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Old Tricks for New Dealers

A Talk to the Architectural League
Induction of New Members
H.A. B. S. Redivivus

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Finding Work for the Profession

VICTOR D. ABEL, A. I. A.

Foreword: Under the CWA and extended by the work divisions of the Federal Emergency Relief Administration, there have been conducted in a great many cities in all of the states a number of highly useful surveys. These have examined all phases of social and physical planning and have built up a fund of information in organized form, which should be invaluable in future regional and city planning programs. A number of these surveys were conducted in Philadelphia, particularly a “Housing Survey”, showing the actual condition of housing in that area. It is of some of these surveys that Mr. Abel writes in the following article.

THOMAS HIBBEN
Chief Engineer,
Federal Emergency Relief Administration

DURING a bitter and steadily losing battle with the seemingly inexorable forces of depression, and having observed its effect upon the members of our industry, nothing can ever convince me that this unhappy condition has done other than shake the faith and courage of those who by intensive education and training serve the cultural side of the community. To theorize or discuss the abstract may give a temporary mental stimulation, but does not satisfy the craving for constructive work as well as that necessary subsistence without which we cannot exist or progress. The only real remedy is work—if it cannot be found then it must be created.

Foolish as the statement may seem, there is real work which can and should be done at this time by the building industry and which under normal conditions is usually impossible. The Federal Government, through its relief agencies, has opened the door. Architects, engineers, social workers and others interested should organize and secure the assistance of local or state relief administrators and municipal officers and formulate a program of work-relief for technically trained persons. If membership in the Institute is synonymous with leadership, as it should be, then it is the bounden duty of our members to act and to find means of placing at work the people in our profession as well as those dependent upon it.

Laying aside, therefore, for the time being, consideration of the future education of the Architect, his moral uplift and his professional ethics, let us give thought instead to what might be done to find him work—and the finer things will follow as a matter of course. God knows!—the architects and their draftsmen need work. Without such paid work at this time to maintain themselves, any future effort cannot fail to show an unconscious lessening of creative ability, and such an unfortunate result would inevitably break down the position we have striven for years to attain.

The past eight months of continuous contact with architects, engineers, draftsmen, realtors, etc., has convinced me that they seriously do want work and give full measure when on the pay roll. Therefore, the real problem is how to create work in fields wherein their ability and training can be put to constructive use. Especially when it must in no way conflict with the normal private practice of the engineer or architect whose efforts to maintain his own office must be fostered.

PLANNING AND RESEARCH

Planning is the recognized field and function of the Architect and Engineer. Research, a vital factor in this same field, has been too long neglected when we consider its essential part in comprehensive planning, especially for the future. Recognition of the value of such research and planning is contained in the recommendations of the Federal Relief Administration. Beginning in
its original form of C.W.A. and continued through various succeeding stages and agencies a great deal of money has already been expended in such work. The most recent instructions of the Federal agencies provide that a minimum fixed proportion of relief money is to be spent on “white-collar” work and of this planning is an essential part, and is so recognized.

What can be done to create work might be answered in part by the experience of Philadelphia in the successful utilization of professionally trained men and women in practically new but allied fields. Perhaps this will help stimulate our members throughout the country in the development of similar forms of work relief in their own communities.

Philadelphia is by no means alone in having extensive work relief programs. Chicago, New York, Cleveland, Boston and other cities and regions have all had varied projects utilizing the professions. And there was also the survey of historic buildings with its nation wide but restricted program. But in no other locality have I found as complete a program of research and study, affording work of so many kinds fitted to the entire industry, as in Philadelphia. When it is considered that this program resulted in the employment of from 225 to 450 persons continuously for eight months and the expenditure of nearly $400,000.00 of relief funds to date for wages alone, and with an extension involving $200,000.00 more just starting, some idea can be gained of the magnitude of the undertaking.

HOW PHILADELPHIA ORGANIZED

The Philadelphia City Planning Commission, an officially constituted body, acted as the sponsor for the program and all work and the expenditure of funds was and is being carried out under its direction. With the cooperation of the Philadelphia Housing Association, members of the local Chapter A. I. A., the Philadelphia Real Estate Board, officials of the city and others vitally interested, a program of City Planning and of Physical, Social and Economic research, especially in housing, was presented to the County and State Administrators of Federal Relief Funds. Approval was secured and work started in December of 1933. The program, as developed then and as essentially carried on since with few modifications but some extensions, provided a variety of work, enabling the employment of people of experience in many branches of the industry.

As the organization was formed and the work developed it was quickly found that from what seemed at the start to be at least fifty per cent “made work” for the sole purpose of placing people on a self respecting pay roll, the most valuable contributions were being received in the field of planning. Some of the researches, such as Motor Transportation, Commercial and Industrial Trends and Anti-social data when tabulated and charted were a revelation even to those who felt they had a complete familiarity with the City and Region.

Of particular interest also were the developments in the field of Housing Research, showing the need of much work yet to be done before this subject is really understood. While awaiting the construction activity being fostered by the newly created Federal Housing agencies, the basic principles governing housing in each region can and should be further studied. It is sad, but true, that there is much information still to be obtained in each district if a successful program of rehabilitation and new housing is to be promulgated, especially in the essential control of the future growth of residential areas. Much of the work now possible under relief funds can be well turned to good account in this field alone.

THE PROGRAM

Necessarily, complete details of the work being accomplished in Philadelphia cannot be given in this space. There can only be presented an outline of most of the subjects of research, study and planning, which might be an informative basis for groups in other cities and regions who might be disposed to attempt similar programs of work in their own communities.

The possibilities are limited only by the subjects allied to planning and design. A program may be comprehensive, as in Philadelphia, or it may include but a few of the subjects. Or again there may be phases which have not been included and which might be essential in another area.

The work in Philadelphia is divided into a number of major divisions for convenience in handling groups of workers. Each completely interlocks with the others and the work of each section is dependent upon and available to others. City Planning, or Regional, dependent upon the program, is the ultimate goal, including Transportation, Highways, Utilities, Use of Land, Housing, Port and River, etc. Research, embodying the physical, economic and social data essential to the study of the city plan, is the means of putting the greatest number to work and of securing the basic information with which an orderly program of future growth can be developed.

By the use of relief funds, properly handled, it is possible to conduct those studies, researches and plans not ordinarily done except in those metropolitan areas where funds have been available through philanthropic individuals or foundations, sociologically inclined. Therefore, research
data is a most important part of the work and the facts required for study are being carefully and accurately assembled. Completed studies in all phases and especially in planning are being carried only to the point where they become a basis for recommendations. From then on they are normally the work of City Planners, Architects or Engineers in private practice or the function of a Government bureau to complete. In this way not only is relief work being created, but definite work is being developed for future private practice and construction which otherwise might never have come to light.

**SUBJECTS FOR WORK**

The actual work covering the subjects listed was performed in many ways, some quite foreign to previous training, but all adapted as closely as possible to the individual and his background. The best draftsmen and designers were kept upon drawings, sketches, etc. Architects, engineers, draftsmen and builders having structural experience and good presence were used in large numbers in individual visits to buildings (over 50,000 were actually examined) to secure the data shown on the questionnaires.

Special selections were made to find those who could approach industrial executives, commercial building managers, etc. Realtors were used exclusively for appraisals, title and bank clerks for securing data upon assessments, sales, rentals, etc. Social workers, engineers and architects collaborated in securing anti-social data. Stenographers, clerks, etc. were necessary for office use and accountants were used on many of the tabulations.

With a community of purpose the organization was quickly welded into a single effective unit and so it was found possible to include, among the subjects, such matters of vital importance as—

**Transportation:** Traffic counts and accidents which were charted for annual periods, figures from which were developed plans of traffic flow and passenger transportation, including high speed, trolley, bus and train. Origin and destination data and charts were secured covering local and interstate motor-freight trucking, and likewise aviation landing fields and, of course, the necessary future planning for all.

**Highways:** The existing use of streets, routing of through traffic, newly required streets and highways, zoning of streets to prevent abuse of residential neighborhoods, connections to regional and interstate highways, highway intersections, bridges and bridge heads. Special studies were made of the paper streets, which are those ordained and placed on the City plan but not actually constructed, as a result of which many are being recommended for elimination. Another important study is of street rearrangement in virgin areas, eliminating entirely the gridiron plan with its wasteful use of land and utilizing instead the natural contours for street layout and drainage.

**Port and River:** Present condition and use of port facilities and their future possibilities and development, particularly in connection with industries dependent upon export and import. Restriction of river front to provide some recreational facilities and also the prevention and correction of stream pollution. Utilization of river embankments and their use and treatment.

**Utilities and Services:** Exact data showing present facilities and the extent of their use charted and analyzed. Recommendations developed for changes if required and a suggested plan of future policy and extension. Water supply may be included although not a part of the Philadelphia program. A special study of the economies of utilization of existing services in congested areas as against the cost of constructing new in virgin outlying areas proved to be extremely important.

**Use of Land:** Application of existing zoning ordinances to present bulk of buildings and development of modifications to suit changing use and restriction of ground. Studies showing relation of zoning to building, health and sanitation ordinances. From research data developed proposed future use of land as it should be restricted for orderly development, providing for commercial, industrial, residential, recreation, park, farming and other essential uses. This is one of the most important parts of the entire program, particularly in its relation to regional study.

