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#### OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE ARCHITECTS SOCIETY OF OHIO, INC.

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#### A VIEW FROM THE SANCTUARY

Two rows of recessed adjustable spotlights serviced from the attic lend to the three colonial chandeliers.

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Volume VIII

JANUARY, 1950

Number One

# A COLONIAL DESIGN IN CLEVELAND

#### Rev. Roy G. Bourgeois, Pastor

St. Dominic's Church, dedicated August 8, 1948, is rather unique among Catholic churches in that it is the permanent church and the first unit of the parish group to be built. It is also frankly and completely Colonial. The selection of this style was not arbitrary but the re-

sult of its environment, which is a community of predominantly Colonial architecture, and the lifelong desire of the pastor to bring this style into harmony with the parish requirements.

The property purchased was "pie shaped," formed by the intersection of a secondary street running diagonally into a main boulevard. It was found that placing the church so as to face this corner resulted in the most economical use of the land and allowed the church to dominate the future parish group as well as affording it a possibil-ity of a beautiful landscaped approach. landscaping, This though planned, has not yet been effected. It was at this stage that the rather unusual rounded corners at the front of the building were developed. It was found that by so doing the



Colonial style of architecture predominated in the community in which this new church is located. Therefore this design was selected. The shape of the ground area was also an influence. All details of the problems, the construction and furnishings are described in this article.

church could be moved forward within the building set backs resulting in a substantial addition to the usable property in the rear where it was at a premium, as the community in which it stands has an ordinance requiring off-street parking areas for churches and theatres. These rounded corners are also an exterior architectural expression of the curved stairways to the choir.

Facing the apex of this wedge-shaped piece of property as it did, it was found that the building set backs dropped farther and farther away from the sides of the church as it approached the rear, thus affording the use of transepts, giving a more economical use of in the excavated portion at the rear of church.

The interior walls are plaster as are all pilasters, columns and cornices. It is interesting to note here that it was decided not to paint all this plaster till a year had passed allowing the heat to dissipate from it. (Heat from the lime which would bleach the color out of the paint.) The congregation in the interim became so enamoured of the chaste whiteness of the interior of their church that they have petitioned the pastor to allow it to remain as it is and not introduce any color.

The suspended ceiling is of acoustical plaster and

ARCHITECT

Through this use of the cruciform plan and some inspiration from the 18th Century brick church at Lancaster, Massachusetts, designed by Bullfinch, a final com-

Wm. Koehl and Thos. F. Koehl, Architects

for Catholic churches.

the land and resulting in the traditional cruciform plan

position was evolved that satisfied both the requirements of the Colonial style and those of a Catholic church without loss to either.

The church seats 700 in the nave and transepts and 75 in the balcony. The sanctuary with its unusual curved communion railing is the main focal point of the nave, the side altars being the focal points of the transepts. Unusual feature are the doorways at the side altars which give access to the sacristies without going through the main sanctuary. This also has proved convenient during processions.

The sacristics themselves are large, well lighted, and have ample storage space.

The front vestibule has public rest room facilities for men and women. There are additional public facilities off of the parking areas and located



Several features enhance the striking beauty of this interior. The curved communion rail, the doorways at the side altars direct to the sanctuary, the chandeliers, the altars and fitments all lend to the design.

insulated with a 4" thick blanket of rock wool blown evenly over it.

The general lighting is furnished by two rows of recessed adjustable spotlights with atmosphere lighting produced by the three large colonial designed chandeliers. These fixtures are accessible and can be serviced from catwalks in the garret space. The chandeliers are so installed that by a later installation they may be lowered by individual winches to the nave floor.

The floors of sanctuary, side altars, aisles and vestibules, are terrazzo, while asphalt tile was used under pews and in the sacristies.

All wood trim and panelling is of white pine enameled an ivory tint. The glazing of the large nave windows is hammered cathedral glass of the three lightest tints of amber and set in at random.

The organ problem was solved rather neatly. Instead of the usual array of artificial organ tubes, three delicate grills were placed in the face of the organ chamber allowing for the maximum emission of sound. Everything behind these grills was painted a dull camouflage green-black with the result that there is nothing to detract from their pattern, and by an optical illusion nothing can be seen through the grill.

The heating system is steam with a gas fired boiler. The heating units with circulating fans installed under windows are inverted so that the cold air returns are on the window sill and the heat is pushed out at baseboard level by the fans, and diffused by grills. This has eliminated a large percentage of the wall streaking.

The exterior brick is a colonial pink in color with enough shades to give a pleasing texture. The roof is a shingle tile of the type used largely in the Williamsburg Restoration.

Cornice, cupola and all exterior trim is white pine. Gutters, downspouts, flashings and all other exterior metal work is copper.

Reprinted through Courtesy of "Church Property Administration."

#### NOW — A HEAT ABSORBING GLASS

Architects are studying a recent development in the flat glass industry which promises to raise the "standard of livability" of home dwellers everywhere.

This development is a new window unit, resulting from the combination of one plate of heat absorbing glass and one of regular polished plate glass. These two plates, when separated by a space of dry air hermetically sealed within the unit by a metal strip, form a Thermopane window unit which reduces the transmission of solar heat by more than 44 per cent.

The heat absorbing Thermopane unit has been field tested in dozens of commercial buildings throughout the south and far west. It was found that the plate of heat absorbing glass, when used as the outer pane of the double-glass unit, absorbed nearly half of the sun's heat. The bluish-green tint of the glass also proved effective in lessening glare both from direct sun and from reflected sunlight.

When glazed in an entire building the heat absorbing Thermopane proved economical. A smaller air conditioning unit was needed and the operating costs of that unit reduced.

Present uses of the new unit range from glazing in laboratories where interior temperatures must be carefully controlled to windows in office buildings where employe comfort is the deciding factor. Heat absorbing plate glass alone has been enthusiastically received in

(Continued on page 26)

# Warm Air Heating — and Without a Basement

#### By ALICE HOLTON

Architectural ideas change with the years, dotting the landscape with structures which vary from the tall and compact to the low and rambling. Finding favor right now is the ranch-type home, with all of its facilities grouped on a single floor.

Regardless of the type of architecture, however, old-style comfort is yet very much in demand. On a bitterly cold morning, a warm house is a prime necessity and there's no better way of assuring cold weather comfort than with warm air heating.

For years it was believed that a basement or cellar was necessary if one was to enjoy a central heating system—that if there were no basement or cellar, heat had to be supplied by pot-bellied stoves, space heaters or fireplaces.

Modern furnace design has changed this picture. Today, owners of small homes, particularly of basementless homes, may enjoy the luxury of furnace heating along with the construction economy of the one-story home.

Specially designed for basementless homes and individual units of apartment buildings is the modern Superfex "Hi-Boy" Furnace, a product of Perfection Stove Company. The "Hi-Boy" is a miracle of compactness and heating efficiency, available in both oil and gas models. It occupies less than four square feet of floor space, thus it is small enough to be installed in an ordinary size clothes

closet, in the corner of a utility room or kitchen, on an enclosed back or side porch, or even in an attic.

When Perfection engineers designed the Superfex "Hi-Boy," they placed comfort, convenience and safety at the top of the list. The "Hi-Boy" was given a protective air-insulated casing so that the unit could be placed within a few inches of the wall—an ideal space saver. Also, to save space, all controls, burners, air filter, draft

Unique heat and light diffusion arrangement in Mr. Gallup's home, Willoughby, Ohio.





