Minutes of Executive Board Meetings

Vol. 6 February, 1938 No. 2
State Association of Wisconsin Architects

December 17, 1937

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects was held in the Hotel Plankinton, Milwaukee, Wisconsin on Friday, December 17, 1937.

The meeting was called to order by President Leigh Hunt at 1:45 P. M. Members present were Messrs. Leigh Hunt, Frank Hoffman, Noel Ross Safford, Wm. Mickelsen, Walter Memmler, Gerrit DeGelleke, G. LeFebvre, Urban Peacock, and Arthur L. Seidenschwartz.

Represented by proxy were Messrs. E. Klingler, C. Madsen, Ellis J. Potter, Frank F. Drolshagen, and W. Oppenheimer. Messrs. Carl Eschweiler, Herbert Tullgren and Frank Stepnoski were absent.

The reading of the minutes of the previous monthly meeting held on November 26, 1937 was dispensed with upon the adoption of a motion made by Mr. Memmler and seconded by Mr. DeGelleke.

The Secretary reported that during the past month he wrote to the Wisconsin Industrial Commission for a list of municipal building inspectors of the State and for information relative to the minimum wage law as it affected employees of architects. The Secretary received the list of inspectors from Mr. O. T. Nelson of the Industrial Commission and also a letter from Mr. Walter F. Simon, Supervisor of Apprenticeship of the Industrial Commission together with Bulletin No. 10 giving general information on the apprenticeship program of the State of Wisconsin. The letter specifically stated that the minimum wage law of the State applied to all male help in architects' offices unless they were properly indentured as apprentices in the architect's office. The minimum wage to be paid is 16c per hour for the first three months, 18c per hour for the second three months, and 22½c per hour thereafter. It was suggested by the Meeting that this information be published in the next issue of the Wisconsin Architect so that the members of our Association may be properly informed of the Law.

The Secretary further reported that he had received a communication from the Hotel Schroeder and a personal call from the Manager of the Hotel Pfister asking for our next annual State Convention. The Secretary further reported that he had received a copy of the latest by-laws and a letter from the A. I. A. asking that a complete list of active members of our Association be sent to them not later than January 31, 1938, the list of active members to have the Institute members separated from non-Institute members.

The Secretary further reported that all members of the several committees appointed by the Board and the President were notified of their appointment and were asked to return postal cards showing acceptance of their appointments.

The Secretary further reported that letters had been sent to five architects practicing in the City of Milwaukee whose names did not appear in the last Board of Examiners' roster as having paid their license fee asking them to get in touch with the Secretary of the Board and take proper steps to place them in good standing with the Registration Board. A letter was also sent to the Secretary of the State Board of Examiners calling his attention to several violations of the State Registration Act where men not entitled to use the title of Architect were so doing and advertising themselves as architects in the City Directory and telephone directory of the City of Milwaukee. The copies of the letters sent to these men by the Secretary of the Board of Examiners have been received. The Secretary also reported that the General Contractors Association had invited the officers of the State Association to a Christmas party to be held at the Hotel Pfister on Wednesday, December 22, 1937.

It was moved by Mr. DeGelleke and seconded by Mr. Memmler that the following resolution adopted by the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Architects at its November, 1937, meeting is respectfully submitted to the President of the United States: to the members of the Senate; and to the members of the House of Representatives:

RESOLUTION—UNDISTRIBUTED PROFITS TAX

Whereas, our Congress has seen fit to place a surtax on undistributed profits of industrial corporations; and
Whereas, the effect of this tax is to place an extraordinary additional cost on building construction and other improvements desired by these corporations; and
Whereas, the claimed motive for this tax is to increase the income of the government instead of which the actual results are to lessen the income because of the stifling effect on the earnings of the building construction industry and the so-called capital goods industries; therefore be it

Resolved, by the Officers and the Board of Directors of the American Institute of Architects, that the Congress at its present special session be, and is hereby respectfully petitioned, to repeal said Surtax on Undistributed Profits at once; and be it further

Resolved, that a copy of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, to each United States Senator, and to each member of the House of Representatives.

