VOL. II. No. 7.

MINNEAPOLIS and ST. PAUL, July, 1903.

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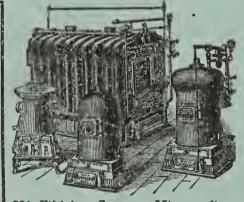
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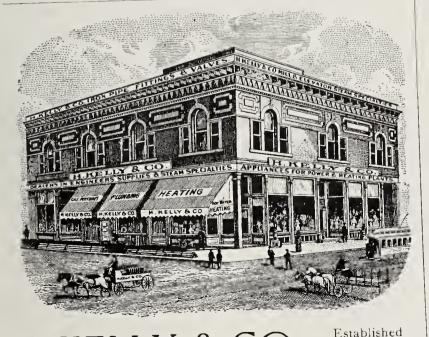
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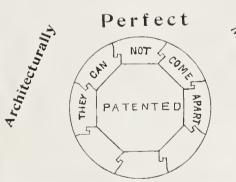
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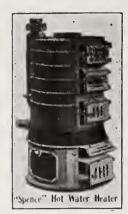
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THE VALUE OF AIR MOISTURE.

The scientific world was startled when Tyndall made the announcement that "the removal for a single night of the aqueous vapor from the atmosphere which covers England would be attended by the destruction of every plant which a freezing point could kill."

But many scientists have since verified the truth of the statement by calculation. The importance of aqueous vapor, or moisture, as a constituent in our atmosphere, was not exaggerated. Careful investigation has demonstrated the fact that plant and animal life are largely dependent upon air moisture.

The average percentage of moisture is 70 per cent. The average house atmosphere during the months of the year when artificial heat is employed contains only from 10 to 20 per cent of air moisture. This means a dryness which is greater than that of the deserts at their dryest period, during which the moisture is reduced to from 12 to 25 per cent.

Medical authorities tell us that the "physiological symptoms of an atmosphere too dry are parched lips and tongue, a dry, feverish condition of the skin, and, in those children predestined to lung diseases, a hacking cough, resulting from the desiccating effect of excessively dry air on the lungs and bronchial tubes."

A mummified and shriveled appearance of the human skin is caused by a dry atmosphere.

Baldness and the breaking and splitting of the hair are frequently due to the same cause.

The ruddy complexion and red cheeks of English men and women are due to air moisture.

It is a remarkable fact that while it may require a temperature in your home of 70 degrees to ensure physical comfort—with a relative humidity of 50 per cent you will be comfortable at 65 degrees of warmth. In other words, if the air moisture is adequate, you will be comfortable in a temperature of 5 degrees less. This, it has been estimated, will make a fuel saving of from 12½ to 15 per cent.

After recognizing the importance of humidity to the physical well being of man, the question naturally arises: Can humidity be brought under mechanical control?

Or, rather, can atmospheric moisture be supplied artificially to the extent that it may be required or desired? The need of a larger quantity of moisture in the average home, during the months of the year when artificial heat is resorted to, has been questioned. The difficulties, however, in controlling air moisture automatically, seemed insurmountable.

But here the triumph of the scientist must again be recorded. The inventive mind has brought atmospheric moisture within automatic control and regulation.

The Humidostat is a device which regulates the air moisture in a room and holds it at any desired degree.

It is made of metal, neat in design (see illustration), and equipped with dial and index, which can be adjusted to the amount of humidity desired. The Humidostat is connected by tubing with the heating apparatus. Its mechanism is so simple that it cannot get out of order, and yet it is so sensitive that it responds to the slightest variation from the desired degree of the moisture in the room.

The Humidostat is in use in private residences and public buildings. Also in factories where the process of manufacture requires a fixed air moisture. The Humidostat is the invention of Prof. Warren S. Johnson of the Johnson Service Company of Milwaukee, Wis.

HEATING AND VENTILATING TELEPHONE EXCHANGES.

The New England Telephone and Telegraph Co., of Boston, Mass., possesses one of the most completely equipped exchanges in the country. Not only are the electrical and telephone appliances the products of the best engineering skill and attention, but the building itself has been especially designed with a view to both successful operation and the comfort and convenience of the employees.

One of the first requisites of a telephone exchange building, because of the large number of employees and their constant and sedentary labor, is a proper system of heating and ventilating. The ventilation is especially important, and arrangements should be provided by which it can be maintained constant in volume independently of the amount of heat required or the state of the weather. Any natural means of ventilation is impracticable, since it is very difficult to maintain a proper circulation of air when the densities of the inside and outside air are nearly equal. With the fan system, however, all these points are easily taken care of.

In the present plan the fan, which is direct-connected to a vertical engine, forces the air through a steam-heater composed of pipe-coils, enclosed within a steel plate housing. The heater, however, is by-passed, so that a greater or less proportion of the air may be forced into the distributing pipes without passing through it, and this by-pass is fitted with a special hot-and-cold damper arrangement which is automatically controlled by Johnson thermostats located in the several rooms of the building. The B. F. Sturtevant Co., by whom the fan and heater were installed, also applied the galvanized iron piping, elbows, fittings, registers and screens, together with the direct steam-heating work, automatic control and the boiler and boiler setting. The steam is delivered to the engine at 25 lbs. pressure, and the exhaust passes into the heater.

A somewhat similar equipment was furnished by the above company to the Twin City Telephone Co. of St. Paul, Minn., some time ago. In this case special precaution was taken to purify the air supply. It has been demonstrated that about 90 per cent of the trouble caused by imperfect contact in the switch-board connections can be prevented by thoroughly cleansing the air as it enters the building. Many experiments have been tried in the way of dry-cleaning by filtering through screens of wire and cheese-cloth or cotton-batting, but all such devices require frequent renewal, sometimes at considerable trouble and expense. By continued use any filter of this character must deteriorate and eventually become clogged, and in order to avoid the results of neglect it ought to be practically automatic. This point is essential in an air-cleaning system.

The action of the air purifying and cooling apparatus adopted by the Twin City Telephone Co. consists in thoroughly saturating the air with water by passing it through a fine spray and afterwards precipitating the moisture with the collected impurities and discharging it into the sewer. The water which is taken up at high velocity and held in mechanical suspension is extracted by centrifugal force by

passing it through a series of tubes in which spirals are so placed as to give the air a whirling motion, causing the suspended particles, which are heavier than the air, to be thrown outward and brought in contact with the tubes, from which they flow through perforations to a drip-pan below.

The washing process imparts about 70 per cent humidity at a temperature of 70 degrees Fahr. in the operating room. This is considered the most desirable for health and comfort, and avoids the excessive dryness resulting with other systems of heating and ventilating which often require a humidostat to correct the defect. Moreover, in the summer time, with the temperature outside of 80 degrees Fahr. and with the normal temperature of the city water, the air delivered to the rooms can be readily reduced to 70 degrees. The air after being tempered, washed and dried is

The air after being tempered, washed and dried is blown by the fan through the reheating coils into the tempered air chamber. A mixing damper is placed with connections to both, so arranged that the hot or tempered air, under the control of the Power's thermostat in the operating room, is mixed automatically to the proper degree, maintaining throughout the year a constant temperature in the room with uniform air delivery and humidity.

