obtaining materials. Demand was spiking up the production increases at a rapid rate. Until we can turn production into effective supply at the builder's level, we have not overcome the materials problem.

In this situation we must maintain as far as practical a sensitive balance in the flow of these materials into needed types of construction. The country is committed by urgent need and public demand to producing a large volume of housing this year. That commitment must be met. At the same time, we must have an adequate volume of non-residential building to meet the necessary needs for commercial and industrial structures, and to maintain a vigorous construction industry.

Under the present materials' situation, the limitation of non-residential construction, as provided under the Veterans Housing Program Order No. 1, is absolutely essential. We have, however, recently relaxed the rate of approvals from a weekly quota of $35 million to $50 million. This relaxation takes into account the need for more community facilities and the desirability of permitting some heavy construction to be started where the materials' impact on housing is not serious.

As I see it, however, this new $50 million weekly quota is the most that can be justified for some time to come. I offer no date as to when I think further increases can be permitted or when this restriction can eventually be removed altogether. I can only say that as the flow of materials justifies doing so, without impairment of the housing program, relaxation will be made.

The future of construction as a whole is tied to solving the housing problem. There is no answer to the housing problem except housing. We must meet that challenge in order to meet the many other opportunities that lie ahead in what promises to be one of the greatest eras of construction that the country has known.

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MARCH 4, 1947
Grant Made For Technical Service

Savings in construction costs arising from the adoption of modular coordination in the manufacture of building products will become available to the public more quickly as a result of the $65,000 grant made to the Modular Service Association by the Office of Technical Services of the U.S. Department of Commerce, Tyler S. Rogers, president of the Producers' Council, has announced.

"The funds will be used to expand and intensify research in methods of coordinating the dimensions of building products in such a way as to eliminate need for cutting and fitting materials on the building site, thus permitting important savings in both time and materials," Rogers said.

"Modular coordination has been actively sponsored in recent years by the Producers' Council and the American Institute of Architects. The four-inch module which is basic to the entire project has been formally approved by the American Standards Association, and the dimensions of most masonry materials, of metal and wooden doors and windows, and of other products are being adapted to the module.

The new size of some products already in production, with the result that the entire outer shell of masonry structures can now be constructed of materials whose dimensions have been coordinated.

"Much research remains to be done with respect to other commonly used building materials, and the grant from the Office of Technical Services will help greatly to speed up the process. The program of the Modular Service Association heretofore has been financed largely with funds from the estate of the late Albert Farwell Bemis, who was a pioneer in the field of coordinated dimensions.

The extent of the savings which can be realized in construction costs by the use of modular coordination can not be estimated with any accuracy until more standardized dimensions and until a variety of typical structures actually has been built with such materials. However, enough is known to warrant the statement that the total savings will be substantial.

"The Industry-Engineered Houses being developed by the Producers' Council and the National Retail Lumber Dealers' Association have been designed throughout on the modular basis which will account for a major part of the savings anticipated in the building of engineered houses."
Richard Neutra Will Speak To Detroit Chapter

Richard J. Neutra, AIA, distinguished architect of Los Angeles, California, will be the speaker at the Detroit Chapter Meeting in the Rackham Building, Detroit, on the evening of March 14. Mr. Neutra will arrive in Detroit on the evening of March 12, and remain here until the morning of the 15th, during which time he will be shown some of Detroit's points of interest.

The noted architect is also a city planner, housing expert and consultant. He is a prominent member of fashionable a style of his own, and made mass housing his main interest.

Now, at 54, Neutra is designing a Palm Springs desert hideaway for Pittsburgh Millionaire Edgar J. Kaufmann, whose famed house in Bear Run, Pa.—designed by Wright—overhangs a waterfall. Compared with Wright's cantilevered castle-in-the-air, Neutra's Kaufmann house will be down to earth, with the low-flying flat roofs, glass walls and furnished terraces of a house turned inside out. To make life smooth outdoors as in, the four courtyards will have walls and floors piped for summer cooling and winter heating.

Low-Cost Exodus. Like most modern architects (who think of houses not as just places to live but as "machines for living"), Neutra tailors houses to his clients. But he takes it on himself to decide what is best for them, carefully explains to those who come with prepared floor plans that he is "more interested in the plan of your life." He requires all adults in a client's family to detail their actions for a week—their sleeping habits, the friends they see, etc. As a result, Neutra-designed houses are likely to be more livable than they look.

On vastly expensive jobs like the Kaufmann house (cost $150,000), Neutra likes to try out ideas to use later in his low-cost projects such as his 600-house Channel Heights project in San Pedro, Calif. Says he: "I have always felt that it was the job of ours and the next following generation to make true the promise of the [industrial] revolution . . . the promise of a general exodus from our metro-

See NEUTRA—Page 2
New Firm of Architects

James B. Hughes and Harry M. Denyes, Jr., both members of the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute, have announced the formation of a partnership for the practice of architecture, with offices at 187 South Woodward Avenue, Birmingham, Mich.