Motion adopted.

After considerable discussion by practically all the members present relative to State Association's affiliations with the A. I. A. and their position on the Committee of State Organizations, a motion was made by Mr. DeGelleke and seconded by Mr. Memmler that the following resolution be sent to Mr. John R. Fugard, Chairman of the Committee of State Organization:

RESOLVED: That the Executive Board of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects request that three additional regional Vice-Chairmen be appointed and that these three Vice-Chairmen, together with the present committee of four members, compose all of the Executive Committee of the General Committee of State Organization.

The Regional Vice-Chairmen to represent (1) the Eastern District, (2) the Middle Western District, and (3) the Western District. Each Vice-Chairman shall be selected by and from his district.

The Executive Committee will then be composed of a Chairman, five Vice-Chairmen, and a Secretary, and this Executive Committee shall act for the Committee as a whole.

Each district shall hold a meeting during the month of January, 1938 to select a Vice-Chairman to represent them on the Executive Committee and shall instruct their representative as they shall determine.
The Executive Committee shall report to the General Committee of State Organization the recommendations for consideration and action. The final action of the General Committee shall be sent to the Board of the Institute.

Motion was adopted.

A letter was received by Mr. Hunt from the American Institute of Architects relative to the proposal of candidates for the Edward Langley 1938 scholarships. It was suggested that information in regard to these scholarships be published in the Wisconsin Architect.

Mr. DeGelleke, as a Committee of one, representing both the Wisconsin Chapter of the A. I. A. and the State Association of Wisconsin Architects on Union labor relations, reported that progress was being made.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, motion was made by Mr. Mickelsen and seconded by Mr. Lefebvre that the meeting be adjourned. Motion adopted and meeting adjourned at 3:30 P. M.

ARTHUR L. SEIDENSCHEWARTZ.
Executive Secretary.

January 28, 1938

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects was held at the Plankinton Hotel, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, Friday, January 28, 1938.

The meeting was called to order by President Leigh Hunt at 1:20 P. M.

Present were Messrs. Leigh Hunt, Wm. Mickelsen, Carl Eschweiler, Gregory Lefebvre, Walter Memmler, Urban Peacock, Gerrit DeGelleke, W. Oppenhamer, C. Madsen, Frank Stepnoski, and A. L. Seidenschwartz.

Proxies were received from Messrs. Emil Klingler, Frank Drolshagen, and Noel Ross Safford.

Absent were Messrs. Herbert Tullgren, Ellis Potter, and Frank Hoffman.

It was moved by Mr. DeGelleke and seconded by Mr. Mickelsen that the reading of the December, 1937 meeting be dispensed with and that they be accepted as printed. Motion was adopted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Publicity Committee:

Mr. Stepnoski reported that the Fifth District was anxious to know what progress was being made with the advertising campaign.

President Leigh Hunt reported that due to the fact that the Seventh District had two-thirds of the Architects in the state, and was located in Milwaukee County where The Milwaukee Journal is published, the beginning of the campaign should be started there. Mr. Hunt stated that since the Architects in Milwaukee had little work, it would be better not to start the campaign until such time as there would be an upturn in building activities or solicitation for funds would be a failure.

Secretary Seidenschwartz reported that he had received a copy of the Fifth District January meeting and that they would be forwarded to Mr. Brust, chairman of the Publicity Committee.

President Leigh Hunt, being a committee of one to receive bids for bronze tablets, same being awards for the winners of prizes for Architectural work in 1935, (the bronze tablets to be attached to the buildings being chosen as the winners) reported that bids had been received, the lowest bids being $5.00 each, or a total of $30.00.

It was moved by Mr. Eschweiler and seconded by Mr. DeGelleke that President Hunt place an order for six plaques, properly inscribed, with the Globe Van Doorn Corporation for the sum of $30.00. Motion was carried.