**Commercial and Industrial Development:** Finding by personal visitation to each building the kind of industry, its classification by the numbers and types of employees, present and past, the size and physical condition of the structure and equipment and the home location of workers. From responsible executives in a proportion of each industry is secured the policy of the concern as to future growth, location or trend. This assembled data will determine the rate of projected growth of each industry, the desirability of its location, the areas most suitable for them, the type of building best suited to each, and assist in developing proper plans for the transportation of personnel and the shipment of raw materials and finished products. Average wages of each class of workers are secured to find what they can afford to pay as rental for homes, from which can be secured valuable information as to type and cost of new housing.

The location and number of gasoline service stations, open air and closed garages is another subject for study and this involves a regional as well as a city problem as it must be tied in with the highway system.
General Planning: The study of plans and types of housing as suggested by the data gained in the physical survey, and sketch studies showing types of block development and rehabilitation. The creation of barriers by parks or commercial area to prevent the encroachment of poor or undesirable occupancies upon better areas. Determination of areas available for slum clearance or needing action for prevention of blight. Demolition and remodeling programs adapted to the growth of the city. All carried only to the point where it would logically become the paid function of architect or engineer to continue the studies and drawings as private enterprise.

Building Code: A special study of building code regulations which should be those of city, county, region and state. The coordination of zoning, sanitary and other ordinances and laws governing building construction and the adoption of more modern flexible regulations is a question which is seriously affecting new building construction. Charts, drawings and tables showing new and more modern methods of use of materials are a part of this work. It includes also the preparation of new laws and regulations involving the use of persons of legal training in the work personnel.

Legislation: In the study of social and economic conditions it has been found that much new legislation is required to be enacted. In order to secure funds and to build under the requirements of the various Federal laws and departments new city ordinances and state acts may be necessary. These should be prepared at least in outline form and arrangements made for their submission to the proper authorities for presentation to legislative bodies. In Philadelphia, the suggested new State acts and City ordinances cover such subjects as State Planning and Housing Boards, Limited Dividend Corporations, Housing Authorities, Zoning of Streets and Excess Condemnation as typical among the phases of liberal legislation required to fit modern conditions.

Physical Data: Field investigations were made of every structure in certain selected areas, going into much more detail than the Real Property Inventory of the Federal Government. By means of this field work there was secured the use, land coverage, occupancy and detailed physical condition of each structure. The number of rooms per family as well as the size of family, whether owned or rented and the rentals of each were secured. Noting the conversion of use of building, if any, and items of required repairs or replacements were a part of the researches. From these were prepared block plans showing the physical classification and use occupancy of each structure, together with ratios of open space, condition, value, etc., in each block. These plans are of great value to banks, mortgage institutions and realtors as well as for the development of a city plan. From the physical data can be developed a separate program of demolition, involving the tearing down of houses or buildings unsafe or unfit for occupancy.

Population Data: Each building was investigated as to the number and nationality of occupants. The number and type of workers, their wages, the number of persons per room and per family were all secured, and these are being used as a basis for determining the living conditions by family in each group of nationals. All of this population data is being charted and tabulated so that the present number of occupants in each block and area can be compared with similar figures from previous years of the national census and the gains or losses established. The distribution of nationals and types of housing each prefer should govern calculations as to the kind of new housing which might be recommended in each area.

Social and Anti-Social Data: The records of municipal bureaus, private organizations, hospitals, welfare groups and in many cases actual field research and visitation, furnished the detailed data on each phase studied. From this data is being developed maps which will show the ratios per thousand of population for each condition by block, census tract and ward. When completed, they will show exact ratios in each particular unit as compared to similar units or to the balance of the entire city or region under study. The phases which are included in this work are: Welfare relief, poverty load, crime, sheriff’s sales, fire records and costs, housing complaints, and mortality and health which is still further divided into tuberculosis, contagious and noncontagious diseases.

In the case of crime a very detailed study of costs and ratios is being made by dividing it into four major classifications, Prevention and Detection, Prosecution, Court costs and Incarceration and Parole. It is also separated further into adult delinquencies which are the major crimes and juvenile delinquencies and illegal absences from school.

Economic Data: In the congested area under research there was obtained for each property the assessments for 1926, 1930 and 1934; an appraisal as of today’s market; present rentals and income return, taxes in relation to value and information as to any recent sales. Obsolescence and depreciation are important factors. These were developed the amount of capitalization possible by block and area and its relation to existing ground values. In addition, there are separate studies of the effect of taxation upon properties, methods
of accumulation of ground, management of group operations, changing uses and requirements of neighborhoods, and tax exemptions and their effect upon municipal income. The proportion of owned and rented properties and their relation to area conditions in terms of blight or of protection against blight were studied.

Regional Planning: Using all of the data and plans mentioned above as a basis for future planning, developing on maps what has been done by each independent governmental entity in a region, analyzing the results and coordinating the program. Contacts with municipal bodies requiring action so as to insure an orderly plan. Planning of regional or state parking and highway systems, working with State, County and City authorities. Protection of streams to avoid pollution and misuse.

RECAPITULATION

Much of the work outlined above was new to all of us. Methods of procedure had to be developed and the cooperation of all agencies, governmental and private, secured. While this presented a major problem, much more serious was the speculation as to just how far it might be possible to secure answers to the questions asked of the individual householder and business executive. Many of these are of a most leading and personal character, yet to the credit of the worker who had to approach a stranger at every building, less than 1% were refused information. And usually a second visit was successful. A good deal of this success was due to the careful training of the field investigator and the superior intelligence and education of the professional groups, which made this comparatively easy.

Architectural Profession Recognized by F. H. A.

The Federal Housing Administration, in conformity with the exchange of correspondence between President Roosevelt and Administrator Moffett, made public a general outline of the plan of operations under Titles II and III of the National Housing Act, which deal with residential mortgage financing. These portions of the act provide the legal basis for the long-range program of the Federal Housing Administration as distinguished from the Modernization and Improvement Program which, under Title I, has been going on since August 10, and which will terminate by statutory limitation at the end of 1935 unless extended by Congress.

The salient points of the long-range program are:

This is the first time in the history of finance that a uniform basic interest rate has been applied to private capital in the United States. Heretofore both the legal interest rates by states as well as the prevailing rates have varied.

An opportunity to owners of dwellings to refinance their mortgages on more favorable terms, and to prospective owners to obtain financing on terms comparable to the payment of rent.

Mutual insurance of mortgages on existing or new dwellings in amounts up to 80% of appraised value, for as much as $16,000, for periods up to twenty years, and with the privilege of payment by regular periodic installments.

Loans on such insured mortgages to be made by lending institutions, such as banks, building and loan associations, insurance companies, and loan and trust companies, which are able to qualify as mortgagors approved by the Federal Housing Administration.
Regular periodic payments on principal will be required at a rate sufficient to pay off mortgages at maturity.

It was explained that mortgage loans will not be made by the Federal Housing Administration itself but by the various existing institutions designated as approved mortgagees. An approved mortgagee in a mortgage otherwise eligible for insurance under this Title, shall: (1) be a chartered financial institution whose activity in the residential mortgage field is principally that of loaning funds under its own control; (2) have succession for not less than twenty years beyond the date of the application for insurance of the mortgage; (3) be subject to supervision by the governmental agencies from which its charter powers are derived; (4) have an unimpaired capital of not less than $100,000; (5) have its principal office in a city or town of not less than 6,000 population according to the United States Census of 1930; and, in all other respects be responsible and able to service the mortgage properly.

The Officers of the Institute have been in almost daily conference in Washington with officials of F. H. A., with respect to the development of this program in so far as it concerns architecture and the architect.

Administrator Moffett, Deputy Administrators Ardrey and Deane, the Director of the Real Estate and Construction Division, James D. Dusenbury, and the head of the Technical Division, Miles L. Colean, have shown a clear comprehension of the desirability of assuring to the home builder that measure of architectural service which will protect his investment and add to the cultural enjoyment and material comfort of his daily life.

Representative architects—sixty of them—from all sections of the country have been called to Washington to conferences now in progress with respect to the immediate establishment of the program in every state in the Union.

In an informal statement to an officer of the Institute concerning this whole program—as it affects the architectural profession—Mr. Colean said:

"In creating its underwriting organization for the system of mutual mortgage insurance, the Federal Housing Administration has taken recognition of the architectural profession in a way which I believe is unique not only in governmental agencies, but in private financial institutions as well. It has said in effect that the inspection of buildings, the determination of risks arising from the design and construction, the estimation of building costs, the consideration of the layout of building lots, etc. are matters upon which judgment may be best exercised by the men whose training and experience have been devoted to these endeavors.

"This may seem to be an obvious conclusion, but it is none-the-less the first time that the ability and experience of architects have been fully recognized in the development of an appraisal system for residential property.

"In each of the sixty-one underwriting offices to be established throughout the country will be placed an Architectural Examiner, assisted by a staff of inspectors and estimators varying with the size of the area and the volume of business. In communities which do not have separate underwriting offices and which are too distant to be readily accessible to the nearest office, the functions of the Examiner and his staff will be performed by selected architects working on a fee basis subject to the Examiner for the district.