While such a system is practically a necessity in a modern telephone building, especially in cities where soft coal is burned, it is equally applicable to all public buildings, particularly in large cities where the air is laden with impurities and where the summer heat is almost unbearable. The time is probably not far distant when the marked advantages of such a system will be fully recognized and people will insist that they should be kept cool in summer as well as warm in winter.

The S. Wilks Manufacturing Company, of 53-55 South Clinton St., Chicago, have recently gotten out a handsome new catalogue showing the Wilks Water Heaters. Some important changes have been made in this catalogue over those previously issued, especially as to the increased large number of sizes of their heaters, as well as in their steel storage tanks. It is said by many sanitary and heating experts that the special economical and sanitary benefits that can be secured from the Wilks Water Heaters can hardly be equaled by any other heaters on the market, and for these important reasons both architects and owners are looking with special favors on them.

A copy of the catalogue above referred may be had upon application to the Wilks Heater Company at the above address.

Mr. I. E. Burt, so well and favorably known in Minneapolis, has taken the agency for the Northwest, of the Colt Acetylene Gas Generators, and his advertisement of same may be found on another page in this issue of the Western Architect.

STILL THEY COME.

The growth and development in the building line of the Northwest can be gauged to some extent at least by the number of new concerns that are organized from month to month. The last one in the heating line to be established in Minneapolis, is known as the Excelsior Heating Co., with head-quarters at No. 955 Eighteenth Ave. N. E., with E. E. Deschane as manager.

Mr. Deschane is a man well up in matters pertaining to heating, having been with W. F. Porter & Co. for more than eight years, supervising all the work on the largest contracts executed by that Company. Later, Mr. Deschane was with the Archambo Heating & Plumbing Co. as general solicitor and outside man, and in that capacity made many acquaintances among the archeticts and builders of the twin cities.

Mr. Deschane reports business very good at present, and among the recent orders secured by this concern is the heating and ventilating of a residence for Mr. Henry Lawrence, near Lake Calhoun.

PERFECTION IN INSIDE BLINDS.

We have before us the new section "B" catalogue of the Willer Manufacturing Co. of Milwaukee, Wis., descriptive of their well-known Inside Sliding Blinds, which is certainly a work of art with its many beautiful half-tone cuts showing the blinds in various positions, as well as illustrating some magnificent residences and municipal buildings throughout the country, furnished with the Willer Inside Sliding Blinds; it also contains strong testimonials from owners of the residences as to the perfection of the workings, and the general satisfaction given from the use of these staple products which have many desirable features to commend them to the architect, owner and builder.

SOMETHING ABOUT HARD PLASTER.

The gypsum obtained by the Cardiff Gypsum Plaster Co., of Ft. Dodge, Iowa, comes from a mine sixty feet below the surface from the center of a stratum twenty-two feet in thickness.

The material manufactured from this pure rock will carry one-fourth more sand, cover one-fourth more surface, and is, therefore, one-fourth cheaper at the same price than material manufactured from surface rock, or clay containing some traces of gypsum, but mixed with a variety of other materials

The United States Government is now using this plaster on its buildings, after having thoroughly tested the different kinds, and this fact speaks volumes as to the quality of the same, in view of the facilities which the government has for testing material of this character, and the high order of construction required.

One of the government buildings upon which the above product was used is the custom house and post-office at Kansas City, Mo., recently completed at a cost of \$2,000,000.

R. I. W. PAINT.

Among the large specifications calling for use of "R. I. W." Damp-Resisting Paint is the large store of John Wanamaker, which he is now erecting in New York City, the back of the limestone of which is to be coated with this material. There is hardly a large operation in the United States at present on which R. I. W. paint, konkerit coating, the new tockolith are not specified.

Tockolith is the greatest protection for iron or steel as a first-coater, it being a chemically-treated cement and is fast becoming very popular. S. J. Hewson & Co., No. 10 Third St. No., Minneapolis, are the general Northwestern agents for "R. I. W." Damp-Resisting Paint.

THEN AND NOW.

The Twin City Varnish Co., the most prominent manufacturers of varnishes in the Northwest, have issued a handsome booklet, pocket size, which they are sending out to their customers and friends.

The booklet contains 64 pages and cover. The cover is a bright turkey red and bears the title, "Then and Now."

Besides giving the important information that the company is not a new concern, it having been established in 1889, over fourteen years ago, a length of time sufficient to prove the merits and qualifications of their goods, the booklet also gives endorsements from hundreds of leading manufacturing concerns throughout the Northwest, as well as from the leading painters and decorators, all testifying to the uniform standard, quality and general high excellence and satisfaction in the use of their varnishes. For interior finish, etc., no better varnishes have ever been manufactured, and it must be a source of great satisfaction to the company making these reliable goods, to know that the trade prefers home-made to foreign goods, when they can be absolutely relied upon, like the Twin City Varnish Co.'s Varnishes.



Control Your Temperature

The Johnson System of Temperature Regulation is an absolute necessity in a well equipped, modern building.

It saves its own cost in a short time.

Promotes the physical wellbeing of the occupants.

Thousands of buildings equipped with our system.

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U.S. Eagle N M, and M F, are the perfect ternes for easy and satisfactory work. Bearing a very heavy coating of pure tin and new lead—hand dipped—they are very pliable and flexible; and for the same reason are impervious to water and weather. For more than 60 years M F was the world's standard for roofing, but U. S. Eagle (New Method) is an improvement on this excellent product that makes it near copper in its rust-resisting proper-

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ternes being so much superior to any other brand ever produced, we would like to place a sample in the hands of every architect, contractor, builder and roofer who is not acquainted with this great advance in roofing. Free, prepaid, on request. Our products are for sale by all first-class wholesale metal houses.

"A Fifty-Year Roof"—a manual of terne manufacture and roof making—an art booklet—free, if you will write to

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Manhanset House, Shelter Island, N. Y. using 1000-light plant.

A Perfect Working Machine.

Easy to re-charge, emits no odor, wastes no gas, guaranteed satisfactory

We are aware the Architects of the Northwest know of other machines which have proven failures, but we wish to inform them that the 'COLT'' will please in every case, and is being used extensively, especially throughout the East for lighting all kinds of buildings-large or small. COOKING can now be done economically and satisfactorily with Acelytene gas when the COLT generator is used. The many points of superiority of Acelytene over all other illuminants and the "COLT" over all other machines is well set forth in a finely illustrated catalogue which we will be glad to mail on application.

N. W. Agency, J. B. COLT CO.,

I. E. BURT, Manager 238 Hennepin Ave., MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

The "COLT" took highest award, World's Fair Buffalo. *************************

IMPORTANT

AHE great saving in both material and labor secured through our end-matched flooring invention, Patent No. 531,711, as well as the superior quality of the floors, has led to the general adoption of end matched flooring all over the United States.

The Government engineers, after the usual careful and painstaking estigation, have also approved it and specify its use in Government

While we expect to enforce our rights to the extreme limit of the law, we have made arrangements to protect the public and give builders and others an opportunity to procure the end-matched flooring without danger of litigation. This may be done through our licensees who, in danger of litigation. This may be done through our licensees who, in order to identify the licensed flooring, will invariable mark it Wilce Patent Jan 1st. 1805, together with their own name or trademark.

