THE MODE
THE 1946 CONVENTION
AN ARCHITECT LOOKS AT CITY PLANNING
THAT NECESSARY EVIL
THE NEW WARSAW
AMONG THE CONSTITUENTS
WHY MATERIALS ARE SCARCE
DEL GAUDIO REPORTS ON A.I.A. CONVENTION
For America's finest post war buildings

Selected for the new ADMINISTRATION BUILDING at CORNELL UNIVERSITY

Before the war PERMATITE windows, made in either aluminum or bronze, were the choice of many leading architects. They were selected for use in schools, hospitals, apartments, public and commercial buildings.

Today, the preference for these fine quality windows is even greater than ever before. Architects, contractors and owners alike are demanding them for their finest post-war jobs in every field.

Selected for their beauty, ease of operation, freedom from periodic painting and other maintenance expense, PERMATITE aluminum windows are being used in the new administration building at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

For complete information, full size details, etc., on PERMATITE windows and other General Bronze building products, consult Sweet's or write for catalogs.

GENERAL BRONZE CORPORATION
34-19 TENTH STREET
LONG ISLAND CITY 1, N. Y.

Architectural Metal Work · Windows · Revolving Doors
The modern, 100-bed hospital at Sylacauga, Ala., was designed in architectural concrete by Charles H. McCaulay, A.I.A. of Birmingham. General contractor was Algernon Blair of Montgomery.

The main entrance of the Sylacauga Hospital is in an angle of the T-shaped building.

Solariums in the Sylacauga Hospital insure sunshine practically all day. Cantilevered canopies provide shade for southern exposure rooms.

ARCHITECTURAL CONCRETE
FOR HOSPITAL BUILDINGS OFFERS
FINE APPEARANCE...ECONOMY...FIRESAFETY

ARCHITECTURAL concrete fulfills every important construction requirement for modern hospitals, including sanitary cleanliness, fire-safety, attractive appearance and economy. The rugged strength and durability of concrete structures keep maintenance cost at a minimum, giving many years of service at consistently low annual cost.

PORTLAND CEMENT ASSOCIATION
Dept. K7-72, 347 Madison Ave., New York 17, N. Y.

A national organization to improve and extend the uses of concrete through scientific research and engineering field work
MORE AND MORE IT'S FLEXICORE!

Sterling Amherst Dairy Bottling Plant
G. M. Wolfe, Architect

M. & K. Service Co. Office
Williamsville, N. Y.
John Y. Sloan, Architect

Lancaster District School Annex No. 4
A. A. Rumschik, Architect

Typical of the acceptance of Flexicore are the school, office and dairy pictured above. The rapidity of construction, the combination of structural slab and finished ceiling, the shallow depth and long span are all factors influencing this trend. More and more, it's Flexicore.

ANCHOR CONCRETE PRODUCTS, Inc.
319 Market Arcade Bldg.
Buffalo 3, N. Y.

CORBETTA CONSTRUCTION CO., Inc.
FLEXICORE DIVISION
220 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y.
THE MODE

By Guy H. Baldwin

Let us say, as the basis of a friendly argument, that architects have a tendency to be as arbitrary as dress designers in decreeing that a building shall follow the mode of the year, and that any substantial aberration therefrom shall be treated as a lapse of “good design” and a thing to be deplored.

The older architects can remember the succession of dogma that has been laid down to be followed strictly, and to be succeeded by new and perhaps contradictory dogma in later years. In the Victorian Era, floriated Gothic burgeoned from public buildings and private residences, and this was the hallmark of the respectable buildings of the time. The colonial buildings of an earlier American tradition which stood near them did not share the same effulgence; they were not in “The Mode”.

In the Eighties H. H. Richardson set the vogue with heavy Romanesque towers, battlements and crenellations. The mark of a progressive city was a new city hall or post office in this mode, and those buildings of the American colonial tradition or even of Victorian Gothic carried the same importance as last year’s automobile, which might have been the sweetheart of the orchestra. The influence of the buildings of the American colonial tradition or even of Victorian Gothic carried the same importance as last year’s automobile, which might have been the sweetheart of the orchestra. The influence of the buildings of the American colonial tradition or even of Victorian Gothic carried the same importance as last year’s automobile, which might have been the sweetheart of the orchestra.

From the time of Richard Morris Hunt until well after the first World War, the architect-to-be received the arbitrary dictum that to achieve eminence in his field it was necessary that he be trained in the Ecole des Beaux-Arts in Paris. The methods of this school were copied throughout the United States, and charrettes, massier, atelier, esquire, ingenieur, and its terms became the common language of the architectural school. In like manner the architecture of the Ecole des Beaux-Arts was copied, the roofs, the rustications and arches, and its organization of plan. Many a college building and Carnegie Library testify to the influence of the Ecole, and this influence was promulgated and fostered by the architects and not by the public, which had little contact with the school.

Then there were the houses that architects built for themselves. Here the architect stood supreme, unabridged by client or perhaps even his own organization. Here he was free to follow his inspiration to the end of the rainbow. Portuguese Gothic, a sun-catcher house, a four-level house, even steam-boat Gothic, — one of these houses might have been the leading candidate for the “whiz-bang” of the times, and the first to be a “dead duck” of the period that followed.

For the purposes of this discussion, the architecture of the Twenties is omitted, because it is likely to be the least regretted of any built 100 years after the Civil War.

Now we are engaged in a great architectural contest in which some parties maintain with the fervor of religious converts that buildings should “spring from the brow full-panoplied” and without any reference to any building that has ever been built before. Disregarding the fact that buildings based on geometric inspiration have been available to all races since the beginning of building and have been rejected by all but the most primitive — the ancient Egyptian and the Aztec, for example — proponents of this mode seem nearly as much interested in levelling what others have done as they are in selling their own product. Moreover, their partisanship is revealed in a ferocity and unwillingness to compromise which would seem unnecessary to a Beaux-Arts Diplomé or a Richardsonian.
WHEN you swing off the bus at the corner after a hard day's work, think how nice it would be to come home to a new house like this—all your own! That's what a lot of us have been looking forward to for years. Of course, it doesn't have to be this Cape Cod cottage—nice as it is. You might want a "modern" or a colonial type. Or some other traditional style. Whatever the design, it will be your dream home—and you'll love every inch of it!

Few people build more than one home in a lifetime—so it's important to know before you start what to insist on to make your investment a sound one. Take walls and ceilings for instance. It's easy—for a few months or years—to hide cheap, second-rate quality in walls and ceilings. But today, thanks to Gold Bond's years of research, it's just as easy to build walls that will last virtually forever. Firesafe. Ever so much stronger structurally at no extra cost. Walls that turn away summer heat and keep you warmer in winter. That can be decorated in the most charming colors you've ever laid eyes on with a marvelous new paint that dries in one hour.

You can get these advantages and many more by demanding the six Gold Bond features shown below. They are part of the famous Gold Bond family of 152 better building products, produced in 23 modern plants and sold through 10,000 leading lumber and building material dealers.

There's a Gold Bond Dealer in your locality. See him first when you start thinking about new building or modernizing. He can bring you the latest in building products and ideas. He can really make that new home "so nice to come home to" in beauty and value at no more than the cost of ordinary construction.

National Gypsum Company, Buffalo 2, N. Y.

Over 150 tested Gold Bond Building Products for new construction or remodeling add greater permanency, beauty and fire protection. These include wallboard, lath, plaster, lime, sheathing, wall paint, insulation, metal and sound control products.

DEMAND THESE SIX GOLD BOND FEATURES IN YOUR NEW HOUSE

You'll build or remodel better with Gold Bond

Ask your Gold Bond lumber and building material dealer how to have a home like this. He is headquarters for new building products and ideas.

SOMY, NO PLANS AVAILABLE, BUT... Another full color ad in the new Gold Bond series now running in the Saturday Evening Post. Like previous ads, this will probably bring a flood of letters from prospective home builders inquiring, "Where can we obtain the plans?" And the answer will be, "Consult your architect!" National Gypsum Company, Buffalo 2, N. Y.
An unusually heavy attendance is predicted for the 1946 convention to be held in Buffalo at Hotel Statler from Thursday, Oct. 17 through Saturday, Oct. 19. The unprecedented representation from all over New York State is expected to result from the increasing importance of the annual state convention to New York architects and also from the larger membership now in the state association.

James W. Kidney, chairman of the 1946 convention committee, reported the program now is being arranged. Because his committee desires to know the reactions and opinions of the membership regarding the convention, Mr. Kidney is asking for suggestions regarding pertinent subjects to be discussed on the program. He also desires suggestions as to speakers, activities of both a social and professional nature, and arrangements in general.

