OCTAGON

A Journal of The American Institute of Architects



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Volume 9

SEPTEMBER
1937

Number 9

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THE OCTAGON

A Journal of the American Institute of Architects

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF ARCHITECTS

Executive and Publication Offices, The Octagon, 1741 New York Avenue N. W., Washington, D. C.

Proposed Government Reorganization

DURING the session of Congress which has just been adjourned the question of the reorganization of the Government Departments was extensively discussed. A bill, S. 2700, providing for such reorganization, was introduced by the Administration; lengthy hearings were held; reports dealing with the general problem of Government reorganization were made public; and the matter was debated at some length in Congress.

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hburg, Va.;

While the bill made no provision for the establishment of a Department of Public Works, the advisability of creating such a Department was touched upon in the reports which have been mentioned and it is highly probable that at the next session of Congress the question will be given further consideration. The American Institute of Architects has already gone on record in favor of the creation of such a Department at the Convention held in 1928.

When the Reorganization Bill was under consideration by the Congressional Committee to which it was referred, representatives of The Institute, American Engineering Council and the Construction League of the United States, meeting in conference, determined that it was advisable that cooperative action be taken in support of the plan. Accordingly, statements were filed advocating the creation of such a Department and the consolidation therein of such public works activities as it might be determined on further investigation and study could be advantageously combined under its control.

There was also presented on behalf of The Institute a suggested amendment to the section of the bill under consideration dealing with the Civil Service, which would give authority to the heads of Departments to employ private architects in cases where such employment is now prohibited.

While there are obvious advantages to be gained by the consolidation of Public Works activities, the experience of the past few years shows that there are also obvious dangers in such a consolidation. We have seen, both in the case of the Federal Government and that of the States and municipalities, that the establishment of a bureau charged with the direction and control of the design of public buildings has inevitably led to the expansion of the functions of those bureaus until they have, themselves, monopolized the design of the buildings under their control.

Where the administrative functions connected with the construction of public buildings are an incidental part of the functions of a public official, he is more apt to be willing to entrust the design of the buildings to qualified architects in private practice than where the construction of buildings is his sole function and where the importance and influence of his office may be enhanced by carrying on the work with his own drafting force.

The reports of the different commissions which have studied the question of Government reorganization indicate a lamentable lack of appreciation of the cultural importance of good architectural design in public buildings. The Brookings Institution, for example, in its report stated that the design of buildings was "essentially a supply function," and recommended that it be incorporated with a proposed General Supply activity charged with the purchase, storage and issue of supplies.

This assumption that the plans for a public building are a commodity and that obtaining them involves essentially the same problem as the purchase of automobile tires is the basic error which, in the past, has more than anything else made it impossible for the question of the design of Government structures to be satisfactorily solved or even given intelligent consideration.

It is our problem to convince both the Legislative and Executive branches of the Government that this point of view is a barbarous one and that no form of reorganization of the Government's building activities should be tolerated except one which insures, so far as it is possible, that every Government building will be in its own sphere a major work of art.

Since the question of the reorganization of the Government's functions will no doubt be brought up again at the next session of Congress, it is urged that the members and Chapters of The Institute consider seriously what safeguards will be necessary in order to make sure that the Department of Public Works, if such a Department is established, will benefit rather than hinder the development of a proper Governmental architecture, and be prepared to cooperate with the Officers and Directors of The Institute, and its Committee on Public Works, in making clear to Congress, the President and the Cabinet the principles which should govern in the creation of such a Department.

FRANCIS P. SULLIVAN,
Chairman, Committee on Public Works.

Edward Langley Scholarship Awards for 1937

THE Edward Langley Scholarships of The Institute are annual awards made by The Board to qualified architectural draftsmen, architects, graduate students of architectural schools and teachers of architecture, in the United States or Canada, for study, research, or travel. Each award is accompanied by a grant commensurate with the need and purpose of the recipient, insofar as the funds in hand permit.

This year seventy-one applications for the scholar-ships were received. Fifty of the applicants were architectural draftsmen and architects. Their applications were received by the Regional Directors, who nominated fifteen of the draftsmen and five of the architects for the consideration of the Board Committee in charge of the awards. Twenty-one of the applicants were graduate students and teachers of architecture. Their applications were received by the Committee on Education, who nominated twelve of the graduate students and one of the teachers for the consideration of the Board Committee.