Rumors are affoat that the price of end-matched flooring will soon be advanced two or three dollars a thousand. We wish to say that there is no foundation for any such rumor, and in this connection we ask you to

FIRST. That the United States Circuit Court has fully sustained our Patent,

SECOND. That we not only consented but joined in the request to reopen the case to permit further evidence to be submitted.

THIRD. That this action does not indicate any change in the opinion of the Court, as it was by consent of both parties.

FOURTH. That end-matched flooring has not been advanced in price and will not be at any time, any more than is warranted by the usual conditions governing the lumber trade.

FIFTH. That there is not an inch of waste in laying end-matched flooring, and besides this there is a great reduction in the cost of laying it.

SIXTH. That it makes a better floor.

SEVENTH. That end-matched flooring will always be sold at a price that insures the builder a substantial financial saving over any other flooring in use of equal quality.

Еіднтн. That in using end-matched flooring an under or sub-floor is unnecessary, thereby saving the cost of material and of laying such

Use No Other, Buy No Other.

Respectfully yours. GEO. C. WILCE, E. HARVEY WILCE,
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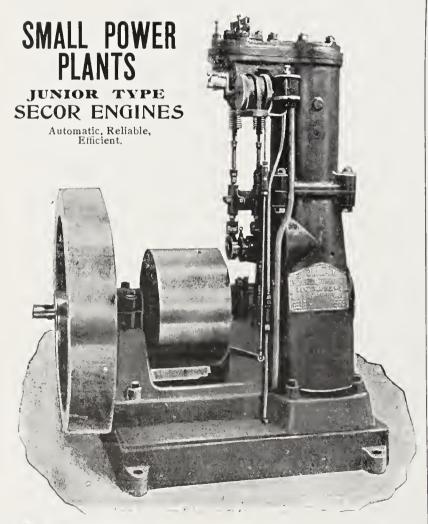
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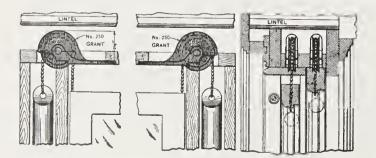


Fig. 884 Vertical Deep Well Pump.

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THE Western Architect

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THE flooring in one of the N. Y. Life Insurance Company's buildings in the West is of Southern pine, dressed and matched, laid on a lining floor of white pinc, all being supported by hollow tile fireproofing. In a large room immediately over the boiler and machinery room, which has been used little except for storage for a term of years and the temperature of which was usually somewhat above normal, it was found that considerable scctions of the Southern pine flooring had decayed badly, while the white pine under floor was much more sound. Parts thus affected had been flooded on one or more occasions by a leaking pipe, and the top floor had been oiled. It used to be said that builders of live-stock cars found the white pine more durable than the Southern for floors, and the above experience certainly confirms the notion that white pine will resist decay the longer.

J. J.

Concrete constructions have not earned the very bad record, which they have been making for the past year or more, altogether by reason of unfitness of the material for the uses to which it has been put. When buildings collapse they often so effectually cover the causes in the debris, but enough is told of some of these concrete failures to show that the building in which they occurred were in many cases in charge of a class of experts who in another calling would be rated as quacks. Here is a case—in one of the collapsed buildings having concrete columns molded in place, it had been noted that the wood easing or mold of one column was bulging as the material of upper stories was added, whereupon they took the precaution to hoop the bulging mold.

So much of this sort of work has been in evidence that Portland cement makers might well furnish experts to go with their goods if they propose to make headway in the building of large superstructures.

But after all is said about the matrial for use in superstructures—about the folly of most of the systems that have been tried and about the virtues of a few—it remains true that concrete construction is trying to displace the steel skeleton and hollow terra cotta filling, a system which has made a much better record than concrete is likely to make. The French seem to have devised the most scientific systems of concrete constructions, but a careful study of that of Hennebique even, raises doubts about the practicability of getting the work done well enough to carry out the theory.

ALTHO the schoolmasters and mistresses have relaxed a trifle and now let us use a simpler spelling for some dozen or so common words, some have that they of not to hav brot their labors to a close until they had profed us a rule or two that could be used to make the reform worth while. Suppose they wr to allow us to omit silent letrs when the spelling would not be so changed thereby as to eonflict with that of othr wrds with the same sound and anothr meaning. Then if, for exampl, one wr to specify sewr brix for the celr botm, he might effect a neat saving of letrs and giv ingenuity some play as wel. In fact it is no great credit to a profession whose chief mission in life is designing, that they submit to the schoolmasters at all in a field which invites so large a display of taste and ingenuity as does orthography. Come to think of it, this early-taught servility in the matter of spelling, this orthographical livery that the school teachers make us wear in our tenderer years, may be the long-sought psychological reason for the inability of American arehitecture to free itself from tradition and to bring out something distinctively its own. How can we look for any true outburst of genius in our line until we can as truly free ourselves from the thralldom of the spelling book as Shakespeare did.

26 26

A sort of pang comes to every architect who has the welfare of the youngsters at heart as he reads the announcement of Prof. Ware's retirement from the Department of Architecture of Columbia University. So many of the architects of today have been under his training or felt its influence that it seems altogether unnatural to think it possble that those who come after may be taught by any one else. At any rate no one who has ever shared the advantages of Prof. Ware's classes has the least notion that any one will ever be found who will inspire the personal regard which he has earned in his time. Tirelessly devoted to his work, decidedly academic in his notions of teaching—in Ruskin's day we have heard him say of him in his good humored way, "Yesa-a rare blackguard"-he was broad enough to be hospitable to everything that was worth while. We have even known him to set a student of somewhat investigating temper to ehecking up one of Viollet le Duc's empirical statements. While there is so little in Greek arehiteeture that can be formulated and made into stock in trade for the pedagogue, and while the Professor used to teach Roman architecture for all it was worth, he never was so really interested in one of the fellows as when that fellow was making an ineursion into Greek. Greek sculpture was to him a class by itself—unapproachable. No other students had such privileges as did his in early times; when "The Tech" went en masse on an excursion to Philadelphia in '76 he not only set the fellows working systematically at the great show, arranging a system of reports for the common benefit, but planned for them little excursions to such buildings as Girard College and the new City Hall, then far from built, where they were introduced to the venerable Thomas U. Walter, who gave them his notions of how to go about work.

On the 23d of June last the Supreme Court of Illinois made one of those decisions which every now and then surprise the layman by their simple and fundamental nature, a decision which may, if generally carried into effect with any degree of vigor, materially affect street building facades. As stated by The Public, the decision is to the effect "that city council privileges for the erection of structures over streets beyond the lot lines are illegal, on the ground that a city can have no authority to accept public streets on any other condition than that they shall be for public use."

This brief report does not, it will be noticed, make any prohibitions as to the rights of eity councils to say what may or may not be done below grade; but the question may not have been in issue. The decision, however, would seem to be construable into a denial of the right of councils to prescribe the limits of sidewalk openings and their railings as well as all bays, balconies, cornices or other ornaments above, and naturally to prohibit owners from constructing anything above grade that shall in any way stand in the way of the "public use" of streets.