"Upon the Architectural Examiner will rest the full responsibility for rating the degree of investment risk deriving from the property itself. This includes consideration of such factors as appearance, plan, construction, relationship to the lot, etc. Risk ratings for neighborhood and for relationships of properties and their neighborhoods will be made in consultation with the Architectural Examiner. He will be entirely responsible for checking of construction costs and for the inspection of buildings during construction. His judgment will be called into play whenever questions of land planning in new sub-divisions arise. He will be responsible for the development of construction standards applicable to his community and supplementing those issued by the central office in Washington.

"Knowing the great responsibility which would rest upon these examiners, not only in performing the duties of their specific assignments but in exercising an influence upon the future course of community development, the Federal Housing Administration sought to obtain the services of the most skilled men to be found in the profession. The men were carefully selected by members of the architectural profession and were called to Washington to study the proposed system of mortgage risk rating. This school, as it turned out, was equally useful to the Washington members of the Administration as it was to the newly selected field officers. I am confident that these men, on returning to their posts, will bring great credit both to the Federal Housing Administration, and to the profession of architecture."

Further information with regard to these developments will be published in the December number of The Octagon.

Attention of Chapters and Members is called to two valuable publications, to be had for the asking, by writing to the Federal Housing Administration, Washington, D.C. They are:

Better Housing, a weekly printed bulletin containing valuable information on developments of the whole program; and

Local Chairmen of Better Housing Program Committees, an up-to-date printed list of local committees—for the entire country.
Old Tricks for New Dealers

By Irvine F. Morrow, Associate of the Northern California Chapter, A. I. A.

A Masque of Modernizers

(For Music Page Sir Arthur Sullivan)

Department of Commerce Bulletin

(Confidential—For Immediate Release)

The Administration's mandates from the people demonstrate—

Liquidation of depression is desired at early date.
Hitherto, persistent efforts to promote expenditure
In excess of waning income, are revealed as premature;

But exhaustive inquest covering alphabetic residue
Shows sufficient unused letters to equip a Board
or two.

All the stimuli to buying that our former offerings lacked
Are provided in abundance in the National Housing Act.
Obligation patriotic on each citizen prevails
To remodel, alter, modernize, and all that that entails.

We facilitate investment—paying back is up to you.
Though you may not need the changes, architects and builders do.

Chorus of Chairman of Government Boards

Our proclivities ecstatic
For solutions problematic
Stimulate per fervid ardor for each plan that turns the trick;
We solicit a hermetic designation alphabetic
Symbolizing novel functions in the body politic.

Chorus of Public Relations Counsels and Financial Editors

For conclusions enigmatic
Couched in verbiage hieratic
Famous oracles historic played a negligible part;
We have introduced improvements
With our diagrams of movements
Made according to the rules of post-impressionistic art.

Granting Government and public ready to cooperate,
And consumer purchase habits reinstalled at normal rate,
It is likely, as observers duly cautious will agree,
With sufficient time elapsing, we shall see—what we shall see.

Chorus of Bank and Building Loan Executives

Individual defection
Will occasion no objection
When incentive, cash and guarantee the Government supplies.
Are we going socialist?
Goodness no! Just realistic—

For it is intriguing doctrine in so practical a guise.

The President of the Producers' Council

In devout anticipation of a modernizing boom
We have organized for service (without specifying whom).

You would never dream of leaving floors unwashed, in filth and mire;
Would you leave unwashed the very air your loved ones must respire?
Would you bathe within a shower room devoid of crystal door?
Would you occupy a building—but why press the subject more?
We have agents and committees who will be sincerely glad
To instruct you on a score of needs you never knew you had.
Every block of virtuous houses must assume the wanton wiles
Of Elizabethan gables and/or Andalusian tiles,
While throughout commercial centers, anywhere the eye may turn,
Lines of black and silver shoppes strain resources of "Modurn."

Chorus of Contractors and Material Men

We evince clairvoyant passion
For each transient phase and fashion—
Ample turnover stylistic pledges sempiternal gain;
Every manner evanescent,
Every model obsolescent
Prophesies renascent profits in a subsequent campaign.

Competition for the Prizes of Rome

The American Academy in Rome has announced its annual competitions for fellowships in architecture, landscape architecture, painting, sculpture and musical composition. In architecture the William Rutherford Mead fellowship is to be awarded, in landscape architecture the Kate Lancaster Brewster fellowship, in sculpture the Rinehart fellowship and in musical composition the Walter Damrosch fellowship.

The competitions are open to unmarried men not over 30 years of age who are citizens of the United States. The stipend of each fellowship is $1250 a year with an allowance of $300 for transportation to and from Rome. Residence and studio are provided without charge at the Academy, and the total estimated value of each fellowship is about $2000 a year.

The Academy reserves the right to withhold an award in any subject in which no candidate is considered to have reached the required standard.

The term of the fellowship in each subject is two years. Fellows have opportunity for extensive travel and for making contacts with leading European artists and scholars.

The Grand Central Art Galleries of New York City will present free membership in the Galleries to the painter and sculptor who win the Rome Prize and fulfill the obligations of the fellowship.

Entries for competitions will be received until February 1st. Circulars of information and application blanks may be obtained by addressing Roscoe Guernsey, Executive Secretary, American Academy in Rome, 101 Park Avenue, New York.
A Talk to the Architectural League of New York

By Kenneth M. Murchison, F. A. I. A.

I have come back to the League today to talk to you a few minutes about those whom you love the best—Architects. Architects are like actors—they always talk shop. They like to talk about themselves. That's only natural. We all like to talk about ourselves. It's very interesting subject. And if you here who are not architects aren't interested, just pretend you are, and let it go at that.

A good architect is supposed to be composed of one part art, one part frozen music and one part plumber. He isn't supposed to know anything about business nor about selling. Architects are probably the worst salesmen in the world. When they get in front of a Board of Directors they turn a pale green and lose all command of the English language. And their guesses on cost are almost always too low. And never include the architectural commission.

Certain fundamental things have been left out of their education.

1. How to get a job.
2. What to do with it when you get it.
3. What to do with your money when you make it.

There are no courses on these questions either in the Beaux-Arts Institute of Design or in the Universities. But there ought to be a business course in every school of architecture. Architecture is not all art. No architect can exist on art alone. Be arty, yes, that's all right, but not too arty. Just remember you are spending the client's money. He has probably had to work hard for that money. And he wants to get 100% return for it. He wants it well spent.

Now firstly, How to Get a Job.

You'll never get a good job unless you know something. And you must enjoy public confidence at the same time. And that means publicity. I believe in publicity for architects just as I do for banks, for theaters, for the radio and for music. The architects have been backward in this. They shun advertising. It is unethical. Doctors and Dentists and Lawyers don't do it. But Architects are different; they are not only professional men—they are in business. Through them many people are employed; many industries are supported by them. And if they are engaged in a business, as they undoubtedly are, then why shouldn't they advertise?

Bill Gompert has long had the idea that in public matters the architects lacked leadership. They ought to have a Public Relations Department. Business is waking up to the desirability of including that new-found profession in its curriculum. That's the kind of a position that I secured, and for such a job I don't see why architects aren't as well fitted as anyone else. They have education, an artistic feel, contact with the public and a sense of appreciation on their side. And Public Relations is such an elusive sort of thing that no one knows whether the Public Relations man knows anything at all. So that lets the architects out!

My job at Central Savings Bank covers a lot of things. I handle advertising, redesign billboards, get out a notice whenever the President goes out for an automobile ride, talk to Employees about the tremendous value of customer relations—just now I am finishing writing a Jewish Calendar, which was so good that they are going to use it for the Catholics as well. Now Julian Levi and Jimmy O'Connor can sit down and read it together!

Gompert or Arthur Ware or Christopher LaFarge would make excellent Public Relations representatives for the profession. Who is going to pay them is not for me to say, but something ought to be done to let the public in on the secret.

Now as to the second thing, What To Do With a Job When You Get It.

I don't think we have to discuss that. Do with it what you can. If you don't do well, you probably won't get another job from the same client, or at least, you won't deserve to get one. Give him a square deal. If it's a lady, tinge your squareness with a little Emily Post propaganda. Get your Home Economics stuff down hanes. Show your client you know what rooms are meant for and give her the best that's in you.

But it is on the third point that I want to dwell, What to do with your Money.

I am spreading the gospel of something I never took seriously before—Saving! And likewise, not falling for the Get Rich Quick schemes, nor taking a chance in Wall Street. We have all done it; we've all been hooked; we've all fallen for easy-money schemes.

As I look back on my architectural career, I realize that I wasted a prodigious amount of time and money on promotion schemes. Out of a hundred I did during a year or two, I don't think one came home to roost! They all looked wonderful but they never materialized. You listen to the blandishments of the real-estate promoter; the architect puts in the first money; then he gets his friends in; then his friends are his friends no longer—and he might as well not have gone into
the thing at all. It doesn’t always turn out that way, but alas! it does very often.

