Urban America of tomorrow is in the making today. The hour grows late and we are already far behind schedule. Moreover, the great task of rebuilding our urban centers does not start with a clean slate. By and large we are not building new cities as we were a century ago but are forced to reconstruct old cities, many of which have been created in response to conditions which have ceased to exist.

We have reached a point in the development of most American cities where the ceaseless growth of the past has come to an abrupt halt. No longer can we rely upon an uninterrupted increase in population and economic opportunity to make up for our failure to assume responsibility, and for the wreckage that has followed in the wake of reckless and uncontrolled expansion that has been characteristic of our past. So much more of our population is urbanized, and so much more is the welfare of the nation as a whole dependent upon the healthy functioning of our cities, that improvement of urban America has become of paramount national concern. The individual community, however, is and will continue to be responsible for initiating the solution of this perplexing problem.

The sound growth of any community is possible only through the combined efforts of public action and private initiative. There must be full coordination between planning for the development of public facilities as streets, schools, parks, public buildings and open spaces on the one hand; and private property, that is, facilities for business, industry and other non-public uses on the other hand. It is now generally recognized that this development must be guided by an over-all control in the form of a master plan made and administered by a single responsible authority, usually a city planning commission. In making the master plan, the planning commission necessarily coordinates the programs of other official agencies whose activities and duties have to do with the physical development of the city. The plans of private builders must also fit into the general scheme. Coordination must be all-inclusive to be effective and to make the master plan a realistic implement for guiding the city's orderly development. Such a coordinated approach is equally essential in solving the problems of blighted areas.

From the standpoint of urban planning, the redevelopment of blighted areas is one of the most important economic-social problems facing us in this post-war era. The decay of large areas in American cities, notably in the central sections, is one of the major problems of today. Blight and slums have spread over an estimated one-fourth of urban America. Thus, as we stand at the threshold of a delayed building boom, it is important to make sure that we develop a program that will help stamp out the disease affecting our cities.

Billions of dollars worth of real values have been destroyed by the process of decay which, as we have seen, occurs in all of our cities, large and small. Attempts by cities to offset the decline in assessed valuations by raising tax rates, merely drives many citizens and business establishments beyond city boundaries and produces even greater financial loss.

Blight stops the development of many areas before the land is fully utilized. Municipal services and public utilities must push through these area in order to serve the outskirts with a resulting loss of efficiency and waste of money. Constant expenditures are necessary to provide and maintain streets and highways to carry people through blighted sections to the most livable portions of the city.

A solution to these and other economic and social problems resulting from blight is becoming increasingly urgent. Improved means of transportation and communication, which have made possible the spread of our cities, will be more, rather than less, important in the future.

The solution of the problem of blighted areas through redevelopment by private enterprise is at present impossible. Ownership in blighted areas is widely dispersed. If redevelopment is to be effective, it must be undertaken in large units. With the finest plan of redevelopment, the private developer attempting to assemble a large unit of land may be balked by a few intransigent property owners who refuse to sell or will sell only at an exorbitant price.

The first requirement in a program for the intelligent and effective solution of this problem is a sound urban redevelopment statute. Twenty-three states and the District of Columbia now have some form of a redevelopment law on their statute books. Ohio is one of those which does not.

The disease which we call blight must be something less visible, more subtle and deeper than the mere age or structural obsolescence of the existing buildings. For, if this were the trouble, it would cure itself. By this I mean the areas would be rebuilt in
the ordinary course of private enterprise without novel or extraordinary forms of public participation. If new buildings for old were all that is needed, it would be practical and feasible to build them, and the ordinary economic motives of private enterprise would long ago have engaged in building them. Such has not been the case, and indeed the blighted areas tended to grow more extensive and decadent.

One of the reasons is that the obsolescence is not merely a structural obsolescence but an obsolescence of the design of the areas themselves as well as that of the whole urban territory. The existing lot and street layout of these areas is obsolete in the sense that it does not fit in a modern technology. The rebuilding, as a practical or economic matter, cannot occur without the cure of this deeper obsolescence by a redesigning of the areas.

But the obsolescence goes still deeper, for the present classes of land uses of these areas are obsolete in varying degrees. The processes of population, communication and industrial allocation induced by the automobile and other contemporary changes in modes of transportation, in the types of territory required by or available to modern industry, and other causes, have been significant. The result is that existing classes of land uses, as for instance residential, industrial, business, etc., have become inappropriate and unfit. To prepare these areas, therefore, for a redevelopment or rehabilitation which would be socially and economically sound and stabilized, the replanning of the design and uses of these areas, in the light of general master planning of the whole urban territory, in which they are located, is essential.

We must guard against any assumption that blighted areas are coterminous or coextensive or identical with slum areas. It does not follow that areas now used for residential purposes should be rebuilt for residential use, or that those which are now used for the habitation of a particular income group should be rebuilt for that particular income group. Such assumptions as these would lead to the tragic result that rebuilding would simply institute the beginning of a new era of a blight and instability which would accelerate a repetition of the source and economic wastes of which blight is the manifestation. As Henry S. Churchill, prominent architect and planner, has pointed out, "There is little to be gained by rearranging discomfort, nor does it then matter much what form the rearrangement takes. It hardly seems worthwhile to change things if they are to remain the same."

For these reasons serious warning need be given against conceiving urban

---

**IPC**

"LIFETIME"

WATERPROOF MASONRY PAINT

STOPS DRIVING RAIN THROUGH STUCCO, TILE, BRICK, CINDER BLOCK AND CONCRETE

MASONRY PROTECTION CO.

DETOUR 27 FREELAND

VERMONT 7-4540

---

**M. DEN BRAVEN CO.**

9080 ALPINE AVENUE

DETOUR 4, MICHIGAN

---

**ARCHITECTURAL RENDERINGS**

make a client say "Yes"

William M. Eggebrecht

119 West Dakota

DETOUR 3, MICHIGAN

TOWNSEND 9-4912

---

**CADDY**

For Beauty and Permanence use...

Century Brick Company

PERMA-COLOR FACE BRICK

SEWER PIPE — CLAY TILE — GLASS BLOCK

UNIVERSITY 1-8200

TOWNSEND 8-1354

---

**Koenig Coal & Supply Co.**

CERTIFIED CONCRETE

CONCRETE — FUEL OIL — COAL

Main Office: 1484 Gratiot Ave. CADDY 1584

---

**R. D. THAYER COMPANY**

WATERPROOFING ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS

2731 Joy Road — DETROIT (4) — TOWNSEND 9-4912
842 Hall St., S.E.—GRAND RAPIDS (17)—PH. 5-3180

---

**PORTABLE AIR COMPRESSORS FOR RENT**

All Accessories Furnished

60 to 500 cu. ft. — By Day, Week or Month

W. H. ANDERSON CO., INC.

DETOUR, MICHIGAN

---

**O. W. BURKE CO.**

GENERAL CONTRACTOR

FISHER BUILDING

MADISON 0810 DETROIT, MICH.

---

**DARIN AND ARMSTRONG**

INCORPORATED

GENERAL CONTRACTORS

201 FENKELL AVENUE

DETOUR

---

**H. H. DICKINSON CO.**

COMPLETE BUILDERS SUPPLIES

ARMORED CONCRETE CURBING

MASTER BUILDERS PRODUCTS

HEATLATOR — ASPHALTS

5785 Hamilton Avenue

MADISON 4950

---

**Murray W. Sales & Co.**

WHOLESALE

PLUMBING — HEATING SUPPLIES

FLINT — DETROIT — FANFAX

801 W. BALTIMORE

MADISON 4200

---

**FREDERICK B. STEVENS INCORPORATED**

FACE BRICK, GLAZED BRICK, GLAZED AND UNGLAZED TILES, FLOOR TILES ANTI-HYDRO-

For Hardening and Waterproofing Concrete

510 THIRD ST.

RANDOLPH 5990 DETROIT

---

**MAURICE V. ROGERS CO.**

GENERAL CONSTRUCTION

839 Collingwood Ave.

DETROIT 2, MICHIGAN

---

**Viking Sprinkler Company**

Fire Protection Engineers & Contractors

AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER SYSTEMS

Also a Complete Line of Pre-Action Devices

TE. 1-9604 DETROIT DETROIT

---

**NELSON COMPANY**

Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning Supplies

WHOLESALE

Main Office and Display Room

204 FOURTH AVENUE

Phone RA. 4142

ROYAL OAK — GRANITE POINT — ANN ARBOR
TERRACE HOUSES MAY RETURN TO BRITAIN

By JOAN LITTLEFIELD

Britain, so famous in the 18th and 19th centuries for its terraces, may return to this type of house building, if plans and models recently exhibited at London's Building Exhibition, are adopted. The designs were shown, by the Ministry of Health, chiefly to stimulate discussion within the architectural profession.