Model 14 Superfex "Hi-Boy" Furnace (gas) installed in an ordinary clothes closet.

diverter and cleanout, were made accessible from the front.

The "Hi-Boy" embodies the same fundamental de-

sign made famous by other furnaces in the Superfex line. Only in size is it different. Its three-stage fire and two-

speed blower are so synchronized with the thermostat that the dwelling temperature is kept at a uniform level. The wall thermostat is set at the desired temperature and the automatic controls take over, circulating heat throughout the house, in large or small quantities as desired.

Where heating requirements do not exceed 67,000 B.t.u.'s per hour, a single "Hi-Boy" Furnace is adequate to supply the heating needs, in all kinds of weather. Some home builders, coveting the compactness and convenience of the "Hi-Boy," have been known to install two of them in their oversize ranch homes.

During the past two or three years, apartment dwellers, too, have discovered the advantages of individual "Hi-Boy" units, which give them the degrees of heat which match their own needs. In duplexes, rows and apartment houses where each tenant supplies his own heat, residents see the advantage of automatic heat with fingertip control right in their own dwelling (Continued on page 27) Model 14 gas 'Hi-Boy" Superfex Furnace made by Perfection Stove Company.



CHURCH AND RECTORY OF ST. FRANCIS OF ASSISI Gates Mills, Ohio

REV. W. B. GALLAGHER, Pastor

Walker & Weeks, Architects Cleveland, Ohio

# Traditional, Contemporary and Practical

The parish of St. Francis of Assisi, Gates Mills, Ohio, was established by the Most Reverend Edward F. Hoban, Bishop of Cleveland on August 18, 1943, and the Reverend W. B. Gallagher was appointed Pastor.

Due to the steadily increasing growth of the parish, their quarters became hopelessly inadequate and the pastor launched a program for a new church and rectory, with provisions for a future school building and necessary playgrounds.

Subsequently four acres of land were purchased in the Village of Gates Mills, which is located approximately sixteen miles from downtown Cleveland. Construction work was started on June 11, 1947 and was completed in fifty-four weeks, on June 27, 1948 and the church was formally dedicated on October 3, 1948.

Although the church cannot be cate-

goried as stylistic, the architects designed both the exterior and interior along the lines of the Western Reserve expression of early American architecture, yet always keeping in mind that every detail, whether in plan or decoration, must conform to both the letter and the spirit of the Church's laws regulating such matters. It was felt that this approach would not only effect harmony with the existing architectural development of the Village of Gates Mills, but would also produce a restful and refreshing ensemble in a truly rural environment. In view of the future requirement of a school building, the church and rectory were so located on the plot that adequate space was provided for not only the school proper but also recreational and playground facilities adjacent to the school. All drives and parking areas were planned so that they would not interfere with, nor endanger, the future school development.

The exterior walls of the church are built of a rough mat brick of a full red range with brown flashes, and the exterior cornice, all trim, window frames and sash, doors and door frames were constructed of wood, and painted white.

The fluted columns and pediment motive over the main entrance were also built completely of wood and painted white.

The church is planned with three entrances including the main entrance on the north side facing Mayfield





Road and two side entrances located at the front of the nave; one on the east and the other on the west side of the building. Each of these side entrances provides easy access to the parking areas at the rear or south end of the church.

The finished walls and ceiling of the nave are plastered, tinted and painted, and marbelized "Verde Antique" composition material applied to the plaster wall from the wood base to the wood window stools provides a marbelized wainscoating approximately five feet above the finished nave floor.

The finished floor of the nave is a composition brown marbelized tile laid in a simple block pattern. Each light of clear glass in the nave windows is decorated in a simple geometric pattern with a stippled field of a warm deep straw tone, all accomplished with oil paint and varnish.

The nave pews seat approximately 290 and are constructed of selected elm with the caps, base of pew ends, seat bottoms, top rails and face sides of pew backs stained to a rich, dark brownish mahogany finish, while the remainder of the pew ends and near sides of pew backs are enamelled in an off-white tone. All other interior wood trim, except the mahogany stained communion rail, is finished in an off-white enamel.

The balcony at the rear of the nave is accessible by a stair directly off the main entrance vestibule and has a seating capacity of approximately 70 persons. The design and finish of the pews is similar to the nave pews. The consoletype electric organ and sound amplifying equipment is also located on this balcony.

Off the main entrance vestibule is located a small baptistry, and on the opposite side is a stairway leading to the ground floor facilities consisting of toilet and rest rooms and a large meeting room 32' x 76', which is approximately the same size as the nave. This meeting, or assembly room, located approximately six feet below grade, has a clear ceiling height of ten feet and is lighted with flushmounted fluorescent fixtures.



The interior of St. Francis of Assisi Church is inspiring in its simplicity and beauty. The high altar, side altars, the Stations and all of the interior fitments are in harmony.

Four large operative sash on both the

west and east sidewalls of this room provide ventilation and natural light to the area. The ground floor also houses a preparation kitchen directly off the meeting room, together with the mechanical equipment room and a small lecture or consultation room.

On the east side of the building is located an outside stair providing direct access to these ground floor facilities from the exterior, and a smaller interior stair is located on the west side of the building providing access from the priest's sacristy and from west side of the building.

The sanctuary floor is completely carpeted with a greygreen tone heavy pile carpeting, and the main altar and both side altars are built of wood of simple design and all enamelled in an off-white finish.

Three windows on both the east and west walls located in the upper section of the sanctuary provide natural light in this area, and a series of spot lights located in the sanctuary side of the elliptical arch separating the sanctuary from the nave, provide adequate and positive artificial illumination for the entire area.

The tester over the main altar is cantilevered from the rear wall of the sanctuary and is stencilled in a rich color pattern of blues, reds and golds. It also conceals spot lights which brilliantly illuminate the crucifix and the silk damask dossal curtain of deep red and gold tones.

The Stations of the Cross are oil paintings copied from famous European masterpieces, which are framed in flat moulded wood members enamelled in an off-white finish. These wood frames and crucifixes recall the general form of the main facade of the church.

The priest's sacristy is located on the right side of the sanctuary and is approximately  $12' \ge 22'$ , with a direct connecting corridor at the rear of the sanctuary to the boys' sacristy.

The entire ground floor area is heated by a radiant type hot water system with all heating pipes installed in the ground (Continued on page 24)



The plot plan shown above indicates the thought given to requirements for the future development of the parish.

# THE OCTAGON TO BECOME RECEPTION BUILDING

One of Washington's most storied mansions, the hundred and fifty year old Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue, N.W., after a half century's service will no longer carry the full burden of being the home of The American Institute of Architects.

The Institute's headquarters will expand into its more modern Administration Building at 1735 New York Avenue, N.W., on the east portion of the Octagon property. Although this building was erected just before the war, its use was requested by the State Department immediately upon completion and it has been under lease since 1941. The outgoing occupant is the Inter-American Defense Board.

"The Octagon, after a half century's use as the main headquarters of The American Institute of Architects, is to be redecorated and refurnished for use as the reception part of The Octagon property," Ralph Walker, New York, President of the A.I.A., announced.

"The American Institute of Architects, the earliest of the professional societies to make its home in Washington, has long desired to release The Octagon from its humdrum office use and restore it to the gracious possibilities inherent within it. The beautiful box garden which connects The Octagon with the Administration Building is also being redesigned to enhance this purpose."