Even should this decision be followed by other states, however, it is doubtful if the present state of public opinion will force any very rigid adherence to its logical conclusions as far as building is concerned. Councils have for years enacted rules limiting projections over street lines, both of building features and signs, but owners have paid such scant attention to these that it is no uncommon sight to meet flagrant violations of these ordinances that have never raised a protest from near neighbors, or from others adversely interested, to say nothing about building inspectors or other officials.

One might suppose that the principle underlying this Illinois decision might prove to be of very great significance to corporations whose business depends upon the use of the space above streets for electric wiring and might easily lead to the removal of one of the most unsightly features of modern American cities if only there were enough people to insist upon the enforcement of the principle.

As to street facades, enforcement of the principle underlying this decision might at least have the effect of showing owners and designers of street facades that there is some limit to the offense they may give; although while no limitations are set to the height of the skyseraper, it is perhaps not worth while to raise objections to any encroachments in the way of projections over sidewalks that may be attempted. In fact, while American communities remain so under the spell of wealth in large bunehes it is perhaps as well that the skyscraper be permitted unhampered expression of that peculiar domination. The skyseraper riot was hardly well under way before it began to include in some of those gratuitious offenses for which we look in riots, as when in Boston, notorious for its narrow streets, with need of air and light, the Ames building, not content with its fourteen stories, must run its wall up ever so much more and then shoot out six or eight feet of corniee over the street;

or in smoke-darkened Chicago, the Monadnock, not content with throwing its sixteen stories of shadow over the street, must select a wall material which would absorb more and reflect less light than any other known. True, not all the designers of skyserapers have laid themselves out to take all the air and light they could from the neighborhood. Here and there some modesty has been shown in the selection of the materials of the facade, those absorbing little light being favored. To find a skyscraper topped out with any regard for time-honored usage in preserving the light and air of streets is more rare. Lct any onc cross-section a typical American street facade of, say, twelve stories, then let him draw another cross-section of a typical Parisian or Berlin facade, assuming any such height admissable in either of those cities, and he will find that the American type takes as much light from the street as would a building of the foreign type two stories higher.

32 32

GOVERNMENT by injunction does not appear at this writing to be the worst thing encountered by Local Union No. 292, International Brotherhood Electrical Workers of America. The injunction in this case looks to the lavman to be of the sweeping sort and to be leveled at the "sympathetic strike," and to be a display of nerve by Judge Cray, who must look to the people for another term in office. But Judge Cray's decision is liable to review by a higher court, the members of which are also elective, and while the decision doubtless helped the employers to make a successful stand against the electrical workers, they appear to have been able to do so without it. We do not learn that the issue is carried to the Supreme Court—in faet, the workers would appear to be too busy holding themselves together to want to have it out with the court. The whole trouble seems to have come from premature strenuosity. Two electrical workers were wiring a building in which a non-union paperhanger was working. Failure to deprive this man of his job or drive him into an appropriate union led to the abandonment of the work by the workers mentioned, and as their employers refused them other work their men struck. These contractors then sub-let some of their work, which made trouble generally. The firm who undertook to finish the little job upon which the first trouble oeeurred are also contractors for all, or nearly all, of the mechanical plant of the State Capitol at St. Paul. Their electrical workers on that building quit work in a body, leaving their tools scattered about the building and failing to turn in the keys to their chests-disappearing, in fact, till next pay day. This firm showed no lack of firmness, and argued besides that having carried these men on their pay rolls during the winter, they were under no further obligations to them, and proceeded as best they could without them. What effect the injunction may have had in heading off sympathetic strikes cannot, of course, be told, but the feeling is that nothing of the sort was "due" any way.

In the course of the unpleasantness the "business agents" served copies of the union rules upon contractors.

These are businesslike in their way, as when they prohibit members from working on Labor Day at any price, or when they declare that fines "eannot be remitted or in any way donated back to the member," but they did not impress the contractors as any concern of theirs. Some fifteen of the contractors, however, joined in subscribing to a list of rules applying to inside wiremen, which rules are shown to every man as employed and declared to be the conditions of employment. In these rules the wage scale is not uniform nor as high as that mentioned in the rules of the workers. Other rules are as follows:

DISCRIMINATION AND LIMITATION.

3rd. There shall be no discrimination by employer or employe against any person because he is or is not a member of any society or organization. Every workman who elects to do electric work will be required to work peaceably and harmoniously with all his fellow employes.

There shall be no limitations as to the amount of work a man shall perform during his working day.

APPRENTICES.

4th. No limitations shall be placed upon the opportunities of any person to learn the trade. The number of apprentices or helpers to be employed shall be determined solely by the employer.

DISCRETION.

5th. All workmen shall be at liberty to work for whomsoever they see fit, and all employers are at liberty to employ or discharge whomsoever they see fit, with due regards to all existing contracts.

INTERFERENCE.

6th. There shall be no interference on the part of the representative of any organization or any person or persons whatsoever, with the workmen during working hours. The workmen shall take their instructions only from the employer or his representative in charge of the work, and they shall not at any time interfere with any other tradesmen at work on the same job.

FOREMEN.

7th. The foreman in charge of the work shall only act as the agent of the employer.

STRIKES AND LOCKOUTS.

8th. We disapprove absolutely of strikes and lockouts, and favor an equitable adjustment of all differences between employers and employes. Any and all workmen going out on a "sympathetic strike" shall consider themselves permanently discharged.

EMPLOYERS' ATTITUDE.

9th. We consider the foregoing principles as absolutely essential to the successful conduct of our business, and they are therefore not subject to arbitration.

The strike did not shut off the work of electrical contractors to an alarming extent, and now contractors inform us that getting workmen is the least of their troubles.

It is evident that the "business agent" in this case cracked his whip before he had the reins well in hand.

The work of the Public Industrial Art Sehool of Philadelphia, in which drawing, modelling, and carving were taught to 1,100 pupils during the last winter, has met with such commendation that the Board of Education has decided to increase the faculty and the rooms so that 500 more pupils may be admitted next season. The instruction is based on the methods devised by J. Liberty Tadd.

HOUSEHOLD DECORATION.

The Electrolier in the Home.

In the artistic furnishing of the home today no point receives more careful consideration than does its effective lighting. The designing of beautiful electroliers has now grown to such proportions that it is recognized as a distinct branch of art. In some of its forms, notably in the bronze statues and groups used as electroliers in drawing rooms, ateliers and in the archways between rooms, the electrolier has reached a high degree of beauty.

Unlike the gas fixture, the electrolier is almost always designed to suit the apartment for which it is intended. Certain styles, moreover, have come to be recognized as belonging to certain rooms, and to no others. The electrolier artist makes a special study of this side of the subject, from the great Louis XV. chandelier, which is appropriate only for the drawing-room or salon, furnished in that style, to the thousands of dainty conceits fitted for nothing but a lady's bouldoir or a small reception room.

For the front hall the lantern form of electrolier is the most popular. These may be had in any number of styles, from the most ornate to the severely plain, Colonial, old English, Dutch, Louis XIV., etc., to suit the character of the house.