Some were models of three-storey houses, continuing the tradition of British urban building, which has been interrupted of recent years because of the popularity of laying out estates on garden city lines. Terrace houses, also, provide a method which would enable more families to live in a house with a garden, and are so compact that they would be particularly suitable for areas where it is necessary to build to a high density.

Plan A, designed for a household of seven, allows a floor area of 1161 sq. ft., and a frontage of 18ft. 6 in. The house is planned for an east-west aspect, preferably east to the road. Its chief advantage is that both living rooms are on the ground floor and the main bedroom and bathroom on the second floor. The top floor contains two bedrooms. There is access to a roof terrace at the same level from the top landing of the staircase. This gives additional outdoor space to supplement the necessarily small garden.

Plan B, again for a household of seven, has a floor area of 1210 sq. ft., and a frontage of 15ft. 6 in. Planned for a south aspect, it occupies the smallest frontage of the three, and should be useful in areas where frontages are severely restricted. The density of building represented by the number of rooms per acre need be no less in this type of development than in the case of three storey apartments. Tunnel passages and rear access roads are not required for this design as such access can be obtained through the entrance hall and garden store, which is included within the main containing walls of the house. The staircase is centrally placed between front and back rooms.

Plan C, designed for a household of five, has a floor area of 1058 sq. ft., and a frontage of 16 ft. It is a south aspect terrace house with a dining space, working kitchen and second lavatory on the ground floor. The next floor contains living room and one bedroom, while the principal bedroom, bathroom and third bedroom are on the top floor. This terrace is designed for use only where a secondary road or footpath can be provided at the rear of the site.

Also on view at the Building Exhibition were plans and models of proposed four-storey maisonnettes, suitable, in high density areas, for childless couples or those with small, near grown-up families.

The building consists of sixteen dwellings and has a frontage of 132 ft. 1½ in., and a height, to the top of the parapet, of 38 ft. 5 in. It is designed for a south or east-west aspect, and contains two types of maisonnette. The four larger ones, for five persons, have an area of 948 sq. ft., and consist of dining room, living room and three bedrooms. The eight smaller dwellings, with an area of 785 sq. ft., are for four people, and comprise working kitchen, living room and two bedrooms. Each dwelling has a large private balcony, partly inset. The center of the building contains the common access staircase and three two room and one single room apartments. One the ground floor is a big perambulator store.
disease which we are engaged in treating. Putting our urban communities upon an economically and socially sound basis is not merely the advance of public funds but some degree of expenditure of public funds. In the end, the indirect financial benefits to both private and public treasuries will, if the redevelopment be well administered, unquestionably show an immaterial profit.

On the question of federal aid one may say that urban blight is a blight in the national economy for blighting factors are not all attributable to local causes. Involved are both local and national processes, such as the location of great national industries and the location of great national facilities such as railroads, major highways, federal aid to suburban private developments and others. Then there is the fact that, under our present tax system, the federal government takes from the localities revenues, without which they cannot finance this redevelopment process. Consequently, since most cities will require some outside financial assistance in the furtherance of their redevelopment programs it does not seem unreasonable to look to the federal government for such help. At least the door should be left open if such assistance is required and becomes available.

Another aspect of the problem of blight is that there exist here and there neighborhoods which are not so far gone as to justify wholesale clearance and redevelopment. Such areas, however, may present problems even more varied and complex than those requiring redevelopment. It would seem desirable that these neighborhoods be saved from further blight through programs of conservation and rehabilitation. It would seem fair and possible to defray the cost of some parts of such a program from the enhanced values which would result. This suggests the application of a district benefit assessment for financing some of the steps involved in a rehabilitation program. It also suggests some form of quasi-public neighborhood organization with adequate powers to undertake it.

The redevelopment or even the rehabilitation of areas devoted primarily to residential use will unquestionably result in a lowered density. This means that as such a program progresses there will be a greater and greater need for the opening up of new areas where these families can go. Besides, most of the construction in the next few years, it is generally agreed, will occur in new or raw land areas. If we are to escape the development of new slums there will have to be community planning so that the new growth will produce well organized neighborhoods and communities.

Developmental control measures now available to local government are frequently inadequate for such a program. The initial step is an adequate county zoning law but no zoning can go far enough to meet the full need. It may be that subdivision controls can be strengthened sufficiently to insure sound development, although those most familiar with this problem recognize the limitations and difficulties of such an approach. The practical answer may be to give our cities and other local governmental units authority to acquire sites, prepare community plans, make available utility services and community facilities and otherwise condition building sites—and then sell or lease these under appropriate restrictions. There is reason to believe that at least some developers and realthors would welcome such procedure.

In closing let me reemphasize that slum clearance and redevelopment are not synonymous and that some degree of rehabilitation can be undertaken with the expectation of sound and stable results unless they reflect the over-all objectives of a well conceived master plan for the community involved. To quote again from Mr. Churchill, "The art of city planning is four dimensional, consisting of width, breadth, height and imagination."

EX-BELLBOY WINS ARCHITECTURAL PRIZE

James A. Dickerson, Jr., young Jackson architectural draftsman with Leon Snyder in Battle Creek, has earned commendation from House Beautiful magazine for a house of colonial architecture which he designed. The house, one of 200 in Orchard Park subdivision, near Battle Creek.

Dickerson designed 36 of the subdivision's 200 homes.

The certificate of merit from House Beautiful was complimented, Dickerson said, by favorable comment from Alden Dow, architect of Midland.

Dickerson, formerly a bellboy at the Hotel Hayes. He was graduated in 1937 from Jackson High school, attended Jackson Junior college, the University of Michigan, and Howard university, Washington, D. C. In February, 1946, Dickerson earned second place in a national architectural contest sponsored by Howard University which won for him $250 in Victory bonds. He has since received his master's degree in architecture.

House Beautiful magazine informed him, that the commendation will be published in a future issue.

KRESSBACH HEADS GRAND RAPIDS CHAPTER

Carl Kressbach of Jackson was elected President of the Grand Rapids Chapter of The American Institute of Architects at the Chapter's Annual Meeting at Grand Rapids on December 15th.

Others elected include Charles Norton of Grand Rapids, Vice-President; Peter Vanderlaan of Kalamazoo, Secretary-Treasurer. Bernard J. DeVries of Muskegon and Philip Haughery of Battle Creek are new Directors.

Kressbach succeeds Haughery as President.
redevelopment as a subject identical with housing. Of the uses of the land of a given district, the largest representing from 60 to 75 percent. This is just as true of the unblighted as of the blighted areas, of the whole urban territory as of the blighted portion thereof. So, while housing construction will always form the larger portion of all urban redevelopment or development, a costly mistake will be made if urban redevelopment be conceived of as the replanning and rebuilding of slum areas only or the replanning or rebuilding for housing rents. Urban redevelopment or rehabilitation process needs to be applied to all areas which need it and for all classes of uses which, according to good city planning principles, are appropriate to those areas. As urban redevelopment will prepare areas for reconstruction and will finance this preparation, housing will be the greatest beneficiary of this process. On the other hand, unless the legislation, planning and administration be understood to be for all kinds of blighted areas and any classes or urban uses redevelopment process will not produce stable results.