Due to the possibility of causing ill feeling among the Architects' clients and Architects, it was moved by Mr. Mickelsen and seconded by Mr. Madsen that the practice of awarding prizes be discontinued. Motion carried.

Mr. Mickelsen of Racine reported that a radio program in the form of a short talk and open forum, sponsored for interesting the people in southeastern Wisconsin in building, and to be called, "Your Building Dollar," will be broadcast by Station WRJN of Racine, Wisconsin, starting on Tuesday, February 1, 1938 from 7:30 to 8:00 P. M. and will continue for twelve or fourteen weeks.

Many of the members present at the meeting expressed themselves as favoring the idea, and upon motion made by Mr. Eschweiler and seconded by Mr. DeGelleke, the Secretary was instructed to write to Station WRJN, expressing our appreciation for the broadcasting of a program to enlighten the public on building problems. Motion was adopted.

Educational Committee:

Mr. Carl Eschweiler, Chairman—No report.

Mr. DeGelleke reported that R. R. Becker had called at his office on Saturday, requesting the Architects to prepare an outline for an educational article that he would rewrite and elaborate upon giving the Architects full credit therefor. Mr. Eschweiler stated that he would prepare such an outline.

It was suggested that the Educational Committee prepare a Curriculum, for the use of public, parochial, and vocational schools throughout the State so that it would be of value to those wishing to take up Architecture as a vocation and to those wishing to receive elementary education.

President Hunt reported that four calls were had in January for Architects to speak to several clubs. Two lectures were given during the month, one by Mr. Hunt on Spanish Architecture, and one by Mr. Carl Eschweiler on Modern Architecture.

Mr. Hunt reported that illustrated slides were available for this purpose from the Illinois Chapter and the Illinois Society of Architects.

Legislative Committee: No report.

Practice Committee:

Mr. Mickelsen, Chairman, reported that in order to

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get results, proper policing of the State would be necessary. Mr. Herbst, member of the Practice Committee, was present on invitation of Mr. Mickelsen.

Mr. Stepnoski presented a case where an Architect designing and supervising a school building in Fond du Lac was apparently violating the State Code and orders of the Wisconsin Industrial Commission. The case was turned over to Mr. Mickelsen, Chairman of the Practice Committee, for investigation.

A letter addressed to Mr. Theodore Eschweiler from the Air Conditioning Code Committee. Mr. E. Szekely, Chairman, outlining the fact that the committee had completed its work of drafting an Air Conditioning Code was received. There being considerable expense entailed in preparing the same, the letter suggested that a reasonable contribution be made by the supporting organizations.

Mr. DeGelleke stated that the benefits of said code are not a major portion of the Architects' work, and he felt that a reasonable amount in proportion to the benefits received would be all right.

It was moved by Mr. DeGelleke and seconded by Mr. Memmler that the matter be referred to Mr. A. C. Eschweiler, Jr., for disposition. Motion was adopted. Housing Committee:

Mr. DeGelleke, Chairman, reported that the Architects had offered their help to the City of Milwaukee in connection with the Housing Program.

President Leigh Hunt reported that he had appointed Mr. Roger Kirchhoff as Chairman of the Small House Committee.

Program Committee:

Mr. Wm. Herbst, Chairman of the Program Committee, who attended the Board meeting, asked for instructions as to what his duties consisted of. Mr. Leigh Hunt, president, gave Mr. Herbst an outline of the activities of the work of his committee.

Membership Committee:

Mr. Seidenschwartz, Executive Secretary, reported that to date 108 members had paid their dues for 1938 and that he expected that at least 150 members would become active this year. He further reported that the second notice for payment was going into the mail shortly and that he would notify each district of the members who had and who had not paid, and a similar list would be sent to Mr. Stepnoski, Chairman of the Membership Committee.

The Secretary reported that he had received a letter together with price lists and discounts for all documents and contracts as printed by the A. I. A.

President Leigh Hunt suggested that the Secretary notify each district that these documents would be available through the Executive Secretary and that the chairman of each district find out what the requirements would be in his district so that the documents could be ordered accordingly.