The following is the program as drawn to to date:

**Thursday, October 17**

10:00 A.M. Assembly Room, 17th Floor, Hotel Statler
Opening of the session
Welcome by Mayor Bernard J. Dowd
G. Morton Wolfe, president, Buffalo-Western New York Chapter, A.I.A.
Business Session

1:00 P.M. Luncheon, Niagara Room, Hotel Statler
Subject and speaker now being arranged

2:00 P.M. Afternoon Session — Panel Discussion
Schools: Prof: D. K. Sargent, Chairman
Housing:
Industrial & Commercial: G. Morton Wolfe, Chairman
Hospitals:
Technical Problems of City Planning:

7:30 P.M. Business Session:
Veterans' Housing
Veterans' Training
Building Codes:
Walker Lee
Ralph Winslow

**Friday, October 18**

9:00 A.M. Business Session

10:30 A.M. Assembly Room, 17th Floor, Hotel Statler
Subject: The Architects’ Responsibility in City and Neighborhood Control
(Speakers not yet chosen)

12:30 P.M. Luncheon, Niagara Room, Hotel Statler
Subject: Landscape Architecture and the Architect

2:00 P.M. Afternoon Session, Assembly Room, 17th Floor, Hotel Statler

**Saturday, October 19**

9:00 A.M. Assembly Room, 17th Floor, Hotel Statler
Final Business Session

10:00 A.M. Trip by chartered bus to Niagara Falls, Ont.

12:30 P.M. Luncheon. Joint Meeting with Ontario Association of Architects
Speakers: Harland Steele, president, Ontario Association of Architects
Matthew W. Del Gaudio, president, New York State Association of Architects

Two exhibits are being planned in connection with the convention. One is a building-product exhibit and the other an exhibit of the work of New York State Architects.

Regarding the latter, all architects of the state were urged to submit, through their local organizations, work which they have completed or projected since 1936, including all types of buildings. Photographs, sketches, or models should accompany the presentation plans.

When several projects are submitted by one architect, the projects should be numbered on the reverse side in order of the architect’s preference. In the event not all projects can be exhibited in the space allotted, it might become necessary for the committee to eliminate some exhibits. Although no stipulated size or medium of presentation is required, the exhibits must be presented in a manner suitable for exhibition.

In connection with the exhibit, an award of $75 is to be made to the architect of the small house judged best. It must contain not more than 25,000 cubic feet, exclusive of the garage, if attached, and the house must have been built since 1936. A photograph, preferably 8 x 10, and presentation plans, not working blue prints, are required, with a diagram on the reverse of plans showing cubic-contents analysis.

Further details concerning the exhibition will be supplied through the various local organizations.


The following have been assigned special duties:

Mr. James, registration; Mr. Whitman, architectural exhibit; Mr. Cannon and Mr. Thiele, Niagara Falls trip; Mr. Wolfe, commercial exhibits; Mrs. George D. Smith, Jr., ladies’ committee; Mr. Pfohl, tickets; Mr. Smith, program; Mr. Fenno, banquet, and Mr. Morris, publicity.
I have found this to be a very difficult paper to put together, and for several reasons. The subject is important and timely, and the audience is distinguished. There is, therefore, sufficient reason for sincerity and clarity. If clarity is notable by its absence, part of the reason, at least, is a lack of definition as to just what urban planning means, or just what an architect is, or why his viewpoint should be any different from that of any other bewildered citizen.

It is perhaps an indifferent matter whether this question is ever resolved in any final fashion, and so for my purpose in this brief talk I have simply assumed two things: the first is that the architect is merely a bewildered citizen, with a special interest in spatial relationships and a type of mind which, generally, enables him to approach a problem synthetically rather than analytically. That is a way of avoiding saying that his is a creative approach. We are still somewhat ashamed of being called imaginative and creative.

The second assumption is that the complex of problems lumped under the label "city planning", or in the fancy nomenclature of the moment, "urbanism", is merely a state of mind, the result of a series of maladjustments. A city-planner, or "urbanist", therefore, is a man, any man, who really worries about the city he lives in; and a professional city-planner is a man who worries about any city, for pay.

Now a state of mind is a real thing, and the state of mind that we find ourselves in today about our cities is very serious. It is one of frustration and fear, and the frustration and fear come about, as always, from observing the action of compelling, uncomprehended forces on familiar things and ways without being able to do anything about it.

These forces are in nature economic, social and technological. They are the uncontrolled, and perhaps uncontrolable, result of western man’s peculiar bent for seeking out many inventions. Whatever the reason, our cities are no longer bearable in terms of present hates or future hopes. They are changing, falling apart, because people will no longer tolerate them as they are and because people no longer, with the technology available today, have to tolerate them. Escape is already possible, so change is inevitable.

Our business men are aware of this and are afraid because they do not understand what is going on in terms of conventional business. Our ordinary citizens know this. They despair or are resigned because the escape they seek is without direction and for the moment uncertain. Our planners know it and are frustrated because they try to plan without objective or support. Indeed, how can they hope for support without an objective?

Characteristically, we seek to find our way through pseudo-science; by statistical analysis of dubious economic material, by the attempted reduction of the human spirit to the statistical average. Characteristically, we avoid coming to grips with the facts, with the new forces at work, the spiritual and human values that are coming to replace our former materialism and indifference.

I have watched and studied this process of analysis for a good many years now. I have indulged in it myself, because no one can hope to escape the processes of his own time and because, also, analysis must of necessity precede synthesis.

But analysis, important as it is, is not enough. Statistics are useful only as they provide ground-work for an objective, and that objective must be more than a summation.

And it is here that I make the plea for the interest and viewpoint of the architect in the most important job in which he can set himself — the continuing job of remaking our cities in the pattern of new technological forces and in the rhythm of the new way of life that is evolving.

It is important and indicative that The Institute is devoting so much of this Convention to the discussion of urban problems. It is not a new subject; the past proceedings of various Conventions contain many reports by Committees that have given earnest and devoted effort to it. There are many architects who have made great contribution to the philosophy and techniques of city-planning. Yet, on the whole, the profession has failed to take the leadership which, by its collective capacity for creative thinking, it is entitled to assume.

I desire at this point to restate my contention that the architect is not, merely by reason of his being an architect, qualified as a city-planner, or that every architect should try to educate himself to become one. It depends on how he feels, for, as I said, a city-planner is a man who worries about his city. A city-planner may be a land-planner, an economist, a lawyer, a public official, or an architect. As soon as he is concerned with a better environment for urban living, he is on the way to becoming a city-planner. There are too many kinds of city-planning, all essential to the process as a whole, for any one discipline to arrogate to itself a proprietary interest, a professional exclusiveness.

But I do think that the architect has a special contribution to make to this process of city-planning, a contribution which he has avoided making, and that unless he makes it, the work that others contribute becomes well nigh worthless in the light of human satisfactions.

And this, let me remind you, is the first time in history that the city-planner has been able to give consideration to human satisfactions. It is this that makes the present opportunity of such tremendous importance, that makes the architect’s part so vital. He is today concerned not with the glorification of the individual prince or power but with the essential qualities of the physical well-being of all people.

We are today faced with a huge demand for shelter. There are hundreds of thousands without homes. We are faced with a huge demand for work space — offices and factories. These demands are not only for new space, but for the replacement of old and obsolescent space, for better conditions of living and working, transportation and recreation. We have an ever-increasing pressure for something better, for a realization in physical fact of the technological possibility. We cannot sit by and let the short-sighted realtor, the deadhand of the mortgagee and the futile machinations of the tax-assessor keep us from going forward.

The architect must realize and accept responsibility, he must have a part in all this, not merely passive acceptance, mere acquiescence for the sake of the jobs he will get. He must educate his clients, not just take orders from them. And he can do it, for he can prove to them that their economic life, their profits, depend on going with the current
of technology and not in trying to stem it. Unconsciously the people are reacting to the future. It is the uneducated—or perhaps I should say, mis-educated—business man and money owner, those fearful of their vested interest and without vision, who block the progress that must come anyhow.

This responsibility of the architect is not just an abstract concept. It is his business to know the reasons for the shifts in urban population which will result in loss or gain in property values, to have some insight into the traffic problems that are forcing merchants and manufacturers into new locations. What are the developments in communications and electronics—even without considering nuclear fission—that are making cities into new patterns and that will force economic change and political action and legal sanction to follow these inevitable patterns? These things are important to you, and their translation into the city-planners’ jargon of net and gross densities, zoning, land uses per thousand population, dispersal patterns, parking, and so on, are merely another technical language which you should know as well as you know about rafters, B-X cable and b.t.u’s. Your clients will be grateful if you can help them decide where to build as well as how to build it.