Now of course, I am in the Savings Bank business. My job is to promote public confidence in the savings banks, to get new depositors, and to enhance the prestige of savings banks in general—and ours in particular. Our publicity is along the line of teaching people to save. Not only for old age and the loss of your job, but for all sorts of things—babies, appendicitis, a trip to Paris, life insurance policies, save an amount sufficient to pay your taxes and interest on your mortgage, save up to buy safe securities—and so on. But put your money in a safe place. Mutual savings banks always pay dividends, sometimes high, sometimes low, but always as high as is commensurate with safety and with State and Federal laws. What is a temporary peculiarity about New York Savings Banks just now is that they don’t want any more money; they want more Depositors. They find that a lower average of amount in deposits is a safer basis for them. The little fellows don’t draw out their money the way the big ones do.

So we advertise for Depositors with small amounts. And we try to make them start the habit of saving. Good habits are awfully hard to start. But bad habits!—well, you here know all about them. You’re just full of them, being architects and artists.

I don’t tell you to put all your money in the savings banks. You’ve got to live. You’ve got to have amusements. You’ve got to send your children to school. You’ve got to cut some kind of a dash in society. All that without doubt. But what I tell you is: Beware of promotions; beware of speculation; invest wisely, even if it’s in a distillery, and save up for everything else.

I am fully aware that nobody here today has anything to save. I know that architecture is in the doldrums. I know that the outlook is discouraging. If you can get a tide-over job for the next two or three years, grab it. But things are bound to come back. America is not going to stand still very long. Building will be resumed, and then you will all go back to work.

But in the meantime, what are the architects going to do? I wish I could tell you. You have different talents, different make-ups. You who are interested in commercial architecture might well spend a year in the management department of a big real estate office. You who are a bit rusty on practical matters might attack a building company for a job. You who are advertising minded should affiliate yourself with an advertising firm and learn to be a copy writer or a contact man. I wouldn’t advise any of you to go out to Hollywood on the chance of getting a job. None of you are quite handsome enough for that.

And don’t be discouraged. Things will boom again. It’s only that dreadful “meantime” that we worry about.

As for me, although I have changed my business at a time when I ought to be lying down on my davenport reading The Christian Science Monitor all day, I still have and will always have an undying love for my profession. I am something like Mr. T. O. M. Sopwith who said, just before he returned to England, “Well, it is better to have luffed and lost than never to have luffed at all!”

“When You Build.”

The American Architect deserves the commendation and appreciation of all practicing architects because of its campaign to encourage residential building and the employment of the architect. A recent brochure of twenty-two pages, issued by the American Architect, under the title “When You Build,” is handsomely printed and illustrated. It sets forth in convincing terms arguments in favor of good planning which the average layman can hardly disregard.

Chapters in the brochure are entitled: The single contract plan; Buying a “speculative” house; The “stock” plan method; Employing an architect; If you select an architect; Engaging an architect; Two construction methods; Financing methods; Things to think about when planning your house.

Architects who feel the need of convincing data in attractive form, ready for presentation to a possible client or an unimaginative client, should secure copies of “When You Build” from Benjamin F. Betts, Editor of the American Architect, 57th Street at Eighth Avenue, New York City.
Induction of New Members—Approved Form

For many years various Chapters of the Institute have stressed the desirability of some adequate ceremony for the induction of newly elected Institute members into the Chapter in which they are to take their places.

It was pointed out that in some cases new members received little or no introduction to their professional brothers at the first chapter meeting they attended after election to the Institute and the Chapter.

It was urged that the Institute develop some standard procedure which might be used as a guide by those chapters wishing to observe the courtesy and the principle involved.

Accordingly, in April, 1933, the Board appointed former Director A. H. Albertson a special committee of one to prepare and develop a form of induction procedure which could be endorsed by the Board and adopted by the chapters of the Institute if they so desired.

Mr. Albertson conducted extensive correspondence with the chapters and members in various parts of the country. He submitted to the Board at its last meeting two carefully prepared documents: One, a "long form"; and the other a "short form" of induction ceremony.

The Board considered both, reviewed them at length, made some amendments, and adopted the so-called "short form" as a recommended form of induction ceremony for the Chapters of The American Institute of Architects.

The Board also extended to Mr. Albertson its appreciation of his thorough and valuable work in developing the two documents here mentioned.

The approved induction form is printed herein. It is advisory and not mandatory. No chapter needs to adopt the procedure unless it so desires.

However, the Board commends to every Chapter the desirability of some formal recognition of the newly elected Institute member who must automatically take his place in its ranks.

Later on the document printed herein will be reprinted and sent to every Chapter President for use in case the Chapter adopts the idea.

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INDUCTION OF NEW MEMBERS

A CHAPTER CEREMONY FOR NEW MEMBERS

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

The Secretary stands:

"Mr. President: I have received formal notice from The Octagon that Mr._________ of_________ (and Mr.______) has (or have) been duly elected to Membership in The American Institute of Architects and has (or have) been assigned to the_________ Chapter."

The Sponsor: (one of the signers of the application, or in his absence, the Secretary)

"Mr. President: I have personally discussed with Mr.__________ the aims of the Institute. I have brought to his attention the application and the value of the Institute documents especially the Principles of Professional Practice to the observance of which he has agreed in his application for membership."

The President: (addressing himself to the new member(s))

"Mr._________ (or Gentlemen): The American Institute of Architects stands eminent among the learned professions and wields a national influence in the advancement of architecture for the public benefit. It has a high record of civic service. The position achieved by the Institute is not the result of circumstance."

"The objects and high purposes formulated by our worthy founders and established by the constitution more than three quarters of a century ago still stand unchanged; 'To organize and unite in fellowship the Architects of the United States of America, to combine their efforts so as to promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession, and to make the profession of ever increasing service to society.'"

"The Institute, seeking to maintain high standards of conduct and of practice on the part of its members as a safeguard of the undertakings entrusted to them, has from the fullness of its experience and from the ripeness of its judgment, promulgated a code of ethics. This code, embodied in the Principles of Professional Practice, directs attention to the fact that the profession of Architecture calls for men of the highest integrity, ability and capacity. The Architect is entrusted with financial undertakings in which his honesty of purpose must be above suspicion. He acts as professional adviser to his clients and his advice must be absolutely disinterested. He is charged with the
exercise of judicial functions as between client and contractor, and must act with entire impartiality. He has moral responsibilities to his professional associates and to his subordinates. Finally, he is engaged in a profession which carries with it grave responsibilities to the public. These duties and responsibilities cannot be properly discharged unless his motives, conduct, and ability are such as to command respect and confidence.

"The Institute, by selecting you for membership signifies its belief in your ability and in your intention to uphold the high purposes of the profession; and in expressing your desire to join with us, you have thereby indicated your willingness to share with us not only the benefits and privileges but also the obligations of membership in this Association.

"It is my privilege to present to you your formal Certificate(s) of Institute Membership, and therewith our code of ethics as contained in the Principles of Professional Practice. We welcome you to the fellowship of this Chapter and look forward to the advantage of your presence in our councils."

The President: (addressing the meeting)

"Gentlemen: I now have the honor of presenting to you Mr. (and Mr.) as Member(s) in full standing of the Chapter of The American Institute of Architects."

NOTE—This is a suggested and recommended form for the introduction of new members, intended to bring them definitely into Chapter relationship and to assure that they are fully informed as to proper professional procedure.

A modified form should be used for the introduction and information of Chapter Associates.

Dedication of New Building of R. I. B. A.

The Institute received an invitation to be represented at the dedication of the new building of the Royal Institute of British Architects, at noon on November 8, 1934.

It was not possible to accept the invitation by sending a representative. Therefore, President Russell requested Past-President D. Everett Waid who is also Chairman of the Institute's Building Committee, to send an appropriate cablegram.

Mr. Waid's message to the R. I. B. A., through its Secretary, Sir Ian MacAlister, read as follows:

"Greetings from The American Institute of Architects. Dedication of your new building by King George and Queen Mary stimulates our national headquarters' project. Regret cannot present in person our congratulations."

The Architectural Press, 9, Queen Anne's Gate, Westminster, S. W. 1, has devoted the December issue of The Architectural Review to the new building of the Royal Institute.

This issue will be lavishly illustrated with photographs of exterior and interior, with plans and descriptive articles. The edition is limited and orders should be sent at an early date to the publishers.

The price per copy is 2 s. 6 p. (63 cents).

Meeting of the Executive Committee

Of The American Institute of Architects

On account of the inability of the Institute to pay the expenses of Directors in attending the scheduled fall meeting of the Board, and in anticipation of no quorum at that meeting, a call has been issued for a special meeting of the Executive Committee, to be held in Washington, at The Octagon, on December 10, 11, and 12.

At that meeting subjects of immediate importance to the Institute and the architectural profession will be considered and acted upon including the question of the relations between the private architect and the Federal Government, the status of the architects' code, the unification of the architectural profession, the general program of Institute work for 1935, and the serious problem arising from unpaid dues, and the effect thereof on the financing of the Institute in 1935.

The Executive Committee will act upon the progress reports of the forty standing and special committees. It will outline in a preliminary way the program for the convention of 1935, which is to be held in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on May 28, 29, 30, and 31.