From these thirty-three nominations, the Board Committee awarded eight scholarships and made grants totaling \$4,900.00 for the year. The purpose for which the grants were made were fixed in each case by the recipient of the award.

The awards were distributed among eight of the ten regional districts of The Institute. Of the eight recipients five are architectural draftsmen. one is an architect, and two are graduate students.

The awards are as follows:

Scholarships numbers 1 and 2 were awarded in 1936. (Announced in January, 1937, number of The Octagon.)

- 3. BRUST, JOHN J., Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for travel in Europe.
- COIT, ELISABETH, New York, N. Y., for research in economical design and construction of single family dwellings and apartment houses.
- 5. HAYNES, KENNETH LEROY, Des Moines, Iowa, for travel in Europe.
- 6. HAYNES, PAUL EUGENE, Los Angeles, California, for travel in eastern United States.
- 7. KEYES, JOSEPH VICTOR, Washington, D. C., for travel in Europe.
- 8. MAIER, DOUGLAS POPE, New Haven, Conn., for travel in Europe.
- McVoy, Arthur Dubose, Gainesville, Fla., for study at Massachusetts Institute of Technology or Cranbrook Academy of Art.
- 10. WILSON, SAMUEL, JR., New Orleans, La., for travel in Europe, for research and study of origins of Louisiana architecture.

The blanks for making applications for 1938 scholarships will be distributed in November.

COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD
WILLIAM G. NOLTING
ALBERT J. EVERS
EDWIN BERGSTROM

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Notice - Institute By-Laws Amended

THE Board made the following amendments to the By-laws to clear some disadvantages of procedure in making the awards of the School Medal, and effective May 28, 1937:

Chapter XIV, Article 4, Section 2:

An award of the School Medal may be made each year to a student in each or any of the said architectural schools who is qualified by his scholarly standing and by his character and other qualifications to receive the award; provided, that he has had not less than three years of residence and work

in the said school any of said approved schools and that he has been proposed for the award by the faculty of the school, in writing to The Secretary.

Each such award shall be by majority vote of The Board or by unanimous vote of The Executive Committee, or it may be made by the Committee on Education, if such power is delegated to it by The Board by the affirmative vote of not less than two thirds of the entire membership of the said committee taken either by roll call vote or by letter ballot.

Payment for Plans and Specifications for Private Work

Excerpt from Board Minutes of May 26, 1937.

The supplementary report of the Committee on Construction Industry Relations, under date of May 25, 1937, and letter of May 19 from the Associated General Contractors to the Chairman of the Committee were read.

Action was as follows:

Resolved, That plans and specifications for estimating purposes should be provided, one set to each bidder, at the expense of the Owner, and that a deposit, substantially equivalent to the reproduction cost of the documents may properly be required of a bidder provided that it be returned to him in full upon return of the documents in good condition if the bidder has actually submitted a bona fide proposal for the work. It is appropriate to charge a bidder, without refund, the cost of any additional sets of documents he may desire for his further convenience in bidding, but these additional documents shall be returned with the original set. (56-B-5-37) (This resolution refers to plans and specifications for private work where selected bidders are invited, and not to plans and specifications for public work.)

The foregoing resolution is published as directed by The Board.

The Development of Planning Organizations

The widespread and rapid development of planning organizations is shown by a recent survey completed by the National Resources Committee.

The report indicates the present existence of over 1,000 city and town Planning Boards, 506 Metropolitan and County Planning Organizations and 27 District and Inter-County Planning Groups, 933 of the Town or City Planning Boards are official, while 84 have unofficial status. In addition there are 128 Zoning Boards and 515 cities which have adopted some wind of zoning ordinance.

City Planning Boards are distributed throughout 46 States and the District of Columbia.

Compared with 85 Metropolitan and County Planning Agencies in 1933, there were 506 at the end of 1936.

Thirty-nine State Planning Boards have legislative status and 7 Boards are serving by authority and request of the Governors.

The work of these Planning Boards, Zoning Commissions, and similar agencies involves practical, technical and aesthetic problems with which the architect is very much concerned and in the solution of which the profession can make a cooperatively helpful contribution.

Cooperation with and service on Planning and similar organizations presents the opportunity for the rendering of a public service of distinct value to every community served by a forward-looking and efficient Planning Board.

The St. Louis City Planning Commission

M AYOR DICKMANN, of St. Louis, has announced, with regret, that Past President Ernest John Russell, Chairman of the City Planning Commission of St. Louis for twenty years, is voluntarily retiring from that body.