On a broader and more civic-minded scale, the architect’s interest becomes one of translating the professional city- planner’s statistics and land-use maps into space-relations for the actual use of real people. Land-planning is two-dimensional; the architect must take it off the paper and make it visible. He does this by putting buildings on the land, and those buildings are paid for by businessmen and are occupied by people who, in one way or another, make the land and buildings profitable. The architect is, or should be, the link between the city-planner and the public. Where the city-planner necessarily deals in generalities, the architect can explain in specific terms to the specific client what the generalities mean when applied to his business, to his living, to the future of his children.

There is another point here that I want particularly to make. The urban problem is so vast that it touches every architect in some aspect of his practice. Yet we sit back and as a profession virtually ignore the fact that the biggest building boom in history, the greatest remodeling of our cities, is already going on without us.

As Tracy Augur has summed it up in a recent paper to the American Institute of Planners:

“We have set our sights at building 12,600,000 new non- farm dwellings in the next ten years. During the same period we shall build an equivalent amount of new streets, sewers, factories, schools, shops, and all the other components of city structure. In short, we shall build urban structure sufficient for more than forty-five million people. This is equal to 900 cities of 50,000 population, 200 more than the 700 that Dr. Wirth calculated would be necessary to achieve dispersal of our existing centers to that level. What is more, we will probably build in the same period enough new highways, airports, railroads, power lines and like facilities to tie a decentralized pattern of cities together into a well integrated production system.

“In and around practically every metropolitan center in the land we will build in the next decade the equivalent of one, two, three or more complete satellites of thirty to fifty thousand population and think nothing of it. We will cause stupendous economic dislocations and create staggering social and political problems, and we will not worry one iota about the cost, the loss of the investment in displaced facilities, the disruptions of land values and tax sources, or the social problem of moving a third of the nation’s families to new homes. We will do all that without giving it a second thought because it will be done in the normal way, within the framework of city development to which Americans are accustomed. There will be new subdivisions of land around city fringes, new houses in old suburbs, new apartments and stores and office buildings downtown, some slum clearance and redevelopment, new streets, new schools, etc. But when all this is done, ten or more years hence, American cities will remain substantially as they are today. They will not be any better fitted to capture the benefits of the atomic age for their inhabitants and they will not be any better fitted to protect them from the awful mass destruction that atom bombs can bring.”

The events detailed by Mr. Augur are in fact occurring. At this very moment subdivision after subdivision is springing up, setting the pattern of our future, and nearly all of them are being done without benefit of architect or planner. It is not, gentlemen, a question of the small house and whether that house is well or indifferently or badly designed. It is that vast areas are being planned without thought for the community as a whole; that they are, again, just streets with houses along them, unrelated to any total pattern for living, for work, or for the economics of civic administration.

We are building today, by the thousands, developments that are blighted before they are occupied, to match in our thoughtlessness and our lust for an immediate profit the vast areas of blight left behind in our city cores by previous generations of speculation and gambling. We are letting our future be wrecked in the pattern of the past, in the pattern of gambling and speculation recently extolled as a high virtue by the president of the Home Builders Association of Metropolitan Washington. “This country was built up on speculation and gambling,” said Mr. Carr. “There is nothing wrong with it.” Do we let this happen without protest because we are inert or because we don’t like the New Deal or because “city planning isn’t architecture”, or because the Producers’ Council says we shouldn’t? Why are we not heard from, positively and constructively?

This is our problem, as citizens with a special training. It is our particular problem in our particular city, because planning is a continuing problem and in our own city we can and must live with it. It is our problem because the professional city-planner is powerless to handle it alone. The political pressures of shortsighted real-estaters and material manufacturers against him are too great for him to combat without help. His analyses and maps and charts are meaningless unless they are related to the practical problem of the everyday business man and citizen, who is your client, Mr. Architect, in your city. The city-planner deals with administrative problems, with maps, with two-dimensional abstractions—and I say abstractions advisedly, in spite of the city-planner’s illusions that he is dealing with realities. Realities only exist in three dimensions or in none—in tangible form or as ideas. City-planning, so far, has failed to become real in this country because the meaning of the planners’ abstractions has not been made intelligible to the public. The architect, whose whole function is to make abstractions real, whose creative faculty is that of breathing life into ideas, is the logical interpreter.

(Continued on page 21)
The Umaxian house, soon to be ready for the general public, boasts of a most unusual history, a history which should be thoroughly understood in order to grasp fully the significance of the design principles involved.

After observing the arrogant, undisciplined, and utterly disrespectful attitude which many canines of the modern school have adopted toward their owners, J. Fuller Buck and two decided, nine years ago, to do something about it. This growing-know-it-all attitude on the part of man's best friend was rapidly impairing his position as man's best friend.

After years of experimentation, which seemed like a dog's age, J. F. B. emerged with the solution—the U-shaped or Umaxian dog house. The house consists of two identical oblong sections set parallel to each other. Both of these are one dog long and one dog wide. The front ends of the sections, which have doorways, both come out to the same lot line, while the rear ends are connected to each other by a curved, unlit passageway, or dogway. Thus, the wholly integrated structure resembles a U in shape and has doorways at both ends, which face front.

To enjoy all the beneficial effects of this type of dog house it is first necessary to keep the dog in a conventional doghouse for several weeks. There he will gain confidence in himself and the know-it-all attitude will develop to the fullest. Then substitute the Umaxian house. The dog enters one end of the house, finds he cannot turn around to come out, and so proceeds along the curved dark passageway into the section opposite the one which he entered. Upon emerging into the daylight, the dog becomes so shocked and utterly confused at finding himself in almost exactly the same spot where he started, yet facing the opposite direction, that he firmly and lastingly decides he is not so smart after all. He realizes he had better take on some of the qualities of humbleness and humility, always the dominant characteristic of the model dogs he had read about or seen in the movies.

An amusing sidelight on the ability of the Umaxian principle to produce results is found in the varied reactions of different makes of dogs. Take the Dachshund, for example. Upon emerging from the U-shaped house, he sees the tail and hindquarters of a dog moving into the opposing doorway. Not knowing it is part of himself that is disappearing and thinking it to be another dog, he gives chase. Chastisement is complete. Results are sure-fire.

Variations on the basic principle are available where desired, each producing an obvious effect. These consist of lining the house with mirrors, using two or more connecting houses, providing for sudden automatic shower as dog passes thru, etc.

Intimates of the inventor have become so enthusiastic over the results of the Umaxian principle of construction when applied to dogs that they are busily seeking funds to construct a full-sized structure for humans. They plan to present to their congressman the first residence in the world to be built on Umaxian principles.

Editor's Note: Contributions Editor Hayes is in the dog house. Can't somebody help him out.

THAT NECESSARY EVIL—THE ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEER

By Thomas H. McKaig

Fifteen years ago, I wrote one of these letters which, in my opinion, may well be repeated. It covers a set of "Rules for Condition Surveys of Buildings" which were taken from an Engineering News-Record article. Since that time, I have had occasion to use this list of rules several times. On several occasions when I have been called upon to testify in a law suit involving alleged damages due to construction operations, I have wished that somebody might have made such a survey before the work was begun.

The survey is intended to list the defects visible in any building before work is begun. It should be systematic and should cover:

(a) The kind and location of building, date and time of examination, owner, parties making the examination and who they represent.

(b) Condition of exterior of all fronts including photographs of all available fronts.

(c) Sketch plans of all floors with notations of all rooms as a means of identification.

(d) Complete description of all interior rooms, starting at the roof and working down through the cellar. Take the rooms in regular order to avoid omissions.

(e) Divide stair halls at floor lines as "1st floor stair hall and stair to second".

(f) In each room describe floor first, then ceiling, north wall, east wall, south wall, and west wall.

(g) Whenever possible, examine girders in the cellar, and their bearings. Also all floor beams whenever possible, especially under bathrooms and kitchens. If any defect or settlement is noted, watch for resultant effects in floors above.

(h) Record all separations between floors and baseboards if they exist. Note floors and heads of doors and windows out of level. Note stairs out of level and stairs pulled out of the mortises at walls.

(i) Note wainscots, chair rails or picture molds where they indicate any settlement. Also separations between wood mantels and chimney breasts and hearths cracked or sunk below adjoining floors should be noted.

(j) In describing cracks, record them under the wall which appears to have moved, as "East Wall, crack at intersection with south wall open ½" from base to 1 foot below ceiling, thence diagonally across east wall to ceiling".

(k) Always state width of crack and length — as "hairline crack 3 feet long" or "Crack 1/32" full width of room".

(l) Describe condition of wall paper if it shows wrinkles or is cut diagonally across the corner, indicating a crack beneath.

(m) Record water stains on walls or ceilings.

(n) Where no defects are found, record "Nothing noted".

