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Conventionalities or Mirrors of Washington and New York

By LOUIS LA BEAUME

THOSE who were present at the Sixty-Second Convention of The American Institute of Architects, begun in Washington and brought to a happy conclusion in New York, will cherish their own impressions and need not read those of another. But, for those who were not there, and who are either content or regretful, it may be well to set down some of the prizes and penalties of attendance.

At the outset it must be admitted that Washington in the springtime is always delightful. Even delegates to Red Cross Conferences, Child Welfare Rallies, and D. A. R. Conventions enjoy it; to say nothing of Shriners or Knights of the Golden Fleece. It is the Capital of our country, and a capital Capital at that, with even brighter prospects for the future if we as architects continue to work our will upon it. Being in Washington one feels himself imbued with some lofty purpose or heroic ideal. All sorts of delegates and representatives of constituencies get that way; and it is almost impossible in the shadow of the great dome, not to be noble or at least to talk noble. Nobility comes easy to architects anyway, if indeed it is not an attribute of their very blood. Out of the atmosphere of our august statesmen and sainted leaders we may slip now and then; but in Washington we do as Washington did.

His presence seemed to brood over our deliberations at this convention as we dedicated ourselves anew to the inviolability of the L'Enfant plan. If

ever a Father had cause to be proud of his children the Father of his Country had reason to be proud of the American Institute, its Committee on Public Works, and its other Committee on the National Capital toiling in collaboration with the high officials of the Federal Government to make the city of Washington in beauty and majesty the symbol of our Country's fondest hopes.

The first morning session of the Convention was devoted to this high theme. The pitch was struck by President Hammond in his apt and forceful opening address, caught by Mr. Peaslee, carried on by Mr. Medary and brought to a lucid and lofty climax by Colonel Ulysses S. Grant, III, Chairman of the National Capital Park and Planning Commission. The simple force and logic of Colonel Grant's address was invigorating. "Let us have beauty," he said almost as tersely as his illustrious grandfather said, "Let us have peace."

Full reports of each session and every word spoken, wise or otherwise, or just in between, will be printed in the Proceedings so that every man may see for himself just what he escaped, or what he missed. The Treasurer's report will be found there, and flattering allusions to him as the greatest Treasurer since—money began to talk. It may be thought invidious to single out one or another member of the Institute administration for special mention, but, if as Americans we respect the financial prowess of Secretary Mellon, as architects we ought to acclaim the Secretary of our own Treasury, Mr.

Edwin Bergstrom. He gives the impression of great wisdom, and seems on very familiar terms with money. He puts it in its right place, orders it into this column or that like a general, makes it breed like a stock farmer, builds up a sickly fund like a nursing mother; and does it all with a smile. He comes from California, but he's modest about that, too.

Of course nobody sits right through every session of a Convention from beginning to end, except perhaps the Secretary and the President himself. Oh, there may be here and there a case of congenital inertia; but most delegates try to miss something just as do most Senators and Congressmen, if they have had any experience at all. Even the President, no matter how well he may preside, and President Hammond presides very well, likes to relax. It is then that the Vice-President comes forward and beams, and sways the multitude with his golden voice. This particular Vice President is a man of many gifts, urbane, eloquent, erudite. He was just as good in New York as he was in Washington, but perhaps that is because he has been to Washington so many times that the spell of the place has become fixed.

One of the main reasons (at least so I am told) why these Institute Conventions run so smoothly, enabling delegates to drift in and out almost at will, is that the committees and the honorable Board of Directors do all the real, heavy work beforehand. And one of the reasons for their efficiency is that the Executive Secretary helps them over the bumps. A secondary reason perhaps, but this is only my own inference, is that a good many contentious matters have been worn down pretty thin by previous conventions. Such all-day suckers as the Competition Code, the Small House Service Bureau, the Structural Service Department and the Producers' Council have now been licked into shape and have consequently lost much of their pungency. Likewise the subject of Ethics receives only passing comment, from which fact we may be justified in at least suspecting that our manners are improving, whatever may be happening to our morals. The Board's report this year maintained pretty well, throughout its length, the high note struck by its first references to the Development of the National Capital. And everybody liked it all the more because it was read but once and the subjects with which it dealt were dispatched at sight.

The optimism of the Committee on the National Capital was somewhat qualified by the lack of funds at present available by Government appropriation for the proper development of the District of Columbia Park System. This faint note of sadness was reflected by a headline in the Washington Post reading: "Architects Criticize Stingy Policy of Government." Now, as a matter of fact, we didn't

put it that way at all. Every reference throughout the Convention to the Federal Government and its high officials was respectful, even punctiliously polite. We were grateful, we were flattering. So we couldn't help feeling sensitive about the headline and some of us insinuated that Mr. William Harmon Beers' Committee on Public Information had slipped on the very steps of the throne. Fortunately Mr. Grady, who is Mr. Beers' accomplished accomplice, was present to protect his mate. He absolved him, he absolved the reporters, absolved the editor, absolved everybody. His attitude toward the headline was stoic. He simply said, "The headline is one of the hazards of life and must be accepted as such." I repeated this later to George Chappell at the tea table, or was it while we were examining a display of plumbing fixtures at the League show—well, anyway, George said, "Grady's right, why worry, it might have been worse; suppose the big black letters had spelled, 'Architects Cut Mellon'?"

Anyhow, the offending words did not appear until after Medary got his medal. He received it directly from Secretary Mellon himself after a marvelous sleight-of-hand performance. The thing was neatly and impressively done. President Hammond had it and while he was gracefully and eloquently explaining its importance, he slipped it to Vice President Hewlett. The Vice President then beguiled the throng with a few well-chosen words and when he had finished Secretary Mellon had the gold piece in his hand and in a jiffy had passed it to its rightful owner. This occurred on the evening of the first day at the Corcoran Gallery of Art in the presence of a distinguished company of brave men and beautiful women.

The Report of the Board of Directors ran through the three-days session in Washington, but was fed to the delegates a little at a time. There were several cunningly devised intermissions for the discussion of matters of supposedly equal or greater importance. One of these was the subject of Long Range Planning of Public Works. Mr. William T. Foster, the author of "The Road to Plenty," which sounds as though it ought to be a best seller, but isn't, made quite a clever speech in which he explained away hard times and unemployment delightfully. It's quite simple. There must be a nice balance between production and consumption. When the producer's market begins to fall away, and when his customers refuse to buy because they have all the automobiles they want or because they feel broke, the producer must perforce reduce or cease production. Men are laid off with a further loss of appetite and resource on the part of the consuming public. It is in such contingencies that the Government should be prepared to carry on its Public Works programme, thus creating new fields

of employment, and resuscitating the buying or consuming class. Private enterprise should follow the Government's lead and the hoarded profits of the producer should be turned into Capital Investment in Plant Extensions to take care of increased production to satisfy the invigorated buyers. This is good and cheered us mightily. Though, when the speaker said that all that is necessary to put the plan into effect is the intelligent cooperation of the Government with 100,000,000 individual entities, one became a little dubious. But the scheme has actually been tried from time to time in history. Did not the building of Versailles keep many otherwise idle hands out of mischief for a while?