Let me cite just a few illustrations of blighted areas which are not of slum species or necessarily should be redeveloped for housing. Take an old area adjacent to railroad yards and now occupied by a more or less decayed or abandoned mixture of obsolescent structures, used for habitation and other purposes, all of these uses being a kind which under modern conditions cannot be successfully carried on and thrive in their present locations adjoining busy railroad yards. Perhaps the master plan will demonstrate that it is the railroad yard which needs to be moved. If not, then the situation calls for some form of non-residential use, such as automobile parking or modern warehouses.

Then take an area subject to occasional river inundation. Perhaps the planning will indicate the thing to do is remove the threat of inundation; making the area available for residential uses. On the other hand, sound planning considerations might indicate that the thing to do is to devote the area to types of uses other than residential.

Take as another illustration an area composed of the frayed portion of a central business district. This is the area which is not true of the old areas where the hangover of past speculative values is still strong. Consequently, we must face the situation that many areas in the blighted districts cannot be disposed of subject to the plan for an amount equal to the acquisition cost, and we must be prepared not only to carry that proportion of the land acquisition costs which will come gradually to be recovered by sales or ground rents of the areas, but beyond that to expand from public funds the acquisition cost which may not prove thus recoverable.

This is no reason for hesitation, however, for this difference between acquisition cost and disposition yield is the evidence of the strength of the well being. That the master planning and the replanning of the areas in their general features, that is, the general distribution of land uses, must be done by a public agency should be obvious without much argument. Naturally the private citizen will have a large part in this governmental activity as does the others. And naturally as in all governmental activity, much of the initiation will come from the private interests, and naturally most of the detailed structural planning of private housing, business, industrial and other private structures will be in the charge of the private redeveloper. But the general distribution of the land uses in the development areas, that is the general location of housing, industries, businesses, transportation, education, recreation, and so on, and the standards of population and building density, cannot possibly be soundly determined, from the point of view of social and economic values, except by public agencies.

One of the obsolescences with which we must deal is the present lot layout and design of the areas. Thus, the carrying out of the replanning is impossible unless ownership and other forms of control of the land of the area be temporarily concentrated so that the plan can be legally imposed upon it and become binding upon those who will take over the area. This means the assembly of the land of the area, as we cannot rely upon voluntary sales entirely, necessitates the exercise of eminent domain. This in turn necessitates the availability of funds to finance this land assembly.

Another of the obsolescences which produces the blight is that the existing market land values are seldom harmonious with the land values based on conformance with the plan. It is the planned use value which will be an important factor in producing stabilized redevelopment. As we all know, existing land values are the product of speculative market values based on past uses or past expectations or hopes for uses which are no longer appropriate to the area. There is every sound theoretical reason to hope that in the long run the use values in the aggregate and market values in the aggregate will tend to be equal. But that is not even theoretically true of any area in particular, and especially not true of the old areas where the hangover of past speculative values is still strong. Consequently, we must face the situation that many areas in the blighted districts cannot be disposed of subject to the plan for an amount equal to the acquisition cost, and we must be prepared not only to carry that proportion of the land acquisition costs which will come gradually to be recovered by sales or ground rents of the areas, but beyond that to expand from public funds the acquisition cost which may not prove thus recoverable.

Plastic-Glaze, the Post-War Glazing Compound to specify. Made from selected oils and special pigments. Weatherometer tests prove that Plastic-Glaze when properly applied and maintained will last as long as the sash. Dries rubbery hard, not rock hard, easy to apply, easy to remove.
OUT OF THE DARK

THE PROBLEM: lifting a building, and the business it houses, from the dark of night . . . yet keeping the lighting architecturally harmonious.

THE OBJECTIVE at Burroughs was to achieve strong yet dignified lighting of a dignified architectural design. To preserve, not flatten, the 3-dimensional effect of the graceful recessed entrance.

Edison lighting consultants supplied an effective solution by recommending installation of just six 300-Watt Floodlights. Located one in each corner and two behind each pillar, they make the building a magnet for passing eyes; a beacon drawing attention to the architect's artistry with brick, stone and glass. Even if exterior lighting is not to be installed at the time of construction, it is wise to provide the necessary outlets to save the expense of trenching at a later date. Edison lighting specialists will be glad to discuss exterior lighting with you, and to spot outlets on your plans. Call your nearest Edison office for this service.

The Detroit Edison Company
The Plumbing and Heating Outlook for 1948

A REPORT TO THE MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS

Wardell-Sheraton Hotel, Detroit — December 8, 1947

Herbert R. Dusendorf, Purchasing Agent, Nelson Company, Wholesalers of Plumbing and Heating Supplies, Detroit, Michigan

It is a privilege and an honor to appear before this audience to talk to you about perhaps the most important thing in your business today—the supply of material—I am going to try to paint a clear picture of the prospects for 1948 but if future unforeseen developments contradict me, please don't hold it against me.

Mr. Ermatinger introduced me as a Purchasing Agent and, officially, I guess that's right but, actually, for the past several years, I have been acting more as a salesman, trying to sell the manufacturers on shipping us more material, trying to sell them on the fact that the products of Detroit's factories are most vital to the prosperity of the entire nation, trying to sell them on the need for construction material so that Detroit's workers could have homes, so that Detroit factories could expand to produce more and more of the automobiles, trucks and other products that are so badly wanted all over the world.

First, a Purchasing Agent, second a Salesman and now a Prophet to talk about the Plumbing and Heating Outlook for 1948! I guess that makes me a triple-threat man. In football, a triple-threat man is one who can kick, run and pass. In my case the customers do the kicking, the manufacturers do the running and the buck is passed to me to forecast the future. That is probably as it should be. If I am not closer to the material picture than anyone else at Nelson Company, it certainly isn't anybody's fault. But my own. I'm going to try to tell you the story as I see it from my constant contacts with those who make the things which you specify and which we try to get for you.

All large manufacturers allocate their production on a basis first of how much the customer bought in pre-war years, second what will he buy when this boom is over and then adjust the allocation to compensate as best they can for the construction volume in planning at the Harvard School of Design, finally holding the Wheelwright Fellowship in architecture in 1943-44. He has been in his present position at Yale since 1945.

A summary of Mr. Tunnard's career would be incomplete without mentioning that he received a special award for landscape design at the Paris Exposition of 1937 and was the honorary secretary of the Institute of Landscape Architects in 1939 and chairman of the town planning committee of the Modern Architectural Research Society in 1938-39. In addition he has written an authoritative and imaginative book, "Gardens in the Modern Landscape," as well as many articles for periodicals.

"The Changing Community"

On January 15, at 8:30 p.m., the Metropolitan Art Association is sponsoring a lecture at the Detroit Institute of Arts on "The Changing Community" by Christopher Tunnard, head of the city planning section of the Yale School of Architecture.

Mr. Tunnard will present, from the city planner's viewpoint, possible solutions for the problems of growing communities. The lecturer's most recent experience along these lines has been the supervision of his students at Yale in the preparation of a plan for the redevelopment of Westport, Connecticut, at the request of the Citizens' Planning Association of Westport. Having been to England this past summer, he also made a study of the new post-war communities in that country, pictorial evidence of which will be ample in the forthcoming lecture.

Born in Victoria, British Columbia, the speaker was educated at the University of British Columbia and the Westminster Technical Institute, London, England. He came to the United States in 1939 to assist in the preparation of the site plan for the British Pavilion at the New York World's Fair. In 1934-37 he conducted his own office as site planner and designer in England; and in 1937-39 he was a lecturer on landscape architecture and regional landscape design at the Paris Exposition of 1937 and was the honorary secretary of the Institute of Landscape Architects in 1939 and chairman of the town planning committee of the Modern Architectural Research Society in 1938-39. In addition he has written an authoritative and imaginative book, "Gardens in the Modern Landscape," as well as many articles for periodicals.
each area. They realize that nothing is gained by shipping one city three times as much as it can use while some other city gets only one third of what it needs. They study all sorts of statistics and, I think, they generally do a pretty good job of distribution but they can hardly blame if they do not have the correct information put before them.