Inasmuch as such a report might become rather an important document in court, it is well to have some representative of the owner accompany the person making the examination, and it might even pay to have a neutral party make the survey.
THE NEW WARSAW—CITY-PLANNER'S DREAM

Devastated by the German armies, Warsaw is rising again with the help of the nations which fought to liberate Poland. But in its reconstruction, Warsaw is not rising in stereotype, T-square blocks but in functional communities more pleasing to the eye and more advantageous for living.

"With the destruction of Warsaw the chessboard squares and the monstrous tenements were destroyed; the task of the city-planners is to profit by this fact in order to open Warsaw for both technical and social progress," declared Helena and Szymon Syrkus, Polish architects and city-planners, in addresses recently at the New School of Social Research. One of the sponsors of the talks was the New York Chapter of the A.I.A.

"In rebuilding Warsaw into a functional city, the planners have formed a new concept of the city which Mr. and Mrs. Syrkus described in their addresses.

"The plan of the community development in our opinion is the basic unit of the town structure," they said. "It originates in the first nucleus, the apartment house, and gradually increases its intensity and enlarges its radius according to the scope of the unit: 1. the apartment house with 50 dwellings; 2. the residential group around the nursery and kindergarten; and 3. the community development as a whole.

"The buildings and areas reserved for the full expansion of this community life are considered as the key of our planning. What is lacking in the individual quarters in standards of comfort and space we transfer in more economical fashion to common social institutions.

"We have proved that for a unit of 10,000 people the sound development of all these functions requires 400 square feet per person. This is six times as much as the free space in the centers of overcrowded cities. The parks within the neighborhood, serving as background to all community buildings, penetrate into the green areas of the next larger administrative unit, the residential district. Here we have shopping centers, high schools, health centers, hospitals, theaters, concert buildings, a stadium and the town hall of the district.

"Also we have here a meeting hall on a square the size and shape of which is appropriate for great public gatherings. These district and cultural civic areas are contributors to the great river of community life planned for the whole city with its characteristic buildings, for example, universities, town halls and museums.

"The top of this pyramid is formed, in the case of the capital, by its special functions distinguishing it from all other kinds of cities. For these, proper sites and spatial frames must be found.

"Extending along the Vistula River on an axis about 40 miles long and with 700 square miles, Warsaw's districts will be connected with each other by a well-organized net of various types of rapid mass transportation.

"The distance between the working areas and their respective residential districts is an ecological distance, calculated not in miles but in minutes. The maximum distance allowed in our plan is 30 minutes.

"The basic industries are to be removed from the city itself and located on the right bank of the Vistula, along the planned canal which connects the Vistula with the Bugo-narew. Thus the industries will be connected by the Vistula with the Baltic Sea and by this canal with the Eastern part of Europe.

"As the prevailing winds are from the west, the smoke won't pollute the city.

"The boundaries of the whole neighborhood are based on the radius of half a mile. This is a walking distance that can easily be covered by an elementary school child. That gives us a neighborhood area of about 100 acres.

"Depending on the location of the neighborhood in the city region, its density varies from 30-40 per acre in a suburban unit with individual gardens and row or single-family houses through 100 persons per acre in a typical urban settlement with 4-10 story apartments to the central neighborhoods with a very tall type of apartment which houses 150 persons per acre. We don't allow a higher density than this because our aim is to provide each neighborhood with sufficient space for garden and park areas and for buildings satisfying fully the physical, cultural and social needs of all the inhabitants.

"Each neighborhood has to be located between the through traffic arteries, but along a central park area in which buildings such as the meeting hall of the neighborhood, its library, play spaces, etc., will be situated. The elementary school with its playgrounds forms a bay of this park. The distance of the most remote dwelling to each of these facilities, as well as to the bus station, can not be longer than a half mile.

"This distance is too big, however, for a pre-school-age child or for a mother carrying her baby. Therefore, each neighborhood with 5,000 to 10,000 inhabitants is subdivided into four smaller residential units located around the preschool-age areas with their nurseries, kindergartens, and playgrounds.

"All the service industries such as laundries, garages and shops are located not in the "central park" but in the buffer green areas between the traffic arteries and the neighborhood itself."

CONTRIBUTIONS TO E.S.A.

Empire State Architect will pay $5 ($10 in the case of original contributions) for any unsolicited articles, anecdotes, cartoons, or items of interest other than news of constituents, which are accepted for publication and which are not otherwise available to or reported by members of its own board.

Contributions must be typewritten and limited to 500 words—the shorter the better. If not original, give source, address, and date of publication so reprint permission may be obtained.

Send to Contributions Editor, Gordon H. Hayes, 526 Delaware Ave., Buffalo, N. Y. No acknowledgment can be made unless contribution is accepted for publication. Material can not be returned unless a self-addressed, stamped envelope is included. Empire State Architect reserves all rights to decision regarding acceptance.
All Gaul is divided into three parts," said Caesar, and we'll wager he got better reports about what was happening from his "Gauleiters", even with their primitive methods of transmittal, than we do from our constituents with all of our modern inventions. Maybe we had better stop trying to find new ways to transmit news and make better use of the ones we have. Our box score, as of today, stands as follows:

- Constituent
  - Albany Chapter
  - Bronx Chapter
  - Brooklyn Chapter
  - Brooklyn Society
  - Buffalo-Western N. Y. Chapter
  - Central N. Y. Chapter
  - Long Island Chapter
  - Mid-Hudson Valley Society
  - New York Chapter
  - New York Society
  - Queens Chapter
  - Rochester Society
  - Staten Island Chapter
  - Syracuse Society
  - Westchester Chapter

This line-up looks like a Dagwood sandwich but it needs a lot of filling in. So we have a two-fold objective: 1. We want a complete list of contributing representatives; and 2. We want these representatives to send in a steady stream of news once they are designated. Your hearty cooperation will be much appreciated.

ROCHESTER SOCIETY

The Rochester Society of Architects had its annual dinner and election of officers at the University Club last May 15th. About 40 members and exactly two guests attended. Committees gave interesting resumes of their work during the year. Mr. Waaendorp of the Post-War Committee stated he was afraid his committee had over-sold the idea. Existing officers were re-elected. Mr. Kaelber gave an account of his trip to the A.I.A. convention in Miami. Reserving his business report for another occasion, he told with ill-concealed pride of catching a sailfish nearly eight feet long. He spoke of the unexpected but gratifying large attendance, the water show in the pool, the cocktail parties, and the refreshing swims in the Gulf Stream. The announcement by Mr. H. H. Sullivan that the members of the Society were invited to his place on Lake Canandaigua for a picnic in July was received with great acclaim.

No, Mr. Esterheld, a "bathysphere" is not a circular bath tub.

Bob McGraw is an excellent archt.
There's no job past his powers to exect.
But we heard him just say
That his problems today
Were enough to commit him to an inst.

According to a lengthy report from W. Stuart Hyland, Co-Chairman of the Labor-Management Committee of the Building Industry in Rochester, architects of this city are playing a large role in helping to settle disputes in the building industry. The committee comprises 12 members, of which two are architects, five are contractors from various fields, and five are union agents. The two architects are chosen by the Rochester Society of Architects.

In operation for over two years, this committee was organized to "consider all questions of labor-management rela-

BROOKLYN CHAPTER

The following officers of the Brooklyn Chapter, A.I.A., were elected May 28: Henry V. Murphy, president; E. James Gambaro, vice-president; Harry L. Yakel, secretary, and Calvin L. Bedell, treasurer. Executive board members chosen were: Arthur E. Allen, Eric Holmgren and Walter Remming for two years, and Sidney H. Kitzler for one year.

On the same date, by-laws for the Student Associate Branch were passed after three years of preparation and discussion.

"This Student Associate Branch of the Chapter is in line with the A.I.A. National Program for the early pre-affiliation of the student body and members," writes Adolph Merkin. "It provides them with the assistance of the Chapter members and gives them the privilege of attending Chapter meetings. Other specific opportunities are: chance to hear discourses on architectural subjects by members of the Brooklyn Chapter, inspection trips to building projects under direction of the architect, aid in finding employment under the mentor system, participation in clinics and prize competitions sponsored by the Chapter."

SYRACUSE SOCIETY

Newly-elected officers of the Syracuse Society of Architects are George H. Ketcham, president; Curtis F. King, vice-president, and W. Dexter Edgerton, secretary-treasurer.

The Syracuse group holds luncheon meetings each week and enjoys a good turn-out of busy members.