Families having homes at the seashore sometimes obtain something odd and appropriate by simply taking fishermen's lanterns for this purpose, hanging them in the hall just as they are, except that an electric candle is introduced instead of the usual one of tallow. The antlers of a stag often are used to form the electrolier in the hall of a country or a mountain home. The electric cord runs invisibly through the antlers and the lights are made to spring out here and there among the short horns. Antlers are also used in dining rooms and libraries, for which, however, they afford hardly sufficient lighting.

For long corridors, bracket lights are better than hanging lamps, and bronze statues stand in the archways leading into rooms. These statues are of endless variety, both American and French artists having produced many of rare grace and beauty. The subjects are limited only by the necessity of introducing the lights appropriately and in ways which will carry out the idea of the design. In all cases the electric cords are perfectly concealed, passing up the interior of the statue. A god shaking the lightning in his hands is a favorite theme with electrolier artists, each shaft of lightning being tipped with a little bulb. Sometimes it is a woman who holds the lightning in her hands. Women reaching up to pick flowers from trees, bulbs being concealed in the center of the blossoms, and the lights shining forth from petals of colored glass or of silk, is another theme found in a variety of forms.

One of the oddest of these bronze statues represents a nymph with butterfly wings tripping over a field of flowers. The eyes in the wings are formed of bits of colored glass. The lights, hidden in the wings, shine forth in real butterfly tints amid the bronze.

In drawing-rooms antique chandeliers of all periods have been converted into electroliers, and hundreds of designs after these ancient patterns are made every year for rooms which are furnished in antique style and demand them. Besides these each season produces a great number of novelties for what is generally the handsomest room in the house. In hanging fixtures for the drawing-room the latest thing is a great bunch of flowers and foliage, with the blossoms drooping downward, each flower holding a light. These electroliers are all of metal, the leaves being colored green and the petals tinted to represent the shades of the natural flower. All the large flowers have been utilized in the different examples of this novelty, producing great variety of form and coloring.

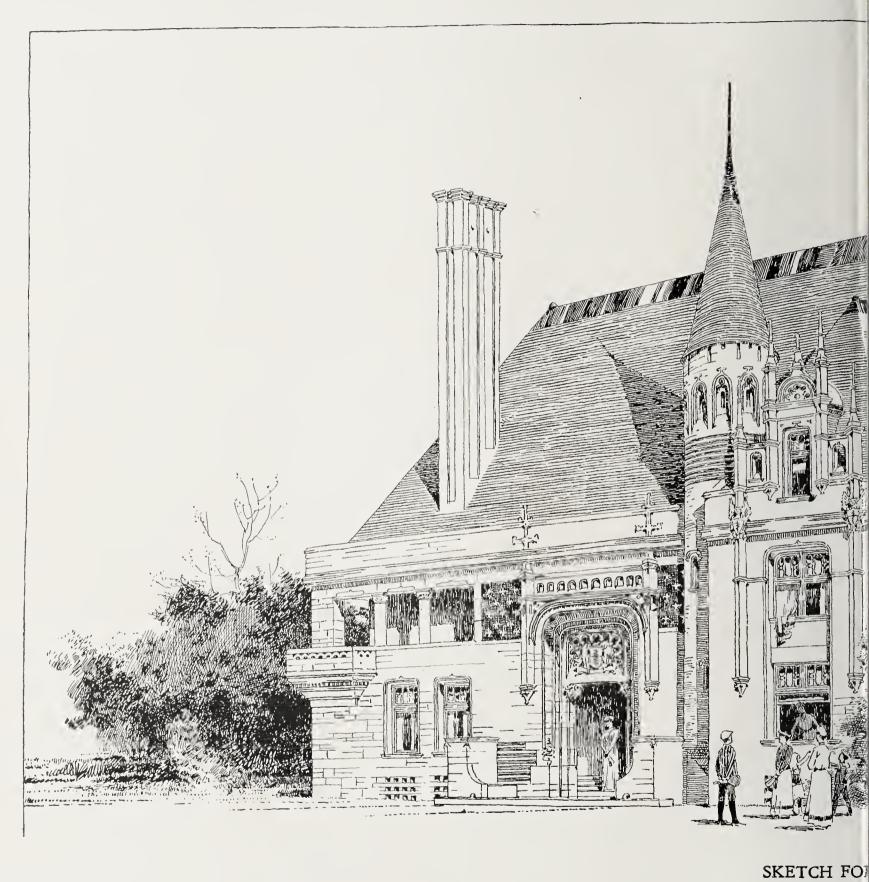
Lamps for corner tables are also designed in elaborate forms for the drawing-orom. A beautiful one represents a portico of bronze, covered with a dome of glass, rich in opal tints. The back of the lamp, which stands against the wall, is closed and carved to represent the door and front of a temple, but the front and sides of the portico are open, the dome being supported by pillars. The bulb is hidden beneath the dome, where it lights up the opal tinted glass and sends a flood of radiance downward through the archways.

The hanging fixtures for the dining-room and library are much the same and are larger than those of modern design for the hall and drawing-room. They are made to cast a strong light down upon the table, leaving the upper part and sides of the room in shadows. A favorite is the umbrella or octagon shape, the framework being of iron, brass or bronze and the sides of plates of colored glass, meeting almost in a point above. In the more expensive form the glass is covered with a lacework of the metal, often intricate and delicate in design. From the bottom of these fixtures a long fringe generally hangs downward, softening the glare below. Flemish chandeliers, the framework of iron, finished in Egyptian or Pompeiian verde, giving it a dull green hue, and the glass of dark green tints, are odd and have become popular in dining-rooms furnished in unusual or artistic effects.

Standing electroliers are not placed upon the dining table because of the impossibility of concealing the electric cord upon the white cloth. For the mantel or side tables of the dining-room electroliers in the form of candelabra are appropriate, the artificial candle being one of the prettiest illusions in electric lighting. The tiny bulb at the top of the candle is just the size, color and shape of a real candle flame, and when lighted could almost be mistaken for the genuine article.

When wax candles are burned upon the dining table electric brackets are generally placed about the walls to light the rest of the room. Sconces of all periods and nations, conventional designs and novelties almost numberless, have been made for dining-rooms of all styles and sizes. A sconce designed this season for a dining-room with artistic furnishings represented a Grecian lamp standing upon a shelf. Another set placed in a Dutch dining-room had no ornamental piece behind the lights, this place being filled in each sconce with a large delft plate from the mistress' collection of favorite china.