A statement issued from the Mayor's Office reads, in part, as follows:

"Discussing his withdrawal from the group which he has headed for a score of years, Mr. Russell yesterday recalled the first recommendation of the body after he had assumed the helm was the River des Peres project, which was completed last night with the formal opening of the new River des Peres highway.

"The River des Peres project was one of the major works of the commission and an exhaustive report was filed showing the vast amount of land which was periodically flooded by uncontrolled waters, the loss of life and of property due to the river in addition to the other obnoxious features of health hazards and bad odors. The new driveway, which winds along the path of the now covered stream, was one of the parts of the recommendations.

"Mr. Russell was active in city planning here when that pursuit was in its infancy and for some years prior to the establishment of an official body to supervise the work. He was a member of several groups which were formed to study city planning and which financed the work with the private con-

tributions of the members. One of the groups brought Harland Bartholomew, engineer of the commission throughout the life of that group, to the city and financed his compensation until the city established a planning commission.

"Another of the major accomplishments of the commission was the zoning law, which governs the use of property in the city and which at the time of its adoption was the second such law enacted in the United States and subsequently held valid.

"As one of the needs of the future Mr. Russell sees more superhighways, and especially a connecting artery which will permit direct and speedy transportation between North and South St. Louis. He pointed out that both North and South St. Louis have their direct connection with the downtown districts or the midtown areas, but that between Twelfth Street and Knightshighway there are no streets which connect speedily with the southern section of the city.

"Asked why he has given up the work which so obviously is more of a hobby than a task he said he has recommended that new blood be infused into the commission and that the best evidence of his sincerity in this suggestion is his own retirement. Besides, he points out, he has given as much of his time to public service as could be expected of him."

Notes From The Producers' Council.

R USSELL G. CREVISTON, President of The Producers' Council, Inc., has recently appointed the following as Cooperating Members of The Council on the Structural Service Committee of The Institute:

The Council is formulating a comprehensive educational and publicity program which should prove of material advantage in developing public interest in better architectural design, and the use of materials, equipment and methods of construction which will insure durability and minimum maintenance cost, with particular reference to construction in the field of housing.

Gladding, McBean and Company, well-known West Coast manufacturers of clay products, have recently been elected to membership in the Council.

A Chapter Program of Honor Awards for Residential Architecture and Arts-1937

THE Southern California Chapter of The American Institute of Architects, desiring to encourage the appreciation of Architecture and the Fine Arts related to Architecture, by extending its recognition of merit in any executed work, has established a series of Honor Awards to those by whose ability in Architecture, skill in execution, and cooperation such works were created. . . . To simplify inspection and judging of entries, residential and non-residential work will be considered in alternate years. The program this year is devoted to Residences and Their Related Arts.

Conditions.

The conditions governing these awards, as formulated by the Executive Committee of the Chapter, follow:

- These Awards shall be known as the "Honor Awards of the Southern California Chapter of The American Institute of Architects."
- Awards shall be made for executed and completed work which is within the territory under the jurisdiction of the Southern California Chapter of The American Institute of Architects. Awards shall be made only for such work as has been completed subsequent to the last awarding of Honor Awards in 1933.
- 3. The number of Awards will be governed by the merit of the works submitted. As one of the paramount purposes for which the Awards are to be made is that of encouraging the creation of better Architecture, Awards must be rigidly confined to works of exceptional merit.
- 4. The Awards shall be made by a jury of three members of The American Institute of Architects selected by the Executive Committee, two of whom are not members of this Chapter. Members of the Honor Awards Committee may not serve on the jury, and members of the Jury may not submit their work for Honor Awards.
- 5. The Jury in making its Awards must consider the work in its entirety, though this shall not be construed to prevent an Award being made upon any detail of such work. The Jury shall, in making its decision as to merit, consider whether the

work is an adequate solution of the problems involved. No Award shall be made until the Jury has inspected the erected work. A unanimous vote of the Jury shall be necessary to make an Award.

- 6. Entries shall be judged in the following groups:
 - A. Residences with less than 6 rooms.
 - B. Residences with 6 to 8 rooms inclusive.
 - C. Residences with 9 to 11 rooms inclusive.
 - D. Residences with more than 11 rooms.
 - E. Remodeled residences, exteriors or interiors,
- F. Interior decoration of residences.
- G. Landscape architecture of residences.
- H. Decorative arts related to residential Archi-

Awards.

