

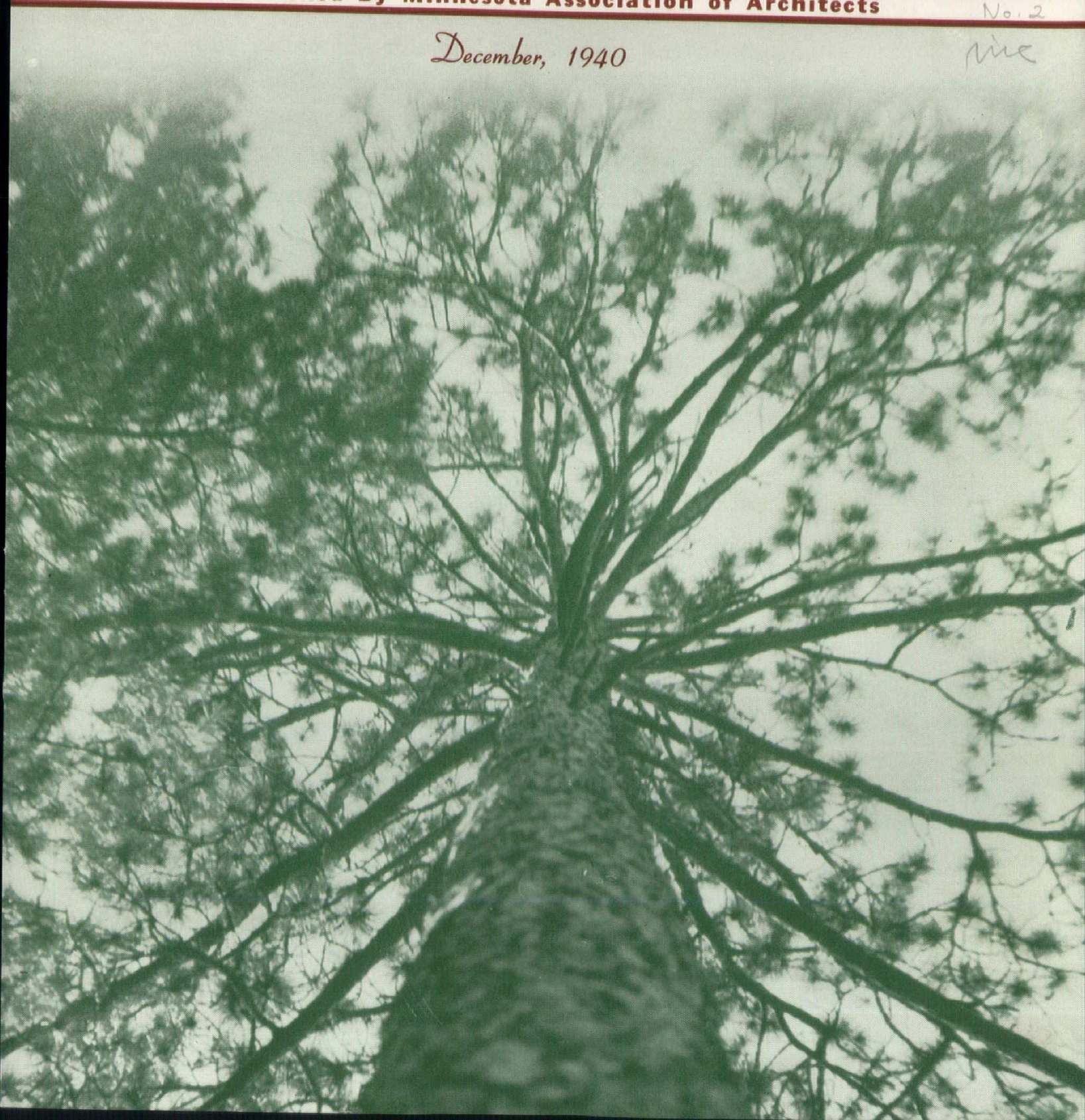
NORTHWEST ARCHITECT

Published By Minnesota Association of Architects

December, 1940

No. 2

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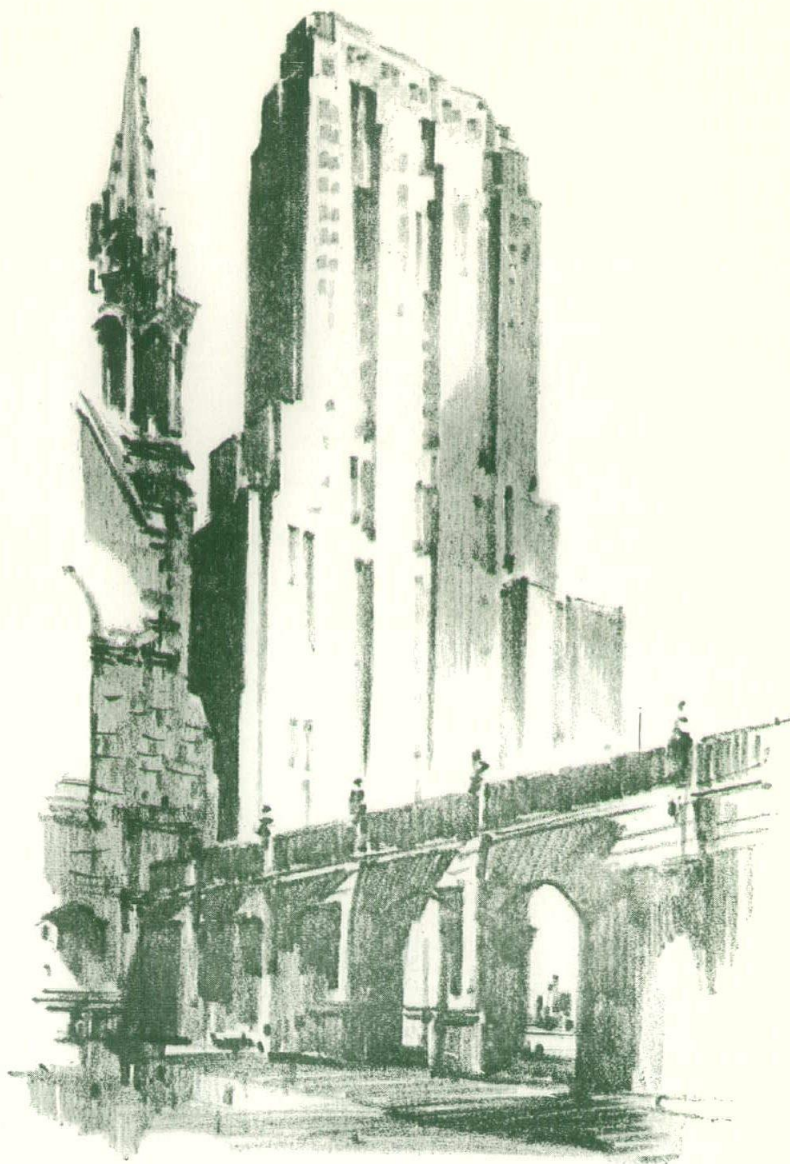
THE FRONT COVER

A Towering Red Pine (commonly called Norway Pine) at John Jager's cabin at Lake Vermillion. This veritable giant of the forest serves as a lightning rod in the summer and a Christmas tree in the winter. Photo by Thomas J. Kitts.

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NORTHWEST ARCHITECT

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1940

Is Your Building SAFE



THE MINNEAPOLIS STAR

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 28, 1937

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VOLUME XXXIII—NUMBER 61

The Star is an independent newspaper, politically and otherwise. It believes the greatest service a newspaper can render is to print all the news fairly and impartially, so its readers can form their own conclusions with the fullest possible knowledge of the facts.

Fix the Blame

THE COLLAPSE of the Morris Fruit Co. building Wednesday morning was a horrible tragedy—and an unnecessary one.

It was unnecessary because it was preventable. We have building regulations in this city to prevent accidents of this kind. They were disobeyed or not enforced.

Someone is to blame.

The only thing to do now is to fix the blame.

When the blame is fixed, the guilty person or persons should be punished as severely as the law allows.

The blame may rest with the building inspection department, the owners or the tenants. As far as law and justice are concerned, it makes no difference who is responsible. Whoever is responsible must be held strictly accountable for the negligence that caused the disaster.

This is a case for a prompt and pointed inquiry, with no pussy-footing. If the building inspector's office hasn't the authority, or sufficient men, to see that this kind of thing can't happen, the city wants to know about it.

It wants to know, too, whether the laxity that resulted in this disaster is widespread enough to bring a recurrence of such disasters.

Whatever the cause, whoever is to blame, the city wants to know why.

BY A. O. LARSON

★ Headlines from the press picturing building disasters are soon forgotten by all except the families of the victims. Grand jury demands for legislation which would prevent such accidents are but read and filed away.

Minnesota is today one of the few states neither having a state building code nor having any enforcement agency having to do with the protection of the public in the construction of new buildings and in the safety of existing buildings.

Building Disasters

The Minneapolis Market building collapse and the

Marlborough apartment fire, both with serious loss of life should be sufficient evidence of the immediate necessity of new legislation and of unremitting enforcement of existing laws.

Millions of dollars of property are destroyed by fire each year in the state, largely due to the existence of preventable hazards.

Large non-fireproof schools have been recently constructed in this state in spite of the terrible hazards involved. The state legislature owes to the people of Minnesota such legislation as will prohibit the construction of "fire-trap" schools and prevent a possible repetition of the Market and Marlborough disasters.

Present Laws

Only a few of our communities have any building regulations and those codes are not uniform. Many towns and cities permit construction which is prohibited in other communities. The State Industrial Commission and the State Fire Marshall are vainly trying to protect the public adequately against carelessness and deliberate violation of good construction and safety.

The State Housing Act, passed by the legislature in 1917 was one of the pioneer housing laws in the United States. However, by reason of charter changes it is now applicable only to the City of Minneapolis. To most citizens this law has been forgotten. At no time has there been any enforcement of it by the Health Department. According to the Hennepin County Grand Jury report in March, 1940, this department was making routine inspections of beer parlors and flop-houses, but appeared to be completely derelict in its duty of enforcing the Housing Act.

Fire Hazards

Most of the cities in Minnesota were constructed during the great lumber era of the state. Consequently, greater fire hazards exist in the older buildings than are realized until some conflagration momentarily brings to public attention the need of regulation and inspection.

At no time has there been any replacement for example of the many "fire-traps" which have been in continuous use at the many state institutions for nearly fifty years. Several thousand patients at the state institutions are in momentary danger of death by fire in buildings which should have been condemned many years ago. Likewise, sanitation according to modern ideals is impossible in those structures. School classes are held in very poor quarters.

Housing Conditions

A survey conducted by the federal government called attention to the fact that several thousand dwellings in the City of Minneapolis were occupied as living quarters, although unfit for human habitation. This information was recently confirmed by a survey conducted by the Minneapolis Housing Commission.

The Hennepin County Grand Jury in an inspection tour of many buildings found *only two which were not in violation of the law*. This jury charged that only the proper enforcement of the law would eventually wipe out existing conditions.

FIRE HAZARDS AND UNSANITARY CONDITIONS WHICH MENACE LIFE AND PROPERTY EXIST IN EVERY COMMUNITY IN MINNESOTA.

Regulation Needed

The regulation and inspection of buildings is needed only by reason of public health and safety. Other states have long recognized the need of such legislation. The State of Massachusetts regulates the inspection.

NORTHWEST ARCHITECT



tion, materials, construction, alteration, repair, and use of buildings for the prevention of fire and the preservation of life, health and morals.

Each year in Minnesota, many deaths by fire, industrial accidents, occupational diseases and property losses are attributable to the lack of state regulation and inspection of buildings. Nearly all such deaths and losses are preventable.

It is not practicable to suggest local legislation and enforcement. It is the function of the state to provide uniform minimum standards for safety and sanitation. Unsafe buildings are being built every day in the state—buildings which are prohibited in those few cities having building regulations. The people of the smaller cities and communities are just as entitled to proper safeguarding of their safety and health as those in larger cities.

A vital part of the national defense program is the preservation of life and property. We must eliminate the slums of yesterday and prevent future slums. We must reduce fire losses. Only those who now profit through the rental or use of unsanitary and unsafe buildings and houses will protest the enactment of a state law regulating those conditions which exist to the detriment of the public at large.

B. F. NELSON EXPANDS LABORATORY WORK

Facilities for testing roofing materials and weather-proofing compounds have recently been expanded at the B. F. Nelson Mfg. Co. plant at 401 Main St. N.E., Minneapolis. "Increased production schedules and the development of new products have forced us to double our floor space and to add materially to our testing equipment," explained Maurice E. Kelly, chief laboratory chemist.

According to Mr. Kelly, the Nelson experimental laboratories have the multiple function of checking raw materials, testing finished products, pointing out product improvements, and perfecting new products. One ingenious machine, the Weather-o-meter, generates weather—and does it in such concentrated doses—of heat, cold, rain, and the ultraviolet rays of the sun—that it duplicates in a few hours the equivalent of years of weather wear. Other equipment tests the pliability, ductility, and melting point of asphalt and asphalt compounds. Mineral granules are tested for size, uniformity, and color durability. Nails receive an acid test

for galvanizing and life. Paints are subjected to tests for viscosity, color, and the many other weather tests made also on roofing. Basic felts are given the Scott test for tensile strength, as well as breakdown tests after being saturated with asphalt.