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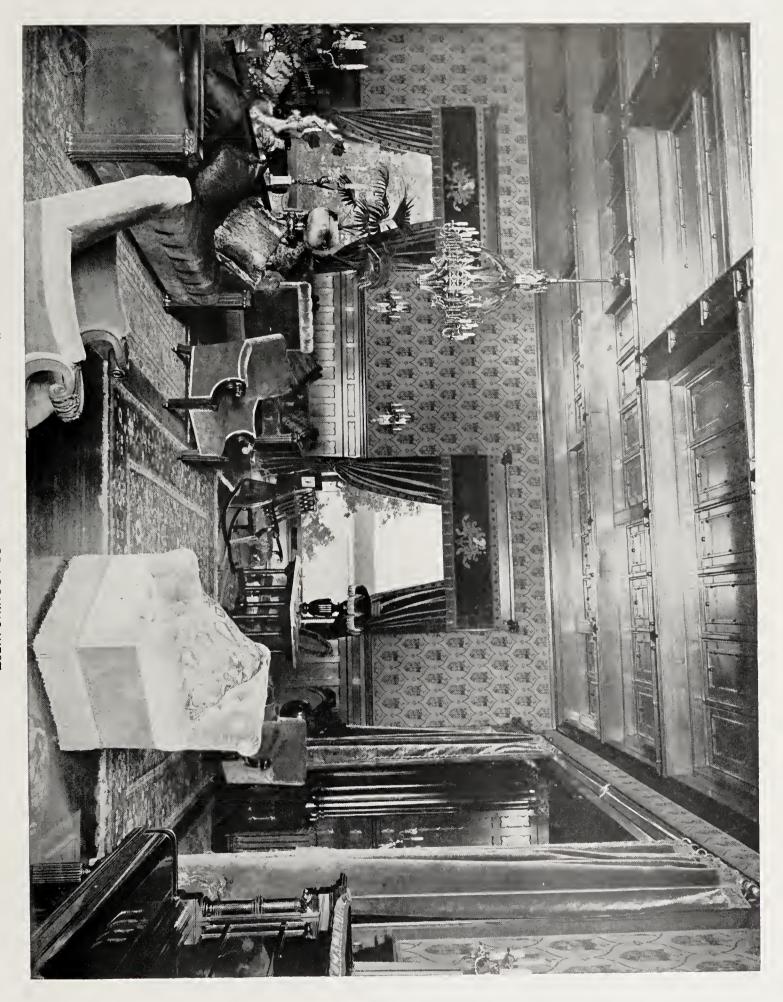
CHARLESOLL OF OVEROOLS
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TERRACE AT WEST FRONT, "HARROSE HALL," LAKE GENEVA, WIS.

Henry Lord Gay, Architect, Chicago.

THE SALES STATE OF PANCIO



"HARROSE HALL," VIEW IN PARLOR LOOKING WEST.

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"HARROSE HALL," DINING ROOM AND ANTE ROOM, Showing Doors Opening into Tea Arbor.

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"HARROSE HALL," VIEW IN DINING ROOM LOOKING WEST.

Henry Lord Gay, Arch tect, Chicago.

LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF ALINO'S LIBRARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF CLANDIS For the library or sitting-room table the standing lamp is often preferred to the hanging fixture. In designing these the artist is too apt to forget usefulness in his desire for beauty. A reading lamp, in which both these points have been considered, is about eighteen inches high and represents a simple, graceful plant and flower. The plant is of bronze and the petals are of white glass.

For the boudoir and reception-room sconces and brackets are favorites. The designs of these are lighter and more fanciful than those used in the corridor and dining-room, and the effect of candelabra is often preferred. Many of these electroliers are made so that they may hold either the artificial or wax candle, as occasion demands. In many homes also provision is made for gas as well as electric lighting, and the electroliers are designed with the idea of being used for both.

This season a number of tiny electroliers have come into vogue for the bureau and the desk. One for the bureau is an imitation in bronze of the old fashioned candle-stick, with a deep rimmed plate for the base. A brass shade holder is clasped around the artificial candle, and holds a shade formed of a large, flat shell, rich in opal coloring, before the light.

A trumpet shell forms an important part in one of the oddest of the desk electroliers. A maiden in bronze, about nine inches high, holds the shell aloft, the wide end slanting downward. The light is within the shell, sending a soft glow through its pearly substance and falling with full strength through the open end down upon the table.



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ART IN THE WEST.

The West has been credited with being utilitarion to the last degree. It has been considered that it had no higher aim than the acquisition of dollars—and to a crtain extent this has been true. The dwellers on the plains had but little else to inspire their Western journey than the search for a better livelihood. They turned the sod in order to make money; they kept up the struggle to pay the debts that had been acquired in the effort to conquer the new conditions. Now, the conditions being better understood, and the soil being subjugated to the needs of the people, there has come the aspiration for a higher life and more refined surroundings. So there are reports of a return to nature and the adornment of the new municipalities to a degree that is worthy of emulation in the East as well as throughout the West.

In Kansas City, for instance, that bustling Western metropolis, with its population of 170,000, there is being expended the last of a park fund of \$5,500,000, transforming some of the unsightly thoroughfares into most beautiful and artistic paseos and boulevards. The park system projected will give the city one of the most delightful series of breathing places in the nation, and the best skill of architects is being used in completing the structures that are to give the artistic touches to the surroundings.

But, more than that, the younger generation is being educated in the art of municipal decoration. The Civic Improvement Society of the city is offering prizes for the best kept flower-beds at private residences, and it has distributed free of charge at the public schools over 60,000 packages of flower seeds, nearly every one of which will be utilized in the coming season for the adornment of homes, most of them the humbler sort, where, but for this effort, there would be no decoration for the bare ground save a fringe of tomato cans and sardine boxes. The movement is something worth encouragement, and should enhance the beauty of the city materially.

As compared with the inciting of a lively interest in the complexities of broncho-busting, for many years a favorite pastime of the West, or even of elaborate preparation for grotesque carnival extravagance, this new method of expenditure of effort deserves praise. The settlement of the West was upon such a basis of business-seeking as to preclude for many years the higher life indispensable in the true development of a commonwealth or a municipality. The eagerness for financial independence seemingly blinded the populace, made up largely of those who had left the East because of limited means, to the advantages of upbuilding the æsthetic and the ornamental. In the architecture even this sentiment became manifest.

It is also noticeable that the public-park spirit has taken hold of the West. Many states gave no attention to this feature in their inception. Now they are

remedying it so far as possible by adding statutes allowing special taxes for the purpose of sustaining such additions to cities of the middle and upper classes. In Oklahoma, for instance, a territory that is yet far from statehood, the county-seat towns make contracts with reputable citizens for the planting of trees around the public buildings and school houses. The men and women who have acquired means through the enhanced wealth of the West in the past half decade have put it to good use in encouraging the artistic and the beautiful in home surroundings and in city possessions. They have at least made a start toward better things.

The sentiment has extended into the interior Western cities, and reports tell of several small towns of Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas and Nebraska where prizes have been offered by public-spirited citizens for the handsomest lawns and the prettiest park areas.—Architect and Builders' Journal, Baltimore, Md.

PARQUET FLOORS.

The finish and care of hardwood or parquet floors has been and is now a source of great trouble and annovance to housekeepers. Except in cases where the owners have taken the trouble themselvs to look the matter up, or have instructed their architects to be particular about that item, it is too bad, that where beautiful floors have been laid, in so many cases they have been left to be finished by persons who have not troubled themselves with finding out the best method of finishing. The usual way for such persons to do is to treat them with shellac or varnish —which is all wrong, as a moment's thought will convince any one, that a surface that is constantly walked over, needs something different to the coating of gum, that is left on the surface, after the spirit used in dissolving (the shellac or varnish) is evaporated. This coating becomes then brittle, and is ground up into minute particles by the nails in the boots and swept away, leaving the wood bare, right where it is most exposed to view.