Another interesting talk was made by Dr. Miller McClintock on Street Traffic and the Office Building. Realizing that he was playing with a hot one, he discreetly contented himself by calling our attention to the increasing congestion of our city streets, but refrained from telling us what we ought to do about it. He did intimate, however, that a slight palliative might lie in the rearrangement of our office hours. Instead of all draftsmen appearing promptly on the tick of nine, and taxing the elevators unduly, he suggested that they might report at half-hour intervals, and leave at will instead of all at once. Here is the germ of a real idea that might be developed further. If this sounds impractical there is the idea of shifts, a night and day shift. This might lead to the occupancy of the same quarters, by two different firms of architects, or lawyers, or dentists, one working by day, the other by night. Surely there is something in this thought. It merits the attention of Economists like Mr. Foster as well as of Traffic Students. When one thinks of the vast capital sums tied up in our office buildings one is appalled at the wastefulness of letting them cease to work by night. Man is an adaptable animal and some businesses flourish better by night anyway. Perhaps it may be indiscreet to call such a palpably simple and sensible idea to the attention of the building owners and managers for, should they act upon it, the Dodge reports might not be what they have been, and the strain on the Government to start new public works would be tremendous. Harvey Corbett will oppose it, even pooh pooh it, I know, for he has ideas of his own, and has expounded them on at least more than one occasion. Congestion is the breath of life to him. He loves people, the more the merrier; he dotes on crowds, and is probably the greatest opponent of birth control alive. So it may be just as well to gloss over this whole subject and let nature take its course.

There were a good many delegates present, to whom this trying subject of congestion and traffic tie-ups sounded rather academic. They came from the great open spaces where men are men, where

lilacs still in the door-yard bloom and roses clamber over the railings of the porch. Every one of them could count up in his mind, dozens, scores of perfectly good building sites; and the problem of intensest interest to them was how to connect their own abilities and ideals with the proper development of these sites. The dreams of these mute inglorious Corbetts were expressed by Nat Walker in one of the manliest, most refreshing talks we heard. Simply and candidly he discussed the problems of the architect in the small community. He spoke for hundreds of men struggling under adverse conditions to uphold the standards of good design, and the professional aims of the Institute. The phrase "air minded" came trippingly from the tongue several times during the convention, but the old-fashioned phrase "high-minded" described Nat Walker's speech. Read it in the Proceedings if you don't read anything else.

Well, to return to the Board's Report. It was, as I have indicated, like a soothing obligato, and every time the President asked for a little endorsement of its recommendations he got it. The proposed Administration and Library Building in connection with The Octagon seems at last possible of realization. The way is clear and all that remains to be done is to chip in with a will. The project affords the entire membership of the Institute its first opportunity to express tangibly its pride in our craft and its loyalty to our great profession. And if we may be pardoned the intrusion of a vulgar thought, the completion of the building plan will be the best advertising possible and will give Mr. William Harmon Beers and his Committee on Public Information something to talk about. It will be an earnest, too, of our sincerity if, as we talk of the beauty and dignity of Washington, the Capital, we bring our treasure to give point to our words.

It is perhaps only natural that in the press of other important business very little was said on the floor of the Convention about architecture. There was a passing reference in the Board's report to Modernism, couched in vague and innocuous terms. One of those wild and irresponsible headlines said the next day, "Architects Sanction Modernism." We did nothing of the sort. As if we could or couldn't! As if we could really do anything at all about it!

The evenings were all rather nice, and somewhat more spiritual than the mornings or even the afternoons. First, we had the Gold Medal evening to which reference has already been made. Next the Craftsmanship Medal evening suavely presided over by Mr. William Emerson, Chairman of the Committee on Education. Then the two-hundred-million dollar evening which was Mr. Mellon's, and, finally, in New York the six-dollar evening which

we may refer to as Mr. Murchison's. All were Good Evenings each in its own way.

The excellent report of the Committee on Education was presented by Mr. William Emerson at his evening session; and some of its implications were developed further in an interesting address by Mr. Frederick P. Keppel, President of the Carnegie Foundation. After that came the award of the Fine Arts Medal to Diego Rivera of Mexico, and the award of the Craftsmanship Medal to Cheney Brothers. These awards were accompanied by appropriate remarks from our Protean Vice President and Chairman of the Committee on Allied Arts, who is, with all due respect, a kind of poohbah who paints as well as he builds, speaks as well as he paints, and thinks as well as he speaks, if not as often. He explained, for no one present knew better than he, the reasons for the awards.

The last evening in Washington was given over to Secretary Mellon's party at the Chamber of Commerce. The Secretary had invited a great number of distinguished officials and Washingtonians as well as all Convention delegates to view an exhibit of sketches and drawings showing the proposed improvements within the Capital area. Together with these drawings was shown an impressive model of the triangle development. At nine o'clock the Secretary's guests assembled in the Auditorium of the Chamber and listened to short but encouraging speeches by the Secretary himself who acted as Chairman, by President Hoover, Senator Smoot, Representative Elliot and Milton B. Medary, all cordially endorsing the long labors of the Institute in behalf of the beautiful and dignified development of the National Capital. As the speeches were broadcast, they were heard by millions, so that for the moment at least the art of architecture became a part of the national consciousness. The Treasury Department then presented a film showing the growth of the capital from its inception, replete with fascinating historical detail and reaching its climax in a revelation of the Washington of the future. Everybody got a patriotic as well as an architectural thrill.

After this high pitch, nothing remained but to fold our dress clothes and silently steal away on the midnight special for the metropolis where only the sky is the limit. So we found ourselves in the cold, gray dawn of Friday morning parked in the Pennsylvania Station, still delegates, but delegates as it were "en vacance." We were free to wander and gape at will until the middle of the afternoon, when we were supposed to visit the Exposition of Architecture and the Allied Arts at the Grand Central Palace. Those who saw the show four years ago will not be skittish or sceptical at the popping of any superlative adjectives used in describing this one. It was the kind of thing of which Barnum

himself would have been proud. A myriad mural marvels made mighty mosaics of musical color on walls and ceilings. Fountains plashed and organs pealed. Sculpture skirmished all about. Monumental masses silhouetted themselves against the background of sombre skies in countless drawings more impressive than even the grandest works of nature. Even simple little buildings, swelled by the photographer's art to proportions that looked larger than life, knocked one's eye out. It was Cyclopean. It was bewildering. It was flabbergasting. There were miracles in metal work, triumphs in textiles, fairy tales in tiles, glories in glass, and poems in pottery and plumbing fixtures.

Reeling and gasping from the impact of all this, we hot-footed over to the new Beaux Arts Society Building where we were temporarily revived by tea, sufficiently to allow ourselves to be re-impressed by more drawings and more sculpture, the work of the students in the Beaux Arts classes. Whitney Warren and Ned Hewitt stood around beaming with pride, and pride well justified. As promise is always more intriguing than proof, the Beaux Arts show made upon some of us at least a more exciting impression even than the performance under the big tent.

But promise and proof were combined at the League's rooms, another shrine starred by Baedeker. Here kindly old vergers looking for all the world like Kenneth Murchison and George Chappell and Arthur Ware guided us about and led us to the refectory adjoining the caves. The caves themselves are most interesting, and merit a word of description. They are not unlike catacombs, in that they are divided into many, many small compartments in which are stored the relics or the most prized possessions of the holy men who frequent the place. Little wooden doors with cunning locks safeguard the contents of each compartment, from which fact these tiny tabernacles are popularly referred to as lockers. But it is of the beautiful and fanciful decoration of these little wooden doors that I fain would speak. The first paintings and drawings of which mankind has knowledge were made upon the walls of caves. There they limned pictures of the wild horse, the buffalo, the boar, the things they hunted, the things they most desired. Here in New York were we confronted by an art similar in its inspiration, similar in its beauty. It is not for me to complain after the fact, but it does seem a little strange that the Chairman of the Committee on Allied Arts should go all the way to Mexico to find a mural painter worthy of the Institute's Fine Arts Medal, when right in New York, under his very nose, may be seen and enjoyed the work of masters truly expressive, as the saying goes, of the Spirit of Modern America. Really, Mr. Hewlett, a man's art is where his treas-

ure lies. Remember this in considering the next award.