Hughes, who is registered as an architect in Pennsylvania as well as in Michigan, received his education at Greenburg, Penn. and at Carnegie Institute of Technology. His early experience was gained in the offices of R. J. Brocker, Architect and Engineer, Greensburg; Maier & Walsh, Cleveland; Albert Kahn Associated Architects & Engineers, Detroit.

Denyes, a native of Sygna, attended school there, and the University of Michigan, Armour Institute of Technology and Northwestern University. He had been employed by Giffels & Vallet, Inc., L. Rosetti, of Detroit, and J. Robert F. Swanson, of Birmingham, Mich.

For the past year both have been employed in the office of Saarinen and Swan, Birmingham, following their discharge from the services, Hughes from the Navy and Denyes from the Army.

Ingersoll Test Houses Sold

End of Ingersoll Village in Kalamazoo, as an experimental project for the utility units made by the Ingersoll Steel and Division division is seen with the announcement that nine of the 12 houses have been sold to private owners.

Three of the houses, however, remain occupied by Ingersoll technical employees and their families, and operation of the utility units in these specially designed residences will continue to be observed as will features of construction, such as radiant heat.

As a mass project, the village is considered by Ingersoll officials to have served its purpose. The compact utility units have met the test.

The project was one of the most unique of its kind. The homes were designed by some of the country's leading architects.

Neutra—from page 1

Feasible slums, from rural hovels and, in short, from the pre-industrial standards of living and housing, . . . Whatever we design today . . . has its true contemporary significance only if it does not aim at uniqueness but an applicability for {mass} production.

Neutra, who has the pointed eyebrows and sharp hock of a silvery owl, often gets up in the pre-dawn blackness of 4 a.m. to blue-print his ideas. He will travel anywhere to make sure his buildings fit the landscape, the people and the weather. Last week he got set for a long journey; he had just accepted a commission to design a string of hotels and hospitals for the princely Deccan States, India.

Conference On Hospital Planning

The college of Architecture and Design, University of Michigan, announces a Conference on Hospital Planning to be held April 3, 4 and 5 at Ann Arbor, Michigan, as an activity of "The Ann Arbor Conference", an informal group of practicing architects and educators.

Mr. Kenneth Black of Lansing, Michigan is Chairman of the Conference; Amedeo Leone of Detroit, Michigan, Alden Dow of Midland, Michigan and Walter Rolfe of Houston, Texas are the Program Committee. Prominent hospital architects, hospital consultants, representatives of the United States Public Health Service and the American Hospital Association will participate in the Meetings. A final program will be available soon.

Architects concerned with hospital work are invited to the extent of room accommodations. Those interested should write immediately to Wells Bennett, 207 Architecture Building, Ann Arbor, Michigan.

Weemhoff Reopens Architect Offices

Harvey H. Weemhoff, AIA, practicing architect in Grand Rapids since 1912 and designer of war plants in World war II, will reopen offices about Jan. 6 at 618 Murray building.

He was employed in wartime on ordnance plant work at Dixon, Ill., and on field service group work for the army and navy at Cincinnati, Ohio. He since has been associated with Owen-Ames-Kimball Co., contractors, and J. & G. Davenport Co., architects and engineers. Weemhoff has had wide experience in designing all kinds of houses and churches and in reconverting and remodeling homes.

HAWKINS FERRY is author of an excellent treatise on "The Gothic and Tuscan Revivals in Detroit, 1828-1875," in The ART QUARTERLY, Summer, 1946. A 24-page reprint has recently been issued, containing the text and photographs arranged in a most interesting manner.

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WEEKLY BULLETIN
What's Ahead For Construction?

(Excerpts from address of Major—) General Phillip B. Fleming, Administrator of Federal Works Agency before Washington Building Congress, February 10, 1947.)

After the bleak war years, it should be a relief to architects, engineers and contractors to be able to build something more than rather austere emergency structures which characterized so much of the construction carried on in this country since 1941.

Normal commercial building of stores, office buildings, theaters and the like, virtually came to a standstill, as did public works construction which could not be related in some way to the urgent needs of war. As a result, the Nation now finds on its hands an enormous backlog of unfilled need which, if it can be financed, should keep the construction industry working at maximum capacity for many years to come. In the public works category alone, some 14 billion dollars worth of work would have been done if construction could have proceeded all during the war at the rate reached in 1939. Instead, a total expenditure of only about half a billion dollars represented local public works construction during the war years. The necessities of the housing program and the desire to ease inflationary pressures led to still further deferment after the war.