Nelson's engineers are constantly checking to make sure that all Nelson products will stand up under the toughest conditions of weather and wear. Into the Nelson laboratories are brought all types of asphalt roofings, insulations, industrial paints, roof coatings, building chemicals and water-proofing materials for analysis, study and comparative testing. From these tests come new products, new product uses, and products of longer life and greater serviceability.

"The laboratory," says Mr. Kelly, "is the balance wheel that keeps modern industrial production ticking."

IT PAYS TO USE AN ARCHITECT

One of the most important events in the life of any family is when they decide to build a home for themselves. It is important because as a rule it represents the largest single expenditure of money ever to be made by that family, and because it is to be their home where they will live for many years.

This large investment should give them full value for their money—comfort in living, permanence in construction, and pride of possession in beauty of surroundings.

In order to get these things in their home, they should consult a competent Architect, whose job it is to design and plan houses and supervise their construction.

Many people have the mistaken idea that it is more economical to build without an Architect, that it saves money to cut out the cost of an Architect's fee.

Let us assume that they expect to spend \$5,000 on their house. Do you think for an instant that if they had a lawsuit on their hands involving \$5,000 they would attempt to be their own lawyer or would accept the free legal advice of a kind neighbor who happened to be a grocer or farmer? If they wanted to sell a \$5,000 lot or farm would they think it extravagant to pay a real estate broker \$250 as a fee for selling the property for them?

A lady who wants to make a dress for herself will

(Continued on Page 28)

OH! DOORS . . .

Well, What About Doors?

THEY ARE TOO BIG!

BY WILLIAM GRAY PURCELL

★ Take garage doors—they're still often made seven-foot-six and even eight feet high. This is nearly two feet higher than any automobile built since 1930—it's a foot and a half higher than an average man, more than eight square feet of useless door to heat, to lift up and down, and worse than that, to subordinate, as an insistent dark hole, with other and more subtle factors in the design of the building. Garage doors are a whole chapter by themselves, with many important considerations not yet touched by the ingenious manufacturers of operating hardware. We will come to them later.

So let's go upstairs to some less obvious but equally important doors which are the controlling factors of interior design—and hard to control.

Architects generally aim to be quite practical about doors, but should give more attention to their aesthetics, for there is a delicate relation between the area of openings in the wall of a room and the whole concept of the room itself which is an important factor in creating that particular quality of charm in those rooms which we recall with the most pleasure. Designers of interior architecture try to capture this intimate beauty of rooms in the studies they make for their clients, but many factors may prevent this beauty from ever reaching the finished building. Pictures and plans are but the shavings and shards thrown off in the house making; it is the finished building where the fine art of building must speak.

The first material measure that is applied to any dwelling house is the stature of a man. The American physique, current model, is not quite six feet tall on the average, and while we are not going to exclude the six-footer, nor even make taller men be unhappy about the door heads in our smaller houses, it is the five-foot-ten man we are going to use as our gauge, with some marginal allowance for an occasional tall friend. In almost all small houses the doors are generally too high and often too wide. Suppose we consider second floor doors first. As a practical matter one must be able to get the furniture through the doors. A large size chiffonier or dresser is never more than

24". Now the heel of the opened door takes two inches out of the available opening, so allowing a good inch either side to avoid scratching the furniture being carried through, no door upstairs need be wider than 2' 4", unless there is some other need or sentiment to be met. A wide door swinging its arc around in a small bedroom makes the room small both in use and in feeling. A door of nominal width, say, 2' 4", for space comfort, but still 6' 8" to 7' high, is too tall, is restless, uninviting in its proportions.

Architects are prone to let the available stock sizes of doors influence their decisions of size and of location, too. However, when the stock door available for use in a given place is one unpleasantly large or too slim for the best appearance in a given room, we should consider well whether it would not be practical to have a door specially made. But wouldn't that be too costly in a low-cost house?

Our local mill gives me the following current prices for doors:

Stock single panel, interior door, 2' 8" wide x 6' 8" high x 1 3/8" thick, \$3.45. Special size door but same detail up to 2' 8" wide x only 6' 2" high x by 1 3/8" thick, \$4.76; differential, \$1.31.

Now assume that in a two-story house with 18 doors, there are 14 doors that we prefer to carefully relate to the rooms rather than choose from the stock sizes available at the mill. The added cost for such special doors will be \$18.34, and you could not spend even five times that amount, any place in the house, that would give your project so much lasting architectural value and continuous convenience-satisfaction. These readjusted sizes, as I shall show, make the rooms appear so much larger that the increased resale value of the house becomes an immediate and continuing asset.

It is good to have the doors minimum height and minimum width in all but the larger rooms of small houses, and they should be located so as not to use valuable wall, or furniture, or space for use, or for unbothered passing about the room when doors are standing open. Your range of best door values, then,

The above text is part of a study and thesis concerned with the new approach to contemporary architecture, taken from the personal biographical archives of William Gray Purcell, A.I.A. His laboratory work on doors was begun in 1909 and has been carried on as an active continuity to the present day. Mr. Purcell, B. of Arch. Cornell University, 1903, is a Registered Architect, Illinois, 1910, Oregon, 1920, now retired from active practice and living in Pasadena. As a boy he lived in the same block with Frank Lloyd Wright on Forest Avenue in Oak Park, where Wright's first houses were built. He followed Louis Sullivan's philosophy with sincere understanding, beginning in 1893; worked in the Sullivan office in 1903 and was for a decade the partner in Architecture of George G. Elmslie, principal exponent of Sullivan's especial approach to the philosophy of the Building Art. Mr. Purcell wishes to acknowledge Mr. Elmslie's share in all their work together, and his continuity of practical help and wise counsel before and after that time.

is a width of from 2'x4" to 2'x6" for the principal openings to upper floor rooms in small six-room houses. This is really maximum as related to plan on the second floor, for all but the larger and formal editions of such houses.

In these streamlined days we lose the habit of observation, nor are we able to assimilate all we do see, or properly appraise its quality. Form the habit of walking about in unfamiliar rooms or sitting quietly for a time in the room which you enter. In this way you become sensitive to design and arrangement values and your future decisions will be guided by experience with rooms rather than paper and pencil reactions when you are necessarily living in a drafting world. These immediate office-atmosphere pressures, the subconscious control by habit-conditioned decisions, which influence design, are very negative. The clever and facile plan drawer does not realize that he is compelling his building to follow his graphic technique when his planning should be only a recording process. Actually design should start with organized concepts of living buildings seen first not on paper but in images of their three dimensional reality.

But after all, you will say, how can as little as a 2" to 4" differential in height effect so great a change in the character of the room? The reason is that since every inch you take off the height of the door, adds an inch to the area above it, the effect on proportions of room is always doubled, and this makes a very obvious change in the appearance of the room. For example:

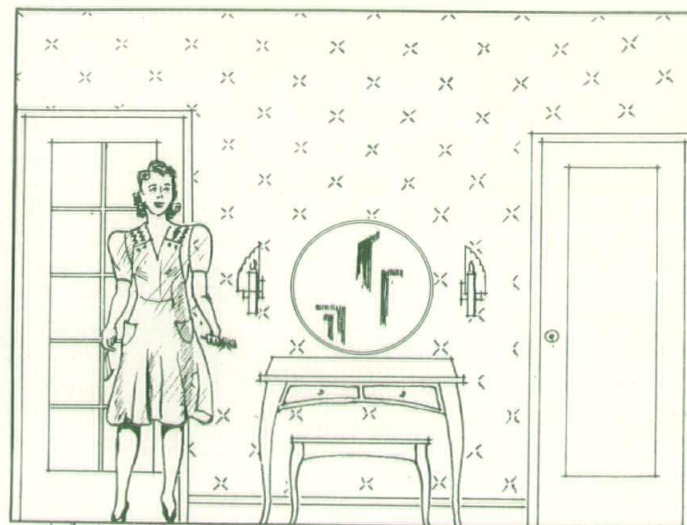
(a) 8' 0" ceiling height, less 6' 4" door leaves 1' 8".

(b) 8' 0" ceiling height, less 6' 8" door leaves 1' 4".

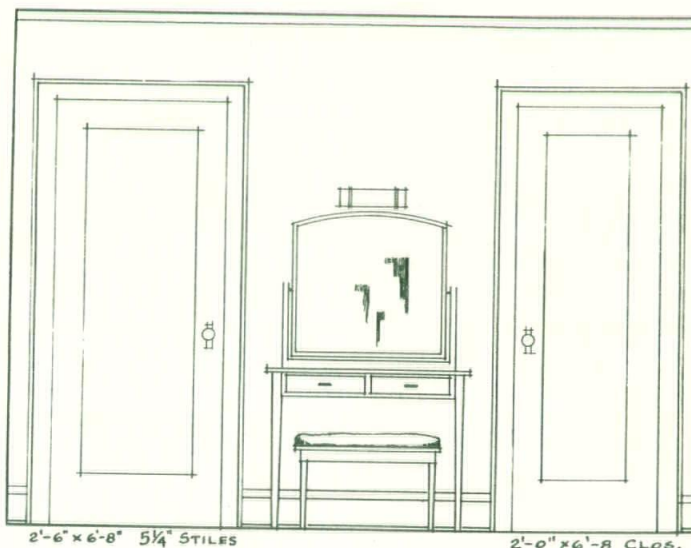
But in "a" the area or "frieze" is one-fourth the height of the door, while in "b" it is only a fifth of the door height . . . quite a change in relative values. This added sense of area above the door height line gives even small rooms a sense of space. It takes the ceiling off one's head without losing the sense of intimacy and unity provided by the actual relations of parts.

At this point I hear you say: "Why this man appears to be recommending six-foot-four doors—nothing short of crazy—another impractical idea—who'd stand for it." So maybe I better put in my alibi before you start reading the advertisements. I've built a number of little houses with six-foot-two doors. They turned out just right. Owners liked them. No head bumps reported. The last one was a studio-study in an old house—and curiously enough no one has ever even mentioned the door sizes. When I did they were surprised—got up to stand by the doors—put their hands on their heads—"Why this door is more than six feet and two inches"—and then I found out something—every man subconsciously thinks of himself as "six feet" no matter what his height—and those over six feet forget it.

Back in 1909 when I first really got down to a laboratory study of doors, the mechanics, economics, aesthetics, and the psychology of doors in use, I was pretty much taken up with the idea of securing order and unity by lining up the top of all doors and windows in a room and running the head casing continuously around the room. This system has much attraction for certain types of rooms—but we found that in the smaller houses—and in the smaller rooms of larger houses, a better window height was 5' 9". This is the minimum with which a 6' 0" man can see



10' SIDE OF BEDROOM • 1½" LATTICE TRIM • DOOR OPENINGS PLANNED FOR STAND-BACK PARALLEL TO SIDE WALLS.

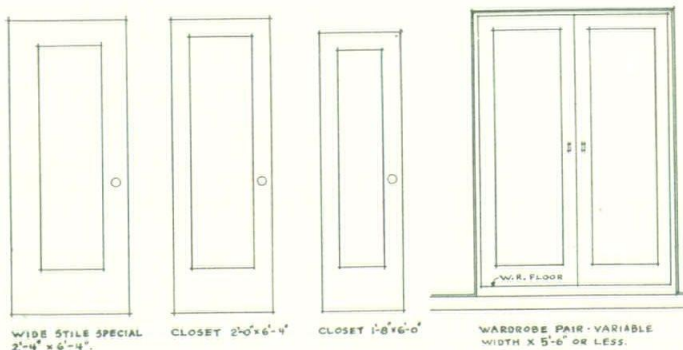


10' SIDE OF BEDROOM • STOCK DOORS & TRIM • CONVENTIONAL PLAN LOCATION OF DOORS WITH RESPECT TO SIDE WALLS.

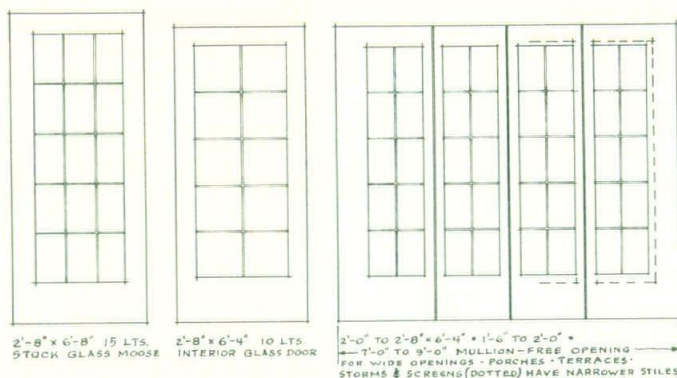
the horizon under the head rail of sash without ducking. If the closet or wardrobe doors are made 6' 0" the sequence of 5' 9", 6' 0", 6' 2" without head band produces a nice subordination. This works especially well in small rooms where a 1¼" half round or 1½" lattice is used in lieu of casing—or one can use the new corner bead "no-casing" effect. This is really a slick system, inexpensive and in line with the best feeling of today. It is illustrated with details on page 56 of the *Architectural Record* for April, 1940.

