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**CONVENTION NUMBER**
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**Program**

of the

**TWELFTH ANNUAL CONVENTION**

of the

**STATE ASSOCIATION OF WISCONSIN ARCHITECTS**

**to be held in Milwaukee at the Plankinton House,**

**February 25 and 26, 1944**

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**Friday, February 25th:**
12:15 P.M. — Executive Board Luncheon—Sky Room.
2:00 P.M. — Pre-Convention Executive Board Meeting—Colonial Room.
5:30-6:30 P.M.—Exhibits by Producers Council Club of Wisconsin of new materials and methods—Mezzanine Floor South.
6:30-7:00 P.M.—Cocktails by Producers Council Club of Wisconsin.
7:00 P.M. — BANQUET—Address by Mr. Thomas S. Holden, President of the F. W. Dodge corporation. Subject: "Who's Afraid of Prosperity."

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**Saturday, February 26th:**
10:30 A.M.—OPENING SESSION—Convention called to order by President Siedenschwartz.
Address of Welcome by Dan J. McNally, Milwaukee Association of Commerce.
The President's Address to the Twelfth Convention.
Report of the Board of Directors—By Leigh Hunt, Secretary and Treasurer.
11:00 A.M.—Reports of Standing Committees
Unfinished business
12:00 M.—Luncheon—Address by President Norbert Klein, of Producers Council Club of Wisconsin.
2:00 P.M.—Round Table Discussions.
Round Table A. New Legislation Since Last Convention.
Attorney Gerald J. Rice, Chairman
Round Table B. On the Position of the Architect at Close of the War.
A. L. Seidenschwartz, Chairman.
Round Table C. Architectural Unification—A National Issue.
Leigh Hunt, Chairman.
A Talk on "The Solar House" with slides by Howard M. Sloan of the Libby-Owens Ford Glass Co.
4:00 P.M.—Nomination of Directors—Opening of Polls.
4:30 P.M.—Closing Polls. Announcement of Election.
5:00 P.M.—ADJOURNMENT.
5:30 P.M.—Post Convention Meeting of newly elected Board.
ARCHITECTURAL UNIFICATION

Unification has been a problem with which The Institute has struggled since 1934. As more and more young men became architects and entered architectural practice, the problem became more serious.

Most architects in the United States desired an organization on national lines, within which all architects of good character could obtain membership.

The Unification Committee of The Institute has struggled with this problem from year to year and, while progress has been made, it has been very, very slow. Differences of opinion had to be reconciled. Older practitioners who formerly desired a limited membership gradually began to advise the broadening of the membership basis of The Institute. Men, not members of The Institute, began to inquire about membership therein and very many acquired membership.

Several states have been working out programs of unification within their borders, with notable results. It became necessary that The Institute establish, without delay, a formula for unification of the profession in the United States.

The Unification Committee, appointed by President Raymond J. Ashton in 1943, consists of the following:

Ralph W. Carnahan, Ohio
Wiley G. Clarkson, Texas
Branson V. Gamber, Michigan
Charles C. Hartmann, North Carolina
John Gaw Meem, New Mexico
Roi L. Morin, Oregon
C. Julian Oberwarth, Kentucky
Frederick H. Reimers, California
William J. Ryan, Illinois
I. Fraser Smith, Tennessee
Searle H. Von Storch, Pennsylvania
Rudolph Weaver, Florida
Ralph O. Yaeger, Indiana
Leigh Hunt, Vice-Chairman, Wisconsin
M. W. Del Gaudio, Chairman, New York

The instructions of The President required that the problem be solved in 1943. The members of the committee have been working individually and collectively since their appointment. Each member outlined his own view of what unification should be and how it should be accomplished. These views were sent to each member of the committee who, finally, elected an executive committee from its membership, to work out the formula for unification. This executive committee consisted of the following members:

Messrs. Hunt, Weaver, Carnahan, Gamber, Yaeger, Von Storch, Smith and Del Gaudio.

They met on November 30, 1943, at Memphis, Tennessee, and after discussion, developed a program. This program was later submitted to The Board of Directors which met on December 1, 2, 3, 1943, and was unanimously approved.

The program (subject to editing, and modification by Counsel, after this first printing), with explanation of each paragraph, follows:

1—That the A.I.A. be retained as the national professional organization, with full duties and responsibilities as presently constituted;

Explanation: The organized architects of the various states have been demanding complete unification, either under the aegis of The American Institute of Architects, or through some national organization of architects in which membership would be universal. As

The American Institute of Architects was fully established, most architects were anxious to have the A.I.A. as the national organization. There had been misunderstanding as to the requirements for membership in The Institute which was cleared up by declarations of the 1942-1943 conventions. The A.I.A. is now considered as the national organization of architects in the United States of America.