Two classes of Awards may be given: "Honor Awards" and "Distinguished Honor Awards."

An "Honor Award in Architecture" may be made for any work of Architecture which, in the opinion of the Jury, merits such distinction.

A "Distinguished Honor Award in Architecture" may be made for any work in which the Jury finds sufficient merit to warrant such distinction above other work.

An "Honor Award in Fine Arts" may be made for any work of Fine Arts which, in the opinion of the Jury, merits such distinction.

A "Distinguished Honor Award in Fine Arts" may be made for any work in which the Jury finds sufficient merit to warrant such distinction above other work.

Certificates of Award.

The Chapter under its seal and the signature of its officers will present as evidence of the Awards certificates of award in the classes listed above.

In order that the appreciation of the Chapter may be extended to the owners and builders of the work as well as to the creators thereof, the Chapter will present in every Award made its certificate:

- 1. To the Architect.
- 2. To the Owner.
- 3. To such of the Contractors as the creator shall nominate as having contributed most to the aes-

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thetic merit through their skill and sympathetic execution of the thought of the creator.

Nominations for Awards.

Nominations for Awards may be made by any person, and shall consist of the following exhibits and information:

- 8 x 10 in. black and white glossy photographs, showing sufficient details to properly illustrate the work.
- 2. Pen and ink plans drawn to a scale of 1/8 in.
- Clearly indicated in ink on the back of each exhibit shall appear:
 - a. The title of the work.
 - b. The location of the work.
 - c. The date of completion.
- d. The classification as listed above. (See "Conditions.")
- e. The name and address of the Architect, or creator.
 - f. The name and address of the Owner.
 - g. The name and address of the Contractor.
- h. The signature and address of the person nominating the work.

Delivery of Nominations.

Nominations shall be delivered to the Chapter Office, Room 201, Architects' Building, 816 West Fifth Street, Los Angeles. This material will be retained by the Chapter for use in reproductions and as a permanent record of the development of Architecture in Southern California.

Hanging Fee.

To defray the cost of exhibition and publicity, the exhibitors shall contribute a Hanging Fee of \$5.00 for each work submitted. If the jury does not select a work for exhibition, the Hanging Fee will be returned.

Exhibition Material.

Honor Awards will be presented to the recipients at a regular monthly meeting of the Chapter, and a public Exhibition of Honor Awards and such other works as may be of educational value will be opened at that time. Exhibitors whose work is chosen for display shall furnish larger photographs uniformly mounted according to the requirements of the Honor Awards Committee for display.

Publications.

In addition to newspaper and magazine publicity, the Chapter is planning to publish a book of the best residential work of Southern California, to be sold through the regular book selling channels, and by the cooperation of local organizations.

Southern California has achieved distinction in residential design, and the work submitted in this Honor Awards Program should furnish excellent material for a book to be sold throughout the country for \$2.00 and \$3.00 per copy. All works receiving Honor Awards will be published in this book, and other residential works of distinction may be included. Any profits from this publication will be used for professional betterment.

Structural Service Department Notes

By THEODORE I. COE, TECHNICAL SECRETARY, STRUCTURAL SERVICE DEPARTMENT

Underwriters' Requirements and Duct Installations.

In many types of structures the use of materials and methods of construction which protect the building and its contents against the spread of fire and smoke are an important factor in securing the most favorable rate of insurance for both building and contents.

Failure to observe the recommendations of the Fire Underwriters in the use of such materials and methods of construction may have a material effect in increasing the rate of insurance premium for both building and contents.

The widespread installation of duct work for air conditioning and ventilating equipment in existing and new buildings has occasioned the issuing of regulations, by the National Board of Fire Underwriters, in accordance with the recommendations of the National Fire Protection Association.

These regulations apply to the installation of duct, intakes, etc., for air conditioning, warm air

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heating, air cooling and ventilating systems in many types of buildings other than residences.

The regulations of the Fire Underwriters refer not only to details of building construction but apply also to certain details of the mechanical installation.

Local fire underwriters are generally available from whom detailed information can be obtained as to the requirements applying in connection with specific installations.

New Materials and Methods of Construction.

As a result of the intensive effort which has been made to stimulate construction in the field of housing, many new materials and methods of construction, as well as new techniques in the use of older materials, have been brought forward as aids to the simplification of production methods or the lowering of construction costs.