State Societies:

The committee on State Societies, Central States District, was held in Chicago, Illinois on January 26, 1938. Our Association was represented by President Leigh Hunt. Mr. Hunt is withholding his report until the Western District, which meets on February 26, and the Eastern District, which meets on February 9, and the final meeting which is to be held at New Orleans, April 19-22, 1938, make their reports. However, the general expression is for a more unified action of the
Architects of the entire country. Mr. Hunt stated that the membership of the A. I. A. is about 2,000 and the State Societies about 4,500 members.

Mr. Memmler suggested that, if possible, it would be nice to have the next board meeting during the Lumbermen's Convention in Milwaukee. Motion was made by Mr. Memmler and seconded by Mr. Stepnoski that when the proceedings of the Executive Board meetings contain information relative to the committees whose chairmen are not members of the Board, copies of such proceedings shall be sent to said chairman. Motion was adopted.

A letter received by Mr. Hunt from The Milwaukee Press Club, soliciting an ad for their official publication, "Once a Year," was ordered to be placed on file.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, a motion for adjournment by Mr. Lefebvre was made and seconded by Mr. Oppenhammer. Motion was adopted and meeting adjourned at 4:00 P. M.

ARTHUR L. SEIDENSCHWARTZ.
Executive Secretary.

February 16, 1938

The regular monthly meeting of the Executive Board of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects was held at the Plankinton Hotel, Milwaukee, on Wednesday, February 16th, 1938.

The meeting was called to order by President Leigh Hunt at 1:25 P. M.

Present were Messrs. Leigh Hunt, Wm. Mickelsen, Gregory Lefebvre, Walter Memmler, Frank Drolshagen, Urban Peacock, Gerrit DeGelleke, W. Oppenhamer, Noel Ross Safford, C. Madsen, Frank Stepnoski and A. L. Seidenschwartz, Mr. Brust, Chairman of Publicity. Represented by proxy were Messrs. Emiel Klingler and Ellis Potter.

Messrs Herbert Tullgren, Carl Eschweiler and Frank Hoffman were absent.

It was moved by Mr. DeGelleke and seconded by Mr. Peacock that the reading of the minutes of the previous meeting be dispensed with. Motion adopted.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES:

Publicity Committee: Mr. Brust, Chairman.

Mr. Brust reported that he had written to Mr. Potter for information relative to the awarding of the contract for the Architectural Services for the addition to the Memorial Union Building at Madison to Architects outside the State of Wisconsin. The letter was answered by Mr. Law, stating all of the facts. After considerable discussion on the matter, it was moved by Mr. Mickelsen and seconded by Mr. Memmler that a letter of protest be sent to the Board of Regents of the University of Wisconsin, a copy of the letter to be sent to Mr. Halbert, State Engineer, the Building Committee in charge of the project and to the Governor, Philip La Follette. Mr. Hunt asked permission to write the letter which was granted.

Educational Committee: No report.

Legislative Committee:

Mr. Drolshagen stated that the Legislative Committee had not met to date but would have a meeting in the near future.

Practice Committee: Mr. Mickelsen, Chairman.

Mr. Mickelsen stated that he had written to Mr. Nelson of the Wisconsin Industrial Commission, offering their committee's support running down violations of the state building code by Architects.

Public Works Committee: No report.

Housing Committee: No report.

Program Committee: No report.

Membership Committee: Mr. Stepnoski, Chairman.

The secretary reported that a list of the district memberships was sent to each district showing the active or paid members and the unpaid members, and urging the chairman of each district to appoint such committees as he saw fit to assist the secretary in increasing the active membership list. A complete list of the state was sent to Mr. Stepnoski. At this date the association has a total of 131 members. (At this writing the membership is 142.)

Mr. Memmler reported that he and the Secretary and Mr. Rose attended a meeting held at the Milwaukee Trades Council, called to get the reactions of the several organizations of the building industry on the feasibility of a License law for masons, carpenters and general contractors. Mr. Memmler stated that he was much concerned over such legislation because he did not know what constituted a contractor.