2—Provisions shall be made for the formation of forty-eight autonomous state chapters, associations or societies;

Explanation: Because of peculiar problems existing in each state, and because of the necessity for architects in each state working in close cooperation, the committee decided, at the request of various of the state representatives, that the architects in each state should be organized in state groups (chapters, societies, or associations), membership in which will be automatic for each A.I.A. member. State groups will have full autonomy in state matters, but The Institute is always prepared to advise and suggest. Single chapters, within states, will be recognized as state groups, and chapters covering more than one state, will set up chapters in each state. State groups from adjoining states may work together if they desire.

3—These state organizations may be subdivided into chapters, sections, societies or divisions, as each state organization may determine;

Explanation: State groups may divide themselves into as many sub-divisions as they choose (chapters, sections, societies, etc.); always, however, with the understanding that local groups will have local autonomy, and also that, the sub-division will be subject to approval by The Institute. Membership in the local chapters or sections or societies will be strictly A.I.A. corporate membership. (Associateships, etc., for chapters, sections or societies will be the affair of the local group and no change in this type of membership is proposed.)

4—Existing Chapters of the A.I.A., which retain their charters, shall be privileged to contact the national organization on matters of national interest;

Explanation: Existing chapters will function under existing charters, and new chapters (or sections or societies) will be chartered by the A.I.A. in Washington. New sub-divisions will be set up at the request of the state group. Each chapter or local group may communicate directly with the A.I.A. on national matters.

5—On matters of state interest, the sub-divisions or sections of the state organization shall function through such state organization;

Explanation: Units within states must co-operate with each other within the states, on state matters.

6—There shall be but one class of membership—that of corporate membership in the A.I.A.—within the state organizations.

Explanation: For complete and unquestioned unification, every architect who is a member of the local group, is a member of the state group and a member of the A.I.A. with full and equal rights, privileges and obligations.

7—It is recommended that A.I.A. invite all qualified architects in every state who are not now corporate members of the A.I.A. to apply for such corporate membership;

Explanation: To effectuate complete unification, the
A.I.A. invites all qualified architects to corporate membership in The Institute.

8—As recommended in Section 2, a state organization of the A.I.A. shall be formed when 80 per cent of the qualified architects within the state become corporate members of the A.I.A., or within a period of not to exceed three years from the approval of these recommendations;

State associations, as presently constituted, shall continue to function until the above provisions shall be achieved.

Explanation: To allow for the transition from present to the new system, three years‘ time has been decided upon. However, as soon as 80 per cent of the organized architects in the state become members of the A.I.A., the Institute will set up the state groups, and the local groups will operate them. The setting up of the state groups by the A.I.A. will begin, in any case, on January 1, 1947. (State associations as now constituted, will be recognized by the A.I.A. until January 1, 1947.)

Committees from state associations are invited to work with the Unification Committee of The Institute, to work out solutions of local and state problems.

9—The A.I.A. shall continue and expand its efforts to attract all qualified architects to become members of the national organization;

Explanation: The A.I.A., under the American principle of democracy and equality, will continue to invite all qualified architects to corporate membership. Chapters and local groups are required to accept this provision, which is considered necessary for the benefit of the profession.

10—The matter of collection of dues by a single agency within each state is left to the state’s determination;

Explanation: Dues may be collected in any manner decided upon by the state group (either by the local group or chapter, which will pay the state group and the national group, or by the members paying directly to each, or by the state group collecting dues, paying local group and the national A.I.A.) Any other method acceptable to state groups, will be considered.

11—An architect is considered to be qualified for corporate membership in the A.I.A. when (a) he is of good character; (b) when he is legally qualified; and (c) who subscribes to accepted rules of professional conduct;

Explanation: To dispel any misunderstanding as to qualifications for membership, the 1942 and 1943 conventions of The Institute announced the interpretations of the By-laws in respect to requirements for membership. It was agreed by the committee that The Institute influences the education of architects in the various schools, and practically controls the type of architect being admitted to practice in the various states through the state registration boards. In states not having licensing laws, the admission committee of The Institute will set up qualifications.