As all of us know, our troubles during the war and for the first year after the war were caused by restrictions on production and construction rather than on the demand. Today the story is the other way around. Production in most lines is at or near record peaks but the demand is far greater than those peaks. Most manufacturers increased their 1947 production over 1946 and most of them look for further increases next year but these estimates are contingent on raw material supplies, labor troubles, freight car shortages, weather conditions, increased exports to foreign countries and many other things which could happen but which they hope won't.

You will find, as I go along, that I am quite optimistic about increased production for next year and I believe that my optimism is justified—but when I say things will improve in 1948 it should not be expected that there will be a lot of material available immediately after January 1st. Some of this increased production will not make itself felt in the field until summer or early fall.

Assuming that all of the troubles which I mentioned don't happen, but taking them partly into consideration, this is what the picture looks like for specific products:

**Steel Pipe.** Steel men show gloomy faces whenever they are asked about the production of any finished steel items and they probably won't smile until next spring. You see, most mills have been told that when the temperature falls close to zero the gas supply which they need to operate their furnaces will be cut in half or shut off entirely. If they have the mild winter for which they are praying, the steel situation will be greatly improved.

I believe that we can expect increased production of steel pipe in 1948 but the amount of the increase depends almost entirely on the supply of raw materials, especially steel scrap. There seems to be a good supply of iron ore but unless the steel scrap that is needed to make new steel becomes more plentiful the chances of producing

**CINDER BLOCK INC.**

9301 Hubbard Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

- SHEET METAL
- VENTILATING
- AIR CONDITIONING

**M. DEN BRAVEN CO.**

9080 ALPINE AVENUE
DETROIT 4, MICHIGAN
much more pipe and other finished steel products is remote. Additional steel-making capacity is now in the course of construction — one mill is building two Bessemer furnaces which will be the largest in the world — but most of this capacity will not be ready until the latter part of 1948. A mill to make seamless steel pipe at a claimed rate of 2000 feet per minute has been under construction for several years and each year the completion is promised for “next year.” It looks now as though it won’t be ready until late 1948.

I feel that the steel mills are conservative in their pipe production expectations for 1948 and that a reasonably good increase in output can be expected.

Whether or not we in Detroit will get enough to fill the demand depends on how great the demand is and how good a job we can do to convince the mills that we need and should get more pipe.

Soil Pipe and Fittings. Again the bottleneck is raw material but here it is primarily the shortage of pig iron although the short supply of scrap iron is also a factor. Soil pipe foundries always use scrap iron but, unlike steel, it is unnecessary to use it to make soil pipe. It is usually used because it is cheaper than pig iron but today it costs 20 dollars a ton more than pig iron whereas in 1940 it cost 4 dollars less. And today — because pig iron is scarce — they are using more scrap iron than ever before. Too much scrap iron does not make good castings and foundry losses today are running twice as much as they should be. This, of course, cuts down the amount of soil pipe that the foundries can ship.

Until a year ago, the process of casting a length of soil pipe was to make a sand mold on a foundry floor by hand labor from a wood or metal pattern, make a sand core, harden it by baking, pour the metal, wait till it cooled, dump the mold, tumble the pipe to clean it and there was a length of soil pipe. Today two of the largest producers are manufacturing soil pipe by a centrifugal or spinning process which requires no sand mold, no core, no cooling period and no tumbling. One foundry which I have visited has six of these machines, each of which turns out a finished length of soil pipe every minute. It is much faster than the old process and it produces a smoother, better pipe with no sand holes, no weak spots, no roughness and with a uniform wall thickness at every point. In the old process, it was practically impossible to produce pipe with a uniform wall thickness and under certain foundry and weather conditions the pipe would have one wall that was very thick and one that was paper thin. This cannot happen in the new process. Each inch of centrifugally cast soil pipe is just the same thickness as every other inch. Another bright spot in the soil pipe picture is that an iron smelter in the Birmingham District which has been shut down for more than four months for repairs is expected to reopen in February with a capacity of 1000 tons of pig iron per day. I think that even without this additional source of pig iron the soil pipe foundries will increase their output next year and if they are able to get a good share of the iron from this smelter a still bigger increase in production can be expected.

Enamelware. Mr. Nelson gave you the figures on the production of bathtubs, lavatories and sinks for the first half of 1947. If the same rate of production had been maintained for the last half, a new record would have been set. During last August and September, however, almost a full month’s production was lost because it was too hot for the men to work. This same hot weather hindered the production of soil pipe, steel pipe and other major plumbing and heating items, too. Although the figures on enamelware will not be published until next year, I do not believe that production in the last half of 1947 reached the figures of the first half.

Enamelware production in 1948 is another place where the supply of pig iron will be a vital factor, but the biggest problem is the shortage of labor. One manufacturer has had labor scouts traveling throughout the middle west looking for men for their enameling, cleaning and foundry departments ever since the war ended. They provide transportation to their plant and supply living quarters but even so the majority of these new men do not find the work to their liking and only a few stay on permanently.

Another manufacturer has a completely remodeled plant that, with a full force of 600 men, could produce more enamelware than is now being produced in another of his plants which employs 1000 men. In the last two years they have been able to build the force in the former plant up to only 160 men. Wages and working conditions have little to do with it — will not take this kind of work as there are easier, pleasant jobs available.

However, these factories are actually increasing their forces though you may wonder how optimistic after such a gloomy report, I feel safe in saying that there is a possibility of increased enamelware production in 1948 but — I am sure that there will not be enough made to take care of the demand.

Chinaware. New mechanical processes have been developed in this industry too, and several of the pottery lines increased or are now increasing their kiln capacity.

I feel that chinaware — toilets, lavatories and the like will be factored in greater quantities next year but, unless there is a big falling off in demand, I do not think there will be enough made to take care of requirements.

Brass Plumbing Fixture Fitting Trim. Although there should be a material shortage here, I do not anticipate any oversupply, at least I better grade lines. I think, how that there will be enough of the higher quality items available so that second and third grade lines need not be sacrificed. It is very likely that we will read point in 1948 where architects specify the fittings they want and insist that they be finished.

In our next issue, Mr. Dusendorf’s article on plumbing fixtures will be concluded, dealing with Fittings, Boilers, Radiators and F
taces.

R. D. THAYER COMPANY
WATERPROOFING ENGINEERS
CONTRACTORS
2701 Joy Road — DETROIT 41 — Tylor 6-9734
842 Half St., S.E.—GRAND RAPIDS 7—PH. 5-6180

R. O. W. SPRING CUSHION WINDOWS
NO WEIGHTS
CORDS
PULLEYS
MUSCULAR STRAIN
Write for details or see Sweets
R. O. W. SALES CO.
220 EAST HARRISON ST.
Royal Oak Michigan

HARRIGAN AND REID CO.
HEATING & PLUMBING ENGINEERS
SUMMER AND WINTER
Air Conditioning
SHEET METAL WORK
Phone: CADILLAC 0243
1365 BAGLEY AVENUE
DETROIT 26, MICH.
Brick of Distinction
Thomas Brick & Tile Co.
WAYNE MOHR, Mgr.
14340 Livernois (4)
Townd 8-1354
HANLEY COMPANY
E. F. ZERGA, Mgr.
CERAMIC GLAZED UNGLAZED FACING TILE
FACE BRICK, GLAZED BRICK, GLAZED AND
UNGLAZED TILES, FLOOR TILE ANTI-HYDRO—
For Hardening and Waterproofing Concrete
510 THIRD ST. RANDOLPH 5990 DETROIT

Craft of Permanence
Tile For Beauty
Belden-Stark
BRICK CO.
14305 Livernois Detroit 4
HOgarth 1331 - 1332 - 1333

Colorful Brick
For Permanence
Tile For Beauty
And Economy

HANLEY COMPANY
E. F. ZERGA, Mgr.
CERAMIC GLAZED UNGLAZED FACING TILE
FACE BRICK, GLAZED BRICK, GLAZED AND
UNGLAZED TILES, FLOOR TILE ANTI-HYDRO—
For Hardening and Waterproofing Concrete
510 THIRD ST. RANDOLPH 5990 DETROIT

DUNN Blue Print Co.
“Specialized Services
for Architects”

PLASTI-GLAZE
Plasti-Glaze, the Post-War Glazing Compound to specify. Made from bodied oils and special pigments. Weatherometer tests prove that Plasti-Glaze when properly applied and maintained will last as long as the sash. Dries rubbery, not rock hard, easy to apply, easy to remove.