To have seen these painted panels, to have drunk thus at the very springs of inspiration, made us forget our tired feet, made us giddy with high resolve.

The glow still lasted as we gathered again for the final session of the Convention at the Hotel Roosevelt. Apparently nobody skipped this session. Everybody was there, including Cass Gilbert and his friend Sir Reginald Bloomfield. The speakers' table was about a block long with Mr. Hewlett as usual absolutely "en axe," with President Hammond of the Institute on his right and President Murchison of the Architectural League on his left. Shading off on both sides were many imposing facades. Everybody in the room was supposed to be interested in architecture in one way or another. The wives, out of a sense of duty, the members of the Building Congress, out of a sense of decency, the Beaux Arts Architects because they had been properly trained. The dinner was easily worth six dollars, everything considered, and some of the speeches were almost worth another six. It is not too much to say that every speaker was as good as usual. As for Sir Reginald, I have never heard him speak so well before. But for monumental dignity and sheer poetic inspiration Kenneth Murchison was superb. His earnestness and sincerity could not have failed to impress everyone of the thousands within sound of his voice. The captious remarks of Robert Kohn were a little distressing, but Murchison bore them like a man, and Delano smoothed matters over tactfully and gracefully.

The result of the elections was announced, but in the hurly-burly the details escaped me. The names of some good Fellows were read but I can't

remember them either. These facts will all be set forth in the printed record. Personally, I hope that Hammond and Hewlett and Baldwin came through all right.

It was about eleven o'clock when the Convention was declared adjourned. Afterward there was dancing at the League rooms. Rumor says that some of the delegates made a night of it, but this one took the President at his word. If these minutes seem long, blame the Program Committee, whoever they are; but don't think it wasn't a good Convention. There were lots of pleasant features about which I haven't said a word; as, for instance, lunching or dining, or just preparing for lunch or dinner, with the friends one doesn't see often enough. To list the delegates who crowded the lobbies of the Mayflower would make as distinguished a company as the passenger list of that gallant ship of the same name. It would seem like an advertisement of the Bedford Stone Association or the Georgia Marble Company or the Capricorn Oil Burner. Some of these delegates looked a good deal like their work, but often one was quite surprised. A few faithful, but nevertheless charming, wives followed the proceedings in Washington at a safe distance, and much of the hospitality which we enjoyed in New York might have seemed crass, but for the mitigating presence of what we are wont to call the gentler sex. All in all, and especially now that it is over, it may be fairly said that the Sixty-second Convention was a great success. Architects are men of taste and therefore like each other. They speak the same language, make the same mistakes and look upon all other men as just a little alien. So when they gather together far from their madding clients, they cannot help but feel that God is in His heaven, that all's well with the world.

Two Delegates Report the Convention

THE May number of the Monthly Bulletin of the Washington State Chapter contains impressions of the Sixty-second Convention as reported to the Chapter by two of its Delegates. At times it seems to the Secretary's Office that it is so close to Institute Conventions that it never knows whether any given Convention was a success or a failure. In this number we have the inimitable article of Louis LaBeaume, who saw the Convention through the eyes of a Director, and therefore from the administrative point of view. We also publish, through the courtesy of the Monthly Bulletin of the Washington State Chapter, the Convention reports of two Delegates of that Chapter, Arthur

L. Loveless and Stanley A. Smith, as made to the Chapter at its May meeting. The reports follow:

REPORT OF ARTHUR L. LOVELESS

Had more of our members a clear idea of the delights of attending a Convention of the American Institute of Architects, there would be less difficulty in securing our full quota of delegates, in fact, there would be a greater attendance of Chapter members for the mere pleasure in contacting the leaders of our undoubtedly great Profession.

The wisdom of holding most of the conventions of the Institute at Washington is immediately

apparent to a delegate, in the effect the city has upon his appreciation of a beautiful city plan. Washington was clothed in its spring garment of soft green and the balmy air was a welcome relief from the chill atmosphere of Puget Sound. A five-minute walk from the Mayflower brought one to Dupont Circle, one of the many happy incidents in the city plan which bring home forcibly its great charm. Washington conveys to a visitor the impression of a city where comfortable living is a paramount idea and one thinks of it as an aristocrat of cities—the aristocracy of a hospitable and gracious south.

The pre-convention meeting your delegates attended was held in the Directors' room of the Octagon. The simple but dignified furnishings of this room give one a delightful idea of what the building would be like if completely furnished in appropriate and historic manner. There seems to be no faintest idea of relinquishing control of this memorial of the early days of the Republic.

I imagine the benefit of a convention to the average delegate is less in his painstaking observation of the moving of its well oiled machinery than in the effect of the contact with and impression of its members. One wishes he could greet familiarly so many delegates as do those who attend with great frequency. Boyd of Philadelphia, if I remember correctly, has missed only one in twenty-seven years! And many others are regular attendants at most of the conventions.

The full program of the convention proceedings will soon be available to all Chapter members. I will here touch upon some of the features not mentioned by your other delegate.

An interesting moment in the convention's proceedings was that when J. Monroe Hewlett spoke of the work of the retiring Board members, voicing an appreciation of the contribution of our own member, A. H. Albertson, to the proceedings of the Board. It will be of interest to the Chapter members to know that a resolution of Mr. Albertson's on the Board will put into effect a greater consideration of the aesthetics of the profession in future meetings, in the appointment of a committee to that end.

A part of one meeting was given over to a discussion of ways and means to make Chapter meetings interesting. Most of the Chapters have this perennial problem of making their meetings of sufficient interest to bring out a good attendance, and the efforts made were quite similar to those our own Chapter has attempted in the past.

The movement to build upon the Institute property had apparently attained too much headway to make any contrary effort upon our part of any avail. The building, however, is contingent upon the raising of sufficient funds and there is no slightest idea of relinquishing control of the

Octagon House, the idea being to furnish it in a manner suitable to its period, and retaining it as our own property in the light of an historic monument. The idea seemed to prevail that the standing of the profession in Washington would be enhanced by having headquarters of greater importance.

The presentation of the Gold Medal of the Institute to Milton B. Medary of Philadelphia was an occasion of great interest. The monumental stairway of the Corcoran Art Gallery, banked with greens and flowering shrubs, was the background of the presentation ceremony. The medal was presented by Secretary of Treasury Mellon after a scholarly citation of the reasons therefor by J. Monroe Hewlett. The only other American holders of the medal are McKim, Post, Goodhue, Shaw, and Bacon.

But, to my mind, the most significant event of the entire Convention was the meeting provided and arranged by the Secretary of the Treasury, the last evening of the Convention. It was held in the great hall of the United States Chamber of Commerce building, a room of great dignity, hung with brilliant banners in commemoration of the early discoverers and explorers of America, the ushers being sailors in uniform. Presided over by Secretary of Treasury, Andrew W. Mellon, a warm friend of the profession, it was honored by the presence and an address by President Hoover, as well as Senator Smoot and Representative Elliott, the Institute's part being upheld by Medary of Philadelphia.

The entrance and departure of the President, to the blare of trumpets, and the rising tribute of the audience, was an interesting moment, as was the music of the Marine Band during the showing of the moving pictures of the development of the plan of Washington.

One purpose of the meeting was recognition of the part the Institute played in the preservation of the plan of the City of Washington and its steadfast and continued co-operation with the officials to that end.