Raising the permissible volume of non-housing construction to 50 million dollars a week does not mean that we are going to get that volume every week. After the prospective owner has obtained CPA approval he will probably have to refine his plans, solicit bids, etc. Thus, it will take time for construction to grow from "starts" to a heavy volume of work in place, and up until the middle of the third quarter of the year we can assume a somewhat flatter construction curve across the country as a whole.

Assuming no general business recession and no prolonged strikes holding up the delivery of materials, the outlook for 1947, in terms of 1946 prices, is for a construction dollar volume of around 15 1/2 billion—an increase of about 30 per cent over last year. A million new housing starts, and nearly that many completions should account for around 5.8 billion dollars. The remaining 7 1/2 billion should represent the sum of all non-residential construction.

There may be some further increases in wages and building material prices this year, but on the other hand we look for a smoother flow of materials and better labor productivity. Thus we could get no increase, or even an actual decline, in costs per unit of construction. Many economies would seem to be necessary if construction is not eventually to price itself out of the market.

LOUIS KAMPER, AIA, now sojourning at the Mission Inn, Riverside, California, says the weather is delightful there. "Went to Palm Springs (the stuff shirt place) recently, saw some wild women but didn't try to catch any".
F. H. Rile
Frank H. Rile, AIA, 74, a former Detroit Architect, died near Sellersville, Pa., February 11, 1947.
A native of Blue Bell, Pa., he received his education at the Philadelphia Master Builders Trade University, class of 1903.
In the beginning his architectural career, he was associated with Green & Wicks, Architects, Buffalo, N. Y. One of his largest projects with this firm was the Ontario Power Company's plant at Niagara Falls, Ontario, where he was resident architect in charge of construction; later he was chief architect for the Columbia Construction Company of New York City.
In 1909 he became associated with the architectural firm of Albert Kahn, of Detroit, as principal in charge of construction of the Ford Motor Company plant; and for several years with the Kahn organization supervising various other large industrial plants and office buildings. He was later with Smith, Hinchman & Grylls, Architects and Engineers, for fifteen years as resident architect and engineer in charge of the construction of the Dodge Brothers plants, residencies, BahI office building, and various commercial buildings and with George D. Mason Company, Architects, as resident architect on the construction of the Detroit Masonic Temple; also various banks, residences, office buildings and manufacturing plants.
Frank Rile also practiced alone and was architect for many fine apartment buildings in Toledo and Cleveland, as well as residential work in the Detroit area.
He was employed by Robert O. Derrick, Architect, in the development, research and construction of the Ford Edison Institute, Dearborn, Michigan. During the depression years he was architect's representative on the new Kalamazoo County building, a W.P.A. project. Until his retirement in 1944, he was a member of the architectural staff of the Federal Housing Administration.
He was a member of the Michigan Society of Architects, The American Institute of Architects, Pennsylvania Sons American Revolution, a 32nd degree Mason and life member of University Lodge 610 of Pennsylvania.

The famous uncle of Architect George and Public Relations Counsel J. L. S. Sermyngeour is dead in Dundee at the age of 60.
He was Scotland's Edwin Sermyngeur, who once defeated Winston Churchill, founded and financed the country's Prohibition party.
He laughed at brewers and distillers in a land where they're no laughing matter.
Uncle Ned, as he was called, liked to smoke big, black cigars. One day he was handed one of the country's important industrialists coming out of the back door of a bar.
Uncle Ned grinned and remarked that if he drank his coffee in the front door and left by same.
The industrialist twitted Uncle Ned about his cigar.
"But I can stop smoking, and you can't stop drinking," said Sermyngeur.
"I'll stop if you stop," said his pal.
"It was a deal."
Sermyngeur tossed away his black cigar, and each kept his pact.

Homer Harper
Homer W. Harper, AIA, a member of the Grand Rapids Chapter, and well-known southwestern Michigan architect, was struck and instantly killed by an automobile while walking on the highway two miles south of St. Joseph, Michigan, on Sunday, January 19. He was 60 years of age.
A resident of Shoreham, near St. Joseph, Harper had been prominent as an architect and in civic affairs there for many years. He was born in Granville, Ill., January 30, 1881. He attended the University of Illinois School of Architecture and was a member of Beta Theta Phi fraternity. He went to Europe in 1909 for further study in architecture. Before going to St. Joseph he and his family resided on the west coast, from 1912 to 1918.
He was designer of a number of homes and other buildings in his area, including the modern plant of Nylen Products Company and a number of new buildings for the Emanuel Missionary College in Berrien Springs.

Besides his affiliations with his architectural organizations, he was a member of the Twin City Rotary Club, the Economic Club of Southwestern Michigan, and the Berrien Hills Country Club, whose clubhouse he designed.