Built in the years 1798-1800, as one of the most splendid houses of the nation's new Capital, The Octagon was rescued from a disreputable state a century later. It had become a slum-like dwelling for several families and a storehouse for rags and rubbish. Apparently, its decline from riches to rags had been hastened by legends of a rather heavy traffic of ghosts out of its colorful past.

The American Institute of Architects, then forty years o'd restored the building to its original character in 1898, and it has been so maintained for the last fifty years.

The Octagon was built by Colonel John Tayloe of Mt. Airy, Va., a close friend of George Washington and, with an income of \$75,000 a year, one of the wealthiest men of his time. Colonel Tayloe had intended to build his winter residence in Philadelphia, but, according to the memoirs of his son, Benjamin Ogle Tayloe, General Washington persuaded him to choose "Washington City."

General Washington took a "sidewalk superintendent's" interest in the building, watching it from horseback, on his journeys to Washington during 1798 and 1799. He died before its completion but at least three other presidents slept, dined or danced in "Octagon House," as it was known in its first century of existence.

The architect was Dr. William Thornton, who had been appointed by President Washington in 1794 to survey "the district or territory accepted for the permanent seat of the government." As one of three commissioners, he had charge of executing the plan for the city. Dr. Thornton also was the successful competitor for the design of the United States Capitol; designed buildings for the University of Virginia at the request of Thomas Jefferson; and was the architect of buildings for General Washington; of Montpelier, the summer residence of President Madison; and of Tudor Place in Georgetown.

The Octagon was temporary White House for more than a year, following the burning of the White House in 1814. President James Madison signed the ratification of the Treaty of Ghent, ending the war with Great Britain, in the circular room on the second floor on February 17, 1815.

The revolving table used for the occasion now stands in the same room, although it has been across the continent and back. It was sold in 1897 by a member of the Tayloe family to a San Francisco purchaser, was saved from the earthquake and fire of 1906, and was purchased for \$1,000 by the San Francisco Chapter of The American Institute of Architects and returned to Washington in 1911.

Until Colonel Tayloe's death in 1828, The Octagon was a center of elaborate social activity. Those who crossed the portals included Madison, Monroe, John Quincy Adams, Jefferson, Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Porter, Decatur, Lafayette, John Randolph of Roanoke, Baron von Steuben, and Sir Edward Thornton, the British minister.

The Tayloes intermarried with the Corbins, the Lees, the Washingtons, the Carters, the Pages, and many other prominent families of Virginia.

In its early days, the mansion reportedly had two secret tunnels, one leading to the White House, a little more than two blocks away, and one to the Potomac or to the canal, then only a short distance. One report credits Dolly Madison with responsibility for the secret passageway to the White House—if there was one.

Leading into the back hall are two "secret" doors, rounded symmetrically into the circular walls and originally having no keyholes, hinges, or openings showing on the blind side. A concealed stairway in the rear of the building, extending from basement to the third floor, was another feature which added to the effective dramatic props for the phantom tales which came to be associated with the house in the latter half of the 19th century.

The most popular ghost story was that one of the Tayloe daughters had thrown herself down the back stair well because of thwarted love for a British officer, and that her spirit returned on stormy nights. Another was that the spirit of the mansion's departed greatness returned at the witching hours with the sound of silver and clink of glasses, the arrival of phantom coaches bearing grandly dressed men and women, and other accompaniments of splendid company being wined and dined. A newspaper account of the 1880's stated that a dozen men spent a night in the house and were rewarded with feminine screams, the clanking of sabres, and tramping footfalls.

The mansion was used as a setting for at least two novels of the 19th century.

During the Civil War, the property was used as a hospital for Union soldiers. From 1866 to 1879, it was used for the Government's hydrographic office. It was also used for a Catholic girls' school, as a drafting office, and as a dwelling unit and studio.

When a committee of architects inspected the building in 1896, they found rags and junk in piles six feet high in the drawing-room. It was occupied by eight or ten families.

"The mantels were masses of dirt, and the house, to those who did not appreciate its beauty, might have been considered a wreck," reported the late Glenn Brown, for many years secretary of the A.I.A. "But, curiously as it may appear, the only material damage to the house was the incrusted dirt on the mantels and a few missing plaster ornaments."

(Continued on page 27)

THE OHIO

#### ARCHITECTURAL DOLLAR BEST INVESTMENT By MYRON L. MATTHEWS

Vice-President, The Dow Service, Inc., 420 Lexington Ave., New York 17

The cost of architectural and engineering services in the design of buildings and their supervision while under construction, together with the management of the erection process by a reputable building contractor, is today the best insurance to the owner of getting a quality building money can buy. Too often, to the owner's later sorrow, one or the other, or both the services of these professional and practical construction experts are dispensed with in the name of economy. Immediate economy of a small part of the full cost of buildings (which are long-term investments for somebody) -even in the case of speculative units-usually turns out to have been a false temporary economy interfering with rentability, resale and refinancing at a future date. Often have owners been heard to remark in such a situation. "If I had it to do over again, the architect or engineer with the contractor, would have complete charge."

The money the architect can get from his customary designing commission is hard earned. It amounts to about what the lender of mortgage money used to get for the use of his money. The owner who paid this without thought of evasion, skips the architect, thereby jeopardizing the soundness of the entire venture. The lender is placing a growing emphasis upon this point and many banks today will not lend a nickel unless a competent architect or engineer is employed along with a good contractor. For this reason owners omitting architectural services today may tomorrow find serious refinancing troubles as a result.

Now what does the architect have to do to earn his designing and supervision fee and what does he do with

the money thus earned? He must provide an adequate office, maintain a sufficient staff, originate and produce sound plans and attractive designs, maintain contact with clients on work under construction, perform a complicated buying function and an equally complex superintendence function, keep informed of new trends in design, construction, materials and treatments, squeeze out time somewhere to influence new assignments into his office, and continuously keep such an eagle eye on his costs that he can accomplish all the foregoing within the fixed and narrow margin of a small percentage, 6 to 10%, of the total cost of the work entrusted to himthe sum total obviously constituting a big league problem in business management. It is true, of course, that in some large metropolitan architectural offices, various functions are divided and allotted to specific individuals. In such offices the material or equipment salesman may never reach or see a member of the firm. Instead he will see the firm's specialist on his particular subject. Of the approximately 6,000 to 8,000 active architectural offices in the United States only a few rank in this classification. The great bulk, in the point of numbers, is made up of those in which the principals are active in all phases of the work, or in which one partner is responsible for the artistic performance of the office, another for engineering and technical superintendence and the third for organization, management and new business. Sometimes this is done by two partners and sometimes by one.

Take the progress of a small project through a oneman office. The job we will say, is an office building or a factory, to cost \$40,000. The architect's gross income is \$2,400 or \$4,000, depending on his customary percentage. Here is what he does to earn it. First, it costs him something in personal time to get the business, and per-*Continued on page 25*)



**MODERNFOLD** Doors as used in a Funeral Home

# MODERNFOLD DOORS · WALLS

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#### THE SECRETARY'S COLUMN

Architects are reminded that candidates for the next Ohio Legislature must file their petitions for office prior to February 1. While we aren't suggesting that any fellow practitioners close their offices to enter the political ring, we do feel that the support of a candidate of either party will help the position of architects generally if we again seek improvement of laws affecting our profession and the construction industry generally. Once a noted Mormon was asked if members of his

faith were Democrats or Republican. "We are both," he replied, "and we always manage to elect Mormons, no matter which party is in power." Let's take a more active interest in our local candidates so that they will know at least one member of our profession personally before they take the oath in Columbus.