Chapters and members wishing to communicate with the Executive Committee should address the Secretary at The Octagon, not later than December 10th.
SLIGHTLY less than a year ago the Historic American Buildings Survey was inaugurated by the National Park Service of the United States Government. The aims were twofold; the immediate one being to provide relief work for unemployed architects and draftsmen with funds then available from the Civil Works Administration, while the ultimate aim was to secure in measured drawings and photographs as complete a graphic record as possible of the rapidly disappearing examples of early architecture throughout the country.

Probably all members of the Institute know something of the history of the project; how the country was divided into 39 districts with an administrative officer for each, nominated by the local chapters of the Institute and appointed by the Department of the Interior; how work began in general about the first of January and continued with increasing activity until February 15th when the gradual closing down of all C. W. A. enterprises was ordered. But it may be worth while to note the statistics of achievement. At the height of activity, 772 persons were employed, 5,110 sheets of drawings representing 882 measured structures, were completed, with brief historical sketches and 3,260 photographs. Besides these, index cards were prepared, not only for the buildings measured but for 1,461 others suitable for future recording. All this material, together with the field note-books, is now being deposited at the Library of Congress, where it will be available not only for consultation, but for reproduction by blueprinting or other photographic methods. In fact, the work of reproduction has already begun. The Architect and Engineer is issuing a series of plates of the work done in California, and the Architectural Forum has commenced the bi-monthly publication of selected material from various sections.

The undertaking was so successful that an agreement has been entered into by the National Park Service, the American Institute of Architects and the Library of Congress to insure that all future enterprises of the same nature should form a continuous development of the Historic American Buildings Survey already begun. This agreement is given in full in this number of the Octagon. It will be noted that a slight change in organization has been necessary. Instead of the 39 districts originally assigned by the Park Service, the country is now divided to conform to the 67 chapters of the Institute with a District Officer appointed from each chapter.

As the Institute's Committee on Preservation of Historic Buildings has heretofore been composed of representatives from each of the chapters, it seemed reasonable that these committee men and the District Officers should be identical. This has entailed a general reconstitution of the committee so that wherever possible those who had already served as District Officers should be continued in that capacity. Of course, this has meant much change, with the displacement of many good men who have long served on the committee, but all can easily appreciate the importance of capitalizing the experience gained on the first campaign of the Survey.

The only complaints that have been heard from any source regarding this first campaign are that it was neither broad enough nor long enough. For only a fraction of the material immediately available for recording could be surveyed, and only a fraction of the many architects in need of aid could be employed. And the need of aid continues and is as acute now as it was a year ago. Obviously the Survey should be continued and, if possible, enlarged. But when the Civil Works Administration gave way to the Federal Relief Administration, projects organized on a national scale became impossible. For the feeling in Congress was strong that relief funds should not be nationally administered, but should be allocated to the states for local administration. In several instances the resourcefulness and initiative of District Officers has made it possible to continue or resume the work with local funds; thus there are at present approximately 23 men still engaged on the Survey in Massachusetts, 5 in Southern New York, 4 in Northern New York, 10 in Louisiana and 17 in Northern California.

Recently word has come to Washington that the Emergency Relief Administration of New Jersey proposes to employ 500 men in a revival of the Survey in that state. There seems no reason why similar projects might not be organized in other states as well. The National Park Service has a supply of drawing sheets on hand for immediate use and will do anything it can to foster the Survey. The Federal Emergency Relief Administration also endorses it most heartily and will approve at once any properly organized local undertaking. But neither body can initiate such work, for all Emergency Relief Projects must be of local origin. Neither, unfortunately, can the chapters of the Institute directly start a resumption of the Survey, for they have no official connection with any local governmental organization. On the other hand, there are many bodies that are associated with state or municipal administrations that could quite properly sponsor a local survey, and it should not be difficult to find one such that would be glad to
ally itself with each chapter of the Institute for such an end. For example, it would be wholly suitable for an architectural school of a state university or of an institution subsidized by the state, to initiate the project. Probably the department of American History of such an institution could do so also. The New Jersey project is sponsored by the State Historical Society and any such society or museum receiving state aid might well be sponsor. So might any Public Commission for Preserving Historical Sites, or a State or Municipal Architect.

It is obviously better to have a local resumption of the Survey on a state wide basis than to have it on a county or municipal basis, but the Emergency Relief Administration operates in different manners in different states and projects must be adjusted to local conditions. However, it is certainly wisest to have resumption of the Survey proposed first to the state administrations and then, if necessary, to operate in more limited territories. The sponsors should advise the Emergency Relief Administration that all details of the organization can be arranged by the District Officers of the Chapters, who in the majority of cases, administered the previous campaign under the Civil Works Administration and who have detailed specifications for the work. In practice, it may be that the District Officers of the Chapters may not be called upon to serve as the active administrators of new campaigns, but they should always be recognized as acting in a supervisory capacity at least. For by the terms of the agreement, the Historic American Buildings Survey can only be conducted with the cooperation of the Institute, and the National Park Service will not undertake to supply the standard drawing sheets except through the officers nominated by the Chapters, and only for projects approved by them. Finally, all the drawings must be passed upon and accepted by the Chapters' District Officers before they can be sent to Washington to form part of the archives of the official Survey. For without some continuous control, there could be no assurance that new work would form a proper part of the great collection so admirably begun.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE NATIONAL PARK SERVICE, THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS AND THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

Relating to the Historic American Buildings Survey as a Permanent Organization to Coordinate all Future Work of Recording Historic American Buildings

The task of preserving records of the historic monuments of America has become a work of vital necessity. The clearest record of the Nation's life lies in the structures it has built. Unfortunately, many buildings that would be highly prized today have already disappeared. Large sums are constantly being spent to rebuild such landmarks as: the vanished first Capitol of Virginia at Williamsburg, the first State House in Maryland at St. Marys, and Wakefield, the birthplace of Washington. In the absence of complete records such reconstructions must all be, to some extent, imaginary.

Even while we are preserving and restoring some of the monuments of our history, many others are daily disappearing. Through slow destruction by decay and swift loss by fire; the exigencies of civic and commercial developments; we are through succeeding generations losing many of the most perfect monuments of our past culture in history. The National Government cannot be expected to arrest all of these local losses, but it can lend its authority and aid to the making of records before all of these historic buildings are lost to posterity. It should be the aim of such governmental direction to make available these records for future reference by architects, students, and the public in general.

Although disconnected efforts have been made from time to time to record local samples of our domestic architecture, no National Plans had been launched until the inception of the Historic American Buildings Survey in November. At that time a Civil Works appropriation made possible a few months' operation of the survey under the direction of The National Parks Service with the cooperation of the American Institute of Architects and the Library of Congress.

During this brief period two facts have become clearly apparent:

1. There is vital need for a permanent national plan to coordinate all work of this nature and to make it available to the public for research.

2. The present standards of the Historic American Buildings Survey form an excellent basis for a continuous and much more comprehensive survey.

The scattered surveys that have heretofore been made through efforts of local organizations and individual enthusiasm have yielded heterogeneous results, with considerable duplication, and have been of little practical value to the general public.

A comprehensive and continuous national survey is the logical concern of the Federal Government:—The National Parks Service in the Department of the Interior seems the proper place for such responsibility. The local execution must depend on some permanent non-governmental body, of national scope, functioning by local organizations:—The American Institute of Architects fulfills these requirements perfectly. For the guardianship of the records, the government again seems the proper functionary, and for this purpose the Library of Congress with its Pictorial Archives of Early American Architecture stands equipped and ready.

Since the Historic American Buildings Survey became generally known numerous offers of cooperation on the part of individuals and societies have been made to the officials of the survey. It has been demonstrated that many interested persons throughout the country are waiting for the opportunity to cooperate with such a national plan. Societies, Civic Organizations, and even local Governments oftentimes have a particular interest in certain historic monuments. Proposals which have
already been made to the officers of the Historic American Buildings Survey. An indication of the amount of future activity is that there is a definite plan for embracing such future activities there will be a number of monuments recorded at the expense of such organizations. Here again, the assurance that the records are to be part of the Nation's collection of recorded American architecture, available to the public for research purposes, would give a particular incentive to the organization interested.

In view of the above conditions, therefore, the National Park Service, hereinafter referred to as the Park Service; the American Institute of Architects, hereinafter referred to as the Institute; and the Library of Congress, hereinafter referred to as the Library; do hereby mutually agree as follows:

ARTICLE I. CONTINUATION OF THE HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY AS A PERMANENT ORGANIZATION

(1) The Historic American Buildings Survey is to be considered as a permanent plan for approval and disposition of all future graphic records of historic American architecture, whether such records be made at the expense of the Government or upon individual initiative. This organization will function through the cooperation of the Park Service, the Institute, and the Library.

ARTICLE II. ORGANIZATION

(1) Provision is to be made for the establishment of geographical districts, each district under the jurisdiction of one of the present 67 chapters of the Institute, or chapters hereafter duly approved by the Institute. At the request of the National Officers of the Institute, the members of each local chapter will select a district officer from among the chapter's membership, who will thereafter superintend all future work of the Historic American Buildings Survey during his term of office.

(2) District Officers shall be advised by the National Advisory Board and by whatever special committees the local chapter shall see fit to appoint, as to the correct methods and solution of particular problems. District Officers shall be directly responsible to the Chief Architect of the Park Service for the maintenance of proper standards and care of Survey records.