The "Early American" Door

But let us look at some good houses that came to be without benefit of T-squares and snappy working drawings. If you study the sentiment and detail of the "Early American" of New England, you begin your door tour of America with doors with an average height, around 6' 2" and usually very wide. In "Grandma Brown's Hundred Years" a most vivid best selling biography of 1930, she tells how each Saturday in the early days the horse was driven right into the living room dragging the great section of tree which was to be the back log for the coming week. That's really



This makes a nice door design sequence, especially if you substitute the ten-light obscure glass door for the solid panel principal door. I have made this series begin with 7½" stiles—they do not look heavy—just merely panelly.



These drawings show to what a surprising difference small changes in marginal sizes add up. A 2⁸ x 6⁸ door with stock casings makes an area of 24 square feet—but even the same width door but six-feet-four high and with narrow casings, amounts to only 18 square feet. The old system uses up a third more wall area, ruins the whole room both practically and emotionally and this drawing tells only part of the story when you consider the effect on all four walls—the floor—and the ceiling, too, which is a new kind of wall when you lie in bed and look up at it. A room can be so much more than just a pretty box with squared holes in it.

"Early Colonial." Many entrance doors to principal rooms in these 17th and 18th century homes are less than 6' 0" high. Ducking under the old lintel and stepping over "th'-rush-hold" was still a live tradition. As your special interest in doors leads you South through New York and eventually crosses the Potomac, your doors become higher, until having passed the First Families of Virginia on the James River and York River with seven-foot-high doors, you finally arrive, let us say, at that bedroom on Legaree Street in Charleston, South Carolina, where in 1910, I put myself to bed behind a door three and a half feet wide by eleven feet high!

I am unable to argue with architects who might desire to follow their self-made idea of precedent, to what seems to them the logical conclusion, and use these 11' doors or at any rate too large doors in a current sized copy of these grand old houses. I have

been in what might otherwise have been charming "colonial" bedrooms of today and the 7' doors took their places less quietly than did these beautifully proportioned chamber portals of Charleston. But of course, it was the fifteen-foot ceiling heights which made those satisfying values possible. In a modern digest copy of an old southern mansion I observed that the movie-age matron who lived in it had cut two inches off the bottom of her ancestral four-poster bed from Kentucky, to keep the posts from touching the ceiling.

Effect of Doors on Small Rooms

One cannot describe the remarkable effect upon the apparent size of the very small bedroom or upstairs hall to be secured by the use of 6' 2" doors; you will simply have to see it. I have made a drawing which will give you something of the idea. One of my best liked personal dressing rooms, in size, six and a half by eight feet, had five doors in it, two that were 2' 8" x 6' 4" and three wardrobe doors 2' 4" x 5' 8", plus a wash basin, a built-in dressing seat and a pair of casement windows. The room did not seem small, nor feel tight in use. So for the smallest bed rooms I will give you this as a formula:

(a) Enter the room with 2' 4" x 6' 2" x 1⅜" 10-light door, glazed with some shadow-proof glass of which there are several.

(b) Closet—1' 8" x 6' 0" x 1⅜, 1 panel, 4½" stiles.

(c) Wardrobe—a pair of two 1' 8" x 5' 4" x 1⅜", 1-panel doors with 3½" stiles.

(a) may run in width without harm to 2' 8" if the plan lets it swing free and stand back against the wall where no space is required for furniture. (b) These stiles will take a regular lock set. (c) The bottom of these doors (and the wardrobe floors) line with the top of the baseboard from 3½" to 8" high, and their heads may be as low as 5' 2" without inconvenience, if necessary to come under a low roof or to secure a pleasing pattern for the wall area.

As to the glazed door recommended above for the bedroom! I employ it freely in all dwellings wherever possible, and use various densities, tints and textures of glass, which I am theoretically to select so as to insure about an 1880, Brown Decade degree of privacy, but which in practice I suppose I choose for color and texture to go with more advanced ideas of decoration, costume, and contemporary ideas of propriety. I have had no protest so far, and the increased use of partially transparent glass block partitions for interior walls in every type of room only reinforces my position.

Well, that's the way I feel about it. There are other ways certainly—always will be. You make some contributions especially if you disagree on details, but I think we can all agree that more than anything else, American rooms need intimacy—they need deep, sincere, satisfying feeling. We've just got to get away from this show-window sense of self-conscious curtness, ruggishness and period piece collecting. The women's magazines are a pest and under advertising pressure are getting worse. If a house has "good decorations" it's lost. It only begins to be architecture when you don't know what it's got—and what I've told you so far is only one way to do it.

NORTHWEST ARCHITECT

Architectural Practice in CHINA

BY "KALLEE-DIJON"

★ WHEN an American sets up an office in China, he must get a "Hong name"—that is, he must go to an educated Chinaman and be given a distinctive name, which naturally must have a meaning.

The same is true with a Chinaman who desires to set up an establishment to cater to the American. He must get an official name from the Chinese, but the trouble is here that he generally goes to the American sailors for the Hong name, and I will quote you the American Hong names which I have seen in beautiful raised metal letters, such as:

1. John Yellow Belly, Shoe Maker.
2. Barnical Bill, Sail Maker.
3. Who-Flung-Dung-Kee, Contractor.

The word "Kee" means contractor, a typical name being Sin-Jin-Kee, Contractor.

The architectural office consists of:

1. A compradore, who is your Chinese manager, working on a per cent of your business. He makes the contacts with Chinese owners, and he has four or five assistants who bring business in to the foreign master. He must entertain a great deal in night life and the usual tea parties and "talkie talks."

2. The next in order is the Schroff, who by nature is a natural bookkeeper and money changer. He is the fox. He extracts "squeeze money" from the contractors for the privilege of talking to the head master, the Architect. This money is distributed pro rata through the office and down to the draftsmen.

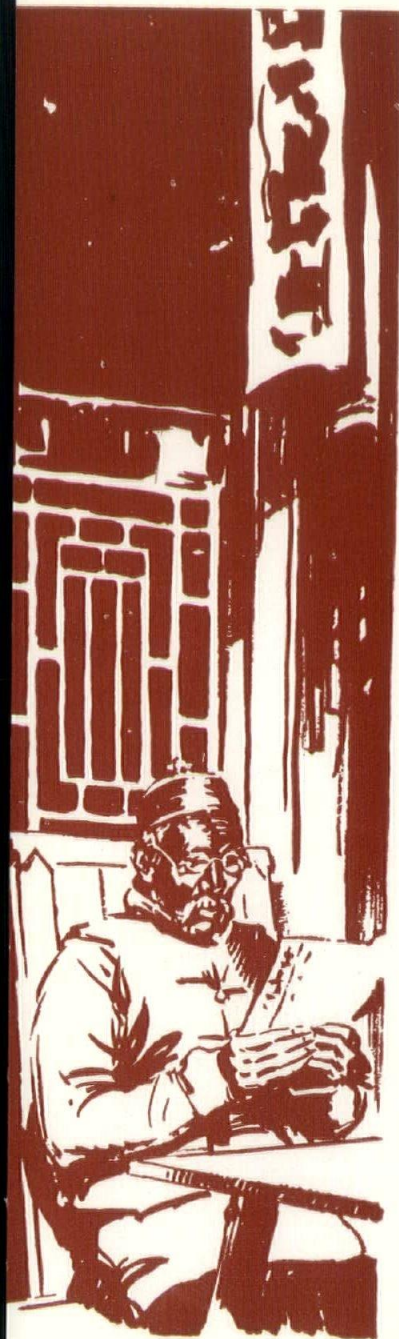
Confucius teachings have made him adept in remembering names and accounts, to memorize anything. He does not have to look up in account books for the costs of work done years previous.

3. The next are your stenographers, who become quite good considering that they have to write in a foreign language. American women stenographers do not fare so well, as men do the work of women, and, after all, if a girl is born in China, it is not considered good luck.

Your draughting room becomes a school of architecture. Wealthy fathers ask you to place their sons in your office, all working for food and travel money. Under foreign head-draughtsmen they learn very fast, becoming very efficient in mathematics, engineering, concrete design, and their draughting is superb in minute details, but naturally they misspell some funny names on your plans if not well supervised.

In other words, the American architect is known to have a creative mind, whereas the Chinese and Japanese are good at copy work.

You can talk about the "Fifth column" in the United States, but just employ German, Russian, Ital-



ian, Czecho-Slovakian draughtsmen, as we did in our offices, and you will soon discover what intrigue really means and how it works under cover.

American-born nationals have never been brought up from the cradle to intrigue, and are not looking for it from other nationals under cover.

Procedure in architectural business:

1. Often a paid competition between American, British, French and Spanish architects.
2. Plans and specifications in the usual way, but never any stock details.
3. Full size details are laid out full size without breaks.
4. Contract figures taken and lowest man gets the job.
5. Construction bonds are not heard of. The contractor's word is his bond, and it is as good as gold. He never fails.
6. Changes in plans and materials, to a certain degree, does not entail extras.
7. Constant supervision is necessary, usually by a qualified American builder, but no foreign contractor can succeed in the Orient. The labor system will ruin him. Concrete hoists are not allowed. It goes from the mixer in a human conveyor of women in bamboo baskets to the top of building.

Contractor's procedure:

1. The contractor first builds extensive bamboo sheds, sets up carpenter benches, lays planks between bamboo trusses for sleeping quarters. An ordinary \$15,000 residence would probably have 100 skilled mechanics and apprentices. The apprentice is his son or nephew who learns the trade from the bottom up. He first makes hand tools for the father.

A cook contracts to feed them for \$2 per month.

They work ten hours per day for 40 cents, equal to 4 cents at present exchange. They are master mechanics in masonry, carpentry, plastering, painting. They make the hardware and bronze work by hand.

Until recently there were no woodworking mills in China. The custom is to deliver huge logs to the site; the foreman marks the end of the logs for all detailed sizes of mouldings and trim and the log is whip-sawed by two workmen. The lumber is stacked 30 to 40 feet high to air dry in the hot sun.

No building is built in less than a year, as time means nothing.

There is no leaking of brick walls. The masons first pick up the brick and cover the ends and beds with mortar, smooth it out, then lay the entire unit, but don't forget that labor is 40 cents a day for 10 hours' work.

The best method to hurry work is to give the masons a pack of cigarettes.

Thieves' Union: China has a Thieves' Union, and unless the contractor contributes to it, he will be minus expensive materials.

Execution of work is very high class. The mechanics take great pride in their work, and really excel.

Building costs are about the same as in the United States. Cheap labor is offset by imported materials. The American Club in Shanghai paid \$150 per 1,000 for ordinary \$25 face brick, but to get around this, the facades are now laid up with $\frac{1}{2} \times 2\frac{1}{4} \times 8\frac{1}{4}$ -inch face brick tile, plastered to locally handmade brick.

Cement plaster and concrete: You never see hair checks in cement plaster in China. The cement is slow-setting and walls do not leak.

From Ohio Architect

COURT AWARDS ARCHITECTURE TO ARCHITECTS

★ A history-making case—the American Store Equipment and Construction Corporation vs. Jack Dempsey's Punch Bowl, Inc., has the distinction of being the first involving the practice of architecture as a profession to go to the highest court in New York State.

The case developed out of a refusal of the restaurant to pay for architectural services for which it had contracted with the building company. Although it conceded that the services had been rendered, it refused payment on the plea that the builder was not licensed to perform them.

The builder countered that it had performed various services, such as planning, designing, and decorating the restaurant—which is located in the Times Square region in New York City—and that it was entitled to its stipulated fee. When it was brought out at the trial, however, that at least part of this alleged work, labor, and services was architectural, Supreme Court Justice Rosenman dismissed the complaint, holding the illegality was injurious to public health and morals.

The plaintiff then appealed the case, first to the Appellate Division, then to the Court of Appeals, which affirmed the court of original jurisdiction without opinion.

Although few architects were aware of this litigation, each of them had an important stake in its disposition. For on the outcome of these appeals rested the future status, in New York at least, of the profession. In a number of cases involving other types of licenses, the Court has allowed recoveries even though the plaintiff has been unlicensed, holding that the act was merely "malum prohibitum," or not a crime against public health and morals. If the Court had so held again, architecture would have been stripped of its status as a profession, equal with law and medicine, to become the foil and hand-servant of every building contractor.

The decision of the court, however, restores the practice of architecture to architects. No firm or other organization can contract to perform architectural services, other than a registered architect. In addition, such organizations that do contract to perform architectural services may not recover for their services.