BUILDERS & TRADERS
Edited by
E. J. BRUNNER
Secretary-Manager
BUILDERS’ AND TRADERS’ EXCHANGE OF DETROIT

Well, here we are back in the Architects’ Bulletin. In this column we hope to publish items which will be of interest to the architects and to our members. We invite items from our members which will be of business interest to architects. And if any architect is inspired to comment on anything in this column, we naturally will appreciate his comment either in this column or elsewhere in the Bulletin.

What of 1948? We cannot glut the present market for construction in 1948 by overproduction. We haven’t enough skilled labor or enough of certain materials to do that. But we can strangle the present market by underproduction and higher prices for construction. It seems obvious, then, that we should put our shoulders to production and our influence to keeping prices within bounds. We have all the construction we can do at the present level of costs. If we can only produce to get costs down a bit by the time the clients can and will pay the present costs are satisfied, we then shall have a continuing demand at a bit lower cost level. That would be the ideal way for our construction or, in fact, our whole national economy to work. Only by increasing productivity in relation to cost can this ideal way be attained.

The annual meeting and election of the Builders’ and Traders’ Exchange of Detroit is January 20th. The candidates for election to the Board of Directors, three to be elected are as follows:

LAURENCE F, LAWLER—Peerless Cement Corporation
HENRY A. MANLEY—H. A. Manley Co., marble contractors.
JAMES SHARKF—Pom-McFate Co., millwork.
W. WILBUR WHITE—W. Wilbur, plumbing contractor.

The board for 1948 will be constituted of three elected from the above and E. G. Bush of the Sexauer Roofing Company, Ray T. Lyons of Ray T. Lyons Company, Walter Torbet of Detroit Steel Products Company who will be serving their third year; and Mark Atkin of Atkin-Fordon Company, Geo. Adien of George A. Odien, Inc., and Douglas Shaw of Shaw & Kauth Electric Company, serving their second year.

The three directors retiring at the end of their three year terms are Fred
The Plumbing and Heating Outlook for 1948

A REPORT TO THE MICHIGAN SOCIETY OF ARCHITECTS — WARDELL-SHERATON HOTEL, DETROIT — DECEMBER 8, 1947

Herbert R. Dusendorf, Purchasing Agent, Nelson Company, Wholesalers of Plumbing and Heating Supplies, Detroit, Michigan

(PART TWO)

Pipe Fittings. Orders for iron pipe fittings of all kinds keep pouring into the manufacturers and their backlog can be eliminated. One manufacturer, and he is by no means the largest one in the country, told me recently that he had a backlog of 13 million half-inch galvanized elbows alone. I don’t know what his production is, but if it is 10,000 per day (and I doubt if it’s that much) it would take him five years to catch up on that backlog, even if he didn’t get a single new order in that period. He tells me, too, that each day’s mail brings him orders for all kinds of fittings, 2 to 2½ times greater than his daily tonnage production.

I cannot be too optimistic about iron pipe fittings for the manufacturers can be eliminated, and we can harass and pester the manufacturers for delivery and we can do many other things. We can use more of those black and gray material. We can do many other things. We cannot get what does not exist, nor can we force manufacturers to give us more material than they want to give us. We can keep orders on file with the manufacturers—some of our unfilled soil pipe orders, for instance, have been in the manufacturers’ hands since January 1946, almost two years ago. We can harass and pester the manufacturers for delivery and we can do many other things but we cannot go back to the old Cappone days and use guns to force additional deliveries.

We will not participate in any way in the gray or black market, if such a thing exists. We are willing to pay the market price, high though it may be, but we will not pay any premium or offer to pay one. We know, as you do, that the quickest way to destroy today’s prosperity and America’s standard of living is for everyone who wants material to enter a bidding race for it, the highest bidder winning and the entire nation losing.

I am optimistic that the manufacturers recognize that this is the quickest way to destroy today’s prosperity and America’s standard of living. We will not participate in any way in the gray or black market, if such a thing exists. We are willing to pay the market price, high though it may be, but we will not pay any premium or offer to pay one. We know, as you do, that the quickest way to destroy today’s prosperity and America’s standard of living is for everyone who wants material to enter a bidding race for it, the highest bidder winning and the entire nation losing.

Boilers, Radiators and Furnaces. It is my opinion that you can count on increased production of these items next year.

I hope that I have covered most of the materials in which you are interested but if I have overlooked anything please call my attention to it and I will be glad to discuss it to the best of my ability.

As I mentioned earlier, we Purchasing Agents have not been purchasing Agents at all for the past several years—we have been salesmen. It has been our task to sell manufacturers on the idea of shipping us more and more material. We are not miracle men by any means—we cannot get what does not exist, nor can we force manufacturers to give us more material than they want to give us. We can keep orders on file with the manufacturers—some of our unfilled soil pipe orders, for instance, have been in the manufacturers’ hands since January 1946, almost two years ago. We can harass and pester the manufacturers for delivery and we can do many other things but we cannot go back to the old Cappone days and use guns to force additional deliveries.

We will not participate in any way in the gray or black market, if such a thing exists. We are willing to pay the market price, high though it may be, but we will not pay any premium or offer to pay one. We know, as you do, that the quickest way to destroy today’s prosperity and America’s standard of living is for everyone who wants material to enter a bidding race for it, the highest bidder winning and the entire nation losing.

We use every legitimate means that we can to get the plumbing and heating material that you need—we beg, we plead, we threaten, we argue, we quote statistics of the past and present, we point to prospects of the future and we are constantly on the look-out for new angles. When automobile production was first resumed, we printed a little sticker and pasted one on every purchase order until we thought it had lost its effectiveness. This sticker said, “Are you waiting for a new car?” You can help speed delivery by doing your part to rush this material to Detroit. Detroit auto workers need homes and Detroit factories need construction material. We don’t know whether or not this helped us get material but judging from comments made by our suppliers, we think it did.

We even wrote a poem and sent copies of it to all of our suppliers—not a good poem, perhaps, but a poem, nevertheless. I think you found a copy of it beside your plate when you sat down. It wasn’t written because of a mistaken idea that we were a poet but because we felt that our story would be more apt to be read if it were presented in an unusual form. We don’t know whether or not that poem helped us get more material but again we think it did.

The Detroit newspapers are to be complimented for the excellent job they have done in the past in reporting the housing crisis in Detroit. Perhaps they don’t realize the great help those stories are in helping us get more building material. We can use more of those stories—stories that can be cut out and mailed to building material producers all over the country—stories that can be used to put the punch in the Purchasing Agent’s selling arguments.
DUSENDORF, from page 1

when he tells the producers how badly
Detroit needs building material.

Here are a few headlines from recent
Detroit newspapers that illustrate my
point: “Homeless Families are Walking
the Streets of Detroit” — “Stark Misery
Faced by Housing Victims” — “Builders
to Push City Housing” which tells that
an estimated 28,000 houses were started
in the Detroit Area in 1947.

Every time we find a news story like
these that we think can help us we clip
it and mail it to a supplier or we re­
produce it and send it to all of our
suppliers. They are human beings, too,
with human feelings—although at some
times we wonder—and every little bit
of influence that we can use helps us
that little bit to get more material.