(3) The present membership of the National Advisory Board shall continue intact until such time as the National Officers of the Institute, in conjunction with the Chief Architect, shall see fit to make changes or additions to the personnel of the Board.

(4) The plan outlined above is to be continuous, regardless of whatever special organizations may be set up for the operation of the Survey in whole or in part at the expense of the Federal Government or other organizations. In such cases the person in charge of the Survey in any locality shall be a District Officer as herein designated or shall cooperate fully with the District Officer or Officers having jurisdiction in that locality; and shall accept the recommendations of such District Officer or Officers except when otherwise instructed by the National Advisory Board and the Chief Architect of the Park Service.

ARTICLE III. SUPPLIES

(1) The Park Service will supply, for all approved work upon the Historic American Buildings Survey, standard drawing sheets of the same size as those now used for the presentation of Survey drawings; such supplies not to exceed a total of ten thousand (10,000) sheets; and the Park Service shall be provided with each drawing sheet for proper identification of the work according to the individual or organizations contributing the records.

(2) All other supplies for actual field work and drawing shall be furnished without expense to the Park Service.

ARTICLE IV. OPERATION

(1) The District Officer shall secure from the records so far compiled by the Historic American Buildings Survey a list of historic American monuments in his District, together with the necessary information to indicate the worth of such monuments, necessity for recording, and the amount of recording that has already been adequately accomplished according to the standards of the Survey. It shall be his duty to keep such a record up-to-date and to furnish individuals and organizations proposing contributions with the necessary information requisite for a coordinated plan of work.

(2) Each District Officer will be informed of the requirements for the making and the disposition of Survey records. All such specifications are to be in exact accord with the requirements now set forth in the official bulletins of the Historic American Buildings Survey which form an appendix to this agreement; except when amendments or alterations to these specifications shall be officially made and promulgated by the present National Advisory Board or their official successors.

(3) District Officers shall have the authority to accept or refuse to accept any contributions to the records of the Survey. Any disputes regarding the standards or operation of the Survey shall be settled by the National Advisory Board at the request of the Chief Architect of the Park Service.

(4) Members of the National Advisory Board and District Officers, as herein designated, shall serve without compensation or expense to the Government except in case of a special Government appropriation being made for the appointment of such District Officers or members of the National Advisory Board to regular Government service.

(5) This agreement shall not be construed as a promise to pay any expenses of the Historic American Buildings Survey, or to impose any liability or financial obligations, on the part of the Park Service, the Institute, or the Library; except as provided in Article III, Section 1.

ARTICLE V. DISPOSITION OF RECORDS

(1) When completed, records are to be checked and approved by the District Officers in charge before being submitted through the Chief Architect of the Park Service to the Chief of the Fine Arts Division of the Library, who in turn will have authority to accept or reject such records, dependent upon their consistency with other filed records of the Survey, and the general standards thereof, subject to appeal, in cases of dispute, to the National Advisory Board for final decision.

(2) The records of the Historic American Buildings Survey, as deposited in the Library, will become public property and will be accessible to the public for research purposes, subject to the laws and regulations of the Library.

ARTICLE VI. TERMINATION OF AGREEMENT

(1) This agreement may be terminated by the Park Service, the Institute, or the Library by mutual consent, or by any one thereof, by giving to the others a written notice of its intention to withdraw, not less than sixty days before such withdrawal becomes effective.

NOTE: This agreement, as executed by the parties in interest, became effective as of July 23, 1934.
With The Chapters and State Associations

Boston.

The September meeting was devoted to the subject "The New Deal in Small House Service". Speakers were William Stanley Parker, Felix Burton, and Joseph D. Leland.

After adjournment, dinner was served. The guest speaker was Mr. C. A. Birmingham, Regional Director of the Federal Housing Administration, whose subject was "The Nature, Scope, and Expectations of the Federal Housing Act."

It is not too late to record a few notes on the summer outing of the New England Chapters held in Worcester, Mass. Nearly forty architects from Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Connecticut were present. The account of the meeting and the dinner, which might have been written by Hubert Ripley, contains the following observations:

The dinner was informal and no attempt was made to stress the serious side of architectural activities, it being considered as first to form acquaintances. Presumably the same ideals and interests obtain when architects meet, and can be best advanced by mutual good faith and understanding, simply viewing each other's work in the buildings visited during the afternoon, together with the informal greetings from Charles D. Maginnis, First Vice-President of the Institute, and representatives of the different organizations present was considered to be a fulfillment of the aim of the meeting.

The reasons for architectural associations and societies are well expressed in Article II of the Constitution of the American Institute of Architects which says: "The objects of this Institute shall be: To organize and unite in fellowship the Architects of the United States of America, to combine their efforts so as to promote the aesthetic, scientific, and practical efficiency of the profession, and to make the profession of ever-increasing service to society." Their chief value is not so much inherent in the rules and regulations as in the bringing together and promotion of a better understanding between members of the fraternity and their endeavor to reconcile what seemed to be conflicting interests.

The recent policy of the Institute has been to return to the good old days of our forefathers and welcome the formation of new chapters so as to obviate the difficulties and consequent disinclination of members in other cities to attend meetings. Already steps have been taken to form a Chapter in Portland, Maine, and it is generally believed that better results may be obtained through a large number of small chapters than through a few whose membership may be large, but with sparse attendance at meetings, thus tending to increase the disinclination of members in other cities to attend meetings.

The passing of the great drought has produced a kindly geniality that has been lacking for many years. Even the food, which we were wont to accept on the principle that man must eat to live, now seems more palatable. These adventitious aids have been recognized by great minds during the many centuries that have elapsed from the time of Homer to that of Escoffier.

Once, recalling an incident about the late R. M. Hunt, who it will be recalled was apt to be vitriolic on occasion, and in order to illustrate this characteristic it seemed fitting to quote him verbatim. "Goddamit" was the great man's expression that gave path to the story, and it was so recorded. The architectural magazine in printing the article, having in mind safeguarding the sensibilities of its readers (if any)—if any what? Why, sensibilities, of course—substituted the innocuous and highly respectable word, "damn," which is now recognized in our very best circles as the equivalent of "very," or "oh my." This convenient expulsive was frequently employed by participants in the Worcester outing during the course of the afternoon and evening, not only in reference to atmosphere and meteorological conditions, but also in characterization of the triumph of mind over matter in the realm of aesthetics and gastronomy.

The November meeting was an open discussion on "This Profession of Ours." It was frankly an attempt to diagnose some of the ailments of the profession. Those leading the discussion were Ernst M. Parsons, William R. Greeley, Prof. Charles W. Killam, and William D. Austin.

Buffalo.

A recent meeting was given over to discussion of a proposed Renovizing Campaign. John J. Wade and Harry F. Hudson outlined the proposal and showed what might be done to fit in with the National Housing Campaign. Action was as follows:

Resolved, That the Buffalo Chapter, A. I. A., put on a Renovizing Campaign for 1934 early fall or such time as it will best fit in with the National Housing Campaign and that the present Relations Committee of the Buffalo Chapter be empowered to set up the necessary machinery to start.

Resolved, That No. 1 Niagara Square, Buffalo, N. Y., be the headquarters of the Committee.

Resolved, That there be no individual ballyhoo and no display of one architect or contractor; also that the General Chairman, John J. Wade, select all committees to assist in the work.

Central New York.

The October meeting was largely attended—more than forty members being present, representing Rochester, Syracuse, Utica, Elmira, Binghamton, Auburn and Ithaca.

The guest of honor was Stephen F. Voorhees Regional Director of the New York Division, who spoke on the situation with respect to the architects' code and also on the encroachment of Government bureaus on the practice of the private architect.

President Randall reported on the work of the Institute and the Chapter and on the Washington Convention. It was noted with satisfaction that the Central New York Chapter was represented at the Convention by all five of its delegates.

There was extended discussion with respect to the giving of federal and state architectural work to private architects and aggressive action in favor of such a policy was voted.

At the close of the meeting it was agreed that the ideal place to hold a Chapter meeting was the Willard Straight Building on the campus of Cornell University.
The Convention of this Section was held in San Francisco on October 11, 12, and 13, 1934. In addition to organization work, the following subjects were discussed and acted upon: Demolition and Rehousing; New Homes; Modernization; Building Costs (Protection of Property Investment); Credit and Finance.

Chester H. Miller, President of the Northern Section, presided and led the discussions.

The Convention Dinner, which concluded the Friday session, was attended by 135 members and guests and was an occasion for general enjoyment and relaxation. Harris Allen presided.

Papers, followed by discussions, were as follows:

"The Architect's Concern in Remodeling"—E. S. Hall. Purpose of meeting to discuss the Architect's position regarding remodeling. Serious consideration of small commissions necessary.

"The Field"—John R. Fugard. Local possibilities evidenced as a result of the Metropolitan Housing Council's work.


"Possibilities with Government Work"—Earl H. Reed, Jr. Experiences with H. O. L. C.


"Principles and Schemes"—Alfred Shaw. Analysis of principles involved and possible schemes that are practically feasible.

"Specific Cases—Before and After." Problems encountered. Why remodeling paid the Owner.