Secretary Mellon said in part: "It is most fitting, therefore, that tonight we should have as our guests the representatives of that great and influential organization, to whose foresight and untiring efforts we owe not only the revival but the preservation and advancement of a plan for the orderly and systematic development of the Nation's capital."

The last day of the convention was held in New York. A variety of entertainment being afforded by the exhibits at the Architectural and Allied Arts Exposition at the Grand Central Palace, at the Beaux Arts Institute of Design and the Architectural League. The banquet at the

Roosevelt, a large and brilliant affair, closed the Sixty-Second Annual Convention of the Institute.

REPORT OF STANLEY A. SMITH

As delegate to the Sixty-Second Annual Convention of the American Institute of Architects, I wish to submit the following summary of the meetings. I will not go into detail because of the fact that the complete minutes of the meeting will be published and distributed to each member during the summer.

The Convention headquarters were in the Mayflower Hotel, one of the newer hotels in Washington, which is very admirably equipped to handle just such meetings. The development of the National Capital was the general theme of the Convention, and wherever possible the talks and discussions were directed in this channel. One of such talks was given the first morning by Col. Ulysses S. Grant, III. He gave a very interesting talk on how his department was co-operating and co-ordinating with the suggestions made by the Committees of the American Institute of Architects, and individual members of the Institute. It is very gratifying to know that Government authorities are co-ordinating their work with the Institute's suggestions.

Another talk which was of interest to me was the one given by Dr. William T. Foster. Mr. Foster expounded the theory that the Government could stop a certain amount of the so-called hard times by building at those times. This would release a certain amount of money, which in turn would help to stabilize the work being done by private concerns. A very interesting discussion, but I can't say that I agree with him entirely, although the theory is worth considering. This talk was of special interest to me because of the fact that Dr. Foster is to be the Commencement speaker here at the State College of Washington this spring.

Probably the most outstanding talk to me personally was that given by the architect Nat G. Walker on "The Architect in the Small Community." He discussed some of the problems, trials and tribulations of the architect in the small community which was of great import and help to me, particularly in passing on these ideas to those students of mine who expect to practice in the smaller communities.

The reports of the various committees, including the Treasurer and the Board of Directors, were passed out beforehand, so that they might be thoroughly digested and voted upon at the meeting with a minimum of discussion. This in many respects was an excellent idea inasmuch as

it gave us more time for papers and discussions on allied subjects, although it did give a feeling of "log rolling" to many of the delegates. The report of the Treasurer was probably the most complete report that has even been submitted. The outstanding feature of the report was the methods of financing the new building. Again I will not go into detail on this because it was a very lengthy report, and it will soon be available for all members of the Institute.

During the adoption of the Board's report, which made certain recommendations in the reports of Committees, there were one or two features which came up that I cannot help but feel were excellent ideas. One of these was the matter of selecting the regional director. It was suggested that the regional director should be selected by the region which he represented, just as our senators and representatives are selected by the district which they represent. It would certainly lead to much more intelligent voting. Another matter that came up, I believe at one of the evening meetings, was a suggestion that in the future we devote one day to a thorough discussion of some building problem. For instance, the day's discussion might be devoted to hospital design and construction and that we call in as speakers to discuss these problems those architects or other consultants who have specialized in this particular phase of the work; a sort of clinic, if you please. The suggestions seemed to meet with a great deal of favor.

The adoption of the report of the Board went along very smoothly, the only interruption being a rather warm discussion of the height of a certain building which has been erected recently in Washington, D. C. The building had quite materially exceeded a height limit which the Institute's Committee on the National Capital thought reasonable.

The present officers, with the exception of the regional directors, were elected. The meeting for next year is to have as its principal theme "Modernism in Architecture." Here will be a chance for some warm discussions, no doubt!

The last day of the Convention adjourned to New York City to view the Allied Arts Exposition and the Exhibit of the Beaux Arts Institute of Design. To me this was the most interesting part of the whole Convention. If I personally had had anything to say about it we would have spent two days in New York and eliminated some of the work in Washington. However, each man to his own personal tastes. All in all, the Convention was a most inspiring one. It is always an inspiration to meet those men who have become more or less famous in the profession. I certainly considered it a great honor to represent the Washington State Chapter at this Convention.

Recognition of Craftsmanship

By WILLIAM ORR LUDLOW

IT is not difficult to understand why Recognition of Craftsmanship appeals to the imagination as well as to the judgment of an Architect and has attracted the attention of a number of the Chapters of the Institute.

First of all, the better class of architects are men who appreciate the higher motives of life, as well as a better quality of workmanship. Then, some of these chapters have felt that this kind of activity, with its attendant publicity, gives them a standing in the eyes of their community as a group of men interested not only in their fees, but interested likewise in quality work and the welfare of the men who produce it. Many chapters also feel that they need an activity that will command the interest and enthusiasm of their members.

Perhaps, also, the rather remarkable spread of this work is further due to the comparative simplicity of setting up the necessary machinery either by a Building Congress, where such exists, or by a chapter of the American Institute of Architects.

The question is often asked, "How do you start such a program?" I venture these suggestions:

1. Obtain full information as to aims and methods from D. Knickerbacker Boyd of the Philadelphia Building Congress, F. H. Murphy of the Portland Oregon Building Congress, or from the writer, Chairman of the Committee on Industrial Relations of the Institute.

In Philadelphia not only mechanics but contractors, architects and others connected with the building industry are honored. In New York we have found it advisable to confine the awards to the mechanics.

2. The whole plan should be placed before the Chapter in such a way that the members will not only see its advantages but shall really become enthused. A committee should be appointed to take charge of the work, and I should like to make emphatic that its success will depend on whether or not the head of the committee has outstanding ability and a real enthusiasm for the cause.

3. The step that the committee should first take is to get the whole-hearted interest of some of the best builders in the city, and also to get the interest of labor, for unless these two elements are

brought in "on the ground floor," the processes of "coordination" are more difficult. There should be a real feeling of partnership among the Architects, Builders, and Labor to obtain whole-hearted co-operation. This partnership is necessary also to prevent the feeling on the part of the workmen that they are being patronized; labor will not be patronized. Moreover, the workmen are likely, at first, to be suspicious of some ulterior motive,—suspicious particularly of an attempt to "speed up." Enlisting labor leaders on the partnership basis dispels this.

4. Awards are of two general types. (a) On large buildings, to the best mechanic in each trade, with appropriate ceremonies of presentation held in the building while under construction,—one ceremony about the time of enclosure, with awards to the structural trades, and another shortly before completion with awards to the finishing trades. (b) Individual awards, the honor men being selected irrespective of the building where employed. The (b) method is most useful where few large buildings are erected.

5. In type (a) awards, nominations are requested from the architects and contractors in co-operation with the superintendents and foremen.

In type (b) awards it is advisable that nominations be received only on solicitation by the committee from trusted individuals.

6. The awards are made to encourage workmen to better effort and are not made to foremen or to those in executive or supervisory capacities.

7. Nominations are of value only as coming from nominators who have been thoroughly informed as to the real purpose of the awards. In selecting the candidates for awards, favoritism or any appearance of favoritism must be carefully avoided.

8. In type (a) awards, when a building has been selected, a special "Committee of Award" should be appointed, this committee to consist of the owner, the architect, the builder, a representative of labor and a representative of the awarding organization.

In type (b) awards the general committee functions.