We have been writing about a forthcoming School-Architect conference to be held in Columbus this month. Late in December these plans were cancelled

14 [January, 1950]



John W. Hargrave

UNRIVALLED BEAUTY

when Mr. Tom Holy, Director of the Ohio State University Bureau of Educational Research took a six months leave of absence to make a state-wide survey of educational needs in the State of Oregon. The sponsors of such a conference are now planning for one to be held in the fall of 1950.

Just after Uncle Sam has taken your last loose penny, national, state and chapter dues for the A.I.A. will be in the mails. Trying to adjust the fiscal year so as to catch an architect with spare change in his jeans is something which has been considered, but others have had the same thought, too, such as the Red Cross, Community Chest, state tax experts, and so poor Jim Teesquare might as well accept his bills at one time as well as any other.

Have you noticed how much more literature is coming in these days about both old and new products? In that respect, at least, the war seems to have ended, and we can again return to our roll of determining quality of building product instead of coordinating gleanings from jumbled stockpiles. This year promises much in construction, and we trust that architects may be able to consolidate their gains and become firmly established in their respective practices.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS REQUESTED

Glossy print photos of outstanding architectural work by Ohio Architects, suitable for the cover and page six of "Ohio Architect" are requested by the editor. Proper descriptive information should accompany the photographs and the material furnished will be returned in the same condition as received if so requested. Here is an opportunity for Ohio Architects to receive recognition for work well done. Mail to "Ohio Architect," 6523 Euclid Ave., Cleveland, Ohio

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#### "BUILDING WITH WEATHER" CONFERENCE

Advantages of designing buildings "with the weather" will be stressed by architects participating in a Research Correlation Conference on "Weather and the Building Industry," to be held by the Building Research Advisory Board in Washington January 11-12.

A balanced utilization of natural forces and mechanical equipment in the design of shelter and good living conditions will be discussed by some of the participants in a round-table discussion on climate related to design at an evening session January 11, according to Walter A. Taylor, who will be moderator and who is Director of the Department of Education and Research of the American Institute of Architects and a member of BRAB.

"Work already done in putting climate to work for buildings, with the use of mechanical equipment in a supplemental role, will be presented. A basic aim is to



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define the kind of weather information needed for such design and possible use of a great fund of weather data that is available but has not yet been put in usable form for this purpose," Mr. Taylor said.

Dr. L. P. Herrington, well-known physiologist of Yale University, will take part in the discussion with the following members of the A.I.A.; William B. Caudill, College Station, Texas; Robert W. Cutler, New York; Carl Koch, Cambridge, Mass.; Alfred E. Parker, Miami; and Buford L. Pickins, New Orleans.

James M. Fitch, architect, architectural editor of "House Beautiful" magazine, will report on the climate control project sponsored by the magazine for design of homes. Dr. Ralph Linton of Yale University will speak on human reactions to climate.

In addition to architectural designs in relation to climate, three other major discussion topics will be considered at the conference, with the objective of greater use of weather science in research for construction, materials, and equipment.

Climatological research will provide the basic subject matter of the conference at the opening sessions January 11. Speakers will be Dr. Paul Siple, military geographer of the U. S. Army General Staff; Dr. Helmut E. Landsberg, executive director of the Committee on Geophysics and Geography, Research and Development Board; Ar-

(Continued on page 26)



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space, maintain better discipline, eliminate storage areas.

For information see your Ohio representative or write direct.



[January, 1950] 15

BENCHES

#### NATIONAL SURVEY UNDERTAKEN

A national survey of architectural education, internship and registration has been started as a major project of The American Institute of Architects.

The Institute's newly-appointed Commission on Education and Registration, under the chairmanship of Dr. Edwin S. Burdell, Director of the Cooper Union, New York, met recently at the University of Illinois to organize its work on the survey.

Described as an appraisal of the problems and responsibilities of the A.I.A. in the fields of professional education and license to practice, the national study will provide facts on existing educational patterns, training procedures, registration requirements, and many related topics. The Commission is expected to require at least a year for its comprehensive fact-finding work and will make general recommendations on the basis of its findings.

Architectural schools, registration boards and practicing architects are evenly represented on the Commission. Its members are: (for the schools) B. Kenneth Johnstone, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Turpin C. Bannister, Urbana, Ill.; and Sidney W. Little, Eugene Oregon; (for the practitioners) Ernest J. Kump, San Francisco, Calif.; Walter H. Kilham, Jr., New York City; and Walter T. Rolfe, Houston, Texas; (for the registration boards) Clinton H. Cowgill, Blackburg, Va.; George Bain Cummings, Binghamton, N. Y., and Fred L. Markham, Provo, Utah; and Roy C. Jones, Minneapolis, for the National Architectural Accrediting Board. All members of the Commission are members of the A.I.A., with the exception of the chairman, Dr. Burdell, who is a wellknown educator.

The survey has been undertaken as the result of a report made earlier this year by Ralph Walker, New York, President of the A.I.A.

"All the standards related to architectural education and registration should be as uniform as possible throughout the nation, permitting, however, that freedom of flexibility to develop which enables a profession to become progressively competent under changing conditions and inventive ideas," Mr. Walker said.

Mr. Walker and Walter A. Taylor, Director of Education and Research of the A.I.A., met with the Commission at its first sessions.

#### TEN BILLION FOR AUTOS; EIGHT BILLION FOR HOMES

There is a direct challenge to the building industry in the fact that Americans last year spent nearly 10 billion dollars for new automobiles, but only eight billion for new homes, including both land and utilities, in the opinion of Charles M. Mortensen, executive secretary of the Producers' Council, national organization of building products manufacturers.

There will be no decline in the number of new homes built in 1950 provided the building industry will merchandise their product aggressively, in his opinion.

"Although the formation of new families is declining, consumer buying power remains at a high level and at least seven million families are living in homes which are more than 50 years old and lack the comforts and conveniences of modern houses," he said.

"The big job which confronts the building industry this year is to sell owners and occupants of old and obsolete homes on the better living and better values inherent in present day houses.

"There has been altogether too much disposition to offer new homes only to those who enter the market out of necessity, despite the fact that there are millions of other families who could be induced to buy up-to-date homes if the industry was as vigorous in merchandising its product as the automotive industry.

"Although it is of course true that the down payment on a new home usually is larger than that required for purchase of a new automobile, that part of the public which has been content to live in obsolete housing could easily be induced to assemble the amount needed to purchase a new home if the building industry would really set out to create the desire."

Mortensen charged that the task for stepping up the demand for an appreciation of new homes is the joint responsibility of every segment of the building industry. The drop in home building which has been rather widely forecast for 1950 will not occur if everyone concerned with building rises to the challenge, he said.

"I got up at dawn to see the sun rise," boasted a tourist. "Well," commended his friend, "you couldn't have picked a better time!"



#### WHAT DOES ARCHITECTURAL ORGANI-ZATION MEAN TO YOU?

#### An editorial from the Bulletin of the New Jersey Chapter, A.I.A. and New Jersey Society of Architects

Since life first stirred on this terrestrial ball animals and humans have shown a gregarious instinct to run in packs for protection, for efficiency resulting from group action, and for companionship. "Society" as a generic term has resulted from this characteristic. Regulation of action by and for the individual for the greatest good of the majority has been found necessary to maintain this society; "lone wolf" has become an accepted term for the non-conformist running alone, eking out an existence frequently at variance with the laws of the society. Ethics have supplemented laws in guiding the conduct of the individual in his relations with others.