Nor may such firms agree to provide "free" architectural service as a part of their contract. In Mr. Rosenman's opinion, published in the New York Law Journal, March 4, 1940, he wrote as follows:

"The plaintiff contends, however, that even if it did perform certain architectural services, nevertheless it can recover for all those portions of the contract not involving such services, and that the architectural services, if any, amount only to about 5% or 10% of all the services undertaken to be rendered. However, there is no means of segregating the good from the bad portions of the contract in this case. The contract was entire and indivisible: to plan, contract, and furnish a complete unit. If the plaintiff had sold the interior furnishings and decorations, the contract could have been separated at least to the extent of permitting recovery for the merchandise sold. Here, however, were only services, ideas, and supervision. They cannot be separated into different classes—legal and illegal

"To sustain the legality of the balance of the agreement would lead to wide-spread disregard of the licensing statutes. It would be easy for any construction contractor to thwart the purposes for which the licensing of architects was enacted by merely providing in his contract that architectural services would be given

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27)



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ing cold in winter and the sun's melting rays in summer.

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In Case of WAR We Architects ARE READY!

Says EDMUND R. PURVES, in his address to the
Minnesota Association of Architects

★ Slightly over a year ago today, Mr. Hitler saw fit to invade Poland. Strangely enough, the initial direction of his maneuver fooled no one. For when his purpose first took drastic form the spreading of Nazi ideology by force of arms commenced. Not being immediately concerned with the events that led up to the undertaking, the first field step was without question the most important single act that has taken place within our lifetime, for it commenced the forced introduction of alien ideologies to thoroughly unreceptive peoples. We are only beginning to fully sense the eventualities that that move threatens and we are but slowly understanding and feeling the implication of the act.

You will recall, that a week or so after the war had been in progress, it struck us as being a curious sort of war. The word used and heard most frequently and which seemed so apt was "phony." And, yet, despite the reports of those who so far have come within the

close range of its horror and power, the war is still "phony" to us in our initiated state. For although its execution was conceived by the aggressors in the simplest and oldest of basic military strategies (namely to undermine, to feint and then strike in full force) it is not being pursued in academic fashion. The rules of 1914 and 1918, to which some of us grew accustomed, are not being applied. It is scarcely even a professional war, that is to say, a war fought exclusively by professional soldiers and sailors. It is a war between peoples in which those peoples are engaged to the last man, woman and child. It is a war whose battlefields are countries—even continents—whose forces are the populations of those countries and continents. It is a war whose casualties are but little known in this country.

I was told by a Boston architect, who had the distinction of serving last Spring and Summer with the tenth French Army Corps, that at the end of the first days of fighting in May the first battalion of the Foreign Legion lost 90 per cent of its effectives; that by the end of the second day the 56th regiment of line had lost 30 per cent killed, including the entire regimental staff. This gives you a brief indication of the extent of the suffering of another democracy, which

NORTHWEST ARCHITECT

despite all reports, was not exactly a political push-over. It is a war which has already written "Finis"—to the highest form of civilization that we have produced. It is such a war that now begins to turn its face to this country and we shall probably know it more intimately.

Signs Point to War

You may well question the possibility of the United States becoming an active participant in the war. Using the word "active" I mean that our armies and navies will be engaged in a battle, for in the minds of many we have been at war for some time past. At the moment it would seem fairly certain that our participation may become active and hazardous. Signs point that way. Surely the Naval Reserve was not called for duty simply to give the men a cruise. Surely the National Guard regiments are not being trained for the sole purpose of improving their physiques. Surely men will not be conscripted solely to take their minds off their other troubles. We are facing not a possibility but a probability of active engagement. Just what form the war will take for us we do not know. There may be some in authority in this country who have a fairly good idea.

I hail from the Eastern Seaboard, an area of certain strategic interest and an area whose vulnerability is not to be questioned. For that reason, perhaps, we from the East are inclined to look over our shoulders at the ominous cloud on the far horizon. Doubtless you are safe here. It is difficult for me to conceive of the possibility of Minnesota becoming in any event a theatre of war. However, consideration of those possibilities and consideration of other aspects of strategic importance serve to stimulate your imagination as architects.

It does not appear to me that we have profited to great extent by our own past experience or by the current experiences of others with whom we share aspirations of democracy. One gets the impression that the same old mistakes are being made and from the same old plans. One feels that inertia and tradition must still be overcome if this country expects to engage successfully in military controversy with the forces that are opposed to the principles of democracy. To us, this war is still someone else's nightmare.

I venture to say that the vast majority of the people of the United States, including the vast majority of the architectural profession, by no means appreciate the preparation of mind and material that must be made if we are to become actively involved in the issues of the world. In the Capitol, the great crowds of seekers have been viewing the Defense Program as the honey pot and have created an atmosphere that may be summed up in the question, "How much can I make out of the Defense Program?" This is not altogether an indefensible stand, for it bespeaks a natural concern for our individual securities and we are not yet attuned to existence without those securities. Such existence is as yet inconceivable to the American mind. We may learn a bitter lesson before we succeed in accomplishing our purpose.

Throughout past decades we have achieved certain democratic principles. We have achieved a certain National understanding which may be described as "decent thinking" and we have achieved a form of gov-

ernment, which, with all its faults, is yet as satisfactory as has been worked out by any people. We realize that despite our disinclination to war we cannot shrink from contemplation of it. We know that our principles of democracy are such that that must be preserved even if the act of preservation means war. At times I am inclined to wonder if our Nation's distaste for the Nazi ideology is so strong that we fail to face its present program; and if possible, we prefer to be swept out of our illusive existence rather than to make the effort of body and mind necessary to our preservation.

Architects Ready to Help

I know that as architects we are ready to "pitch in" and serve with that enthusiasm and devotion that will insure success. I believe that despite our devotion to deeply ingrained democratic principles, our national common sense preserves our perspective. We have before us the example set by our forebears who devised the finest demonstration of ideology that we have ever known. We intend that this ideology should be preserved for our children. We know that an adequate and orderly defense program will help us to secure that ambition.

It often seems to me that it would be relatively easy to win a war, could tradition, custom, democracy and decency be forgotten. It is to be hoped that the possible forced elision of those qualities will not destroy forever that form of life which we all hope to ultimately enjoy. There is a war, a definite war, being carried on now at a fearful pace and our interest in it cannot be denied; our interests in it as architects occupy our thoughts today.

Maybe I have digressed and if so forgive me. I have attempted to give you the general background against which we have worked, mingled with a few observations you may find pertinent.

In a more detailed background one sees Congress debating conscription for weeks, depending upon the opinions of constituents. This dependence may be a laudable and decent practice, but it does not afford the Congressmen the benefits of informed opinion, for constituent opinion stems from sentiment and self-interest and seldom from the broad base of knowledge. At times it seemed in Washington that greater consideration was given to the feelings of the Ladies of the Friday Evening Club than was given to the horrid actualities that we are confronted with. Politicians who play such an important part in our national policies and programs must bow to public opinion and recognize the democratic principle, but then public opinion is not necessarily discerning and the democratic principle cannot fit all conditions—for public opinion is based on the uncontrollable inaccuracies that come to us, through no fault of the press, as news, and the democratic principle is better suited to complement the perfect existence than to combat aggression.

Last summer, you will recall, the field maneuvers of the Army and National Guard were characterized by a fantastic lack of equipment and we enjoyed the edifying and confidence-inspiring spectacle of soldiers drilling with wooden rifles, gas pipes—guns and motor trucks as tanks. We are fortunate in this country that we apparently have the opportunity to mend our fences with the raging bull a good many fields away on

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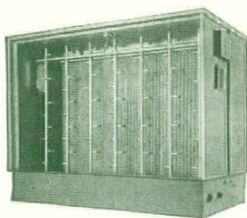
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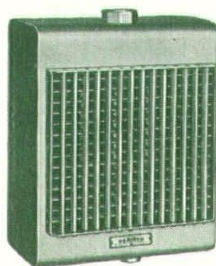
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the other side of the pond, and I think we can be very grateful for the Atlantic Ocean and British pluck.

There was to all intents and purposes a seeming background of chaos and disorganization, and against the background the A.I.A. has fought hard to find a place for the profession in what without question, will be the major, if not only, building program now possible for the country.

The A.I.A. knows that the profession wants to serve its country, not for the compensation that may accrue for that service, but because architects enjoy their work and that the patriotic opportunity adds spice to that enjoyment. The planning professions are today awaiting the call to service. This call will be answered with a willingness, for we are fully conscious of our professional responsibilities, and furthermore, as a relatively enlightened body of men, we are perhaps more conscious of the implications of recent national actions than many others are.

Must Back Up National Attitude

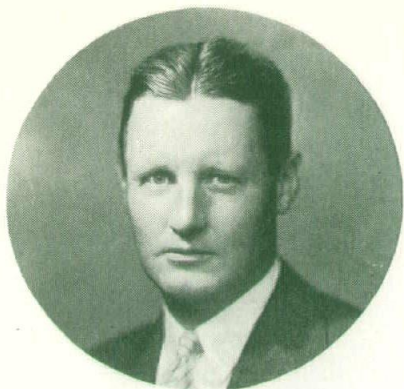
We know that the National tongue has been stuck out at Mr. Hitler by word and deed, and we know it is safe to assume that Mr. Hitler will not forget the grimaces and he may not have found the gesture particularly amusing. We know, as intelligent men, that the time will come when we will have to back up the national attitude, and being sympathetic to this attitude, our support of it will be enthusiastic.

Perhaps the picture that I have given you is somewhat unfair. Plans are really being made and schemes are being laid. There are competent men in places of authority and importance. There is unquestionably a definite method behind the seeming madness. There is a clarity appearing to the complexity. Even in my humble job, I had occasional glimpses behind the screen. By degrees one became conscious of the striving to properly organize endeavors and resources. We must remember that we are at the outset.

Last year, within a few days after war was declared, President Bergstrom, with his customary acumen and foresight, appointed a Preparedness Committee of the A.I.A. The stated duties of this Committee were specific but the responsibilities of the Committee were general. Responsibilities are to me more—far more—interesting and important than duties a point of view which has made trouble for me many a time.) The Committee's duties were: first, to prepare the members of the profession to serve their country, and the second, to make the country aware that the architects were available for service; both quite simple in statement—but not so simple in execution. To the end of availability the profession has virtually mobilized through the medium of the questionnaires and census. You are all familiar with this activity and the manner of its procedure. I will touch upon these briefly later on.

In view of the Preparedness Committee and its accomplishments you may perhaps wonder why President Bergstrom thought it necessary to enlist the service of additional workers. The work of the Preparedness Committee was all but completed some weeks ago. It became obvious, however, that it would be necessary to maintain a continuing contact with the governmental authorities, that there should be some one on hand to watch developments, to cooperate with the govern-

NORTHWEST ARCHITECT



Edmund R. Purves, A.I.A.

ment and to keep the profession continually before the attention of those in authority. President Bergstrom accordingly called Frederic Fletcher, of Baltimore, and me to Washington to discuss the situation and lay plans for our campaigns. As in the case of the Preparedness Committee, our duties were specifically outlined to us and again it was learned that the nature of our responsibilities would be general, the latter being to see to it that the architectural profession would find a place in the National Defense Program.

We started our work in Washington in the early part of last July and we have been there, I may say, "in one form or another," ever since. It took us a little while to become organized and to learn the lay of the land. As a matter of fact it was only with difficulty that we found the Defense Program. We looked for it everywhere at first. We asked the U.S.H.A., the Army, the Navy, Congressmen and other greater and lesser dignitaries. We had read the newspapers, seen cartoons, we had heard radio talks, we had seen "Shorts" in the "Translux" all telling of the Defense Program and still it eluded us. We found that we were not alone in the curious search. And yet we were confident that there must be a Defense Program, and in that program there would be a vast amount of construction and that to that construction the architectural talents must be brought.

This may give you cause to wonder what the A.I.A. has accomplished. I do not hesitate to say that it is a grave question as to just where the profession would be without the A.I.A. We are in a far better position and better qualified for that position at this moment than we were at a corresponding time in the last war. The architect is recognized. It is known what he does. We have achieved very satisfactory working agreements with the Army and Navy and we are carrying on our fight for the Housing program. We have been maintaining continual contact. We have been appearing before congressional committees, and it is interesting to note that President Bergstrom's testimony before the House Committee on Buildings and Grounds on the Housing Bill was of considerable help and moment to the representatives in Congress.

How the Work Has Been Done

You may want to know how we have gone about our work. Well, Mr. Fletcher and I, in collaboration with Messrs. Voorhees, Ingham and Kemper, produced a document, a short document, which we have circulated freely around Washington. This is couched in terms that are readily understandable to the De-

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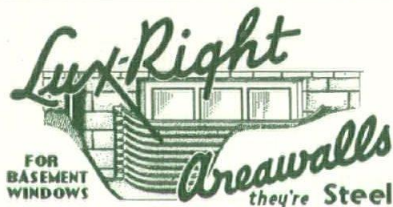
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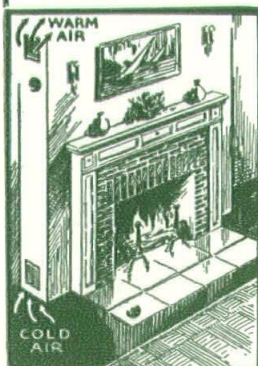
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fense Program mind and sums up the architect's abilities, his method of service, and refers particularly to the census and mobilization of the profession. We have presented this document to and discussed it with every single department that might conceivably engage in the Defense Program.