We use the telegraph wires, the long
distance phone and we make visits to
factories by car, train and plane. I am
not the only one from our company
who makes these personal trips in
search of material. Mr. Nelson himself
has made many of them and other mem­
bers of our organization have done the
same thing.

We use every angle that we can think
of but whatever we do, it isn’t enough.
We get results, sure, but not good
enough results. We need the help of
every publication in this city, and of
every architect, every contractor, every
individual in the building industry if
we are to get our share of the nation’s
building material production and if we
are to prevent other cities from getting
part of our share.

I hope that you will think it over and
do what you can to help.

This completes my story of the
Plumbing and Heating Outlook for
1948. I hope that it may prove of some
benefit. I would not want to leave you
in the confused condition of the three
men on the train in England. All were
hard-of-hearing. As the train pulled
into a station, the first man turned to
the second and said, “Is this Wembley?”
“Oh, no,” said the second man, “this is
Thursday.” “So am I,” said the third
man, ‘let’s get off and get a drink.”

Patronize Our Advertisers

Couse & Westphal
GENERAL BUILDERS
12740 Lyndon Avenue Vermont 8-0660
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

FACE BRICK, TAPESTRY, TEXTURE,
ROUGH MATS, SMOOTH, BUFFS

Kurtz Brick Company
14183 Wyoming HO. 2384 Detroit

These 3 Gas water heaters
keep THE LAUNDROMAT
always in hot water

THE twenty automatic washing machines in The
Laundromat, self-service laundry at 3562
Second Boulevard, use floods of hot water at high
temperatures hour after hour. The battery of
Burkay automatic, quick-recovery, Gas water
heaters maintains an abundant supply at all times,
heating water as fast as it is used.

Burkay Gas water heaters are engineered to
deliver quantities of hot water at any desired
temperature up to 180°. They are efficient, econom­
ical, dependable, and trouble-free. We recommend
them for high-capacity, high-temperature use.

MICHIGAN CONSOLIDATED GAS COMPANY
415 Clifford, Detroit
CONCRETE, from page 4 must be understood that the inspector has the right to call for the drain tile to be exposed in any spots indicated by him in order to ensure that it has been properly laid.

"Great care should be exercised in insuring that concrete is not deposited on frozen ground, and also that any trenching operations under a wall shall be protected by straw or other means to prevent the exposed surfaces of the cross trench from being frozen and subjecting the wall to heaving or settlement during the freezing or thawing of the cross trench."

"It is suggested that builders instruct plumbers and excavators making installations where concrete has been freshly poured and properly protected, not to disturb the concrete protection or at least restore it as quickly as possible after removing it to facilitate their plumbing operations.

"This bulletin is being issued merely to make certain recommendations which are felt will be helpful to the builder in preventing the freezing of the concrete. It in no wise relieves him of any of his responsibilities under the conditions of the Building Code."

REHARD IS NEW SAFETY ENGINEER

Upon the recent retirement of Halstead Mills, Chief Safety Engineer of the City of Detroit, Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering, John C. Rehard was named to that position.

Mr. Rehard was born at Newcomerstorm, Ohio, where he received his early education. He attended Ohio State University, following which he came to Detroit and soon became connected with the Department he now serves, while continuing his studies of electrical, chemical and refrigeration engineering, as well as other branches of his profession.

WIGEN MOVIES

Frederick E. Wigen, A.I.A., has moved his offices to 132 S. Washington Ave., Saginaw, Mich. The telephone number is Saginaw 2-4907.

Fred is carrying on the practice of the firm of Merrill & Wigen following the death of Clarence B. Merrill, on Oct. 27, 1947. The firm had been formed the early part of last year.

VALENTINE MOVES TO MARYSVILLE

Charles M. Valentine, AIA, formerly of Smiths Creek, Michigan, has announced that he will move his office to Marysville, Michigan. He is at present engaged on a building program for that city.

His removal will take place as soon as a new office building he is constructing for himself is completed.

THE GABLERS VISIT CALIFORNIA

Mr. and Mrs. Cornelius L. T. Gabler were among those making the trip to California for the Rose Bowl game on New Year's Day. An alumnus of the University of Michigan, Neil has followed with interest her football team since his graduation in 1934. He took an active part in the recent banquet in Detroit celebrating the team's outstanding year.
DEPOSITING CONCRETE IN COLD WEATHER

In a bulletin signed by Joseph Wolf, Commissioner and Frank Simpson, Chief Building Inspector, Department of Buildings and Safety Engineering, Detroit, calls attention to Section 1824 of the Building Code entitled “Depositing in Cold Weather” which reads as follows:

“Section 1824. DEPOSITING IN COLD WEATHER. When depositing concrete at freezing or near freezing temperatures the concrete shall have a temperature of at least fifty (50) degrees F., but not more than one hundred twenty (120) degrees F., but when special cements which develop high temperatures in setting are used or where larger masses of concrete are being deposited, the temperature shall not exceed one hundred (100) degrees F. The concrete shall be maintained at a temperature of at least fifty (50) degrees F. for not less than seventy-two (72) hours after placing or until the concrete has thoroughly hardened. When necessary, concrete materials shall be heated before mixing. Dependence shall not be placed on salt or other chemicals for the prevention of freezing. No frozen materials containing ice shall be used. Manure shall not be applied directly to concrete when used for protection.”

Section 1823 covers “Removal of Forms,” and this states, among other things, that “the removal of forms shall be carried out in such a manner as to insure the complete safety of the structure.

“It is therefore recommended that in freezing weather forms shall be kept in place at least forty-eight (48) hours so that the concrete may benefit from the insulating effect of the forms themselves. Otherwise, forms removed before forty-eight (48) hours shall be replaced with tarpaulins in order to properly maintain a temperature of at least fifty (50) degrees for seventy-two (72) hours as stated in Section 1824.

“The practice of adding water to transit mixed concrete after it has been delivered to the site in order to facilitate depositing in the forms is prohibited, as this serves not only to reduce the strength of the concrete as delivered to the site but adds greatly to the risk of freezing.

“Since the inspection of drain tile requires them to be left exposed, under ordinary conditions, the Department will make an exception to this rule by permitting drain tile to be covered but only during freezing temperatures when it is necessary to protect freshly placed concrete footings. However it

See CONCRETE, page 5
THE INTERPROFESSIONAL COUNCIL

From The Certified Public Accountant

The Interprofessional Council was organized about two years ago in Detroit, Michigan, with the objective of uniting in fellowship the members of the following groups: the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, Wayne County Medical Society, Detroit District Dental Society, Detroit Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, Detroit Teachers Association, the Engineering Society of Detroit, Detroit Bar Association, and such other groups as may become affiliated.

The purposes of the Council are to combine the efforts of the above mentioned professions, to promote and encourage the development and improvement of education in 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 interest of all the professions and the government, and to make the professions increasingly useful.

Though the by-laws provide that each professional group shall designate two of its members as its representatives on the Council, as a practical matter each organization appoints three men, any two of whom may act as representatives, since each organization is limited to ten votes. The Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants, for example, appoints its president, vice-president, and immediate past president. Members of the Council elect the customary four officers who constitute the executive committee. Meetings are held every other month.

To help further its objectives, the Council has three standing committees — legislation, public relations, and professional conduct. The duties of the legislative committee are to consider legislation proposed or considered desirable to be proposed, to recommend action on any such legislation, and to take such action with respect thereto as the Council may direct. The public relations committee takes original action on any such legislation, and to the end that the public may acquire a better understanding of the work and aims of the represented professions, thus aiding in the accomplishment of the objectives of the Council. The professional conduct committee considers all matters involving professional ethics and cooperates with appropriate agencies in all matters tending to the elevation of the standard of professional conduct.

It is believed that the Council, as organized, can render valuable service to its member organizations and to the public at large. Recognizing that the Council serves as a common meeting ground — liaison group for all the professions, the various representatives have indicated their willingness to enlist the help of their respective organizations in any attempt by legislation to lower the professional standards of any member organization. The members also hope that the Council will prove helpful in the settlement of any dispute which might arise between any of the represented professions.