"Residences"—Elmer Gylleck; and "Industrial Buildings"—Victor A. Matteson.

The September meeting was held at Mt. Vernon, Ohio, with members of the Chapter as guests of the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company. Following the inspection of the plant, which offered an unusual educational opportunity, luncheon was served at the Country Club, followed by golf for those who played golf, and by "diversions" for those who did not wish to play golf.

The October meeting was also held at the Country Club near Millersburg, Ohio. Luncheon came first; then golf, then "baseball and football for those who did not play golf." (The versatility of the architect is amazing, even to himself.)

It was stated that the nineteenth hole was dug in the club house. (It is evident that the Columbus men are making the best of life.)

Connecticut.

The October meeting was well attended.

President Douglas Orr emphasized the value of publicity, pointing out the desirability and the duty of the chapter in taking the lead in this important work. All members joined in the general discussion and various methods were advocated. Lester J. A. Julianelle spoke in detail of the publicity methods of the Practicing Architects' Association of New Haven, who have succeeded in supplanting some of the syndicated newspaper "small house work" with material prepared by their own members.

William E. Hunt expressed himself as favoring direct advertising by the Connecticut Chapter as an organization.

Following the dinner, Dean Everett V. Meeks gave the Chapter an illuminating talk on all the implications of the mandate of the "Mentor System" embodied in the four resolutions of the 1934 Convention of the Institute. (See May number of The Octagon, pages 43 and 44.)

After the Dean's talk there was general discussion of the ways and means of accomplishing this ideal and of making the graduates of greater value (from a practical standpoint) to the average architect's office. The discussion developed soon into reminiscing about the various "leaders of the profession," their personal appearance and habits, whether or not they could draw ornament freehand or design a concrete slab, and how some of them got their registration, anyway! Honors were about equally divided between the Super-Salesman, the Hard-Boiled Engineer, and that rara avis, the All-Around Architect. Some even dared to hint that it would be much easier for some firms to register as firms than as individuals. All in all, it was a stimulating evening.

Delaware.

The Institute has received under a single cover the complete minutes of the monthly meetings of this Chapter from January to September. They
show that the Chapter has made an enviable record of accomplishment and well attended meetings every month so far in 1934; that it is keenly alive to the responsibilities of architectural leadership in Delaware; and that it is effective in serving the interest of its members and the profession as a whole in the state.

At the September meeting, President Tindall appointed E. Wm. Martin and Walter Carlson to prepare a letter protesting the appointment of non-architectural members to the Local Commission of the Federal Housing Administration, and to suggest that at least one member who is an architect should be appointed on this work.

**Eastern Ohio.**

President Owsley read a letter from Egerton Swartwout, Chairman of the National Committee on Competitions, in regard to the requirements of the code of ethics covering competitions.

The subject of the City Hall putting on an architectural department to make plans was discussed. Information was given by Ellis M. Keppel, Myron N. Goodwin and Charles H. Owsley in regard to such work.

William H. Cook moved that members of the Eastern Ohio Chapter meet with the Board of Control and Planning Commission of the City of Youngstown at luncheon to discuss the fact that apparently unemployed draftsmen, under control of city officers, are employed to do work that practicing architects should do. Seconded and passed.

Moved and seconded that Youngstown members of the Chapter buy a membership in the Youngstown Chamber of Commerce. Passed.

**Kentucky.**

Minutes of recent meetings indicate that this Chapter is making a special effort to increase the Associate class by re-electing Associates whose terms have expired (in accord with the Institute's recent letter) and by bringing in new Associates.

At the September meeting when action on formal reports was completed, there was an open general discussion of Codes and Bidding Practices. This ended in a free-for-all discussion of the subject of paint and painting. The problem of properly specified paint and painting, and the greater difficulties encountered in seeing that the specifications are carried out and satisfactory results obtained brought out some heated arguments, and as might be expected, a great difference of opinion on the subject. Nearly everyone seemed to wish to say something and usually at the same time, resulting in some confusion and having a striking resemblance to a "Kaffee-Klatsch." However, the melee, although inconclusive, seemed to be enjoyed by most of those present. It is better for one to argue, even if no opinions are changed, than to stagnate.

President Ward and the Program Committee asked all members of the Chapter to express their preference as to what sort of program they found most interesting and acceptable. Various suggestions were made with a like number of objections. As usual the Program Committee was left to its own devices. It decided to make its own selections which the members will have to accept whether they like them or not.

**Maryland.**

At the October meeting the Secretary was directed to send out an announcement to the members of the Institute stating that those who wished work under the Reconditioning Division of the Home Owners Loan Corporation should apply for application blanks at Room 300 Equitable Building.

Edward L. Palmer, Jr., was delegated to see Mr. Crosier in regard to the present contract between P. I. C. and the architects, with a view to a more equitable compensation to the architect for work done under the P. I. C.

Lucius R. White, Jr., presented a motion that the chapter cooperate with the better houses movement. After some discussion the motion was passed as follows:

Resolved, That the Baltimore Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, in an endeavor to cooperate with the United States Government in its Federal Housing Administration Program, offers the services of its membership in consultation with the Officers of the Federal Housing Administration, without charge in matters concerning housing.

The Executive Committee of the Chapter following the example of the New York Chapter, addressed a communication to all Maryland candidates and members of Congress remaining in office with regard to the descrimination of the Treasury Department against the employment of private architects.

The Committee on Registration of the Chapter has placed in the hands of the members copies of a proposed registration law to be submitted to the next General Assembly. The Chapter voted unanimously in favor of the introduction of such a law and directed the committee to engage counsel and to take other steps to secure enactment.

**Michigan Society of Architects.**

The Weekly Bulletin of the Michigan Society of Architects (a State Association member of the Institute) continues to be instructive and entertaining. Recent numbers have articles on low cost housing, on Germany's housing settlements, on "Opportunity and Perplexity," on the Detroit Housing Project, on "Air Flow Design," and the
address of Clair W. Ditchy, President of the Society, entitled "According to Specifications," as made to the Annual Convention of the Wisconsin State Association.

In his address, Mr. Ditchy said:

"But, sooner or later, we hope that all of those who have been forced, through circumstances beyond their control, to abandon the profession of architecture may return to the fold. How soon that will be, it would be silly for me to venture a guess. But I am bold enough to state, with the courage of my convictions, that we are justified in entertaining higher hopes for the future of the profession than we of our generation have ever held before. And I say this in all seriousness."

Minnesota.

At a recent meeting Wilbur H. Tusler read the reports of the committees on Allied Construction Industry and on Office Practice, which were omitted at the Annual meeting in June, because the past President left them in his other suit, as he boastfully claimed. On motion by William G. Dorr, seconded by Oscar T. Lang, and carried, the reports were accepted, and it was directed that the Secretary distribute to the various architects' offices and to the State Society of Architects, copies of that part of the report on Office Practice pertaining to working hours as affecting wages, etc.

A letter from Albert O. Larson was read, asking the architects to assist the Minnesota Better Housing Committee, operating in conjunction with the Federal Housing Administration in their campaign for modernizing. The architects were asked to contribute $3.00 each toward the advertising fund. Upon motion by Roy Childs Jones, seconded by Oscar T. Lang, and carried, the Chapter endorsed the campaign.

Upon motion by Arthur B. Dunham, seconded by Roy Childs Jones, and carried, the Chapter thanked Messrs. Tusler, Allison and Gabbert for conducting the members through the Post Office Building. The graciousness of this action was lost on the recipients, however, as they had long since lost all hope of being thanked, had left the room, and had descended to the bar room to seek solace.

New York.

The President of the Chapter, Ralph Walker, addressed a letter in late October to all the members, which concluded as follows:

"I am not sending a questionnaire as I would like to have a free expression of your ideas and not a guided one. I am concerned, however, in formulating policies for these broad problems:

"How can we meet the changing concepts of our political, economical, and social life?

"How can we meet the changes in the science of building which must affect architectural practice?

"Where, in your opinion, are we going? But more important, where should we go?

"What other problems do you think we should meet?

"Will you take the time to write me your opinion?"

Mr. Walker also sent a questionnaire to all candidates for Congress in the state of New York, in which the position of the candidate with respect to Federal discrimination against the employment of private architects in Washington was sought.

The two questions put were:

1. Do you believe in increasing governmental bureau activity at the expense of private industry?
2. If you do not, what action will you take, if elected, to eliminate this growing activity?

Of a total of forty-six replies, thirty-seven candidates answered that they did not believe in increasing bureaucracy at the expense of private industry. Seven advocated increasing bureaucracy activity.

Candidates for reelection who oppose the present Federal policy of forcing architects to accept temporary employment on the staff of the Office of Supervising Architect in Washington favor use of private architects in their own offices pointed out that they have tried to change conditions. A Socialist Candidate answered that he in general favored an extension of the non-profit system.

Northern California.

The September meeting was a joining meeting of the Northern California Chapter, A. I. A., and the State Association of California Architects, Northern Section.