Many centuries of organization have brought us a long way from the law of the jungle, but unfortunately, even today, the veneer of civilization is quickly shed by some in periods of individual or mass hardship or imagined hardship. In such cases group regulation, education and influence is required to maintain the codes and standards which have developed and been found necessary to protect the economic future of the various elements in the social scheme. Organization is the balance wheel of civilization; without it society would disintegrate.

The democratic pattern or organization, in theory, recognizes control by the majority for the good of the majority. In practice, this objective is assured only when the majority asserts its prerogatives by reasonably regular attendance at meetings of the organization, the expression of its views at such meetings and by exercising its privilege to vote on controversial matters. When individuals neglect these privileges they sacrifice their right to criticize the determinations of those who, by their activity, guide the destinies of the organization.

The New Jersey Society of Architects represents the whole field of architectural practitioners in the State, and every registered architect practicing or resident in the State is eligible for membership. Occupying this position the responsibility of the Society to the profession is a grave one. Every architect in New Jersey has a stake in its accomplishments. This implies a responsibility on the part of each architect to first, become an active member of the State Society through one of its local Chapters and second, to attend and participate actively in the meetings of both the local Chapter and the New Jersey Society.

The charge has sometimes been made that the Society is controlled by a small obligarchy. If there is any truth in this charge, it is only because the majority is deficient in its responsibility. The so-called obligarchy represents merely those architects who come to meetings and who work diligently as officers, directors or committee members. Membership in it is denied no one who is willing to become active in its councils.

Individual initiative can accomplish little in strengthening the architect's position in the social scheme unless that effort is directed through the channels of organization. It is time for each architect to determine, for his own interest, what efforts he is willing to make in this direction. If he remains organizationally inert, he has no one but himself to blame if the profession does not attain and maintain the proud position of leadership to which it is entitled in the social and economic picture in New Jersey.

#### And says the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards:

The purpose of inquiries sent out by the National Council of Architectural Registration Boards with reference to applicants for reciprocal transfer of registratration credit from one state to another is to establish professional standing in the community where the applicant lives and practices his profession. It is intended to accomplish two main purposes: first, to make up a good record which can be tangibly presented, and second, to prevent practitioners who have dissipated their standing in their home communities from going to other communities and imposing on them.

Architectural societies and individuals should recognize that it is of the utmost importance to the profession that real competency shall be promoted and incompetency and dishonesty discouraged.



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#### MEMO FROM THE OCTAGON

#### **Public Housing Fees**

Fee discussions with the P.H.A. were officially reopened last week as a result of President Walker's vigorous presentation of the architect's position before the National Association of Housing Officials in Boston November 13. It can be said that a general area of agreement has been reached on a proposal for a new method of compensation for architects participating in the public housing program. The executive committee of the A.I.A. Fees Committee, together with President Walker, will hold further meetings with P.H.A.

Dues: Increased to \$40 for members of \$5,000-plus income. No change in graded dues system. Redistricting: Washington, Oregon, Idaho and Montana compose new Northwest District. Texas becomes a District separate from Gulf States District. Alabama, from the South Atlantic District, joins Gulf States Disrict. Virginia, from the South Atlantic District, joins Middle Atlantic District. After change in the By-laws to allow for the election of two new Regional Directors and the filing with the secretary of state of New York of a certificate to increase the A.I.A. directorate, the additional districts must then be approved by the May Convention.

Suggested Guide to Bidding Procedure and a Standard Form of Architectural Procedure: These were reviewed and approved, with changes recommended by the Committee on Contract Documents and previously approved by the A.G.C. They will be printed and sent to the membership promptly. Simplified Accounting: Approved by the Board, orders received will be filled promptly and the system can be put into effect for the 1950 accounting. The system represents much working by the Committee on Standard Accounting Methods for Architects, headed by David C. Baer, and has been tested in offices of varying size. It is expected to be especially helpful to the smaller architectural offices.

Changes in By-laws: Amendments to be offered for the consideration of the 1950 Convention: (1) Requirement that there shall be a President-elect who shall be Vice-President and who shall automatically become President the following year; (2) Requirement of citizenship for applicants to membership in The Institute; (3) Limitation of terms of office of Regional Directors to two years.

1953 Convention: Seattle chosen. 1952 Convention: To be held in New York City. 1951 Convention: In Chicago. Exhibits to be permitted on a restricted basis. 1950 Convention: In Washington, D. C. Post-Convention tours arranged to Williamsburg, to Bermuda by air, and to Charlottesville and the Jefferson country.

Executive Committee: Two additional meetings authorized, to be called by the President. The next meeting will be January 27-28 in Washington. Professional Liability Insurance Plan: Committee (John S. Bolles, George Bain Cummings and Regional Director Wilbur H. Tusler) appointed to report at January meeting of Executive Committee. Pension Plan for Institute Staff: Tentatively approved subject to a study of details by a special committee. Equalization of Delegates' Expenses to Conventions: Appropriation increased by two-thirds. Equalization of students' expenses continued without change. Research Expansion: Provision made for employment of an assistant to the Director of Education and Research to help with the greatly enlarged programs of the committees working with this Department.

Qualified Lists: The Board disapproved restrictive specialized lists of architects for any use whatsoever. The

Octagon: There was agreement that as much use as possible should be made of the building for suitable purposes. For the immediate future, space may be given to the National Council for Historic Sites and Buildings and to the National Architectural Accrediting Board. The Journal: A profit reported for the second time since its inception. The Bulletin: Sale of advertising rejected upon recommendation of Editor Saylor.

Student Chapter Assistance: The "Student Chapter Handbook" and the "National By-Laws Regarding Student Associates" were approved and will be distributed this month. Public Relations Counsel: No appropriation was made. Proposed National Advertising Program: No action was taken after consideration of a comprehensive report on representative costs, nationally and in local newspapers, for such a program. Unification: Milton B. McGinty was appointed to fill the unexpired term of Chairman Branson V. Gamber of the Committee on Unification. Mr. Gamber's work before his death laid the foundation for the success of the unification program in New York. A charter will shortly be issued to the New York State Association of Architects as a state organization of the A.I.A.

The Gold Medal: Awarded to Sir Patrick Abercrombie, M. A., Fellow of the Royal Institute of British Architects, in recognition of his distinguished contribution to the profession of architecture and to regional planning. Announcement of the award, to be presented at the May Convention, has been widely publicized in the United States, Great Britain and Canada. Fine Arts Medal: Awarded to Edward Steichen for his excellent work in photography. Craftsmanship Medal: Awarded to Joseph Reynolds of Boston for his skill and distinguished work in stained glass. Honorary Membership: Bestowed





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#### Housing Conference

The first conference of a program being developed by the Committee on Housing and Urban Planning is to be called, probably somewhere in the middle west, early in 1950 and promises to be a major event. Chairman Perry Coke Smith is anxious for a wide representation from the chapters. Analysis of the public housing program and of the architect's responsibility, including the technical aspects of design, will be the principal subjects of the conference. In addition to emphasizing the magnitude of the program and its challenging problems and potentialities, the conference is intended to set in motion among the A.I.A. membership an organized effort to meet the requirements of design and planning through regional study groups and evaluations of methods and procedures.