Conclusions as to the durability and satisfactory performance of new materials and methods of construction cannot be determined with certainty from a limited use or period of test under actual conditions, but careful inspection from time to time may reveal tendencies which will be helpful in anticipating the results likely to become more definite over a longer period of time.

The rapid development of certain types of mechanical equipment presents new problems for the architect called upon to advise as to the advantages, disadvantages or performance of such equipment.

It would be of material advantage to the profession generally if there might be a freer exchange of opinion based on experience in the use of materials and methods of construction and as to the advantages, disadvantages, and performance of the more recent developments in the field of mechanical equipment.

The Structural Service Department will welcome the expression of such opinion as may be constructively helpful in providing a background of experience from which information of value to inquiring members of The Institute and the producers of material and equipment may be drawn.

Technological Trends.

"Technological Trends and National Policies Including the Social Implications of New Inventions," the 388-page illustrated report of the Sub-Committee on Technology to the National Resources Committee, presents the collaborative work of many well-known authorities in a considerable number of activities.

It represents a serious effort to evaluate present conditions with a view to insuring the advantages of comprehensive planning for the future and contains a wealth of material interestingly presented.

Copies, in paper cover, may be obtained from the Superintendent of Documents, Washington, D. C., et a cost of \$1.00 each.

Standard Filing System-1937 Edition

THE development of the Standard Filing System and Alphabetical Index for the premarking and filing of catalogs and other trade literature, clippings, technical data, etc., referring to building materials and appliances, represents a definite contribution to the convenience of filing and preserving such informative data for ready reference.

The producers of building materials and appliances, generally, have adopted the file numbers of the Standard Filing System for the pre-marking of their trade literature and the practice is growing as its advantages are understood.

In the 1937 edition, which has just been issued, the first since 1930, the classifications have been expanded to provide for many additional materials and items of furnishings and equipment.

The Alphabetical Index has been materially amplified to facilitate the selection of file numbers and is now combined with the classifications and file numbers in a single document.

This expansion of classifications has occasioned modifications in certain of the classifications and file numbers, and reference should be made to the 1937 edition in determining and checking appropriate file numbers.

To those not familiar with the Standard Filing System a descriptive circular (A. I. A. Doc. 172-A) will be forwarded on request.

The price of the Standard Filing System and Alphabetical Index (A. I. A. Doc. 172), postage paid, is \$1.00 per copy.

With The Chapters And State Associations

Connecticut.

The regular monthly meeting of the chapter was held at the Quinnipiack Club in New Haven, with President Palmer presiding.

The creation of a new Public Works Department for Connecticut was discussed at some length from the aspect of its effect on future architectural work. Several members expressed some concern over "politics" in regard to awarding of commissions in the event an architectural bureau should be established.

President Palmer read a letter from Walter R. McCornack, Chairman of the Committee on Housing of The Institute, requesting support of the Wagner-Steagall Bill. It was decided that chapter action should not be taken, but that individual members communicate with Representatives and Senators of Connecticut.

The August meeting of the chapter will be held at Madison, Connecticut, and if present plans are carried out the meeting will include a visit to the historic buildings in Guilford.

It was suggested that the secretary communicate with Mr. Frederick Kelly requesting that he be present to conduct the trip and discuss some of the old buildings of Guilford.

Philip N. Sunderland and Herbert Gibson, chapter delegates, reported informally on the activities and events of the Sixty-ninth Convention.

Florida South.

A well attended meeting of the chapter was held in Miami recently, with Vladimir Virrick presiding.

After the minutes of the previous meeting were read and approved, the secretary, George H. Spohn, announced the appointment of August Geiger as chairman of the chapter's sub-committee on architectural competitions, and of Richard Kiehnel as chapter representative on the Board of Directors of the Miami Builders' Exchange.

Announcement was made, on behalf of the executive committee, that committee reports on the Working Code for Architects had been considered, but that no action could be taken at the present time.

The proposed visit of the Collegio Architecto de

Habana was cause for much discussion, the matter being referred to the executive committee.

The meeting adjourned after announcements of elections of new members and reelection of associates.

Kentucky.

The regular monthly meeting of the chapter was the occasion for a dinner at the Seelbach Hotel, in Louisville, with chapter secretary, Ossian P. Ward, presiding.