Acting upon the suggestion of Arthur Brown, Jr. that the Chapter take steps toward securing the preservation of the old Mint Building in San Francisco, the following resolution was introduced by George R. Klinkhardt, Chairman of the Historic Landmarks Committee, and his motion for adoption was duly seconded:

"Whereas, the Government of the United States has acquired land and intends building a new Mint in the City of San Francisco; and

"Whereas, this action will lead to the abandonment of the present Mint at Fifth and Mission Streets, San Francisco; and

"Whereas, this old building is one of the few landmarks in our city worth preserving; now therefore

Be It Resolved, That Northern California Chapter, the American Institute of Architects, and the State Association of California Architects, Northern Section, in joint session,
hereby memorialize the Government of the United States to take the steps necessary to guard against the demolition of this monument.

With an amendment presented by John J. Donovan that the San Francisco Chamber of Commerce and the California State Chamber of Commerce be requested to take similar action, the resolution was unanimously carried.

The Committee for the Housing Drive reported through Roland I. Stringham that a scheme is now being worked out in conjunction with the San Francisco Society of Architects and the Housing Administration for the remodeling of several old houses to publicly demonstrate the possibilities in renovizing.

The program of the evening was entered upon with the introduction of Mr. Charles M. Cadman, President of Pacific Coast Aggregates, Inc., and Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce Housing Drive Committee.

The speaker strongly emphasized that the direct benefit to the building industry from renovizing work will be reflected on business at large. He explained the program which through the instrumentality of the National Housing Act brings hope for recovery.

North Texas.

President Sharp read a letter from William Pope Barney, Acting Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Architectural Education of the A. I. A., asking that the North Texas Chapter appoint a committee to serve or assist in the work of that Committee. Frank O. Witchell, Lester N. Flint and Florian A. Kleinschmidt were appointed, with Mr. Witchell as Chairman and the Secretary was instructed to properly notify the A. I. A. Committee.

Harry A. Overbeck made a brief report for the Texas Centennial Committee of which he is Chairman. On motion by Otto H. Lang and seconded by Arthur E. Thomas, the Chapter instructed the President to invite the South Texas and West Texas Chapters to join with the North Texas Chapter in offering the Texas Centennial Commission such assistance or advice as it may be possible and proper to give, with a view to making the Centennial successful architecturally.

President Sharp was requested by the Chapter to check up with the Secretary, George Dahl, regarding conditions and requirements involved in bringing the Pencil Points Exhibit to Dallas.

Oregon.

The September meeting was well attended. Dinner came first, and then the business meeting. Reports of various committees were received and acted upon.

Harrison A. Whitney moved that Francis B. Jacobberger be appointed to appear before the O. B. C. and urge them to request the Mayor to appoint technically trained men to fill the vacancies on the Planning Commission, and that the Chapter write the Mayor, thanking him for appointing Folger Johnson, Architect, to the Commission. Seconded by A. Glenn Stanton.

Mr. Stanton moved that members be urged to use the term "A.I.A." and "Registered Architect" and that Associates use the term "Registered Architect" whenever possible. Seconded by Ernest F. Tucker and carried.

It was moved, seconded and carried that the Competition Committee, with the Chairman of the Publicity Committee be instructed to work out a program for making publicity awards in each of several classes of work.

Pittsburgh.

At the September meeting, President Schwab reported briefly upon the progress of the Special Committee handling the matter of private plans whereby the contractors agree to prepare no drawings and the architects agree to avoid undertaking the functions of the contractor.

The President reported on various activities of the Joint Committee of Construction Agencies of Western Pennsylvania and also on the present status of the Code Coordinating Committee as well as on the unsettled status of the Coordinating Committee on Housing. The latter committee has been recognized by the Mayor as the official local committee. It is expected that the official position of this committee will be recognized in the near future.

The President reported the action of the Board of Directors of the Chapter in protesting to Federal Administrator Hopkins on the new RWD regulations which advocate the preparation of plans for future public works of all kinds.

The Secretary asked for suggestions from the members for proper legislation to be submitted to the State Association through the Pittsburgh Chapter's Legislative Committee. On motion of R. Maurice Trimble it was decided that the Board of Directors of the Chapter should consider the best method of approaching City Council with a view to having the regulations of the Building Department changed so that permits be issued only on plans prepared by a registered architect or registered professional engineer. Carried. After further discussion, the President announced that the subject of legislation will be considered at later meetings of the Chapter this fall.

At the October meeting, Maximillian Nirdlinger reported on unemployment conditions.

The recommendations were considered individually, with the following results:

Recommendation No. 1. Contacting Messrs. Stuart, Hinckley, and Dowler to find employment...
for draftsmen. The Unemployment Committee was instructed to ascertain the possibility of having a RWD project created for the purpose of seeking out other projects suitable for employment of architects and draftsmen without competing with private practice.

Recommendation No. 2. Circularizing contractors, realtors, etc., showing possibilities for employment of draftsmen. This recommendation was disapproved.

Recommendation No. 3. Competition for small house. This recommendation was approved and the Committee was instructed to proceed.

Recommendation No. 4. Establishment of studio. The Chapter suggests to the Unemployment Committee that they investigate this possibility further and report back to the Chapter.

It was recommended that the Directors consider furnishing Mayor McNair with a list of the Chapter members and offering the services of the individuals at any time for committee work on civic matters.

Santa Barbara.

Minutes received from this Chapter show interesting and well attended meetings throughout July, August, September, and October.

There has been active participation in community and state affairs which concern the practice of architecture.

The September meeting was an informal one in the nature of a dinner party at which the Chapter was the guest of Roy C. Wilson at his home at Santa Paula. There were a number of distinguished guests present.

St. Louis.

At a recent meeting President Mullgardt read a letter about the proposed Code of the Land Development and Home Building Industry which would separate the small home from the Construction Industry Code. A motion was made by Eugene S. Klein, seconded by Angelo B. M. Corrubia, that the Chapter go on record as disapproving any such code and directing that this action be made known to the N. R. A. authorities in Washington. Passed with enthusiasm.

Virginia.

Members of the Virginia Chapter, lead by Samuel J. Collins, of Staunton, Virginia, have been active in forming a Staunton Construction League, composed of twenty-five architects, members of the building trades, and dealers in building material.

Samuel J. Collins was elected President, and Harry B. Carr, Secretary and Treasurer.

Wisconsin—State Association.

The October and November bulletins of this State Society are of great interest. The October number carries reports from the various districts of the Association and has an interesting discussion, entitled "Architectural Harmony."

Recent registrations of architects are listed, and there is a well stated paper "On the Choice of an Architect."

The November number reports the proceedings of the Third Annual Convention of the Association and prints the able address of President Leo A. Brielmaier.

At the meeting of the Executive Board, T. L. Eschweiler reported on progress being made toward affiliation of the State Association with The American Institute of Architects.

There are annual reports by the Secretary, by the Treasurer, and by the various committees; and a summary of the Convention resolutions and decisions.

Chapters of the Institute and other State Associations might well request an exchange of their own publications for the Wisconsin Architect.

Le Brun Scholarship of 1935

NOTICE of the Le Brun Scholarship Competition for 1935 has been issued to the various Chapters of The American Institute of Architects, together with nomination blanks.

Institute members may nominate any draftsman or architect properly qualified according to the terms of the deed of gift. Particulars may be obtained from the Chapter secretaries.

The Scholarship, One Thousand Dollars, is for the purpose of assisting "some meritorious architect or architectural draftsman, resident anywhere in the United States, to aid him in paying the expenses of an European trip, lasting not less than six months."

Nominations to this Competition can be made only by Institute members.

These nominations must be in the hands of the Le Brun Scholarship Committee, Room 732, 522 Fifth Avenue, New York City, before January 3, 1935.

The program will be issued about January 21st and the drawings delivered about March 25th.

William F. Lamb, Chairman, Le Brun Scholarship Committee
Applications for Membership

Notice to Members of the Institute:

The names of the following applicants may come before the Board of Directors, or its Executive Committee, for action on their admission to the Institute, and if elected, the applicants will be assigned to the Chapters indicated:

Central New York Chapter - - - - HERBERT H. BOHACKET, FRED B. O'CONNOR
Chicago Chapter - - - - - - MONROE R. SANDEL, ALEXIS A. ZAKHAROFF
Connecticut Chapter - - - - - WILLIAM WEBB SUDDERLAND
Detroit Chapter - - - - - - CORNELIUS L. T. GABLER
Florida Central Chapter - - - - FRANK A. PARZIALE
Hawaii Chapter - - - - - - CLAude ALBON STIEHL
Florida South Chapter - - - - ROBERT FITCH SMITH
Mississippi Chapter - - - - EUGENE D. DRUMMOND
New York Chapter - - - - - - A. MUSGRAVE HYDE
Northern California Chapter - - - WILLIAM B. FARLOW, ERNEST E. WEIHE
Philadelphia Chapter - - - - JOHN GRAHAM, JR., CHARLES H. NORTH
South Carolina Chapter - - - - JOHN ALEXANDER MCFHERSON
Southern California Chapter - - - EARL T. HEITSCHEMIDT, JOSEPH KAISER

You are invited, as directed by the By-laws, to send privileged communications before December 30, 1934, on the eligibility of the candidates for the information and guidance of the members of the Board of Directors on their final ballot. No applicant will be finally passed upon should any Chapter request, within the thirty-day period, an extension of time for purpose of investigation.

FRANK C. BALDWIN,
Secretary