A communication received from the office of Foeller, Shober and Berners, stating that the convention expense account for the annual convention held at Green Bay on October 9, 1938, showed a deficit of $22.91 and that the association should accept this amount as a donation of the office of Foeller, Shober and Berners toward the expense of the convention. It was moved by Mr. Stepnoski and seconded by Mr. Drolshagen that the secretary accept their offer with thanks. Motion was adopted.

The Executive Board was informed that the Home Owners' Loan Corporation were talking of making a drastic change in the methods of making inspections of acquired properties and the awarding of contracts for the reconditioning work and the supervision of same. Heretofore, the inspections of these properties were made by highly technical men, in most cases. Architects. Under the new set-up, all cases would be immediately turned over to the property management brokers. They would make the inspections, let the contracts and supervise the work.

Mr. Mickelsen stated that the fees paid for this work were small but that a man familiar with the work and properly trained in its execution could make some money. Under the set-up with the management brokers, they would receive a large percentage of the fees and leave little for the technical man that does the bulk of the work.

The new set-up was up for consideration and a committee consisting of Mr. Seidenschwartz as chairman, Wm. Mickelsen and G. Lefebvre was appointed to call on Mr. McQuillan, State Director of the Home Owners' Loan Corporation and protest against the change of system and if any change was contemplated technical men including architects should have complete charge of this work.

There being no further business to come before the meeting same was adjourned at 4 P. M.

ARTHUR L. SEIDENSCHWARTZ.
Executive Secretary.
The Use of the Title "Architect"

Many of the members of the State Association of Wisconsin Architects have informed the officers of the Association that they would like to know the rulings of the Registration Board of Architects and Engineers in connection with the improper use of the title of "Architect." To comply with this request the Wisconsin Architect herewith submits an extract from a letter sent by Mr. Arthur Peabody to a person who violated the law on this subject. The letter follows:

I am informed that you are using the title "Architect" in connection with your business although the Roster of Registered Architects does not show registration in your case. The Wisconsin Registration Board of Architects and Professional Engineers instructs me to inform you of the impropriety of this practice.

The question of using the title Architect, Architects or Derivatives by persons not registered as such under the Wisconsin Registration Act, Sec. 101.31, Chapter 486, Laws of 1931, and amended on August 1, 1935, provides:

101.31 Architects and Professional Engineers

"(1) Registration Definitions. Any person practicing or offering to practice the profession of architecture or the profession of professional engineering in this state shall be registered as hereinafter provided: and it shall be unlawful for any person to practice or to use in connection with his name or otherwise assume, use or advertise any title or description tending to convey the impression that he is an architect or professional engineer with the intent to practice the profession unless such person has been duly registered or exempted under the provisions of this section.

"(a) The term architect as used in this section means a person who represents himself to be such an architect.

"(c) The term professional engineer as used in this section means a person who is qualified to engage in engineering practice as hereinafter defined."

"(11) Penalties. law enforcement, severance clause.

"(a) Any person who shall practice, or offer to practice or to use any name specified in this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine or by imprisonment or both.

Certain opinions of the Attorney General delivered at various times are as follows:

December 4, 1926

"Caption: Persons or firms not registered as architects in Wisconsin may not employ the title Architectural Engineer, Architectural Designer in the business of making plans and specifications and supervising the construction of buildings."

August 31, 1937

"Caption: The use of the title 'Architect' with the intent to practice architecture is a violation of Sec. 101.31(1) unless the person has been duly registered or exempted from the provisions of that section."

Also Sec. 101.31(6) Statutes

"A firm, copartnership, corporation or joint stock association may engage in the practice of architecture or engineering only provided such practice is carried on under the responsible direction of one or more registered architects or engineers."

Advice is that the title Architect or derivatives be discontinued in cases where registered architects are not concerned.

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ARTHUR PEABODY.
Secretary.

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