Besides his widow, Mr. Harper is survived by a daughter, Mrs. Mary Louise Rhonheimer, of New York City, and a son, John a student at the University of Michigan and a lieutenant commander in the naval air force during the war. A grandson, John Alden Harper, also survives as do two sisters, Mrs. Edith Collins of Rock Island, Ill., and Mrs. Fred Rankin of Winter Haven Fla.
Adrian N. Langius Elected Society President

Adrian N. Langius, of Lansing, was elected president of the Michigan Society of Architects at its 33rd Annual Convention, in Grand Rapids, March 7 and 8. He succeeds Roger Allen, of Grand Rapids. Others elected to serve with Langius are Earl W. Pellerin, of Detroit, First Vice-president; Julian R. Cowin, of Detroit, Second Vice-president; Robert B. Frantz, of Saginaw, Third Vice-president; Julian R. Cowin, of Lansing, Secretary; Lyle S. Cole, of Detroit, Treasurer, and Talmage C. Hughes, of Detroit, Executive Secretary. Three new Directors at large are Kenneth C. Black, of Lansing; Alden B. Dow, of Midland, and William A. Stone, of Kalamazoo.

The Convention started with a Board of Directors Meeting on Friday morning and the business portion ended with a meeting of the new Board on Saturday morning. The privilege of moving for adjournment of the outgoing board was accorded John C. Thornton, past president of the Society, who first became a member of the Board at a Grand Rapids Convention eleven years ago. He did outstanding work as the Society's Treasurer, and later in serving two terms as president.

Twenty-five members of the Detroit delegation were met at the station by a bus, through the courtesy of the Grand Rapids Builders and Traders Exchange. Registration was well-nigh a record and the banquet was a sell-out. Grand Rapids came through again with her well-known hospitality, and Carl Rudine deserves much credit as General Chairman of the Convention Committee. The retiring officers were given a vote of thanks for an outstanding job.

The new president, Adrian Langius, stated that the theme for the coming year would be "Advancement of the Profession", and the program he laid down was a constructive one.

"Not all of us are designers", he said, in pointing out that there are other jobs to be done in the interest of the profession. He stressed the importance of having members in key positions as directors in charge of the physical plants for large corporations and governmental bodies.

The report of Langius on Unification was adopted by the Convention and referred to the three chapters for their approval.

The business sessions and panel discussions on Building Departments and Housing were of outstanding interest, and some of the papers will be printed in the Bulletin later. The Producers Council added much to the enjoyment of delegates with their entertainment and good fellowship.

The banquet, chief event of the social functions, was held on Friday evening at The Morton House. It was a colorful affair, with many ladies present. Clair W. Ditchey, as toastmaster, was introduced by President Langius. He gave his audience a real treat before turning the meeting over to Roger Allen, the principal speaker. Roger was in top form and kept the audience roaring for an hour.

Not the least enjoyable were the exhibits visited on Saturday, the furniture displays in the morning and the Architects' exhibition in the afternoon. The Home Show, of which the exhibit was a part, was so well attended that it was necessary to close the doors soon after opening and admit no more people until some had left.

Altogether, it can be said that this was one of the most successful and enjoyable conventions the Society has ever had.

Correction

The advertisement of Restrick Lumber Company, on page five of our Annual Convention Number, issue of February 25, carried the telephone number—HO. 2121. This is an error, as the number should have appeared as HO. 4830. The number at the Restrick East Side Yard is PL. 2121.

ADRIAN N. LANGIUS, A.I.A.
Elected President of the Michigan Society of Architects.

WANTED — Experienced architectural draftsman. Excellent living accommodations available next door.—Alden B. Dow, 315 Post St., Midland, Mich.
Michigan Architects and the War

Excerpts from a Report of the Committee on Michigan Architecture, presented at the M.S.A. 33rd Convention, by Mr. Leinweber.

In order to record the activities of Michigan architects in the war effort, this Committee forwarded to all architects registered in the State of Michigan, a questionnaire requesting information pertaining to the individual or the corporation or partnership activities during the war period. While all questionnaire forms were not returned, although additional time was allowed to secure the greatest response, a sufficient number were received to form a very comprehensive picture of Michigan architects' participation. Also while questionnaires were sent to all architects registered in Michigan the Committee felt this report should be limited to those registrants who are residents of Michigan.

From the questionnaire-replies the following information was classified.
1. Architects Serving in the Armed Forces.
2. Governmental Departments and Agencies Served by Architects as Practitioners.
3. Types of Buildings Designed for Governmental Departments and Agencies.
4. Types of Buildings Developed for Private Owners Contributing to the War Effort.
5. Public Buildings for State and Local Governments for Health, Social and Other Uses due to Enlarged Industrial Expansion.

A list of the above is appended to this report.

Concurrent with the great amount of industrial and other work carried on during the war period was a great deal of designing and planning for post-war projects, with a view to having them ready at the termination of war.