12—Each state chapter, association or society shall be entitled to at least one delegate, plus representation for the state on the basis of the present formula;

Explanation: Each state will have representation at national conventions by at least one delegate. Additional delegates will be granted to states, on the basis of the numerical strength of local chapters or societies or sections, either by the method new provided for in Chapter V, Article 2, Sec. 2(b), of the By-laws, or by some method which the Unification Committee will work out.

Note: The above solution is not perfect by any means, but is considered a step forward toward complete unification of the profession. All difficulties encountered and all differences of opinion will be submitted to the Unification Committee of The Institute for solution.

The foregoing program was adopted by the Executive Committee of the Unification Committee at Memphis, Tennessee, on November 30, 1943.

It was considered and acted upon by The Board as follows:

The following resolutions were adopted by the unanimous vote of The Board, fourteen members present and voting:

Resolved, that the report of the Sub-committee of the Committee on Unification, dated November 30, 1943, as submitted to this Board by the Chairman, Matthew W. Del Gaudio, be and hereby is approved and adopted; and that the recommendations contained therein be put into effect; and be it further

Resolved, That the report of the Sub-committee of the Committee on Unification, dated November 30, 1943, be referred to the Committee on By-laws for the preparation of any necessary changes in the By-laws of The Institute, and Rules of The Board, with the suggestion that the Committee on By-laws invite a representative of the Committee on Unification to meet with it if it finds such meetings to be necessary.

Under this program and the above resolutions of The Board of Directors approving and adopting it the final stage in the unification program is now at hand.

Within a period of three years—that is, by the end of 1946—unification will be an accomplished fact. The Institute will have become the all-inclusive national society of the architectural profession, and the movement to bring about that ideal will have reached a successful conclusion.

The program as published herein has been referred to the Committee on By-laws and to Counsel—for such advice as may be necessary to expedite its execution.

The Board will report fully in this matter to the annual meeting of The Institute to be held in Indianapolis on May 3, 4, and 5, 1944.

Meanwhile, the interest, support, and action of every chapter, corporate member, and state association member are earnestly sought and fully depended upon.

M. W. Del Gaudio,
Chairman, Committee on Unification, A.I.A.

IN THE ARMED FORCES

We are trying to complete the list of architects who are serving in the armed forces and find that it is not an easy task. We will welcome contributions to this list.


some legal notes

by

gerald j. rice, association attorney

during the year 1943, there were several important developments in the law of interest to architects. Changes in the architects' license law, in the mechanics' lien law, in the housing authority laws and in the building code affecting liability of contractors and architects, are so broad that they cannot be discussed in detail and thoroughly in this article.

most important are the changes relating to section 101.31 of the Wisconsin statutes affecting the practice of architecture. the definition of the practice of architecture was expanded so that in addition to design and responsible supervision provided in the old law, architecture also includes consultation, investigation, evaluation, planning, and aesthetic and structural design. thus an architect can collect for conferences, in­

vestigation, etc., as the practice of architecture, even though no plans are drawn or construction supervised.

section 101.31-f, which sets forth what work can be done without being licensed as an architect or an engineer, was amended so as to comply exactly with the provisions of the state building code. the limitation of fifty thousand cubic feet of useable space was clarified so as to refer to the entire unit of construction rather than the addition or portion altered only. sub section 101.31-h, puts row-houses under the classification of a single entire building for purposes of applying the fifty thousand cubic feet limitation.

sub section 101.31 (6), which provides that a firm partnership, or corporation may engage in the practice of architecture under responsible direction of a registered architect, whose signature must be affixed to the plans, was amended by adding the requirement that any such firm or corporation must have at least one-half of its stock or capital interest owned by registered architects. this additional requirement was added in the hope of preventing unqualified persons or firms from getting around the license law by merely employing a registered architect or engineer from time to time to seal plans. a substantial ownership by registered architects in any firm practicing architecture should insure responsible direction and supervision.

several other minor changes in the architectural law are not important enough to detail here.

of special interest to all architects is a new law, section 101.185, which provides that an owner may refuse payment to a contractor for any work which fails to comply with the state building code, except that a contractor shall not be denied payment where the plans or specifications are prepared by a licensed architect or engineer and the contract performed in accordance therewith. obviously if an architect or an engineer violates the state building code, he would undoubtedly be held liable to the owner for the cost of effecting a compliance with the code. in certain instances where the code is not specific and where a permit may be issued and subsequently the state building inspector claims the work to be contrary to the code, an architect would find himself liable. this situation may be protected against by obtaining a waiver of claim in advance from the owner at the time the architect's contract with the owner is drawn.