In passing, I might say that we have regraded the questionnaires. This was necessary as the Regional markings produced ten different systems of thought or ten different conceptions of evaluation. It became obvious that it would be unfair not to have the questionnaires reclassified in Washington and this we undertook to do on their face values in a thoroughly impersonal way; the result—with a general raising of some of the marks. The Army and Navy now have the "A," "B," and "C" questionnaires. The Army, which I know more intimately, has broken down the questionnaires by states, and it is interesting to note, has evolved its own system of grading of our questionnaires. Therefore, your records are before the military and naval authorities. The A.I.A. has put the profession on record. It has made the gesture. It has done a great service. It must not be thought, however, that the submission of a questionnaire will automatically bring you work. Such is far from the case.

We have collaborated with the engineers and with the landscape architects. We have held meetings with the engineers in New York and Washington. Our form contracts and schedule of fees are the result of joint efforts. The three professions are working shoulder to shoulder and putting up a united front. On the whole, we are recognized and respected. We have friends at court, but eternal vigilance and proper service will be the price of professional success.

The Situation Today

A few general conditions of the situation will doubtless be of interest to you.

It may be stated that without question the Army and Navy are very definitely in the saddle. Congress listens most attentively to whatever General Marshall, the Chief of Staff, and Admiral Stark, the Chief of Naval Operations, may have to say, and very rightly. One feels that eventually the advice of these two men is followed, making allowances for the inertia of Democratic machinery. I have a feeling of utmost confidence that both the major Services know what they are about. Their Intelligence Departments are excellent. I am under the impression that Intelligence Departments are of recent perfection—but such is that state of perfection, the United States probably is as well aware of that which transpires throughout the world as is any other country.

Another important element in the Preparedness Program related to, but not integrally a part of the Army and Navy programs and particular importance to the profession, is the Housing field. This subject is worth an entire evening by itself.

But to return to the Army program. Construction projects are gradually emanating from the Construction Quartermaster Division. These will be small in number in all probability. I doubt if there will be more than 200 of them at the most, though this figure I have named is purely guess work. Two hundred projects in which architects could conceivably be interested

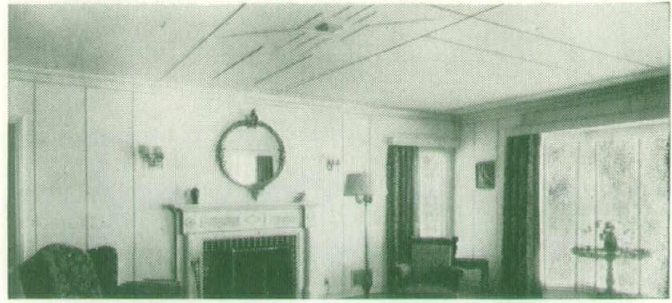
and to the success of which architectural talent might make a contribution. A schedule of fees, a form of contract and method of work has been developed by the A.I.A. in coöperation with the Quartermaster Construction Division. President Bergstrom, in a recent number of *The Octagon*, gave you the details of the results of this coöperation effort. To review in brief this accomplishment evolves the following: The Army work will probably be geographically distributed and local architects will be called in. The work will be done on a cost plus fixed fee basis for a fairly complete service. However, the work will be done on the project in a field office, with a contracting officer of the Army acting as the government agent. The present force of the supervising architect of the Q. M. will not be augmented. There is in the Construction Division a civilian committee of selection, whose acquaintance many of you have probably already made. It is my understanding that it is not altogether necessary to make a personal appearance before this Committee. In fact the committee may be relieved if you do not do so, as every day the corridors outside its door in the Munition Building are filled with architects, engineers and contractors in applicant rôles.

The Navy is somewhat more independent, and although it has recognized and agreed to our schedule of fees, our form of contract and our methods of work, it may or may not give out work on a cost plus fixed fee basis. It may select any other basis. It would appear, however, that the Navy considers giving the architects fair treatment, though again I doubt if there will be very many projects in which the architects may logically participate.

Of paramount and continuing interest is Housing. Several months ago President Roosevelt appointed Charles F. Palmer, president of the N.A.H.O., as co-ordinator of Defense Housing. This is a position of unquestioned importance and one which carries weight. The coördinator will be called upon to make vital decisions and has already done so in several instances. An appropriation bill for \$100,000,000 has been passed for Army and Navy Housing. Each of the services is to receive \$50,000,000. Under this it appeared at first that the Navy would look to its Housing in its own fashion. If there are subsequent indications that it would delegate to the Public Buildings Administration, which step the Army took immediately. In addition to the Housing called for in this bill, the P.B.A. will have under its control an additional \$150,000,000 emanating from Bill 10412. The policies of the P.B.A. are determined, as far as we know. These policies promise little for the architect in private practice. It would appear from our knowledge of the past that the personnel and temperament of that organization leads it to consider itself thoroughly competent to undertake the entire Housing Program which to judge from the history of Housing in this country is an ambitious and optimistic point of view.

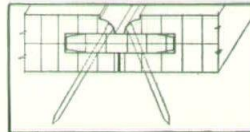
The A.I.A. has been working to the end that architects may be employed on the basis of recognition and fair play that characterize the intentions of the Armed Services in their dealings with the profession. There will be some work undertaken by the U.S.H.A. but that work will be carried out on the money that has

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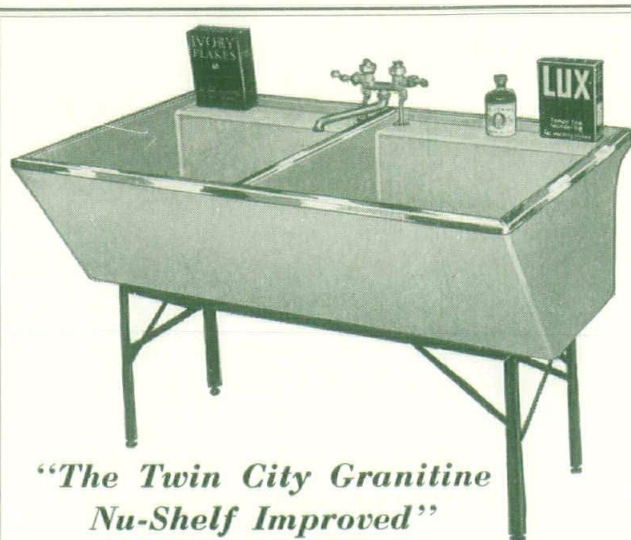
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Minneapolis, Minnesota**

been returned to it or money that it has already at hand. The appropriation bill which would enable the U.S.H.A. to continue to function to their past manner has been in Committee for months and there is little likelihood that it will be brought out.

Of particular interest to all of you is, without question, that which may be accomplished in your area. Perhaps, like others, you have been a trifle remiss in waiting to be shown the way rather than to have seized the initiative. It would certainly behoove you, if you have not already done so, to look about your district. You must be in some military corps area and it would be well to consult with the commanding officer of your area, and with the commandant of your naval district, if you have one. You may find that both of these officers will be glad of your help. Perhaps they have projects that they are trying to secure for your area and your advising assistance would be most welcome. They could help to guide you in your thinking.

What the Architects Have to Offer

There are others in authority who doubtless are not entirely conversant with the potentialities of the architects and the service that we have to offer. They might be very glad to hear from you and maybe you could accept a particular problem that has been bothering them for some time. Your local Housing Authority, your planning Commissions, if you have any, the Highway Departments, and the Chamber of Commerce are among many others who may be occupied with the problems that will confront the area to the problem that confronts the nation. It would be well for you to brush up a little on the expertness to the end that you might make yourself not only useful but indispensable. You should be conversant with the housing situations and the housing problems and the traffic problems whether by rail, highway, air, or water.

Although the question may never arise here as it does in the East, have you any idea how your cities might be protected against manifestations of active aggression? Do you know whether your cities are incapable of protection and had better be abandoned?

It is easy to give advice and therefore taking the opportunity, I ask you as individuals not to attempt to collect all the work in one office and I ask you to avoid superficial academic cleverness. They somehow fail to impress the men who are concerned with the problems of utmost gravity. It is well to value the opinions of the experienced experts in the government services, for it must be realized that such problems as we may be called upon to solve will not be problems of theoretical design but rather problems of coordination, administration and proper understanding to which speed and satisfactory accomplishment are essential. You will find that any mistakes that you may make will be most difficult to explain and these mistakes will not enhance the prestige of the profession.

Last month I had the privilege of addressing the Boston Chapter. I had gone prepared to tell them and on the other hand, I found myself learning. Some two months ago the Preparedness Committee of that Chapter went to work. They have done many things that I have just cited to you. The President of the Chapter has been placed by the governor of the Commonwealth on the Governor's Defense Committee. I

believe he is vice-chairman of the committee. The Chapter itself has investigated all aspects of the problem and has looked into the services architects may render to their states and country. They have studied their housing and their traffic. They have studied the possibilities of camouflaging Boston. They have studied how bomb shelters should be built and particularly where they should be placed in Boston. They have worked and coöperated with the Naval, Military and State authorities and they have been recognized by those authorities. Possibly some of you may think that the contemplation of bomb shelters for Minneapolis is fantastic, but please do not forget that much that was regarded as fantastic a year ago has been dreadfully realized in the last few months. Why should we not be called to take the lead?

I think, too, that the architectural mind is well adapted to problems that active service brings up. Surely, the architect is equipped to understand and plan field works and to produce that sort of camouflage that is so vitally necessary. It is interesting to note that it was an American architect who in the recent retreat of the French Army was able to so satisfactorily camouflage the motorized equipment of his division that he saved over 800 trucks, guns and tanks. There is also map-making and the laying out of field hospitals, the control of field traffic. It would appear to me from the extraordinary success of the German Army that it must have taken good advantage of the architectural mind and the architectural abilities. I believe that in order to enter the Army at the present time one must be in the National Guard or on reserve. However, one never knows when the rules will be changed.

The A.I.A. has done what it can and will continue to do more. But you members of the profession must realize that this is not an opportunity to make money. It is an opportunity to serve your country; it is even more than that, it is an opportunity to serve your calling.

The A.I.A. cannot do it all and we cannot provide individual jobs for you. We are not a political organization. We do not control your vote. We neither want to nor expect to. We cannot intimidate even were such action our desire—we can only succeed by demonstration of fitness for the task. It is up to you to not let the profession and the Institute down. For the A.I.A. has sung your praises and promised on your abilities.

Many of the monuments created by our fore-runners have been destroyed and are being destroyed at this moment. Reflection on this gives to anger, but when we realize the extent of our responsibilities in creating for the future, monuments that may rank with or even surpass those that have fallen, then that anger is tempered with ambition and hope. Our responsibility to future generations is enormous, and is in truth a magnificent charge upon us. We realize that lies before us. We know that the profession will emerge stronger than ever from this period of stress. This can be accomplished with the architects' accepting the challenge in the proper spirit and with that fortitude which characterizes all great people and which is now so actively evident. We must then make the country aware, by our performance and spirit, that the planning professions are indispensable to it not only in time of war, but also in time of peace.

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News of MINNESOTA ASS'N OF ARCHITECTS

Officers and Directors, 1941

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Hibbing
R. E. Sorenson—Second Vice President
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Frank W. Jackson—Treasurer
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E. D. Corwin, Saint Paul
Charles A. Hausler, Saint Paul
R. E. Sorenson, Winona
Louis C. Pinault, Saint Cloud
Francis H. Fitzgerald, Duluth
J. C. Taylor, Hibbing
W. H. Tusler, Minneapolis
Frank W. Jackson, Saint Cloud

Standing Committees for 1941

The following committees have been appointed by President Tusler to serve the Association during the year. Committee Chairmen and members alike share the responsibility of seeing to it that their committees meet and function.

PRACTICE, FEES, AND ETHICS

E. D. Corwin, Chairman

P. C. Bettenburg	A. O. Larson
B. O. Boyum	Louis C. Pinault
F. H. Fitzgerald	Roy N. Thorshov
Oscar T. Lang	

PUBLIC RELATIONS AND EDUCATION

G. W. Shifflet, Chairman

Louis Bersback	Louis C. Pinault
K. M. Fullerton	Thos. J. Shefchik
Roy Childs Jones	J. C. Taylor
J. J. Liebenberg	

INDUSTRY RELATIONS

A. I. Raugland, Chairman

Carl H. Buetow	Hans C. Larson
C. W. Farnham	Dale R. McEnary

BUILDING CODE

Albert O. Larson, Chairman

Wm. G. Dorr	Paul M. Havens
H. W. Fridlund	A. I. Raugland
C. A. Hausler	

HOUSING

Robert T. Jones, Chairman

Ray R. Gauger	(Additional members may be selected by chairman)
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PUBLICATIONS

H. W. Fridlund, Chairman

Robert Cerney	Fred Klawiter
K. M. Fullerton	Gilbert Winkelmann
John Jager	A. O. Larson

MINUTES IN BRIEF OF BUSINESS MEETING SEVENTH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF MINNESOTA ASSOCIATION OF ARCHITECTS HELD AT THE ST. PAUL HOTEL

November 8, 1940

The meeting was called to order by President Hausler at 11:30 a.m. Mayor John McDonough of St. Paul was introduced and welcomed the members to the City of St. Paul.