From analysis of the questionnaire-replies, public information available at the time and through newspapers and periodicals, the Committee makes the following observations:

"Building for Battle" characterizes the spirit and the activities of the construction industry during the recent war period. There was integrated effort between all elements of the industry, between the client represented by government, corporate and other administrators on the one hand, and on the other, by the design professions, contractors, manufacturers of building materials and suppliers, skilled artisans in forest, shop and field.

Beyond vast sums for ships, armament and special installations for the armed forces, extraordinary amounts were expended for building construction. Private construction not contributing to the war effort or to the imperative needs of the war were postponed and the nation's unequaled capacity in building concentrated on what was essential for the successful prosecution of the war.

Industrial plant capacity was expanded tremendously; new plants of fabulous size were built of which the Ford plant at Willow Run and that of Chrysler at Chicago were outstanding. Great, clear areas were enclosed with steel, concrete and glass. Steel not only spanned wide spaces but found new uses in the English Bailey bridge for field erection and in the Quonset hut; reinforced concrete in the form of thin vaults and considerable span came into use in this country and timber in the hands of structural designers challenged the ability of other materials in providing large floor areas unbroken by columns. The old arched train sheds became hangars for planes and docks for blimps. The architects of ancient and modern history were amazed indeed to see the size of interiors made possible by modern, contemporary construction without imposing on Mother Earth the tremendous loads of the "good old days". With our resources the cathedrals and temples would have assumed entirely different forms.

The production of materials for building reached unheard of proportions as did the output of the industry. Numerous innovations in the field of concrete made possible larger, lighter and stronger structures. "Building for Battle" characterizes the spirit and the activities of the construction industry during the recent war period.

The Michigan Architecture, presented at the M.S.A. 33rd Convention, by Mr. Leinweber.

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The lighting was definitely planned for the electrical control room shown here. The Ainsworth fixtures each containing two 40-watt lamps produce a general illumination of 35-40 fc. Contrast values along the ceiling are much less than the maximum 10 to 1 recommended for glare-free vision. Auxiliary lighting on the control board is provided by a row of Holophane counter lights recessed in the ceiling.

The Detroit Edison Company
Conference on Hospital Design

ANN ARBOR—Trends and techniques of planning modern hospitals and clinics will be discussed by some 75 hospital administrators, consultants, doctors, and architects at a Conference at the University of Michigan, April 3 through 5.

According to Dean Wells I. Bennett of the University’s College of Architecture and Design, which is sponsoring the meeting, the conference will deal with buildings of 200 beds and less.

Among the speakers, the following are from Michigan: Adrian N. Langius, director of the building program for the State of Michigan, Lansing; Kenneth C. Black, architect and Conference chairman, Lansing; Alden B. Dow, architect, Midland; Graham L. Davis, director of the Division of Hospitals, W. K. Kellogg Foundation, Battle Creek; Lewis J. Sarvis, architect, Battle Creek; Dr. Christopher Parnell, hospital consultant, Ann Arbor; Dr. Fred J. Hodges, chairman of the Department of Roentgenology at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor; and, Amedeo Leone, architect, Detroit.

Other speakers include: Lt. Col. H. E. Brown, acting director of the Medical Administration Service, Veterans Administration, Washington, D. C.; Marshall Shaffer, chief of the Division of Technical Service, Division of Hospital Facilities, U. S. Public Health Service, Washington, D. C.; George Bugbee, executive director of the American Hospital Association, Chicago; Nathaniel A. Owings, architects, Chicago; Thomas F. Ellerbe, architect, St. Paul, Minn.; H. Eldridge Hanaford, architect, Cincinnati; Walter T. Rolfe, architect, Houston, Texas; Isadore Rosenfield, architect, New York City; Dr. Basil C. MacLean, director of Strong Memorial Hospital, University of Rochester, Rochester, N. Y.; Joseph Hudnut, Dean of the Graduate School of Design, Harvard University, Cambridge, Mass.; and Dr. Joseph D. Murphy, professor of architecture, Washington University, St. Louis, Mo.

Included in the subjects to be discussed will be the Veterans Hospital Program, Planning of a Veterans Hospital, Community Hospitals, and Functional Design in Hospital Architecture.

Refresher Course Proves Successful

In his semi-annual report to members of the Affiliate Council of ESD, Chairman Grant Wilcox, Jr., reports that the highly ingenious and successful “Refresher Course Program” began its second annual series recently. A class of 167 men were in attendance.

Working under the direction of Lou Williams, vice chairman of the Affiliate Council, the Refresher Course Committee has improved its program tremendously on the basis of last year’s successful experience. A competent and experienced staff is assembled, the course material is more effective, and the attendance has been repeatedly heavy.

Not only was the course wholly self-supporting last year, but the degree of success can be measured by the outstanding performance of those taking the course at the examination last June. On Part I—fundamentals, 72% of those taking the course passed as against 43% for the total men examined. On Part II—law and ethics 98% of those taking the course were successful as against 85% for the whole group. On Part III—professional experience, which cannot be taught, the percentage passing remained the same.