#### **Military Housing**

Bertram E. Giesecke, A.I.A., of Austin, is chairman of the new Defense Department housing commission appointed by Defense Secretary Johnson to serve in an advisory capacity in coordinating military housing activities. Lack of uniformity in procedures by the Army, Navy, and Air Force in awarding contracts will be one of the first subjects on which the commission will make recommendations. We have been told that the commission will also look into the methods used in selection of architectural firms, since difficulties have been reported under some of the present contract procedures which, in effect, cause competition between architects working with various sponsoring groups submitting proposals for a project. The commission met in Washington.

#### **Public Buildings**

Received were the first list of 312 Federal building projects on which site acquisition, where necessary, and plan preparation will go ahead under the \$40 million authorization for PBA planning under Public Law 105. The total authorization is expected to provide for 575 projects, at least one in each Congressional district. The first apropriation was \$12 million.

Architects are advised to wait for questionnaires which will be sent to all registered architects in the immediate areas in which the projects are to be planned. They will be sent out soon according to Supervising Architect Allan S. Thorn. While many of the projects are post offices to cost less than \$200,000, the list ranges upward to a New Orleans post office building with a cost limitation of \$14 million and a mint building in Philadelphia with a cost limitation of \$13 million. The selected projects include 190 deferred projects from the prewar planning program.

#### 1950 Honor Awards

A flyer giving details on the 2nd Annual Honor Awards Program will soon be sent to all members. The Program is now being prepared by the Committee on Honor Awards and the Department of Education and Research. Designs for residential, commercial, and religious buildings will be considered in 1950.

#### DAYTON CHAPTER ELECTS OFFICERS

At its annual meeting, January 5, 1950, the Dayton Chapter elected the following officers: President, John Sullivan, Jr.; Vice President, Max G. Mercer; Secretary, Eugene Wm. Betz; Treasurer, Richard R. Grant; Director, Emery J. Ohler.

The Directors who have been previously elected and will carry over are: Milton R. Williams and Harry I. Schenck.

#### HOLLYWOOD DISAPPEARING **STAIR CASE**

The Hollywood Sales Company, 455 Hippodrome Annex in Cleveland has been named sole Ohio distributor for the Hollywood Disappearing Staircase.

This information should be of particular interest to architects because this specially designed staircase is



Henry Lefkowitz, President, and Robert Keller, Vice President, The Hollywood Sales Co.

ideal for ranch type homes where there is a storage problem. It can be installed in the hall, porch, bedroom or kitchen and its use will make a marvelous storage room, den, playroom, bedroom or hobby shop out of the attic



which is usually not utilized. It is also suitable for commercial installations and special installations can be made if requested.



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bearings eliminate friction and four oil-tempered springs provide counterbalance. In addition, there are two handsome, strong steel tubing hand rails for safety. The unit weighs approximately 125 pounds. Molding, which is cut to size, is furnished with stair for casing door opening.

The unit is constructed on the theory of overhead doors in that counter springs and arms are used for lifting mechanisms. The stair needs no space other than the actual opening in the attic thereby making it the only stair applicable to the low headroom gables in ranch homes that are so popular today. The folding action utilizes this space whereby sliding action would interfere with the rafters.

The Hollywood Stairway is inexpensive and guaranteed safe. It is delivered fully assembled and can be installed in a few hours in the smallest possible space. It will accommodate a ceiling seven to eleven feet high.

According to reports from Southwestern United States where this unit is manufactured, 90% of the ranch type homes now being constructed are incorporating a staircase in building plans; thus, it is easy to see that the installation of this staircase is highly desirable and will definitely make the home more attractive to the consumer.

Mr. Henry Lefkowitz and Mr. Robert Keller, both with a wide background in the building field are president and vice president, respectively of the company.

If any further information is desired on the Hollywood Disappearing Staircase, call CHerry 4793 or drop a card to the company office and a brochure containing complete information will be forwarded to you.

#### **CLEVELAND CHAPTER NEWS** Eric Mendelsohn

For its January meeting, on Monday, January 30 (note change from January 25th), the Cleveland Chapter will have as its guest speaker one of the great pioneers of Modern Architecture. Eric Mendelsohn has produced a large volume of important work in Germany, Palestine, Russia, England and America, highlighted by such landmarks as the free-flowing Einstein Tower at Potsdam, and the Schocken Department Store, whose semi-circular glass stair towers had prototypes on the drafting boards of most United States architectural students for years. Like his noted European contemporaries-Gropius, Le Corbusier, Van der Rohe, Neutra-Mendelsohn's influence on his profession has been tremendous, particularly in the imaginative and sculptural sense of form.

Mr. Mendelsohn currently has projects of community centers and temples in St. Louis, Baltimore, Washington, and of course the Park Synagogue in Cleveland, now nearing completion on Mayfield Road, and done in association with Charles Colman of Cleveland. Mr. Mendelsohn's office is in San Francisco, where he is also teaching Design. His Cleveland talk will be an illustrated review of his work and design philosophy, which should prove of great interest in terms of today's trends as well as the whole background of Contemporary Architecture.

The dinner meeting will be in the Ballroom of the Hotel Allerton at 6:30 P. M. on Monday evening, January 30th. Tickets are \$3.00, with special student rate of \$1.50.

Boss to voluptuous secretary: "Take the afternoon off, Miss Lovett-I want to think."

#### EASTERN OHIO CHAPTER NEWS

The Architects of Warren headed by Arthur Sidells did a bang up good job, with the help of their ladies, in furnishing a Christmas Party for Eastern Ohio Archi-tects and their guests. There were sixty-four gentlemen and ladies present and Charlie Marr of New Philadelphia carried off the honors for having the most present from any one office. It was determined (at an informal meeting of the Architects present) to permit Charlie Marr to organize a bowling team and further, that from his own pocket to procure and pay for such shirts and other paraphernalia as may seem adequate with the stipulation that said shirts or substitute shall bear the name of the Architect in question, said letters not to be less than 41/2" high and further that the ladies of the team shall wear the letters on the fronts of their shirts or substitutes therefore. A lot of fun was had by all. The next bimonthly meeting will be held in Akron, Ohio the latter part of February.

At the business meeting, the following officers were elected and installed for 1950:

President, Russell Roller, RR2, Alliance, Ohio; Vice-President, George M. Foulks, 625 Twelfth Street, N. W., Canton, Ohio; Secretary, E. W. Dykes, 125 Valleyview Avenue, N. W., Canton, Ohio; Treasurer, Richard E. Lawrence, 125 Valleyview Avenue, N. W., Canton, Ohio; New Director to 1953: Charles F. Steiner, Jr., 3871 Homewood Avenue, S. E., Warren, Ohio. Holdover Director to 1952: John H. Samuels, Youngstown, Ohio. Holdover Director to 1951: Laurence J. Motter, 1412 Cleveland Avenue., N. W., Canton, Ohio.

At a meeting held at Alliance, Ohio with the members of the Executive board in attendance, the chairmen and members of standing and special committees were selected and lists of the same are being sent to the chairmen.

The Executive board approved the selection of E. W. Dykes to take over the position of Associate Editor for Eastern Ohio on the "Ohio Architect," in place of the incumbent.

#### **TOLEDO CHAPTER ELECTS OFFICERS**

At the December meeting of the Toledo Chapter, American Institute of Architects, John P. Macelwane, associate member of the architectural firm of Britsch & Munger, was elected President of the Chapter for the coming year.

