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Milton Bennett Medary

1874—1929

*"For these maintain the fabric of the world
And the handiwork of their craft is their prayer"*

An Appreciation

By J. MONROE HEWLETT

The man who a few months ago received the highest honor that the Institute can bestow has passed from among us.

With our sorrow at his passing comes an increased realization of the great heritage he leaves with us.

Many qualities go to the making of an architect. Many architects, possessed of but a few of such qualities, have contributed notably to their art. Among those who have achieved distinction, we find some of marked scholarly attainments, some brilliantly original in constructive ideas, some of exquisite fantasy in design, some wise in counsel, some able in executive functions, some gifted in the leadership of men.

In the combination of all of these qualities Milton Medary's preeminence lies. To his creative work he brought broad vision and deep love and knowledge of all the crafts. The men who have worked with him whether as artists, craftsmen, artisans or executives, have been inspired by the fire of his enthusiasms and by the truth of his criticisms. From him they have gained a better understanding of the nature of real collaboration in the arts.

To the advisory and administrative positions that

were pressed upon him in increasing measure he brought an insight, a power of concentration and a philosophic attitude of mind that compelled attention and carried conviction. The men in control of great undertakings, commercial, educational and governmental, who have sat with him around the council table have acquired from him a new vision of the relation of beauty to utility, and an increased respect for the architect's functions and responsibilities.

To the service of his own profession and of the Institute he brought an exalted conception of the architect's opportunities for the advancement of humanism and of his own duties in this regard. The men who have worked with him have indeed lost a leader, but they have gained an added faith in the compelling power of high ideals when expressed with such gentleness, tolerance, patience and supreme unselfishness as were his.

To his fellow architects, who honored him, admired him and loved him, his Singing Tower may well stand as a symbol of this man, whose life was dedicated to the creation and preservation of beauty, whose thoughts concerned themselves with harmony, and whose utterances were as clear and true as "bells at evening pealing."

Honor Awards of the Northern California Chapter

By A. H. ALBERTSON, *Chairman of the Jury*

The Northern California Chapter recently completed its second biennial honor award program. June 20 to 23, inclusive, were occupied by the Jury in reviewing the works submitted and determining the buildings to be premiated. The awards were divided into twenty-two classes of buildings and included only those buildings completed within the last two years. There were a number of buildings substantially completed but they could not be included in this award.

Due to the large number of classes of buildings, there were no awards in quite a number of them. The large number of classes is desirable, however, as it eliminates the necessity of comparing one kind of building with another kind, which is manifestly difficult. It so turned out that most of the awards were made in the small and moderate size buildings.

The principal difficulty that always arises in connection with honor awards is the fact that not all the interesting buildings recently completed are submitted to the Jury for review. This makes it difficult for the Jury to know all of the new buildings constructed, and unless those interested in them bring them to the attention of the Jury they are

not passed upon. Some good buildings therefore may not receive mention. No solution of this difficulty has been found.

The exhibits of work submitted were shown in the DeYoung Memorial Museum in Golden Gate Park. The Jury proceeded by reviewing the numerous exhibits in the Museum one day, going about the second day and reviewing the buildings themselves, and on the third day re-checking buildings against the exhibits in the Museum and arriving at conclusions. The Jury was pleased to feel as it went about that the character of the new work showed a general average improvement.

The Jury was composed of—

David C. Allison, Los Angeles,
Carleton M. Winslow, Los Angeles,
A. H. Albertson, Seattle.

The Northern California Chapter was gracious enough to give the Jury a very delightful dinner at the Bohemian Club followed by interesting and informal features carried out by very unusual home talent.

The George Rogers Clark Memorial Competition

WILLIAM E. PARSONS, *Professional Adviser*

The George Rogers Clark Sesquicentennial Commission has been established by resolution of Congress to erect at or near the site of Fort Sackville in Vincennes, Indiana, a permanent memorial commemorating the winning of the Old Northwest and the achievements of George Rogers Clark and his associates in the War of the American Revolution.

Funds for the design and erection of the memorial have been authorized by Congress, sufficient funds to carry on the designing of the memorial and to start its construction have been appropriated, and its site has been acquired.

The Commission desires to erect such a memorial as will have an aesthetic value comparable with its historic importance. To this end it proposes to institute an architectural competition for the design of the memorial structure and for the selection of an architect.