At noon Edmund R. Purves, Philadelphia Architect, spoke on the architect's part in the National Defense Program. (See Mr. Purves' address printed in this issue.)

Convention reconvened at 2:00 p.m. Secretary read communications from the Chambers of Commerce of Minneapolis and St. Paul and from the Mayor of Minneapolis and from Governor Stassen. A motion was made that the reading of the minutes of the previous annual convention be dispensed with.

The Secretary read the names of the active members consisting of those who had paid their dues and, therefore, eligible to vote.

The Secretary gave a brief report on the activities of the organization throughout the year, announcing that during the year the Association had become affiliated with the American Institute of Architects as a State Association Member; the Board of Directors had held five board meetings—two with the State Board of Registration; a Code of Practice had been developed in co-operation with the A.G.C. covering the bidding and letting practices and which code has been published and is now in general usage. The Secretary also advised that action has been taken on the publication by the State Association of a standard form of contract between architect and owner. It is expected that this form will be completed within the next two or three months.

The Treasurer's report was read and accepted and is made a part of the minutes hereof.

E. D. Corwin reported for the committee on Practice Fees and Ethics and his report indicated there was need for closer coöperation between the membership at large and the committee in reporting violation of ethics.

A special committee consisting of W. H. Tusler, Wm. G. Dorr, M. V. Bergstedt, Clair Armstrong and John Bellaire on the drafting of a uniform schedule for holidays and working conditions for draftsmen and architectural employes presented a report which provided the following:

1. Holidays to be observed with pay: Washington's Birthday, Decoration Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Years. If these holidays fall on Sunday, the following day will be a holiday.
2. A maximum working week of forty-four hours.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 22)

The SHARP Pencil

FIRE INSURANCE REGULATIONS

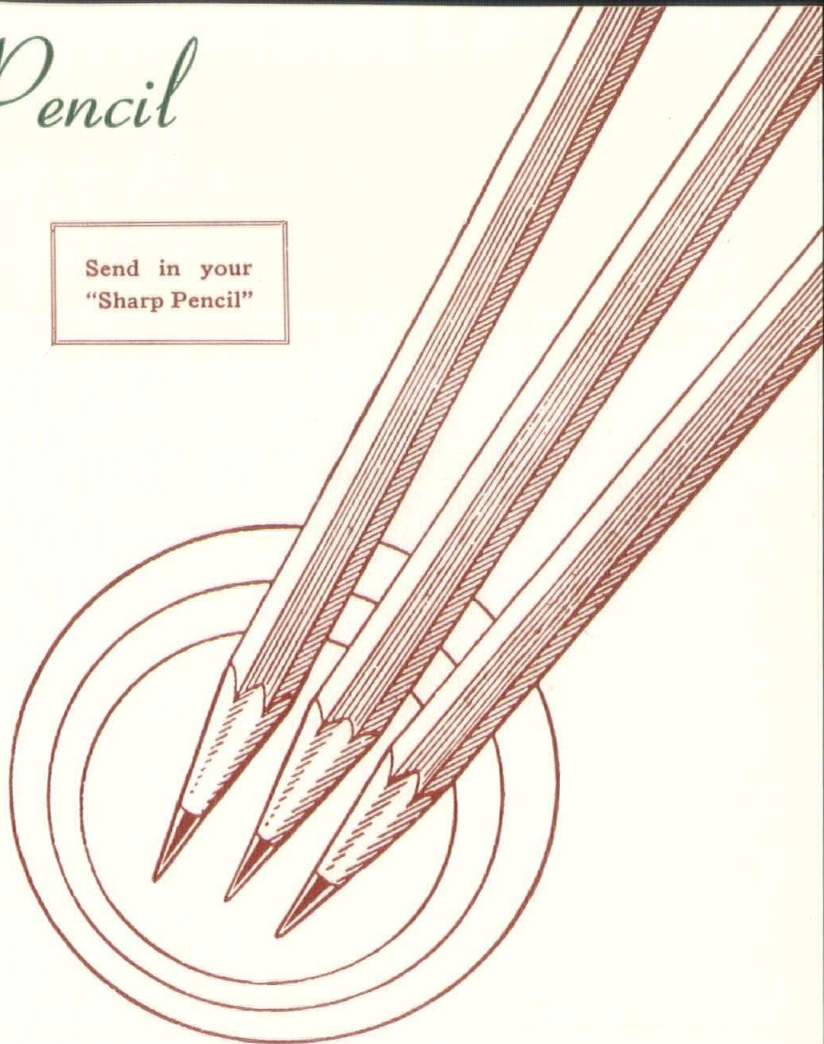
In planning industrial or commercial buildings attention should first be given to the type of fire insurance carried by the owner. It may be in either a stock or mutual insurance company.

There is a popular misconception that the Underwriters Inspection Bureau establishes the regulations for all fire risks. The Underwriters Bureau is maintained by the stock insurance companies. Generally speaking, the Underwriters Bureau establishes rates and makes recommendations for fire protection solely according to the rigid rules of the Underwriters' code. While the requirements of the mutual companies are similar to those of the stock companies, each specific risk is rated according to the hazards involved. In many types of usage or occupancy, the requirements of the mutual insurance companies will vary greatly from the Underwriters' code.

A discussion of each building problem with the engineering department of either the Underwriters Inspection Bureau or the Mutual group will often effect substantial savings in the building cost and avoid unnecessary premium penalties after the building is completed.

During construction a substantial saving in insurance premiums can be made if the owner rather than the contractor carries the insurance policy. If that is done, the owner can carry a three-year policy with only the construction period carried as a builders risk. The architect should call the owner's attention to the necessity of there being a proper endorsement on such policy covering the interests of the contractor and sub-contractors.

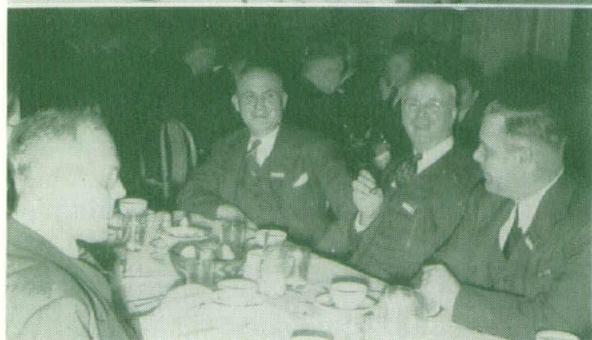
Send in your
"Sharp Pencil"



A Few Snapshots of the Annual Convention



(Left to Right): Rev. Gilbert Winkelmann, Mayor John McDonough, Edmund R. Purves, Gil Holien, Charles A. Hausler and Hal W. Fridlund.



(Left to Right): Carl Bard, C. H. (Bert) Smith, C. W. Farnham.

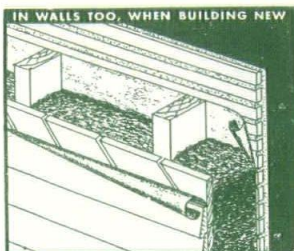
BELOW (Left to Right): Ken Fullerton, Larry Bakken, Gil Holien, Carl and Max Buetow, Gus Lagergren, Louis Pinault, Henry Orth, General Chairman Gil Holien, E. V. Schaefer, Roy Childs Jones.



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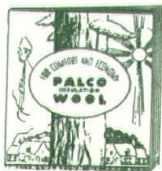
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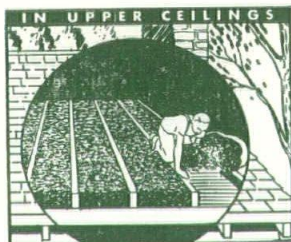
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ASSOCIATION NEWS

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 20)

3. That each draftsman receive with pay one day of vacation for each full month of employment. If the employment is over five months, Saturday is to be accepted as one day.
4. Time out of the office for sickness shall be made up.
5. Overtime work shall be paid as straight time, but the acceptance of overtime work shall be at the option of the draftsman.

After reading of this report, a motion was made and carried that the provisions in the report be adopted by the Association as standard practice, subject, however, to decision of the Wage Hour Administration as to whether or not the architectural employees come under the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, in which case the provisions of the act would take precedence over sections 2 and 5 above.

The President announced that the regular order of business would be altered to allow Professor R. T. Jones to give a report on housing, and Mr. Jones in his report called attention to the fact that Minnesota is one of the few states which does not have housing legislation to allow the state and the communities of the state to participate under the U. S. Housing Act.

The following resolutions were presented and passed.

Resolved, that the 7th annual convention of the Minnesota Association of Architects commits itself to the desirability of proper housing legislation and recommends that a housing authority be established in the state to coöperate with the U. S. Housing Act of 1937 and that the officers and directors of the Association be authorized to appoint such committee and take such steps as necessary to further any proper legislation.

Resolved, that the thanks of the convention be extended to the Ladies' Auxiliary for its work in helping to make the convention a success.

A motion was passed extending to the retiring officers and directors the thanks of the membership for their work during the past year and also to Gil Holien for his work as chairman of General Arrangements of the convention.

A motion was also made that the messages of Mayor McDonough of St. Paul and Governor Stassen be acknowledged with thanks.

Motion was made and passed that the president appoint a committee coöperating with the A.G.C. and Producer's Council Club in preparation of a fair practice list of members of the building industry.

A motion was made that there be incorporated in the NORTHWEST ARCHITECT a list of "fair" firms.

A motion was made that a committee of five be appointed to investigate ways and means and to take such steps necessary to advise the public as to the profession.

Caucus of the various districts were held and the following representatives to the board of directors were elected by the districts:

Northern—F. H. Fitzgerald
Central—Frank Jackson
Minneapolis—A. I. Raugland
St. Paul—E. D. Corwin
Southern—R. E. Sorenson

The Secretary read the list of nominees at large as selected by the nominating committee, and L. C. Pinault and J. C. Taylor were elected to the Board at large.

NORTHWEST ARCHITECT

NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS DECEMBER 13, CURTIS HOTEL

The Board of Directors of the Minnesota Association of Architects held its regular meeting at the Curtis Hotel December 13. The following members were present. W. H. Tusler, F. H. Fitzgerald, Louis C. Pinault, E. D. Corwin, Frank Jackson, H. W. Fridlund, A. O. Larson, Chairman of the Building Code Committee, attended at invitation of the Board.

STANDING COMMITTEES ANNOUNCED

President Tusler announced the following committee appointments for the year:

Practice, Fees and Ethics—E. D. Corwin, St. Paul, *Chairman*. P. C. Bettenberg, B. O. Boyum, F. H. Fitzgerald, Oscar T. Lang, A. O. Larson, Louis C. Pinault, Roy N. Thorshov.

Building Code—A. O. Larson, Minneapolis, *Chairman*. Wm. G. Dorr, H. W. Fridlund, C. A. Hausler, Paul M. Havens, A. I. Raugland.

Public Relations and Education—G. W. Shifflet, *Chairman*. Louis Bersback, K. M. Fullerton, Roy C. Jones, J. J. Liebenberg, Louis C. Pinault, Thos. J. Shefchik, J. C. Taylor.

Housing—Robert T. Jones, *Chairman*. Ray R. Gauger.

Publications—H. W. Fridlund, *Chairman*. Robert Cerney, K. M. Fullerton, John Jager, F. C. Klawiter, Gilbert Winkelmann, A. O. Larson.

Industry Relations—A. I. Raugland, *Chairman*. Carl H. Buetow, C. W. Farnham, Lloyd B. Knutson, Hans C. Larson.

WILL SUBMIT MALPRACTICE DATA TO REGISTRATION BOARD

The Board directed its attorney, Donald Hausler, St. Paul, to submit certain data concerning malpractice and other matters to the State Board of Registration for Architects, Engineers and Land Surveyors.

The coming year's program of activity was discussed in detail and Mr. Larson outlined proposed program of the Building Code Committee.

The next regular meeting of the Board was set for February with the exact date and place to be determined later.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETS November 8, St. Paul Hotel

The following members were present:

Arnold I. Raugland, Minneapolis
R. E. Sorenson, Winona
Louis C. Pinault, St. Cloud
J. C. Taylor, Hibbing
Frank W. Jackson, St. Cloud
Charles A. Hausler, St. Paul
H. W. Fridlund, Minneapolis

President Hausler announced the purpose of the meeting was the election of new officers. J. C. Taylor and W. H. Tusler and A. I. Raugland were nominated for the office of President, and W. H. Tusler was elected.

J. C. Taylor was nominated for first Vice President. The secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Taylor.

R. E. Sorenson was nominated for second Vice President, and the secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Sorenson.