Exhibit of Stratton Work

The Detroit Institute of Arts is holding an exhibit of the work of the late William B. Stratton, F.A.I.A., for one month, beginning March 19. The work of this distinguished and beloved Fellow of the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, is a desired honor in retrospective. The exhibition, in the lower gallery, consists of sketches, photographs of completed work, and some pottery. Mary Chase Stratton (Mrs. W. B.) has been recognized nationally as a leading designer and craftsman, through her work at Pewabic Pottery.

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WEEKLY BULLETIN
the transportation of construction supplies to home and foreign sites wherever located, planes and factories in the task to a substantial degree for the first time in history.

General efficiency in design and construction was on the highest plane and on a scale for which the nation could well be proud and grateful. Never before did a country build at such a rate, in such measure and depend to such an extent on technically trained designers.

As the record shows, Michigan architects were among those in the forefront. Their knowledge of industrial requirements and experience in giving these functional and effective form was brilliantly demonstrated, not only under high pressure conditions at home, but in hazardous localities in the field of action. Detroit became known as the Arsenal of the World, and Michigan architects, because of their "know-how" in the planning of the industrial buildings for this Arsenal, were called upon to do much of the designing for the war plants and other buildings through the country and abroad.

The questionnaire-replies indicated the adaptability of the architect and the architectural draftsman to a wide range of technical problems.

One of the effects of the war was to reduce the enrollment in architectural schools to very near the vanishing point. Examinations for architectural registration during this period had less than half the volume of work going on in offices of Michigan architects three times the number of prewar applications for reciprocal registration were made.

The International Congress of Architects planned to be held in this country was cancelled and national, state and local meetings of architects were discontinued and were greatly modified because of conditions in transportation and housing.

The general effect of the war was to place large projects in larger offices, emphasizing a trend of several years, such offices being able to render rather complete service coordinatically. Parts of the project thereby simplifying the work of federal and other administrators.

Fewer firms were active during the war, many younger practitioners having entered some branch of government service and also because many classes of buildings were discontinued. Many architects entered the technical branches of the services where their training and professional experience counted admirably. The questionnaire-replies emphasizes this fact.

Unquestionably many of these architects are at a disadvantage in starting anew their practice as is true in other professions too. Much credit is due these practitioners, not only for their service with the forces but also for voluntarily closing up shop and graciously accepting the financial losses entailed.

Another effect of the war was to emphasize housing, in which the country had and still has something to learn in matters architectural than otherwise. A by-product of the housing problem was the increasing of the number of housing units by the alteration of old and large houses. Architectural skill and good taste made some of these altered buildings very satisfactory. However the movement was accompanied by a rash of fire escapes and bulges which in some cases made houses of unhappy design decidedly more unhappy, old material to match often not being available.

Labor problems were subordinated to national ends during the war period which made the high speed of construction possible though at high cost paralleled with rising living expense.

This combination of elements brought about the situation after peace arrived through which those most needing shelter cannot afford to buy it.

On the social side the old game of bowling came into its own with the erection of a number of buildings to provide recreation for the double and triple shifts of war employees.

A general effect of the "duration" was the accumulation of extensive need for new buildings of many types including houses for which a serious shortage was created as well as the approximate exhaustion of lumber needed for house construction. Here metallic construction found a new field in the form of the Quonset hut which was used not only by the armed forces but adapted to use for shelter in town and country.

The contractor became a problem in urban centers. In this respect the Michigan Society of Architects prepared a study and report on the situation with a view to the proper planning of trailer parks in an orderly manner with regard for the amenities.

The importance of city planning was better recognized with the organization of a group of architects for its study upon the recommendation of the Detroit Chapter of the American Institute of Architects and under the direction of Dr. Eliel Saarinen.

The Committee, in making this report, recommends that—

a. A copy of the report, together with the original questionnaire-replies, including also a copy of the list of registered architects in Michigan for the 1944 or 1945 period, be filed with the Burton Historical Collection.

b. A copy of the report be filed with the national office of the American Institute of Architects.

c. A copy of the report, together with the list of registered architects of 1944 or 1945, be filed with the Historical Commission of the State at Lansing.

EMIL LORCH, Chairman

THOMAS H. HEWLETT

J. W. LEINWEBER

March 5, 1947

MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Page 3
Hewitt Architect of Month

Mr. Edward N. Hewitt, American Institute of Architects, has been chosen as the local Architect to be honored by Kern's Civic Center for Home Planners, Ninth floor of The Ernst Kern Company, for the month of March. This series of "Architect of the Month" designs have been especially prepared for the Civic Center and are planned to show what is being done in the field of small homes by our own Detroit local architects.