9. In type (a) awards the best means of selecting the men to be honored is to explain the idea very fully to the superintendent and to the foremen on any particular building which is of such character as to merit the awards. The foremen should be instructed to select with great care one or two of the best men working

Editor's Note: At the recent Convention a number of delegates requested information as to the best methods of starting the work of Recognition of Craftsmanship. The Chairman of the Institute's Committee on Industrial Relations, William O. Ludlow, has written for The Octagon this statement of the points he believes most important.

in each of their particular trades. These names are then passed on to the superintendent for approval and then should go to the Committee of Award for final determination. It is highly advisable to have some outstanding labor man on the Committee of Award in order that the names may be vided by labor, and in order that nothing may be inadvertently done which would be unfortunate from the worker's angle.

In type (b) awards the best information as to deserving men can be obtained from their employers. Except where artisanry is concerned, seeing a man's work does not give adequate information, particularly as quality alone should not be the criterion.

10. Ceremonies of award should be made as impressive and as important as possible. Awards are public; in the type (a) awards all workmen on the operation, their wives, their friends and the general public are invited. In type (b) awards a special occasion should be arranged.

11. Photographs of presentation ceremonies, news items, and articles on the value of craftsmanship featured in the public press, and the widest publicity possible for the awards and their purposes are essential.

12. It is quite possible for the entire work to be conducted without expense to the organization which sponsors it. In New York practically the entire cost is borne by the owners of the buildings. A charge of about \$10 to cover the cost of each certificate, gold button and clerical work is borne

by the owner of the building. It has been found that there is no difficulty in persuading owners to do this, as a matter of \$100 or so is a comparatively small item on a building enterprise involving hundreds of thousands of dollars. Moreover, the owners readily recognize the considerable advertising advantage which they get when awards are won by those engaged on their buildings, even though they may not have a broader vision of the ideals upon which the movement is founded.

Where awards are of type (b) a sustaining membership may be advisable, which is usually not difficult to arrange on account of the peculiar appeal of the work.

In New York we have found it surprisingly easy to enlist the sympathy and co-operation of owners, architects, builders and labor, for all of these elements, if not interested principally from an altruistic motive, see at least other advantages of great possibilities. It is most desirable, however, to put the whole matter where it deserves to be placed—on the high plane of great and splendid service not only to the building industry, but to every individual concerned—for the stirring of ambition to do nothing but a high grade of work ennobles a man's whole life, brings him a contentment that he has not known before, makes him a man of finer ideals, and in a word does something to create a better citizenship as well as a worthier nation.

Meetings of the Board of Directors

The pre-Convention meeting of the Board of Directors was held at The Octagon, Washington, D. C., beginning at 9:30 A. M., on April 19, 1929. Thereafter, regular meetings were held on April 20th and 21st.

PRE-CONVENTION MEETINGS

The meeting of April 19th was called to order by the President, C. Herrick Hammond, in the drawing room of The Octagon. Other members of the Board present were the First Vice-President, J. Monroe Hewlett; the second Vice-President, William J. Sayward; the Secretary, Frank C. Baldwin; the Treasurer, Edwin Bergstrom; and Directors A. H. Albertson, Paul A. Davis, III, Dalton J. V. Snyder, William H. Lord, Olle J. Lorehn, Myron Hunt, Charles D. Maginnis, Charles Butler, Louis LaBeaume. There was also present the Executive Secretary, E. C. Kemper, and the Field Secretary, William M. McIntosh.

The pre-Convention meeting of the Board of Directors, which continued for three days, with both day and evening sessions, was devoted largely to the preparation of the Board's report to the Convention. That report reviews the work of the Institute for the year and makes recommendations for the future. It will appear in full in the Proceedings and, therefore, is not reviewed or summarized here.

In addition to preparing its report to the Convention, the Board devoted much time to a general discussion of the welfare of the Institute, and to the problems of the architectural profession. There were the usual number of matters connected with the activities of individual Chapters, elections, reinstatements, and several disciplinary cases.

SPECIAL MEETING

A special meeting of the Board of Directors was held, during the Convention, in the Chinese

Room of the Mayflower Hotel, Washington, D. C., at 12:30 P. M., Tuesday, April 23, 1929, at which all members of the Board were present.

POST-CONVENTION MEETINGS

The Board held its post-convention meeting in New York City, on April 27, 1929. The meeting was called to order by the President, C. Herrick Hammond, at the Century Club, at 9:30 A. M. on April 27, 1929. Others present were the First Vice-President, J. Monroe Hewlett; the Second Vice-President, William J. Sayward; the Secretary, Frank C. Baldwin; the Treasurer, Edwin Bergstrom; and Directors William H. Lord, Olle J. Lorehn, Myron Hunt, Charles Butler, Charles D. Maginnis, Frederick W. Garber, and Charles T. Ingham; also the Executive Secretary, E. C. Kemper; and the Field Secretary, William M. McIntosh.

The new Director of the Western Mountain Division, Fred Fielding Willson, was not present as he was not in attendance at the Convention.

Southern Architectural and Allied Arts Exhibition: The Board endorsed the undertaking of the Southern Chapters with regard to the proposed Southern Architectural and Allied Arts Exhibition. It was decided that the request of M. H. Furbringer, on behalf of the Tennessee Chapter and the southern architects, be complied with, and that a meeting of the Board of Directors be held during the week of November 9 to 16, 1929, in Memphis, Tennessee, in conjunction with the celebration.

Jury of Fellows: The President, after consultation with the Board, appointed the following members to serve on the Jury of Fellows for terms of three years: Past President, John Lawrence Mauran, St. Louis, and Professor John Galen Howard, San Francisco. Charles A. Favrot, New Orleans, was re-appointed Chairman. The following is a complete list of the Jury. For one year: Edwin H. Brown, Minneapolis, and H. Van

Buren Magonigle, New York. For two years: John M. Donaldson, Detroit, and Charles A. Favrot, *Chairman*, New Orleans. For three years: John Lawrence Mauran, St. Louis, and John Galen Howard, San Francisco.

Executive Committee: The following were elected to serve on the Executive Committee: C. Herrick Hammond, Chicago; Frank C. Baldwin, Washington; Edwin Bergstrom, Los Angeles; William J. Sayward, Atlanta; and J. Monroe Hewlett, New York. The Executive Committee was specifically authorized to amend or supplement the instructions to any of the standing and special committees as circumstances may require.

Judiciary Committee: The following were elected to serve on the Judiciary Committee: William H. Lord, *Chairman*, Asheville; Charles Butler, New York; and Charles T. Ingham, Pittsburgh.

Board of Examiners: A Board of Examiners was elected as follows: E. W. Donn, Jr., *Chairman*, Washington; Victor Mindeleff, Washington; and Frederick V. Murphy, Washington.

Committees Recreated: All special committees of the Institute terminated with the Sixty-second Convention. They were all recreated with the exception of the following, which were discontinued: School Buildings Committee; Earthquake Hazards Committee; and Federal Industrial Mobilization Committee.

Schedule of Meetings: It is convenient for the Officers and Directors to know in advance the schedule of meetings for the Board and Executive Committee. This information is also useful to members and Chapters. A tentative schedule subject to change by the President, and to the fixing of the dates by him, was agreed upon as follows: Executive Committee meets in Washington or Philadelphia in August; Board of Directors meets in Memphis in November; Executive Committee, second meeting, in Washington, about the middle of March; Board of Directors, second meeting, in Washington preceding the Convention and following the Convention.

With the Chapters

The Architect and the Realtor: The Minnesota Chapter at a recent meeting discussed at some length the relations which exist, or should exist, between the architect and the real estate developer. The Chapter appointed a committee to work with a committee appointed by the realtors—for the purpose of establishing a round table, at which meetings of realtors and architects may be held for the purpose of fostering better rela-

tions between these two important groups in the building industry.