Frank W. Jackson was nominated for treasurer, and the secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Jackson.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 27)

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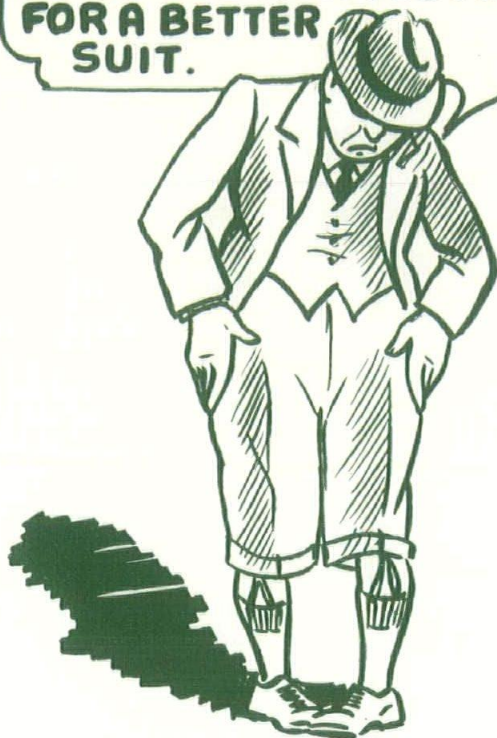
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TO SPEND A LITTLE MORE
FOR A BETTER
SUIT.



• *These Two Chaps
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IF I HAD ALLOWED TWO
PERCENT (2%) I WOULD NOT
HAVE TO REPLACE ANY
HARDWARE
IN THIS HOUSE



The point of these pictures is about as subtle as a fire siren. The economy of skimped hardware is the same.

Cheap steel locks that get rusty and won't work. Cheap door knobs that rattle and fall off. Butts that rust. Window trim that rusts and sticks. These are not cheap. They are the highest priced on the market for they must be soon replaced.

A good, safe "rule of thumb" to remember is "Always allow 2% for finishing hardware." More can be spent with beauty; little less can be spent with safety.

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Minneapolis

Raymer Hardware Co.
St. Paul

Leitz Hardware & Paint Co.
Minneapolis

Northwestern Hardware Co. Inc.
St. Paul

MATERIALS AND FINISHES IN *Builders' Hardware*

By H. M. GARDNER, A.H.C.

★ The advent of air conditioning in new homes and other buildings has made most important the use of non-rusting materials for builders' hardware, as comfortable temperature and higher humidity in our buildings, during cold weather, may cause frost to gather on exterior door and window hardware.

Manufacturers have so perfected the various finishes on steel and iron that one can with difficulty find any difference between them and bronze or brass. The appearance when new is alike, but after a few months of wear and exposure the owner has every reason to be dissatisfied.

There are some finishes used on iron and steel that will give a measure of protection against rust, but limited against frictional wear; so the use of iron and steel should be confined to items not subject to frictional wear, such as butt hinges, door stops, coat hooks, and door closers.

Electro-plated finishes on steel and iron in imitation of bronze, brass, and nickel give little protection against rust or wear and become unsightly in a limited time.

Prime coated for painting (U. S. Federal Specifications USP), especially when applied over a bonderizing base, is one of the most satisfactory methods of protecting steel and iron against rust and discoloration, as it is practically non-corrosive and may be repainted from time to time as the trim is refinished, so will always harmonize with the surrounding woodwork.

Japan (US 1 B, US 1 D) is a special black varnish, either glossy or dull, applied by dipping or spraying and then baking in ovens until the Japan is properly set. Cast iron lock cases usually are Janned.

Cadmium (US 2 C), electro-plated zinc (US 2 G), hot dipped zinc (US 2 H) are protective coatings applied to steel and iron to resist rusting. Federal specifications allow the use of cadmium wherever galvanized is specified. Cadmium is electrolytically deposited and produces a smooth surface, which gives an excellent base for final plated finishes such as brass and bronze. Like other electro-plated finishes, it is not durable under frictional wear and should not be used on door knobs, pulls, et cetera.

Bower Barff (US 18) is a black rust-resisting and abrasion-resistant finish, applied only to iron and steel. The metal is heated to 1700° Fahrenheit in furnaces and treated with live steam and hydrocarbon liquids. The chemical action oxidizes and carbonizes the surface with a hard, non-porous coating, sealing the pores, so that it is practically impervious to moisture. After cooling, the parts are dipped in a special oil, giving a dead-black finish which is quite satisfactory for interior hardware trim, but is not recommended where exposed to extremes of moisture. On account of its porosity, cast iron gives better results than steel, where this finish is quite scaly and subject to chipping.

Rust resisting black (US 18 A)—dead black lacquer on a base, as Parkerizing, cadmium, et cetera—is more corrosion resistant than Bower Barff; its resistance to abrasion is still in doubt. Some manufacturers apply a cadmium or zinc base and finish with electro-plated or lacquered black.

Imitation Bower Barff (US 19) is an electro-plated black usually applied over a copper coating on iron and steel. This finish gives little protection against rust or frictional wear. When applied on bronze in order to match Bower Barff, its life is short if any frictional wear occurs.

Stainless steel is little used in builders' hardware, so no comment is given.

Aluminum

Architects are finding more and more places where aluminum can be well used. In hardware aluminum is usually finished by the aluminite process in which the metal is oxidized, giving the surface a hard inert oxide of aluminum, which does not flake off and forms a hard, protective coating. This corundum-like finish is hard enough to be used on automobile pistons and will withstand atmospheric corrosion, even for salt water conditions. Push bars, kick plates, push plates retain their original color by simply wiping off with a cloth. Alumilite coatings may be colored in various dyes for interior service, but the natural silver color in dull or high polish is most satisfactory for both exterior and interior uses.

Zinc alloy die castings are being adopted for many hardware items such as bathroom fixtures and fittings, latch and padlock cases, refrigerator hardware, and many others. Die casting is the art of producing accurately dimensioned parts, by forcing molten metal under pressure into steel molds or dies. The "Zamak" series of zinc die casting alloys (New Jersey Zinc Company) consists of three alloys as best fulfilling the requirements of the art. Number 5 is generally favored for hardware and is composed of 4.1% aluminum, 1% copper, .03% magnesium, .075% iron, .003% lead, .003% cadmium, .001% tin, and the balance 94.788% zinc. This formula gives a low melting point of 717° F. (while aluminum has 1217° F., copper 1981° F., and iron 2786° F.), which conserves fuel and minimizes the heat shock on the die surface and insures rapid production operations.

The corrosion resistance is similar to rolled zinc and galvanized iron, and is increased by electroplating by a strike coat of copper .0002 and nickel .0007, and finished by a coating of chromium. Plating with brass requires substantial weights of coating to insure resistance to corrosion and abrasion, while a coat of lacquer gives some protection against tarnishing for a short time, polishing soon wears it down.

Brass, yellowish in color, is an alloy of copper 60 to 75 per cent and zinc 25 to 35 per cent.

Bronze, reddish in color, is fundamentally an alloy of copper and tin; although in practically all commercial bronzes, zinc and lead are added. A common formula is copper 85 per cent, tin 5 per cent, lead 5 per cent, and zinc 5 per cent. In builders' hardware 90 per cent copper is usual.

Brass and bronze may be rolled into sheets from which "stamped" articles are formed in presses, or melted and cast in molds. These alloys are very durable, take a beautiful natural finish, and make an excellent base for plated finishes.

White bronze is an alloy of copper 65 per cent, nickel 18 per cent, zinc 17 per cent; and is white with a yellowish coat and very hard and tough, making a most durable finish for toilet and lavatory hardware and any place where white, silver-like finish is desired.

A movement is under way to stamp each piece of bronze and brass hardware with a symbol, to make it possible for the architect and owner to identify these materials. The Ankh ♀, symbol of everlasting life, has been suggested.

One of the most interesting developments at the present time is the invention and growing uses of plastics in manufacturing a great variety of items of every kind. In hardware they are being used largely for ornament, in conjunction with metal parts, to give strength and reinforcement. Tops for door knobs, drawer pulls, door pulls, and other items are used to give color harmony. There are many varieties of plastics such as "Catalin" that are non-fading, non-inflammable, and give excellent service; but some are not satisfactory in these respects.

Some hospital architects are now specifying rubber and formica for kick plates and push plates; in black rubber with metal mouldings, and formica in black and other colors without mouldings.

Durability of Finishes

No finish on metal is absolutely permanent, each being subject to change by atmospheric oxidation. The most durable finishes for builders' hardware are those produced on solid brass, bronze or white bronze, and aluminum in the natural color of the metal produced by various mixtures of the alloy, not plated. In this classification would fall the oil finishes on bronze (from dark sepia to light brown) and plain unlacquered, buffed finishes on brass, bronze and white bronze. These unlacquered finishes with age produce some of the most desired effects in metal ornamentation. Hand polishing will maintain their natural color and luster.

Plated finishes on non-ferrous metals are satisfactory for interior use, if not subject to excessive handling or wear; but few such finishes are suitable for exterior use—the exception being chromium.

Finishes plated on iron and steel are least durable of all, due to the rapid corrosion of the metal. A prime coat on a bonderized base gives good service, if painted from time to time.

FEDERAL SPECIFICATIONS CS22-40, Standard Finishes on Builders' Hardware Recommended for Normal Use:

SYMBOL	GENERAL DESCRIPTION
USP	Primed for painting
US 1 B	Bright Japanned
US 1 D	Dead black
US 2 C	Cadmium-plated
US 2 G	Zinc, electroplated
US 2 H	Zinc, hot-dipped
US 3	Bright brass
US 3 A	Bright brass, no lacquer
US 4	Dull brass
US 5	Dull brass, oxidized and relieved
US 9	Bright bronze
US 9 A	Bright bronze, no lacquer
US 10	Dull bronze
US 10 A	Dull bronze, oxidized
US 10 B	Dull bronze, oxidized and oil-rubbed
US 11	Dull bronze, oxidized and relieved
US 11 A	Dull bronze, oxidized and relieved, oil-rubbed
US 14	Nickel-plated
US 15	Nickel-plated, dull
US 15 A	Nickel-plated, dull, oxidized and relieved
US 17 A	Nickel-plated, imitation half-polished iron sanded, oxidized and relieved
US 18	Bower barff
US 18 A	Sanded, rust-resisting black
US 19	Sanded, dull black
US 20	Statuary bronze
US 25	White bronze metal
US 25 D	White bronze metal, dull
US 26	Chromium-plated
US 26 D	Chromium-plated, dull

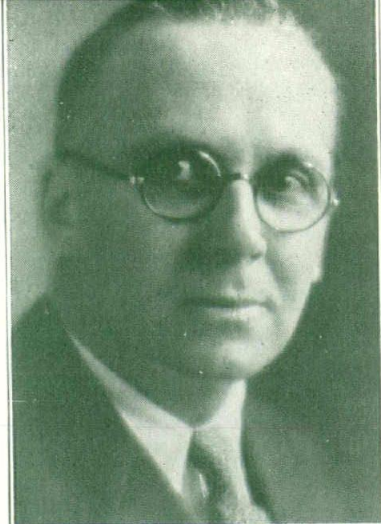
REFERENCES

Federal Specifications for Builders' Hardware
 Lock Manufacturers' Catalogs (Sager Lock Company most complete)
 New Jersey Zinc Company on Zinc Alloys
 Aluminum Company of America on Aluminum
 Copper and Brass Research Association
 Parker Rust Proof Company on Bonderizing and Parkerizing
 Catalin Company on Plastics

A MESSAGE

from

Our President



W. H. TUSLER

© IMPROVEMENT BULLETIN

★ ON taking over from my worthy predecessor the office of President of the Minnesota Association of Architects, certain things stand out clearly that should be accomplished this coming year for the good of the architects in the state and their practice.

We are entering into a phase of defense building on a large scale with a slowing up of private work. It is true that not much of this work has come to Minnesota as yet, but more and more will come as the program is being fulfilled. The architect has not figured very strongly in this work and it is up to us to see that our services are available and to be alert to the opportunity to assist.

I believe that the architects of Minnesota are not fully aware of the increasing invasion of the architectural field by contractors, manufacturing and distribution offices. And, likewise, the architects' encroachment on the contractors' field of operation. Recognizing these evils, I believe that they are dangerous to all concerned and should be checked, for, if the increase continues, many contractors and architects will be forced out of their occupation, which is dangerous in the sense that the public needs trained and experienced men in both fields.

It is proposed that a code of fair practice be drawn up by a committee composed of men from all the fields involved and be circulated among all architects, contractors and material firms for their signature of approval and compliance. This will give us an indication of the general feeling throughout the state.

It is my hope that there will be sufficient sentiment in favor of this code to make possible through co-operative effort the checking of the present menace. A state building code is greatly needed, patterned after the proposed legislation of two years ago. This will assist everyone in the building field and will assemble under one heading the vague and indefinite demands and suggestions of various commissions and boards.