Typical of the manner in which the Council aids one of the representative professions was the opportunity afforded the Detroit Teachers Association last year. Many professional people have been disturbed at the national failure to advance teachers' compensation in line with living costs and compensation in non-professional occupations. The Interprofessional Council felt that the result would be that intelligent young men and women would shun the teaching profession and that the teachers of the future would be of a decidedly inferior type. The Detroit Teachers Association informed the Council that the discussion of their case by that group had been most helpful.

The members of the Detroit Interprofessional Council thus far have proceeded cautiously, keeping the Council in the experimental and development stage, but plans are being made to extend the idea to other states eventually. As an initial step in this direction, the Council recently has discussed plans for extending the local organization throughout the state by setting up similar councils in key cities.

Based on the above information, it would seem that under energetic and intelligent leadership, the Detroit Interprofessional Council, and others that may be established in the future, could definitely become an extremely useful community organization. Most bona fide professions have many common problems in varying stages of development. An organization that permits these professions to exchange ideas, to render service to each other in resolving their individual problems, and, most important, to combine their efforts so as to
OUT OF THE DARK

THE PROBLEM: lifting a building, and the business it houses, from the dark of night . . . yet keeping the lighting architecturally harmonious.

THE OBJECTIVE at Burroughs was to achieve strong yet dignified lighting of a dignified architectural design. To preserve, not flatten, the 3-dimensional effect of the graceful recessed entrance.

Edison lighting consultants supplied an effective solution by recommending installation of just six 300-Watt Floodlights. Located one in each corner and two behind each pillar, they make the building a magnet for passing eyes; a beacon drawing attention to the architect’s artistry with brick, stone and glass. Even if exterior lighting is not to be installed at the time of construction, it is wise to provide the necessary outlets to save the expense of trenching at a later date. Edison lighting specialists will be glad to discuss exterior lighting with you, and to spot outlets on your plans. Call your nearest Edison office for this service.

The Detroit Edison Company
Governor Sigler To Be Convention Speaker

The Honorable Kim Sigler, Governor of Michigan has accepted an invitation to be the principal speaker at the Building Industry Banquet in connection with the Michigan Society of Architects Thirty-fourth Annual Convention at Hotel Statler in Detroit, March 5, 1948. This announcement was made by Adrian N. Langius, President of the Society, at a Board meeting in Lansing, January 13.

Roger Allen will be toastmaster and others on the program will include leaders in the building industry from far and near.

The Board meeting was attended by Messrs. Langius, Zimmermann, Stone, Cowin, Cole, Allen, Dow, Morison and Hughes.

The meeting was held at the City Club in the Olds Hotel, where dinner was served following the meeting. Also attending the dinner were Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Dow and Mrs. Langius. Following dinner the party accepted an invitation to visit the Langius home where Alden Dow showed his movies of the Mid-Summer Meeting of the Society at the Grand Hotel last August. The pictures are in color and represent a truly fine production. Every one present at the showing was in the picture. In addition the “actors” represented a cross section of the Society’s membership and their families.

Dow and Roger Allen are planning to put on an even greater show this year, when the Society again meets at Mackinac Island, Aug. 6, 7 and 8. Messrs. Davis and Martin of the Portland Cement Association, will again entertain at cocktails, on Saturday, Aug. 7.

Andrew R. Morison, Chairman of the Committee on arrangements for the Detroit Convention, reported that plans are progressing rapidly and details will soon be completed. The Industry Banquet will be the big feature, as it has been drawing well over one thousand people. This year it is planned to have ladies present. There will be music and some entertainment. City, State and National figures will be guests of the Society.

One feature of the Convention that bids fair to be a delightful and constructive affair is a complimentary cocktail party, dinner and informal program by Mr. Edwin B. Norris, A.I.A., Architectural Consultant with The Tile Manufacturers’ Association, Inc. Mr. Norris is a member of the Washington-Metropolitan Chapter, A.I.A., and former editor of the Federal Architect. He is now Washington Representative of the vitreous tile industry. His program has been given throughout the country to chapters and state associations, and has been very well received.

Other plans for the Convention, Morison announced, include seminars on labor and materials, their availability and “why not”.

The Board elected a nominating Committee to prepare a slate of officers for the Society. It consists of Cornelius L. T. Gabler, Chairman, representing the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A.; Philip C. Haughey, representing the Grand Rapids Chapter, and Joseph C. Goddeyne, representing the Saginaw Valley Chapter. President Langius will appoint a second Committee to prepare another slate. Balloting will be by mail and election at Convention.

The President mentioned as a desirable project the renewal of the photographs and biographical sketches in the Weekly Bulletin. Time will not permit this as a feature of the next Convention, but it is an objective to be aimed for in connection with the 1949 Convention.

Julian Cowin, Chairman of the Society’s By-laws Committee, presented the first draft proposed new by-laws to conform to the Society’s new organization plan as a State Organization of The Institute. They were discussed at some length but not in their entirety. It is expected that this will be done at the next meeting of the Board, which will be held at the Detroit Athletic Club on February 10.

ARCHITECT

He is Aladdin and the genie,
His lamp, a drawing board, his brush and square,
Quick magic that creates, from thinnest air,
Enduring silhouettes against the sky.
Across buff lime-stone, black aluminum,
Grey metal mouldings, granite flecked with white,
He pens, in strokes of live fluorescent light,
Facade for merchants of millennium.

Materials flow together in his mind.
Color and mass, before his eyes take form.
Vision his watchword, scene as his norm.
His touch evokes enchantment, unfrazzled.
Master of crafts, and men who do his duty,
He is the humble slave of use and beauty.
ROGER L. WARING
Disservice to Profession

In a letter published in Progressive Architecture, issue of January 1948, William W. Lyman, Jr., of Cambridge, Massachusetts, philosophizes on the architect's responsibilities in taking into account the human element, when planning and designing.

He then ends up with an attack on the Weekly Bulletin of the Michigan Society of Architects for helping "discredit the profession" by publishing a news release on the Patman Housing Bill, issued by the Producers' Council, Inc.

Just what connection there is between the two subjects of his letter is not made clear.

Here is what he says about the Weekly Bulletin: "I want to point to one example of the type of activity which I feel helps discredit the profession. A year ago last spring Congress was debating the Patman Housing Bill, one section of which proposed subsidy payments as a means of encouraging greater production of building materials. While the bill was under discussion in Washington, the Michigan Society of Architects permitted its Weekly Bulletin of April 16 to be used almost in its entirety by the Producers' Council, Inc., for a debatable attack on the subsidy provisions of the Patman Bill. I doubt if such use of the Bulletin by a self-interested organization falls within the limits of genuine service as defined by Mr. Brumbaugh. What the profession badly needs, as you stated in your editorial, is a lot more objective thinking about all issues affecting architecture, planning, and society, and discussions that go to the bottom of these issues. Most of all it needs a deeper understanding of what is best for society as a whole, and the realization that what is best for the latter is also best for itself."

By his reference to a "debatable attack on the subsidy provisions of the Patman Bill," Mr. Lyman seems to admit that at least the subject was debatable. Progressive Architecture, the Weekly Bulletin and other such publications endeavor to report the news. They don't make it.

If the Producers' Council is a "self-interested, outside organization," we don't believe The American Institute of Architects would be affiliated with it. It is the only organization so affiliated with the Institute. The two organizations work closely together for the good of the profession and the building industry, even if they don't always see eye to eye on every issue. There was difference of opinion on the Patman Bill, even among The Institute's own members. In our article, Mr. Douglas Whitlock, Chairman of the Advisory Board of Producers' Council, was merely pointing out what appeared to him to be valid reasons why the Bill would not accomplish what its sponsors and Mr. Wilson Wyatt claimed it would. Certainly, it is non logical to call the Producers' Council a "self-interested group," while pointing out that it opposed Government subsidies to its own members.