the mechanics lien law was changed in several subsections. the chief change provides that the thirty day notice given by material men and sub-contractors be extended in time to sixty days from the day of furnishing the first work or materials; such notice must also state in effect that it is given pursuant to the Wisconsin Mechanic's Lien law and that the claimant will claim a lien against the owner's real estate in the event the he is not paid by the contractor for labor and materials furnished. this change was made to eliminate the flowery thank-you letter which is intended as a notice to the owner, but which is so camouflaged as to lose its effect. calling attention to the law and the fact that a lien will be claimed in the event of non payment, should constitute notice to the owner. the increase from thirty to sixty days was made on the theory that many contractors are unable to obtain payment from the owner or his mortgagee within the thirty days after the material and labor are furnished, and that a term of sixty days provides ample time for the contractor to collect and pay the sub contractor and material men and avoid the filing of lien claims. the time for commencing a lien action was also changed to two years from the date of filing the claim for lien instead of two years from the date of furnishing the last work, which latter date was much harder to prove than a recorded date.

the last legislature also passed a second housing authority law which is an enabling act to permit private persons to develop housing projects. the first housing authority law, which was passed in 1935, was an enabling act for the development of housing projects with public funds only. there has been some recent agitation in Milwaukee for a housing authority, which was followed up by the declaration of the Milwaukee Council of Aldermen that such housing authority was necessary, also an announcement has just been made of a private housing authority which will undoubtedly seek to be qualified under the new law. the question of whether housing in Milwaukee will be provided by public or private means will undoubtedly be decided by the efforts of the two groups competing with each other. although housing is frequently tied in with metropolitan planning and the redevelopment of blighted areas within a city, housing as such is a separate problem and may be much less important than matters of long distance master planning, eminent domain, limited building permits, zoning laws, and variances from the zoning laws, and financing. as to financing alone, there arise the questions of obtaining federal aid or issuing bonds. the matter of bonds is of particular interest to Milwaukee where the bonded indebtedness has just been fully cleared.

in addition to the statutory changes in the law affecting architects, there have also been some important decisions by the Wisconsin Supreme Court construing the license law and the rights of architects under such law. these cases will be discussed in a subsequent article.

since the last issue of the Wisconsin Architect, we have lost quite a number of our old friends, including alfred c. clas, who was dean of the profession; henry c. huengels, who served as state military architect; clarence w. jahn, a member of the firm of buemming & jahn; alexander c. guth, who for many years held the office of Secretary of the Wisconsin Chapter; robert a. messmer, architect for many public buildings, and howard m. nelson, who was a board member.
THE ORGANIZATION OF RECONSTRUCTION IN THE U.S.S.R.
By NIKOLAI KOLLY
Member of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Architects

BEFORE the war in the Soviet Union years of peaceful creative work under the Stalin five-year plans had been marked by large-scale building operations as a substantial contribution to the rise in the national standard of living.

Houses and public buildings and whole cities had been built throughout the country, and thousands of architects, builders and engineers had been employed. When the war came this building activity continued in the vast interior territories, in the Urals, in Siberia and in the flourishing cities of the Asian republics where new industrial centres and even new cities were built beyond enemy reach. Now the same activity is extended in the wake of the Red Armies throughout the liberated western areas and in all the hundreds of towns and villages which the Germans have deliberately demolished and left in ruins. Vast new and urgent problems arise for Soviet architects in the restoration of these towns and villages which must be rebuilt not only with the utmost speed but to be more beautiful and in every way better than they were before.

The Council of the Peoples Commissars has set up a Committee on Architecture, under the chairmanship of Arkady Mordvinov, to control the building activities of all the organizations and institutions involved in reconstruction work. All urban planning and the design of building projects is subject to the Committee’s approval and the Committee is also responsible for the actual carrying out of projects. To the individual architect the Committee is in the position of guardian and ally in the realization of his creative design.

The question of the production of well-designed standards for housing and for other mass-produced building is regarded as of special importance, but not without reference to local conditions. In town planning particular attention is being paid to climatic and topographical peculiarities and local building customs and traditions. The Committee has been charged with the task of preparing the basic standards and will have final supervisory authority when works are carried out by other bodies and individuals.

Another matter directly affecting the quality of the architecture and the decorative work involved is the quality of the materials and the organization of the materials production. The architect’s design may be excellent, but impossible of effective execution if the materials are lacking or faulty. Thus the Committee has also the duty of supervising materials standards.

The scale of pre-war building production will be exceeded in the near future, and big demands will be made on all sections of the building professions and the building trade workers necessitating a planned distribution of technical services, studio and craft workshops. This also is part of the Committee’s duty.