Civic Improvement: The Cincinnati Chapter, by emphatic resolution, has registered an emphatic protest against projecting signs, which tend to detract from the architectural effect of buildings and consequent detriment to the good appearance of the thoroughfares of the city. It points out that in many cases these projecting signs are

a menace to the safety of the public. The Chapter has agreed to exert its influence to the end that all such objectionable signs be eliminated within the city of Cincinnati, and it will work for the passage of an ordinance by the City Council, which will bring about the desired result.

City Employees in Private Practice: The Buffalo Chapter has addressed a communication to the President of the Common Council in Buffalo registering the protest of the Chapter against architects, engineers, and draftsmen in city employ engaging in the private practice of architecture and engineering.

The Draughtsman and Private Work: The Cincinnati Chapter recently discussed the problem of the draughtsman using his own time after hours for architectural work on his own account or in the employ of other architects. Some members of the Chapter felt that the architect should allow this type of work because the draughtsman not only gains financially but gains in experience and therefore is of more value in the office. Others felt that a man was not fit for a full day's work after he has spent a large amount of his own time after hours in a continuation of the work of the day. It was finally expressed as the sense of the meeting that cases of this sort should be handled by the individual architect, and that the matter was not one for Chapter action.

An Architects' Building in Philadelphia: D. Knickerbacker Boyd, Chairman of the Committee on Public Information of the Philadelphia Chapter, advises that President Walter H. Thomas, of the Philadelphia Chapter of the American Institute of Architects, has announced that negotiations have been closed for the construction of an Architects' building at the northeast corner of Sansom and 17th Streets. The 65 ft. frontage on Seventeenth Street, extending back 96 ft. in depth along Ionic and Sansom Streets, will allow for the immediate development of a building to suitably house the architectural profession and related building interests.

President Thomas stated that the selection of this three street front location would permit of an impressive and dignified treatment of three facades. "This building," he said, "will be looked upon as expressing the ideals of the profession locally and will be so designed as to be a real credit to the ingenuity of local talent as well as desirable and profitable from the rental angle."

Within the building will also be housed a permanent exhibit of building materials, fixtures and equipment as well as numerous indispensable service features affording adequate provision for blue printing, photostating and other reproduction processes and public stenography, mimeographing, multigraphing and duplicating.

It is the opinion of members of the Chapter that the new building and its many features, including, particularly, the permanent exhibition, will fill a long felt need of the profession, the building fraternity generally, and the building public in Philadelphia.

Public Information: The Wisconsin Chapter through its Committee on Public Information has been doing some effective work as is shown by its exhibits at the Annual Home Show, recently held in Milwaukee. A booth was erected for the display of the exhibits. In a letter from Alexander C. Guth, Secretary of the Wisconsin Chapter, he describes the exhibit:

This display was unique in its way in that it showed the complete functions of an architect. The exhibit included some preliminary sketches which were made by a client and the steps that are taken in an architect's office in putting through and completing a building project, from sketches to working drawings, full sized details, etc. Exterior and interior photographs of the completed project were displayed in this connection as well as the various A. I. A. documents, thus giving the layman an understanding of the entire works.

The Home Show was attended by about thirty thousand people and our exhibit created much favorable comment and interest.

The Washington State Chapter, at its monthly meeting, had a report from Joshua H. Vogel, Chairman of the Committee on Public Information. He said that the Chapter's advertising program had begun in the Seattle Post-Intelligencer, the first announcement appearing on March 14. The publication of the illustrations of small houses in the Sunday edition was being continued, the Architects' Small House Service Bureau furnishing the material. It was also proposed to have an advertisement once a week, for a few weeks, in the Seattle Journal of Commerce. Articles furnished by the Publicity Committee have already appeared in the Post-Intelligencer, forming part of a continuing series. Similar articles will appear in the Seattle Times, The Journal of Commerce, and the Pacific Builder and Engineer.

Exhibitions: At the last regular meeting of the Rhode Island Chapter Norman M. Isham exhibited the drawings of the competition, which was conducted by the Committee on Education, of the Rhode Island Chapter, for the graduating class in architecture in the Rhode Island School of Design. For this competition the Chapter presented a prize of \$150.00 to be used by the winner in a trip to New York and Philadelphia.

The competition was for a golf club. The drawings were criticized by Mr. Isham and examined by the members present. Mr. Isham discussed the aim of the Committee in endeavoring to get a somewhat broader influence in this competition than was possible in the usual school work.

The competitors present were welcomed by the Chapter, and Chester A. Cola, the winner, was congratulated.

At the last meeting of the Washington, D. C., Chapter, May 9, 1929, A. B. Trowbridge entertained the members with a description of a group of New York architects known as the Digressionists, who, once a year, hold meetings at which they exhibit work of an artistic nature foreign to their usual activity. Mr. Trowbridge displayed a number of interesting examples of "digressions" such as lithograph prints, oil sketches, and as he termed them "accidental" sketches.

At the last meeting of the New Jersey Chapter Gilbert C. Higby spoke of the success of the Newark Art Exhibit. He stated that he was planning an exhibit a year hence for which renderings only would be accepted, and mentioned that the Newark Library had asked that the present exhibit be loaned for a showing at the Newark Library.

The Philadelphia Chapter makes the following announcement:

Preparations are now under way by the American Institute of Architects, Philadelphia Chapter, and the T-Square Club, to insure the success of the Thirty-Second Architectural Exhibition and the Year Book. An innovation will be the holding of this Exhibition in the Galleries of the Wanamaker Store at a date next fall to be announced later.

The Exhibition Board is issuing this early request for cooperation on the part of all prospective exhibitors in order that they may, wherever desirable, arrange for having photo-

graphs taken as soon as possible before such foliage as might interfere with advantageous views is too far advanced.

It is further suggested that thought be given to the size and disposition of photographs or enlargements so that they may bear a proper relation to the importance of the work shown, and to line drawings or color work, which it is hoped each office will begin now to arrange for as a comprehensive representation for our Exhibition.

At a recent meeting of the Cincinnati Chapter, Rudolph Tietig entertained the Chapter with a showing of moving picture films taken by him in a recent European trip, in which many views of architectural interest were displayed.

West Texas Chapter Entertains its Regional Director: A special meeting of the West Texas Chapter, A. I. A., was held April 14th in the St. Anthony Hotel, San Antonio, Texas. The meeting was called to welcome Olle J. Lorehn, Regional Director of the Gulf States Division, who was making his annual visit to this Chapter. A general discussion of the problems of the Chapter and of the Gulf States Division was the principal business of the meeting.

Modernism: At a meeting of the St. Louis Chapter, Prof. Ferrand made an interesting talk on the orientation of architectural schools toward "Modernism." There was discussion lead by William A. Hirsch and Louis LaBeaume. They suggested that the Chapter set aside a meeting for the exclusive purpose of discussing modernism. This was agreed to and the June meeting was tentatively reserved for the purpose.

Initiation Ceremony for Chapters

At the Institute Convention in St. Louis, in 1928, the Board of Directors strongly endorsed the idea of an initiation ceremony for the induction of new Institute members into a Chapter. (See pages 42 and 103 of the Proceedings for 1928.)

At the meeting of the Board preceding the recent Convention, there was further discussion of this subject. Various Chapters had made inquiries as to procedure, and one Chapter suggested that the Institute develop a standard form of ceremony which could be used generally. The Board directed that this matter be called to the attention of all Chapters and that those having established initiation ceremonies for the admission of new members be requested to send descriptive statements to The Octagon. It is asked that Chapter Officers act upon this suggestion. In the meantime, and for the benefit of various Chapters who are actively interested, there is printed below an outline of the ceremony used by the Washington State Chapter, which, up to the

present time, is the most complete document of its kind received at The Octagon.