When a publication refuses to consider both sides of a question, it is not a free press. This is not in line with the last paragraph of Mr. Lyman's letter, in which he advocates "discussions that go to the bottom of these issues—of what is best for society as a whole, and the realization that what is best for the latter is also best for itself."

While neither the Weekly Bulletin nor the Michigan Society of Architects was expressing Mr. Whitlock's views as its own, we make no apologies. We would do the same again.
DR. WHITTAKER ADDRESSES DETROIT CHAPTER

One doesn't have to be eighty to appreciate the past, it was pointed out by Mr. Alfred H. Whittaker, President of the Detroit Historical Society, at a dinner meeting of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A. in the Rackham Memorial Building, January 14.

The doctor spoke on "Detroit of the Past and Present!", and gave an illustrated talk on Detroit's new Historical Museum and Cultural center.

Dean Wells L. Bennett, of the College of Architecture and Design, University of Michigan, Chapter President, in opening the meeting stated that Dr. Whittaker, a physician and surgeon, was a fellow professional man in a field other than ours and different from that of his subject.

"In fact," the Dean said, "I have often wondered how such a busy man as he finds time for the important job of being President of the Detroit Historical Society.

"We in Ann Arbor, and I am sure you in Detroit, have been hearing about the good work of the Society."

On display were some drawings and enlarged photographs of Detroit of the past and present, as well as some depicting things to come. He supplemented these with views projected on a screen, with Dick Fernbach, A.I.A. of the City Plan Commission doing a good job as operator.

Among the views shown were those of our City Hall and County Bldg., two of the few remaining structures linking our past with the present. He raised the pertinent, and somewhat controversial, question of what is to be done with these buildings in the new scheme of things. There are those who favor tearing them down and others who believe they should be preserved.

Most Detroiters love their city, the Doctor said, in pointing out that such monuments of the past give them something tangible as tokens of our cultural heritage.

In speaking of Detroit's projected Historical Museum, he stated that most such museums have featured only relics, old paintings, etc., whereas our proposed new museum will stress living aspects instead of the dead. He paid a fine compliment to Cranbrook Institute of Science, which he designated as the last word in museums.

The Detroit Historical Museum now has so many valuable items that its present facilities to take care of them are severely taxed. The new project, at the Northwest corner of Woodward and Kirby Avenues affords an opportunity to do one of the finest museums in the world.

The Doctor mentioned many Detroit organizations interested in this movement and he gave particular credit to the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., to William E. Kapp, architect for the new building; Branson V. Gambier, Chair-

man of the Building Committee and to Clair W. Ditchy. He said the Society had a most active capable Board of Directors, a fine Bulletin, and committees that are working diligently to give Detrioters something of which they can be proud.

Among committee chairmen is Roy Gamble, noted Detroit artist, in charge of paintings, who is doing an outstanding job.

CHAPTER BOARD ACTIONS

At the dinner meeting of the Detroit Chapter, A.I.A., January 14, President Bennett announced certain actions taken by the Chapter Board at its meeting that afternoon.

One of these was with regard to subsidization of a part of dinner costs to members and associates. The purpose of subsidizing has been primarily to encourage attendance, but the Board feels that to this should be added the incentive to pay dues promptly. Consequently, henceforth there will be no subsidization as such. The cost of the dinner ($2.25) will be the cost of the dinner. However, beginning with the February meeting (February 11), a member who presents his 1948 membership card will be credited with 75c toward paying the meal to him $1.50, as heretofore.

There will be no subsidizing of dinners for associate members, as their annual dues are only $3. Also, with regard to student associates from the University of Michigan Student Branch, two will be admitted free and others will pay the full price. This will also apply to those from the Lawrence Institute Student Branch, now in process of formation.

The President announces that the Board had approved committee appointments for the current year. They will be published in the Weekly Bulletin in the near future.

In recognition of the good work being done by the Citizens Housing and Planning Council of Detroit, the Chapter has taken upon itself this sustaining membership.

Dr. Whittaker said that the Secretary of the C.H.P.C., Mr. Edw. D. Connor, Executive Director of the Council, will be the speaker at the Chapter's dinner meeting on March 17.

WANTED—One thoroughly competent Senior Architectural Draftsman and one Junior Draftsman. Permanent positions to qualified men.

Colorful Brick
For Permanence
Tile For Beauty and Economy

BELDEN-STARK
BRICK CO.
14305 Livenois Detroit 4
H o g a r t h 1331 - 1332 - 1333

DUNN
Blue Print Co.
"Specialized Services for Architects"

PLASTI-GLAZE
Plasti-Glaze, the Post-War Glazing Compound to specify. Made from bodied oils and special pigments. Weatherometer tests prove that Plasti-Glaze when properly applied and maintained will last as long as the sash. Dries rubbery hard, not rock hard, easy to apply, easy to remove.

For Long Life, Weather and Air-Tight Glazing Use America's Leading Glazing Compound - PLASTI-GLAZE.

PLASTIC PRODUCTS CO., INC.
DETOIT 4 • CHICAGO 1 • JERSEY CITY

 Builders & Traders
Edited by
E. J. BRUNNER
Secretary-Manager

BUILDERS' and TRADERS' EXCHANGE of DETROIT

The Estimating School operated by the Builders and Traders Exchange has completed the first week of its spring term with a total enrollment of 118. There are four courses, one in blueprint reading; one in residential estimating; one in beginners' and one in advanced commercial building estimating. The instructors are Frank Dow of Campbell Construction Company and Lyle Tonne of the Tonne Construction Company.

The Builders and Traders Exchange will be represented in the 45th Annual American Bowling Congress Tournament with fourteen teams. The events this year are in Detroit and will be played at the State Fair Grounds. The exact dates will be given later.

The Exchange has three leagues. The afternoon league has 16 four-men teams; the evening league has 16 five-men teams, and the girls league has six five-men teams.

Lawrence G. Markey, general contractor who was burned out of his Cloverdale address on January 9, has set up temporary quarters at 16949 James Cloverdale, were well drenched by the above mentioned fire, but are still doing business at the same place.

The Cuyahoga Wrecking Company has moved from 9186 W. Fort St. to 12645 Greenfield Rd., Detroit 27. Their phone number is VE. 8-1055 - 6.

The 1948 Buyers Guide published by the Exchange and distributed free to all architects, engineers, contractors and many industrialists in the state has gone to press. It will be even bigger and more complete than last year. As soon as it is printed, it will be mailed.

United States Plywood Corporation has announced an approximate reduction in price of 6 per cent on Firsite which is used to pre-seal wooden surfaces.

In their communication they say, "demand for plywood still continues to exceed supply and some grey market persists. Additional plants are being built, some of which will come into production early in 1948 and some not until the end of the year."

Munro Aird, plastering contractor; Henry Manley, marble contractor and W. Wilbur White, plumbing contractor were elected to the Board of Directors of the Exchange in the annual election of January 20th.

The new board will elect its officers for 1948 on Monday, Jan. 26th.

Retiring from the board are Horace H. Dickinson, Henry Mason, and the present president of the Exchange, Fred Rohn.

Besides the three newly elected members, the members of the board are Mark Atkin, general contractor; E. G. Bush, roofing contractor; Ray Lyons, manufacturers agent; George Odien, sevier and earth moving contractor; Douglas Shaw, electrical contractor; and Walter Torbet of the Detroit Steel Products Company.

G. A. Odien Equipment Co.
R E N T A L S
Backhoe Machines, Air Compressors, Trenching Machines.

1935 MCGRAW AVE.
TYLER 4-0100
DETROIT 8, MICH.

CINDER BLOCK INC.
903 Hubbard Avenue
bet. Chicago and Joy

R. D. THAYER COMPANY
WATERPROOFING ENGINEERS AND CONTRACTORS
2701 Joy Road — DETROIT (4) — Tyler 6-9624
842 Hall St., S.E.—GRAND RAPIDS (7)—Ph. 5-5180

K-L-A LABORATORIES INCORPORATED
Sound and Inter-Communication Systems
CA. 3353 540 East Larned Street
Detroit 26, Mich.