Mr. Hewitt, with a background of Architectural Engineering, University of Michigan,—with two years spent on outside construction and with experience in various architectural offices in Detroit and who, for the last three years has been associated with Saarinen, Swanson and Saarinen and who has his own practice, has this to say about today's homes:—"With today's costs, maximum flexibility of space must be achieved in the small house. This challenge to the architect must be met with unrestricted freedom in planning and design. New materials, new concepts of space and design must be exhaustively studied.

"A few solutions are compartmentalized sleeping areas divided by folding partitions for utmost flexibility in sleeping habits, sickness, etc. Separated toilet facilities for multi-use at one time. A large kitchen—laundry—eating—play area in conjunction with a relaxing-social area of equal size, separated by a draw curtain. When opened we have parties, movies, family dinners. When closed, we relax and read in one area and work, play and eat in the other area.

"Flat roofs or pitched, fieldstone or prefabricated panels. Let's plan and build creatively in an age of our own."

Mr. Hewitt's design will be on display during the entire month of March. The public is cordially invited to view this display during all store hours—in Kern's Civic Center for Home Planners.

New Book by Hamlin

Adequate housing can be achieved only by government subsidy concludes Talbot F. Hamlin, professor of architecture at Columbia University, in his new book, "Architecture—An Art For All Men." The Columbia University Press will publish the book on March 31.

"The truth," says Professor Hamlin, "is that in the American financial sense housing cannot be achieved in a larger sense, decent housing for the multitude is a necessity which, literally, the masses cannot afford." Their wages are not sufficient for rents large enough to cover inflated private land values, profits to builder and dealer, high interest rates and all the other multitudinous expenses that private speculative development makes inevitable.

"Housing must be considered a public matter. We must be prepared to furnish it either by private enterprise or with governmental subsidy," he concludes.

Professor Hamlin follows the theme in his new book that architecture is an art with which everyone comes into daily contact and in detail what goes into architecture: the various forms of construction from post-and-lintel to modern suspended and cantilevered construction; the relation between function and design; unity, balance, proportion, harmony of style and structure, functional expression; the architect's materials; interiors; the various types of decorative elements; the relation between structure and ornament, and the question of style.

A native New Yorker, Professor Hamlin was graduated from Amherst College in 1910 and received his Bachelor of Architecture degree from the Columbia School of Architecture in 1914. Since 1916, he has been a lecturer in the theory of architecture at Columbia. Until 1934 he was also a practicing architect and was one of the designers of Ginling College, Nanking, China. From 1934 to 1946 he was librarian of the Avery Architectural Library of Columbia University and also, from 1935, librarian of the Fine Arts Library.

Reactions from several old friends were received on the reservation cards sent out for the Society's Annual Banquet:

Robert D. Kohn returned his signed "Charles Butler and Robert D. Kohn", with the notation, "We might, by an acquaintance, get a date. Really wish I could join you but time forbids and my wife won't let me fly."

Lancelot Suker: "Sincerely regret my inability to be with you."

Jim Kidney: "Wish I could."

John Bolles: "Sorry, but I'll have to wait before or just after the AIA Convention and I'll accept. Really wish I could join you but time forbids and my wife won't let me fly."

Goldwin Goldsmith: "thanks for the invitation. Please change the date to just before or just after the AIA Convention and I'll accept. Really wish I could join you but time forbids and my wife won't let me fly."

Lancelot Suker: "Sincerely regret my inability to be with you."

Jim Kidney: "Wish I could."

John Bolles: "Sorry, but I'll have to wait before or just after the AIA Convention and I'll accept. Really wish I could join you but time forbids and my wife won't let me fly."

One was just signed Kilroy. Probably it was "Kilroy" who was cloning so at the Convention.
School Lighting Subject Of Chapter Meeting

At a dinner meeting of the Detroit Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, in the Rackham Memorial Building, Detroit, on the evening of April 16, the subject will be “Better Visual Conditions in Schools”.

Through the efforts of Dr. Eugene B. Elliott, Superintendent of Public Instruction and Dr. Wm. DeKleine, State Health Commissioner, there has been established a series of statewide institutes for the month of April. These institutes are to promote BETTER VISUAL CONDITIONS IN SCHOOLS. School administrators, public health workers, architects and engineers have been invited to attend the meetings.

The above-named two officials prevailed upon the California Department of Education, to give Mr. Charles Gibson, field representative of the Division of Schoolhouse Planning, a leave of absence for the month of April in order to have him conduct these institutes. His salary and expenses during the month of April will be paid by the State of Michigan. Mr. Gibson is a nationally-known authority on school lighting and will be available for private consultation with school officials and others regarding specific problems.