We are sure that the Washington State Chapter has no objection to other Chapters using its ideas, or modifying them to suit local conditions. If there are other Chapters which have worked out forms of Initiation the Secretary requests that copies be sent to The Octagon.

INITIATION CEREMONY—THE WASHINGTON STATE CHAPTER

After the regular meeting is finished, the President will announce that there is a new member (or members) to be received into the Chapter, and will ask the candidate (s) to step forward. The Secretary will bring out the Roll Book. If possible, have the President, Secretary and one other officer seated at a small table apart from the rest of the members, with the candidate (s) facing them.

President:

"Fellow Architect (s) you have after due consideration been selected as fully qualified to join with us in our Association for the up-building of the Profession of Architecture, both in its ideals and its influence, to the end that our professional service and conduct may redound to the advancement of the general welfare and the public good.

"As stated in the Principles of Professional Practice of The American Institute of Architects, the profession of Architecture calls for men of the highest integrity, business capacity and artistic ability. The architect is entrusted with financial undertakings in which his honesty of purpose must be above suspicion. He acts as professional adviser to his clients and his advice must be absolutely disinterested. He is charged with the exercise of judicial functions as between client and contractors, and must act with entire impartiality. He has moral responsibilities to his professional associates and to his subordinates. Finally, he is engaged in a profession which carries with it grave responsibilities to the public. These duties and responsibilities cannot be properly discharged unless his motives, conduct and ability are such as to command respect and confidence.

"Our Association, by selecting you for membership, signifies its belief in your ability and intention to uphold the high purposes of the profession; and you, Fellow Architect (s) in expressing a desire to join with us, have expressed your willingness to share with us not only the privileges but also the duties and obligations of membership in the American Institute of Architects.

"It is manifestly impossible were it desirable to reduce these duties and obligations to a set of rules, but as a general statement for our guidance, the following Principles of Professional Practice have been promulgated by the American Institute of Architects:"

1. The relation of an architect to his client is one depending upon good faith. An architect will explain the conditional character of estimates made before final drawings and specifications are complete and will not by careless statements mislead a client as to the probable cost of a building. If the architect guarantees an estimate he becomes legally responsible and he should not make any guarantee which affects the quality of his advice.

2. The contractor depends upon the architect to guard his interests as well as those of the client. An architect will condemn workmanship and materials which are not in conformity with the contract documents but it is also his duty to give every reasonable aid towards a more complete understanding of these documents so that mistakes may be avoided. He will not call upon a con-

tractor to make good oversights and errors in the contract documents.

3. An exchange of information between architects and those who supply and handle building materials is encouraged and commended but the use of the free engineering service which is offered by manufacturers and jobbers of building materials, appliances and equipment is accompanied by an obligation which may become detrimental to the best interests of the owner.

4. The American Institute of Architects has set forth a schedule or guide by which the proper professional charges may be determined. The architect's charges for his professional service shall be made to the client only, and he will not receive commissions, fees, gifts, favors or any substantial service from a contractor, or from any interested person other than the client. He will not knowingly compete with a fellow architect on a basis of professional charges.

5. An architect in his investments and in his business relations outside of his profession must be free from financial or personal interests which tend to weaken or discredit his standing as an unprejudiced and honest adviser, free to act in his client's best interests.

6. An architect will not advertise for the purpose of self-laudatory publicity, but publicity of the standards, aims and progress of the profession is to be commended. He will not take part or give any assistance in obtaining advertisements or other support towards meeting the expense of any publication illustrating his work.

7. An architect may introduce to a possible client the service which he is able to perform but will not, except under unusual circumstances, offer to continue this service without compensation until it has been approved; and in no case will he offer this service in competition with others except as provided in the competition code.

8. An architect will not falsely or maliciously injure, directly or indirectly, the professional reputation, prospects or business of a fellow architect. He will not attempt to supplant another architect after definite steps have been taken by a client toward his employment; nor will he undertake a commission for which another has been previously employed until he has determined that the original relation has been fairly and properly terminated.

9. The American Institute of Architects has issued a Circular of Information in regard to Competitions. An architect will take no part in a competition which does not include the provisions which experience has found to be necessary if the best interests of the owner and of the architect are to be safeguarded.

"Do you, Fellow Architect (s), to the best of your ability, accept the intent of these principles for your guidance in the practice of your profession, and in your relations to your fellow architects and the Public?"

Incoming Member (s) "I (We) do."

THE PRESIDENT:

"You will then sign your name (s) with ours in the Membership Roll Book of the Washington State Chapter, American Institute of Architects. Embossed therein as the preface of this Roll Book is that 'Perfect and final Code of Ethics', promulgated and established in the ancient days of Architecture, lo, these many centuries ago. St. Paul said:

"Finally, brethern

Whatsoever things are true,
Whatsoever things are honest,
Whatsoever things are just,

Whatsoever things are pure,
Whatsoever things are lovely,
Whatsoever things are of good repute;
If there be any virtue, and
If there be any praise,
Think on these things."
(Incoming Member (s) sign (s) the Roll Book.)

THE PRESIDENT:

"I now take pleasure in presenting to you your Certificate (s) of Membership and by the same token, welcome you to the privileges and obligations of membership in the Washington State Chapter, American Institute of Architects. It is right and meet that we should be mutually helpful in up-holding its principles and advancing its standards.

"Members of the Chapter: May I introduce to you our new member (s)....."
(Congratulations by Chapter Members.)

As of Interest

Aesthetic Design of Steel Bridges: President Hammond has nominated Ralph T. Walker and William Adams Delano, both of New York City, to represent the Institute on the Jury of Award on a Bridge Competition, as conducted by the American Institute of Steel Construction, Inc. Both Mr. Walker and Mr. Delano have accepted.

American Arbitration Association: The Association announces the opening of its new Arbitration Tribunal on the twenty-ninth floor of the Lefcourt National Building, 521 Fifth Ave., New York, N. Y., and the establishment of a national system of tribunal facilities in sixteen hundred cities and towns in the United States. These Tribunals are available to the public and business generally.

The Pochet Club: The group of architects and architectural students who formed an atelier as a part of the Guild of the Seattle Art Institute, have now reorganized as an independent organization under the name of The Pochet Club. This organization will parallel the Guild, which is an organization of craftsmen. Quarters will be maintained at the Art Institute, 1117 Harvard Avenue, North, Seattle, Washington, with the Atelier work on problems in design and other activities of value to architects and architectural students. Of particular interest to members of the Chapter are the preparations of the club for an architectural exhibition, to be held at the Art Institute, May 15 to June 2.

Academy of Arts and Letters: President Hammond has appointed John Russell Pope as official delegate of the American Institute of Architects at the 25th anniversary of the Academy of Arts and Letters. Mr. Pope has accepted.

Questionnaire on Chapter Activities: The Secretary has addressed a letter to the Secretary of each Chapter, sending in duplicate a form of report on Chapter activities. This form contains twenty questions and is issued for the purpose of securing information to be published in a codification, which will make available to all Chapters the experience and successful methods of other Chapters. The burden of responding has been placed upon the Secretary of the Chapter, and it is hoped that each one of the sixty-three Chapters will be represented in the returns. The collection of reports will be published to the Chapters in codified forms as soon as a reasonable number of responses has been received. This is valuable work which is undertaken in the hope of developing tangible suggestions for increasing Chapter influence. It will not be fully successful unless every Chapter Secretary makes the return for his Chapter.