The complete list of officers elected by the Toledo Chapter, A.I.A. for 1950 is as follows: President, John P. Macelwane, 531 Nicholas Building, Toledo, Ohio; Vice-President, M. DeWitt Grow, 4125 Monroe Street, Toledo, Ohio; Secretary, Herman H. Feldstein, 305 Spitzer Building, Toledo, Ohio; Treasurer, Stephen M. Jokel, 905 Jefferson Ave., Toledo, Ohio; Board of Directors, Michael B. O'Shea (Term expires Dec. 31, 1950); Newton F. Marvin, (Term expires Dec. 31, 1951); Willis A. Vogel (Term expires Dec. 31, 1951); Director, Architects Society of Ohio, John P. Macelwane; Alt. Director, Architects Society of Ohio, M. DeWitt Grow; Representative to Toledo Technical Council, Harry L. Smith; Alternate Representative to Toledo Technical Council, Byron F. Killinger,

The newly elected President commented briefly on the advance of the Architectural Profession in the field of public relations during recent years and urged upon the Chapter their responsibility for furthering public confidence in sound and ethical architectural services, both as a safeguard against faulty and dangerous construction practices and as a real and essential service to the individual and the community.







#### 



#### Traditional, Contemporary and Practical

(Continued from page 11)

floor concrete slab, while the church proper is heated by convector type radiators recessed in the wall.

The rectory, located on the west side of the church is designed in an early American character to harmonize with the architecture of the church proper. The first floor of the rectory provides for the usual living accommodations, together with an office separated from the living facilities, yet easily accessible from the exterior. The second floor provides for complete accommodations for three priests and a small suite on the third floor provides the necessary living accommodations for the housekeeper.

The total cost of this development, including the church, rectory, garage and tool shed, drives, parking areas and considerable landscaping work was accomplished for approximately \$160,000.

Reprinted through Courtesy of "Church Property Administration."

#### What Does An Architectural Organization

Mean to You? (Continued from page 17)

Standing in a profession is rated by the way in which a man is regarded by his professional compeers. High regard may be evidenced by direct testimony, by election to important posts, by honors conferred, or by election to membership in professional societies. Unfavorable regard may be evidenced by expulsion from societies, refusal to elect to societies, honors denied, or by direct testimony.

Professional contacts are necessary to well-rounded professional equipment. The man who neglects or refuses to identify himself with the established societies of his profession is open to the imputation of being afraid to meet his equals on common ground. Such men are very likely to be behind the times in the knowledge of current practice. The same imputation applies if they do not follow with care the material presented by the professional press.

In answering inquiries, the secretary of a society can help State registration boards to estimate an architect's standing by making one or more of the following statements:

- (1) a statement that the person referred to is or is not a member of the society in good standing;
- (2) an enumeration of any offices which he may have held in that society;
- (3) a statement as to his efficiency and faithfulness in committee work;
- (4) reference to any contributions to the professional press, and
- (5) a statement of any professional honors won.

One big reason we can't save any money is because our neighbors are always buying things we can't afford.

Ginger ale—a drink that tastes like your foot feels when it's asleep.



THE OHIO

#### Architect's Best Investment (Continued from page 13)

haps something more in the way of club dues, civic or social activity, entertainment, or other form of "selling overhead." Thereafter he must familiarize himself with all the requirements of his assignment. He must draw up initial plans and elevations and get them approved by the owner, maybe in the face of a building committee representing as many conflicting opinions as it has members. Then he must prepare complete specifications and detail drawings, call in contractors, supply them with copies of the blueprints and specifications, and, after a few days, receive their bids. All through the construction period he must supervise and scrutinize the various contractors' performances. He must keep a running checkup of costs in order to be able to approve the contractors' "estimates" for his client to pay. In addition, he may need to hold two or three conferences a week with his client.

The foregoing is for a commercial building. If, however, the \$40,000 job represents a residence, assuming someone wants to spend that much for a home, the proposition looks even less alluring because it quite probably entails working for a client who cannot read blueprints, knows sufficiently little about architecture to desire impossible accomplishments, and fusses and frets about the progress of contruction from day to day. He writes his architect, telephones him, visits him personally -and expects his architect to sit idly by while he talks away valuable time. He wants the architect to change the design of the breakfast room so that it will accommodate a certain manufacturer's fixtures as contrasted to another manufacturer's, equally good and perhaps better, included in the specifications. He is unable to understand why it would all necessitate a structural change in the house, and cares less. Finally he does-but at the expense of his architect's time which the latter cannot tack onto his bill like the attorney or doctor, for instance. And then in a day or two it starts all over again.

Architectural design and supervision in no way should be regarded as a policing power hampering the builder in turning out a good building inexpensively, or any reflection upon his honesty and integrity. Most good builders prefer working with architects and engineers and actually are anxious to share the responsibility for final results with a supervising technician.

Some owners and builders have felt that architects and engineers sometimes cramp the style of a contractor to an extent affecting the pocketbook of the owner adversely and unnecessarily. This view is wrong and is rapidly giving way to inteligent enlightenment. More and more, greater reliance is being placed upon the



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architect by both owner and contractor. Contractors show increased confidence that the architect must in his central position guard both the owner's interest as well as the contractor's, not to mention his own. Then, too, to a growing degree, banks are taking direct interest in buildings under construction in which they are financially interested.

All of this may bring up a natural question in the owner's mind. With bank supervision, or FHA supervision, or supervision of a reputable builder, "why do I need architectural supervision?" The answer lies in the fact that the supervision of a bank or FHA is primarily in their own interest and not in the owner's interest except insofar as their interests are the same. From a practical point of view this isn't "very far." Furthermore, the so-called supervision of banks and FHA while an admirable advance in the right direction can hardly be classified as more than superficial. Contractors prefer to work with an architect because their two separate functions are not competitive. One does not encroach upon the other. They go together like twins. The architect is the owner's expert designer, supervisor and general arbitrator and coordinator. The percentage he gets may well be the most value per dollar an owner receives.

#### "Building With Weather" Conference

(Continued from page 15)

nold Court, Environmental Protection Section of the Quartermaster Corps; Francis W. Reichfelderfer, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau; Dr. Werner A. Baun of Florida State University; Sigmund Fritz, U. S. Weather Bureau; Dr. W. C. Jacobs, Air Weather Service; and Dr. C. W. Thornthwaite of John Hopkins University Laboratory of Climatology.

Leaders in research in materials will present papers at the afternoon session January 11, and experts in mechanical systems will conduct the closing morning session January 12.

Moderators for the panel discussions in each field are members of BRAB. They are Thomas H. Urdahl, consulting engineer, Washington, D. C.; Wallace Waterfall, Director of Research, Celotex Corporation; Tyler S. Rogers, Owens-Corning Fiberglas Corporation; and Mr. Taylor.

#### Now — A Heat Absorbing Glass

(Continued from page 8)

the private home field by those whose windows face direct sun, water or are subject to snow-reflected sunlight.

Incorporation of heat absorbing plate glass with its heat and glare reducing qualities into the double-glass unit greatly increases the all-weather value of Thermopane which is already widely specified for reduction of condensation, and insulation against cold and outside noise.

Editors' Note: Cadillac Glass Co., 3115 Berea Rd., Cleveland, O., are in a position to give further particulars on this new Thermopane window. Not only do they stock this window in many sizes but carry a complete stock of glass in all sizes ready for immediate delivery being one of the largest distributors of glass in Ohio.