We are proud to welcome back from the armed forces Lieut. Col. Frank W. Brodrick, Maj. George H. Ketcham, Lieut. Vinc Walsh, Sergt. Clinton Keefer, Sergt. Donald Barner, Sergt. John B. Thomas, and Sergt. Warren L. Henderson. All made excellent records and now are engaged in their previous peacetime practice as if the war never occurred. Many other Syracuse architects helped the war
effort by serving as civilian architects and engineers and these also are back at their regular business.

The American Institute of Architects has announced that the Edward Langley Award for 1945 has been given to Prof. Walter A. Taylor of the School of Architecture, Syracuse University. The proceeds of the Edward Langley endowment are administered by the A.I.A. to promote research work in architecture and related fields. The award is made to enable Prof. Taylor to complete a project originated by him as a part of the work of the Syracuse and Onondaga County Planning Council. The research is to be based on a physical and statistical survey of all church buildings and facilities in the area. Prof. Taylor will seek to establish principles relating churches of all faiths to overall city and regional planning, transportation, land use and population trends.

CENTRAL NEW YORK

The following four men were accepted as members of CNYCAIA in April: George H. Ketcham, Syracuse; Frank W. Brodrick, Syracuse; W. Dexter Edgarton, Syracuse, and Milo D. Folley, Liverpool. Six applications for membership and two for re-admission also have been received. We find an old note from Charles Eldredge that within the sacred precincts of CNYCAIA there are 211 registered architects. CNYCAIA must be over the 50% membership mark by now. Two transfers recently recorded were Irving E. Horsey, to the South Florida Chapter, and Elmer J. Manson, to the Grand Rapids Chapter.

BUFFALO CHAPTER

Al Baschnagel of the Buffalo Chapter tells us that the Buffalo Executive Committee has instructed Secretary Earl Martin to write to the national secretary requesting that Buffalo be considered as the location for the 1947 convention. He also says that the Manufacturers & Traders Trust Company thinks enough of the Buffalo Chapter's new Circular of Information on Architectural Services, Rates and Fees to request 25 copies. The bank plans to send them to their branch managers, because clients of the bank frequently consult branch managers on the cost of architectural service and what the architect is supposed to do for the money he receives.

NEW YORK SOCIETY

Samuel A. Hertz, New York correspondent, sends us some material he calls "Society Talk and Small Talk". Here it is:

"To our genial president: Thanks, John, for this assignment. With your assistance and with the assistance of other members, I am sure this column will be alive.

"To our members (not overlooking the Juniors): This section with respect to the doings of our members will be published monthly in the E.S.A., and to make it a success I will need the cooperation of all the members of the Society. So send me your contributions for publication, your photographs, sketches, cartoons, birthday cards, news items, etc. Thank you for your assistance.

"Congratulations, Matt, on your election to the directorate of the Bronx County Trust Company. A great county and a great bank. Don't hold onto the purse strings too tightly.

"Sid Strauss defines an adult: One who has ceased to grow at both ends and has begun to grow in the middle. To whom does he refer?

"Our hard-working secretary, Johnny Carroll, is still going strong for a bachelor, full of effervescence and a regular guy.

"Our treasurer, Max Cantor; Here is a swell fellow. He's not only a good Society treasurer, but a d—n good State Association treasurer. Look out you delinquent constituents; pay up on time or else Max will be knocking at your door.

"Jim Bly: Out of sight, but not out of mind, Jim. We have been missing you lately. Hope you are not getting old. Come up and see me sometime. (Courtesy of M. W.)

"The Multiple Dwelling Law Committee, with Hi Feldman as chairman, is busily engaged in analyzing and briefing the new law signed by the governor in April, 1946. Our other committees are active upon new registration law and schedule of fees and contracts.

"The New York Society of Architects is boosting the state convention."

Notice to Contributors

1. Please send some information, if possible, each month.
2. Mail just before the 1st of each month to C. T. Tucker, 161 Avalon Drive, Rochester, N. Y.
3. Items of interest that strike your attention may also be jotted down on a 1c post card and mailed right in.
4. All of the information you send may not be used; don't let that discourage you, send it in anyway. You understand our space is limited.
5. Photographs and sketches of incidents or people are very acceptable.

Sgt. Bertram L. Whinston, having served with the Headquarters, AAF Burma-India theatre, and recently discharged after more than three and one-half years' service, will return to the graduating class, School of Architecture, Yale University. Upon completion of his course, which had been interrupted by the war, he will become associated with his father in the architectural firm of B. H. Whinston, A.I.A., with offices at 465 Lexington Avenue, New York City.

Getting out a paper is fun sometimes, but it is never a picnic.
If we print jokes, people say we are silly.
If we don't, they say we are too serious.
If we clip things from other papers, we are too lazy to write them ourselves.
If we don't, we are too fond of our own stuff.
If we print contributions, the paper is filled with junk.
If we don't, we don't appreciate true genius.
Now, like as not, someone will say we swiped this piece from some other paper.
We did.
WHY MATERIALS ARE SCARCE

OPA policies, strikes, inadequate and inefficient manpower and inadequate supplies of raw materials were cited as the chief cause of failure of the full-production program in a survey completed recently by the F. W. Dodge Corporation, fact-finding organization for the construction industry.

"The situation is such that unless current price adjustments are adequate to insure reasonable profit, and unless the manpower situation is corrected and labor efficiency improved in the near future, the industry will be unable to carry out the veterans' housing program and other essential construction on the scale expected or on a scale the industry has the potential capacity to achieve," declared Thomas S. Holden, president of the Dodge Corporation.

"While recovery in the construction industry has been marked since the end of the war and has been at a rate in excess of expectations, much of the impetus has come through the willingness of producers to market materials and equipment in anticipation of price adjustments, and through the willingness of investors to pay premiums to builders sufficiently high to guarantee all contingencies involving expensive substitutes, delays and hardships in supply procurement and higher labor costs."

Highlights of the survey in the fields of fifteen building materials follow:

**Masonry Materials**

There is ample cement producing capacity to take care of construction anticipated in the next few years. Some cement plants require rehabilitation owing to maintenance neglect during the war. If the Wyatt program curtails nonresidential construction greatly, stone and cement producers will reduce their output.

**Wood**

Shortage of efficient labor and bad winter weather have conspired to hold down production. Equipment replacements and parts are sorely needed. One southern producer attributes the labor shortage to the U. S. Employment Service "having shipped out many thousands of laborers from the South to the Northwest, and to industrial centers like Cleveland and Detroit." Plywood manufacturers would like to see the federal government release some of the timber in the forest reserves. One producer said: "If the government would release 2 per cent of its holdings, which should be cut in any case because many of the trees are over ripe, production of lumber and plywood would be greatly accelerated."

**Metal Products**

One producer declares: "When the government was a 90 per cent buyer of industry's product, and could in time find out what production was most necessary to the government, and shape industry accordingly, we probably operated to better advantage, but today when the demand is coming from a large number of civilian consumers, and the government controls are still in effect, I believe it beyond the capacity of any body of men in Washington, however skillful, to manage the civilian economy of the country."

**Glass**

To produce more glass, plants will have to be expanded. "This cannot be done overnight. It requires over a year from the start of construction of tanks and equipment to produce glass."

**Roofing and Siding**

Producers have curtailed production of roofing and siding products: "Until such time as there is an adjustment in OPA ceiling prices, sufficient to provide us a fair profit, we do not propose to make them. "Our company's statistics on production per man hour over the last four years show a definite drop in the average productivity of workers."

**Heat Insulation**

Some building insulation materials are out of production owing to OPA prices. Lack of labor and inefficient labor have also lowered output. (Similar influences have been at work on acoustical materials.)

**Wallboard, Lath and Plaster**

Especially acute are inadequate supplies of steel for metal lath, trim and accessories.

**Floor and Wall Materials**

Producers of wood floor and wall materials cite difficulties arising from inadequate lumber mill production. One hardwood flooring manufacturer, eight months behind on shipments, complains: "Unless something can be done to channel rough lumber back through the flooring industry and out of black markets, there is not going to be much hardwood for the remainder of the year."

**Paints and Finishes**

Scarcities of linseed oil, government restrictions on its use, inadequate prices, shortages of pigments, inadequate supplies of flaxseed, inability to get tung oil from China owing to lack of transportation facilities, inability to get enough metal containers, and shortages of paper for labels leads to the conclusion that "it does not look as if the supply of paint products will begin to catch up with the demand until some time in 1947." Producers suggest prompt action in bringing substantial quantities of flaxseed and linseed oil into the United States from Argentina and Uruguay, and urge the U. S. Department of Agriculture to encourage domestic flax crops. The price picture is dark. "Our selling prices were frozen in March 1942. We have been forced to pay marked increases in raw material costs and on commodities whose prices were not frozen until a later date. We have also been forced to increase our cost for labor. The margin between our cost prices and our selling prices is rapidly approaching the vanishing point." The industry is operating on a drying-oil quota of 75 per cent of average consumption during 1940-41.