Scientific research is under the supreme authority of the U.S.S.R. Academy of Architecture which has direct representation on the Committee.

The Committee also is responsible for the direction and supervision of architectural and building arts edu-

HAUNTED BY THE BATH TUB
THAT ISN’T THERE?

The few bath tubs being produced today under WPB Order L-42 just won’t go around, and can be supplied only for the most urgent war housing. But tomorrow—when peacetime production is resumed—there will again be tubs for all.

Architects can render a service to clients by advising them to allow space and make provision now for bath tub to be installed later.

Women particularly prefer the bath tub, for themselves and children. And to invalids, and disabled and older people who cannot stand while bathing, bathtubs are a “must”. Kohler Co., Kohler, Wis.

KOHLER of KOHLER

(Continued on Page Eight)
PRIVATE PRACTICE CHALLENGED
By CHARLES C. PLATT, Chairman
Committee on Legislation, New York Chapter, A.I.A.

The endeavor, here in the New York sector, of Civil Service groups to eliminate the private architect and engineer from the planning of public works goes on apace. We meet it each year in Albany in the shape of bills in the State Legislature—and each year these bills are defeated.

Here in New York City this hostile activity has recently quickened its pace and increased its volume due largely to the huge appropriation the city has made for architectural and engineering services in order to have plans for postwar construction prepared and ready to meet the employment emergency. This total appropriation for professional services aggregates more than $22,000,000 and the postwar construction program exceeds $700,000,000. This has created a contest between the professions and the Civil Service as to what share each should receive of this work; and the Civil Service interests have attacked the award of any of this public work to the private practitioner in three different ways—two by litigation and one by attempted legislation.

The first attack came early in the spring in the shape of a suit instituted in the name of one Hardecker, a Civil Service employee, and others, including the Federation of Associations of Employees of the Board of Education, vs. the Board of Education. This involved school buildings only; and the professions intervened in the capacity of "amicus curiae," or "friend of the court," in order to add their weight to the defense the city was setting up. The suit was instituted under the State Education Law, which reads to the effect that the bureaus of the Board of Education shall design all school buildings in New York City except in "special cases" in which, upon the approval of the Board of Estimate, the work "may otherwise be performed." The case hung on the interpretation of "special cases" and Justice Kleinfeld of the Supreme Court, in his opinion upon the question, stated:

"It would seem that a 'Postwar Works Program' is a special case in that it is something out of the ordinary, uncommon and extraordinary. It has for its aim an easy transition from a war to a peace economy immediately following the cessation of hostilities, and particularly the prompt employment of soldiers as they return from the far-flung and widespread battlefronts. Under such circumstances the Court may not give to the words 'special case' a narrow construction which in effect might tend to defeat such laudable purposes."

This decision was appealed to the higher courts and the lower court was sustained unanimously and without further opinion.

Since the lower court in its decision accentuated the war emergency as a primary basis of its findings, no broad definition was laid down as to just what "special cases" would mean in the light of normal times. In that respect further litigation may develop should the Board of Estimate favor the profession with future assignments after the present emergency is over.

The second suit was instituted by the Civil Service Technical Guild vs. the Mayor and other city officials and was based on the broad grounds of the alleged rights of Civil Service employees under the Constitution of the State and under the Civil Practice Act to preferential employment on public work as long as the Civil Service lists have not been exhausted. Then and only then, it was contended, could the city employ the private practitioner.

This attack went further than the first in that it embraced all departments of the city, and sought to invalidate contracts already awarded to the private offices, and to forbid any payments under those contracts.

This case was won by the city and the professions in the court of first resort. Justice Pecora, in his opinion, quoted from the State Constitution as follows: "Appointments ... in the civil service of the state, and ... cities ... shall be made according to merit and fitness to be ascertained, so far as practicable, by examinations, which, so far as practical, shall be competitive ..." He then stated that "the reasons for the action taken by the Board of Estimate, advanced in the answering affidavits, are pertinent only to the question of whether there had been any arbitrary or capricious exercise of a power. The contracts attacked were evidently entered into to meet technical problems which private firms were especially equipped to master, to accelerate the completion of plans, and to assist in preserving intact many private engineering and architectural organizations, which would otherwise be dispersed to the great detriment of the city. It is clear from the undisputed facts that the power of the Board of Estimate was wisely exercised, and were this court permitted to review such discretion it would confirm the action taken. There is presented, however, the legal issue of constitutional infraction.