Research has demonstrated that proper distribution and control of natural and artificial light, together with reduction of contracts between areas of high and low brightness, can prevent many eye difficulties and can result in better learning rates. It is hoped that this series of institutes will clear up common misunderstandings regarding illumination and result in better seeing in the classrooms of Michigan schools. Sixteen such institute meetings have been scheduled; three of these meetings (Detroit, Grand Rapids and Ann Arbor) are to be devoted to the professions of architecture and engineering; the Detroit meeting will be held on the evening of APRIL 16 in the RACKHAM BUILDING, sponsored by the Detroit Chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

Robert B. Frantz Heads Saginaw Valley Chapter

Saginaw Valley Chapter of The American Institute of Architects has elected Robert B. Frantz President; Joseph C. Goddeyne, Vice-President; LaVern J. Nelson, Secretary, and John MacKenzie, Treasurer. Patul A. Brysselbout has been named Director on the Board of the Michigan Society of Architects.

Goddeyne and James A. Spence have been elected Delegates to the A.I.A. Convention to be held in Grand Rapids, April 29-30 and May 1. Brysselbout and Ralph W. Knuth, both of Bay City, are new members of the Chapter. Fred E. Wigen, formerly associate member of the Detroit Chapter, has transferred his membership to the Saginaw Valley Chapter. The Chapter now has twenty corporate members and one associate.

Frantz and Spence were in attendance at the Michigan Society of Architects recent Convention in Grand Rapids. Frantz had been the Saginaw Valley’s Director on the Society Board. At the Convention he was elected a Vice-President.
Neutra Interests
Detroit Audience

Richard J. Neutra, AIA, distinguished architect and city planner of Los Angeles, California, captivated members and guests of the Detroit Chapter, AIA at a dinner meeting in the Rackham Building, March 14.

His subject, “The American Hemisphere and Design” dealt with architecture and city planning in Southern California and in this country, drawing comparative conclusions. He illustrated his points with beautiful photochrome slides, some of which were of his own housing projects and individual homes, expressing California’s year-round indoor-outdoor life.

Mr. Neutra reported that he had enjoyed a pleasant two-days visiting points of interest; at one place a Scotsman, in an architect’s office where there was an Italian; and at the City Plan Commission, where there were many different kinds—one from Michigan.

“Detroit looks more interesting, challenging, promising than a hundred other cities rolled into one,” he observed.

He developed his theme of the Five Harmonies in a most interesting manner. Drawing a parallel of Architecture and Music, he said a musical discordance could be wiped out by succeeding harmony but, he added: “We as architects cannot afford to experiment with discord.

“Tt a building is to stand for ten years it must not be built for only two. I have seen this all over. Not only is this true in the physical sense, but in the spiritual as well.”

One of the harmonies he mentioned as management and maintenance. “Generally speaking,” he said, “management of housing projects are rotten. We can’t really design properly until we know how a project is to be managed.”

Another of his harmonies has to do with techniques, materials and methods. Prefabs, he says, are making their contributions. A fourth harmony is nature—winds, moisture, sun, etc., and the nature of an individual, and what one can stand.

In showing a picture of a South American hotel, he said, “I walked from here to the airport. I do not expect to do that tomorrow, though, I am impressed with your Willow Run Expressway.”

Before introducing the speaker, Chapter President, Wells I. Bennett welcomed some 25 students from the University of Michigan and Cranbrook Academy of Art, also Mr. Clarence E. Norenberg, a member of the Southern California Chapter, AIA, who was a guest of Secretary McGrew.

At a meeting preceding the dinner, the Chapter’s Executive Committee dealt with many items of business.

In view of the fact that The War Mobilization and Reconversion Act of 1944 expires on June 30, 1947 the Board went on record as favoring the extension of provisions for Federal aid to advance planning, to provide a bank of planned projects which could be used, by means of

(See NEUTRA, Page 4)
Just a portion of the Chapter members at the Neutra dinner. After the dinner was over tables were removed, seating arranged in auditorium fashion for an estimated attendance of 175 at the lecture.

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MARCH 25, 1947
Neutra—(from Page 2) subsidy, to prevent a recession as well as to help stabilize the construction industry. Copies of the resolution are to be sent to Michigan senators and congressmen. Endorsement had previously been given the proposed Smoke-Abatement Code for Detroit, as sponsored by the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council.

The Off-Street Parking Ordinance is being studied by a Committee headed by Suren Pilafian, aided by Paul R. Sewell and Eberle M. Smith. Not the least important was a report to the Board by Treasurer, Cornelius L. T. Gabler, who is doing an outstanding job in bringing members into good standing, with regard to Chapter dues. Mr. Gabler expresses his appreciation for the cooperation he has received in response to his appeals.

ELEANOR ROCHE, member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, announces the reopening of her office at 399 Fisher Road, Grosse Pointe, 30, Mich., where she will specialize in the design of private and public grounds, as well as their development. She also will render consultation service and supervision on garden plans. The telephone number is TUxedo 2-990.