**Doors**

Strikes in industries producing raw materials, such as lumber and glass, have slowed down production. Equal importance have been scarcities of labor and "slow performance on the part of OPA in adjusting prices to encourage production."

**Hardware**

Strikes in the steel and brass mills have slowed down production and have stopped plant expansions. Producers...
fear that the Wyatt housing program will cut off the markets they are geared to serve by allowing a preponderance of low-cost house construction as against quality buildings of all kinds. They complain that the OPA is “holding our price so low we are forced as a matter of self preservation to confine our activities to the manufacture only of our best quality hardware.” “It will be four to six months before there will be any apparent improvement in our business.”

Sanitary Equipment
Some producers have reached the limits of their present capacities, while others have been crippled by strikes. The manpower problem is serious: absenteeism, rapid turnover, shortages of labor, time required for training manpower, shortage of draftsman. “The men in this area (the South) have not yet for the most part settled down, and are inclined to work spasmodically.” The materials situation is threatening. The producers complain that they are unable to get new equipment and patterns, that the making of duplicate patterns is time consuming.

Water Supply and Drainage
Black market operations in metals divert supplies from legitimate producers. Some plants have been shut down owing to labor-management disputes, and other plants have been affected by strikes in plants of their suppliers. A shortage of manpower for heavy labor is noted.

Air Conditioning and Heating
“Under present conditions of supply and demand, there should be every incentive toward long-term planning of products and production. The result of government regulation throttles incentive because there is no assurance of the continuity of a program.” “Strikes and labor disturbances (outside our plants) are distracting to employees who are remaining on their jobs and this is reflected in the lack of enthusiasm about their jobs. The result is less output per man hour today than in the past.” “Another cause of concern to us is the possibility of Mr. Wilson W. Wyatt’s proposition to stop all building except homes and give priority to steel and other materials for that purpose only.”

Lighting
One manufacturer says: “In January 1946, we shipped a greater amount of our standard equipment than in any other one month in the history of our country. Our production has diminished rapidly from January to date due to lack of materials.” Another complaint follows: “Unless we can establish a connection with a steel manufacturer, we will be forced to buy our steel in small quantities from jobbers, at the usual increase in cost.”

A BUILDING PROBLEM
A man engaged three men to build a house for him (after proper plans, bids, etc., and under full architectural supervision, of course.) Their names were John, Jack, and Joe. Each of them had two trades. Each classified himself as two of the following: mason, electrician, plumber, painter, carpenter, and truck driver. From the following facts, find in what two occupations each man is engaged:
1. The mason offended the plumber by laughing at his long hair.
2. Both the plumber and the carpenter used to go fishing with John.
3. The painter bought a quart of gin from the electrician.
4. The mason courted the painter’s sister.
5. Jack owed the carpenter $5.
6. Joe beat both Jack and the painter at quoits.

EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT
In preparation for more than a year, regulations covering erection of dwellings and other buildings by prefabrication techniques have been suggested by the Building Officials Conference of America, Inc. The prefabrication code is being released at this time to help local building officials to cope with the present housing emergency and to protect veterans and others from jerry-type construction.

The action of the conference’s executive committee in releasing the code to building officials in all cities in the country with over 10,000 population, is considered the first organized effort by local building officials themselves to modernize building laws and regulations which have retarded the adoption of recently developed methods and new materials in construction.

The code will serve as an authoritative guide to local building officials who are confronted with the problem of screening a wide range in type and quality of prefabricated houses. The Building Officials Conference anticipates a considerable amount of prefabricated housing in view of the federal program in proposing guaranteed markets and other inducements to further the veterans’ housing program.

“The adoption of the prefabrication regulations by local communities will permit many economies in construction, and at the same time maintain adequate building standards for health and safety,” declared Walker S. Lee, conference president. “Up to this time, few communities have been prepared to pass on prefabricated dwellings because the specification codes under which most administer local building controls have not provided a basis on which to reconcile new techniques and materials with the conventional house built on the site by the local builder.

“By giving official sanction to new methods and materials, most of which were successfully used in constructing houses and other buildings as part of the war emergency, it will be possible for building officials to help speed the erection of homes for veterans. The new code abolish obsolete regulations which tend to enhance costs without commensurate advantages to the home owner in safety, comfort, and durability.”

The provisions of the prefabricated code govern the materials and methods of construction of prefabricated buildings, of all uses and occupancies, sub-assemblies and units specifically defined in the document through performance requirements without restrictive barriers to new developments.

It is the intent to permit the use of all materials or methods of construction which meet minimum strength, durability and fire-resistant requirements, including among others, the use of steel, aluminum, magnesium, masonry, concrete, wood, molded plywood, synthetic plastics, or any combinations of such materials.

Provision is made for the testing and approval of all new materials not specifically provided for, in accordance with standards set up in the prefabrication code.

In the absence of reliable experience records, the building official may require tests to be made on the prefabricated assemblies to determine their durability and weather resistance, or may accept certified reports of recognized testing laboratories and authoritative agencies.

The prefabrication code, as a part of the national basic code covering all kinds of construction now in preparation by the conference, will be a performance code as differentiated from the ordinary specification code.

Since the performance standards of various kinds of buildings and construction remain constant, this “what-to-do” part of the code will be permanent. The second part, or the “how-to-do” section of the code, will deal with construction methods and materials standards which meet the fundamental performance requirements set up in the first part of the code.

The second section will allow the introduction of new materials and methods as they pass the tests specified by the Building Officials Conference. A system has been developed by the conference for continuous information service to local building officials covering all new developments and techniques with authoritative recommendations for their use.
How does a fly land on your ceiling?

When your reporter took a screening of public reaction to this provocative question, the first three persons interviewed provided an emphatic index to the general trend of lay thought on the matter.

"Who cares?" they asked, perhaps thinking they had us there.

Well, entomologists on both sides of the Atlantic Ocean care, that's who.

And it might be refreshing for the rest of us to turn our thoughts from the macrocosmic results of nuclear fission to the more homely subject of the housefly.

(There are records of several pilots who have attempted to land an airplane while rolling out of a "barrel roll". Their next of kin have been notified.)

Obviously, the housefly cannot simply slide in to a landing on its back—gravity being what it is. It follows logically that the housefly has to contrive somehow to turn upside-down before alighting on the ceiling.

But how? That's the question that sent a disturbing ripple over the placid surface of international bug study. Entomologists began scanning the ceiling every time a housefly even looked as though it might land there. But the fly's actions were too fast for them to see just how it was done—even when it landed under their noses.

In England, popular interest in this ticklish question dumped the puzzle into the laps of the "British Brain Trust", a group of scientists conducting a radio forum to answer questions of listeners.

With calm assurance, Kodak Limited entered the picture and came up with the answer in the form of a high-speed movie made by Dr. E. Eyles.

Cast in starring roles of the movie, houseflies paraded their acrobatic wares before the lens, landing on a glass, simulated ceiling. With a time magnification of 100, the movie slowed down the action of the fly so that its secret was revealed.

The news that you have been waiting for is that "Musca domestica" (all right, housefly; don't fly off the handle!) executes a partial "barrel roll" just before alighting. There is also some suggestion in the movie of an occasional "inside half loop", proving that the lowly fly can buzz circles around our ace pilots.

(There are records of several pilots who have attempted to land an airplane while rolling out of a "barrel roll". Their next of kin have been notified.)

EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT
Matthew W. Del Gaudio, president of the New York State Association of Architects, submits the following report on the convention of the American Institute of Architects held in Miami Beach, Florida, from May 6, 1946, through May 11:

May 6, 1946—9 A.M. Meeting of Architectural Foundation. Resignation of Mr. R. H. Shreve as trustee received and accepted with regret. Mr. James R. Edmunds, president of A.I.A., was elected as trustee for a five-year term beginning 1946. It was agreed that two of the present trustees would resign in 1947 and two in 1948, allowing for election of two trustees in 1947 (one for three years and one for four years) and two directors in 1948 (one for four years and one for five years). Thereafter, trustees would be elected one each year to serve for five years. It was also decided that the trustees would circulate the membership regarding the endowment, in an attempt to increase the income so as to enable us to carry out the work of the Education and Research program of the A.I.A., and for the benefit of the architects, generally. Regarding the question of investment of funds, it was decided that Government Bonds are the only safe interest-bearing securities, at the present time, we would continue this type of investment. Meeting adjourned at 6 P.M.

8 P.M. Meeting of Committee on Unification. Present Messrs. Gamber of Ohio, VonStorch of Pennsylvania, Oberwatt of Kentucky, Mills of Oklahoma, Smith of Tennessee, Yaeger of Indiana, Archer of Missouri, Leland of Massachusetts, Hunt of Wisconsin, Bolles of California, and Del Gaudio of New York.