"In approaching the problem certain unmistakable signs along the road point to the correct solution. Since
the organization of the City of New York in 1897, it has been a practice, when deemed advisable, to award contracts for private architectural and engineering services. The difficult architectural and engineering problems involved in the construction of public improvements demand the highest degree of specialized professional skill for their solution. The city for years has searched among those with experience and talent to meet the requirements of design and construction called for by the nature of the particular improvements under consideration. This long-standing practice constitutes a practical construction of the constitutional provision dealing with civil service. Whenever the power to award such contracts has been challenged, courts have approved the practice."

The court furthermore stated that "the award of contracts for architectural and engineering work does not constitute a method for making 'appointments' in the 'civil service' of the city. The provisions of the contracts awarded do not create any employer-employee relationship but a contractual one between an independent contractor and the city. The contracts call for specific studies, plans and specifications. The city does not control the office organizations of such firms, has nothing to do with the persons they employ, does not prescribe hours of employment, and is not their sole client."

The court concludes its opinion with the statement that "nothing contained in the Constitution of the State of New York or in the provisions of the Civil Service Law, prohibits the City of New York from awarding contracts for architectural and engineering services to private concerns in connection with the Postwar Planning Program. This court further holds that the action of the city attacked herein is in line with sound public policy and represents a wise exercise of discretion."

Running through this opinion, as in the school case opinion, there is also reference to the war emergency and the decision itself expressly sustains these awards "in connection with the postwar planning program."

The text of the opinion, however, is based upon more general grounds and would seem to sustain such employment in normal times to a greater extent than does the opinion in the school case. In any event, appeals are to be expected in both litigations and the professions will continue to be represented in defense of their interests.

On a third front, and as an aftermath of the two adverse decisions in the courts, the avenue of legislation has been again opened up and the old bill to bar the professions from the city work was polished up and brought out for public hearing before the Committee on Civil Service Employees of the City Council. The wording of the bill is the most drastic yet composed as it definitely aims to nullify the favorable provisions of the City Charter and the favorable construction the courts have put upon it which now permits the employment by the city of private architects and engineers in a "consulting capacity," and that was construed to include full services if so engaged. The new bill attempts to nullify both these advantages.

The consensus of present opinion is that the bill will go back to the Committee for an indefinite stay, though the professions must be constantly alert for whatever may happen. It is certain that the Administration as well as public-minded citizens are opposed to any attempt to tie the hands of the city and deprive it of the same freedom of contract that is enjoyed by any suc-

(Continued on Page Eleven)
THE ARCHITECT IN CIVIC AND STATE AFFAIRS

The Board has for many years urged participation in civic and state activities by members of the architectural profession, and a report on the present status should be of interest.

Gerrit J. deGelleke, Peter Brust, and Edgar H. Berners are members of the Board of Examiners of Architects. Roger C. Kirchhoff is State Architect and also serves on this board.

James R. Law of Madison, who retired from the practice of architecture to become mayor of Madison, is now Chairman of the State Highway Commission.

Alexander C. Eschweiller, Jr., is a member of the Public Land Commission of Milwaukee. John Brust is now Chairman of the State Highway Commission.

Leon M. Gurda, Building Inspector, has been re-appointed for a six-year term.

The Metropolitan Plan Association of Milwaukee has four architects as members. They are Gerrit J. de Gelleke, Frederick C. Luber, Leigh Hunt and Arthur L. Seidenschwartz.

Gerrit J. de Gelleke is serving on the Milwaukee Art Commission.

Carl F. Eschweiller is a member of the Committee on War Housing Utilization of Milwaukee.

A Housing Authority has been created by the Common Council of Milwaukee. The Mayor is to appoint five members to serve as this Committee. Mayor Bohn has been urged to consider an architect as a member.

Note: Names of members of the profession who are serving their respective cities or some branch of the State Government not listed should be sent to Editor.

THE ORGANIZATION—Continued from Page 5

cation. Special attention is paid to the training of artists and craftsmen, including sculptors, mural painters, wood carvers, etc., to work in association with the architects. The restoration of ancient monuments destroyed by the ruthless brutality of the German Fascists is another task within the Committee's authority.

to give effect to the Committee's policies the various Republics and the cities of Moscow, Leningrad and Kiev have formed architectural departments under their regional and provincial Soviets. Local control is assured by the appointment of Chief City Architects in many cities who will work under the Committee's supervision and will thus have authority derived directly from the central State organization.