For some time past it has been the custom for a chapter member to address the gathering on some pertinent topic, but the custom was suspended for this meeting, in order to hear a report from C. Julian Oberwarth, the chapter's official delegate to the Sixty-ninth Convention of The Institute, held in Boston on June 1-4.

This he did orally, covering completely and in detail the principal points of interest and matters of Institute business accomplished by the Convention. He also described eloquently the entertainment provided for the delegates by the Boston architects, including a "Pop" Concert by the Boston Symphony Orchestra, the delightful shore luncheon at the Eastern Yacht Club in Marblehead, sight-seeing trips to Lexington, Concord, and other points of historic interest.

After the report was completed Ossian P. Ward, who also had attended the Convention as sort of a "spare tire," gently broke the news to the meeting that, not knowing positively whether Mr. Oberwarth was going to attend this meeting and make a report, he (Mr. Ward) had prepared a supplementary report. Disregarding the expressions of disappointment on the faces of most of the members, he declared that he had spent too much time on his report not to be allowed to read it, even if it had to be done to empty chairs.

The report was received with enthusiasm, despite the heat of a sultry southern evening.

State Association of California Architects, Northern Section.

At a meeting of the Executive Board of the Association, held in San Francisco on June 29, it was announced that the Convention of the State Association of California Architects will be held in Santa Barbara, October 14, 15, and 16.

The Secretary Ellsworth Johnson, reported that the new Professional Relations Committee under the chairmanship of Earl McDonald has been organized and has started to work on the matters charged to the Committee.

Albert J. Evers, Regional Director of the Sierra-Nevada District of the A. I. A. made an oral report on the meeting of the State Associations and The Institute Convention in Boston, saying that Mr. Crawford (the S. A. C. A. delegate) had been very active, and that the Associations had a very good meeting with satisfactory results. Mr. Evers commented particularly on the stimulating effect the Pennsylvania resolution had on The Institute's action, which he felt was largely the purpose of the Pennsylvania Association in making its proposal. Mr. Evers said that The Institute is giving much attention to housing, small house work and the development of a modified service to aid architects in obtaining small house business.

Westchester.

"The Westchester Chapter now has a membership of twenty-three. As the majority are also members of the Westchester Society this Chapter feels that in any major program the two groups should work together.

"The Westchester Chapter has already listed a number of problems facing the architects of the County such as: Professional relationships among ourselves; Dealing with contractors and sub-contractors; Dealing with Banks and other loaning institutions; Enforcement of the Registration Law by building inspectors, etc.

"It is expected that these problems and others will be tackled actively this fall—a start has already been made. The Westchester Chapter is counting on the cooperation of the Society where it seems advisable to bring the combined force of all the architects in the County to bear on a certain problem and by the same token the Chapter stands ready to work with the Society."

The foregoing item received from the Chapter, represents a start in the right direction—mutual understanding for reciprocal support. From a practical point of view, it is necessary for the two organizations to unite their forces for a common cause.

(From "The Blueprint.")

As of Interest

A Decade of Bridges.

By Wilbur J. Watson, D.Eng.— J. H. Jansen, Gleveland, Ohio-\$4.50

The author, in the Preface, states that, "This book was originally intended to be in the nature of a supplement to 'Bridge Architecture,' published in 1927, but because of the great number of notable bridges that have been completed during the last ten years, and the unprecedented size of many of them, it seemed advisable to publish this data as an entirely separate and independent book.

"'Bridge Architecture' is a compilation of photographs of the world's most famous bridges, from the earliest times to the year 1926, especially selected to illustrate the architectural and historical development of bridges. The present book, while not overlooking the architectural features of recent structures, contains engineering and descriptive data which will be of value both to engineers and architects. But, as in the earlier work, the intention

of the author is to present, primarily, a photographic record of the progress of the art.

"While one hundred bridges have been included in the text, this does not include all the important structures that have been built in the last decade; many notable bridges are not included, the author having selected only those which, in his opinion, contained novel engineering or architectural features, or served to illustrate modern tendencies in bridge design. Of these, about seventy have been selected for illustrating."

Paul P. Cret, F. A. I. A., in his introduction to this book summarizes as follows:

"The prominent place occupied by bridges in our cities and countryside requires the best efforts of the engineer, the architect and the city planner. This is increasingly recognized, and the comments and illustrations of 'A Decade of Bridges' bear witness to the continuous progress in this direction here and abroad."