As a matter of course, the beauty of the floor is soon gone, and instead of being an attractive part of the furnishing, the sanitary consideration very often is about all that keeps one from nailing a carpet over the whole floor.

Others use linseed oil, and everybody knows that an oil finish is one of the best methods of finishing wood, but the objection to that method is, that each time the oil is applied it darkens the wood, and in a short time the different kinds of wood are of the same color. Now the question arises, which is the true and only way of finishing floors properly, and the answer is, by the use of hard wax, which, however, must be so prepared that the trouble of applying it and the stickiness attending ordinary beeswax and turpentine is entirely obviated. The wax is treated with special liquids and made into a preparation.

Among the many different things tried, hard wax was found to be the most satisfactory in its results. It is so simple, that when once the floor has been properly filled and finished with it, any servant can renew and keep the floors fresh and bright as long as the wood lasts, and as it does not materially change the color, the wood always retains its beauty. An application about once a year is all that is necessary, if the floors are rubbed over, when a little dull, with a weighted brush or cloth.

In repolishing old floors that have been in use for a length of time and become dull looking, it is only necessary after they have been cleaned, to rub on a thin coat of the hard wax finish with the brush or cloth, as stated before. If the floors have been varnished and the varnish is worn off in places, as mentioned above, the best way is to have the varnish scraped off, and then a thin coat of the hard wax should be applied and treated as the new wood after it is filled. But if it is inconvenient to have the floor scraped, or the expense too much, the main object being to restore the color in those places, which are worn and defaced, the following mixture is recommended: one part linseed oil, one part liquid drier and two parts turpentine; a cloth should be dampened with this and applied to the worn and defaced places which will have the desired effect. After being wiped off clean, it ought to dry twenty-four hours, and then polished with the hard wax finish.

It is very important never to use the wax over oil that is not thoroughly dry, as the floor would invariably be sticky.

Finally it would be well to mention that hard wood or parquet floors should never be washed with soap and water, as it raises the grain and discolors the wood. After the floors have been properly filled and finished with the hard wax, dirt will not get into the pores, but stays on the surface and consequently can be removed with a brush or cloth, or if necessary, dampen cloth with a little turpentine. This will take off any stain from the finish.

VENEERED CONSTRUCTION.

An architect was submitting plans of a building to a committee not long ago, and one of the committeemen, an idealist, who had led a sheltered life and whose motive was truth, said: "Mr. Architect, there is one thing I want to insist upon, and that is that there must be nothing veneered about this building." "My dear sir," said the architect, "it will all be veneered. The outside will be veneered with brick, the inside will be veneered with plaster, the woodwork will be veneered with paint and varnish, the roof will be veneered with copper, and the yard will be veneered with grass. All buildings are veneered with something. The building may be of stone or terra cotta and brick, or concrete and wood, but if it is architecture it is veneered." The plans were accepted.

CHANGE IN ARCHITECTURAL TASTE.

BY HERBERT CROLY.

Whereas, however, all the conditions combined formerly to bring about a gloomy monotony of material and design, now, on the contrary, all the conditions conspire to bring about the most extraordinary contrasts of design and material. The houses that are reconstructed are, of course, no longer built in rows. Even when they are erected by speculative builders three or four at a time, each house has the distinction of an individual design. Moreover, it is not too much to say that architecturally, at least, there is a persistent and a deliberate striving after individuality. Whatever such a house be, it must at any rate be different. It is as if New York domestic architecture after submitting tamely for a generation and a half to the most distressing and lugubrious uniformity, had at length decided to practice and enjoy its freedom to the very limit. All conventions in the matter have been cast aside. It seems settled that for a while New York shall symbolize in the design of its private dwellings the incoherent multiplicity of its origins—in race, place of birth, and æsthetic traditions. —Architectural Record.

The first installment of Emperor William's gift of casts to the Germanic Museum of Harvard University has arrived from Germany, and consists of 118 cases of casts and parts of casts, including many of the largest and most valuable pieces in the emperor's gift. The casts are being transferred to the museum, and the work of mounting them will begin shortly. There are some eighty cases to come, and they are expected to arrive in two shipments in the near future. During the mounting of the casts the museum will be closed, and will not be open to the public until October.



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WHY PAINT PEELS.

A fruitful cause of the peeling of paint is when the several coats are successively applied before the foundation or preceding coat has thoroughly dried, the result being that the liquid in the outer or last applied coats softens the pigment in those previously applied. The resulting mass, containing a notable amount of the more volatile elements of the liquid beginning to dry from the outside surface, forms a thin but hard or vitreous surface that retards the further evaporation of the volatiles, and prevents the access of oxygen from the air, which is necessary in the process of drying.

If the surface thus covered has been painted while at a low temperature or during damp or foggy atmospheric conditions and soon after there happens to be a marked rise in the temperature or a fall in the hygroscopic condition of the atmosphere, then the paint is liable to peel at once, or soon after the change. This effect is hastened in the case where the coating is a heavy one, or one hard to spread by reason of the earthy or inert substances in the pigment, or if benzine has been used as a drier.

As a general rule, the more substances that enter into a coat of paint, either as pure pigments, inert substances or in the composition of the liquid, the more liable is it to peel. A small amount of fish or animal or non-drying vegetable oils, though oxidised by the addition of metallic salts and used in connection with linseed or other siccative oils, also hastens and provides for the certainty of the peeling.

A pigment composed of a number of substances the different materials of which by themselves would form the basis of a good paint, when combined together with the liquid, necessarily must undergo a different chemical action than the several members of the pigment would have done had they been used atone.

This chemical action is furthermore complicated by the combinations going on in the liquid, which, formed of a number of different elements that act and re-act upon one another, and mixed with the heterogeneous pigment, develops a series of chemcial actions in the mass, the weaker element of which, either the mineral or the organic, is the first to break down or change, the decay of which hastens the decomposition of the others and releases the bond between the paint and the surface over which it is spread, and the peeling process is effected.

That the chemical changes exist in the above stated case cannot be denied, but have not been well accounted for. The fact remains, however, that certain paints peel, and though analysis of the peeled portion may reveal nothing to indicate the reason for the peeling, it is seldom possible to get a sample of the original paint as applied, to compare its constituents with the peeled sample, and the cause is relegated to the hidden drawer of the paint shop, near which some scopegoat can be found to bear the burden of failure.— Exchange.

THE DUTY OF ARCHITECTS.

Mr. Geo. B. Post, the well-known New York archetict, in an address before the Nineteenth Century Club, of that city, on the dangers surrounding the modern skyscraper, said:

"As skyscrapers are daily increasing in numbers it develops upon the archetect designing the same to avail himself of every safeguard which the experience gained in previous fires and the tests made by different bodies, chemists, etc., show to be efficient, and thereby stave off the evil day predicted by Mr. Post. Take two instances of recent occurrence—the Park Avenue Hotel fire and that in the Roosevelt building. Both these structures were presumed to be fireproof; both had segmental terra cotta floors, solidly constructed, almost indestructible by fire, which came through the ordeal unscathed; yet in each building were found defects of construction to which the subsequent loss of both life and property is clearly traceable; and those defects could have been easily and cheaply prevented by the use of proper fireproof material. In the Park avenue case the wooden lath partitions in the half and rooms, the wooden trimming of the elevator, etc., when reached by the flames. giving out dense smoke, suffocated the victims; in the Roosevelt fire the iron columns supporting the roofs, being unprotected by any fireproof material, speedily collapsed, bringing down the arch and crushing the firemen.