In their restoration of the cities and buildings destroyed by the vandalism of the Germans the architects of the U.S.S.R. have as their aim the creation of a Soviet architecture in every way worthy of their country.

JOURNAL OF THE ROYAL INSTITUTE OF BRITISH ARCHITECTS

The Wisconsin Chapter, A.I.A., Executive Board, meets at the City Club, 756 N. Milwaukee St., the first Wednesday of each month at 12:15 p.m.

The monthly meetings of the Wisconsin Chapter, A.I.A., are held the second Wednesday of each month at the City Club at 12:15 p.m.

The Place of the Architect

By WILLIAM N. TAYLOR

In the October Octagon there appeared an address by the Hon. Secretary of the R.I.B.A., under the title: "The Activities of the R.I.B.A. During the War and the Place of the Architect in the Post-War World." Mr. Waterhouse's searching self-questioning recalls another address, by Col. Taylor, now printed below. It was delivered in May 1940, on the occasion of our Convention in Louisville. Was this a voice crying in the wilderness?

The architects are asking themselves whether or not society is, at the present time, according the position to which they are entitled.

What is the position to which the architect thinks he is entitled? It is fair to say that there are differences of opinion on this subject, but on the whole the profession believes it should be given the position of leadership in all building operations. And when we say leadership in building operations, we mean that the architect be the first person consulted in the contemplation of construction, and be the professional element that guides and coordinates the entire operation.

If one judges the matter by volume of money spent on buildings, it is not incorrect to state that, in the majority of cases, society does not entrust the major role to the professional architect; it calls upon the architect only for a limited number of these operations, or for participation in a very minor part of them.

Why is this? Are we incompetent to give society what it considers essential to its building activities? Or is it that society does not understand what we can do?

Society has at all times, and will at all times, entrust the leading role in its building to those persons whom it believes will answer most closely the economic and social needs. And if society does not turn to the architect it is because it does not think the architect can supply its requirements.

Society thinks of the architect exactly what the architect thinks of himself. The architect has described himself many times. He is described in the licensing laws of most states; he is described by The A.I.A.; he is described by numerous writers of books; and the public believes that the architect can give just what he says he can give.

Now what does he say he can give?

Architecture was defined, about the year 1902, by R. Phene Spiers, F.S.A., F.R.I.B.A., President of The Architectural Association, Corresponding Member of The Institute of France, master of the Architectural School, Royal Academy of London, as follows:

"Architecture is the art of building in such a way as to accord with principles determined, not merely by the needs the edifice is intended to serve, but by high consideration of beauty and harmony. It cannot be defined as the art of building simply, or even of building well. The end of building as such is convenience, use, irrespective of appearance; on the other hand, the end of architecture as an art is to so arrange the plan, masses and enrichment of a structure as to impart to it interest, beauty, grandeur, unity, power ... In all works of architecture, properly so-called, these elements must exist."

He quotes Vitruvius in laying down three qualities indispensable to a fine building: stability, utility, beauty; and then goes on to say:

"From an architect's point of view, the last is the

(Continued on Page Ten)
NOTES
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1942
The 1942 Ministry of Health Annual Report deals with housing more extensively than in the previous war-time reports. The first consideration during the year, as in previous war years, has been the prompt execution of first-aid repairs to houses damaged by enemy action. The total number of houses so repaired up to March 31, 1943, was 2,500,000 while well over 1,000,000 have received more extensive repairs.

It is pointed out that, as a result of the interruption of building, the continued shortage of labour and materials, loss of accommodation through war damage, and large movements of population, "the housing position is indeed serious, and a vast amount of work is required to bring housing conditions up even to the standard of 1939, a standard by no means as high as that aimed at before the war broke out. The crux of the matter is labour and materials, supplies of which are still very limited, and which have to meet many other pressing calls. The quantities which can be set aside for housing are hardly sufficient to ease the worst of the deficiencies."

"Despite the size and the intensity of the need, the policy imposed on the Ministry has continued to be to secure the best use of existing accommodations and to use the limited amount of available labour for repairs in such a way as to keep the largest possible number of dwellings habitable on a wartime standard—a standard considerably below what would be tolerated under peacetime conditions."

"It would be emphasized, however, that this policy of making the best use of existing accommodation has enabled movements of population, on a scale never known before, to be made smoothly and with but little recourse to new building. In this way, it has been a most important contribution to the war effort, by the saving of labour and materials which would otherwise have had to be diverted from essential work."

The Report also deals with repair of badly damaged houses, essential maintenance work, the rural housing scheme, post-war plans, and rent restriction.