The O	Naddock Wa	11 Para	D
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#### Octagon to Become Reception Building

(Continued from page 12)

After leasing the property for \$30 a month for four years, the A.I.A. purchased it in 1902 for \$30,000. Several thousand dollars had been spent for the building's rehabilitation before the Institute began its occupancy in 1899. Its interior walls, buried under coats of paper or whitewash, were cleaned and restored to their original tints.

The Institute itself made history in selecting Washington for its headquarters. Its president, George B. Post, told the Board of Directors in 1898:

"Today the Institute enters upon a new era in its history which is fraught with no little anxiety. The step it has taken is without precedent, as no similar society has broken away from the commercial metropolis of the country and established its home in the National Capital.

"It may, therefore, properly be called an experiment, and is one which will depend for its success upon the individual and united efforts of the members of the Institute, and may easily prove to be a failure without such effort . . . It is only by a membership large in numbers and representing the best-equipped members of the profession, who not only combine to a high degree professional skill and training but exalted views as to the ethics of the profession, that the Institute can realize the full advantage of its mission and reap the benefits of its new departure."

Then numbering 517 members, the Institute now has more than 8,200 members, apparently having reaped the benefits of the daring step taken "with no little anxiety."

The new Administration Building, across the garden from The Octagon and almost within its late afternoon shadow, was designed to harmonize with it.

#### Warm Air Heating (Co

(Continued from page 9)

instead of down a flight of basement stairs. Where there are basements, putting the furnace on the main floor also means more below floors space for recreation, workshop, storage and laundry use. With the ordinary "Hi-Boy" installation, duct work

With the ordinary "Hi-Boy" installation, duct work from the furnace is carried overhead, concealed in the ceiling. Return duct work is carried beneath the floor. Heat is distributed through warm air registers, usually measuring a normal 8 ft. high. Assuming that the home is adequately insulated, five normal size rooms can be comfortably heated, in all kinds of weather, with a single "Hi-Boy" Furnace. However, Perfection engineers say that the better built and the better insulated the home, the greater the possibilities for heating more space than the specified five room area.

Mr. Herman Gallup, of Willoughby, Ohio, is just one of the small home owners who heats his dwelling





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with a Superfex "Hi-Boy" Furnace. His home consists of a living room, two bedrooms, two baths, utility room and kitchen, all on one floor.



"Hi-Boy" installed in Utility Room with some Ductwork in the Attic.

The oil-burning "Hi-Boy" occupies a small space in the utility room. All of the duct work from the furnace is concealed in the ceiling. Return duct work is under the concrete floors. At this point Mr. Gallup's installation ceases to be typical. Heat is carried to a hot air box in the ceiling of each room. The hot air box has



been made large enough to hold a light bulb horizontally. A convex glass plate hangs by chains from the ceiling, diffusing both the hot air and the light which comes from the box above. The degree of diffusion may be varied by raising or lowering the chains holding the glass plate. Duct work and furnace were grounded, at the time of installation, for maximum safety.

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#### NATIONAL COMPETITION

Awards will be made for distinguished design in three classes of buildings in the 1950 National Honor Awards Program of the A.I.A.

Residential, commercial, and religious buildings completed since January 1, 1945, will be considered in the Institute's second annual program. All registered architects, practicing professionally in the United States, whether or not members of the A.I.A., are eligible to submit entries of buildings erected in this country or abroad.

Entries will be sent to Washington for judgment and exhibition at the 82nd annual convention May 10-13. National juries will select one entry in each classification for First Honor Award. In addition, Awards of Merit will be given to as many entries as the juries wish to cite for excellence in architecture.

Certificates will be presented to both architects and owners of the buildings which receive awards.

"Entries will not be judged in competition with other entries as to size or cost, but on the basis of the architect's solution to the problem presented him and its worthiness for an award for excellence," the Institute announced.

Each of the three national juries will be composed of four architects and a layman. A woman nominated by a home or woman's magazine will serve on the jury in the residential class; a merchandiser experienced in commercial program requirements, in the commercial building class; and an educator experienced in church building requirements, in the religious building class.

The 1949 First Honor Awards went to Frederick L. Langhorst, San Francisco, for a residence in Marin County, California, and to March, Smith and Powell, Los Angeles firm, for a school in Corona Del Mar, California.



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#### ARCHITECTS EXHIBIT OF SCHOOL BUILDINGS

The American Association of School Administrators will hold its annual convention in Atlantic City February 25 to March 2, 1950. This is the largest education meeting of the year. It will be attended by approximately 12,000 school administrators and other educational leaders from every part of the country who are there seeking to gain sound ideas for improving the education programs in their home states and communities. Architects are invited to submit exhibits of school buildings, in accordance with the following conditions:

#### **Program Eligibility**

All entries shall be submitted by registered architects and shall depict public, private or parochial school buildings, for any age groups below college level, erected or under contract for erection, in U. S. or U. S. Territories and possessions, since January 1, 1945. Eligibility is not limited to members of the A.I.A.

# Mandatory Rules of Submission

A maximum of three buildings may be submitted by any one architect, or architectural firm.

Each exhibitor may submit a maximum of one model and three double mounts (or six single mounts).

#### MOUNTS

All entries other than models, shall be on rigid single mounts  $30'' \ge 40''$  or double size mounts  $40'' \ge 60''$ .

Each building shall be displayed on not more than two single mounts or one double mount.

Composition may be vertical or horizontal. Two mounts for one building may be arranged, one vertical, one horizontal. The composition shall be at the discretion of the entrant, provided that mandatory requirements are met.

#### PLANS

Site plan and principal floor plans shall be shown legibly and accurately at scale, with numerical or graphic indication of scale. Blueprints not acceptable for any part of display.

#### PHOTOGRAPHS

Exterior—A minimum of two photographs which together shall show all principal exposed sides of the building.

Interior-A minimum of one photograph showing a typical classroom.

Photographs shall be monotone, matt finish sizes at the discretion of entrant. The objective is to evaluate the building, not to reward a photographer's skill in concentrating on photogenic compositions.

(Continued on page 30)

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For entry blanks write: American Association of School Administrators, Atten: Dr. Shirley Cooper, 1201 16th St., N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

#### ARCHITECT AND ENGINEER By Neil J. Convery, A.I.A.

It is high time that the professions and the trades comprising the building industry recognize the wisdom and necessity of friendly cooperation in producing buildings which we all, -architect, engineer, contractor and producer, can view with pride and a craftsman's satisfaction. In achieving this result it is necessary that we all consider objectively the interests of the allied professions and trades with which we work.

Architects and architectural organizations have indignantly protested against evidences of encroachment by the engineers into the architectural field. But how many of our architects have made full and equitable use of these highly trained technicians in those fields where the engineers have a recognized competence?

The architect, to properly fulfill his role, must have a sound basic knowledge of the structural problems, heating and ventilating, sanitation, electric layout and other highly specialized elements which enter into the design of our buildings. Where it has been necessary to supplement this knowledge we have at times been too prone to rely on the technical advice of manufacturer's representatives, on a blanket reference to the "provisions of the Code" or on a weak specification clause that the "contractor shall guarantee that the heating system will heat the building uniformly to 70° in zero weather." Many failures, or at best unsatisfactory installations, have resulted from this practice.

Professional fees in connection with the design of our more complex buildings should include not only a fair compensation for the architect but also adequate provision for the services of highly trained engineers in those departments of design not covered by the broader but less technical training of the architect. It is the duty of the architect to acquaint the owners of this fact and of the economy and wisdom of engaging responsible technical service in these collateral fields.



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