New Competition Document: The Institute has issued a new document—No. 238—entitled "The Duties of the Professional Advisor and of the Jury." A copy has been sent to the President of each Chapter because he is, ex officio, the Chairman of the sub-Committee on Competitions

in his territory. The document was prepared by Arthur Wallace Rice, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Competitions, and is as complete as a first edition can be expected to be. Suggestions for improvement have been invited. Any member particularly interested in that part of competition procedure which has to do with the Professional Advisor and the Jury, may have copies upon request.

The Columbus Memorial Lighthouse: The Pan American Union has announced the names of the authors of the ten designs selected as winners in the first stage of the competition of the Columbus Memorial Lighthouse. They are as follows: Rice Amon, of New York City; Helmle, Corbett and Harrison, of New York City; Douglas D. Ellington, of Asheville, N. C.; Joaquin Vaquero Palacios, of Madrid, Spain; Josef Wentzler, of Dortmund, Germany; Filippo Medori, of Rome, Italy; Louis Berthin, of Paris, France; Theo. Lescher, of Paris, France; Donald Nelson, of Paris, France; and J. L. Gleave, of Nottingham, England.

The Jury which made these selections, met in

Madrid, Spain, and consisted of Raymond Hood, for North America; Eliel Saarinen, for Europe; and Horacio Acosta y Lara for South America.

The ten winners will now enter the second stage of the competition for the final selection of the design for the Lighthouse, which will be erected on the coast of the Dominican Republic.

Zoning Progress in the United States: The Division of Building and Housing of the Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C., has issued a mimeographed document entitled "Zoning Progress in the United States," as compiled by Norman L. Knauss, a member of the staff of the Division. It is a comprehensive review of zoning progress to date and gives a valuable composite picture. An entire section is devoted to a list of the zoned municipalities, arranged by states. No model zoning ordinances are included as the document is intended primarily as a statistical review. Copies are available upon request, addressed to the Division of Building and Housing c/o the Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C.

The Structural Service Department

The Structural Service Department correlates the work of the Institute with the work of groups engaged in developing information on building materials and methods and encourages the development of such information. It represents the architect on technical committees and keeps in contact with the development of standardization and codes to the end that they shall promote and not handicap design. It brings the architect, the producer and the technician into close contact for the solution of problems common to each. It promotes the preparation of advertising matter in form and substance so that the architect may obtain necessary information without waste of time. It maintains a technical data file, the information in which is available to the architect, and it is prepared to furnish reliable data or to put the architect in touch with sources of information where such data exists.

The headquarters of the Structural Service Department was moved, on May 1st, from New York City to The Octagon, Washington, D. C.

RECENT ACTIVITIES

During the past month the Institute has been represented through this Department at a number of conventions, meetings, and conferences, among the most important of which are the following:

American Society for Testing Materials. Meeting of Committee on Cement held in Philadelphia, April 18th. Discussion of annual report of the Committee.

Annual meeting of The Producers' Council, held in Washington, D. C., April 22 to 24. This meeting was held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the Institute.

Division of Simplified Practice, U. S. Department of Commerce. Conference on Dimensional Simplification of Medicine Cabinets held in Washington, D. C., April 25. The Institute representative raised objections to some of the detailed proposals and the subject will be given further study.

National Committee on Wood Utilization. Annual meeting held at the U. S. Department of Commerce, Washington, D. C., April 29. Announcement was made that the handbook on wood construction, a 600-page manual prepared by this Committee, would be available in a few weeks.

National Committee on Wood Utilization. Meeting of the Executive Committee, held in Washington, D. C. on April 30th to discuss future activities of the Committee.

National Electric Light Association, Southeastern Division. Annual meeting held in Asheville, N. C., May 6 to 10. Discussion of "How the Public Utility Company Can Help the Architect." A copy of the address made by the Technical Secretary of the Department may be obtained by application to the Structural Service Department.

National Fire Protection Association. Annual

Meeting held in Memphis, Tenn., May 13 to 16. The following are among the reports presented and discussed: Building Construction; Zoning; Identification of Piping Systems; Galvanizing; Building Exits Code; Protection of Openings in Walls and Ceilings; Construction of Record Rooms; National Electrical Code; Protection Against Lightning; Automatic Sprinklers; Farm Fire Protection; Garages.

Allen Bartlett Pond

The loss sustained by the Institute, by the architectural profession at large, and by the Chicago Chapter, is well expressed in a resolution of the Chicago Chapter with regard to the passing of Allen Bartlett Pond, distinguished architect, member of the Institute since 1902, and Fellow since 1907. The resolution follows:

Whereas the members of the Chicago Chapter A.I.A. are both shocked and grieved by the news of the death of Allen Bartlett Pond at Chicago on March 17th, 1929; and

Whereas no words could adequately express the inspiration and help his kindly personality has been to the members of his profession in Chicago for many years;

Therefore, Be It Resolved, that the following testimonial be inscribed upon the records of the Chicago Chapter and that a copy of the same be sent to The Octagon in Washington and to his brother, Irving K. Pond.

A noble, generous and friendly life has passed from our sight. Allen Bartlett Pond has gone on.

To all of us who knew and loved him he was like a father or an elder brother upon whose loyal interest and wise counsel we could always depend.

His constructive influence extended far beyond the boundaries of his profession and included in its ministry all avenues of service and all earnest people in the community in which he lived.

He contributed in his professional life to all that makes our structures endure—all that

makes them conform to the necessities and to the amenities of life.

He saw in each problem he studied the interests of all the citizens who were affected by it and saw them so sanely that his work stands as an embodiment of the safest principles and the highest law of the community.

It was his province to exemplify, to define, to promote and to point out the solution of each problem he was called upon to solve.

Though his professional life was absorbing and exacting in its demands, he was yet never too busy to undertake a public task—he faithfully, unsparingly and intelligently gave himself to his city and to his state.

At the same time he was ready to perform any personal service demanded by friendship.

He was a leading spirit in many organizations and was always ready to help his friends to become useful members in such groups.

His personal influence will continue as long as anyone lives who remembers his ready wit and his genial smile, and when these have passed from living memory the fruits of his activities will continue to bless mankind.

A life is measured by its fulfillment of relationships.

Allen Pond was a devoted son and brother, a kind and loyal friend, a conscientious, able and constructive citizen, a standard bearer in his profession.

In every relationship he exhibited faithfulness to its highest requirements and fulfilled the measure of a man.

Applicants for Membership

Notice To Members of the Institute:

June 1, 1929.

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

<i>Boston Chapter</i>	- - - -	ERIC T. HUDDLESTON, WILLIAM J. MOONEY
<i>Cincinnati Chapter</i>	- - - -	RUSSELL S. POTTER
<i>Georgia Chapter</i>	- - - -	RICHARD W. ALGER
<i>Minnesota Chapter</i>	- - - -	DON ANDREW McLAREN
<i>New York Chapter</i>	- - - -	FRANCIS LORNE, CHARLES AUGUST SUSSDORFF
<i>Oklahoma Chapter</i>	- - - -	PHILIP ARMOUR WILBER
<i>Rhode Island Chapter</i>	- - - -	SAMUEL W. CHURCH

You are invited, as directed in the By-Laws, to send privileged communications before June 30, 1929, on the eligibility of the candidates, for the information and guidance of the Members of the Board of Directors in their final ballot. No applicant will be finally passed upon should any Chapter request within the thirty-day period an extension of time for purpose of investigation.

Very truly yours,

FRANK C. BALDWIN, *Secretary.*