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THE PLACE OF THE ARCHITECT—Continued from Page 8

principal though not the sole element; and, accordingly, the theory of architecture is occupied for the most part with esthetic considerations, or the principle of beauty in designing."

In our contemporary discussion of architecture we have insisted that all building is not architecture, but that architecture is confined to those buildings which communicate an esthetic emotion; and that the chief aim of the architect is to achieve this emotional quality.

We all recognize the value of emotion in a building, but is the power to create emotion in a structure a sufficiently concrete quality, and sufficiently satisfying, to offer to the public as a claim to be entrusted with leadership?

That is exactly the question the public asks itself.

The power to create a work of art is a personal gift; it cannot be taught; it cannot be the common possession of all who hold an architect's license. It is rare and, furthermore, it is disputable. It can hardly be recognized, except by the cultivated and sensitive person. To isolate that quality, and to expect society to understand its value, is chimeric.

In fact, this fine quality has been given to buildings by countless unknown designers—men of varied origin and training—and yet we claim it is the possession today of the profession called architecture. Buildings have been designed and built by men described as priests, engineers, contractors, builders, surveyors, masons, carpenters, painters, sculptors, jewelers and others; and every one of these vocations has contributed buildings of emotional value—not only that, but plans of interest.

On what basis, then, should society make its choice?

Society has always chosen to entrust its building to the profession—or trade—which most nearly fits its social and economic needs; and although society recognizes the importance of the esthetic quality, it is undoubtedly fearful on this score and fears to take a chance. Other considerations appear to society to be more tangible.

If society does not, in the majority of cases, call in the architect, it may possibly be that the profession does not meet society's needs.

Many of today's building operations are very large; the amount of mechanical equipment is great and is often a major element of cost. Complicated processes, both human and mechanical, take place in these buildings. Large investments are involved in many cases; serious financial, administrative and technical problems must be solved before the decision to build.

But they are of the greatest importance to the owner, particularly in the early stages of his building decisions. All owners search for a person capable of helping with these problems, and in most cases it is the engineer, the real estate manager, the builder, to whom they turn. And the architect is considered competent only to put a skin on the structure.

To become fitted for leadership in building, we must change and enlarge the boundaries of our profession. We must enlarge our picture of ourselves. We must interest ourselves in building economics. We must teach architecture, not only as design towards beauty, but as the study of the economics of structure.

We, the architects, have done a curious thing. We desire to be consulted on every phase of building, yet we have insisted on the fine-art element in our profession; we have openly declared we are not mere builders; we have refused to be engineers; we have declared it unprofessional to take part in contracting or the financing of buildings; all to such an extent that society believes us, and calls upon us only when ostentation is involved.

What then for the architect?

Never before has there been such need for a highly ethical and well trained professional man, capable of correlating the many complicated interests involved in a building operation. More than at any other time is the public searching anxiously for the person or profession to whom may be entrusted their building problems.

But the public requires many things of this man. The client wants assistance in developing his program. A good program is extremely difficult to prepare. It should be the complete expression of the functions the building is to perform—humanly, materially and financially. In its quality lies the basis for success or failure of the building.

The client needs expert assistance in all the questions entering into the selection of a site. He wants an unbiased expert to assist him in the complex dealings in real estate and appraisals. He expects his consultant to understand all the mechanics of building money, and to give help in the setting up of a financial program.

The architect should be able to analyze all the human and mechanical processes which take place in buildings, and know when and whom to consult among the specialists. He should coordinate all these matters in his design, and he should make accurate and dependable estimates to complete a picture of the whole financial cycle of the operation.

He should design and build to his estimate and, if he is born with a gift, he will endow his building with a fine and beautiful emotion.

Architects believe, and we can point to past successes to prove it, that the training we undergo, being broad and on a more nearly universal plane than that of the specialized technician, fits us for leadership in such a group. In our society of organized groups, we should think of ourselves and train ourselves, not to be the architects of 1900, but to be the leaders in all the multiple considerations that end in structures.

When society finds that the architect is the man to whom to turn for the most help in the solution of its building problems, the architect will be the master of building. — Journal of the A.I.A.

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PRIVATE PRACTICE—Continued from Page 7

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Driven by these ceaseless attacks on the contract rights of the profession, the Chapter has under consideration, as a counter move to these measures, a legislative proposal for its own that aims to establish once and for all what is the true scope and limit of a governmental architectural bureau that would be fair to the Civil Service, to the professions, and to the public at large, as well as compatible with the exigencies and responsibilities of the city government.

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