Reports from the various committees from the various states and the explanation of the program in southwestern states was taken up. The chairman, Mr. Gamber, reported that he had filed a report with the Board, regarding conditions. Discussion as to unification in various states took place and it was agreed that each state would solve the unification problem to suit the particular needs of the particular state. Meeting adjourned 11:30 P.M.


Reports as to progress of state associations from each state representative. Motion by Mr. Grey from Massachusetts, seconded by Mr. Bolles of California, that we ask the Institute to continue the program until January 1, 1949, where states are now in process of unification. Discussion was carried out by all concerned and it was finally agreed that such a report would be made by the State Association to the Board. Adjourned 1 P.M.

2 P.M. Report revived. Amendments to the by-laws to be taken up at the Institute convention were discussed; after discussion, they were approved, with the request that the date for discontinuance of affiliation would be extended to January 1, 1949. Adjourned 6 P.M.

May 8, 1946—A.I.A. Convention. Registration of Delegates. I registered as delegate representing the New York State Association of Architects; New York Chapter, A.I.A.; Bronx Chapter, A.I.A.

10 A.M. Convention opened; address by president, James R. Edmunds; greetings by S. W. Goin, Florida Association; Miller C. Greeley, Florida North Chapter; Robert M. Little, Florida South Chapter; J. F. Adams, Florida Central Chapter.

Statement by Mr. Edmunds as to report of the Board, Resolutions, Motions, etc. Nomination of officers took place. The following were nominated:

James R. Edmunds, President
Samuel Lundeine, Vice-President
Charles F. Cellarius, Treasurer
Joseph Leland, Director, New England District
William G. Kaelber, New York District (Director)
Paul Gaerhart, Jr., Director, Illinois-Wisconsin District
Adjourned 12:30 P.M.

12:30 P.M. The Chapter and State Association presidents held a meeting to decide policy and cooperation between chapters and state associations. Considerable discussion ensued, and the meeting adjourned without conclusion at 2:30 P.M.

2:30 P.M. Round table discussions took place as follows:

- Schools, under Mr. Ingham of Pittsburgh
- Hospitals, under Mr. Shaffer of Washington
- Design, under Mr. Walker of New York
- Housing, under Mr. Justement of Washington

Discussion regarding veterans' housing took place. I was asked my views and I stated that the Institute should support the Veterans Housing Program of the Government with the addition that some arrangement could be made so that the veteran would own his house by paying with the means at his disposal. Suggested that an equivalent sum be set aside, equal to the sum which the veteran would be entitled to if he was entering college, out of which sum interest on mortgage could be paid. Meeting adjourned 5 P.M.

May 9, 1946—9 A.M. Convention opened; James R. Edmunds, presiding.

Report of the Board was rendered; Treasurer's report; Committee on Credentials reported. Report of the Committee on Urban Planning was made as follows: Summer Spaulding, chairman, made a report which was not concurred in by the other members of this committee, each of whom made his own report, as follows: Mr. Justement of Washington, Henry Churchill of New York, and Charles Loeb of Chicago.

Adjourned 1 P.M.

Reconvened. 2 P.M. Discussion on report of Committee on Urban Planning. Address by Mr. Contreras of Mexico City and by Mr. Howard K. Menhinick of T.V.A. Discussion ensued from the floor. Mr. Hamond of Chicago objected to report made by Summer Spaulding and was seconded in his objection. After discussion, the Convention voted to accept the report as rendered by Mr. Churchill. Mr. Spaulding's report was therefore discredited.

Colonel Johnson, representing the Corps of Engineers, was invited to address the Convention in respect to the program of the Veterans Administration. He advised that Veterans Hospitals would be built under the supervision of the Corps of Engineers. The Corps of Engineers will give out commissions for the preparation of plans and specifications to private architects. The Corps of Engineers will prepare data in collaboration with the Veterans Administration and will have this data available to the private architects.

Contracts with architects would be divided into two phases:
1) For preparation of plans and specifications.
2) Supervision of construction in certain cases.

Architects will contact the District Engineer for information and application forms. The District Engineer will make recommendations which will be sent to the Division Engineer, and after comments by him, all data will be sent to the Corps of Engineers office in Washington for final selection of architects.

It is not necessary for an architect to have hospital experience if he otherwise qualifies.

8 P.M. Annual dinner of the A.I.A.; James R. Edmunds presiding; Roger Allen, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, toastmaster.

Address by Mr. P. M. Kutzman, Commissioner, Federal Public Housing Authority. Presentation to the representatives from Mexico; award posthumously of gold medal to Louis H. Sullivan of Chicago, accepted by P. Gerhardt, Jr., president of Chicago Chapter.

Adjourned 11:30 P.M.

May 10, 1946—9 A.M. Reports of committee continued. Report of Committee on Structure of the Institute rendered by Mr. Orr; after discussion, this was approved by the Convention. Report of Committee on By-laws was adopted by the Convention. Report of Committee on Unification was adopted by the Convention. Report of Committee on By-laws was adopted by the Convention. Report of Committee on Schools was adopted by the Convention. (Note—for by-law amendments see Bulletin No. 11 of March, 1946.)

Report of the Board in respect to cooperation of the American Hospital Association was discussed. Resolution by St. Louis Chapter for cooperation caused discussion and roll-call resolution of St. Louis Chapter was approved by the delegates 380 to 147 and the Board was directed to discontinue any cooperation with the American Hospital Association.

Regarding Veteran Housing, the Board had made a report approving the Veterans Housing Program. The Convention adopted an amendment to the effect that the Board include in its report
a method whereby the veteran would be assisted in owning his home. One of the methods suggested was that a sum equivalent to the sum that the veteran would be entitled to if he were entering college be set aside, out of which sum interest on the mortgage could be paid.

The president of the Massachusetts Society reported conditions in his state and requested, formally, postponement of cessation of affiliation to 1949. Adopted.

The candidates who had been nominated, being the only candidates for office, were duly declared elected.

No unfinished business; no new business; meeting adjourned 4 P.M.

May 11, 1946. The Board began its organization session.

Prior to this, the members of the Board had advised that no place had been selected for the next convention. I conferred with the representatives from New York State and it was decided to offer New York as the next convention state. Mr. Wolfe, representing Buffalo Chapter, requested permission to appear on behalf of the Buffalo Chapter before the Board, and arrangements were made for our being received. At the meeting, I offered New York State as the place for the next convention and Mr. Wolfe invited the Institute to Buffalo for 1947. The invitations were cordially received and we were told by the President that special consideration would be given to our invitation.

PROGRESS IN MODULAR COORDINATION

THE LORIMER FILM—It has become too much of a task to keep up with a tabulation of the numerous showings of the Lorimer color slide-film with sound, “A Scotsman Looks at Modular Coordination”. The film is in demand everywhere and most recently it has begun to circulate into architectural schools.

MODULAR COORDINATION IN SWEDEN—A very small, one-family house in Sweden costs at least $5000. The annual income for an industrial worker is about $1000. This means that few workers can afford to own their own homes. As one means of reducing the cost of housing, the Swedish Government is developing a system of dimensional coordination based on a ten-centimeter module.

Swedish time studies in modular masonry indicate an approximate 40% reduction in the cost of field erection. Conversion to actual production of modular-masonry units will not be started, however, until thorough study and experimentation have been finished, a research job costing industry and government about $100,000.

LATEST CONVERTS—A naval ordnance plant near Washington, D. C., and a naval hospital in Austin, Texas, will have modular designs, the former to use 2,000,000 modular standard facing brick (three courses to eight inches).

The Stark Brick Company of Canton, Ohio, has been developing modular details to govern use of the modular products they will produce and the company soon will publish a catalog showing jamb, sill and lintel details for both doors and windows based on modular coordination.

Several buildings of fair size already have been erected with 100% modular face brick produced by the Elgin-Butler Brick Company of Austin, Texas.

Architect John C. Austin of Los Angeles is observing modular standards in the design of new buildings for the University of California.

In erecting buildings of modular design in Redlands, California, the Universal Sanitary Company of New Castle, Pennsylvania, achieved efficient assembly without cutting of the various products, particularly the acoustical tile in the ceiling and the asphalt tile in the floors.

EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT
LETTERS

"ARCHITECTURAL ENGINEER"

May 28, 1946

Mr. Charles Rockwell Ellis, Chairman
Publication Committee
606 City Bank Bldg.
Syracuse 2, N. Y.

Dear Mr. Ellis:

Recent issues of the "Empire State Architect" have carried a column headed, "That Necessary Evil—The Architectural Engineer." In reading the articles under this heading, we fail to find any mention of the title, architectural engineer, and we are wondering what brought about the heading of these articles by Mr. Thomas H. McKaig, in this manner.