Housing legislation is also needed to allow the government to help us clean up bad conditions and to make it possible to help ourselves. This has been tried unsuccessfully for several sessions of the legislature. At each session there has been an increase of interest shown and this year we are certain of success.

This program will take work by all of us. Committees have been appointed and are working, but this cannot all be accomplished by committees and your board of directors. When you are called on for help do your utmost to accomplish to the best of your ability the task assigned to you. If we all do this, we will be surprised and pleased at what we have achieved.

Board of Directors " "

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 23)

H. W. Fridlund was nominated for Secretary, and the secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Fridlund.

After informal discussion of various matters, the motion was made that the secretary be instructed to advise the new president that it was the consensus of opinion of the Board that it would be desirable to have the first meeting of the new Board the first or second week in December.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

COURT AWARDS ARCHITECTURE

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

gratis so long as the contractor were awarded the contract itself."

The decision came at a propitious time. The growing assumption of architectural responsibility by corporations and other unlicensed organizations is a vicious, dangerous threat to the ethical and economic structure of the profession. It not only deprives architects of business to which they are rightly entitled, but relegates the function of architect to a new low in subservience.

The Jack Dempsey instance is only one of a string of hundreds of such jobs. On almost every Main Street in New York State—and in increasing numbers across the entire country—combined building and architectural corporations have planned and erected structures, such as stores, restaurants, markets, and similar commercial buildings. To "comply" with the law, many have employed their own architects. Others, however, have flipped the architectural service to a cooperating architect after having contracted to provide it.

Justice Rosenman's decision in this case helps round out a growth that has been developing since 1927. Prior to that year, Article 7-A of the General Business Law was the only statute relating to architects. This merely prohibited a person from assuming the title of architect without first securing a certificate of registration. Any one, under this law, could practice architecture as long as he did not call himself an architect.

In 1927, Article 7-A of the General Business Law was repealed and was superseded by Article 56 of the Education Law. This, however, also permitted architectural practice by unlicensed persons.

In 1929, the practice of architecture was given legal status of a profession. In that year, Sections 1475-1784

of the Education Law required that the very practice of architecture required a license. Section 1476 of this law provides that "In order to safeguard life, health, and property, no person shall practice architecture in this State . . . unless such person shall have secured from the regents a license as architect. . . ."

There are several exceptions, however: It does not prevent licensed engineers from performing architectural work, nor does it apply to new building costing less than \$10,000, nor to remodeling jobs costing no more than that when no structural changes are involved. Some corporations may also practice architecture. These are limited to architectural corporations incorporated prior to 1929 which have licensed architects as their chief executives. None of these exceptions, however, applied in the Jack Dempsey case.—*Architectural Record*.

Indiana Architects Plan Group Service

Knowing that both the architects and the public lose when there is an absence of professional supervision in the construction of small units, Indianapolis architects and construction people are planning a program to establish closer relations between the prospective builders of small homes and these professional people.

The Architectural Guild of Indianapolis is planning to establish a clinic open to the public. Any person with an architectural problem may consult this clinic and be advised, but, this advice will not include the production of drawings and like services for which fees are charged, the announcement states.



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Minneapolis, Minnesota

IS YOUR BUILDING SAFE?

(Continued from Page 5)

pay \$5.00 for material and then she will not consider it an extravagance to pay fifty cents for a pattern or plan from which to make the dress.

Yet many of these same people will spend \$5,000 or more for building a new house and will not be willing to pay for the services of an Architect, the only man who by training and experience is qualified to give them a home suited to their individual needs, a home convenient in arrangement, economical and substantial in construction, and beautiful in design.

The Architect makes definite plans and specifications so that you can get competitive prices from different contractors, all bidding on the same basis. The contractor can give you his lowest price because he is not gambling on unknown quantities as he would be in trying to estimate the cost from crude, vague drawings on which it would be impossible to make a definite contract.

Furthermore, the Architect supervises the construction of the house, and as your agent, sees to it that you get what you are paying for.

By employing a good Architect, you will add much more than the cost of the Architect's fee to the value of your home. There is a big difference between the cost of a house and the value of a house.

Two houses of about the same size, the same number of rooms, and built of the same kinds of materials, may have cost the same amount to build. But one of the houses built without an Architect is inconvenient in arrangement, has a large amount of waste space in halls and elsewhere, is of flimsy construction, and is ugly, and commonplace in appearance.

The other house, designed and supervised by a good Architect, is convenient to live in, there is no waste space, the construction is substantial, it is in good taste and lovely to look at.

They *cost* the same, but which has the greater *value*, which would be pleasanter to live in, in which house would you have a greater pride of ownership? Ask your real estate man which house would be easier to sell for a fair price, considering its cost.

The best value received for any money put into your home is the value which comes from the fee paid to your Architect.

—D. KNICKERBOCKER BOYD.

PAY YOUR DUES

The new board of directors of the association has outlined a program of activity for the year and the new committee chairmen give promise that some real results will be forthcoming. To carry out the program, the directors have also established a budget and it is absolutely necessary to the proper fulfillment of the program that dues be paid promptly. The directors and members of the committees will devote hours of time and effort towards improving conditions for the profession as a whole, and every single architect will benefit.

Within the next few days all members will receive statements for dues, and all registered architects, whether members or not at the present time, are eligible for membership upon payment of the annual dues of \$5.00. Don't delay—send in your dues and help the program get going.

Thumb Tack Holes & Art Gum Crumbs

By KEN FULLERTON

St. Paul Architect

REVERY:

"Ah! Me! Sidi Barrani! Sidi Barrani! Can't get Sidi Barrani off my mind. Something sibilant and baroque about it. Guess the Sidi is sibi—and the Barrani is baroque! At least I am." Imponderable, what?

So we'll go on and on jotting down just a few timely, left-over, belated but cogent hints, ideas, recipes and don'ts.

* * *

DON'T:

Don't insist on painting outside in this blustery winter weather. Paint so applied is so apt to suffer deleterious injuries such as crawling, creeping, curdling, cuddling, dripping, drooping, draping, dribbling, hanging, heading, helling, huddling, floating, flowering, frowning or freezing. If you have government work try to impress one of these facts upon the inspector but if you have to go on, mix with equal parts of prestone to alleviate a helluva lot of trouble. We haven't tried this out in the NWA Institute but it sounds logical and the idea was fully threshed out at Convention (Gopher Grill subcommittee). Let us know if you have any good results.

Share our blessings—we always say.

* * *

RECIPE:

Cold weather drink. Take a cheese cloth bag (preferably off of a nice clean cheese) into which insert (1) a tbs. whole cloves, (2) a tbs. whole allspice, (3) 2¼ in. stick cinnamon, (4) a prong or two of mace. Put this bag to the a oneside and get a gal. of cider. Into cid-er float 24 oz. of brown sugar and dust in a half teaspoon salt. Dunk in the spice bag and simmer (over a fire we suppose) for a quarter hr. You can expect the stuff to taste good—served hot under a dab of whipped cream. This is no phony and you can try it if it's o.k. for sound. We can imagine it would go mighty good at a winter camp fire but say—for us, just mix up a wee Old Angus wi' a bit of soda water, we've heard terrible things about hard cider and maybe spiced cider might act the same.

* * *

CAN YOU DO IT?

There's a general and urgent call for such improvements to living as the following:

Venetian blinds, adjustable in width; transparent awnings—heat repelling; shower bath with also a floor

NORTHWEST ARCHITECT

spray shooting up; self-lubricating door hinges and anti-squeak stairs; synchronized electric locks for the two doors of a "communicating" bathroom; skid-proof upholstered bath tubs; revolving brush door mats for snow and mud; revolving cupboards; etc.

Have any of you fellows seen these things about or CAN YOU DO IT?

* * *

QUERY:

What kind of a joist is a ban joist?

* * *

WAR NEWS:

England's populace is being constantly admonished to keep cool and nonchalant under stress to preserve the morale of those who are about to weaken. And a mighty fine job they are doing of it, as we noted a few weeks ago during our last visit to the distressed areas. 'Twas literally raining bombs on this particular night when our accompanying Limy was about to light a cigarette for composure purposes. Coincidentally a fragment, or it may have been the anti-light guard, nipped off his left hand at the wrist. In astonishment and disgust, but a little sheepishly withall, he made only this comment—

"ell! No Murad!"

Yes and no, we have little to say about our findings on this trip but you can be sure, reports are not exaggerated. Mighty, mighty glad our party was to see the banks off Newfoundland loom up. So relieved were we that we went fishing through the ice just for the halibut.

* * *

BETTER SPEECH:

Don't say nape of the neck. All napes are of the neck except those preceded by can- and followed by cocktails.

Same author says call a redingote a redding-goat; we say call it a frock coat or just skip it.

Then too—"pronounce lingerie—lon-zheree"; we say "a mighty dangerous subject. Better a guy with nice tight lips than a mad wife's spouse with two broke hips."

Don't pronounce b-l-o-n-d-e Mabel or beautiful for why step into a nest of brunettes.

Fill not your words with over-ripe sincerity like a radio announcer.

* * *

PRECEPTS:

When you can laugh at your own blunders you'll get a helluva lot more fun out of life.

For a long life be moderate in all things, but don't miss anything. It's too late now but you should have been at the convention and by all means the next time stay for the dinner.

—and if you can't sleep nights it isn't the coffee, it's the bunk.

*ANS. TO QUERY—one who plays the banjo.

NOVEMBER-DECEMBER, 1940

CHARACTER

From Dale Carnegie's Syndicated Articles

WHEN Charles E. Garstang, an architect living at 5321 La Cresta Court, Los Angeles, California, was starting out he was most anxious to land a job designing and superintending the construction of a house for a prominent doctor. This doctor was so important, and had so much influence in the community, that if Mr. Garstang could secure that order he would be made. But the doctor was "difficult." He had ideas of his own.

Mr. Garstang secured an introduction to the doctor, and finally was allowed to call. It was a big moment for Mr. Garstang. His most important prospect! His whole career might turn on this interview.

He gave the doctor his ideas. The doctor listened attentively, but gave no indication of what he was thinking.

At last the doctor told him to call him up in two or three days. Mr. Garstang's heart went down. The way out! The old "some other time" dismissal.

Later Mr. Garstang heard that the doctor had called in an older and much better established architect, but one whose reputation was a bit on the shady side. The other architect was a convincing talker. He could make an Egyptian mummy think he needed a suit of clothes!

Then after a few days, Mr. Garstang's telephone rang. The doctor wanted to see him.

Mr. Garstang hurried there as fast as he could. Good news!

But it wasn't good news after all. The doctor said he hadn't arrived at a decision, just wanted a little more information. He mentioned the name of Mr. Garstang's rival. Not once, but three or four times. He paved the way for Mr. Garstang to reflect on his competitor. Mr. Garstang could have torn the hide off his competitor, but instead he merely said that he knew him, making no comment one way or the other. At last, the mysterious conference was over and Mr. Garstang left.

A week passed. Not a word; not a jingle on the telephone.

Finally a call came. "Come and see me," said the doctor.

When he arrived the doctor was more affable than he previously had been. At last he said, "I'm giving the contract to you. And I'm paying you exactly one-quarter more than your competitor asked!"

Naturally, Mr. Garstang asked the reason.

"When the contract was hanging in the balance, I gave you opportunity after opportunity to run your competitor down. I had heard things about him. I suspected you had, too. But you said nothing whatever against him. That isn't the only reason why I am giving you the contract; but that did make me admire you. You have character and that is one of the reasons I have decided in your favor."

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The needs of the current national defense program have served to demonstrate the nation's shortage of skilled man-power which has been the subject of much concern to organized construction for some time.

For a period of some years, the Associated General Contractors of America have supported Federal Government functions which have finally matured into a continuing organization with nationwide representation known as the Federal Committee on Apprentice Training.

In Minnesota the State Apprentice Training Division functions under the Industrial Commission as created by terms of a law passed in the 1939 session of the Minnesota legislature with the active and full-hearted support of the AGC of Minnesota.

During the current month of December, final action is to be taken in arriving at the terms of an apprenticeship agreement with the Twin City Carpenters District Council and four different groups of employers, numbering between 250 and 300 general contractors and home building contractors, as a concrete expression of the association's activity in the field of apprenticeship training.

The architectural profession is fully aware of the need of training skilled mechanics and it should be a source of considerable satisfaction to know that this problem is being actively met.

(This and our subsequent advertisements in the Northwest Architect are sponsored by the following members of the Building Contractors' Division, ASSOCIATED GENERAL CONTRACTORS OF MINNESOTA)

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ARTSTONE is a superior type of cast stone made under our own improved processes having firm and cleancut edges; it is available in a wide range of colors and textures. Its physical quality far surpasses the requirements of all current standard specifications. We welcome opportunities to show its versatility and distinctiveness and we stand ready to put up our own money to guarantee our ability to deliver material as specified.



Bachr Building, Brainerd, Minn., Perry E. Crozier, Architect. Base course and pilasters have highly honed finish. Balance of cast stone has standard Artstone finish. Color ranges from white to a medium buff and a light pinkish buff.

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