The competition will be open to all qualified architects who are citizens of the United States of America, in addition to several architects who will

be invited to enter the competition. Applications for entrance into this competition are to be addressed to William E. Parsons, 80 East Jackson Boulevard, Chicago, who has been appointed by the Commission as their architectural adviser for conducting the competition. These applications are to be made by letter stating the applicant's name, address and his associates if in a partnership or corporation. The applicant shall state his education, training and experience, together with a list of his most important architectural works, his affiliations with professional societies and business references.

No application will be accepted after September 15, 1929.

The programs of the competition will be forwarded to those architects whose applications have been approved by the Qualifications Committee, on or about October 1, 1929. The duration of the competition will be between three and four months.

The program of this competition will be subject to conditions of the American Institute of Architects.

The Chicago War Memorial Competition

EARL H. REED, JR., *Professional Adviser*

To all Architects residing in the United States:

The War Memorial Committee of the City of Chicago, consisting of W. Rufus Abbott, Sewell L. Avery, Abel Davis, Milton J. Foreman, Roy D. Keehn, Robert P. Lamont, Robert R. McCormick, Julius Rosenwald, Howard P. Savage, James Simpson (ex-officio Chairman of the Chicago Plan Commission), Albert A. Sprague and Walter Strong, desires to announce that a nationwide competition

will be held for the Chicago War Memorial, with attractive prizes, and in accordance with the usage of the American Institute of Architects.

Programs will be issued September 1st and judgment announced early in December. Under this general invitation programs may be obtained up to October 1st by qualified applicants from Earl H. Reed, Jr., Professional Adviser, War Memorial Competition, 435 North Michigna Avenue, Chicago, Illinois.

The Standard Specifications of the New York Building Congress

By THOMAS E. SNOOK

The New York Building Congress has issued, after several years of preparation, their Standard Specifications, which cover all structural work except the mechanical trades, which are in preparation. It is composed of two part—Part A and Part B.

Part B consists of clauses governing the quality of materials and workmanship, and is the printed Standard form now issued.

Part A is to be written by the Architect and is to be a list of the materials to be used, to which is added the numbers of such clauses in Part B governing the quality and workmanship of these various materials.

At the head of each division of work in Part B special note is made that the General Conditions of the Contract of The American Institute of Architects, current edition, shall form a part of that division.

This is a splendid work of the New York Building Congress and has already been used with great success for some large operations in the metropolitan district and in the South, and undoubtedly can be used to a very large extent by architects throughout the country.

Printed editions of these Specifications can be obtained from the New York Building Congress, and may be bound up with the General Conditions of the Contract of The American Institute of

Architects, or architects who prefer to typewrite their specifications can still obtain many of the advantages of the Standard Specifications by copying the clauses verbatim—giving proper acknowledgment that the clauses so used are copied verbatim from the New York Building Congress Standard Specifications—Part B.

The clauses in Part B are the result of laborious work on the part of a special Committee of the New York Building Congress, which has taken up each division separately with pre-eminent contractors in the various branches of work. And finally, these clauses were endorsed by the various trade associations or by recognized experts where there is no trade association. Architects of wide experience believe that they represent the very best up-to-date practice.

There is also a psychology in producing specifications in which the materials and workmanship are standardized, as the contractors estimating on work soon familiarize themselves with the requirements of these standards, and a plane of confidence between architect and contractor is firmly established.

The use of these Standard Specifications is strongly recommended to members of the Institute.

Inquiries should be sent direct to the New York Building Congress at 101 Park Avenue, New York, N. Y.

The Structural Service Department

American Society for Testing Materials: The Structural Service Department represented the Institute at the annual meeting of the American Society for Testing Materials held in Atlantic City, New Jersey, June 24th to 28th, inclusive.

The Technical Secretary, as representative of the Institute or as alternate for an Institute representative, attended committee meetings dealing with the following subjects: Bituminous Waterproofing Materials; Brick; Fire Tests of Materials and Construction; Gypsum; Lime; Galvanizing.

Francis Y. Joannes represented the Institute and presided at the meeting of the committee on Natural Building Stones.

Harry Parker represented the Institute at the meeting of the committee on Cement.