The Members of this Board are of the opinion that the use of the title, Architectural Engineer, is misleading, and most colleges have discontinued the use of this title in granting the Degrees in Architecture. We thoroughly understand the use of the titles, Architect and Engineer, or Architect-Engineer, but it is never clear just who is meant by the term, Architectural Engineer. Perhaps you and Mr. McKaig can enlighten us on this subject, and any comments you may care to make will be very welcome.

Yours very truly,

STATE BOARD OF EXAMINERS
OF ARCHITECTS.

R. C. Kempton,
Executive Secretary.

June 11, 1946

State of Ohio
State Board of Examiners of Architects
Office of Board
Columbus 13, Ohio

Attention: Mr. R. C. Kempton, Executive Secretary

Dear Mr. Kempton,—

I have received a copy of your letter of May 28, 1946 to Mr. Charles Rockwell Ellis, relative to my use of the term "Architectural Engineer."

For your information, I am a graduate architect, holding my B. Arch. degree from Cornell University—Class of 1911. I am also a graduate engineer, holding my C. E. degree from Cornell,—Class of 1913. I am registered in New York State as a Registered Architect and also as a Licensed Professional Engineer. I have been practicing as an "Architectural Engineer" in independent practice since 1922 and have never before heard of any question being raised as to the title being misleading. In my opinion, and in the opinion of the architects for whom most of my work is done, my use of the title is eminently fitting.

My work consists primarily of designing the structural features and foundations of architectural structures, and advising architects on their engineering problems in general. I count among my regular clients a list of about 50 architectural firms throughout New York State and Pennsylvania and have a staff of over twenty engineering and architectural personnel on this work. At present, I am carrying on engineering design work, for example, on two ten-million dollar veteran's hospitals, five college and university buildings and a number of other similar jobs.

I quote this from an issue of "The American Architect—The Architectural Review" of about 1921 or 1922,—"Architectural Engineering is all engineering work done for or under the direction of architects. Primarily structural, the
course of study in architectural engineering now includes all the engineering features of building work.”

In my opinion, instead of being a misnomer, the term is particularly fitting. The title Architect and Engineer or Architect-Engineer would assume that I am a competitor of those for whom I work,—the architects. The term Structural Engineer embraces Bridge work which is not my specialty, and it does not include other phases of engineering on which I am frequently called in. The term Civil Engineer is not accurate in that I do not do Sewers, Water Supply, Surveys or any of these other forms of engineering generally associated with this term. The title “Consulting Engineer” is, of course, applicable, but it would be equally applicable for any one of a dozen other varieties of engineer. I have on a number of occasions testified as an engineering expert witness and having qualified myself as a Civil Engineer, I have found that it was advisable in order to clarify my position to the jury, the court, and the opposing counsel, to qualify further as an architectural engineer,—a term which they understood.

In the Engineering News-Record for November 20, 1930, in an article by Professor Harry Tucker on “Present Trends in Engineering Education” he states that 11 of 71 engineering schools give courses in “Architectural Engineering.” I quote from this article—“Whether agricultural engineering should be in the school of engineering or the school of agriculture seems to have been a problem in some of the technical schools. The same thing applies to architecture and architectural engineering. In some colleges, these two curricula are in the engineering school; in others they are in the school of architecture or the school of fine arts.” He does not in any way question the fitness of the title,—“architectural engineer”.

I appreciate the fact that the term “engineer” is a much abused term and many of the qualifying titles applied to engineering are far fetched, but I cannot agree with the statement that my use of the title is misleading. I am of an open mind, however, and if some more agreeable title for the class of work I do can be suggested,—I shall be glad to put it before the architects for whom I work, for their comment.

Yours very truly,

THOMAS H. MCKAIG.

ARCHITECT LOOKS AT CITY PLANNING

(Continued from page 9)

We must, therefore, as a profession take vivid part in what is going on. We are being faithless to ourselves if we let the real-estate boys emasculate the urban housing and redevelopment bills for their selfish interest. More than that, we fail in our capacity for civic leadership when we do not take an active part in the drafting of those and other bills. The profession through The Institute should help formulate the national bills; the Chapters and individuals should help draft the state and local bills that implement the enabling acts. Laws are passed by pressure, after they have been written by people vitally concerned with what they are to accomplish. Once written and passed, it is too late to complain that they do not comprehend our interest or our ideals.

It is part of the architect’s job to be concerned with, to formulate the ideas for legislation affecting him not only as a professional, but also as a citizen and as a human being. This is a democracy, gentlemen. Act as though it were.

In the future, as we have in the past: “We are helpless and afraid in a world we never made.” As architects, as creative human beings, we must help make our future as we would wish our children to have it. This is a time of crisis and we cannot abnegate our responsibility to posterity.

Finally, therefore, I urge that this Convention empower the Committee on Urban Planning to formulate and correlate the thinking and action of all the various related disciplines. The American Institute of Planners, the American Society of Planning Officials, must be asked to cooperate as full partners in this. Lawyers and administrators must take part. We can assume leadership, but we must do so in humbleness and devotion to a purpose that transcends our sole ability.

THE MODE
(Continued from page 5)

Is there an architect in the select circle of the ESA readers who for no particular reason but whimsy will support the premise that by and large the public shows a surer appreciation of architectural values than the architectural profession, as evidenced by the architects’ preoccupation with “The Mode”?

EDITOR’S NOTE: Editorial controversy in favor or in refutation of Mr. Baldwin’s thesis is withheld awaiting comments from ESA readers — the more the merrier.

NATIONAL ACOUSTICS

514 West 36 Street, N. Y. C.
LOngcrc 3-3860
CONTRACTORS FOR
National Gypsum Acoustical Materials
Acoustimetal—Econacoustic—Acoustifbre—Travacoustic

FARRAR & TREFTS, Inc.
20 Milburn Street
Buffalo 12, New York

BISON BOILERS

For Heat and Power
Designed to produce maximum steam output in shortest time at minimum operating costs.
X-RAY • CLASS I WELDING TANKS
PRESSURE VESSELS • API-ASME • ASME CODE
QUALITY BOILERS TO GIVE QUALITY SERVICE

EMPIRE STATE ARCHITECT
PROGRESS is measured in many ways. Its imprint is unmistakable on a large number of today's buildings.

Elimination of "gingerbread" decoration, larger and better located window areas, more efficient interior space allocation, better heating, lighting, plumbing and air conditioning, better structural design and better building materials are all part of the contribution of the architect and the building industry to the rising public awakening that building design is shaking itself loose from ancient shackles.

Multi-purpose materials like concrete masonry, that at one time can serve structurally, architecturally and acoustically are playing an important part in this "March of Progress" of the building industry.

We members of the National Concrete Masonry Association have the experience of a nationwide industry to draw upon. We welcome your inquiries.
A kitchen that takes the "irk" out of work!

"New Freedom Gas Kitchen" complete with an up-to-the-minute laundry

Like every other "New Freedom Gas Kitchen"—it's designed around 3 essentials: Better-than-ever-automatic water heating! No use planning for one of the new automatic dishwashers—or washing machines—unless you have the abundant supply of hot water that a new Gas water-heater gives you . . .

Food storage—plus! A wonderfully silent Gas refrigerator so spacious it saves hours of marketing time.

A Range that's tops in cooking perfection! What's the use of a beautiful kitchen without an "A No. 1" Gas range . . . with automatic clock controls, a smokeless broiler and "speed demon" top-burners! Specify these three essentials to a "New Freedom Gas Kitchen."

Call on any of the companies listed below for further information.

The Brooklyn Union Gas Co.  
Central New York Power Corp.  
Rochester Gas & Electric Corp.

Iroquois Gas Corporation  
Long Island Lighting Co.  
Republic Light, Heat & Power Co., Inc.
Planned to satisfy high standards of convenience and comfort without exceeding the limits of "G I" budgets, this house is designed with two efficient bathrooms. The Case plumbing fixtures were selected by the architect to meet both requirements in full. Their design, vitreous china construction and mechanical excellence assure lifetime satisfaction and freedom from costly maintenance. Case plumbing fixtures are distributed nationally—see your Classified Telephone Directory or write W. A. Case & Son Mfg. Co., Buffalo 3, N. Y. Founded 1853.

THE LAVATORY is the ever-popular Cosmette with concealed front overflow, anti-splash rim, chrome finish accessories and convenient shelf. Available also in wall-hung style.

THE WATER CLOSET is the 2-piece combination DeLuxe model, with modern styling and a silencing device that assures quietness under all pressures. Free-standing tank does not deface the wall.