"The cry again is that corrosion of the steel members of our skyscrapers will eventually eat out the life of the metal, General Sooy-Smith allowing twenty-five years and Mr. Toch but fifteen years, in the particular cases coming under their respective observation, for the total destruction by corrosion of such members, and necessarily the collapse of the building.

"Experiments designed to secure some preventive of , corrosion clearly show that liquid Portland cement, or, as Mr. Toch calls it, an aqueous mixture of cement, prevents corrosion of steel; so will concrete when properly and closely applied to the metal while the concrete is quite wet. Edison also indorses the claim. Having thus safeguarded the metal members from corrosion and protected the iron columns by some fireproof material (either porous terra cotta or a proper mixture of concrete), it remains to provide that the partitions dividing off the spaces be so constructed as to confine a fire within such bounds. Partitions of lath, either wood or metal, and plaster have too often proved unreliable; so will those of terra cotta or any other fireproof material if constructed as we often see them—but part way up to the ceiling and continued by wooden sashes with thin glass panes. The fireproof portion stands, but the other soon gives way to the flames, and the object designed by the fireproof partition is lost. A fireproof partition should start from the floor arch itself and be continuous to the ceiling. Openings for light should be provided by metal sashes with wireglass panes.

"Our present building code and the underwriters are doing their share toward preventing, as you say, the erection of abnormal, unsafe structures, but it rests primarily upon the architect himself; it is not alone incumbent upon him to design with all necessary fireproof features, but also closely to supervise the construction itself and to see that the material specified by him is used. Take concrete, for example. That word denotes to the architect a compound of one part Portland cement, two parts sharp sand, and three parts to five parts of slag, broken stone or good cinders. To the ordinary observer, basing his definition upon what he sees called concrete, the word connotes all sorts of mixtures—some of them undreamed of by the architect. When collapsing concrete floors result from the use of such material; when entire sections of segmental hollow-tile arches, unharmed by the fire, collapse through the falling of unprotected iron columns, on whom should the blame rest?"

A report from Binalhaven, Me., says that the eight monoliths for the Cathedral of St. John the Divine are ready to be shipped to this city. They will be loaded on specially constructed barges and towed four sections at a time. The sections are forty and twenty feet long, and the eight columns cost \$250,000. The contractors will just about square themselves on the deal, as over a year was wasted in a vain attempt to turn out the columns whole, and a special \$50,000 lathe was built for the purpose, which, after three monoliths had been broken, proved useless. The rough shafts measure 64x8½x7 feet, and weigh 310 tons each. Only one other structure, St. Isaac's Cathedral, at St. Petersburg, has columns approaching these in size.







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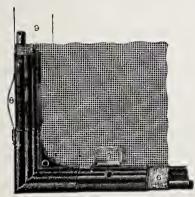
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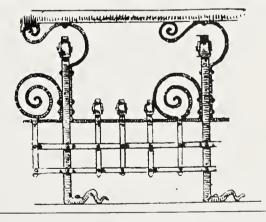
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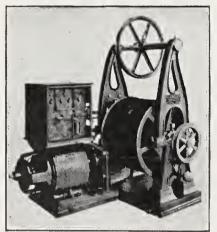
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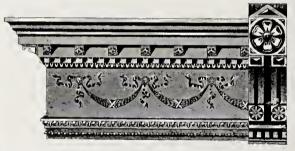
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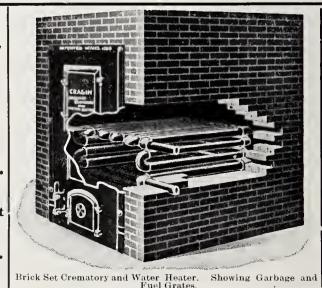
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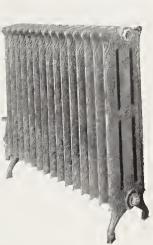
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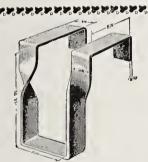
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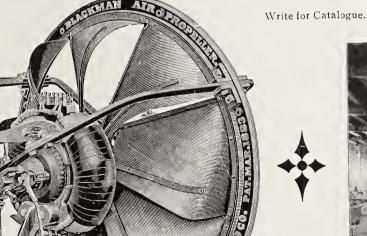


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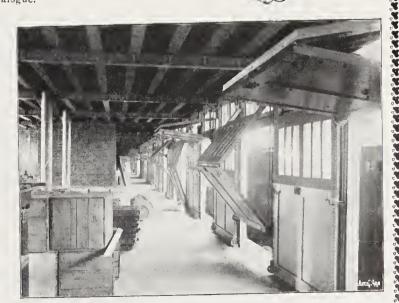
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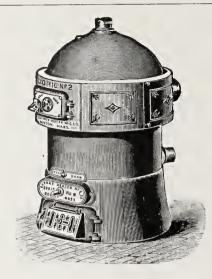
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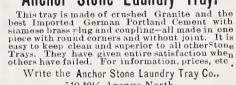
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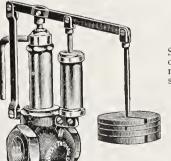
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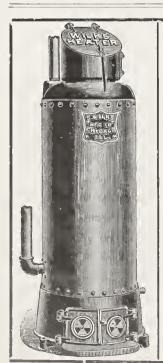
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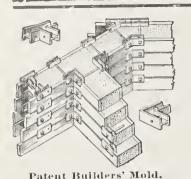


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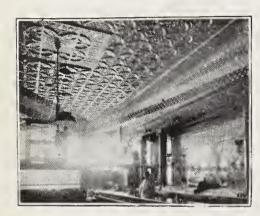
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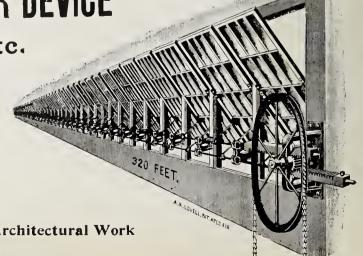
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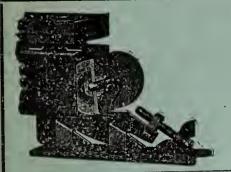
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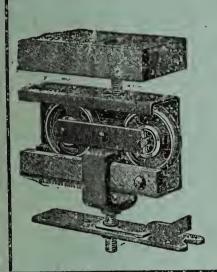
"He who knows not, and knows not he knows not,
He is a fool; shun him.
He who knows not, and knows he knows not,
He is simple; teach him.
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He is asleep, waken him.
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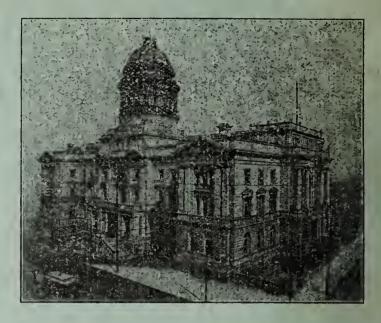
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