D. Knickerbacker Boyd represented the Institute at the meeting of the committee on Slate.

Among the papers presented, read, and discussed dealing with building materials were the following: *A New Test for Measuring the Fire Resistance of Wood*; giving results on lumber treated with different quantities of semi-fire retardant chemicals and on specimens treated with the leading commercial materials used. *The Water Absorption and Penetrability of Brick*; presenting values obtained from the determination of water absorption and penetrability by a number of methods on a variety of makes of brick; discussing whether the difference in these can be ascribed to differences in raw materials or to the methods of forming and burning; whether the absorption affords any guide to the rating of bricks from the standpoint of resistance to disintegration through frost action; and the possible bearing water absorption and penetrability may have on the problem of water transmission through masonry. *Tests of Elastic Caulking Compounds*; presenting the results of an investigation of all the well-known elastic caulking compounds to determine their resistance to extreme heating and cooling conditions, tendency toward staining stonework along joints, rapidity of hardening and drying out, elasticity after exposure, and durability after long-time exposure in actual construction joints. *Fine Aggregate in Concrete*; presenting a general discussion of the

function of the fine aggregate in concrete, and the significance of properties and tests. *Fine Aggregate in Mortar and Plaster*; discussing the functions and properties of mortar and plaster; showing the contribution of the fine aggregate to these properties and presenting results of a series of plastic mortar tests on a number of building sands. *Influence of Quality of Coarse Aggregate on Strength of Concrete*; discussing data covering such properties as hardness, toughness, resistance to wear, and presenting conclusions on the effect of various characteristics. *Influence of Coarse Aggregate on the Durability of Concrete*; discussing igneous sedimentary and certain metaphoric rocks, and considering texture, structure and those impurities that may cause rock failure. *Influence of Mineral Composition of Aggregates on Fire Resistance of Concrete*; discussing the effect of fire on concrete made with different kinds of aggregate which have been shown to be caused by difference in mineral composition of the aggregates involved.

There were also papers on Life of Ferrous Materials, on Corrosion Inhibitors, on Tinting Strength of White Pigments, on Properties of Turpentine and Tests for Portland Cement. All of these papers, and many others, will be published in the Proceedings of the Society and will be on file for reference in the office of the Structural Service Department, the Octagon, Washington, D. C.

Division of Simplified Practice, U. S. Department of Commerce. A general conference on Color for School Furniture was held in Chicago on June 28th. The Structural Service Department was represented by Joseph C. Llewellyn. The report on the conclusions of the conference is not yet available.

Cooperation with Illuminating Engineers. The Technical Secretary addressed the Westinghouse Lighting Institute in New York City on the relationship between architects and illuminating engineers employed by the Central Power Stations. He submitted a synopsis of opinions expressed by various representatives of the Structural Service Department.

As of Interest

The Anzac Memorial Building Competition: The Institute has received a letter from the Trustees of The Anzac Memorial Building, "Wingello House," Angel Place, Sydney, N. S. W., Australia,

announcing a competition for the Anzac Memorial Building.

This competition is open to Australians wherever they may reside.

Two copies of the conditions of the competition are on file at The Octagon. Copies may be obtained from The Trustees, whose address is given above, and registration for the competition must be made before five p. m., on January 10, 1930.

The Architectural Exhibition in Philadelphia: Announcements are being sent out concerning the Thirty-second Annual Architectural Exhibition of the Philadelphia Chapter and the T Square Club, to be held in Philadelphia, November 1st to 15th, inclusive.

Circulars of information and entry slips may be obtained from the Executive Secretary of the Philadelphia Chapter, at Room 704, Otis Building, 112 South Sixteenth Street, Philadelphia, Pa.

Philadelphia Building Congress and the Standard Documents: The Committee on Architectural Relations of the Philadelphia Building Congress, of which Paul A. Davis, III, is Chairman, has made

a report on the use of the Standard Contract Documents of the Institute. This report is being distributed to the entire building industry in the State of Pennsylvania. It discusses the Institute Documents at some length, and recommends their use. The Institute welcomes this support of the Documents, and the action of the Philadelphia Building Congress is called to the attention of other congresses and Institute chapters.

Quantity Survey: The American Institute of Quantity Surveyors, whose Secretary, F. E. Dischner, may be addressed at 701 Empire Building, Detroit, Mich., is issuing a number of circulars concerning the several phases of quantity survey practice, and the value of quantity survey to the architect and the owner.

Some years ago the Institute endorsed the principle of quantity survey, and has cooperated with various movements intended to encourage it.

Applicants for Membership

September 3, 1929.

NOTICE TO MEMBERS OF THE INSTITUTE:

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

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<i>Washington State Chapter</i>	- -	SEYMOUR LEE HINMAN, SILAS E. NELSEN

You are invited, as directed in the By-laws, to send privileged communications before October 3, 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.

FRANK C. BALDWIN,
Secretary.



